Consulate General of Italy
Boston

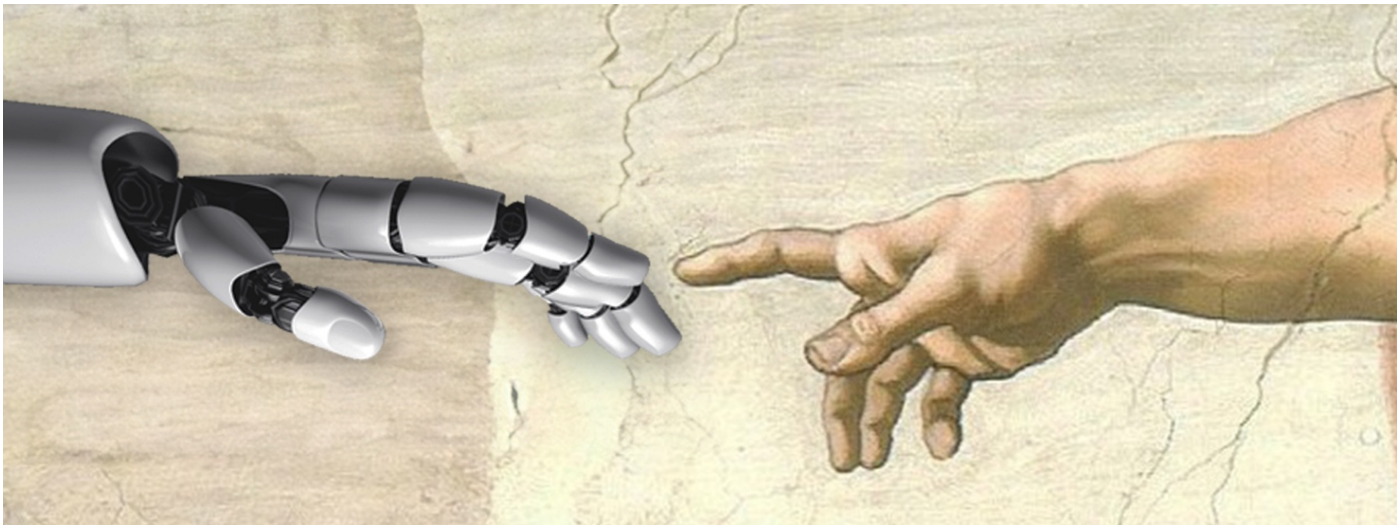
Festival of Italian Creativity

COLLOQUIA FOR THE FUTURE AND BUSINESS FORUM

November 19-22, 2024

Festival of Italian Creativity
Boston Capitale della Creatività 2024

Three Days on Science, Technology and Business



The Festival of Italian Creativity aims to showcase the **excellence of Italians and Italian-Americans in New England** while **bringing prominent Italian figures—artists, scientists, entrepreneurs, and investors—to Boston**. The festival **celebrates Italian creativity** across various fields, including theater, cinema, music, literature, design, architecture, technology, research and development, energy, space, sports, food, and gastronomy.

The Festival will feature three days of discussions on **science, technology, and business**, focusing on six key themes designed to encourage dialogue and **networking**. These discussions will tackle important **cultural, social, technological, and scientific challenges** that shape the future of humanity and the planet, aligning with the UN Agenda 2030 and other major reports. The event's agenda will provide a platform to explore innovative solutions for a more sustainable and inclusive future. A significant celebration of **Italian National Space Day** will also be proposed during the event.

Leading Italian scientists, academics, entrepreneurs, investors, and venture capitalists from both Boston and Italy will engage in interactive discussions, drawing inspiration from Italo Calvino's *"Six Memos for the Next Millennium."* These events will span a wide range of topics—from the digital revolution to sustainable development—presented in an engaging, fast-paced three-day program. The event will feature both a **Science Forum** and a **Business Forum**, with a dynamic schedule of talks, roundtables, and interviews. Due to its networking focus, the three-day event can be considered the most significant edition of "**Careers**" the **mentoring and networking event** for young students and scientists, building on the success of its previous two editions.

