

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

**Whereas** Italian Americans continue to be a vital part of the Commonwealth's rich diversity by contributing significantly to all aspects of daily life, including education, medicine, commerce, agriculture, public service and technology; and

**Whereas** This year marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Italian Unification, the result of a long process of intellectual, political, and military struggles led by Giuseppe Mazzini, Camillo di Cavour, and Giuseppe Garibaldi, which not only set Italy on a path to democracy, but also has had a major influence on the development of democracy throughout Europe; and

**Whereas** We also mark the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Giorgio Vasari, a painter, architect and the first Italian art historian, whose influential biography of the great artists of the Renaissance, known as the "Lives of the Most Excellent, Painters, Sculptors, and Architects," endures as a classic work in art history; and

**Whereas** This year marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Italo Svevo, born Ettore Aron Schmitz to a Jewish family in Trieste, whose self-published novel, "Confessions of Zeno," has been hailed as a masterpiece of modern European literature and today is regarded as the forerunner of the stream-of-consciousness, psychoanalytic narrative; and

**Whereas** This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the acclaimed composer Nino Rota who was born in Milan and is best known for his scores for some of the classics of film by directors Federico Fellini, Luchino Visconti, Franco Zeffirelli and Francis Ford Coppola; and

**Whereas** Italians and Italian-Americans have throughout the history of our nation made significant contributions to American sports including Massachusetts born sports legends such as world heavy weight boxing champion Rocky Marciano, world welter weight boxing champion Tony DeMarco, Heisman trophy winner and former Boston Patriot running back Joe Bellino, former Olympic gold medal winning hockey team captain Michael "Ritz" "Rizzo" Eruzione, and many others; and

**Whereas** Throughout this month, the Italian American community will gather and celebrate their heritage through historical and cultural traditions and observances,

**Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim October 2011 to be**

## ITALIAN HERITAGE MONTH

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this twenty-eighth day of September, in the year two thousand and eleven, the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-fifth.



By His Excellency

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deval L. Patrick".

DEVAL L. PATRICK  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Francis Galvin".

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts