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Gale A. Brewer, Borough President



October 2021

## Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to join you in celebrating Italian Heritage and Culture Month especially because New York is home to one of the world's largest Italian populations outside of Italy itself.

For over four decades, the Italian Heritage & Culture Committee of New York has been instrumental in teaching the public about Italian history and culture and uplifting achievements by those of Italian descent. The IHCC-NY has worked tirelessly to ensure that the Italian language is still taught in schools and has continued to encourage positive media portrayals of Italian Americans.

This year's "Dante 700!" theme honoring the works of Dante Alighieri is particularly fitting given how the famous poet helped unify Italy through the Italian language and how the IHCC-NY helps unify the Italian American community across cultural and educational programming. Dante and the IHCC-NY share a similar legacy of connecting Italians to their heritage and wider community.

On behalf of the Borough of Manhattan, I wish you many more years of success.

Sincerely,

Gale A. Brewer

Manhattan Borough President