

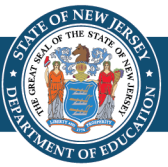
New Jersey Department of Education



New Jersey Italian Heritage Commission

Division of Legal and External Services

May 3, 2023





Mission and Goals



- The primary mission of the New Jersey Italian Heritage Commission is to promote education in the State of New Jersey.
 - Coordinate with NJ school superintendents and public organizations
 - Compose, distribute, and promote the implementation of lessons on history and culture that is age appropriate in grades K-12
 - Provide programs, and facilitate events that will provide awareness and guidance on the positive achievements and contributions of Italians and Italian Americans





Curriculum



- The New Jersey Italian Heritage Commission instituted a transition program in 2020 converting the ‘Universality of Italian Heritage’ curriculum lessons into video and PowerPoint presentations starting with an Italian’s Dream, which encompasses several existing lessons in a four-part series:
 - The Venetian Spice Monopoly
 - The Man Who Changed the World, Christopher Columbus
 - The Origins of the Hispanic Peoples
 - Immigration



Curriculum - *continued*



- Italians and the Holocaust video was developed in cooperation and consultation with the New Jersey Office of Holocaust Commission. This is a five-part series:
 - Italians and the Holocaust - Background
 - Pope Pius XI, Mussolini, and Hitler
 - The Holocaust
 - The Pope Works to Protect Jews from Nazi Atrocities while Protecting Catholics from Fascists, Nazis, and Bolsheviks
 - Soviet Spies and Propaganda



Upcoming & Ongoing Projects



- Updating the website www.NJItalianHeritage.org to include the latest videos and presentations
- Continuation of transitioning lessons.
 - Upcoming is Italy / Roman Influence of the Creation of the American Republic
- Scheduling a Professional Development Day for October
- Conducting a survey of NJ Teachers for input on the curriculum



Thank You!



New Jersey Italian Heritage Commission: NJItalianHeritage.org

New Jersey Department of Education: nj.gov/education

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