

Students Celebrate Italian with First Meeting of New Club Nov. 11

Contributed by Tobie Baker
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Interested public invited to attend 7 p.m. gathering

OXFORD, Miss. - Students at the University of Mississippi are celebrating Italian by forming the Ole Miss Italian Club with their initial meeting scheduled Tuesday (Nov. 11).

Some 60 students have expressed an interest in forming the club, but all interested students, faculty, staff and community members are urged to attend the 7 p.m. meeting in the Student Union Ballroom.

"I'm so excited about the Italian club," said junior hospitality management major Elizabeth Bagley of Oxford. "I'm looking forward to speaking Italian outside of a classroom setting. It will help me become more proficient."

The meeting will feature food and T shirts, and provides an opportunity to announce upcoming events, including a spring film festival, and student scholarships for study in Italy next summer, said Angela Tumini, UM professor of Italian.

With an Italian heritage, Bagley studied abroad this past summer with Tumini at the Umbra Institute in Perugia, just north of Rome.

"It was one of the most amazing experiences of my life," said the 20 year old. "It gave me the chance to make friends with people from Ole Miss and Italy. It also taught me to appreciate the differences in our cultures, but it also taught me to appreciate what I have here at home."

Tumini plans to take another group of UM students to Italy next summer, and for the first time, she will be able to offer full scholarships to two students.

"These scholarships will help change two students' attitudes toward life completely," Tumini said.

For more information or to request assistance related to a disability, call 662-915-7711.