

## **MEDIA ALERT – MEDIA ALERT – MEDIA ALERT – MEDIA ALERT – MEDIA ALERT**

### **CONTACT:**

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### **ANNOUNCING:**

## **The NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN FOUNDATION to honor best and brightest in business, sports, entertainment, politics at New York Gala**

*The National Italian American Foundation will hosts it's yearly **New York Gala**, honoring New York State Superintendent of DFS, **Maria T. Vullo**; Chairman, Jackson Lewis P.C., **Vincent A. Cino**, *Cooking with Nonna* host, **Rossella Rago** and others at Cipriani, 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, March 22, 2017.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: New York, NY and Washington, D.C.

**The National Italian American Foundation (NIAF)** will host its annual New York Gala at Cipriani 42<sup>nd</sup> Street on March 22, 2017. This distinguished event, held at this world-famous, historical, New York City venue will highlight the very best in Italian food, beverage and cultural experiences – along with celebrate some of the most notable and impactful luminaries of the Italian American community.

NIAF is the largest and most faithful representative of over 25 million Italian Americans living in the United States. The two most important objectives that the NIAF aims are to ensure that Italian Americans continue to keep alive and present the rich heritage of their values and cultural traditions, and to make sure that the Italian American community preserves and remembers the great contribution Italians have made to the history and progress of the United States.

The 2017 honorees demonstrate the diverse impact members of the Italian American community have here in the USA – they include **Shirley and Vernon W. Hill, II**, founders of InterArch and Metro Bank respectively, Jackson Lewis P.C., **Vincent A. Cino** and *Cooking with Nonna* host, **Rossella Rago**. Of notable interest to New Yorkers is the awarding of the third annual Mario M. Cuomo Award in Public Service to Superintendent of the New York State Department of Financial Services (DFS), **Maria T. Vullo**. Ms. Vullo was appointed to her post by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo – the Award is named for his father. Governor Cuomo has been invited to confer this honor upon Ms. Vullo.

Since this event was brought back to the beautiful Cipriani 42<sup>nd</sup> Street five years ago, it has consistently sold out and become a much anticipated staple of the New York City Italian community's calendar. Past honorees and invited guests include: **Martin Scorsese, Sophia Loren, Al Pacino, Jack Valenti, Ernest Borgnine, Luciano Pavarotti, Giorgio Armani, Danny DeVito, Alan Alda, Maria Bartiromo, Tony May, Mike Piazza, Tony Realì** (ESPN Host "Around the Horn"), **Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Joe Piscopo** and other notables in business, sports, entertainment and politics.

Arrivals for the Gala begin at 6:30 pm. Attendees will move into the principal hall at 7:30 pm for Dinner and the Awards Program, featuring entertainment by Italian Singer-Songwriter, ALFIO, by way of Sydney Australia. Attire for

the evening is Cocktail. Tickets: \$500 (Gold Ticket); \$1,000 (Platinum Ticket). Gala Tables and Sponsorships are available through the organization by visiting:

<http://www.niaf.org/nyc>

NIAF's New York Gala is chaired by Gerard S. LaRocca, a member of NIAF's Board of Directors and chief administrative officer, Americas, Barclays Capital.

Proceeds from NIAF's New York Gala will benefit the Foundation's philanthropic and educational programs.

*All attendees listed above are subject to change before the Gala date*

**MEDIA SHOULD RESERVE THEIR ACCESS BY CONTACTING  
RGI EVENTS + PUBLIC RELATIONS  
VIA EMAIL AT [NIAFGALA@RGIEVENTS.COM](mailto:NIAFGALA@RGIEVENTS.COM) OR AT 202.738.4713**

NIAF representatives are available both pre-event and onsite to answer questions and provide interviews and quotes on the event. If you would like to attend any aspect of the event on a Media pass, request a pre-event interview or request a media tour during the weekend please use the contact information above.

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#### The Details

Who:

The National Italian American Foundation

What:

2017 NIAF New York Gala

Where:

Cipriani 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, 110 East 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York, NY

When:

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

6:30 p.m. Cocktail Reception, 7:30 p.m. Dinner

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#### **RESOURCES:**

Additional Information: <http://www.niaf.org/nyc>