



The Italian Cultural Society & Italian Center & Museum
6821 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Carmichael, CA 95608
www.italiancenter.net • 916.482.5900

The Italian Cultural Society
Presents
A Children's Holiday Festival



"La Festa Della Befana"

Sunday, January 9, 2022
1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Children 16 & Under Free, Adults \$10
At The Italian Center: 6821 Fair Oaks Blvd, Carmichael 95608

**BRING THE ENTIRE FAMILY TO CELEBRATE THIS
MAGICAL HOLIDAY CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL!**

La Befana Show • Free Craft Booths
Children's Books and La Befana T-Shirts for sale
Performance by the Children's 'Bambini' & Teen Dancers
Italian Biscotti, Dolci and Panettone Snacks

*** PLUS A VISIT FROM LA BEFANA WITH
A GIFT FOR EVERY CHILD ***

1:00 pm • DOORS OPEN - COME EARLY!
1:30 pm • Performance by Bambini & Teen Dancers
2:30 pm • "The Legend Of La Befana" Show

PLEASE CALL (916) 482-5900 FOR MORE INFORMATION



Celebrating the Legend of La Befana

A CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY EVENT
AT THE ITALIAN CENTER on JANUARY 9, 2022

ITALIAN CENTER WILL OPEN AT 1:00pm

COME EARLY AND ENJOY FREE CHILDREN'S CRAFTS
& BEFANA PHOTO BOOTH

MASKS REQUIRED FOR ALL GUESTS OVER AGE 3

Each January, the Italian Cultural Society holds a children's Festival, "La Festa della Befana" for the children of the Italian community of Sacramento.

One of Italy's oldest and most renowned legends "The Legend Of La Befana" is honored with special events throughout Italy on this holiday. In Sacramento and other Italian communities in the United States it has been a tradition to celebrate the day with a children's festival.

On January 9, 2022, **La Befana** will visit the children of Sacramento with her basket

of gold chocolate coins and a special gift for each child. The entire family is invited to this fun and unique celebration featuring the **La Befana** show, special performances by the Italian Cultural Society's children and teen folk dance troupe the Bambini dancers, crafts tables, and plenty of delicious and traditional Italian treats [dolce], cookies [biscotti], and panettone.

Be sure to take a memorial photo with La Befana at the photo booth and browse the Italian themed children's books, keepsake Befana T-shirts and other items for purchase.

Donations of cookies are always appreciated. If you would like to bring cookies contact Kasey Bierwirth at Kaseybrad@hotmail.com. Volunteers are always needed to help with crafts tables, the book faire and other tasks. Contact Bill Cerruti at: italy1@surewest.net to volunteer.



THE LEGEND OF LA BEFANA

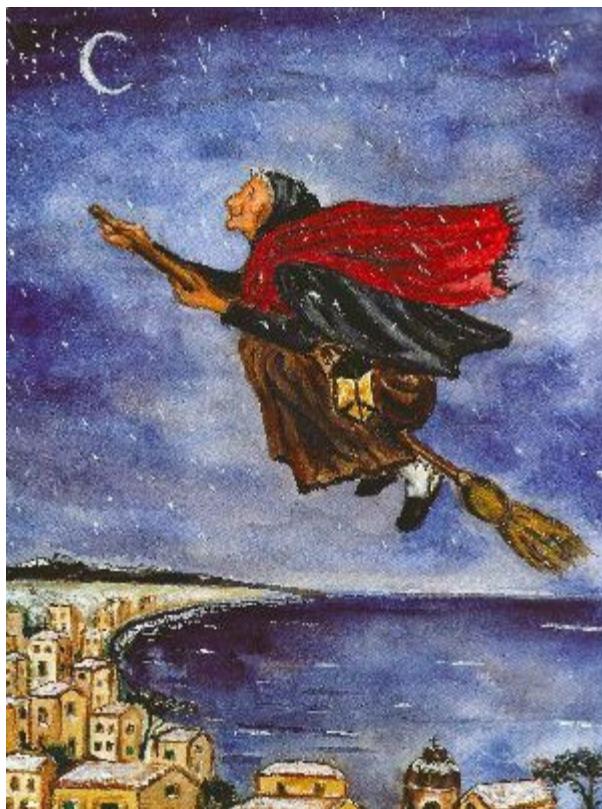
The Legend of La Befana originates from a tale about the Three Wise Men (the Maji) on the way to Bethlehem bearing gifts for the Christ child who stop at the house of an old woman for directions and ask her to join them. But she cannot as she is too busy cleaning her house. Later she decides to follow them but cannot find her way. She is believed to be searching for the baby as she brings presents and treats to the children of Italy. January 6 is twelve days after Christmas, when Italians and Catholics celebrate the feast of the Epiphany to close the Christmas season.

