



Consolato Generale d'Italia
Lagos



XXV Week of the Italian Language "Italophony: Language Beyond Borders". Events Program

The **Week of the Italian Language in the World** is an event organized by the MAECI (Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation) diplomatic-consular network and the Italian Cultural Institutes, in collaboration with the main partners for language promotion. Over the time, the said Week has become the most important global showcase dedicated to the Italian language.

This initiative celebrates and honors **Italophony**, the invisible bond that unites millions of people in every corner of the planet.

The theme of the **XXV edition of the Week of the Italian Language** will be **"Italophony: Language Beyond Borders."** This sentence underscores how the Italian language is not confined just in Italy but lives and spreads throughout the world thanks to emigrants, their descendants, students and those enthusiasts of culture and art. The Italian language is, in fact, used in numerous countries for reasons related to culture, art, work, study or simply for passion.

To celebrate this important anniversary, the **Consulate General of Italy in Lagos** and the **Italian International School "Enrico Mattei" in Lagos** have organized a series of events, with the scope to enhance and promote the Italian language and culture through social gets together, targeting a new global community united by passion to the Italian language and, consequently, to Italy itself.

Below are the details for these various events:

DATE	EVENT	PLACE
Wednesday 15/10/2025, 19 hrs.	"Opera, Amore"	Muson – Musical Society of Nigeria
Thursday 16/10/2025, 10 hrs.	Performance "Lingua oltre i confini" ("Language beyond borders")	Italian International School "Enrico Mattei" Lagos
Tuesday 28/10/2025, 18 hrs.	Polyglot Night	"La Taverna" Restaurant
Saturday 08/11/2025, 17 hrs.	Film "US Palmese"	Consulate General of Italy Lagos

All events will be free entrance, except for the "Polyglot Night" which will have an affordable entry fee.

The details of all these events are provided below.



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WEDNESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2025 19 hrs

MUSON Centre – Agip Recital Hall

M.U.S.O.N Center, Muson Access Rd, Lagos
Island, Lagos

Performance: "Opera, Amore. Metaopera in un atto" (*Opera, Love. Meta-opera in one act*)

Conceived and produced by the **Accademia Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**, "**Opera, Amore. Metaopera in un atto**" is an original "pocket-sized" opera performance created to promote and spread the beauty and richness of the **belcanto** tradition throughout the world.

This chamber opera explores and recounts over four centuries of the history of Italian melodrama, spanning the greatest masterpieces from **Monteverdi to Puccini**, including **Pergolesi, Mozart, Paisiello, Cimarosa, Rossini, Bellini, Donizetti, Verdi, Mascagni, and Giordano**. The artistic direction and staging of the performance are by **Francesco Micheli**, the 'libretto' (lyrics) by **Alberto Mattioli**, the music by **Federico Gon** and the sets and costumes by **Chiara Taiocchi**.

As stated by the librettist and curator Alberto Mattioli, "The idea was to write an opera about opera - a lyrical opera squared - that would help those who do not know it to discover it, and those who do know it to rediscover it. Consequently, the 'libretto' is a puzzle of quotes, interlocked and overlapped, that tells the story of our melodrama from Monteverdi to the twentieth century."

"Opera, Amore" was introduced on March 23, 2025, initiating successfully at Palazzo Medici Riccardi (Florence). The event marked the start of the IX edition of the **Maggio Metropolitano**, an initiative financed by the Metropolitan City of Florence.

Its **international debut** will start with an African tour, with the first stop in **Lagos**, followed by **Addis Ababa, Nairobi, and finally Johannesburg**.



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THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER 2025 10 hrs

Italian International School "Enrico Mattei"

283, Sikiru Alade Oloko Crescent, Lekki Phase I,
Lagos

Group Performance "Language Beyond Borders" and Family Activities

To celebrate the XXV edition of the Week of the Italian Language, the **Italian International School "Enrico Mattei" in Lagos** is organizing a week of educational activities from October 13 to 17, dedicated to promoting the Italian language. These activities will involve all classes at the Institute.

The theme of the week will be **"Language Beyond Borders,"** providing an opportunity to discover and become aware of one's linguistic and cultural identity through intercultural pedagogical practices.

