

LA CONSOLAZIONE E.T.A.B.

06059 Todi (PG), Piazza Umberto I, No. 6

Tel. 075/8942216 – Email: consolazione@etabtodi.it

Website: www.etabtodi.it – PEC: consolazione@pec.it

INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL

VIOLIN COMPETITION

"Todi, City of the Violin" 2027

Final stages: 5, 6 and 7 March 2027

Artistic Director: Maestro Prof. Luca Venturi

FREE LOAN ASSIGNMENT OF VIOLINS OWNED BY LA CONSOLAZIONE ETAB

Giuseppe Odoardi Violin (c. 1780)

Tirolean Violin attributed to Sebastian Klotz (c. 1750)

and 8 additional contemporary Italian luthier violins

TOTAL PRIZE VALUE: €5,000.00

Open to violinists who have not yet reached the age of 30 as of 31 December 2026.

Two sections

- ☐ Section A – Senior competitors (16–30) – assignment of the Odoardi violin (c. 1780)
- ☐ Section B – Junior competitors (11–15) – assignment of the Tirolean violin attributed to Klotz (c. 1750)

PREAMBLE

The Institution owns two violins. The first was made by Giuseppe Odoardi, known as "Il Villan D'Ascoli" or "the Stradivari of the Marche", and was restored in Cremona in 2022 by master luthier Mathijs Adriaan Heyligers (delivered on 11 November 2022). The second is a Sebastian Klotz from Mittenwald, restored in 2024/2025 and delivered on 21 February 2025. Following restoration, it was identified as a valuable Tirolean violin attributed to Klotz.

The two valuable instruments form part of the assets of the Opera Pia Monte dell'Onestà, established in 1601 following a donation of four thousand scudi by Bishop Angelo Cesi. The charitable institution was administered by the Congregazione di Carità di Todi, founded by Francesco degli Atti in the sixteenth century and governed by the Priors of Todi. Administration continued until 1938, when, pursuant to the Crispi Law No. 6972/1890 (implemented several years later), the Istituzioni Riunite di Beneficenza were established; since 2003 these have been La Consolazione ETAB.

Thanks to the collaboration of Maestro Luca Venturi, violinist and teacher at the Francesco Morlacchi Conservatory of Perugia, a first public notice was approved in 2023 to award the Odoardi violin through a public competition. Following that competition, the violin was assigned to Maestro Indro Borreani, now one of the first violins of the Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano at Teatro alla Scala.

The Tirolean violin attributed to Klotz was subsequently restored and also put up for competition. In the 2025 edition, the winners were Brando Maria Medici (Junior Section), awarded the Tirolean violin attributed to Klotz, and Sofia De Martis (Senior Section), awarded the Odoardi violin.

Under the artistic direction of Maestro Venturi, together with other renowned violinists who will serve on the jury, the "Todi, City of the Violin 2027" project has been developed. The purpose of this notice is to assign these two masterpieces of European violin making to deserving and promising young violinists.

The instruments are subject to Legislative Decree 42/2004 and are fully protected as cultural heritage. Their movement within Italy therefore requires authorization from the competent Superintendency, while movement abroad is subject to authorization by the competent Ministry service.

The instruments, described in dedicated technical sheets, are insured by Lark Insurance of London, a leading provider of musical-instrument insurance. ETAB will ensure continuous insurance coverage at no cost to participants.

Participation is free of charge. The ages indicated for the competition sections are calculated as of 31 December 2026. Competitors who have not yet turned 16 may apply for the Senior Section.

The violins awarded in the first 2025 edition were restored through the Art Bonus scheme, with contributions from Umbra Acque S.p.A., Farchioni Olii S.p.A., Agromarket, Top Melon and Fondazione Perugia.

COMPETITION SECTIONS

The competition is divided into two sections according to the competitors' age:

Section A – Senior competitors: from 16 completed years to 30 completed years.

Section B – Junior competitors: from 11 completed years to 15 completed years.

SECTION A – SENIOR

First Prize dedicated to the memory of Prof. Elisabetta Scappini.

Award of the Giuseppe Odoardi violin (c. 1780).

Cash prize: gross €3,000.00, subject to withholding tax.

One concert offered by the Istituzione Sinfonica Abruzzese (value €1,000.00).

Other concerts offered by partners; materials and/or shopping vouchers offered by sponsors and partners; one annual digital subscription to Archi Magazine.