In Italian Households, Christmas is not over till January 6, when the Three Wise Men arrive at the Manger to celebrate the baby Jesus. Italians don't take down their decorations till then.

" On January 5th the children of Italy go to bed hoping the kindly old lady they call "**La Befana**" visits them like Santa Claus [Babbo Natale] and leaves presents and treats for those who are good and a lump of coal for those who are not. The children hang their stockings on the evening of January 5th and check them the next morning to see if La Befana has visited them.

We encourage parents to celebrate "The Legend Of La Befana" with their children at home by putting out treats and gifts on the day of the epiphany on January 6th.

Viva Viva La Befana!!



Balliamo! Performs



BALLIAMO PERFORMS

For over 30 years the Italian Cultural Society has sponsored a performing adult Folk Dance troupe skilled in the dances of the Italian regions. The Balliamo dancers have performed across California at cultural events, festivals and other private and special events.

Recently the Dance troupe performed in both Sacramento and San Francisco on the same weekend in October.

On Saturday, October 9, Balliamo performed for an entire afternoon at the Little Italy Celebration in the East Portal Park Bocce Court complex. This was the kickoff event recognizing the new Little Italy Historic District in East Sacramento. The new Little Italy Historic District was designated by the Sacramento City Council recently and the Celebration event was attended by members of the Italian community and city council members. It was a festive event and the Balliamo dance performances were one of the highlights of the day

The next day, on Sunday, October 10, the Balliamo dancers marched in the annual San Francisco Italian Heritage Day/Columbus Day Parade. They placed 2nd in the dance /drill category . This is an annual event for the dance troupe.

The Balliamo Folk Dance troupe practices at the Italian Cultural Center in Carmichael. They have recently added a number of younger dancers to their

program and are looking for more dancers to join in the fun.

If you are interested in the dance traditions of Italy and would like to become involved with our Balliamo Folk Dance troupe then visit their website at: balliamodancers@comcast.net



PHOTO ABOVE LEFT: Balliamo dancers perform on Oct 9, 2021 at the celebration of the new Little Italy Historic District in Sacramento.

PHOTO ABOVE RIGHT: Balliamo dancers at the Columbus Day Parade on Oct. 10, 2021 in San Francisco

 **HONORING OUR HERITAGE**

*This holiday Season Celebrate Your
Italian Heritage!*

Give A Gift To The Italian Center



Christmas and New Year are a good time to put the Italian Cultural Society on your gift list and make a tax-deductible donation to one of our Renaissance Circles. This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the Italian Cultural Society! Your donation will help support the Italian Cultural Center our home and where we showcase our heritage.

Supporting the Society and the Italian Center are an important cause for the Italian-American community. Our roots bind us together and the Society strengthens the bond we share. The programs and services we provide are a vital link to our heritage and allow us to celebrate our culture and traditions together!

Visit our website at www.italiancenter.net where you'll find more information about our Renaissance Circles under the Benvenuti tab!

CLICK TO MAKE A DONATION NOW

You can also make a donation to the Center Fund by printing and mailing the donation form below:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Yes, I Would Like To Donate To One Of The Renaissance Circles!



GIOTTO Circle
____ \$25



BOTICELLI Circle
____ \$50



RAFFAELLO Circle
____ \$100



DONATELLO Circle
____ \$250



MICHELANGELO Circle
____ \$500



LEONARDO Circle
____ \$1,000

Dedication: ____ In Memory Of ____ In Honor Of



Please make your check payable to The Italian Cultural Society
OR join our Renaissance Circles online at www.italiancenter.net.
Your gift is tax deductible.



IS THE SOCIETY IN YOUR ESTATE PLAN?

CREATE A LEGACY: GIVE A HERITAGE GIFT TO THE ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY

If you would like to honor the contributions of the Society to the community with a remembrance in your Estate, consider becoming a Legacy Circle Donor.

There are many ways you can make a Legacy gift by designating a gift in your will or estate. Designating the Italian Cultural Society as a beneficiary is simple and easy.

If you would like to make a gift, please contact the Society at italy1@surewest.net or call 916-482-5900. You can also visit our website at: italiancenter.net for further directions or to download a Statement of Future Gift Form. The Society is a non-profit organization and your gifts are tax-deductible.

Remember – Your Gift Makes A Difference!