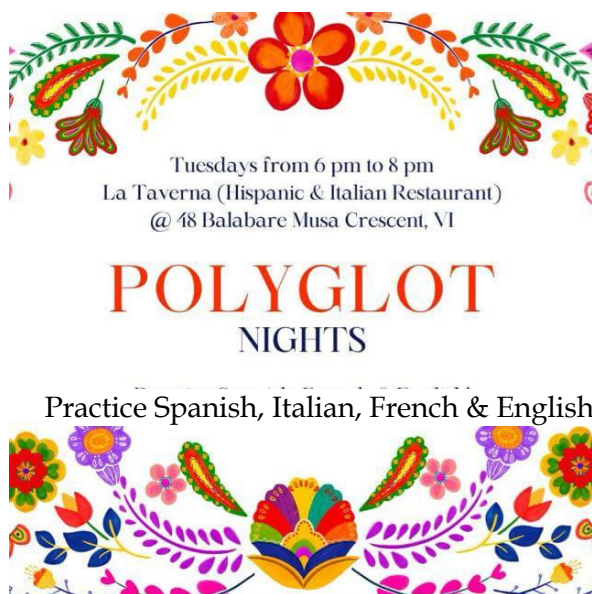
The goal is to promote the Italian language by engaging the entire school community.

Specifically, on **October 16 at 10:00 AM**, a general celebration will be held for all students and their families. During the event, widespread educational **workshops**, divided by school level, will be organized. Parents, children, and their respective teachers will participate, all involved in creating a single large exhibition panel that will then be placed in the school atrium.

This will be followed by a **group performance** featuring readings, singing, and dancing. A **choral singing moment** is planned for all the school's students, with the performance of a song by an Italo-Nigerian rapper. The collaboration of all families is requested in learning the musical piece. The aim is for the families to learn the song themselves so that everyone can perform it together during the school event.



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TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2025 18 hrs

Ristorante "La Taverna"

48 Balabare Musa Crescent, V.I., Lagos

Polyglot Night

On the evening of **Tuesday 28 October**, Italian will make its debut at the **Polyglot Nights**, an already established weekly event that began a few years ago based on the idea of a reader and two Spanish teachers.

These evenings, which take place at the "**La Taverna**" restaurant on Victoria Island in Lagos, aim to create a genuine community of language enthusiasts.

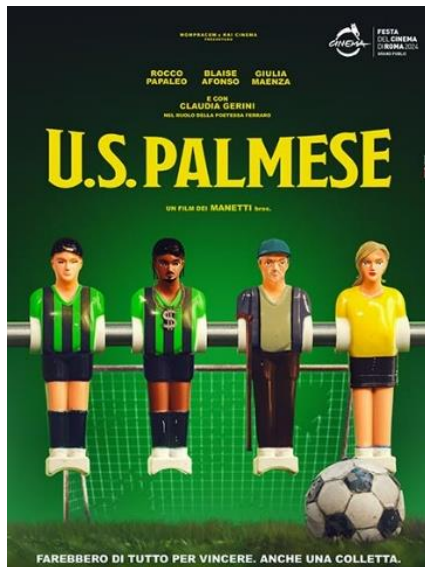
During this special session dedicated to Italian, participants will have the opportunity to **practice the Italian language** and improve their communication skills. They will be guided by an Italian teacher who will also facilitate conversations among the attendees.

The objective is simple: to offer a friendly and relaxed space where people can connect, converse, and expand their linguistic horizons. All of this will be accompanied by a selection of Italian and Spanish culinary specialties at a controlled price.

This first event will be followed by a new session every month, and a dedicated **community group** will be created.



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SATURDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2025 17 hrs

Consulate General of Italy Lagos

12B Walter Carrington Crescent, V.I., Lagos

Film Screening: "US Palmese" by Manetti Bros

Etienne Morville is a rising star in the world of football (soccer). He comes from the Parisian *banlieues* (suburbs) but seeks success in Milan. However, his behavior on the field leads to a disqualification that risks extinguishing any possibility of further success.

In **Palmi, Calabria**, a retired man, **Don Vincenzo**, starts to consider the idea of hiring him to play for the local team, **U.S. Palmese**.

Morville arrives there to relaunch his image and comes to terms with a reality completely different from what he's used to. Initially, he feels lost and plays poorly. Then, he gradually starts to settle in, and his presence becomes decisive in the team's resurgence.

The story follows the track of a comedy made of setbacks and comebacks—those of talented champions with "fiery" temperaments who start from scratch to (re)discover the meaning of the game and of life.

It's a story of redemption for the community of Palmi, which, through the football team, attempts to break down the wall of indifference, gaining national recognition.

Presented at the 19th Rome Film Fest (2024), "**U.S. Palmese**" is directed by the **Manetti Bros**, featuring performances by **Rocco Papaleo** and **Claudia Gerini**, among others.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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