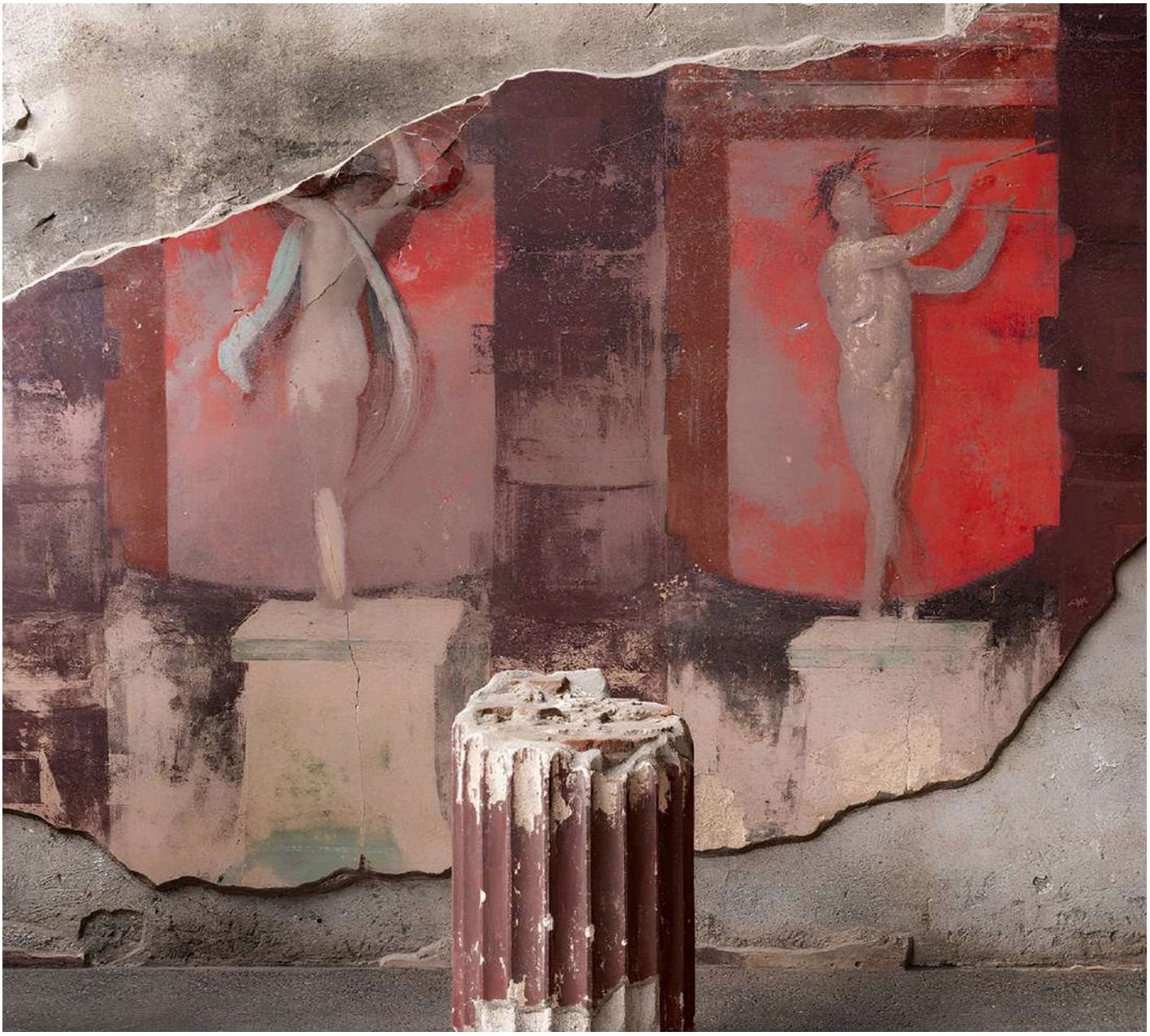
2025

ANCIENT ROME LIVE
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR ROMAN CULTURE

ANCIENT ROME LIVE
Annual Report




ANCIENT
ROME
LIVE

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

If 2024 felt like the world was finally catching up to ancient Rome, 2025 was the year we proved we could set the pace.

