

IACA

The Italian-American Cultural Association of Virginia, Inc.

The Italian-American Cultural Association of Virginia
10307 West Broad Street #290
Glen Allen, VA. 23060

Dear Prospective Donor:

The Italian-American Cultural Association of Virginia (IACA), a 501c3 organization (ID# 31954), has tirelessly worked with the City of Richmond for the last 2 1/2 years to transfer ownership of the Columbus statue that was illegally torn down, set on fire and graffitied by individuals protesting the May 2020 death of George Floyd. On December 12, 2022, Richmond City Council unanimously approved the transfer of the statue to our organization.

Costs to repair the statue were estimated at \$5-7,000.00. The first phase of restoring the statue has been completed through the generous donations and volunteer efforts of our members. While IACA has done incredible work so far, we are now asking for your support to continue our mission of preserving the legacy of Christopher Columbus by donating a silent auction item at IACA's Columbus Day Fundraising Gala on October 22, 2023 at St. Michael's Catholic Church Lake House in Glen Allen, VA.

Proceeds from the event will continue our pursuit of locating a permanent site to display the restored statue along with establishing a Christopher Columbus Foundation.

As a business owner, you know how costly initiatives like ours can be. With your resources and generosity, I know that together we can make a huge difference. IACA would appreciate a donation of an item for our silent auction.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Sincerely,

Ginger Todaro
Committee Chairperson
Columbus Day Fundraising Gala
Director at Large
The Italian-American Cultural Association of Virginia

THE ITALIAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL
ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA

*Columbus Day
Fundraising Gala*

SIT-DOWN LUNCHEON, LIVE ENTERTAINMENT,
SILENT AUCTION AND 50/50 RAFFLE
A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS TO BE USED TO ESTABLISH A
CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS FOUNDATION

Tickets: \$50 per person - NO tickets sold at the door
Complimentary wine served at the table

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023

1PM-5PM

ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH LAKE HOUSE
4491 SPRINGFIELD RD. GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060

RSVP Ginger Todaro at gbtodaro@gmail.com

Gala Sponsorship Levels



____ CHRISTOPER COLUMBUS \$2,000

The Premier sponsor of the Gala. This level includes 8 tickets, a gold page in the E-journal, recognition on our website, Facebook, and newsletter, and front row center seating at the Gala.

____ SANTA MARIA \$1,500

This level includes 6 tickets, a full silver page in the E-journal, recognition on our website, Facebook, and newsletter, and front row seating at the Gala.

____ NINA \$1,000

This level includes 4 tickets and a half bronze page in the E-journal, recognition on our website, Facebook, and newsletter, and second row center seating at the Gala.

____ PINTA \$500

This level includes 2 tickets and a quarter-page in the E-journal, recognition on our website, Facebook, and newsletter, and second row seating at the Gala.

____ QUEEN ISABELLA \$250

This level includes 1 ticket and a quarter-page advertisement in the E-journal and recognition on our website, Facebook, and newsletter.

