

IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

A national grass roots signature campaign launched by the NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL (NIAC) to save the Christopher Columbus holiday has gathered thousands of signatures. The NIAC is engaged in a national campaign to stop the anti-Columbus movement from removing both the holiday and parade. Anti-Columbus activists have been disrupting peaceful Italian American parade marchers along the parade route. In certain area's throughout the United States Italian Americas are having a hard time exercising their first amendment rights celebrating the Columbus holiday. And, having just as much trouble getting local authorities to support their efforts to hold a peaceful parade.

The NIAC is committed to support or defend the advancement of the Columbus holiday and parade. NIAC founder & president Anthony E. La Piana said, "We shall continue to raise the level of awareness across this nation that Italian Americans reserve the absolute right to exercise their first amendment rights to celebrate the Christopher Columbus holiday, and work in the U.S. Congress so our nation's leaders support our efforts as well."

Anti-Columbus activists are trying to change the name of the holiday and remove historical achievements from school textbooks so our children are prevented from learning about the great explorer.

La Piana said, "The battle to save our cultural identity shall continue. And, the battle to save world history shall continue, let no group prevent the historical truth from being told."

The NIAC is seeking supporters throughout the nation to help distribute and coordinate campaign efforts to advance the Columbus campaign.

The NIAC has a host of anti-defamation projects scheduled for 2008 and 2009.

calls are being taken at: 630 415 - 1817