Second to sixth prizes: award of a contemporary Italian luthier violin, together with materials and/or shopping vouchers offered by sponsors and partners and, where provided, an annual digital Archi Magazine subscription. The instruments will be assigned at the Commission's sole and final discretion.

SECTION B - JUNIOR

First Prize dedicated to the memory of Todi master luthier Cesare Toppetti.

Award of the Tirolean violin attributed to Sebastian Klotz (c. 1750).

Cash prize: gross €1,000.00, subject to withholding tax.

Other concerts offered by partners; materials and/or shopping vouchers offered by sponsors and partners; one annual digital subscription to Archi Magazine.

Second to sixth prizes: award of contemporary Italian luthier violins and/or the benefits indicated in the notice, including Archi Magazine subscriptions where provided.

CONTEMPORARY ITALIAN LUTHIER VIOLINS

Marco Anedda (Umbria); Dino Graziani (Umbria); Francesco Algieri (Tuscany); Filippo Protani (Umbria); Mauro Fabretti (Lazio); Giuseppe Quagliano (Marche); Marco Venturi (Umbria); Felix Habel (Abruzzo).

JURIES

Section A - Senior

Francesca Dego (Chair), international violinist and concert performer; Carlo Maria Parazzoli, first violin of the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia; Alessandro Cervo, first violin of the Orchestra Filarmonica Marchigiana; Lorenzo Fabiani, violinist, teacher at the "G. Paisiello" Conservatory of Taranto and Artistic Director of Accademia Musicale Sherazade; Ettore Pellegrino, violinist, teacher at the "A. Casella" Conservatory of L'Aquila and Artistic Director of the Orchestra Sinfonica Abruzzese; Giacomo Scarponi, Concertmaster/section principal of the first violins at Teatro Comunale di Bologna; Luca Venturi, violinist and teacher at the "F. Morlacchi" Conservatory of Perugia; Leonardo Mallozzi, President of ETAB.

Section B - Junior

Luca Venturi (Chair); Alessandro Cervo; Lorenzo Fabiani; Giacomo Scarponi; Leonardo Mallozzi.

APPLICATION: TERMS AND PROCEDURE

Applications and the required documentation must be submitted by email (consolazione@etabtodi.it) or certified email/PEC (consolazione@pec.it), using the attached forms, signed and scanned together with a valid identity document, no later than 12:00 noon on 9 December 2026. Hand delivery is also possible at the granting institution's headquarters in Todi, Piazza Umberto I, 6, by appointment at 075 8942216.

After the documentary stage, the procedure will consist of a comparative assessment of qualifications, video recording and a final performance. Admission assessments will be made by the Artistic Director, who may be assisted by one or more members of the above-mentioned jury.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following documents are required: (1) a recent demonstration video, recorded within the last calendar year from the date of the notice, containing the compulsory programme; and (2) a curriculum vitae.

The compulsory video must be submitted via a YouTube link.

Category A - Senior: Bach, two movements of contrasting character from the Sonatas and Partitas for solo violin; Mozart, first movement with cadenza from a violin concerto chosen by the candidate; Paganini, one Caprice chosen from the 24 Caprices, Op. 1.

Category B - Junior: one study chosen by the candidate from Kreutzer's 42 Studies, Rode's 24 Caprices, or Dont's 24 Studies and Caprices; and the first movement of a Baroque or Classical sonata, or alternatively the first movement of a concerto of the candidate's choice.

FINAL ROUND

Category A - Senior: based on the submitted documentation, the Jury will select a maximum of six candidates for the public final round, lasting no more than 40 minutes per candidate. The programme is free, except for the compulsory work, and may be for solo violin, violin and piano, or violin and orchestra in a violin-and-piano reduction.

Compulsory work, Category A - Senior: F. Mendelssohn, first movement of the Violin Concerto in E minor, Op. 64.

Category B - Junior: a maximum of six candidates will be selected for a public final round lasting no more than 30 minutes per candidate, with a free programme except for the compulsory work, for solo violin, violin and piano, or violin and orchestra in a violin-and-piano reduction.

Compulsory work, Category B – Junior: W. A. Mozart, first movement of Violin Concerto K. 216 in G major.

