



MEDIA ADVISORY: THE ITALIAN FESTIVAL

What: Festa Italiana presents The 34th Annual Italian Festival

Where: The Armory and Fisher Pavilion at Seattle Center

When: [Saturday & Sunday, September 25 & 26, 2021](#)

Times: 10 AM - 9 PM Saturday • 10 AM - 6 PM Sunday

Everyone is invited - Admission is free!

AFTER A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER in most of our lifetimes, large public events are coming back to be enjoyed again, although we at Festa Italiana have mixed emotions: we grieve for the families and friends who have lost loved ones, both here and in Italy, and we commiserate with our supporters and sponsors, many in the food and beverage business, who have lost so much financially during the last two years. Nevertheless, we are excited to be gathering again, enjoying the music, the art, the food and the wine that are so much a part of Italian culture. We plan to celebrate “The Joys of All Things Italian!” in-person at the 34th Annual Italian Festival at Seattle Center on Saturday & Sunday, September 25 & 26, 2021.

With an average attendance of 20,000 until last year, the Italian Festival has always been the largest Italian-American event in the Northwest and one of the largest cultural festivals in the state. Please join us as we salute the spirit of our immigrant forebears. Here are the highlights:

“Great Italian Chefs” Cooking Stage: Learn culinary secrets from the masters at these popular cooking demos outdoors in the piazza, starring local chefs from Seattle’s best Italian restaurants.

Music: From tarantellas to opera, from traditional to Dino & Frank, we present Italian music all day, both days, on the Moretti Mainstage in the Fisher Pavilion. Also, enjoy strolling musicians in the big outdoor Wine & Beer Garden.

Festa Grape Stomp: Jump in with both feet and make wine as they used to in the Old Country. Put together a three-person team and compete for great prizes with a free T-shirt given to each competitor. Just don't sit in the front row!

Festa Bocce Tournament: Moving back to the main floor of the Armory, this Italian version of lawn bowling is one of our most popular events. Featuring a Masters division for professionals and a Recreational division for occasional players, it's fascinating to watch.

Tino's Cortile: Featuring as many of our traditional children's activities as permitted plus the "All Breeds" Italian Dog Show. And it's all free.

Exhibits: An Italian Car Show, "34 Years of Festa Posters" Art Show, and the Historical Photo Exhibit about Seattle's earliest Italians plus booths of Italian organizations, arts and crafts, imported housewares, and lots of merch & souvenirs.

Food & Wine: Pizza, Pasta, Italian Sausage, Salami, Meatballs, Focaccia, Gelato, Birra, Vino, Prosecco, Limoncello, Cannoli, Espresso, Italian Sodas, and three Wine & Beer Gardens!

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY, Sept. 25, 2021

- 11 AM – La Mezzanotte Trio
- 12 Noon – Seattle Mandolin Orchestra
- 1 PM – Fortissimo! w/ the Bonnie Birch Band
- 2 PM – Ballard Sedentary Sousa Band
- 3 PM – Primo Basso Band
- 4 PM – The Porcaro Group
- 5 PM – Mary Marchese & the Rave Band
- 6 PM – Mbrascatu
- 7 PM – Italian "All Stars" Dance & Show w/ Tony LaStella

SUNDAY, Sept. 26, 2021

- 11 AM – Seattle Mandolin Orchestra
- 12 Noon – Julie Cascioppo
- 1 PM – La Mezzanotte Trio
- 2 PM – The Rob Porcaro Group
- 3 PM – Primo Basso Band
- 4 PM – Danny Quintero
- 5 PM – Fortissimo! w/ the Bonnie Birch Band