
La Voce della Dante

Published by the Dante Alighieri Society of Washington (DAS)

<http://das.danteseattle.org>

April 2012

April English Meeting - Annual DAS Elections

Wednesday, April 11th, 6:30 pm, Headquarters House

The annual DAS business meeting and elections will be held April 11th at Headquarters House. The current board has graciously agreed to run again. But, nominations are open for any board positions and there are counselor positions available. The current board running for office is as follows:

<i>President:</i>	Frank Pattera
<i>Vice President:</i>	Sylvia Shiroyama
<i>Secretary:</i>	Joyce Morinaka
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Bruce Leone

Current Counselors:
Dan DeMatteis
Houghton Lee
Joyce Morinaka
Toni Napoli

If you wish to run for a board position or become a counselor, please contact Toni Napoli at toni@lifehealingtn.com or call 206-387-2767.

As has been tradition, for those members with current paid up dues, the board will cook a complimentary pasta meal. As always, this meeting is open to non-members but they will be required to pay \$8. And for those who aren't current on their dues and wish to attend this meeting, you can pay your dues at the meeting.

Anyone who plans on attending needs to reserve a spot by calling the Activity Line or emailing their reservation requests by the Monday prior to the meeting.

Keep in mind, only current dues paying members will be able to vote. And for those attending, you may wish to bring wine to share. The Board will provide the rest of the meal!

Come vote and show your support for the board on April 11th.



Upcoming Events

Wed, Apr 11th:
Annual Business Meeting and Elections
6:30 pm, Headquarters House



Wed, Apr 25th:
Progetto Lingua Italiana Dante Alighieri (PLIDA), Origini, Analisi e Prospettive by Giuseppe Tassone, 7:30 pm, Headquarters House



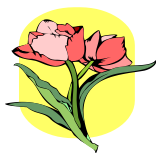
New Activity Line Phone Number

Effective immediately, the phone number for DAS, including the Activity Line, has changed to:

425-243-7663

The email to make for pre-Dante pasta reservations remains the same:

dante.reserve@gmail.com



**Welcome to
Our New**

**Benvenuti
Nuovi Membri**

**We thank you for your
support of DAS.**

*** DAS Star List 2012***

While we appreciate those who support our Society through membership dues & volunteering, stars are awarded to those making extra cash contributions which allows us to provide additional services.

Grazie Mille for supporting the Dante Alighieri Society of Washington.

Bronzo up to \$25

- * Borriello, Rosa
- * Gillett, Debra Rovetto
- * Orsi, Catherine
- * Schwartz, Peni

Argento \$26 to \$50

- * Crawford, Dick & Barbara
- * Cottrell, Dave & Jane
- * DeMatteis, Dan & Carol
- * Hoffman, Pat
- * Hundertmark, Louise
- * Napoli, Toni
- * Tobe, Robert & Magdalena

Oro \$51 to \$100

- * Fonzo, Emilio
- * Forte, Giselda
- * Mascio, Marcella

Platino—over \$100

- * Harmon, Gini
- * Pietrafesa, Louise

*Donations from September 2011.
Names will remain on this list through
December 2012.*

From the President's Desk

Today was a beautiful day, a real sign of spring arriving. It sure does feel good. All that rain did well for the flowers however, and with the longer days, they are a real joy.

We had two great programs in March and I hope you were able to enjoy them. First, for our English program, Dan DeMatteis gave us a wonderful tour of "Shakespeare and Italy". I hope you were able to make it, Dan did a great job. Speaking of great jobs, hats off to Joyce Ramee and Nick Minotti for the spectacular dinner they made for us. The pasta with mushrooms was just the right hearty meal for the chilly night and the tapenade and the eggplant were wonderful as well. Thank you so much! Also, many thanks to those who brought vino, antipasti, and dolce, it was all wonderful.