For the six finalists in each category, the Jury will draw up two rankings of merit at its sole and final discretion. Administrative staff may assist the Jury without voting rights solely for minute-taking. The final performance will take place at the Teatro Comunale di Todi in the presence of the Jury.

DATES AND TIMETABLE

The final round is scheduled for Saturday, 6 March 2027, unless otherwise announced: 9:00 a.m. for Section B – Junior and 2:30 p.m. for Section A – Senior. The organization reserves the right to modify the timetable for organizational reasons and/or reasons of public interest.

The winners of the two categories, who will receive the two historic violins, will perform at the final award concert on Sunday, 7 March 2027 at the Teatro Comunale di Todi, accompanied by the Orchestra Sinfonica Abruzzese, performing the respective compulsory work required for the final round. Attendance at the award concert is compulsory, under penalty of forfeiture of the prize.

Attendance at prize concerts offered by the various concert associations is also compulsory, under penalty of forfeiture of those concerts.

Contemporary Italian luthier violins awarded as prizes must be insured at the winners' own expense. The attached contract template concerns ETAB's loan of its own violins; beneficiaries of contemporary luthier violins will sign a similar agreement under terms freely agreed by the parties.

The detailed practical-test calendar, including times and venues for rehearsals and the final performance, will be sent to the candidates' email addresses and published on the institution's website after the first admission stage and after the ranking has been drawn up. Candidates will then receive performance instructions.

Finalists may use their own accompanist. The organization will nevertheless provide two accompanist pianists free of charge for candidates who request them. The request, together with the final-round programme and piano scores, must be sent to consolazione@etabtodi.it by 10 February 2027, or by another date published on the institution's website. Rehearsals with the two accompanists will take place on Friday afternoon, 5 March 2027, unless otherwise announced.

OTHER INFORMATION

The violin may circulate only within Italy unless authorization is granted by the competent Ministry following a resolution of the Board of Directors of La Consolazione ETAB. Participation is free of charge. No costs are charged to the winner, who is responsible for the proper conservation of the instrument.

Delivery of the instruments and commencement of the loan are subject to completion of all procedures required for the legal protection applicable to cultural heritage under Legislative Decree 42/2004, including the necessary authorization for transfer.

The winner must collect the violin from the institution's headquarters within ten days of notification, under penalty of forfeiture and assignment to the second-ranked candidate. Applicants must verify in advance their legal capacity and suitability to enter into contracts with public bodies.

Documents written in languages other than Italian, English, French or Spanish must be accompanied by a translation into one of those languages. Participants are not entitled to any allowance or reimbursement for travel or accommodation expenses.

Dates, times and the text of this regulation may be changed for organizational reasons or reasons of public interest. Candidates are therefore invited to check the institution's website for any amendments.

For further information: Procedure Officer Dr. Roberto Baldassarri, tel. 075 8942216, email consolazione@etabtodi.it, mobile 389 7632665. Todi, 20 April 2026. The President, Dr. Leonardo Mallozzi.

ANNEX 1 - APPLICATION FORM AND SELF-DECLARATION

CUMULATIVE DECLARATION

To the President of La Consolazione E.T.A.B., Piazza Umberto I, No. 6, 06059 Todi (PG). Subject: Violin Competition "Todi, City of the Violin" 2027.

The undersigned: _____

Born on _____ in _____

Resident in _____ (____), address _____

Country _____ Tax code _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Website and/or social media _____

☐ Acting on my own behalf ☐ Legal representative of the minor: _____

Minor born on _____ in _____; resident in _____
(____); address _____; country _____; tax code _____;
telephone _____; email _____.

Educational qualification required by the notice (Odoardi violin only): _____; obtained at _____; institution _____; date _____.

The applicant submits his/her candidature under the above notice and, pursuant to Italian Presidential Decree 445/2000, being aware of the criminal penalties applicable to false documents and declarations,

REQUESTS

registration for the competition in the following section (delete the section not applicable):

☐ Section A - Senior competitors (16-30) - assignment of Odoardi violin (c. 1780).

☐ Section B - Junior competitors (11-15) - assignment of Tirolean Klotz violin (c. 1750).