This was the most expansive year in Ancient Rome Live's history. We awarded eleven ECL Grants to archaeological and conservation projects across three continents -- five in Italy, six beyond: Tunisia, Morocco, Libya, Albania, Jordan, and North Macedonia. The Roman world was never just Italy, and our grant portfolio now reflects that. Watching this program grow from a single landmark gift into an international force for archaeological scholarship has been one of the great privileges of my career.

It was also the year board member Professor Fred S. Kleiner bequeathed his extensive photo collection documenting the Roman world. A dedicated website will open this visual archive to scholars and the public alike, and will be a lasting tribute to Fred's distinguished legacy and a genuine addition to ARL's educational resources.

In the spring, Rome's Mayor Roberto Gualtieri joined us in person, and Elon Musk joined remotely, for a press conference that announced the next chapter of the ECL program. The room felt like what it was: a turning point for what private philanthropy can do for the ancient world.

Our annual fall fundraiser exceeded its $60,000 matching goal. And in December, the Musk Foundation awarded Ancient Rome Live another $1 million, which means 2026 will bring eight to nine new and continuing ECL awards. That still feels a little unreal, if I'm being honest.

Our content, lectures, and travel programs continued to grow. But what drives all of it remains the same: the belief that the ancient world is not behind us. It is everywhere around us, waiting to be explored.

Thank you for being part of ARL. The best is still ahead.

Darius Arya

FOUNDER & DIRECTOR



ABOUT ANCIENT ROME LIVE

Ancient Rome Live, part of the American Institute for Roman Culture, is a free online learning platform dedicated to the ancient Roman world and, unlike most, we teach from inside it and on site. Our original content is filmed on-site at museums, archaeological parks, and monuments across Italy and beyond, made possible by our ongoing partnerships with leading cultural institutions.

Our platform includes in-depth videos, published on the Ancient Rome Live YouTube channel (@AncientRomeLive), and a searchable topic index with more than 300 entries and articles. Twice monthly, we host free free live stream seminars and Masterclasses open to everyone, everywhere. We also take it further and in the field with week-long, full-immersion travel courses in Rome and the Bay of Naples, studying ancient sites in person.

Bringing the ancient world to you- free, open, and built for everyone. That's the commitment behind everything we create and every collaboration we pursue.



Education & Digital Outreach

Over a decade of original video content, all in one place. Browse more than 300 videos filmed on location at archaeological sites, museums, and monuments across the ancient world — covering Roman history, archaeology, daily life, culture and news from every angle.

The Videos

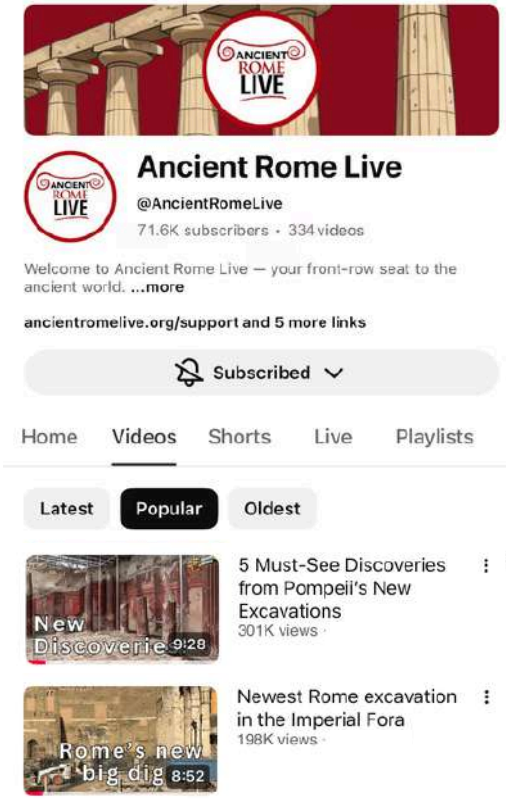
Our Youtube channel **@AncientRomeLive** produced and published:

- 46 original videos
- 3 engaging live- stream fundraising walk with 6K total views

The Analytics

The numbers are in and 2025 was a great year!

