

2025 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

The New York Grand Lodge Foundation of the Order Sons of Italy in American has announced its 2025 Scholarship program for undergraduate and graduate study. The New York Grand Lodge Foundation, since the inception of its scholarship program, has distributed over one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in scholarship awards to deserving students. These scholarships were established by Filial Lodges, Districts or individuals and have been subsidized by the Grand Lodge Foundation.

One hundred twenty five (125) scholarships and six (6) grants were awarded in 2024. At the present time, we will once again distribute one hundred twenty five (125) scholarships and six (6) grants to a total of 77 students at a special District site program. Although no students applied for the one Vocational/Trade School Grant we will once again offer it. The monetary award each recipient receives is made payable to the individual and the institution he/she will attend in the fall. Every award recipient will become a Student-Member-At-Large member of the Order.

Requirements for Application:

1. **Undergraduate Awards** are for high school graduates of the year 2025 who will begin full-time undergraduate study in the Fall 2025 semester.
The Graduate Awards are for college graduates of the year 2025 who will begin graduate study in the Fall 2025 semester.
2. **The following must be submitted directly to the District Scholarship Chairperson:**
 - Official High School or College transcript, SAT and /or A.C.T. scores and class rank should be included for High School students.
 - Two letters of recommendation from teachers or counselors.
 - A student essay summarizing educational and career goals, school and community service and a discussion of the significance of your Italian heritage.
3. The scholarships are awards for academic excellence and service, and students must have an average of 85% or above.
4. Applicant must be a resident of New York State and of Italian-American heritage.
5. **The applications and all supportive materials MUST BE RECEIVED by March 31, 2025.**
6. **An application fee of \$10 MUST BE INCLUDED.** Check should be made payable to O.S.I.A. New York State Grand Lodge Foundation.

Requests for applications should be directed to local OSIA Lodges or to:

Scholarship Committee
Order Sons of Italy in America
New York Grand Lodge Foundation, Inc.
2101 Bellmore Avenue
Bellmore, NY 11710

Applications are also available on the N.Y.S. OSIA web page at www.nysosia.org.

Members of the OSIA Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee are: Joanne Spera, State Chairperson; Rosemarie Stathes and Margaret Forte, State Co-Chairpersons

District I – Suffolk County – Joanne Spera; **District II** – Nassau County – Grace Ferrara; **District III** – New York City - Rosemarie Stathes; **District IV** – Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess Counties – Margaret Forte; **District V** – Rockland County and surrounding area – Maria D’Aguino; **District VI** – Albany, Saratoga, Montgomery Counties and Schenectady area – Lisa Serafini; **District VII** – New York Northern, Central and Southern tier – Josephine Federico; **District VIII** – Western NY (Rochester, Geneva etc.) – Marjorie Focarazzo; All Graduate school applications – Angelo Grande; All Grant Awards – Kathryn Grande

For additional information, please contact Chairperson Joanne Spera at Cyclonejo51@aol.com or telephone (631) 495-4251.

**NYS ORDER SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA FOUNDATION
ANNOUNCES THE
2025 SCHOLARSHIP, GRANT & VOCATIONAL/TRADE SCHOOL GRANT
PROGRAM**

The NYSOSDIA Foundation will distribute over \$121,000 in scholarship and grant money to New York State Residents entering college or graduate school in the fall of 2025. Applications and directions for completion of each can be downloaded from this website and mailed to the appropriate chairperson: (see last page for contact details for each district chairperson)

District I – Suffolk County: *Joanne Spera (Co-chair Arthur Spera)*

District II – Nassau County: *Grace Ferrara (Co-chair Angelo Ferrara)*

District III – New York City: *Rosemarie Stathes (Co-chair Eleanor Jobbagy)*

District IV – Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess Counties: *Margaret Forte (Co-chair Lina Ferrito)*

District V – Rockland County and surrounding area: *Maria D'Aquino*

District VI – Albany, Saratoga, Montgomery Counties and Schenectady area: *Lisa Serafini*

District VII – New York Northern, Central and Southern Tier: *Josephine Federico (Co-chair Carmine Federico)*

District VIII – Western NY (Rochester, Geneva, etc.): *Marjorie Focarazzo*

All Graduate School Applications: *Angelo Grande*

All Grant Applications: *Kathryn Grande*

For additional information, please contact State Scholarship Chairperson Joanne Spera at Cyclonejo51@aol.com or telephone H (631) 669-7295 or C (631) 495-4251.

