

2025: Celebrating 800 & 100 years



It's hard to believe that this big anniversary year is coming to a close. We celebrated with a special logo, a wide range of events (on-site, in the US, and online), and monthly themes like community, culinary traditions, educational programming, and biodiversity.

A few event highlights include:



In November 2024, in preparation for the 2025 anniversaries, Spannocchia planted 8 *cipressi* (cypress trees) along the lower part of the long driveway up to Spannocchia. These trees are iconic of Tuscany, and serve to visually honor the 800 years of history on the Spannocchia property.

Then, in March of this year, we planted one new cherry blossom tree in the main courtyard to commemorate the 100-year history of the Cinelli family at Spannocchia. Staff, interns, and guests gathered for both events, and the trees offer a meaningful and lasting symbol of these milestone anniversaries.



In February, our Italian Farm Education Director, Niccolò Merighi, visited the US to bring together the Spannocchia community in New York City, Boston, and Portland, ME, while also exploring like-minded educational farms in the region and attending the NOFA-VT Winter Conference. It was wonderful to welcome Nico to the States and spend time with inspiring leaders in our field!

Most of all, we loved seeing over 130 "Friends" over the course of three events: a mix of intern and apprentice alumni, past program participants, guests, board members, and people who are looking forward to visiting Spannocchia in the future. Being together and sharing our collective love for Spannocchia was rewarding for staff and community members alike.



In July and October, we welcomed two groups of past apprentices, interns, and volunteers for our first ever Alumni Reunions. Almost 70 people total joined us for the two reunions, including 37 alumni spanning 50(!) years of programming. We kicked off with a special aperitivo hour and pizza night, toured the garden and wine cellar and learned about current farming practices, heard from alumni and current interns about their experiences at Spannocchia, tried a cooking class or a hike to *Castiglion Che Dio Sol Sa*, and more. Throughout it all, we also reminisced about favorite memories, compared stories, made new connections and deepened old ones, and generally just reveled in the magic that is Spannocchia.

Being able to celebrate these important anniversaries together as a community has been joyful, humbling, and reinvigorating. We feel energized to continue carrying on the traditions of Spannocchia and, with your continued support, to contribute to another 800 anni di storie.