



villa charities

# What's Trending

## Attention Movie Lovers!

Join us for *Cinema all'Aperto*,  
Italian Movies Under the Stars all Summer Long



Summer nights are finally here and what better way to spend it than watching movies under the stars!

Join us every Thursday from July 6 to August 31 at the Columbus Centre for your weekly ticket to hit movies from Italy with a spectacular lineup of English-subtitled films from some of the most acclaimed names in Italian cinema.

Take a peek at the schedule below or [view the complete movie descriptions online](#) now – and prepare to be swept away by the allure of Italian cinema.

**July 6:** *Caro Fidel* / Dear Fidel

**July 13:** *Gli uomini d'oro* / Golden Men

**July 20:** *Un giorno perfetto* / A Perfect Day

**July 27:** *Maledetta primavera* / Sirley

**August 3:** *Un'avventura* / Forever You

**August 10:** *Ma cosa ci dice il cervello* / Don't Stop Me Now

**August 17:** *Cambio tutto* / Say It Loud

**August 24:** *Un paese quasi perfetto* / An Almost Perfect Town

**August 31:** *Niente di serio* / Grannies On The Run

**Date:** Thursdays, July 6 – August 31, 7:00pm

**Price:** FREE (First-come, first-served seating at Caffè Cinquecento's patio requires customers to make a purchase.)

**Location:** Columbus Centre Courtyard, Columbus Centre

Presented in partnership with TLN Television and Caffè Cinquecento Italian Bar & Eatery.

## Villa Charities Italian Canadian Immigrant Tribute

### #TributeThursday – Donor Spotlight

It's #TributeThursday, where we feature the inspirational immigrant histories from the Villa Charities Italian Canadian Immigrant Tribute Project. This week, we're sharing the story of Pasquale Guido and Carmela Lupinacci who immigrated from Calabria in 1954 and 1952 respectively.

Read an excerpt below or see their complete story on our [Immigrant Map](#).

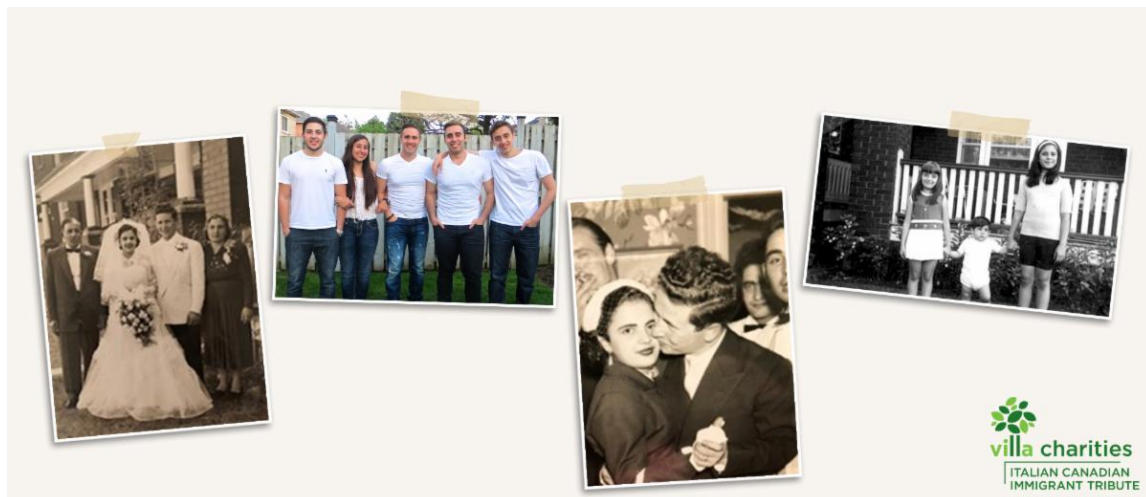
*"Our mom and dad raised us on the Italian immigrant journey and the dream. They were post WW2 immigrants. Our Toronto home at 386 Lauder Avenue was the backdrop for the magical transition that would take place. We were all becoming Canadian Italians while holding a warm heart for our Italian heritage. We were told of the sacrifices, and early bewilderment of a foreign land where few spoke Italian and the rest ate sweet white bread.*