- 2.3M views
- 11.9K new subscribers
- 129.8K watched hours
- 51.9K likes
- 1.7K comments



Our three most-watched videos tell their own story about what resonates:

- *5 Must-See Discoveries From Pompeii - 07/25/2025* (301K views) offered an exclusive look at recent discoveries in Insula 10, Regio IX. Examining the frescoes of the house of Thiasos
- *Newest Rome Excavations - 06/02/2025* (198k views) spotlighted the excavations at the historic Via Alessandrina, all part of a new initiative to reformat the presentation of the Fori Imperiali
- *Roman Prison - 08/25/2025* (86k views) explored the dark, cramped chamber that held Rome's most dangerous enemies



The Kleiner Photographic Collection

Ancient Rome Live is proud to announce a landmark gift: tens of thousands of photographs donated by Professor Fred S. Kleiner, Professor Emeritus of History of Art & Architecture at Boston University, co-founder of its Department of Archaeology, and Editor-in-Chief of the American Journal of Archaeology from 1985 to 1998. He is the author of more than one hundred articles, reviews, and books. Professor Kleiner is one of the field's most distinguished voices and a longtime benefactor, collaborator, and member of the ARL Board of Trustees.

Professor Kleiner's decision to entrust this extensive photographic archive to Ancient Rome Live is a significant act of generosity. The images span archaeological sites, museums, monuments, and artifacts across the Mediterranean world. This collection will form the foundation of a new educational microsite, making this remarkable visual record freely accessible to scholars, students, educators, and the wider public for the first time.







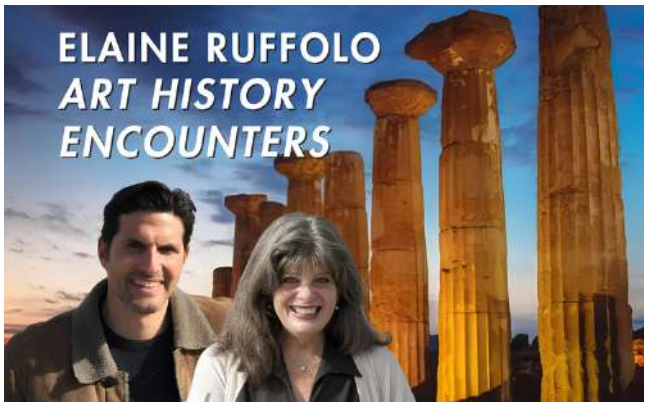


Meet-up at the MET

On June 16, Ancient Rome Live hosted a meet-up at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. During a special exploration of the Greek and Roman Galleries, including the Leon Levy and Shelby White Court. Director Darius Arya highlighted some of his favorite works from the collection, shared updates from Ancient Rome Live, and answered questions about the ancient world. The event was also filmed to support an upcoming online virtual seminar dedicated to exploring the Met's renowned Greek and Roman collection.

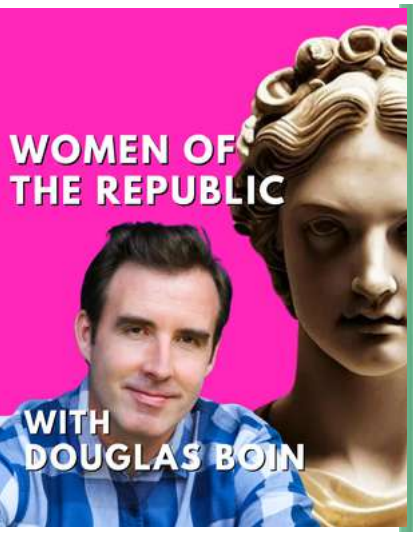
Collaborative Live Talk

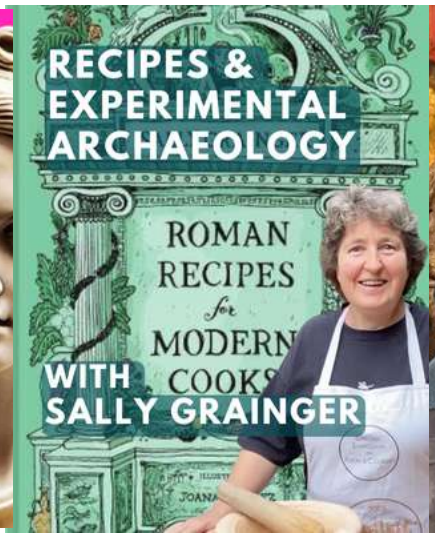
Art Encounters with Art Historian Elaine Ruffalo was a discussion entitled Echoes of the Past: The Greek Legacy in Sicily and exploring how Sicily became the western stage for Greek ambition, rivalry, and cultural identity



