Newsletter #1 December 2016

Collighieri is a geological, artistic, and cultural institute in the Marche Apennines devoted to interdisciplinary research and teaching.

Collighieri 2016 — teachers, students, researchers, and artists shared the opportunity to learn and study at this unique geological and cultural center in the Italian Apennines.

Dear Friends of Collighieri,

In its 24th year, the **Geological Observatory of Collighieri** faced new challenges as it was north of the epicenter of an ongoing series of earthquakes affecting the entire Umbria-Marche region since August. Fortunately, Collighieri so far has not been seriously affected. Only the Schoolhouse had some minor damage, and we were able to finish the 2016 program without any interruptions. We are on-siding and partition walls, and tasks due to roof damage. However, others in the region have not been as fortunate, with some 25,000 residents having been relocated to safer locations. Many cultural treasures, such as the Basilica of Norcia, have been severely damaged or destroyed. For our community, The psychological impact from continuing shock waves has been tremendous as people face the uncertainty associated with this geological phenomenon.

La Montagna di San Francesco (LMSF), our non-profit Association, responded to this local crisis by presenting a seminar on **Earthquake Education** to the citizens of Ajkra in a meeting tent. The seminar was presented by Professor Giovanni Scarascia Mugnozza, Dr. Giovanni Battista Cavallaro (Paula Melodia), and the Little Big History of Earthquakes in Italy and what is to be learned from it and what to do while waiting for the next one (Alessandro Montanari).

Geological Field Courses at Collighieri in 2016

Collighieri, March 20 - 24, 2016

Dartmouth University, with Jason Toronto, Jennifer Bowen, and Cassie Bowen as accompanying faculty, and 10 geology students, March 20-24.

Collighieri, May 17 - July 23, 2016

Pennsylvania State University, with David Rea as accompanying faculty, and 7 geology students, May 17-July 23.

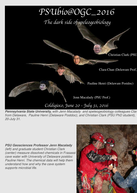
Collighieri, August 6 - October 11, 2016

Alessandro Montanari, Cecilia Montanari, Giovanni Scarascia Mugnozza, Gloria Macneil (Lanterna Ventura) as accompanying faculty, The Coke Harvey and Foegel library, and 10 environmental sciences students, August 6 - October 21.

Education at Collighieri in 2016

Collighieri, May 17 - 25, 2016

Syracuse University, School of Education, Institute of Communication and Inclusion, with Chris Abely and Marella Jacobs as accompanying faculty, 10 students and 2 sign language interpreters, May 17-25.



Collighieri, April 20 - 23, 2016

Lisea Banfi di Vimercate (Milan), with accompanying faculty Bruno Tosco and Elio Minervi , and 20 high school students, April 20-23.

Speleogeochronology Research at Collighieri 2016

Pennsylvania State University, with Jean Hendrix and speleogeochronology colleagues Chari Cole (Delaware Parks), Dallas Stout (Delaware Parks), and Carlton Clark (PSU Ph.D. student), June 20-July 23.

PSU Geosciences Professor Jean Hendrix (left) and graduate student Christian Clark (right) in the Collighieri Cave, in a cave water with University of Delaware postdoc Chari Cole (second from left) and Dallas Stout (second from left) the cave system supports microbial life.

Jean Hendrix leads the Collighieri Speleogeochronology team, with Professor Giuseppe Spalletta (Stratigrafia di Bacino, and Giuseppe Spalletta (Origin of Georgia) and PSU Geosciences professor Jean Hendrix. The speleologists assist the researchers with cave exploration.

Scientific Publications in 2016

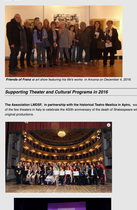
Hendrix, Research Gate list of scientific publications 2004-2016, with support of LMCSF.

Collighieri/LMSF scientific papers published in 2016

International Big History Association Conference Presentations

LMSF supported the participation of geologist Alessandro Montanari and artist Paula Melodia to the 6th Conference of the International Big History Association in Amsterdam (July 2016). The Little Big History of Medieval Perfumery was presented by Cecilia Montanari (experience teaching Big Bang and Evolution to persons with cognitive disabilities through art).

Art at Collighieri in 2016



PCM Students hard at work on Sadness & Despair with participants Paula Melodia.

ACM Students present their work at final art show.

Art Therapist Paula Melodia works with students at Ancona Arte Aperta in Gagliole. The class is learning about shapes by studying geometry and the work of Genesse artist Gaudre Klein (1882-1918).

Honoring the Artistic Life of Franz

LMSF sponsored a biographical book, La Fuga di Franz, and retrospective of artwork presented in the Gallery Arte Aperta in Ancona for Francesco Maria Gianaccio (1940-1991), alias Franz, a young artist whose career as a prolific painter was interrupted by a dramatic premature death 35 years ago. The book includes a recent history of Ancona, as well as his friends and connections to Collighieri.