Our Italian meeting with Brian Gojdic - Executive Chef & Alessandro Albi - Front of the House Manager of Tutta Bella was also a lot of fun. Their program, "Pizza Napoletana Experience with Tutta Bella", was sure to resonate with many of us. I want to thank Tutta Bella again for their support of our organization. And again, many thanks to all who contributed antipasti, vino, and dolce for the evening. Your generosity makes the evening we share together so much fun.

Many thanks also to Carol DeMatteis for arranging these interesting and engaging programs!

This month we will hold our annual business meeting in place of the English program and we will hold our 2012 elections. I encourage each of you to consider taking one of the positions in our organization. The best way to really enjoy our society is to help to run it. If a board position is not what you are interested, we have lots of committee positions that could use your help as well. There are lots of opportunities to pitch in. Thank you to all who are currently serving!

As is our tradition, the current board will be preparing the meal for this meeting and there is no charge for current members. We will also get a treasurer's report during this meeting.

Also, a special request this month. As you may know Nancy McDonald is in the process of updating the cookbook which she compiled and edited for our society a number of years ago. She has asked that if you have any recipes that you would like to submit for inclusion that you send them to her no later than April 15th and that you include the name and hometown of the recipe owner. Recipes for all categories are needed. Thank you for your help, we plan on selling copies of this book as a fundraiser at our meetings and at Festa this year.

Finally, I have been thinking about board and card games lately. We love to play Scrabble at our house and I wondered what games are most popular in Italy. It turns out that at least four are very common and they all look like a lot of fun. Many of us have played Tombola at our annual

(Cont'd on page 3)



Language Program News by Giuseppe Tassone Italian Language Program Director

Spring quarter started on March 29th with three sections of Italian taught by Laura Ciroi, Michela Tartaglia and Daniel Zanchi. The Italian language program of the Dante Alighieri Society of Washington runs from October to June with a class break every ten weeks. This quarter is the third and last quarter for all levels. Students completing the elementary level are eligible to take the intermediate level in the fall while students in the intermediate level can continue with the advanced level. Students have also the option of repeating a level if they think that they didn't reach the language proficiency required to go to the next level.

We do not offer summer courses, however Dante students can consider taking summer courses at the University of Washington since during UW's Summer Quarter anyone can enroll. In addition, Washington residents 60 years or older can attend class as auditing students through the ACCESS program. To find out more about these options go to: www.summer.washington.edu/summer/home.asp

If a student decides to take a summer Italian class at the University of Washington, we can then place the student in the appropriate level in our program in the fall.

The 2012-13 Italian Language Program schedule will be posted on our website (www.danteseattle.org) mid-June. If you are interested in registering for fall quarter try to do so at the beginning of the registration period. Classes fill up quickly.

Complete information about our program is available at: www.danteseattle.org

For questions, contact the director Giuseppe Tassone at: info@danteseattle.org

(President's Message Cont'd from page 2)

Christmas party, breaking into stitches as Giuseppe calls the numbers. Another popular game is Italian draughts, which looks a lot like checkers but does not allow jumping. Two card games that look like a lot of fun and I'm looking forward to trying are Cassino and Scopa. Cassino requires a special deck of cards but Scopa is played with a regular deck. The rules for Scopa look like it's a great strategy game and looks like a lot of fun. If any of you have played these before and are interested in a game, please let me know; we could have a tournament at one of our meetings!

Frank Paterra

Time to Renew DAS Membership

It's time to renew your DAS membership. Membership runs from January 1 to December 31st of each year. However, if you joined after September 2011, your membership is good through December 31st, 2012.

Fill out the form on page 10 and send your dues to the P.O. Box address noted or better yet, send directly to the DAS treasurer:

Bruce Leone
2522 2nd Ave West
Seattle, WA 98119

PAST DUE !

Board Meeting

The last board meeting for the 2011-2012 year was held March 7th, 2012. The next board meeting will be in the fall.

Meetings are held from 7:00-8:30 pm and are open to all members.



La Voce

Spring is here in Georgia and it's unseasonably warm with 70s into 80s which has broken some records. It should be in the high 50s!