*Our mom Carmela Lupinacci was 17 years old when she left the port of Naples. Waving goodbye until there was no one left to see. It would be 14 days and nights before she would arrive at Pier 21. There she boarded a train and arrived exhausted and elated. Her first job was on River Street sewing powder puffs in a factory. She was a trained seamstress and had a sewing machine in our basement, that spun dreams.*

*Our father Pasquale Guido joined his beloved Carmelina a year and 6 months later. They married within 30 days. His family would never join him in the immigration exodus. He was always restless about that. His first job was laying down sod in Mimico. He eventually got a job at the iconic factory Tip Top Tailors on Lakeshore Blvd. There he pressed suits. He was a union man and worked piece work for 25 years until he became a floor supervisor. They raised three children and had five grandchildren that would spin dreams beyond their imagination."*

This inspiring story of courage and resilience embodies the essence of the Italian-Canadian immigrant experience. Having left their beloved Calabria behind, Pasquale and Carmela embarked on an exceptional journey in search of a better life for themselves and their family.

As we celebrate their journey on this #TributeThursday, we hope you will decide to [honour your own family's immigrant experience](#) through the Villa Charities Italian Canadian Immigrant Tribute. With your [donation](#), you'll receive a customized name plaque and the chance to share your story with the world.



## Villa Charities



### Villa Charities Sponsors 12th Edition of ICFF

Villa Charities is proud to sponsor the 12th edition of the Italian Contemporary Film Festival from June 27 to July 21, bringing you an exquisite fusion of Italian cinema and culture in Toronto this summer! Mark your calendars for Sunday, July 2, as we join ICFF in presenting the North American Premiere of "Diabolik Ginko Attacks!" at the festival's outdoor cinema located in the iconic Distillery Historic District.

[Learn More](#)



### IHM Event: Italian Card Games Tournament

Join us for our Italian Card Games Tournament this Saturday at 4:00pm and put your skills to the test as you compete against other teams in either *Scopa*, *Briscola*, or *Tressette* to take home a grand prize! This is a family-friendly event that is perfect for all ages, skills, and abilities. Join the fun and see how good your card gaming abilities truly are.

[Buy Tickets](#)



### IHM Event: My Secret Venice with Sebastiano Bazzichetto – Part II

The popular video series "My Secret Venice" by Dr. Sebastiano Bazzichetto continues - get ready for the much-anticipated Part II! If you haven't had a chance to watch Part I yet, check it out on our [YouTube channel](#) now. The second episode will be released Monday, June 26 at 12:00pm ET. [Subscribe to our channel](#) to receive a notification when the next episode is released.

[Learn More](#)





## IHM Event: Tafelmusik - *Stelle cadenti* / Shooting Stars

Join us on Tuesday, June 27 and immerse yourself in a concert performed by Tafelmusik. This concert pays tribute to the brilliant yet tragically short-lived careers of notable composers. Experience the works of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Hyacinthe Jadin, and Franz Schubert, whose talents blazed like shooting stars. This captivating event also showcases the enduring brilliance of Luigi Boccherini, Felice Giardini, Giovanni Battista Noferi, and Joseph Bologne, Le Chevalier de Saint-Georges. Join us for an evening of musical enchantment as we honour these luminaries from the late 18th century, whose melodies continue to shine brightly.

**[Buy Tickets](#)**



## IHM Event: *L'eco dei dialetti* / A Celebration of Dialects

Join us as we take a journey through the dialects of Italy! Rounding off our Italian Heritage Month events is *L'eco dei dialetti*, a celebration of Italian dialects. Enjoy readings in various dialects, captivating musical performances, and compelling monologues, [view the full program schedule](#) online now.

Refreshments will be served.

