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# Italian Heritage Weekend From The 2023 Queen Isabella

Italian Heritage Weekend has come and passed us. This past weekend was filled with Italian Heritage festivities and celebrations. As the 2023 Queen Isabella, I had the privilege to attend, share my Italian heritage, and be honored at all the events this weekend.

Festivities this weekend started on Friday, October 6th, when Queen Isabella and her Court were invited to visit the Italian Consul General for a reception at his house. The evening was hosted in the garden patio of the Italian Consulate. The Court of Queen Isabella and the Explorers were introduced and presented a Certificate of Honor from the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco from Supervisor Catherine Stefani.

The events continued the next day with the Il Gran Ballo Grand Ball hosted at the Westin St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco. Being the 2023 Queen Isabella, this was the one event I was looking forward to the most because I would be receiving my second crown and the Grand Ball is always one of the most fun events. During the ball, I was crowned by the 2022 Queen Isabella and knighted Christopher Columbus, officially starting my year reign as 2023 Queen Isabella. After dinner, speeches were given by the President of the Italian Heritage Parade, Paul Tonelli, the 2023 Civic Grand Marshal, the Honorable Claude D. Perasso, the 2023 Celebrity Grand Marshal, Tony Gemignani, and the Chairman of the Board, Stephen Leveroni. The night ended with everyone dancing the night away.

The festivities continued through to Sunday, October 8th, with the Italian Heritage High Mass and 155th Italian Heritage Parade. The High Mass started with a procession into Saints Peter and Paul Church led by the Knights of Columbus, followed by the 2023 Explorers, the 2023 Court of Queen Isabella, and former Queen Isabellas. Following mass, the Court of Queen Isabella was driven down to the start of the parade to get on their float. The Italian Heritage Parade is the longest continuously running parade in the United States. The parade goes down Fisherman’s Wharf, up Columbus Avenue, to Stockton Street, and finally ends on Filbert Street outside of Saints Peter and Paul Church. After the parade, the Blue Angels flew overhead performing their annual Fleet Week airshow routine.

Certificate of Honor

EON

RESERVED

2023 QUEEN ISABELLA
MIA NICOLE SORACCO