The Business and Science Forums will complement each other by offering networking opportunities across science, technology, and business sectors. The event is designed to attract Italian and U.S. scientists, institutions, companies, investment funds, accelerators, and venture capitalists. It aims to **highlight the creativity of Italians and Italian-Americans** in the Boston ecosystem, while also showcasing notable **creative contributions from Italy to enhance mutual collaboration**.

Six Themes and Key Questions for the Science and Business Forum

The six themes from Italo Calvino's *Six Memos for the Next Millennium*—written by the Italian intellectual deeply engaged in the relationship between culture and science intended to be presented at Harvard but never delivered due to his death—present a possible framework for addressing key issues at the intersection of science, technology, and society, while also shaping fundamental questions for the future.

1. **EXACTITUDE: *Digital Revolution* – AI, Blockchain, Quantum Computing**
AI is transforming how we live, work, and engage with the arts and sciences. Technologies like blockchain, digital twins, and machine learning are reshaping industries and societies, while quantum computing promises unprecedented computational power. What role will human creativity play in this rapidly evolving landscape, and how can we prepare for these changes?

2. **LIGHTNESS: *Space Exploration* – Moon, Mars, Satellites, Earth Observation**
Space exploration is entering a new era, with missions planned to the Moon and Mars, and enhanced connectivity and navigation services for citizens. As space activities expand, will space remain a peaceful domain? How will private actors shape the future of space, and what benefits will these advancements bring to life on Earth?

3. **VISIBILITY: *Biology and Health Sciences* – Personalized Medicine, Digital Solutions, Innovative Treatments**
The integration of biology, medical science, and information technology is transforming healthcare. Personalized medicine, innovative diagnostics, and surgical advancements are evolving rapidly. Will these innovations be accessible to everyone? How can we better prepare for future pandemics using advanced forecasting tools?

4. **RAPIDITY: *Green Engineering* – Advanced Manufacturing, Robotics, Electronics, Sustainable Mobility**
Addressing sustainable development requires new materials, smart production, and clean energy solutions. Advanced mobility, digital factories, and innovative materials are reshaping industries and cities. Will these technologies lead to more sustainable and efficient production and energy use?

5. **MULTIPLICITY: *Sustainable Development in a Divided World* – Climate Change, Policy, and Innovation**
As the world faces geopolitical divisions and climate challenges, innovation must address social and economic inequalities. How can we create smart cities and sustainable agricultural practices that improve life for all, while using resources more efficiently? What policies are needed to ensure global access to these innovations?

6. **CONSISTENCY: *A New Lifestyle in Smart Habitats* – Cities, Factories, Farms, Food, and Fitness**
New urban environments are transforming how we live, move, communicate, and nourish ourselves. Technology is at the core of these changes, but will these advancements be available to everyone or only a select few? How can we balance technological progress with privacy and sustainability?

These dialogues will bring together leading scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and emerging voices to collectively debate and shape the future. The aim is to establish shared values, visions, and roadmaps for a sustainable, innovative, and inclusive world.

Organization of the Three Days

The Italian Creativity Festival in Boston will organize its science, technology, and business program over three days, with discussions centered on the key topics mentioned above. These sessions will offer valuable networking opportunities and showcase creativity in science, technology, and business. The overarching goal is to address the major societal challenges of today and explore viable scientific solutions for the future. Each day will focus on a central theme:

- **Life Sciences**
- **Climate Change and Sustainability**
- **Advanced Materials and Manufacturing, Electronics, Space**

