

1 [Caffé Trieste Day - April 1, 2021]

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3 **Resolution designating April 1, 2021, as “Caffé Trieste Day” in the City and County of**
4 **San Francisco, on the occasion of the beloved North Beach institution’s 65th**
5 **anniversary.**

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7 WHEREAS, Giovanni Giotta (also lovingly known as “Papa Gianni”) emigrated to the
8 United States of America from Italy in 1951, found a job through the goodwill and mutual aid
9 of the brotherhood at Saints Peter and Paul Church and saved up enough funds as a window
10 washer to open Caffé Trieste in 1956; and

11 WHEREAS, American coffee culture of the 1950’s focused on instant coffee that
12 families brewed at home, usually with pre-ground beans lacking flavor; and

13 WHEREAS, Papa Gianni missed the rich flavors of the fresh espresso brewed in
14 Trieste, Italy, as well as the artistic and social atmosphere of the café culture there, which
15 hosted literary ex-patriots such as James Joyce and Italo Svevo, so when the opportunity
16 came to take over Piccola Café at 601 Vallejo Street in San Francisco’s North Beach, Papa
17 Gianni founded Caffé Trieste, which became the first espresso coffeehouse on the West
18 Coast; and

19 WHEREAS, Caffé Trieste became the epicenter of the Beat movement in San
20 Francisco’s North Beach throughout the 1950’s and 1960’s, with patrons that included
21 Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Alan Watts, Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, Richard Brautigan, Gregory
22 Corso and Kenneth Rexroth, to name a few; and

23 WHEREAS, Caffé Trieste has long hosted an array of artists as regular patrons
24 through the present day, including San Francisco Poet Laureate, Jack Hirschman; Pulitzer
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1 Prize winning photographer, Joe Rosenthal; Academy Award winning director, Francis Ford
2 Coppola; Jefferson Airplane musician, Paul Kantner; and local visual artist, Jeremy Fish; and

3 WHEREAS, Caffé Trieste became a San Francisco Legacy Business in 2016; and

4 WHEREAS, Caffé Trieste continues to host the “Caffé Trieste Saturday Concert”, the
5 longest running musical show in San Francisco and one of the oldest in the country; and

6 WHEREAS, Caffé Trieste has endeared itself to the broader community not just for its
7 perfectly executed and authentic espresso drinks, but also for catering to and caring for North
8 Beach’s eclectic cast of poets, artists, musicians, and eccentrics; and

9 WHEREAS, Caffé Trieste has continued to be a family-run business since its founding
10 in 1956, and now, in its 65th year of serving the community, is a 100% woman-owned
11 business, after being officially taken over by Papa Gianni’s granddaughter, Ida Pantaleo
12 Zoubi, and her aunt, Adrienne Giotta; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco do
14 hereby designate April 1, 2021 as “Caffé Trieste Day” in San Francisco, on the occasion of
15 the beloved North Beach institution’s 65th Anniversary; and, be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
17 Francisco honor Ida Pantaleo Zoubi and Adrienne Giotta during Women’s History Month, for
18 maintaining this community treasure and ensuring it continues to bring people together over
19 music, laughter, and a good cappuccino for decades to come.

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