If you traveled and found something or a place interesting and related to the Italian culture, send photos or an article about your experience. Or maybe you've tried a great new Italian restaurant or read a great book. We would love to hear about it. These are all things that make a great La Voce so submissions are welcome. Submit, submit . . .

Linda

Delivering La Voce to Members



Just a reminder that La Voce will not be sent to the membership via an email attachment. For many emails, the file size is too large. Instead, an email will be sent to members that includes a link to the current issue of La Voce on the DAS website. Just click on the link and you will have La Voce to read for your pleasure.

Adobe Reader is necessary to be able to view La Voce. You can download this program from the DAS website.

And be sure your email box isn't full.

Inclement Weather Procedure

With winter not over yet, weather can still be prickly. Let's hope there is no repeat of the ice and snow storm of January and the snow again in March. Hopefully, spring is just around the corner! In case it's not when schools, community centers, and businesses are closing early or remain closed, we



will postpone any scheduled meeting for Headquarters House. We will do our best to have a message on the DAS reservation line, 425-243-7663, to let you know if our meeting needs to be canceled. If the weather is treacherous in your area, PLEASE DO NOT attempt to travel to Headquarters House, we want everyone to be safe.

Reminder: New DAS Mailing Address

Please remember to use the DAS new post office box address that took effect last year:

Dante Alighieri Society
PO Box 9494
Seattle, WA 98109

Even better is to mail membership checks and new memberships or reimbursement requests directly to Bruce Leone, Treasurer, at:

Bruce Leone
2522 2nd Ave West
Seattle, WA 98119

Membership Roster Available

DAS has a membership roster available for those interested. It's a pdf file that can be emailed as an attachment and then printed out.

To have one emailed to you contact Bruce Leone at:

bruceleo@earthlink.net





La Voce Needs You!

Tell a story, write an article, share your Italian heritage; send via email (as a Word document) to lthdesign@comcast.net. You can also mail it via regular mail to Linda Heimbigner, 4355 Little Falls Drive, Cumming, GA 30041. Keep things coming! Thanks to everyone who has contributed articles.

Article submission deadline:

<u>ISSUE DATE</u>	<u>SUBMISSION DEADLINE</u>
May 2012	April 20th, 2012
Sept 2012	August 20th, 2012

Let's see some articles come in this season!

Dante on the Internet!

Check our website. It has links to our recent newsletters (including this one) as well as information on speakers and other matters of interest. Our web address is:

<http://das.danteseattle.org/>

Pre-Dante Pasta

Join us for the pre-Dante Pasta dinner preceding the English language programs. **To attend the dinner, reservations are required. The only way to make these reservations is by calling the activity line at (206) 320-9159 by 5 pm on the Monday before the meeting or send your request via email to: dante.reserve@gmail.com.**

Please remember to bring your homemade Italian desserts to finish off this great meal.

This is a communally prepared meal – the preparations start at 5:30 and the meal is served at 6:30. People who come early help with set up and cooking, those who come late help with the clean up.

Pasta dinner cost is \$8 per person, \$15 per couple, if reservations are received on the Activity Line by 5 pm on Monday before the meeting. Late reservations and walk-ins are charged \$10 per person and subject to availability. We meet at Headquarters House, 2336 15th Avenue, Seattle, WA. DAS will not be providing wine for the pre-Dante pasta dinners so bring your own wine to enjoy and share with others.



Dante Alighieri Society of Washington

*"Società per la diffusione della
lingua e della cultura italiana
nel mondo"*

Mailing address:
PO Box 9494
Seattle, WA 98109
(425) 243-7663

The Dante Alighieri Society of Washington is a nonprofit corporation organized to promote Italian language and culture within the state of Washington. Membership is open to anyone interested in the goals and ideals of our society regardless of ethnic origin. *La Voce della Dante* is published eight times a year by the Dante Alighieri Society of Washington. All rights reserved.