2025 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Joanne Spera

31 Headline Road
Deer Park, NY 11729
Tel: (631) 669-7295
Cell: (631) 495-4251
cyclonejo51@aol.com

District I – Suffolk County

Joanne Spera

31 Headline Road
Deer Park, NY 11729
Tel: (H) (631) 669-7295
Cell: (631) 495-4251
cyclonejo51@aol.com

District II – Nassau County

Grace Ferrara

39 Granger Avenue
Floral Park, NY 11001
Tel: (H) (516) 328-3165
Cell: (516) 527-5336
amazgf@aol.com

District III – New York City

Rosemarie Stathes

51 Twinlawns Avenue
Hicksville, NY 11801
Cell: (516) 729-4886
rsthates@yahoo.com

District IV – Westchester, Putnam & Dutchess

Margaret Forte

83 Lawrence Park Crescent
Bronxville, NY 10708
Tel: (H) (914) 337-1387
Cell: (914) 588-0624
m4tay@aol.com

Grant Award Chairperson

Kathryn Grande

10 Chestnut Avenue
Glen Head, NY 11545
Cell: (516) 906-9754
aigrande@yahoo.com

District V – Rockland & Surrounding Area

Maria D'Aquino

26 Dolphin Road
New City, NY 10956
Cell: (845) 709-4651
mdaq627@gmail.com

District VI – Albany, Schenectady, Saratoga & Montgomery Counties

Lisa Serafini

3093 New Williamsburg Drive
Schenectady, NY 12303
Tel: (H) (518) 355-1286
Cell: (518) 320-6527
lisamalonzi@gmail.com

District VII – Northern, Central & Southern Tiers of NY

Josephine Federico

4966 Driftwood Drive
Liverpool, NY 13088
Tel: (H) (315) 457-5010
Carmine's Cell (315) 657-1062
cfederic@twcny.rr.com

District VIII – Western New York, Rochester, Geneva

Marjorie Focarazzo

84 Mulcahy Blvd.
Rochester, NY 14624
Tel: (C) (585) 749-5346
mafocarazzo@gmail.com

Graduate Scholarship Chairperson

Angelo Grande

10 Chestnut Avenue
Glen Head, NY 11545
Cell: (516) 906-9754
aigrande@yahoo.com

2025 New York Grand Lodge Foundation Scholarship Checklist

_____ Official Transcripts including first semester senior year grade

_____ Grant Applicants must have supporting documentation

_____ SAT/ACT scores (if applicable)

_____ Two (2) letters of recommendation from teachers or counselors

_____ A student essay (no more than 350 words) summarizing educational and career goals, school and community service and a discussion of the significance of your Italian heritage

_____ A \$10 application fee, made payable to the NY Grand Lodge Foundation, Inc.

Scholarships are awards for academic excellence and service. Students are required to have a MINIMUM AVERAGE OF 85% or above.

Applicant MUST be a resident of New York State and of Italian heritage/lineage.

ALL REQUIRED PAPERWORK, AND APPLICATION FEE MUST BE PRESENTED FOR APPLICATION TO BE PROCESSED.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MARCH 31, 2025

******PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH ALL PAPERWORK******

2025 NEW YORK GRAND LODGE FOUNDATION GRANT AWARD APPLICATION

Biagio J. Isgro, Jr., Foundation President – Joanne Spera, Scholarship Chairperson

APPLICATION FORM (Please Print or Type)

Name: Last _____ First _____ Middle _____

Home Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Sex: Circle one (Male/Female)

College/Curriculum to which you are applying. _____

_____ Date entering: _____

Name/Address of High School: _____

_____ Graduation Date: _____

FAMILY MEMBERS OF OSDIA LODGES MUST COMPLETE THE LODGE IDENTIFICATION SECTION BELOW. THIS IS NOT REQUIRED FOR NON-AFFILIATED APPLICANTS.

Lodge Name & Number: _____ Location: _____

OSDIA Member: _____ Relationship to Student: _____

President of Lodge: _____ President's Signature: _____

Address of Lodge: _____ Phone#: _____

DIRECTIONS TO APPLICANT: CHECK ONE: _____ **UNDERGRADUATE** _____ **GRADUATE**

Check only if applying for: _____ *Italian Studies* _____ *Returning Student* _____ *Education Studies* _____ *Business Undergraduate*
_____ *Graduate/Science/Engineering* _____ *Religious Studies* _____ *Music/Arts*

APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE "ALL" INFORMATION ON THIS FORM

- 1) Undergraduate awards are for current high school seniors who will begin full time undergraduate study in the Fall 2024 semester.
- 2) The following **MUST** be submitted directly to the District Scholarship Chairperson for the applicant's lodge or geographic district: (a) Official transcripts **including** first semester senior year grades and SAT/ACT scores. (c) **Two letters of recommendation** from teachers or counselors. (d) A student essay (**no more than 350 words**) summarizing educational and career goals, school and community service and a discussion of the significance of your Italian heritage, (e) Required documentation (I.E.P. statement) for Grant consideration.
- 3) Applicant **MUST** be a resident of New York State and of Italian heritage/lineage.
- 4) **A \$10 application fee, made payable to the NY Grand Lodge Foundation, Inc., MUST BE INCLUDED WITH APPLICATION.**
- 5) **Application, fee and supporting material MUST be sent to the State Grant Chairperson and POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MARCH 31, 2025.**
- 6) Awards will be presented at a ceremony within each respective district sometime in June/July 2025.

*** Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: ____/____/____

PLEASE CALL THE GRAND LODGE OFFICE AT 516-785-4623 FOR INFORMATION ON YOUR DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRPERSON

Grant Chairperson: **Kathryn Grande** Address: **10 Chestnut Ave. Glen Head, N.Y. 11545** Cell: **(516) 906-9754** Email: **airgrande@yahoo.com**