DECLARES

• to have legal capacity to contract with Public Administration bodies; • to meet all requirements of the notice; • to possess the physical and psychological fitness required for the relevant professional role; • not to have committed serious safety infringements or serious negligence or bad faith; • to be up to date with contributions, taxes and duties; • not to have made false declarations in public or private documents; • that no prohibitory precautionary measures or prohibitory sanctions exist against the applicant; • to accept, without condition or reservation, all rules and provisions contained in the competition documents; • to have acquired full and exact knowledge of all conditions; • to accept all conditions established in the notice and competition documents and undertake to sign the loan agreement in the form and under the terms established by the granting institution; • to have read the competition documents; • that the submitted video and documentation, including CV and artistic/teaching qualifications, correspond to their content.

The following are attached: 1. copy of a valid, unexpired identity document; 2. curriculum vitae; 3. for Category A only, a detailed list of the most important artistic qualifications (maximum 20).

Todi, _____ Signature (legible) _____

For minors, the form must be signed by the person(s) entitled to represent the minor, jointly or separately as applicable.

ANNEX 2 - PRIVACY INFORMATION AND INFORMED CONSENT

Information on the processing of personal data pursuant to Articles 13 and 14 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of 27 April 2016 (GDPR).

DATA CONTROLLER: La Consolazione Ente Tuderte di Assistenza e Beneficenza (E.T.A.B.), represented by Dr. Leonardo Mallozzi, Piazza Umberto I, 6, 06059 Todi (PG), tel. 075/8942216, fax 075/8949819, email

consolazione@etabtodì.it, PEC consolazione@pec.it.

DATA PROTECTION OFFICER: Avv. Gabriele Borghi.

PURPOSE: processing is solely for the correct and complete performance of the institution's activities and for the related accounting and administrative obligations.

METHODS: data may be collected, recorded, organized, stored, consulted, processed, modified, selected, extracted, compared, used, interconnected, blocked, communicated, erased and destroyed, with or without IT tools, by the Controller, processors and expressly authorized persons.

PROVISION OF DATA: provision of personal, sensitive and judicial data is necessary for the activities described above; refusal may make performance of those activities impossible.

COMMUNICATION: data may be known by authorized processors and, where necessary, communicated to external collaborators and legal, tax and accounting advisers and other persons whose involvement is necessary for the proper performance of the activities. Data are not disseminated.

TRANSFERS ABROAD: ETAB does not transfer collected personal data to EU or non-EU countries.

RETENTION: data are retained for the period necessary for the activities and in any event no longer than ten years, as indicated in the processing register under Article 30 of the GDPR.

DATA SUBJECT RIGHTS: access, rectification, erasure, restriction and objection; receipt of data in a structured, commonly used and machine-readable format; withdrawal of consent without affecting the lawfulness of processing based on consent before withdrawal; and the right to lodge a complaint with the Italian Data Protection Authority.

Rights may be exercised by written communication via PEC to consolazione@pec.it or registered letter with return receipt to Piazza Umberto I, 6, 06059 Todi (PG).

CONSENT: I, the undersigned, having been informed of the identity of the Controller and DPO, the purposes, methods, provision, communication, foreign transfer, retention and rights described above, hereby consent, pursuant to Article 7 et seq. of Regulation (EU) 2016/679, to the processing of my personal data within the limits and according to the methods described in the information notice.

Place/date _____ Signature _____

ANNEX 3 - MOVABLE PROPERTY LOAN AGREEMENT

VIOLIN COMPETITION "Todi, City of the Violin" – LOAN AGREEMENT (pursuant to Article 1803 of the Italian Civil Code).

The year two thousand and twenty-five, on 5 March, between La Consolazione E.T.A.B., Todi (PG), Piazza Umberto I, 6, tax code 00457290542, represented by the President and legal representative pro tempore Dr. Leonardo Mallozzi, and _____, hereinafter the Borrower.

Having regard to the relevant resolutions of ETAB's Board of Directors approving the "TODI, CITY OF THE VIOLIN" project, held in Todi on 5–6–7 March 2027;

Whereas ETAB owns, among other assets, two late-eighteenth-century violins, one by an anonymous Tirolean maker attributed to Klotz and one by Odoardi; and whereas, following the comparative procedure, the violin _____ was assigned to _____ so that it may be played and preserved properly in accordance with the recommendations of master luthier Heyligers;

Article 1 – Recitals. The recitals form an integral and essential part of this agreement.

Article 2 – Subject. La Consolazione E.T.A.B., as lender, grants to the Borrower, who accepts, the free loan of the ETAB-owned late-eighteenth-century Odoardi violin.