Frank Paterra
President

Sylvia Shiroyama
Vice President

Joyce Morinaka
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Jane Cottrell
Past President

Dan DeMatteis
Counselor

Houghton Lee
Counselor

Joyce Morinaka
Counselor

Toni Napoli
Counselor

Linda Heimbigner
La Voce Editor

Terry Hanlon
Hospitality

Carol DeMatteis
Program Chair

Giuseppe Tassone
Language Program Director

DAS Cookbook



Here's an alert to all our great cooks at Dante. We are going to produce a cookbook with all your favorite recipes.

Please email your recipes to Nancy McDonald at nancymick@yahoo.com with your name and where in Italy your family is from. Tell us if the recipe is special...from your Nonna, Mom or Dad, their hometown favorite, or some interesting tidbit about the recipe.

You can also bring recipes to the Dante meetings, or mail them to Nancy. Call her at (206) 706-0471 if you have any questions or need her mailing address.

We need every category: Antipasti, Insalata, Pasta, Main Dishes, Contorni, Pane, and Dolci.

Deadline

We would like to get this done as quickly as possible, so please submit your recipes by April 15th.

Don't wait, send in your recipe today!

Submit your
recipes by
April 15th...

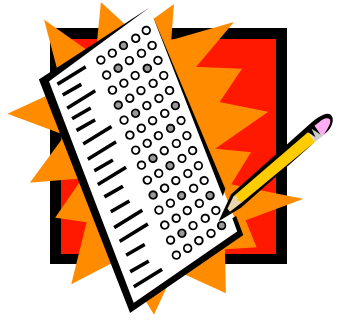
April Italian Meeting

Progetto Lingua Dante Alighieri (PLIDA)

Origini, Analisi e Prospettive

by Giuseppe Tassone

Wednesday, April 25th, 7:30-8:30 pm, Headquarters House



Giuseppe Tassone, director of the DAS Italian language program and PLIDA coordinator in Seattle, will illustrate the PLIDA program and exam at the April 25th DAS Italian meeting with a presentation called, "*Progetto Lingua Italiana Dante Alighieri (PLIDA) - Origini, Analisi e Prospettive*".

The Dante Alighieri Society of Washington is now a Certification Center for Italian at the Seattle University Campus. The Dante Alighieri of Washington – Italian language program was authorized on November 2nd 2011 to become one of the few USA centers for PLIDA certification. PLIDA stands for Progetto Lingua Italiana Dante Alighieri.

The *Società Dante Alighieri* (the equivalent in Italy of prestigious institutions in other countries such as the Alliance Française, the British Council, the Goethe-Institute and the Instituto Cervantes) has created PLIDA exams in Rome with the scientific approval of the University *La Sapienza* and now classes and certificates are offered and recognized in Italy and all over the world. The PLIDA project follows the guidelines of the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages; Strasbourg, 2001) and it arranges certifications according to a scale of six different levels corresponding to six learning phases. Levels advance from A1 to C2 in order of difficulty. PLIDA exams are issued by the *Società Dante Alighieri* in Rome and are recognized by the Italian Department/Ministry of Education, University and Research, the Italian Department/Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Italian Department / Ministry of Labor and Welfare. Employers, universities, and government organizations throughout the world also recognize the PLIDA examinations. Passing a PLIDA exam can help students gain entrance to a university or college, improve their job prospects and measure their progress in Italian.

The authorization of the PLIDA center in Seattle has been announced and signed by the President Ambassador Bruno Bottai and Secretary General Dr. Alessandro Masi on November 2nd 2011 with the following motivation and welcome message: *We are happy to announce that the Dante Alighieri of Washington – Italian Language Program is authorized to become a PLIDA Certification Center. The Center has all the necessary requirements to organize the exams and the examination board for the oral evaluation is suitable. Most of all we want to congratulate with you for the excellent level of competence of the examination board's members.*



Tempo di Primavera

The Italian Studies Advisory Board at the University of Washington presents its fourth Tempo di Primavera to be held Sunday, April 22nd, 2012 at Ristorante Luciano, 515 Bellevue Square, Bellevue, WA 98004.

