

**BROCCOLINI**

Under the patronage
of Senator
Tony Loffreda



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Spectacular Finale for the 32nd Edition of ItalfestMTL: A Vibrant Tribute to Italian Culture

Montreal, August 18, 2025 – With immense emotion and gratitude, we celebrate the conclusion of the 32nd edition of ItalfestMTL, held from August 8 to 17, 2025. Once again this year, the festival captivated thousands of people with a unique cultural experience, weaving together music, fashion, cinema, and tradition in a warm embrace of Italian culture.

Our heartfelt thanks go first and foremost to our main partners: Mastro & San Daniele, Broccolini Construction, Desjardins Caisse populaire Canadienne Italienne, and Air Canada. A special thanks to the Italian Foundation (FCCI), our long-standing partner of excellence over the years, as well as to the Governments of Canada and Quebec, the City of Montreal, and Tourisme Montréal. Their invaluable support was fundamental to the realization and success of this edition.

The opening weekend in Little Italy kicked off a series of engaging events, with live performances, culinary delights, and a festive atmosphere that brought the neighborhood streets to life.

The *Moda Sotto le Stelle* fashion show, presented by the Consulate General of Italy in Montreal, enchanted the audience with the creations of Simone Privitelli, Alice Oliveri, Rosalie Paquette, and Ashiastitches. The Opera Gala presented by Repos Saint-François d'Assise captured hearts with its magic and the incredible talents directed by Salvatore Sciascia.

As part of our cultural programming, the Italian Film Festival, presented by Desjardins Caisse populaire Canadienne Italienne in collaboration with the Festival del Nuovo Cinema Italiano led by Francesco Esposito, also returned this year. Cinema enthusiasts enjoyed a selection of Italian films screened in iconic venues such as Parc Dante, Casa d'Italia, and Théâtre Amelia & Lino Saputo. Thanks to a collaboration with TLN Media Group, the festival also hosted a remarkable evening featuring two documentaries directed by Anthony Sarracco and Sean Cisterna.

Other activities in the boroughs of Montreal-North, Ahuntsic-Cartierville, Saint-Léonard, and LaSalle—with events organized by the Club delle Margherite d'Oro—as well as in NDG, with activities presented by the Club Bocce Saint Raymond and the Galerie D'Anjou, allowed the festival to reach an even broader community, offering a rich array of artistic, musical, cultural, and community experiences.

In Montreal-North, the public enjoyed a day dedicated to art and entertainment with the collective exhibition *Montréal Nord en Art*, which showcased local creativity through works inspired by the multicultural identity of the neighborhood. The



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evening ended with the exhilarating concert of the Groovetown Latin Band, which got both young and old dancing to its Latin and Mediterranean rhythms.

In Ahuntsic-Cartierville, the day began at Parc des Hirondelles, organized in collaboration with the newly created SDC Fleury Est, and concluded in the afternoon with *Fleury en Festa 40*, in partnership with SDC Promenade Fleury, featuring performances by FM Radio, Sir Gio, Gianni Bodo, New Voices directed by Peter Ranallo, as well as Thomas Postigo, David Segreti, Groovetown Latin Band, and December Rose accompanied by the SoulStation Orchestra.

In Saint-Léonard, the Cabaret at the Leonardo Da Vinci Centre, presented by Desjardins Caisse populaire Canadienne Italienne, was a great success. The evening offered music and entertainment with Rick Pagano, New Voices, Gianluca Sciarpettelli (from Italy), the surprising Raphie Rock Magic Show, Alexander Gabriel, Joe Cacchione, and Costanza.

Other cultural highlights included creative writing workshops led by Licia Canton and Liana Cusmano, as well as a lecture by Professor Carlo Carbone, architect and educator, held at the MEM – Musée de la Mémoire montréalaise, presented by Norcom under the patronage of the Embassy of Italy in Ottawa.

A special thank you also goes to our many partners, volunteers, and of course, our loyal audience. Your enthusiasm and support are the driving force that makes the growth and success of the festival possible, year after year.

As we bid farewell to this extraordinary 32nd edition, we carry with us unforgettable memories and lasting bonds. Stay tuned: the 2026 edition will be even richer in emotions and unforgettable moments.

Arrivederci, and thank you from the bottom of our hearts!