Donor/Company Name: _____

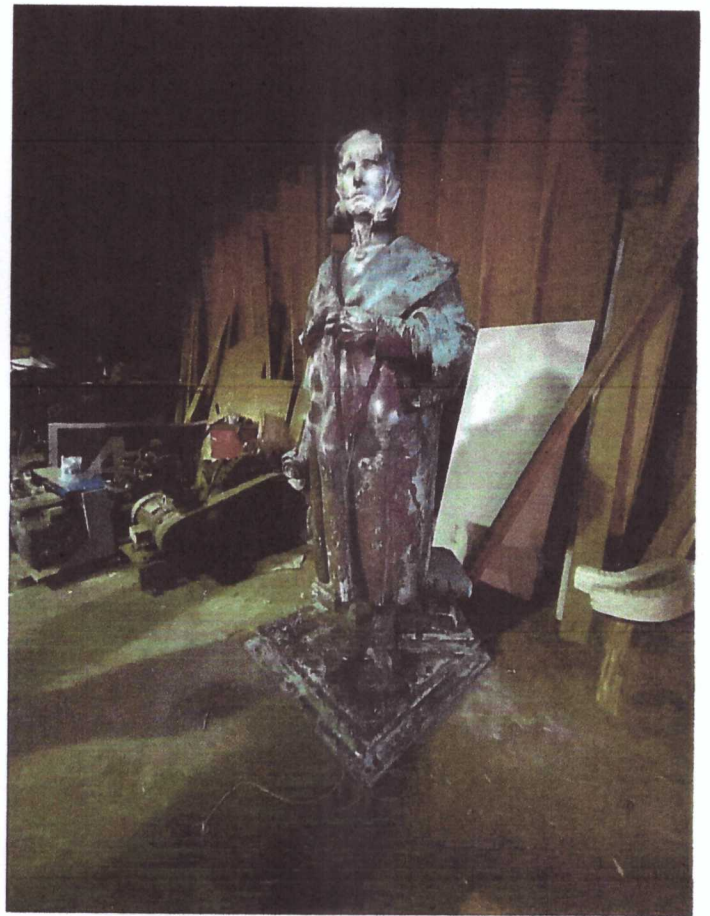
Contact Name: _____

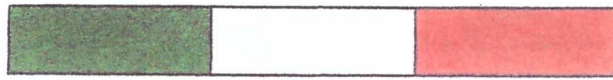
Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____





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of Virginia, Inc.

The Columbus Monument had been a fixture in the Richmond community at the entrance of Byrd Park for 93 years before the evening of June 9, 2020 when the Columbus Statue was illegally torn down, vandalized, set on fire and thrown into nearby Swan Lake by individuals protesting the May 2020 murder of George Floyd.

Since that fateful evening in 2020, The Italian-American Cultural Association of Virginia (IACA) has worked diligently to negotiate with the City of Richmond for ownership of the Columbus statue. On December 12, 2022, the Richmond City Council unanimously approved Ordinance 2022-311 transferring ownership of the Columbus statue to IACA and on February 7, 2023 the physical transfer of Columbus was completed. Costs to repair and restore the statue would cost an estimated \$5,000-\$7,000, based on Paul DiPasquale, the well known Richmond sculptor's evaluation.

The first phase of restoring the statue was completed through the generous donations of IACA members and individuals. On May 25th, a sand blast technique removed layers of graffiti, lead paint & debris. The Columbus statue was restored to its original bronze base with final restoration upcoming to seal the statue. IACA continues to work to find a permanent location for the Columbus statue where it can be appreciated as a work of art & to preserve the legacy of Christopher Columbus for current & future generations.

So why is it important to keep the legacy of Columbus alive? Columbus represents, in ways, the American legacy in our country where all of us as immigrants or descendants of immigrants arrived in America in search of a better life and the freedoms that America provides. So too were the Italian immigrants who settled in Richmond starting in the 1850s forming a small, cohesive segment of Richmond's population. In 1925, the Italian business community organized a drive to honor Columbus and chose to erect a statue

of Christopher Columbus as an expression of cultural identity and a symbol of Italian-American pride of their adopted city and country.

Richmond resident Ferruccio Legnaioli, a trained artist and sculptor from Florence, was chosen to create the statue and his work over the years included designing decorative stonework and ornamentation for the facades of iconic buildings in downtown Richmond that still stand today. On December 9, 1927, the Columbus Statue, the first Columbus statue in the South, which was sculpted, erected and financed entirely by the Italian community of Richmond, was dedicated and gifted to the City of Richmond.

IACA, as a 501c3 organization (ID # 31954), asks for your support by making a tax deductible contribution to The Columbus Statue Restoration Fund. Please forward your check, payable to the Italian-American Cultural Association of Virginia. Please note in the remarks section of the check "Columbus Statue Restoration Fund".

The address: IACA, Attn: John Corritone, Committee Chair, Columbus Statue Restoration Fund, 10307 West Broad St., #290, Glen Allen, VA 23060.

Thank you in advance for your contribution. Your donation will go toward continuing IACA's efforts for restoration of the statue, locating a permanent location for placement and the establishment of a Christopher Columbus Foundation.

Sincerely,

John Corritone

Committee Chairperson, Columbus Statue Restoration Fund

Corresponding Secretary

The Italian-American Cultural Association of Virginia