**[Learn More](#)**



## Enjoy Pizza on the Patio!

Treat yourself to authentic wood oven pizza on the Caffè Cinquecento patio, every Friday and Saturday from 12:00 to 6:00pm. Also enjoy *apericena*, gelato, granita, and beer & wine as we bring a taste of Italy to your table.

Free parking after 6:00pm and on weekends.

**[Learn More](#)**

**Bring Your Photos to Win a  
FREE Appetizer!\***



Chef Luciano Schipano invites the community to celebrate the history of Ristorante Boccaccio! Bring in photos of your family or social gatherings held at the restaurant over the past four decades, to be posted on their community board.  
*\*Weekly winners will be randomly selected from all submissions.*

[Learn More](#)

**SALSA FOR SENIORS**

**FREE SALSA LESSONS**  
 WEDNESDAYS – JULY 5, 12, 19 AND 26, 2023 @ 5:45PM  
 COLUMBUS CENTRE COURTYARD

901 LAWRENCE AVE WEST | (416) 789-7011  
 CULTURAL@VILLACHARITIES.COM

villa charities

## FREE Salsa Lessons for Seniors

Join us for 'Salsa for Seniors' at the Columbus Centre! Dance your way through FREE Salsa lessons presented by TD Salsa in Toronto Festival, with the best professionals in Toronto and around the GTA. Join us on Wednesdays, from July 5 to 26 at 5:45pm then stay afterwards for *Ballo Liscio* and show off your newly acquired skills! Lessons are for seniors of all ages, no experience needed. In partnership with TLN.

[Learn More](#)



## Ballo Liscio Returns for a Summer of Outdoor Dancing!

The Italian tradition of *Ballo Liscio* returns to the Columbus Centre Courtyard this summer! Prepare to dance the night away every Wednesday, from July 5 to August 30 on the beautiful grounds of the Columbus Centre, with lively musical performances.

Presented by the Italian Canadian Benevolent Seniors Apartment Corporation (ICBSAC) in partnership with Villa Charities and funded by the Government of Canada New Horizon for Seniors Program.

[Learn More](#)

**Enjoy our Speducci Festival on July 9**





We invite you to join us for our next *sagra* community event on Sunday, July 9 at 11:30am and enjoy complimentary *speducci* and live music by Sam Saverino.

Presented by the Italian Canadian Benevolent Seniors Apartment Corporation (ICBSAC) in partnership with Villa Charities and funded by the Government of Canada's New Horizon for Seniors Program.

Limited capacity on a first-come, first-served basis.

**[Learn More](#)**



### **Book Your Virtual One-on-One Meeting for Friday Chats with Marco**

Have a question about our programs and services? Take the opportunity to speak one-on-one with Marco DeVuono, President and CEO of Villa Charities Inc.! Appointments are 20 minutes each between 11:00am and 12:00pm and must be scheduled in advance. The next Virtual Friday Chat is scheduled for Friday, July 14. Contact us today to schedule your virtual meeting – call 416-789-7011 or email [iusic@villacharities.com](mailto:iusic@villacharities.com).

**[Book Your Meeting](#)**

## **Villa Charities Foundation**



### **One Week Left to Apply to the Villa Charities Scholarship Program**

The clock is ticking! Applications for the 2023 Villa Charities Scholarship Program close on June 30! Four awards of \$2,500 are available to Undergraduate students and four awards of \$5,000 are available to Graduate level students. A full list of criteria can be found on [our website](#).

**[Apply Now](#)**

**2022/2023 George Brown College Culinary Arts Scholarship**

## CONGRATULATIONS!

2022/2023 GEORGE BROWN CULINARY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS  
SUPPORTED IN PART BY THE FOOD DUDES



Peter  
Armstrong



Omer Faruk  
Bayar



Gabriel  
Grammer



Harshil  
Patel

Mark Jonathan  
Rajaratnam

Daniel  
Schiaivone

Darryl  
Shotlander

## Recipients Announced

Villa Charities is excited to announce the winners of its 2022/2023 Culinary Arts – Italian Program Scholarships at George Brown College. In 2023, seven scholarships of \$2,500 each were awarded to seven students, all of whom are enrolled in the Culinary Arts – Italian Program at George Brown College. This Villa Charities Scholarship is supported in part by The Food Dudes. Please consider supporting this program or others like it and [donate today](#). Your gift will help provide invaluable real-life experiences and have a profound impact on students, their education, and their future success.