5:00 pm: Antipasti, prosecco, and entertainment

6:00 pm: Dinner and live auction

Cost: \$200 per person with advance registration required

This will be an evening of fine Italian food and wine prepared by honored Seattle restaurateur, Luciano Bardinelli. All proceeds from this event will be used to support the UW's Italian Studies program, including the creation of endowed scholarships for students.

To support the Italian Studies program at the University of Washington, The Dante Alighieri Society of Washington will be auctioning three quarters of language instruction at their evening program at the Seattle University campus. This is to be used in the fall and will include a one-year membership to the Dante Alighieri Society.

It is strongly recommended making your reservations no later than Friday, April 13th, as space is limited. To purchase tickets or for further information, call Jennifer at 206-616-3486 or visit their website at: <http://depts.washington.edu/itboard/>

Italian Easter Cookies

Recipe from allrecipes.com

1/2 cup butter	5 teaspoons baking powder
3/4 cup white sugar	
3 eggs	4 cups confectioners' sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract	1/2 cup butter, softened
1 teaspoon almond extract	1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 cup milk	1 teaspoon almond extract
1/4 cup vegetable oil	3 tablespoons milk
3 3/4 cups all-purpose flour	3 drops food coloring (optional)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease cookie sheets or line with parchment paper.

In a large bowl, cream together 1/2 cup butter and white sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the eggs one at a time, then stir in 1 teaspoon vanilla and 1 teaspoon almond extract, 1/4 cup milk, and oil. Combine the flour and baking powder, stir into the wet mixture. Roll dough into 1 inch balls. On a lightly floured surface, roll the balls out into ropes about 5 inches long. Tie into loose knots and place cookies 1 inch apart onto the prepared cookie sheets.

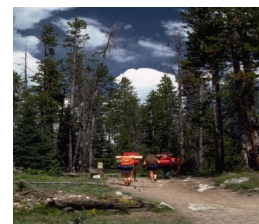
Bake for 5 minutes on the bottom shelf and 5 minutes on the top shelf of the preheated oven, until the bottoms of the cookies are golden brown. When cookies are cool, dip them into the icing.

To make the icing, cream together the confectioners' sugar, 1/2 cup butter, and 1 teaspoon vanilla and 1 teaspoon almond extract. Beat in 3 tablespoons milk, one tablespoon at a time, then stir in food coloring if desired.



NOTE: (I made these simple yet flavorful cookies into balls rather than ropes and baked at 375 degrees for 8 minutes without moving the cookie sheets from top to bottom. To have light, soft cookies don't beat dough which will develop the gluten in the flour.)

Club Alpino Italiano (CAI) PNW



The following is information about the scheduled hike for April:

April 14th

Destination: Issaquah area

Classification: E-M

Distance/Time: Up to 8 miles, 4 hours

Elevation Gain: Less than 1000 feet

Contact: John Burnett
(johnsb42@hotmail.com or
425-881-5736)

Please contact John by Thursday, April 12th if you plan to go.

This is a spring woods hike with some local history. Bring your lunch and meet at Red Town Trail head at 10:00 AM.

Directions:

From I-90: Take Exit 13 and drive south on Lakemont Blvd SE for 3.1 miles. Look for the entrance to the Red Town Trail head on the left side of the road.

From I-405: Take Exit 10 and follow Coal Creek Pkwy SE for 2.4 miles to the shopping center. Turn left at the light onto SE 72nd Pl and then left again at Newcastle Golf Club Road. Follow that for 1.9 miles. The entrance to Red Town Trailhead is on the right side of the road just after the big bend.



