



## **Northern Ohio Italian American Foundation Increases Support of Local Schools, Parishes and Other Organizations**

**CLEVELAND, OH – May 6, 2021** – The Northern Ohio Italian American Foundation (NOIA) is increasing its giving to local schools, parishes, and the community of Little Italy in order to preserve and support the region’s Italian heritage.

NOIA’s Legacy Fund will increase its annual giving in 2021 to \$150,000, up from \$100,000 in previous years.

“We’re proud NOIA members and supporters have made it possible for us to significantly increase our philanthropic efforts. We see the results of our efforts in the community every day and we look forward to having an even greater impact,” said Executive Director Angela Spitalieri.

Founded in 1995 by prominent Italian-Americans, [NOIA](#) has become one of the most generous and active ethnic-based foundations in Northeast Ohio. Over its 26-year history, it’s given more than \$3 million.

The Legacy Fund will concentrate its giving in five areas:

- Catholic high school scholarships
- High school and college travel programs to Italy
- Little Italy Redevelopment Corp.
- Responsive grants
- Italian parishes in Cleveland

Beginning in the 2021-22 school year, NOIA will give \$50,000 in scholarships to students of Italian heritage attending the 19 Catholic high schools in Northeast Ohio. That amount could grow to \$210,000 in four years.

NOIA will spend \$15,000 a year helping area high schools and colleges send students to travel to Italy as part of cultural studies programs.

The neighborhood of Little Italy is at the heart of the Italian community of Northeast Ohio and NOIA has a long history of supporting activities for the area. The Legacy Foundation will give \$25,000 a year to the Little Italy Redevelopment Corp., a nonprofit community development organization.



Faith is fundamental to the Italian-American community which is why NOIA will donate \$40,000 annually to four Italian parishes in Cleveland: St. Rocco's, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Holy Redeemer and Holy Rosary. The money will be in the form of \$10,000 grants to each parish.

NOIA will reserve \$10,000 a year in other grants, such as productions of Italian operas by Cleveland Opera Theater and other community programs.

"NOIA is a community of individuals with shared values rooted in the Italian culture of family, friends, faith and food. We are dedicated to making sure those values live on through our activities and our philanthropy," said Spitalieri.

*We invite you to learn more about the Northern Ohio Italian American Foundation and to spread the word about its philanthropic efforts. For more information, contact Executive Director Angela Spitalieri at [aspitalieri@noiafoundation.com](mailto:aspitalieri@noiafoundation.com) or call 216-229-1346.*