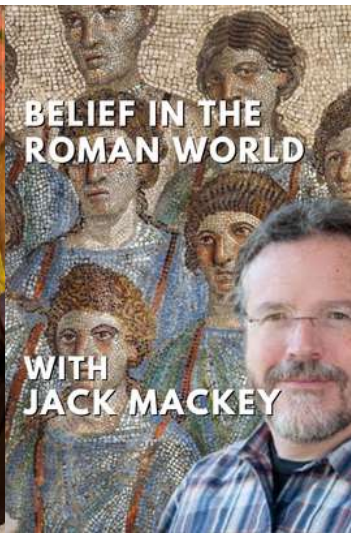
Seminars & Masterclasses

Ancient Rome Live continues to host free, expert-led online seminars and conversations. In fall 2025, we changed up the program, brining in monthly guest experts for one-hour Masterclasses. Our guests this year included leading scholars, archaeologists, and researchers such as Douglas Boin, Jake Mackey, and Sally Grainger









JANUARY
- The Sack of Rome
- Medieval Rome
- Masterclass: Marbles of the Roman world

FEBRUARY
- New Discoveries in Pompeii
- Lupercalia
- Masterclass: Mamertine Prison

MARCH
- Golden Age Poets of Rome
- Masterclass: Rome's Spice Markets

APRIL
- Hall of Heralds
- Malta of the Crusaders
- Masterclass: Aquileia

MAY
- The Early Papacy in Rome
- Curia Iliua
- Masterclass: The Reuse of Ancient Spaces in Rome

JUNE
- Exploring Empire and Eternity in Egypt
- Masterclass: Crossroads of Empire Eastern Sicily

JULY
- Roman Art at the MET
- VICUS AD CARINAS: A New Road into the Roman Forum

AUGUST
- Masterclass: Imperial Crisis of the Third Century

SEPTEMBER
- The Constitutio Antoniniana
- Masterclass: Women and The Republic with Douglas Boin

OCTOBER
- The Roman Trophy
- Masterclass Roman Recipes with Sally Grainger

NOVEMBER
- Up and close with the column of Marcus Aurelius
- Masterclass: Is Pompeii really worth it? with Mimi Palomino