Article 3 – Duration. The loan begins on _____, after authorization by the Superintendency, and continues until the instrument is returned for the next edition of Todi, City of the Violin, scheduled for March 2029, presumptively by the end of February 2029. The return dates are indicative because the loan is granted on a precarious basis without a fixed term. Commencement is subject to the authorization for transfer by the Superintendency and, where required, the insurer's clearance. The winner must collect the violin on _____ March 2027 within the indicated period, unless otherwise agreed with the owner, under penalty of forfeiture and assignment to the second-ranked candidate.

Each year, where appropriate and in agreement with master luthier Mathijs Adriaan Heyligers, the condition of the violin must be checked. If maintenance is required because of negligence or improper care by the Borrower, the related costs shall be borne by the Borrower. In any event, by the end of January 2029 the Borrower must take the instrument to Maestro Heyligers in Cremona, Piazzetta San Pantaleone 6, 26100 Cremona, for inspection.

Article 4 – Use. The violin must be played regularly during the loan period and may not be used for purposes other than musical practice. The Borrower may not sub-loan it or use it outside his/her home, residence or studio, or outside the concert programme submitted to the Superintendency. The violin must be kept with the utmost care, in good faith and in accordance with the insurance policies arranged by the owner.

Article 5 – Obligations. The Borrower shall play the instrument and keep it in a suitable, dry environment away from heat sources. Dust must be avoided, as it can encourage mites, and significant thermal shocks must be avoided. Movement of the instrument must comply with the Superintendency's requirements under Legislative Decree 42/2004. The Borrower undertakes to exercise perfect custody and supervision with the utmost care and releases ETAB from liability for improper use causing damage to persons, property or animals.

The Borrower releases the owner from liability connected with use of the loaned property. ETAB bears any statutory registration costs. No restoration or maintenance may be undertaken or authorized independently without the consent of ETAB, the Superintendency and the master luthier appointed by ETAB. Where possible, the Borrower shall identify ETAB as owner in communications concerning the instrument. No third party may possess or use the violin without authorization from ETAB and, where necessary, the competent Superintendency.

Any damage caused to the violin during the agreement shall be charged to the Borrower, together with all resulting costs and expenses, except in cases of force majeure, unforeseeable circumstances or acts of third parties. The Borrower is not entitled to reimbursement of expenses for use of the property unless ETAB expressly agrees in writing and in the legally required form.

Article 6 – Termination. Improper use, violation of the owner's or Superintendency's requirements, inadequate care or supervision gives the owner the right to terminate the agreement by exercising the

express termination clause. The owner may also always request return of the instrument for reasons of protection of the cultural asset and/or public interest. Withdrawal from the concerts awarded as prizes is also grounds for termination.

Article 7 – Domicile and jurisdiction. For all purposes, including service of enforcement documents and jurisdiction, the Borrower elects domicile at _____. In the event of a dispute, the parties agree that the competent court is Terni.

Article 8 – Privacy. The lender and Borrower mutually authorize communication of their personal data to third parties in connection with obligations arising from the relationship.

Article 9 – Reference. ETAB will register the agreement where required. For matters not covered, the parties refer to the Italian Civil Code and other applicable laws. Read, approved and signed.

Lender: La Consolazione Ente Tuderte di Assistenza e Beneficenza – President and legal representative Dr. Leonardo Mallozzi. Borrower: _____.

ANNEX – GOOD PRACTICES / GUIDELINES FOR USE AND MAINTENANCE

- Always handle the instrument carefully, holding it only by the neck.
- Keep it in an environment with moderate temperature and humidity; avoid extreme temperatures and low humidity.
- In dry conditions caused by air conditioning or very dry heating, use a Dampit humidifier while the instrument is in its closed case.
- Always clean the instrument after use with two clean soft cloths: one for parts in contact with rosin and one for the rest of the instrument.
- When not playing, always place the violin in its case and close it, ensuring that the bow(s) is/are correctly inserted and secured.
- Always use the protective cover/case cover.
- Change strings regularly, one at a time, ensuring that the bridge remains correctly positioned.
- Ensure that the bridge remains upright and forms a 90-degree angle with the soundboard on the tailpiece side.
- To straighten the bridge, do not manipulate the bridge directly; pull the strings one at a time beyond the bridge.
- In case of any damage, even slight, or any doubt such as an opening seam, contact the owner's trusted luthier, currently Maestro Heyligers.
- Have the instrument inspected once a year by the trusted luthier for maintenance and condition assessment.
- Promptly inform La Consolazione ETAB that the annual inspection has taken place or that the luthier has been contacted because of damage or a doubt.

