

*The Dante Alighieri Society of Washington*  
*Invites you to*

*Festa di Natale*  
*per i Bambini*



"The Adoration of the Magi" by sculptor Niccolo Pisano, c. 1260, on the Baptistry pulpit in Pisa.

*Italian Christmas*  
*Celebration for Children*

*First Saturday of December*  
**December 3, 2016**  
1:00 to 4:00 pm

**Location:**

**@ Brannan House: 11544 Phinney Avenue North**  
**Christ the King Church and School**  
405 N. 117<sup>th</sup>, Seattle WA 98133

# *Festa di Natale per i Bambini*

## *Activities*

Procession of the *Presepio*

The Tale of *La Befana*

Italian songs

Games of *tombola*

Italian word games

Christmas letter to parents

Fresh *pizzele* cookies

*Delizioso* Italian dinner

## *The Celebration*

*La Befana* is a beloved character in Italian Christmas folklore, similar to Santa Claus. An old woman all dressed in black, she is always sweeping. Legend says that before Christ's birth *La Befana* was approached by the Three Wise Men asking for directions. She couldn't help, but offered hospitality, and they invited her to join their search. She declined, but had a change of heart—and now she's destined to sweep forever, looking for the Christ Child and the Magi.

*The Presepio* is an Italian nativity, a manger scene featuring the Holy Family, shepherds, and Magi. However, it also displays an Italian village and depicts biblical characters as well as local figures and scenes from everyday life.

*Tombola* is an Italian card game, with prizes!

*Pizzele* are wonderful Italian cookies, made right before your eyes!

Italian dinner is served thanks for the generosity and support of **Tutta Bella Neapolitan Pizzerias**

## *Reservation Information*

Please help us to ensure that we have adequate refreshments for all our guests by returning this form with your payment by November 26, 2016.

**Cost:**

\$3 per person, child or adult. Parents, grandparents, and others are welcome.

**Pre-payment is required for this very popular holiday event. *Grazie!***

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

# of children \_\_\_\_\_

# of adults \_\_\_\_\_

Please MAIL your information and check made out to DAS (Dante Alighieri Society) by November 26, 2016 to:

**Caterina Wartes  
37381 Hansville Rd NW  
Hansville WA 98340**

## *Directions to Festa di Natale*

**Location:**

**@ Brannan House:** 11544 Phinney Avenue North  
**Christ the King Church and School:** 405 N. 117<sup>th</sup>, Seattle WA 98133

**Directions:**

From I-5 northbound: Take exit # 172 for North 85<sup>th</sup> St. Drive west to Greenwood Avenue; turn right. Drive north to 117<sup>th</sup> Street and turn right. Make the first right onto Phinney and Brannan House is on your immediate left.

From I-5 southbound:

Take exit #173 west and turn right onto Northgate Way at the off-ramp signal. Drive west to Greenwood Avenue, turn right. Drive north to 117th Street and turn right. Make the first right onto Phinney and Brannan House is on your immediate left.

## *History of the Dante Alighieri Society*

Created by the Italian government in 1889, the Dante Alighieri Society was designed to preserve their language and culture as Italian nationals dispersed around the world.

The society is named for Dante Alighieri (1265 – 1321), the pre-Renaissance poet from Florence and author of the Divine Comedy. He is considered to be the father of the Italian language.

The Seattle, Washington chapter of the Dante Alighieri Society holds regular meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays, monthly from September to May. At each meeting there is time for socializing, delicious food and *vino*, plus a presentation. On the second Wednesday the presentation is in English, on the fourth Wednesday the presentation is in Italian.

In addition to meetings, the Society offers participation in social and cultural events like Seattle's ***Festa Italiana*** each September, and the Seattle International Film Festival.