

# The Italian American Archive Project

*Directed by Professor Peter Carravetta,  
Stony Brook University*

*Advisors: Mark Choate, Donna Gabaccia,  
Stefano Luconi, Fraser Ottonelli,  
Maddalena Tirabassi, Peter Vellon*

**I**talian Americans lack a broad, scientifically accurate database of primary resource materials that document our historical experience and contribution to our society as a whole, as there exists, for example, for other ethnic and national groups of the United States.

The Archive intends to bring to everyone easy access to a projected 25,000 pages of articles, letters, images, biographies, news clippings, migration and labor legislations, and contributions to law, politics, sports, and the arts by Italians in the United States from the 1860s through the end of the 20th century. It will be digitized and made available online through a major university press. Selected materials from the database will be made into accessible books for classroom use and broader circulation in the various communities.

This multiyear project requires hiring, training, and supervising younger scholars and researchers to go through hundreds of feet of shelved materials in various libraries, as well as to mine existing but dispersed and uncoordinated electronic sources, and to either scan or digitize them. There is then a stage to set up, supervise, and edit the database and publish the volumes.

Preliminary estimates of the cost for this project run close to half a million dollars. We have to start somewhere, so let's start with a tax-exempt contribution today.

*Grazie!*

I/We wish to make a contribution toward the realization of The Italian American Archive, under the directorship of Professor Peter Carravetta.

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