

The “Vincenzo & Mariangela Santo” Merit Scholarship, consisting of \$750 awarded by the Festival’s Artistic Director, donated by William “Maestro Bruno” Santo in honor of his Parents.

Vincenzo and Mariangela’s family immigrated to the US in the early 1900’s. It is in the US that Vincenzo and Mariangela met and married. They start a family and within that family they had 1 son. William Bruno Santo. Named after Vincenzo and Mariangela’s Fathers.

William Bruno showed an interest in music at the Age of 6. Both parents felt they should cultivate this interest as did Mariangela’s Mother, Teresa Nardi from Cosenza, Calabria.

Teresa gave Bruno his first piano and while attending Catholic School Bruno studied piano. Both parents and grandparents continued to support and foster music in the Bruno’s life.

They lived in 2 places in the US for all of their life. First in the Italian Neighborhood of Chicago. As with most immigrants in the 1900’s they lived in a neighborhood with people from their own country. And in 1969 Moved to Scottsdale, Arizona. They followed all of the Italian traditions and carried these traditions to the family they started. When Vincenzo and Mariangela married, they moved to a neighborhood closer to Vincenzo ‘s parents. During their life they had 4 Children. 3 girls and 1 son. Vincenzo ‘s talent was math and the understanding of numbers and Mariangela worked in the beauty Industry.

Both parents fostered Music and the Arts for all of their children. They lived a wonderful life in the United States of America, but they never lost the true Italian traditions. Mariangela has visited Italy many times to visit family in Simbario, Calabria and to travel throughout Italy. Most of these travels included her son Bruno. It was these travels that brought Bruno closer to his family’s roots.

So much so that in 2022 he purchased a home in Todi, mainly because of all of the Arts Culture in Umbria and in Todi. Vincenzo and Mariangela instilled a strong sense in all of their children to support the Arts as music and the Arts rounds out a person’s life.

It is with great honor that Bruno contributes to the Music Festival in Todi and honor his father and Mother in this way.

Mariangela is 97 this year and Bruno honors her and his father by providing funds to the Music Festival for a Scholarship in Vincenzo and Mariangela's name. Mariangela continues to live in the US but visits Todi when she can. She still has family in Simbario, Calabria, Italy.