[Learn More](#)

## Columbus Centre



## Summer 2023 Premium Group Fitness Programs

Registration for our Summer 2023 Premium Group Fitness classes begins on Tuesday, July 4 for Members and Non-Members. See our wide selection of group fitness programs for all interests and abilities, such as Kickboxing, Pilates and Yoga. Register via email at [fitness@villacharities.com](mailto:fitness@villacharities.com), in-person at our Membership Office during office hours, or call 416-789-7011 ext. 231.

[Learn More](#)



## Dance With Us this Summer at the Columbus Centre

Get ready to dance like never before this summer! Join the DanzArts Toronto 2023 Recreational and Competitive Summer Programs, catering to dancers of all ages and skill levels. Experience an extensive range of dance styles taught by our experienced and professional instructors, who will ignite a genuine passion for dance while providing a strong technical foundation and understanding. Whether you're a beginner or a pre-professional dancer, our programs offer a rewarding and enjoyable experience for all students.

[Learn More](#)





## Early Bird Fall Registration for DanzArts Toronto

Mark your calendars now – Early bird registration for the 2023/2024 DanzArts Toronto season is coming soon. Online registration via Studio Director runs from Monday, July 3 to Friday, July 7, and in-person registration is on Tuesday, July 4 and Thursday, July 6 from 4:00 to 8:30pm at the Columbus Centre.

[Learn More](#)



## FREE Mind & Body Awareness Classes for Seniors

Our free fitness classes for seniors are underway! This new program at the Columbus Centre Athletic Club is open to Members and Non-Members and offers a variety of classes designed specifically for seniors. From mobility training and mindful meditation to arthritic aqua training and water dance, there's something for everyone. [View the full schedule](#) and how to register online.

This program is funded in part by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program.

[Learn More](#)



## Register Today: Aquafit Classes

Registrations are open for Gentle Water and Deep Water Aquafitness Summer Classes. Don't miss out, register today and join us as classes begin on Monday, June 26. Members and Non-Members can register via [email](#), or in-person at our Membership Office. Aquafit provides a great stretching, strengthening, and low-impact aerobic workout – perfect for toning muscles, increasing flexibility, and improving heart health.

[Learn More](#)

**Make a Splash this Summer  
with our Swimming Lessons**





We have a selection of swimming lessons that cater to all ages, levels and abilities, from preschool-aged children just learning to swim, to juniors advancing their skills and adults looking to gain confidence in the water. Registration for children's swimming lessons is open now, and group swimming lesson registration opens on Saturday, June 24. A full list of our programs and registration information can be found [online](#).

[Learn More](#)

## Independent Seniors' Apartments



### Casa Abruzzo Residents Donate to North York Food Bank

Our Casa Abruzzo Seniors Apartments residents have been hard at work and donated an incredible 1,350 lbs of food items to the North York Harvest Food Bank. Their generous contribution was recognized by the Food Bank on June 8, 2023, at the Mother's Day and Father's Day celebrations organized by the Social Club. A special thanks goes out to Casa Abruzzo resident Carmen Carty, who has been coordinating this initiative for many years.

[Learn More](#)

### Our Mission:

Enriching lives through experiences and services that honour Italian culture and heritage.

### Our Vision:

Inspiring people to explore the Italian in all of us.



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Villa Charities Inc. | 416-789-7011 | [info@villacharities.com](mailto:info@villacharities.com) | [www.villacharities.com](http://www.villacharities.com)

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Villa Charities Foundation Charitable Registration Number: 89337 0767 RR001

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