FONDAZIONE BANCO DI SICILIA

The main goal of Fondazione Banco di Sicilia, established in December 1991, is to favor the social, cultural, and economic growth of Sicily. Through multiyear plans and special funding, it develops projects designed to provide useful, punctual, concrete solutions to the community.

The foundation works daily to foster the heritage and resources of the island, sponsor cultural activities, support education, further scientific research, encourage sustainable growth and, last but not least, promote solidarity.

Among the several initiatives of the Fondazione Banco di Sicilia in the field of the social and financial development of the mediterranean area we highlight the third edition of the international Forum *Developing Africa: an opportunity for Europe, Italy and Sicily.* Its purpose is maintaining the strategical and economical relationships between Africa and Europe to promoting concrete business iniatives as well as outlining the role of Sicily in making this possible.

With the contribution of the Fondazione Banco di Sicilia, Palermo hosted the *G8 University Students' Summit*, the preliminary meeting of the University Summit taking place in Turin on the initiative of CRUI, Unesco Italian Commision and University of Turin.

Among the cultural events promoted by the Institution, we would like to remark the *International Literature Prize of Mondello - City of Palermo, MondelloGiovani Young Literature Festival, as well as Pirandello Prize.*

Its headquarter in Palermo (Villa Zito, built in XVIII century) is also home of the prestigious Ignazio Mormino Museum of Art and Archeology, holding precious majolica collections produced from the XV and XVIII Century, medieval and modern sicilian coins, prints and pictures. The Museum also contains a philately section where rare postal documents from The Reign of Two Sicilies are kept. Moreover an exhibition of over hundred paintings as well as an important archeological section consisting in vestiges coming from different sites of western Sicily in particular Selinunte.

Yet, an exceptional library containing 70,000 volumes dedicated to archaeology, numismatics and the history of the island and today with a new room dedicated to Franco Restivo showing the volumes donated by his family.

The Foundation is ruled by the Superior Council and chaired by the Professor Giovanni Puglisi. It is administered by the Administration Council. The management and accounting control positions are performed by the statutory auditors Body (control body composed by the President, two actual mayors and a supply one). The General Secretary is Dr Eugenio Giorgianni.

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