ANNUAL MAINTENANCE FORM - G. ODOARDI VIOLIN

Instrument: G. Odoardi Ascoli violin, c. 1780

Entrusted to: _____ Date: _____

Declared value: €40,000.00 Insured by: LARK London Policy no.: _____

Trusted luthier: _____ Date of last inspection: _____

Maintenance inspection date: _____

Updated instrument value: _____

Condition assessment: _____

Borrower's use comments: _____

Routine maintenance carried out: _____

Extraordinary work carried out: _____

Comments: _____

Signed on _____ Master Luthier _____

ANNUAL MAINTENANCE FORM - TIROLEAN VIOLIN ATTRIBUTED TO KLOTZ

Instrument: Anonymous Tirolean violin attributed to Klotz (second half of the 18th century)

Entrusted to: _____ Date: _____

Declared value: €30,000.00 Insured by: LARK London

Policy: LARK019303MUSIC (Lark Musical Instruments Insurance Policy Ref. LARK019303MUSIC; Client No. 67503661)

Trusted luthier: Maestro Mathijs A. Heyligers Date of last inspection: _____

Maintenance inspection date: _____

Updated instrument value: _____

Condition assessment: _____

Borrower's use comments: _____

Routine maintenance carried out: _____

Extraordinary work carried out: _____

Comments: _____

Signed on _____ Master Luthier _____

THE VIOLINS OF TODI AND THE SARDOLI BEQUEST

La Consolazione ETAB, formerly the Istituzioni Riunite di Beneficenza and, before that, the Congregazione di Carità di Todi founded by the Priors of Todi during the Renaissance, inherited two violins as part of the Sardoli family bequest.

The Sardoli family of Todi is generically listed in the 1922 Official Italian Nobiliary List with the title of patrician of Todi (male and female), for the descendants of Paolo. The family is mentioned by Marchese Vittorio Spreti in the *Enciclopedia Storico-Nobiliare Italiana*, printed in Milan in 1936, which collected heraldic and genealogical manuscripts from public and private libraries and archives. The collected evidence was transmitted by the family itself and is also reflected in the *Rivista Araldica* published by the Collegio Araldico di Roma.

Tradition relates that in 1472 the Ghibellines took the castle of Camerata, a Todi outpost, which became a stronghold of the followers of Altobello Chiaravalle. After their expulsion from Todi, they gathered there from 1483 to 1499. In that year Altobello was killed at Acquasparta. In subsequent centuries the castle, because of its position and surrounding woods, became a pleasant holiday location. Among those who stayed there in the early seventeenth century were members of the Sardoli family.

Reminders of the benefactor family are still visible on ETAB property, particularly in the former Palazzo della Congregazione di Carità di Todi, now the scientific high school, where the lily and eight-pointed star motifs decorating the loggia are the heraldic emblems of the Laurenti and Sardoli families, united in the sixteenth century by the marriage of Judge Paolo Laurenti and Francesca Sardoli. One of the chapels at the Tempio di San Fortunato in Todi, where the remains of Jacopone da Todi lie, is still known as the Sardoli Chapel.

The violins also belonged to the assets of the Opera Pia Monte dell'Onestà, as shown by the institution's inventories. The Opera Pia originated in 1601 from a donation of four thousand scudi by Bishop Angelo Cesi, executed before notary and chancellor Giovanni Celi on 11 November 1601. The donation was increased by the inheritance of Francesco degli Atti, as recorded in the will executed by Giovanni di Maria Tedeschini on 13 May 1608.

The Opera Pia was intended to distribute annual dowries to poor young women from Todi and its surrounding territory and to provide care and support for poor, sick or work-incapable unmarried women of the Municipality of Todi. It was administered by the noble confraternity known as the Congregazione di Carità di Todi, founded by Francesco degli Atti in the sixteenth century and governed by the Priors of Todi. Administration continued until 1938, when the Istituzioni Riunite di Beneficenza were established under the Crispi framework; the charitable institutions administered by the IRB became the present La Consolazione ETAB in 2003.