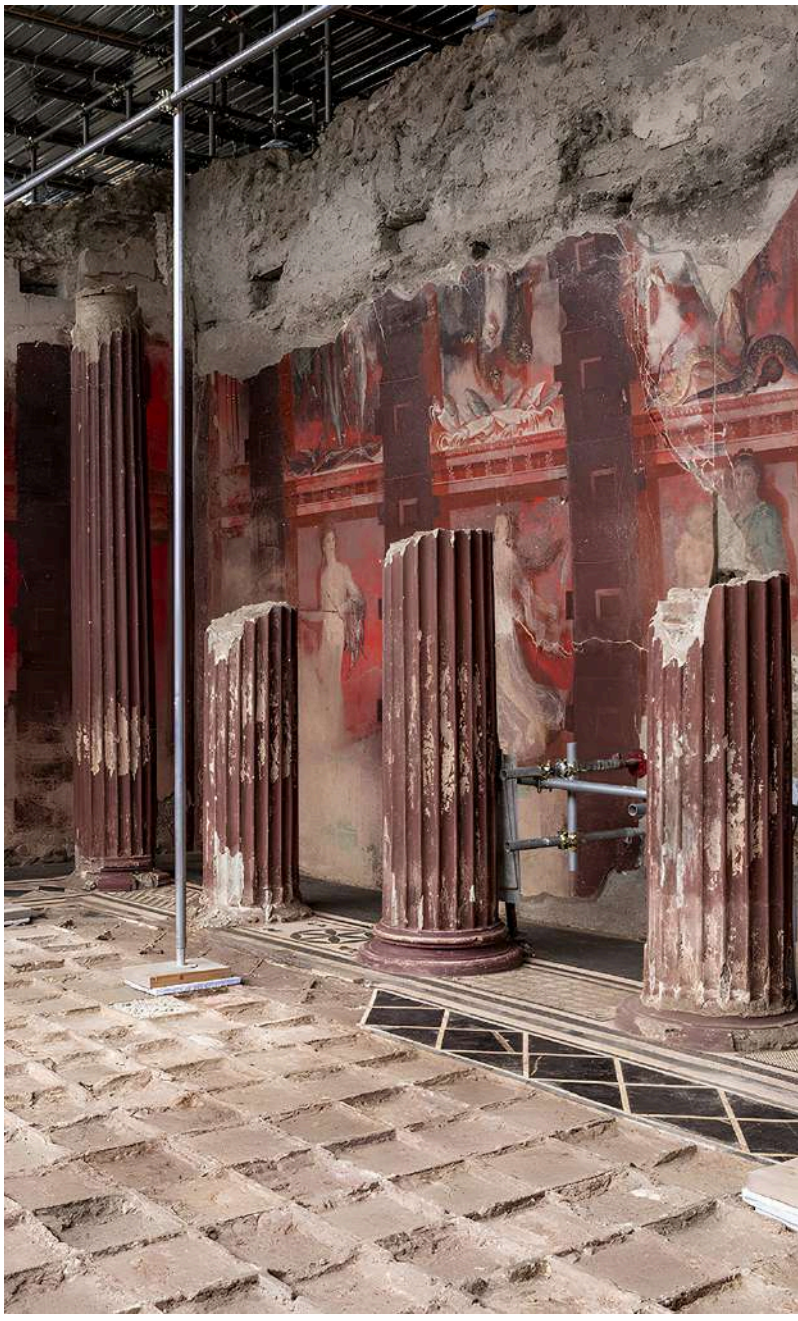
DECEMBER
- Roman Ritual: From Pagan to Christian
- Masterclass: Belief in the Roman World with Jacob Mackey



On-site Filming & Archaeological Work

Ancient Rome Live films original content on location: inside museums, archaeological parks, monuments, and active excavation sites across the ancient world. We don't just document these places; we partner with the institutions and teams that protect them, helping to amplify their work and bring it to a global audience.

Pompeii - Special Access



In 2025, Darius Arya and the Ancient Rome Live team explored the incredible discoveries at Insula 10 in Pompeii's Region IX, where an important excavation is currently underway, revealing an elaborate dining room decorated with mythological frescoes, a sophisticated private bath complex, and remarkable evidence of the city's final phase of construction—interrupted abruptly by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Together, these discoveries offer a rare glimpse into both the artistic ambitions and everyday lives of Pompeii's inhabitants on the eve of the disaster.

A highlight of the excavation is a series of large-scale megalographia paintings depicting dancing Bacchantes, satyrs playing double flutes, and the nocturnal initiation into the cult of Dionysus.

Other rooms include a reception room decorated with scenes from the Trojan War, a household shrine (sacrarium) depicting the four seasons, and a private bath complex. The baths offer archaeologists a fascinating window into the sophisticated hydraulic engineering the Romans employed, revealing the complex systems that brought water, heat, and luxury into the domestic sphere.

The Ides of March- Behind the Scenes



Every year, the Gruppo Storico Romano commemorates Julius Caesar's assassination on March 15, 44 BCE, in Rome's Sacred Area at Largo Argentina, near the site traditionally identified as Pompey's Curia. They bring the conspiracy and assassination alive through a dramatic, costumed, Shakespearean reenactment.

In 2025, Ancient Rome Live was granted exclusive access to film the event, with Director Darius Arya going behind the scenes to meet the actors who bring this pivotal moment in Roman history to life.

Paestum- Special Access

In February, ARL Director Darius Arya visited Paestum, the remarkably preserved ancient city on Italy's Tyrrhenian coast, best known for its three Greek temples that have stood virtually intact for over two thousand years. Site Director Dr. Tiziana D'Angelo led Arya through the archaeological park and its newly restored museum, including the basement storerooms and an updated Roman section that reframes how visitors understand the site's long history. The visit also included the latest excavations and an evaluation of the Late Roman baths, ongoing work that quietly reshapes our understanding of Paestum's evolution, revealing a city that remained a vital center well into the Roman period and beyond.



