



## Italian Heritage Month? (Part 1 of 3)

Hello, friends -

Another October has come and gone with the media all but ignoring Italian Heritage Month. Not a word in print, on radio or television regarding the vast positive impact of Italians and Italian American culture and influence in our everyday lives.

The media seems to have forgotten the meaning of parity when it comes to reminders and education of the Italian legacy. While our brothers and sisters of other ethnicities and races enjoy the publication of pieces of the history of their heroes and accomplishments on a daily basis in the newspapers and broadcast media during their heritage months, Italians and Italian American contributions remain the best kept secret of journalists.

Consequently, the Italian American Human Relations Foundation of Chicago will step forward with an effort to celebrate, remind and educate a history that the media has fallen short in memorializing.

### **Giacomo Puccini**

Renowned for the compositions of operas such as La Boheme, Tosca and Madame Butterfly. He is considered one of the greatest composers of operatic realism, and is regarded as the greatest and most successful proponent of Italian opera after Giuseppe Verdi.

### **Amadeo Giannini**

Founded the Bank of Italy which eventually became the Bank of America. He is credited as the inventor of many modern banking practices. Most notably, he was one of the first bankers to offer banking services to middle class Americans. He also pioneered the holding company structure and established one of the first modern trans-national institutions.

### **Enrico Fermi**

Renowned for being the creator of the world's first artificial nuclear reactor. He has been called the architect of the nuclear age and the architect of the atomic bomb.

### **Harry Warren (Born Salvatore Antonio Guaragna)**

One of America's most prolific music composers and first major American song writer to write primarily for film. Nominated for an Academy Award for Best Original Song eleven times and won 3 Oscars for composing LULLABY OF BROADWAY, YOU'LL NEVER KNOW

and ON THE ATCHISON, TOPEKA AND THE SANTA FE.

Other well know Warren hits include: I ONLY HAVE EYES FOR YOU, YOU MUST HAVE BEEN A BEAUTIFUL BABY, THAT'S AMORE, THE MORE I SEE YOU and AT LAST.

His songs have been featured in over 300 films.

Please watch for more information on the Italian legacy.

Lou Rago