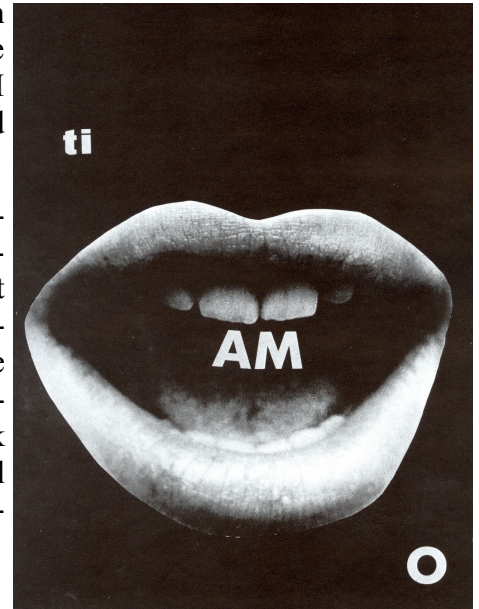
Lecture by Frances Pohl (Pomona College)

The Department of Modern Languages and Cultures Italian Program invite you to a lecture by Frances Pohl “Language/Image/Object: The Work of Italian Artist Mirella Bentivoglio” on Friday, May 4th, 2:30 PM at Wyckoff Auditorium on the Seattle University campus. A reception and photo exhibits at Xavier 121 will follow).

The Italian artist Mirella Bentivoglio is a woman of many accomplishments. A poet, concrete poet, visual poet, sculptor, performance artist, curator, art historian, and journalist, she has created a body of work that stretches over five decades and several visual and intellectual fields. Beginning her creative activity as a poet in the 1940s, she moved into the realm of concrete poetry in the mid-1960s and visual poetry at the beginning of the following decade. Within a few years, her text-based art work moved off the page and onto the ground in a series of 3-dimensional pieces, sometimes public and monumental in size, infused with a performative element; sometimes private and more intimate.

All the while she concerned herself with the broader field of art activity, organizing exhibitions of the work of artists from around the world at both local and international exhibitions and committing her informed understanding of these works to paper as catalogue essays and journal articles in her regular contributions to the Roman newspaper *Il Manifesto*. She has constantly drawn inspiration for her work from both the present and the past, and is the co-author of a major book on Italian women Futurist artists.

This illustrated lecture will constitute an overview of Bentivoglio’s career, providing a sense of the range of her talents and concerns.



Frances Pohl is the Dr. Many Ann Vanderzyl Reynolds ‘56 Professor of Humanities and Professor of Art History at Pomona College. She teaches in the Department of Art and Art History and received her BA and MA in art history from the University of British Columbia and her PhD in art history from the University of California, Los Angeles. She is the author of two books on the American artist Ben Shahn, a major textbook, *Framing America: A Social History of American Art*, and several exhibition catalogues and journal essays. She also has a strong interest in women artists and has written articles and catalogue essays on the Los Angeles muralist Judith F. Baca and the Italian concrete poet and visual poet Mirella Bentivoglio.

(For questions or more information about this presentation, email Giuseppe Tassone at tassoneg@seattleu.edu)



DANTE CALENDAR 2011-2012

Dante Alighieri Society of Washington

<p style="text-align: center;">September 2011</p> <p>14 Anita Bingaman <i>Puglia, The Sturdy Heel of Italy</i></p> <p>28 Claudio Mazzola <i>Giuseppe Tornatore: From Cinema Paradiso to Baaria</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 2012</p> <p>8 Louise Sportelli <i>Italian Gardens from the Renaissance to Today</i></p> <p>22 David Chapman <i>Edmondo De Amicis- "Amore e ginnastica"</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">October 2011</p> <p>12 Julie Coen, Europe Through the Back Door <i>Tour of Venice</i></p> <p>26 Marcella Nardi, <i>Castles of Duchy of Parma & Piacenza-Towns of Ravenna & Gradara</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">March 2012</p> <p>14 Dan DeMatteis <i>Shakespeare and Italy</i></p> <p>28 Executive Chef Brian Gojdics, Front of the House Manager, Alessandro Albi, Tutta Bella <i>Neopolitan Pizza</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">November 2011</p> <p>9 Vicki Olson <i>Searching Italian Roots</i></p> <p>No Italian meeting in November</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">April 2012</p> <p>11 Election night (no speaker)</p> <p>25 Giuseppe Tassone <i>PLIDA (Progetto Lingua Italiana Dante Alighieri)</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">December 2011</p> <p>3 Natale per i Bambini</p> <p>14 Christmas party</p> <p>No Italian meeting in December</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">May 2012</p> <p>9 Joyce Ramee <i>Lecture & Live Performance: Italian Composers</i></p> <p>No Italian meeting in May</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">January 2012</p> <p>11 Chris Zimmerman, Vias Wine <i>Italian Wine Tasting</i></p> <p>25 Seneca Garber, Seattle Opera <i>Italian Operas in 2012 Seattle Opera Season</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June - August 2012</p> <p>Summer Break - No meetings held</p>