THE ODOARDI VIOLIN - "IL VILLAN D'ASCOLI"

The ETAB-owned violin was made by Giuseppe Odoardi, known as "Il Villan D'Ascoli", as confirmed by the institution's records and more recently by an expert from the English auction house Amati during a workshop in Perugia in 2020. In 1921, the archives of the Congregazione di Carità record an instruction to the then President, lawyer Giulio Pensi, to sell the violins from the Sardoli inheritance. The President reported that the sale was prevented by the need for ministerial authorizations and that the matter therefore had to be submitted to the Regional Directorate of Antiquities and Fine Arts. In April 1921 the Council instructed the President to complete the relevant procedures, but the sale was never carried out.

The violin was requested for a prestigious international exhibition on classical viola and violin making held in Ascoli from 20 to 27 September 1959 and promoted by ANLAI (Associazione Nazionale Liuteria Artistica Italiana). It was described as highly admired by expert luthiers, violin specialists and the public. Its small size may indicate that it was commissioned for a child of a wealthy family, although how it entered the Sardoli family's assets is unknown. The ANLAI note, signed by Prof. Dr. Gioacchino Pasqualini, then President of ANLAI, states that it was one of the few Odoardi examples existing in Italy and should therefore be carefully preserved.

After half a century of obscurity, the violin was restored in 2022 with support from Umbra Acque S.p.A. through Art Bonus, by Maestro Heyligers.

Giuseppe Odoardi was born in the small hamlet of Poggio di Bretta near Ascoli in April 1746. As a child he helped his father Antonio with agricultural work and, in his spare time, repaired chairs, barrels, firearms and tools for farmers in the surrounding area. Tradition says that one day Giuseppe repaired a damaged violin and, wishing to discover the secrets of its construction, dismantled it and drew its parts in charcoal on a wall at home. He then decided to build one himself, using suitable tools and wood.

From that point Odoardi's production became increasingly prolific and refined. His first instruments were sold to buyers in Poggio di Bretta and, being recognized for good workmanship and excellent tone, soon spread to Ascoli. His reputation as "Il Villan d'Ascoli" became such that the celebrated Bohemian violinist Giuseppe Sieber, then living in Offida, wanted to meet him. Sieber bought three violins after having his own instrument repaired by Odoardi.

Odoardi's instruments are admired for the elegance and sweetness of their sound. Their very thin backs and soundboards make them fragile and prone to breakage, so surviving examples are relatively rare. He used particular varnishes and woods such as plane, beech and maple. It is estimated that "Il Villan d'Ascoli" made about fifty violins, cellos and violas. His instruments are now sought after and sold at high prices, especially in Central Europe, Germany and England.

Odoardi remains relatively little known in Italy because he did not establish a true school of violin making. He died in 1796, aged only forty, in Poggio di Bretta. He signed many instruments by hand in iron-coloured ink. Surviving labels include "Joseph Odoardi fecit Asculi 1770", "Joseph Odoardi in Piceno prope Asculum 1785" and "Joseph Odoardi fecit prope Asculum An. 1785. De Ligno Platano". A fine Odoardi violin can also be admired at the San Maurizio church/Museo della Musica in Venice, in the collection of Maestro Artemio Versari. Rare Odoardi violins appear in the catalogues of major international auction houses, including Sotheby's.

THE TIROLEAN VIOLIN ATTRIBUTED TO KLOTZ

The second violin belongs to the Klotz school of Mittenwald, Germany. According to master luthier Rodolfo Fredi of Rome, born in Todi, the Sardoli family violin is probably attributable to Sebastian Klotz.

Rodolfo Fredi (Todi, 18 June 1861 – Rome, 22 February 1950) was an Italian luthier. Of noble lineage, he was Count Rodolfo Fredi and learned violin making from his father, Count Fabio Fredi. He moved to Rome to study violin at the Conservatorio di Santa Cecilia with Ettore Pinelli and opened a workshop at Via Vicenza 24 in 1885. His pupils included Vittorio Bellarosa, Giorgio Corsini and Gioacchino Pasqualini, founder of the Associazione Nazionale Liuteria Artistica Italiana. Fredi also had a decisive influence on the vocation of the young Pietro Capodiecì. He received awards in Turin in 1911 and Rome in 1917, participated in the 1937 Cremona exhibition and was elected president of the Association of Roman Luthiers in 1927.

