



## Amici,

**What were you doing twenty years ago?** If you reflect on that time, you likely recognize the growth, challenges, and learning you've experienced. Fun fact: I was a recent college grad, eagerly preparing for a farming internship in Italy that would shape my life!

2002 is also the year a dedicated and visionary group founded the Spannocchia Foundation (now Friends of Spannocchia) with the purpose of sponsoring cultural and environmental education at the farm. As we celebrate twenty years of *growing, learning, and sustaining*, we're taking the opportunity to appreciate where we started and how far we've come.

Our farm internship program now has an increased focus on formal education and participants with long-term goals in related fields. We started offering apprenticeships in cooking and butchery, honoring the culinary traditions of Tuscany. We also used the pandemic-driven hiatus to assess and improve our programs, relaunching them this year with a renewed commitment to education, sustainability, and community. And, we are addressing accessibility concerns, recently establishing our Internship Scholarship Fund to minimize financial barriers to participation.

**Behind the changes and growth of the last twenty years, there has been a very important constant: The generosity of our loyal supporters—our Friends.**

Whether you've been with us from the beginning, or you're new to our organization, your annual membership gift allows us to continue and expand our impactful work.

So, what's next? With support from our amazing community, we'll be looking to further secure Spannocchia's legacy as a center for sustainability, education, conservation, and Italian history and culture. **Please make your year-end gift now, and help move us forward into the next twenty years, and beyond.**

Grazie mille,

Sarah Allenby  
Executive Director, Friends of Spannocchia

*P.S. If you're able, please consider a contribution to our restricted Scholarship Fund, in addition to your annual membership gift!*

Friends of Spannocchia connects people to an authentic Tuscan landscape, local food systems, and sustainable living practices to transform their relationship with the natural environment there and at home.

# Celebrating 20 Years of Friends of Spannocchia



**1925**

*Delfino Cinelli buys the 700-yr-old Spannocchia estate.*

**1992**

*Francesca Cinelli, one of Delfino's grand-daughters, and her husband Randall Stratton move their family from the US to Spannocchia in hopes of preserving the property.*



**2002**

*With the help of Cinelli family and friends, the **Spannocchia Foundation is established** as a US-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit to support and expand educational programming on-site.*

**2007**

*The organization's fundraising efforts exceed a cumulative \$1 million in membership gifts, operating contributions, and private foundation support.*



**2009**

*We hold our first Symposium—"Food, Landscape & Community in Tuscany & New England"—bringing industry professionals from both regions together for a dynamic learning experience.*

**2015**

*After several years of having volunteers assist with butchering, we launch the first formal season of our "Butcher Apprenticeship" program. The Culinary Apprenticeship follows in summer 2019.*



**2016**

*We welcome a high of 350 program participants in a single season, with over 25 groups served.*

**2017**

*The Spannocchia Foundation is renamed Friends of Spannocchia, to better reflect and honor our community of supporters.*



**2022**

*After a two-year pause due to COVID-19, the internship and apprenticeship programs reach 500 total participants under our organization. And, **we celebrate 20 years of Friends of Spannocchia!***

**2025**

*Looking ahead to 2025, the Spannocchia estate will mark 800 years since the tower was built in 1225!*

