

LADINO COLLABORATORY

MEET OUR 2022-2023 LANGUAGE APPRENTICES



THE LADINO LAB

is a Public Humanities initiative sponsored by The Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (IASH) at **BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY** and co-directed by Dr. Dina Danon and Dr. Bryan Kirschen.

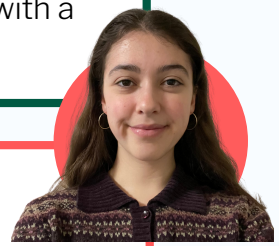
Through regular workshops, students, alumni, and faculty develop proficiency in Ladino, while learning about Sephardic culture and history. Four participants also participated in our Language Apprenticeship Program, each assigned to work with a speaker of Judeo-Spanish during the academic year.



ALEXANDRA RITSATOS

is a senior double majoring in history and music at Binghamton University. The Ladino Collaboratory and Apprenticeship Program have provided her with the opportunity to learn more about the Ladino language and Sephardic culture. As a non-Jewish person, she has enjoyed learning more about the diversity of former Ottoman lands, which she will continue to do next year as a graduate student in History at the University of Washington. With her partner, she has appreciated learning more about Ladino and the oral tradition of Sephardic ballads and romansas.

Alexandra's language partner is California resident **RINA BENMAYOR**, whose family comes from (Volos, Salonica, Serres, Kavala, Drama) Greece.



ELIANA MANN

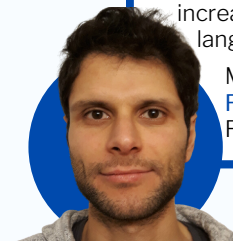
is a sophomore majoring in Linguistics and minoring in Speech-Language Pathology at Binghamton University. She joined the Ladino Collaboratory and its Apprenticeship Program because of her love for language, Jewish culture, and her desire for both of those things to continue to be known in the world. Through this apprenticeship she has learned so much valuable information about Sephardic culture, the Ladino language, and about the life of her language partner's Sephardic, Ladino-speaking family.

Eliana's language partner is Washington resident **HANNAH PRESSMAN**, whose family comes from Rhodes and (Bodrum) Turkey.

MARCO ALÌ SPADACCINI

is a History PhD candidate at Binghamton University studying Ottoman-Italian connections in the 1500s. With no family connection to the Sephardi world, but with a background in the Italian and Turkish languages, Marco Ali has felt immediately at ease with the Ladino language. The Ladino Collaboratory and Language Apprenticeship had brought back for him not just the language, but also the culture and the people he had only seen in old documents and books. His fascination with the language and the Jewish Sephardi culture and rituals could only increase through the enriching exchanges with his language partner.

Marco Ali's language partner is California-native **ROBERT CARLSON**, whose family comes from Rhodes.



EMILY MYER

is a double major in Philosophy, Politics, and Law and Spanish with a Health Wellness Minor in her senior year at Binghamton University. The Ladino Collaboratory and Language Apprenticeship Program allowed Emily to explore her interest in the Spanish language and Judaism. She enjoys learning the history behind Ladino and how it relates to Sephardi culture, the Spanish language, and other languages. With her language partner, Emily has spent the past year exploring Sephardic culture and food and reading many stories in Ladino.

Emily's language partner is Long Island resident **ELSA FARBIARZ**, whose family comes from (Edirne and Izmir) Turkey and Bulgaria.