Rodolfo Fredi made approximately 450 violins, 70 violas and 50 cellos, as well as some double basses and violas da gamba. His Stradivari-model violins are valued for excellent workmanship and the quality of wood from Tyrol and the Abruzzo mountains. His varnish was oil-based. His instruments can reach values of €30,000. Labels are recognizable by the wording "Rodolfo Fredi fece / in Roma l'anno 19..".

Todi master luthier Cesare Toppetti, who died in December 2020, maintained a long friendship and professional relationship with Fredi and Pasqualini, documented by correspondence and especially by lutherie drawings and models supplied to the Todi luthier.

Klotz is a family of luthiers who have made violins in Mittenwald, Germany, from the mid-seventeenth century to the present day. Edward John Payne wrote that most instruments circulating as "Stainers" were made by the Klotz family and their followers. In 1856 the Bavarian government founded a school in Mittenwald to consolidate and continue the violin-making tradition. Mittenwald is also known as the "Cremona of Tyrol".

The instruments of Sebastian I (1696–1768) are among the most admired examples of the family's work. Some instruments identified as his carry his father's label. Typical labels include "Sebastian Klotz a Mittenwald an der Iser 1734", "Sebastian Klotz, a Mittenwald, nel 1743" and "Seb. G. Klotz a Mittenwald, 1732".

The anonymous Tirolean violin attributed to Klotz was restored, also thanks to Art Bonus support from Farchioni Olii S.p.A., between 2024 and 2025 on the occasion of the first edition of the Todi, City of the Violin biennial.

TODI, CITY OF THE VIOLIN - MEMORY

For the first edition, special prizes were established in collaboration with the families. In keeping with the importance of remembrance, ETAB's administration has dedicated the first prizes of this second edition to Elisabetta Scappini and Cesare Toppetti.

Elisabetta Scappini – Violinist. On the seventh anniversary of her death, and following a proposal by Artistic Director Prof. Luca Venturi, La Consolazione ETAB of Todi commemorates Prof. Elisabetta Scappini, violinist and teacher at the "Cocchi-Aosta" middle school, by establishing a prize in her name. An unforgettable teacher and cultural promoter, she left an indelible mark on Todi's musical life, organizing events that enriched the education and sensitivity of generations. In particular, ETAB remembers the national prize "Jacopone da Todi – New Music for Schools", promoted by the "Cocchi-Aosta" middle school at her initiative. The prize is intended as a tribute to her commitment and as encouragement for young people to cultivate their talent through the beauty of music.

Cesare Toppetti – Todi Master Luthier. Cesare Toppetti, a highly respected Todi master luthier, died in December 2020 at the age of 84. He was regarded as a true master in the making of wooden musical instruments, especially violins and violas, which were sought by many professional musicians for their refined workmanship and the sound they produced.

Arcangelo De Alexandris said of him that Toppetti leaves a great legacy of valuable musical instruments; that he was a luthier of outstanding stature to whom orchestra masters turned for instruments, sometimes customized, and that his creations would challenge time, perhaps centuries. The Confraternita di San Giuseppe – Università dei Falegnami di Todi remembered him as a master of the centuries-old Todi woodworking tradition, an unforgettable confraternity member known for irony and a

passion for singing, whose violins had been given a celestial sound.

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HALL OF FAME - WINNERS OF PREVIOUS EDITIONS

2023 – Indro Borreani (single category, awarded the Odoardi violin).

2025 – Brando Maria Medici (Junior category, awarded the Tirolean violin attributed to Klotz).

2025 – Sofia De Martis (Senior category, awarded the Odoardi violin).

APPENDIX - VIDEOS AND ONLINE INFORMATION

Video: <https://etabtodit.it/notizie/2752444/todi-citta-violino-raccontata-protagonisti>

Todi, City of the Violin 2025:

<https://etabtodit.it/contenuti/3246842/todi-citta-violino-21-22-23-febbraio-2025>

Todi, City of the Violin 2027: <https://etabtodit.it/contenuti/3536437/todi-citta-violino-2027>

Lutherie Exhibition: <https://etabtodit.it/contenuti/3561445/mostra-liuteria-todi-citta-violino-2027>

Art Bonus 2025: the violins awarded in the first 2025 edition were restored through the Art Bonus scheme, with contributions from Umbra Acque S.p.A., Farchioni Olii S.p.A., Agromarket, Top Melon and Fondazione Perugia.