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## Celebrate Italian American Heritage Month at Triton College with a Panel and Book Discussion

RIVER GROVE, Ill. – Triton College is celebrating Italian American Heritage Month with a panel and book discussion on Thursday, Oct. 17, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., in the Library (A Building). Students, faculty, staff and the general public are invited to attend. Ciao bella!

The book discussion will feature author **Don Fiore**, author of *Italo Balbo's Flight to the 1933 Chicago World's Fair*. Fiore is a lifetime student of Italian history, an anti-defamation activist, columnist for *Fra Noi*, and a contributing writer for local and national publications. He has been a musician and assistant manager of Caliendo's Banda Napoletana.

## The panel will feature:

- Frank Di Piero (Moderator) Host of the Keepin' It Real with Frankie D podcast. He is author of My Big "Family," Teddy Bianco Goes to Italy and Nonno's Magical Garden, and director of Casa Italia in Stone Park. Di Piero is a Triton College alum and member of Ridgewood High School District 234 Board of Education.
- Ivana Di Piero Owner of Ivana Di Piero Hair Studio in Harwood Heights, Illinois. A Triton College alum, Di Piero is director of the Ridgewood Foundation and an elected member of COMITES (Committee of Italians Abroad).
- **Ariana Colella** student personnel clerk at Triton College. A Triton College alum, Colella is an Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church Feast participant.
- **Cristina Bertolli** Star of TLC's hit reality show *sMothered* and owner of PIZZABOY Chicago in Edison Park, a neighborhood of Chicago.
- Sal Camarda Tech entrepreneur and organizer of Maria SS. Lauretana Society of Altavilla Milicia in Chicago. Camarda is owner of Joseph's Meats in Chicago and is a Triton College alum.
- Tony Greco Deputy chief of the Melrose Park Police Department and Triton College alum.

Di Piero will ask panelists how the Italian-American experience has inspired and influenced their lives, as well as invite panelists to share their individual stories. After the panel discussion,

attendees will enjoy traditional Italian cuisine and sweet treats, donated by PIZZABOY Chicago. *Buon appetito!* 

For more information, please contact <u>maryannpisano@triton.edu</u>.

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Media Contact: Maryann Pisano | maryannpisano@triton.edu | 708-456-0300, Ext. 3202

ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE Triton College is an institution of higher education dedicated to student success. Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs designed for students to realize their career aspirations and effectively compete in a global economy. The college campus spans 110 acres in River Grove, Illinois, holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton's exemplary faculty and staff work to provide high-quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 10,000 students each year. Triton College is a member of The Community Colleges of Illinois and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at http://triton.edu/.