Excavations

Cardito Vecchio

The Castrum of Cardito Vecchio at Vallerotonda appeared on historical maps for centuries but had never been systematically excavated. Surface surveys beginning in June 2024 changed that, revealing substantial late medieval remains, including a square-plan tower, walls, and ceramic fragments, and hinting at a much longer story beneath.

Excavations led by Professor Michele Raddi, with the involvement of Darius Arya and Ancient Rome Live, are now bearing that out. Finds spanning prehistoric flint, possible Samnite material, Roman evidence, and medieval pottery confirm the site was occupied across multiple periods. Its strategic position at the crossroads of ancient routes connecting transhumance, pastoral movement, and commercial travel made it a natural point of passage and control for millennia.

The municipality envisions the site as a future hub for cultural tourism and international archaeological collaboration, with opportunities for U.S. university students and researchers to join excavations. Arya has highlighted both its exceptional setting and its potential as a focus for a 2026 international project with ARL.



Prof. Michele Raddi and colleague conducting survey of the site of Cardio Vecchio



Academic Engagement

Ancient Rome Live participates in conferences, delivers lectures, and collaborates with researchers and institutions worldwide! Bringing the latest scholarly thinking on the ancient world to audiences far beyond the lecture hall.

Archaeology and Research in the "Colli a Volturno Area"

Ancient Rome Live's commitment to cultural partnerships extends beyond Rome and through the expanse of the Empire. In May 2025, ARL Director Darius Arya participated in the launch of a new scholarly volume, *Archaeology and Research in the Colli and Volturno Area in Isernia* — a study of the ancient topography and territorial development of the region across multiple historical periods.

The event, organized by Volturnia Edizioni, Fidapa Isernia, and Auser Isernia under the patronage of the Municipality of Isernia, opened with remarks from Ida Di Ianni, President of Fidapa Isernia, and Franco Capone, President of Auser Isernia. Presentations by Professor Michele Raddi of Udayana University and archaeologist Andrea Ceccarelli were accompanied by a contribution from Arya, a reflection of ARL's ongoing investment in regional Italian scholarship and the communities working to bring it to wider attention.



Prof. Michele Raddi (left), Mayor Giovanni Di Meo, and Dr.Darius Arya (right) with conference attendees



Grants

In 2025, Ancient Rome Live received two grants from organizations that share our commitment to bringing the ancient world to everyone, free, open, and without barriers.

A+E Networks
A&E Networks awarded Ancient Rome Live a **$15,000 grant** in support of original YouTube video content.

The Musk Foundation
In December 2025, the Musk Foundation awarded Ancient Rome Live its second **$1 million** to further *Expandere Conscientiae Lumen* (ECL) grant program which funds innovative archaeological and conservation work across the Mediterranean.



Expandere Conscientiae Lumen

In January 2025, Ancient Rome Live announced a landmark $1 million grant from the Musk Foundation in support of the Expandere Conscientiae Lumen (ECL) initiative, ARL's flagship program funding archaeological fieldwork, conservation, and the application of new technologies to the study of the ancient Roman world. The grant represents the most significant single investment in the program to date, and positions ARL to fund a new and expanded cohort of projects across the Mediterranean and beyond. The following projects were selected as part of the 2025–2026 ECL grant cycle:

Archaeology

- Aquinum, Italy: Speleology and archaeology for the study of the hydraulic systems of the Roman theater
- Numluli, Tunisia: Training the next generation of archaeologists in Tunisia
- Pozzuoli, Italy: Underwater research in the submerged Roman harbour

Digital Heritage

- Petra, Jordan: An initiative to digitally preserve Jordan’s Greco-Roman sites.
- Rome, Italy: A project to document and digitally preserve (for conservation studies) the Column of Marcus Aurelius.