Cross-cutting themes, such as **artificial intelligence**, as well as **arts, architecture, and design**, will be integrated into the discussions, exploring how technological evolution will influence our daily lives and future living. These topics are particularly relevant to Boston and New England, an **international hub for life sciences, clean tech development, and advanced manufacturing**. Representatives from local institutions and development agencies will highlight their commitment to these sectors. Special sessions will also be dedicated to **investment and startups**, including a **Space Economy** session that will examine human space flight and exploration programs **celebrating the Italian National Space Day.** Special attention will be given to nutrition and food, aiming to connect food culture with health care, during the **week celebrating Italian Cuisine**. The festival aims to facilitate **meaningful interactions** between scientists, entrepreneurs, and investors, creating a stimulating environment for **exchanging ideas** and **fostering collaboration**. It not only benefits participants but also strengthens the ties between Italian and Italian-American communities, paving the way for innovation and progress. Admission free, registration required https://form.jotform.com/242755845589071

Partner organizations are playing a crucial role in supporting the Consulate General of Boston in organizing the three-day event, and they are responsible for coordinating special sessions. We extend our gratitude to **42N** and **PIB** (Professionisti Italiani Boston) for their exceptional contributions to the success of these three days. We would also like to acknowledge the valuable support and partnership of the **Italian Heritage Month Committee of Massachusetts**, **COMITES,** the **Federation of Italian American Associations**, the **Dante Alighieri Society**, the Order of Sons and Daughters of Italy, UNICO, the Italian American Alliance, the Pirandello Lyceum, Accademia Italiana della Cucina and the **Friends of the Italian Cultural Center**, all of whom have provided extensive assistance for the entire Festival of Italian Creativity in Boston.

Arnaldo Minuti
Consul General of Italy in Boston

Paolo Gaudenzi
Science and Technology Counselor

Consulate General of Italy
Boston

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	TUE 19 – Consulate General of Italy, *Federal Reserve Building, 600 Atlantic Ave, Boston*
	SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY and BUSINESS
	LIFE SCIENCES
8:00	Registration
9:00	OPENING: **Boston - The Hub of Life Science Research, Development and Business** Consul General *Arnaldo Minuti*, Welcoming address *Paolo Gaudenzi*, Science and Technology Counselor, Consulate General of Italy in Boston *Maria Chiara Carrozza,* President CNR (Italian National Research Council) *Maurizio Fava*, Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) *Alessandro Vespignani*, Northeastern University
9:30	**BUSINESS FORUM** **Initiatives from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, City of Boston and Bio Company association** *Jeevan Ramapriya* (MOITI, Massachusetts Office for International Trade and Investment) *Segun Idowu (City of Boston)* *Jeanne Le Clair* (Mass Life Science) *Ben Bradford* (Mass BIO) **Round Table: Success Stories of Italian Entrepreneurs and Managers in Boston's Life Sciences Ecosystem** Session moderated by *Dante Roscini* ((Harvard Business School) *Giacomo Chiesi* (Global Rare Diseases) *Gianluca Pettiti* (Thermo Fisher) *Gabriele Brambilla* (Alira Health) *Francis Manganaro* (Nova Biomedical)
10:45	Cappuccino networking
11.30	**Panel: Creativity in Business in Boston by Italian Professionals, Managers and Startuppers** Session co-organized with Professionisti Italiani a Boston (PIB) and moderated by *Giovanni Abbadessa* (ModeX Therapeutics) *Susanna High (*Dyne Therapeutics) *Monica Gostissa* (Egle Therapeutics) *Riccardo Sabatini* (Orionis Biosciences) *Francesco Marincola* (Sonata Therapeutics) *Cecilia Scimia* (Rhytm Therapeutics) *Piero Ricchiuto* (Alexion) *Laura Indolfi (*Panther Therapeutics) *Raffaele Baffa* (CARsgen Therapeutiocs)
12:30	ALMA (School of Italian Culinary Arts) networking lunch
2:00	**Excellence from Italy** *Maria Grazia Magro* (HUMAN TECHNOPOLE) *Maria Sabrina Sarto, Valeria Panebianco,* (Rome Technopole, D34Health - Sapienza) *Matteo Lai* (Empatica)
3:00	**WOMEN IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: Enhancing Visibility of Women's research** Round table with prominent scientists operating in the Boston science and technology ecosystem *Giulia Menichetti* (Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School) *Sabrina Paganoni* (Mass General Hospital, Harvard Medical School) *Giuseppina Tesco* (Tufts University, School of Medicine)
3:45	Coffee break networking
4:00	**SCIENCE FORUM** **DIGITAL TRANSITION**: **AI, Human-Machine Interaction** *Andrea Vicini (Boston College)* Ethics in AI *Marco Zenati* (Harvard Medical School) Hybrid Human-Machine Interaction in Surgery
4:30	**SCIENCE FORUM** *Caroline Attardo Genco*, Tufts University, *Infectious Diseases and Vaccine Development* **Creativity in Science and Technology by Italian Scientists** *Michela Fagiolini* (Boston Children's Hospital Harvard University) *Alessio Fasano* (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health) Food as medicine
5:00	**SCIENCE FORUM** **COLLOQUIUM: Exploring Frontiers of Medicine and Public Health** *Alessandro Vespignani* (Northeastern University) *Joseph Loscalzo* (Harvard Medical School) *Francesca Dominici* (Harvard University)
6:00	Concluding remarks by Consul General *Arnaldo Minuti* and Italian Aperitivo networking