At the first meeting of each month (English program), pre-Dante pasta is communally prepared at 5:30 pm & served at 6:30 pm. Call the Activity Line (425) 243-7663 by the Monday before to reserve your spot(s) or email your request to: dante.reserve@gmail.com. Cost: \$8.00 per person or \$15.00 per couple

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held at Headquarters House, 2336 15th Ave S, in the Beacon Hill neighborhood of Seattle. Directions are on the back page of La Voce.

Membership Application

I (We) want to promote Italian language and culture and request membership in the Dante Alighieri Society of Washington. Enclosed is my (our) check in full payment of annual membership dues (\$40.00 for individual, \$50.00 for a family).

Mark one : () **New Membership** () **Membership Renewal**

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Amount Enclosed:

Membership Amount: _____

Contribution: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Contribution Categories (For recognition stars):

Bronzo (bronze) - Up to \$25

Argento (silver) - \$26 - \$50

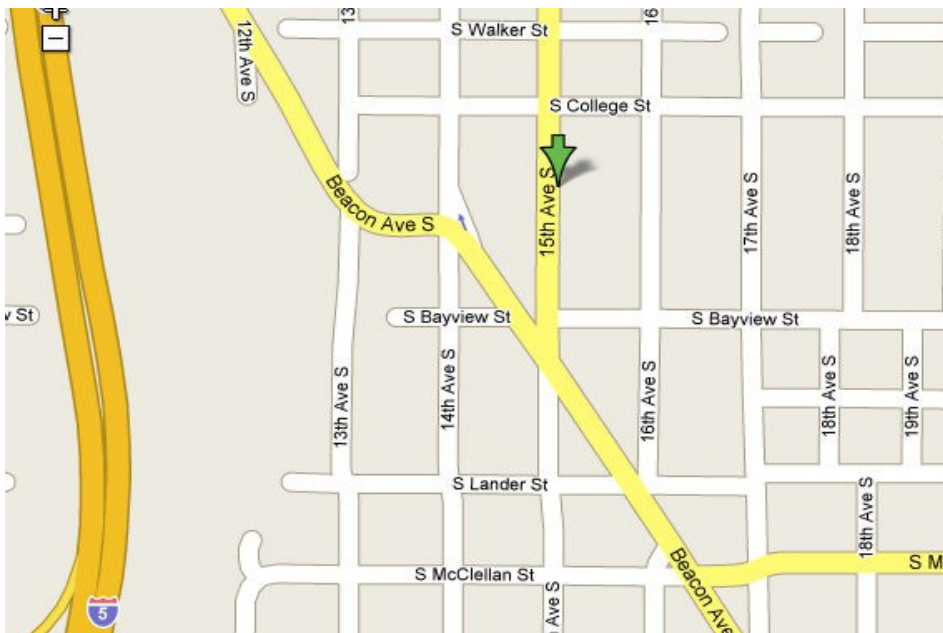
Oro (gold) - \$51 to \$100

Platino (platinum) - Over \$100

Please return completed membership application with check to:

Dante Alighieri Society of Washington
PO Box 9494
Seattle, WA 98109

If you have any questions, please call (425) 243-7663 and leave a message.



Directions to Headquarters House

Headquarters House is located at **2336 15th Avenue South** in the Beacon Hill neighborhood of Seattle. From I-5, take the Columbian Way/Spokane Street exit, eastbound. Turn left at the first light, Spokane Street and left again at the next light, 15th Avenue S. After crossing Beacon Avenue, Headquarters House will be on the right side between Bayview and College Streets.