

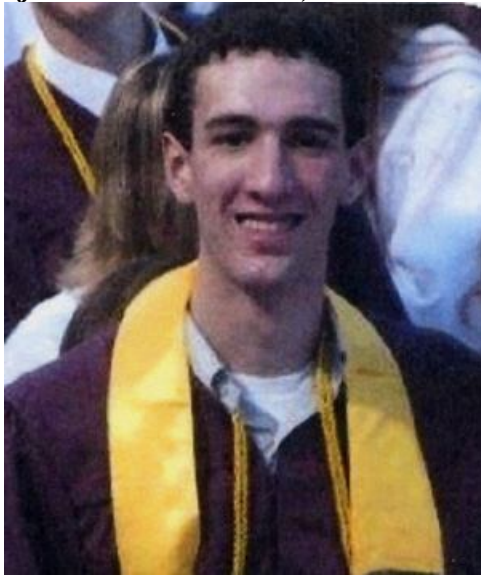
AMHS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2011

This year our student scholarship program, which is jointly funded by our Society and the National Italian American Foundation, has awarded two \$4,000 scholarships instead of the two \$2,500 amounts normally given. AMHS was able to increase the amount of its contribution to the scholarship program by \$1,500 this year due to the money that was generously donated to our Society in memory of Giorgio Pittarelli by his family and friends. Giorgio, who was a long time member of the Society, died in 2010. NIAF generously agreed to match this increased amount, thus making the two larger scholarships possible for this year. All qualified students are encouraged to apply, especially those with roots in the regions of Abruzzo or Molise. We want all AMHS members and friends to inform potential candidates of this scholarship opportunity and to visit <http://www.niaf.org/scholarships/index.asp> for further information on this and other scholarships.

(Members of the AMHS Scholarship Committee are: Romeo Sabatini, Chairman; Ray Bernero, Mike Corrado, Lucio D'Andrea, and Tony D'Onofrio)

John Scianimanico
American University

Major: Political Science; Minor: Italian



Dear Abruzzo and Molise Heritage Society,

I cannot thank you, your members, your donors, and all affiliated members of the National Italian American Foundation enough for the extraordinary and generous gift you have granted me. As a NIAF scholarship recipient, not only have you given me the opportunity to enhance my education here in the states, you have also secured me with enough money to study abroad and travel in Italy for an entire semester. Next spring, I plan to attend the Università degli Studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia. Unlike other Italian study abroad programs, I will be fully immersed in the Italian culture. All my classes, professors, and roommates will speak Italian. In addition to studying there, I also hope to do a bit of traveling, including to Bari, the city where my family is from. Again, none of this would be imaginable without the generous donations of your Society.

With my deepest sincerity, thank you.

John Scianimanico

Stephanie LaGumina
Georgetown University
Major: English; Minor: Italian



Dear Abruzzo and Molise Heritage Society,

I would like to express my overwhelming gratitude at having been chosen as a recipient of the 2011 Abruzzo and Molise Heritage Society Scholarship. I am so very honored, and as the oldest of four daughters who will attend college in the coming years, I cannot begin to describe what your generosity means to me and my family.

My grandfather came to the United States after the Second World War. Although he was only a teenager, war had forced him to grow up fast. His mother had been killed in a raid, his brothers had fought in opposing armies, and many of his family had been scattered. He arrived in New York in the hopes of reuniting with some of them and making a start in a place where the future looked brighter than it did in the war torn home he had left behind. Yet, even as he built a life here, one foot remained firmly planted in Italian soil. He married by grandmother, a woman who came from his hometown in Frosinone, and when his children were born he tried to return there with his family as often as possible.

I am now a junior at Georgetown University and I have been studying Italian formally since my freshman year.

Even having grown up in a very Italian household, I felt I often took my roots for granted, and that is what spurred my initial decision to add “Intensive Italian” to my course load when I arrived on campus. I’ve been hooked ever since. The Italian language and culture are incredibly rich and intriguing and I find new things to appreciate about them every day.

Thanks to your tremendous support, I will be able to study in Italy during the Fall Semester. I will be staying with a host family in Florence and I am so excited to have the opportunity to see new sides of Italy as I study and travel.

Again, thank you so much for your generosity, and for giving me the chance to learn about the Italian culture in such an amazing way in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Stephanie LaGumina