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	WED 20 – Consulate General of Italy, *Federal Reserve Building, 600 Atlantic Ave, Boston*
	SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY and BUSINESS
	CLIMATE, SUSTAINABILITY AND ENERGY
8:00	Registration
9:00	OPENING: **Climate change and the challenges in sustainability and energy sources** Consul General *Arnaldo Minuti*, Welcoming address *Paolo Gaudenzi*, Science and Technology Counselor, Consulate General of Italy in Boston *Nicola De Blasio*, Harvard JFK School of Government
9:30	**BUSINESS FORUM** **Initiatives in Climate Tech by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts** *Jeevan Ramapriya* (MOITI, Massachusetts Office for International Trade and Investment) *Ross Palley (*Mass Clean Energy Center) **Round Table: Success Stories of Italian Corporations and Managers in the Boston Clean Tech and Energy ecosystem,** Session moderated by *Dante Roscini* (Harvard Business School) *Paolo Romanacci* (Enel) *Clara Andreoletti* (ENI) *Andrea Pirondini* (Prysmian) *Luciana Burdi* (Logan Airport)
10:45	Cappuccino networking
11.30	**BUSINESS FORUM** **VENTURE CAPITAL AND START UP: Opportunities for Italian Startups** (session co organized with 42N and moderated by Roberto Dolci)
12:30	ALMA (School of Italian Culinary Arts) networking lunch
2:00	**Excellence from Italy** *Francesco Petracchini* (CNR), CNR for climate change *Davide Giglio* (Università di Genova), Technologies for the sea and ports: the RAISE project *Daniele Del Rio* (Universita' di Parma), Challenges for a sustainable nutrition *Marco Baraldo* (Invent), Renewable energy and creativity *Marco Silano* (Istituto Superiore di Sanità), Factors promoting health ageing
3:00	**YOUNG SCIENTISTS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** *Serenella Sferza* (MIT) 25 years of the MIT-Italy program Round table with young prominent scientist operating in the Boston science and technology ecosystem *Giulia Guidetti* (Tufts University), Orchid-inspired solar skins *Giuseppe Romano* (MIT), Thermal management at nanoscales *Viola Fanfani* (Harvard), Personalized network science for the inference of cancer regulation and progression.
3:45	Coffee break networking
4:00	**SCIENCE FORUM** **DIGITAL TRANSITION**: **Artificial Intelligence** *Tomaso Poggio* **(**MIT), current state and future developments on AI *Massimiliano Versace* (Neurala) ,Vision AI software
4:30	**SCIENCE FORUM** **Creativity in Science and Technology by Italian Scientists** *Oscar Adriani* (INFN), INFN and Einstein Telescope: the story of a creative research *Sergio Castellari* (Permanent Mission of Italy to UN, NY) UN and sustainable develpoment *Jacopo Buongiorno* (MIT), New solutions for nuclear fission reactors
5:00	**SCIENCE FORUM** **COLLOQUIUM: Climate Change - Social, Economic and Political Consequences** *Eliana La Ferrara*, (Harvard) *Enrico Spolaore* (Tufts) *Paola Malanotte Rizzoli* (EAPS MIT)
6:00	Concluding remarks by Consul General *Arnaldo Minuti* and Italian Aperitivo networking

