

As the President of the Italy – America Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to present to all of you “*Primidieci Under40*” and its significance.

At the beginning of my presidency, thanks to the support of an enthusiastic and visionary board, we created the YEX (Young Executives Committee of the Italy – America Chamber of Commerce). It was our way to show our young executives that we recognized their substantial value in shaping the business world of today and tomorrow. The establishment of the YEX Committee provided a means and network of support for the success of its talented members.

We formed an ever-growing committee comprised of these motivated young individuals, all under the age of 35. In just a few years, the YEX has become “the destination” for professional, young Italians and Italian Americans. Their overall enthusiasm and growth has been incredible. Additionally, the variety of the events has expanded immensely, from conferences to networking events, from lessons to certificates, from wine tastings to charitable initiatives.

This positive energy must continue, as we showcase our young executives and inspire them to become role models for others. For these reasons, when we were approached about the book “*Primidieci*” we not only agreed to proceed with the project, but we also proposed “*Primidieci Under40*” to emphasize the importance of our “under 40” leaders of today to our community and explore emerging young executives on an annual basis.

At the start of this project, we sought suggestions from all Italian and Italian American organizations as to who should be included in “*Primidieci Under 40*”, and we received many recommendations for potential candidates. As a result, choosing only ten of these young professionals was extremely difficult for the selection committee. When we interviewed the final candidates, we realized we had something unique in our hands. Not only will we produce a wonderful book, but we identified ten professionally ambitious and exceptional young Italian and Italian American people. These ten members of the next business generation all combine a great desire to change our society for the better with a great love for their heritage. These ambassadors are ideal for conveying the message of the YEX Committee, of “*Primidieci Under 40*”, and of the entire network of the Italian Chambers of Commerce in the United States.

The concept of “*Primidieci*” does not end here. We have also established the “*Primidieci Society*” in an effort to foster communication among those selected to be a part of “*Primidieci*”. We have created the “*YEX Annual Award*” and the “*Primidieci Forum*” in Cortina, Italy where they will meet with other young Italian professionals to share ideas and goals in order to progress in their respective fields.

This publication is the beginning of a great success in promoting these promising executives by providing them with the opportunity to take center stage in the United States and in Italy. I am very interested to see what the future holds for this project. Presenting this book to you furnishes me with a lot of pride and hope for a better future. Italians and Italian Americans consistently possess incredible talent and continue to change society in a positive fashion on a global spectrum.

Congratulations to our first “*Primidieci Under 40*” ! You all must represent the spirit of this project, be role models to imitate, change the world and help others do the same.

This is a call to action!

In bocca al lupo!

Claudio Bozzo

President
Italy-America Chamber of Commerce