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**Education in Italy: A
 Pedagogical and Cultural Tour
 Spring 2010**

Pedagogical and Cultural Tour:

Thursday, March 25, 2010: Leaving the USA – Friday, April 2, 2010: Returning to the USA Option A

Cost: \$ 2,750 for IACE members, \$ 2,800 for non members. Additional charge for single room: \$ 400.

Objective: To learn about education in Italy, within the context of compulsory education through: meetings, site visits, discussions, analysis of well established and exemplary programs and curricula.

Methodology: Each phase of the educational experience is characterized by substantial interaction between speaker(s) and participants, in formal and informal settings. The talks will take place in the schools visited and in other designated locations. Topics will center around aspects of the two educational systems. The conference center is equipped with technology for simultaneous translation.

Environment: The tour will take place in Lombardy, in the suggestive and characteristic Po valley in the Pavese area, and will provide for the exploration of the interaction among environment, daily life and culture in educational, social and anthropological settings.

The Tour can be expanded to include additional educational excursions from Friday, April 2 to Tuesday, April 6, 2010 (returning to the USA). Option B

Cost: \$ 3,300 for IACE members, \$3,350 for non members. Additional charge for single room: \$ 600.

Objective: To explore, through a cultural and artistic tour, some prominent Italian cities and sites: Milano, Torino, Verona; masterpieces and museums; and, in their natural setting, Lago Maggiore, Bellagio and Isola Bella.

Please note: Participants must indicate their preference for Option A (March 25- April 2) or Option B (March 25 – April 6) at the time they sign up for the trip. **To ensure your participation, send in your non-refundable deposit of \$150 by December 30th.** See registration form for details.

THE TRIP (both options) INCLUDES

1. Round trip ticket from New York (Newark or JFK) to Milan (direct flight)
2. Hotel accommodations (air conditioned) double occupancy. Single room carries an additional fee as indicated below.
3. 3 meals a day (including mineral water)
4. Educational material
5. Meetings
6. Admission to museums listed on the itinerary
7. Transportation in a private bus (air conditioned)
8. Tour guides for the entire trip

9. Informative materials for the entire group
10. Cellular phone

THE TRIP EXCLUDES

- Travel insurance (It may be purchased through the travel agency that issues the plane tickets)
- Beverages
- Gratuities are not expected. Participants may wish to acknowledge the special attention of staff at their own discretion.

ATTIRE: Office attire will be appropriate for school visits and work sessions. Reserve less formal dressing for museum visits and excursions.

WEATHER in Lombardy in early spring is similar to that of the Northeast USA.

The REGISTRATION FORM provides additional essential information for the trip.

PROGRAM

Please note that the program below may be subject to changes for unanticipated events or closures

Day 1 – Thursday, March 25: Leaving the USA, evening flight.

Day 2 - Friday, March 26:

MORNING

Arrive in Milano (Malpensa airport) and transfer to our hotel located in the Po Valley, in an old monastery that has been restored and is now being used for meetings and conferences. Time to check in and settle in your room

BREAKFAST/LUNCH

AFTERNOON

First panoramic tour of the area: La Pieve Medievale di Volpedo, with its characteristic hills providing a picturesque site

EVENING

Reception and Dinner in our hotel

Day 3: Saturday, March 27

MORNING 9.30 am – 1:00 pm

Workshop: *The Italian Educational System*

Speakers include university professors, school principals, teachers, local administrators

Brief history of the educational system

Current status of education with respect to curriculum and administration

Curriculum and Instruction in Italian School

Discussion, Q&A

Lunch and networking

AFTERNOON 2:30 – 4:30 pm

Workshop

EVENING

Dinner at a local restaurant serving regional cuisine along with a wine tasting

Day 4: Sunday, March 28

DAY EXCURSION

Itinerary: The castles of the Po Valley in the Pavese area – Malaspina, Varzi...