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	THU 21 – Consulate General of Italy, *Federal Reserve Building, 600 Atlantic Ave, Boston*
	SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY and BUSINESS
	ADVANCED MATERIALS AND MANUFACTURING, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE
8:00	Registration
9:00	OPENING: **The future of manufacturing and materials in the Tech Industry** Consul General *Arnaldo Minuti*, Welcoming address *Paolo Gaudenzi*, Science and Technology Counselor, Consulate General of Italy in Boston *Federico Capasso, Harvard* *Fiorenzo Omenetto, TUFTS*
9:30	**BUSINESS FORUM** **Initiatives in ADVANCED MANUFACTURING by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts** *James Reginald Colimon* (City of Boston). *Ben Linville Engler* (Advanced Manufacturing) **INVESTMENT AND FINANCE: US/Italian Cooperation in Banking, Investments** *Nicola Baiocchi Di Silvestri* (Intesa San Paolo) *Gulrez Arshad* (Entrepreneur and investor) *Joe Faro Sr* (Entrepreneur) **THE ITALIAN INFLUENCE ON SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSES** co-organized with Joseph Campanelli, Pres. NEEDHAM BANK *Bruce Mittman*, (Mittcom and Community Broadcasters (moderator) *Joseph Campanelli*, (NEEDHAM BANK) *Tony Arrigo*, (Arrigo Medical Devices) *Joe Faro Jr,* (Tuscan Village) *Stuart Segal,* (Mr. Sid'S) *Sal Lupoli*, (Lupoli Companies)
	Cappuccino networking
11.30	**ITALIAN NATIONAL SPACE DAY** **SPACE ECONOMY AND HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT: THE ROLE OF ITALY AND NOVEL COOPERATIONS** *Walter Villadei* (astronaut, Aeronautica Militare) *Olivier de Weck* (MIT-Aero Astro) *Massimo Comparini* (Leonardo) *Marco Brancati* (Telespazio)
12:30	ALMA (School of Italian Culinary Arts) networking lunch
2:00	**BUSINESS FORUM** **ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION: Italian Success Stories in Boston** *Joe Albanese* (Commodore Builders), moderator *David Manfredi (Elkus Manfredi Architects)* *John Cannistraro* (*Cannistraro*) *Matthew Consigli* (Consigli) *Stefano Valagussa* (Trevi) *Luca Taccalozzi* (Vettii) *Umberto Fugiglando,* MIT
	Excellence from Italy *Miriam Mirolla* (Accademia di Belle Arti). *Antonio Concilio (*Centro Italiano di ricerche aerospaziali) *Jacopo Tirillò* (Agenzia Spaziale italiana) *Antonio Corghi* (Bip) AI to scale
3:45	Coffee break networking
4:00	**SCIENCE FORUM** **DIGITAL TRANSITION: AI, BLOCKCHAIN, MACHINE LEARNING, VIRTUAL REALITY** *Silvio Micali* (MIT and Algorand) *Olivier Terzo* (Fondazione Links, Politecnico di Torino)
4:30	**SCIENCE FORUM** **Creativity in Science and Technology by Italian Scientists: electronics and photonics** *Luca Dal Negro* (Boston University) *Matteo Rinaldi* (Northeastern University)
5:00	**SCIENCE FORUM** **COLLOQUIUM: Advanced Materials and Technologies that Can Change the World** *Fiorenzo Omenetto* (Tufts) *Arianna Traviglia* (IIT) *Paolo Gaudenzi* (Consolato Generale d'Italia a Boston)
6:00	Concluding remarks by Consul General *Arnaldo Minuti* and Italian Aperitivo networking