

ITALIAN AMERICAN MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 7–9, 2010



John D. Calandra Italian American Institute
Queens College, CUNY
25 West 43rd Street, 17th floor
New York, NY 10036

The John D. Calandra Italian American Institute's first mental health and wellness conference is dedicated to the counseling profession and psychological issues in the Italian American community.

The conference will examine topics concerning ethnic identity development, grief and loss, personal narratives, women and family issues, and Italian Americans as consumers of mental health services.

Ultimately, the conference will focus on the development and changing nature of psychological and familial structures in the Italian American community.

ITALIAN AMERICAN MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 7–9, 2010

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2010

6:00 PM–8:00 PM

WELCOME

Anthony Julian Tamburri, PhD

Dean, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, CUNY

James Muyskens, PhD

President, Queens College, CUNY

The Honorable Diane Savino

New York State Senator (D–Staten Island/Brooklyn)

Dominick Carielli, PhD

Counselor, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, CUNY

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Cultural Authenticity and Personality Development:
The Italian American Example

Richard Gambino, PhD

Professor Emeritus, Queens College, CUNY

RECEPTION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010

9:00 AM–9:30 AM

Coffee and Pastries

9:30 AM–10:45 AM CONFERENCE ROOM

AN INTERVIEW WITH PIONEERS IN ETHNIC PARADIGMS

Chairs: **Maria grace LaRusso**, EdD, Calandra Institute

Nancy Ziehler, PhD, Calandra Institute

Joseph Giordano, MSW, Family Therapist and Consultant

Jerry Krase, PhD, Professor Emeritus, Brooklyn College

James Perrone, PhD, University of Connecticut

Aileen Riotto Sirey, PhD, NOIAW

11:00 AM–12:15 PM CONFERENCE ROOM

PERSONAL ENCOUNTERS WITH THE MENTAL HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEM: PSYCHOTHERAPY, SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT, AND PSYCHIATRY

Chair: **Dominick Carielli**, PhD, Calandra Institute

Struggle and Treatment Issues with Schizophrenia

Christina Bruni, MLS, SchizophreniaConnection.com

Treatment for Heroin Addiction in the South Bronx

Gil Fagiani, LCSW, CASAC, Project Renewal

Experiences with Psychotherapy

Fred Gardaphé, PhD, Distinguished Professor of English and Italian
American Studies, Queens College, CUNY

12:15 PM–1:30 PM

Lunch on your own

1:30 PM–2:45 PM CONFERENCE ROOM

STIGMA, SHAME, SENSE OF SELF, AND FAMILY

Chair: **Pierre Tribaudi**, LCSW, Calandra Institute

Nella Mia Famiglia: The Hidden and not so Hidden Consequence
of Being an Outsider

Ann D'Ercole, PhD, ABPP, NYU Postdoctoral Program

Esaurimento Nervoso: Fiction or Fact

Silvia Fiammenghi, MA, MS, LIU/C.W. Post

Conversations with My Mother: Towards the Process
of Differentiation

John Russotto, PhD, LCSW, Virginia Commonwealth University

3:00 PM–4:30 PM CONFERENCE ROOM

ETHNOTHERAPY:

ITALIAN AMERICAN IDENTITY AND SELF-ESTEEM

Chair: **Anthony Julian Tamburri**, PhD, Calandra Institute

Aileen Riotto Sirey, PhD, NOIAW

4:45 PM–5:15 PM CONFERENCE ROOM

ITALIAN AMERICAN PROFESSIONALS IN MENTAL
HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Chair: **Donna M. Chirico**, PhD, York College, CUNY

Ennio Ammendola, MA, National Institute for People with Disabilities

Christine Gambino, MA, U.S. Census Bureau

Vincenzo Milione, PhD, Calandra Institute

Itala Pelizzoli, MA, Calandra Institute

5:30 PM–6:30 PM CONFERENCE ROOM

WHERE DID THE HUMOR GO? Comedy Stylings of “Chicago” Fred

Fred Gardaphé, PhD, Distinguished Professor of English and Italian
American Studies, Queens College, CUNY

MC: **Dominick Carielli**, PhD, Calandra Institute

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2010

9:00 AM–9:30 AM

Coffee and Pastries

9:30 AM–10:30 AM CONFERENCE ROOM

THE USE OF POETRY IN IDENTITY FORMATION IN ITALIAN AMERICAN WOMEN

Chair: **Donna M. Chirico**, PhD, York College, CUNY

Lorraine Mangione, PhD, Antioch University New England

Rachel Urbano, MA, Antioch University New England

10:45 AM–12:00 PM CONFERENCE ROOM

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT WITHIN THE ITALIAN AMERICAN POPULATION

Chair: **Christine Gambino**, MA, U.S. Census Bureau

Dana Kaspereen-Guidici Pietro, PhD, LPC, Fairleigh Dickinson University

Anthony F. Tasso, PhD, Fairleigh Dickinson University

Jennifer L. Tursi, MA Candidate, Fairleigh Dickinson University

12:00 PM–1:15 PM

Lunch on your own

1:15 PM–2:15 PM CONFERENCE ROOM

NAVIGATING GRIEF AND LOSS IN THE ITALIAN AMERICAN CULTURE

Chair: **Nancy Ziehler**, PhD, Calandra Institute

Donna H. DiCello, PsyD, University of Hartford

Lorraine Mangione, PhD, Antioch University New England

2:30 PM–3:45 PM CONFERENCE ROOM

IDENTITY DEVELOPMENT AND BELONGING

Chair: **Maria grace LaRusso**, EdD, Calandra Institute

Italian-American Ethnic Identity: Predictors of Development and Persistence

Kathryn P. (Tina) Alessandria, PhD, LPCMH, West Chester University, PA

Ola (Maria A.) Kopacz, PhD, West Chester University, PA

Being White, Feeling Black, Acting Out: Identity Development Among Italian American Youth

Donna M. Chirico, PhD, York College/CUNY

What Am I? Where is my Home? Cultural Identity and the Sense of Home and Belonging in Post-War Italian Immigrants

Lucia Imbesi, MA, LCSW, Postgraduate Center Psychoanalytic Institute, NYC

4:00 PM–7:00 PM 18TH FLOOR AUDITORIUM

Film: **CANVAS**

Discussion to follow.

Moderator: **Anthony Julian Tamburri**, PhD, Calandra Institute

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Dominick Carielli, PhD, Chair
Joseph Grosso, MEd
Maria grace LaRusso, EdD
Pierre Tribaudi, LCSW
Nancy Ziebler, PhD



JOHN D. CALANDRA ITALIAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE
Queens College, CUNY

25 West 43rd Street, 17th Floor • New York, NY 10036
212-642-2094 • www.qc.cuny.edu/calandra