Lunch including typical *salumi* of the area (salame di Varzi, registered trademark)

Tour a local DOC agricultural firm and vineyard

The rise-fields of Lomellina

EVENING

Dinner in our hotel
Entertainment: opera and classical music selections

Day 5 – Monday, March 29

MORNING 9.30 am – 12.30 pm

Site visit: An exemplary early childhood school
Review of curriculum and dialogue with educators
Lunch and networking

AFTERNOON

Guided visit to the Certosa di Pavia ((Charterhouse of Pavia) renowned for its architecture and artworks which are representative of the region. The site will offer a glimpse into the cloistered monastic order of the Carthusians founded by St. Bruno in 1044

EVENING

Dinner in Pavia
Strolling in the historic center

Day 6 – Tuesday, March 30

MORNING 9.30 am – 12.30 pm

Site visit: An exemplary elementary school
Review of curriculum and dialogue with educators

Lunch and networking

AFTERNOON

Visit the Museum of Art of Volpedo: a tour of art education
Guided tour of Pavia: The Romanic style – San Michele – San Pietro in the golden heavens
The bridge of Pavia

EVENING

Dinner in our hotel
Entertainment: Italian popular songs

Day 7- Wednesday, March 31

MORNING 9.30 – 12.30

Site visit: An exemplary intermediate school
Review of curriculum and dialogue with educators
Lunch and networking

AFTERNOON 14.30 – 17.30

Workshop in our hotel
Comparison of the two educational systems and reflections

EVENING

Transfer to Milano. Hotel check-in
Dinner

Day 8- Thursday, April 1 - Milano: In the heart of Milano

MORNING AND AFTERNOON

Historical and artistic tour through some of the most significant examples of gothic and medieval creations:
IL Duomo-guided tour, Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II and Teatro La Scala.

Strolling along Via Montenapoleone and Via della Spiga, where the most elegant shops in Milano are located

Significant and characteristic experiences

Climbing the Duomo di Milano to see the Madonnina and the city view (optional- fee not included)

Free time: shopping in Milano

EVENING

Dinner in a typical Milanese restaurant: Brera - Strolling in Brera (local entertainment)

Day 9- Friday, April 2 Leaving Milano from Malpensa to return to the USA on the same day.

Those who selected Plan B will continue the tour (accommodations will be in the same Hotel in Milano)

Day 9- Friday, April 2

MORNING AND AFTERNOON

Day excursion and lunch in Verona

Verona is known for its Literature, Art, Music, its river Adige, its Arena, and for being the city of Romeo and Juliet. Some of the main attractions are: the Basilica of San Zeno, a masterpiece in Romanic style, Castelvecchio, the Arena-a fascinating and e grandiose monument dating back to roman time and utilized even today for the production of opera-, the home of Juliet, Piazza delle Erbe and Arche Scaligere.

Significant and characteristic experiences

Visit Juliet's house

Stroll along the banks of river Adige.

EVENING Dinner in Verona

Day 10- Saturday, April 3

MORNING AND AFTERNOON

Castello Sforzesco - Pietà Rondanini di Michelangelo. Santa Maria delle Grazie: Cenacolo di Leonardo da Vinci,

Significant and characteristic experiences

Chambers of Castello Sforzesco: music rooms

Cenacolo di Leonardo da Vinci – depending on availability

Lunch in a typical Milanese paninoteca

EVENING

Dinner on the Navigli in a typical Milanese local (possibility of visiting local places of entertainment)

Day 11 – Sunday, April 4

MORNING AND AFTERNOON

Day trip and lunch in Torino

Strolling along the river bank we will reach the Mole Antonelliana, which houses the Museo Del Cinema. The city is adorned by numerous palaces (Palazzo Madama, dedicated to Cristina di Francia, Palazzo Reale, grandiose edifice restored several times with its magnificent Giardini Reali-royal gardens. The tour includes the Cattedrale, Teatro Romano and Palazzo di Città.

Significant and characteristic experiences

Tour of the Museo Del Cinema and Armeria Reale, containing a rich collection of antique arms

Strolling under the *portici* where very elegant stores and typical cafes are located

EVENING

Dinner in a typical local Piedmontese restaurant on the way back to our hotel

Day 12 – Monday, April 5

MORNING AND AFTERNOON

Day excursion to lago Maggiore – Bellagio and Isola Bella with dinner by the lake

Panoramic and charming tour along the shore of this azure lake of Lombardy

Significant and characteristic experiences

Boat tour on the lake

EVENING

Dinner by the lake

Day 13 – Tuesday, April 6

Leaving from Milano (Malpensa) to return to the USA on the same day.
