

FAMIGLIA CAPPELLUTI



"For having overcome their immense grief and donating to the entire community a cutting-edge secondary school focusing on classical studies and music, built on the site of a rubbish dump transformed into a haven of greenery and culture."

Franco and Adriana Cappelluti are two parents who managed to transform a huge loss into a great work created on the Roman coast. This work is an advantage for the whole community and most of all, it transformed an abandoned land used as a dumping ground into a green, joyful and cultural oasis.

In this way the most modern education complex was born in Anzio: the "Chris Cappell College", an extremely modern building which hosts the Public Classical High School and recently also the High School of Music.

Opened in 2002, this school really has a special story.

It owes its existence to a very young musician, Chris Cappell, stage name of Christian Cappelluti, who died at 23 in Scotland from a rare food intolerance.

He was a good composer and arranger of new melodies and in Italy he cooperated with famous artists such as Mina and the Pooh group; but his career as musician had already started in the United States where he attended Business and Music courses at the Wake Forest University in North Carolina and where he graduated "Summa Cum Laude" obtaining the most important and significant awards.

His parents, Franco and Adriana, decided to overcome this personal tragedy through love and generosity, giving to the community something that was a stimulus for growth and life.

On a municipal land used as a dumping ground, an education complex was created, based on the model of American colleges and which was totally financed by Christian's parents and given to the City of Anzio.

Following Christian's passions and inclinations, the school was equipped with a modern and well furnished music laboratory which is totally soundproof and connected to an advanced recording studio, computer and language laboratories with updated technical equipment and a complete chemistry and physics laboratory.

At the centre of the building there is an Auditorium with 250 seats which gives the possibility to implement theatre activities, concerts, congresses, video projections and videoconferences both for the school and the city of Anzio.

Another interesting site is the Multimedia Library which has an independent entrance and is open to the public, with comfortable reading rooms, 13 internet stations and a particular audio-video room which has 4.000 CDs and 200 films in English which all belonged to Christian's private collection.

A big gym with blue glass windows equipped with services, showers and waiting rooms, offers a pleasant sight in the urban context around the school.

Wide gardens with paved and covered areas, allow outdoor teaching activities.

Finally, the equipments include the creation of basketball, volleyball, tennis and soccer courts and a running and long jump track.

The Cappelluti spouses, through the "Christian Cappelluti Foundation onlus" which has its office inside the High School, support the school initiatives and promote cultural events also with the cooperation of the North Carolina Wake Forest University.

Among the education projects promoted by the Foundation, it is important to quote "Astronautics in the Classroom" created by the Aerospace Engineering School of the University of Rome "La Sapienza".

It is an innovative course which allowed the students to meet persons like Princess Elettra, Guglielmo Marconi's daughter, the astronaut Umberto Guidoni, the Lieutenant fighter pilot Samantha Cristoforetti the first Italian woman pilot who will go into space.

This fascinating project even led to the implementation of a satellite ground station inside the school which will allow the students to check and to communicate with the satellites in orbit.

Right from the beginning, Franco and Adriana's objective has been to create a reference pole for the social and cultural growth not only of young people but of all citizens.

Every day the "Chris Cappell Multimedia Library" is crowded with young people also coming from far away, who use it to study, to do research or to meet and to compare.

The Media Library allows everybody to watch, free of charge, films in English or to listen to rare and particular music.

The music recording studio, allows all interested people to produce music on a professional level, through free courses offered by the Foundation.

The Chris Cappell College managed to transform a whole uncared for district into a residential one with all modern services, where it is possible to breathe beauty and culture in a vital area which has a soul...

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