Language Fair 2026
Mini-Research Project:
<u>CLASSICAL ITALY TODAY</u>

Explore how ancient Rome or other Italian cities/places are rooted in Classical Culture and still influence modern Italy!
You can create a Powerpoint, poster, or present in any other format that you prefer in your video.
Videos that were entered in previous years may not be re-submitted.

<u>Suggested topics:</u>
1. Architecture: Roman engineering and its influence on Italian cityscapes (e.g., arches, domes, aqueducts).

2. Art and sculpture: Classical styles reflected in Italian art, such as Renaissance painters or Neoclassical sculpture.

3. Religion / Mythology: the use of classical myths and symbols in Italian art and culture (e.g., the myth of Daphne and Bernini's sculpture of 1622, *see image* - Galleria Borghese).

4. Public spaces: Roman forums and their influence on modern Italian piazzas.

5. Entertainment: the legacy of Roman theater and gladiatorial games in Italian festivals or events.

6. Calendar and festivals: Roman festivals that evolved into modern Italian holidays (e.g., Ferragosto < Feriae Augusti)

7. Cuisine and daily life: foods, customs, or household items with roots in Roman culture.

<u>Research guidelines:</u>
- **Focus**: investigate the origins of your topic in Classical Roman culture and explain how it continues to influence Modern Italian life.

- **Sources**: use at least two reliable sources, such as museum websites, documentaries, or academic articles.

- **Visuals**: include images, artifacts, or examples in your presentation to support your points.

Presentation Outline:
1. **Introduction (30 seconds)**: briefly introduce your topic and its connection to Classical Rome / Roman times.

2. **Classical origins (1-2 minutes)**: explain the topic's origin in ancient times, including key figures, events, or sources.

3. **Modern Italian influence (1-2 minutes)**: describe how this Classical element is visible today in Italy, with specific examples or locations.
4. **Visuals**: include a photo, video, or artifact to illustrate your topic (e.g., a Roman structure compared to a modern one).

5. **Conclusion**: summarize the impact of Classical culture on Modern Italy and why it remains significant.

Presentation format:
- **Time limit**: 3-5 minutes to keep your presentation focused.

- **Visual aids**: choose a format that enhances your presentation, such as a poster, slides, or handouts.

Evaluation criteria:
1. **Content accuracy**: thorough research on classical origins and modern connections.
2. **Relevance**: a clear link between classical culture and contemporary Italy.
3. **Visuals**: effective use of images or artifacts to support your points.
4. **Clarity and engagement**: clear delivery and engaging presentation style within the time limit.
5. **Originality**: creative and insightful exploration of your topic.

Here is an example!

Roman public spaces
1. **Introduction**: introduce the Roman Forum and its role as a center of public life.
2. **Classical origins**: describe how forums were used for politics, commerce, and community events in ancient Rome.
3. **Modern Italian influence**: explain how Piazza del Campidoglio in Rome, designed by Michelangelo, reflects the influence of Roman forums in its layout and civic function.
4. **Visuals**: show an image of the Roman forum alongside piazza del Campidoglio, highlighting similarities and/or differences in purpose and architectural features.
5. **Conclusion**: emphasize the enduring influence of Roman urban planning on Italian public spaces.