



## Connecting Cultures Spring 2018 Program

Chat Pal  
 Italian Family Club  
 Community Outreach  
 City Walks

This activity is designed to both enhance cultural awareness and to guide students through the study abroad experience, in order to maximize their educational outcome and personal growth during their time in Florence. Through Connecting Cultures, students have the opportunity to interact with the Florentine community through the Community Outreach, Italian Family Club and Chat Pal programs, and find their niche in Florence through our guided City Walks.

**Meeting point:** Mondays, 8:45pm DIVA, Corso Tintori 21 (unless otherwise specified). Please sign up for meetings through the MyFUA portal.

### Connecting Cultures Spring 2018 Program:

#### February

Mon. Jan 29	Community Outreach Program Presentation, 8:45pm Italian Family Club Program Presentation 9:30pm
Mon. Feb. 5	Chat Pal Program Presentation 8:45pm
Mon. Feb. 12	City Walk: San Giovanni Quarter - Piazza Duomo (steps in front of church)*
Mon. Feb. 19	City Walk: Lungarni - DIVA, Corso Tintori 21*
Mon. Feb. 26	Chat Pal Meet and Greet 8:45pm

#### March

Mon. March 5	City Walk: Santa Croce Quarter – Piazza Santa Croce (steps in front of church)*
Mon. March 26	City Walk: Santa Maria Novella Quarter - Piazza Santa Maria Novella (steps in front of church)*

#### April

Mon. April 9	City Walk: Medici Quarter - Piazza Duomo (steps in front of church)*
Mon. April 16	City Walk: Secrets of Florence - Piazza Duomo (steps in front of church)*
Mon. April 23	City Walk: Florence Transformed – Piazza della Signoria (by statue of David)*
Mon. April 30	Connecting Cultures Recap Meeting - DIVA, Corso Tintori 21*

\*Please note that meeting points and times are subject to change. Check our weekly announcements for further information and sign up for all meetings you plan to attend.



## Community Outreach

Students have the unique opportunity to go beyond everyday interactions with Florentine residents by participating in our Community Outreach program. This experience allows students to give something back to their host city by offering their time and services to local social and cultural organizations, such as museums, canteens, houses of worship, and cultural associations, such as La Tinaia Center for Expressive Arts, or even teaching English in local schools. Community Outreach is an exceptional opportunity for students who want to be actively involved in the everyday life of the city during their time in Florence. It is also an enriching experience that will contribute to personal and emotional growth, and

the development of a sound cultural consciousness that will serve students throughout their lives. Most of FUA's partner organizations do not require particular professional or language skills, but all of them require a weekly commitment from students; one shift, typically 2-4 hours per week, depending on the association's needs. Space is limited, so students must be seriously motivated in order to be considered for the program.

For further information and to apply, please come to the program presentation meeting. Make sure to submit your application by the deadline to the FUA Student Life Office, Corso Tintori 21.

**Program presentation:** Monday, January 29, 8:45pm

**Application Deadline:** Monday, February 5

**Meeting location:** DIVA, Corso Tintori 21, Pink Room



## Italian Family Club

The Italian Family Club gives students an in-depth opportunity to get directly involved with the Italian community through an "adoptive" Florentine family. By joining the Family Club, students get an intimate view of a typical Italian family by discovering and observing habits and customs that may not be familiar to them. Students with Italian origins will have the chance to experience first-hand what they may have only heard through stories passed down to them by family members, while non-Italian students will also have an opportunity to evaluate the Italian family lifestyle beyond the stereotypes. Students and families will be matched according to the characteristics

and requirements of both parties, with the intent to build a relationship that will develop over the semester through regular meetings. The goal is for the students to become members of the family and to partake in everyday functions such as family meals, conversations, cultural exchanges or even assist with errands, baby-sit, or care for pets. The affection, empathy and emotions shared by the students and families will become a special treasure that all will cherish in their hearts for time to come. The families will have a reference point abroad, and the "adopted" kids will leave Florence knowing that someone will always be here to welcome them back!

For further information and an application, please come to the program presentation meeting. Make sure to submit your application by the deadline date to the Student Life Office, FUA Corso Tintori 21.

**Program presentation:** Monday, January 29, 9:30pm

**Application Deadline:** Monday, February 5

**Meeting location:** DIVA, Corso Tintori 21, Pink Room



## Chat Pal

What better way to learn a language than to use it in a practical manner? Chat Pal is a noncredit conversation exchange designed to connect FUA students with Italians with the intent to improve Italian language skills and to create connections with members of the Italian community. Each student is paired with a language partner; partners are expected to meet for at least one hour, a week, and to divide the practice time equally between Italian and the student's mother tongue. Conversation Exchange partners can meet at a time and place of their own convenience.

For further information and an application, please come to the program presentation meeting. Make sure to submit your application by the deadline date to the Student Life Office, DIVA Corso Tintori 21.

**Program presentation:** Monday, February 5, 8:45pm

**Application Deadline:** Monday, February 12

**Meet and Greet:** Monday, February 26, 8:45 pm

**Meeting location:** DIVA, Corso Tintori 21, Pink Room