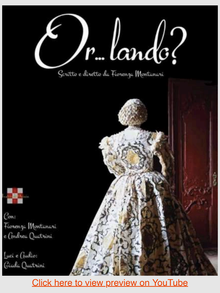
Friends of Franz at art show featuring his life's works, in Ancona on December 4, 2016.

Supporting Theater and Cultural Programs in 2016

The Association LMSF, in partnership with the Historical Teatro Mentana in Ajkra, runs one of the few theaters in Italy to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the death of Shakespeare with original productions.

Celebrating Shakespeare. Since 1997 Lion's Classics students performed or attended productions of the **"Tempest"**, written and directed by Francesa Monteiani, and featuring the music of Massimo Ferrarotti, Shakespeare's birthday celebration, in Teatro Mentana, in London with Greek to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the death of Shakespeare.

Announcing the 2016-17 Theater Season at the Teatro Mestica in Apiro are Nadia Sparapani, Assessore of Culture, Tourism,and Instruction from the Comune of Apiro, Fiorenza Montanari and Andrea Quatrini, artistic directors from LMDSF.



Click here to view preview on YouTube

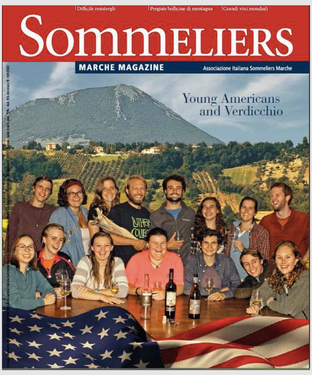
Reachout to Schools and the Community

***Apiro Elementary School students and Syracuse University School of Education teachers** learn from each other about learning and teaching.*

***LMDSF provides extensive educational opportunities for both local and foreign students.** This year we offered logistical, didactic, and scientific support to eight geology and biology university students working on their senior and master theses from various US, European, and Italian universities. We worked with groups from the Humanistic Sciences High School of Cingoli.*

***LMDSF provides public seminars to inform the community about local geological and historical features.** We sponsored talks on the Little Big History of Frasassi and its caves (Comune of Genga), the Little Big History of Sulfur in the Umbria-Marche Apennines (University of Camerino), and Earthquakes (Comune of Apiro).*

Soil, Terroir, & Wine Culture at Coldigioco 2016



***ACM students are featured on cover of Sommelier Marche Magazine.** Cav. Gualberto Compagnucci, famous sommelier and chef, president of the Italian Association of Sommeliers, and editor of the magazine "Sommelier", presented seminar on the local Verdicchio wine and Stoccafisso all'Anconitana. Read Sommelier Marche Magazine or read article about Coldigioco here.*

***As we approach the 25th year of the Geological Observatory of Coldigioco, we are most grateful for the donations to Le Montagne di San Francesco which make it possible for us to continue this unique scientific and artistic interdisciplinary endeavor.** During the past year your donations made it possible to maintain our student dormitories, meeting rooms, laboratories, scientific lab equipment, computers, field vehicles, and the grounds of Coldigioco. This year there is the additional expense for earthquake damage repairs. Your donation also makes it possible for us to be a major supporter of research, artistic, cultural, theatrical and educational endeavors in the Marche region.*

Please help us continue to provide the unique programs of education and research at Coldigioco!
We are associated with **Charities Aid Foundation America (CAFAmerica),** an independent US 501(c)(3) public charity whose mission is to increase the flow of charitable funds outside the US.
Donations of US $500 and over are tax deductible for US taxpayers. Contributions of less than $500 and those from non-US friends are also very welcome.

How can I support Coldigioco and its mission of education and research?

Make a Donation

1. US Tax Deductible
Online donation through CAFAmerica *(US $500 minimum).* Alternatively, you can mail a check with this Gift Form (pdf).

2. Bank transfer
Bank Transfer Form (pdf). When you send a transfer, please notify Sandro of the amount you are sending, for his records.

We are most appreciative of the support of so many colleagues, students, family, and friends who make Coldigioco possible.

Tante grazie,
Walter and Milly Alvarez
Sandro Montanari and Paula Metallo

Cda. Coldigioco, 13, 62021 Apiro (MC) Italy
Tel. 011-39-0733-618-291

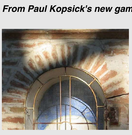
NOTA BENE:
*The annual **General Assembly of the Associazione "Le Montagne di San Francesco"** will be held on **Friday, January 6, 2017**, at Margolis Hall, Coldigioco, 13. A minimum of three associate participants is required for the validity of the assembly.*

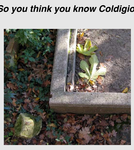
Coldigioco
1992 - 2017

September 2017: Celebration of 25 years of scientific, educational, artistic, and cultural activities in Coldigioco. To include Penrose Conference in Apiro "250 Million Years of Earth History in Central Italy: Celebrating 25 years of the Geological Observatory of Coldigioco"

Where in Coldigioco?

From Paul Kopsick's new game "So you think you know Coldigioco".





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