Innovation Studies

- Pompeii, Italy: A research initiative focusing on the pigments used in ancient Pompeii
- Pompeii, Italy: La Sapienza Digitex Roma Project for the study, conservation, and digital enhancement of the textile heritage of the Roman Empire

Site Conservation

- Butrint, Albania: Conservation of religious monuments
- Cyrene, Libya: The documentation and preservation of the world heritage site of Cyrene
- Meknes, Morocco: Promoting Roman Archaeological Heritage
- Stobi, North Macedonia: The Conservation of the Theodosian Palace of Stobi

The Projects



AQUINUM, ITALY

A thriving colonial city in the Liri Valley along the Via Latina, Aquinum was famed for its strategic location, purple dye production, and as the birthplace of the poet Juvenal. Led by the University of Salento with technical support from Roma Sotterranea, ongoing research focuses on the city's hidden hydraulic infrastructure, by exploring and documenting extensive water supply and drainage systems around the Theater area through advanced surveying technologies. The project aims to reconstruct Aquinum's urban development and transformation from the late Republic through the Imperial period.



BUTRINT, ALBANIA

The Butrint Management Foundation is undertaking a major conservation initiative to stabilize and preserve the Roman Forum at Butrint, one of the site's most significant civic spaces, spanning the Hellenistic to early medieval periods. The project addresses chronic threats including vegetation growth, erosion, flooding, and material decay, focusing on reinforcing historic wall structures and protecting fragile floor surfaces. Guided by international conservation standards and integrated into Butrint's wider management plan, it combines digital documentation, targeted intervention, and community involvement to secure the forum's long-term preservation and accessibility.



CYRENE, LIBYA

Developed with the Libyan Department of Antiquities, the Cyrene Conservation Initiative responds directly to severe flood damage caused by Storm Daniel in 2023 at the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Cyrene in eastern Libya. The project documents and protects affected archaeological remains, restores safe access to the Sanctuary of Apollo, and strengthens visitor education. Addressing the site's ongoing vulnerability to flooding while deepening public understanding of one of the ancient world's most exceptional Greco-Roman cities.

The Projects



MEKNES, MOROCCO

Led by the Moroccan Association for Natural and Cultural Heritage (MANCH), this project brings Morocco's Roman archaeological heritage at the key sites of Volubilis, Lixus, and Banasa into focus for wider local and international audiences. Through videos, publications, workshops, and guided tours, and with content digitized in multiple languages, the initiative makes Roman history, culture, and architecture at these sites more accessible, better understood, and more visited.



NUMLULI, TUNISIA

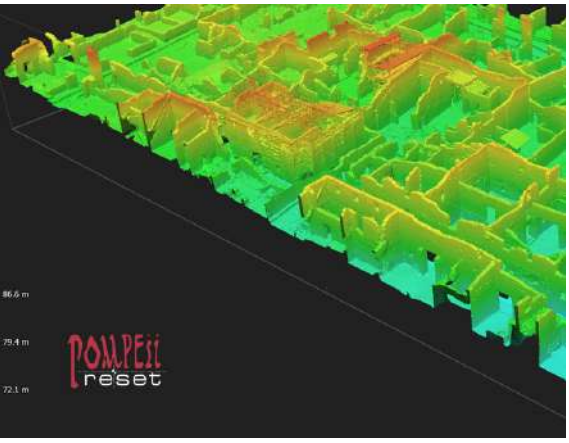
Numluli — modern El Matria in Tunisia's Béja Governorate — is one of northern Tunisia's best-preserved Roman cities, its forum, Capitolium, baths, and Early Christian basilica standing largely intact. Led by the Institut National du Patrimoine of Tunis and the University of Sassari, a four-year international Summer School combines excavation, documentation, conservation, and public outreach to study the city's transition from Roman to Christian society. It also trains the next generation of archaeologists from Tunisia, Italy, and beyond.



PETRA, JORDAN

Using drone imaging, AI-driven photogrammetry, and environmental analysis, this collaboration between the Petra National Trust and Sager Drones is building high-resolution 3D models of Jordan's most significant Greco-Roman sites: Jerash, Umm Qais, Pella, and the Amman Roman Theater. The models support conservation planning, climate resilience research, and scholarly access through an open digital platform. Paired with community training and engagement, the project establishes a scalable, forward-looking model for protecting vulnerable cultural heritage before it's lost.

The Projects



POMPEII, ITALY

Digitex Roma uses textiles as a window into Roman technology, economy, and daily life, combining archaeology, material culture studies, archaeometry, and advanced digitization to reconstruct production processes, workshop organization, and the social role of textile manufacturing in the Roman world. Coordinated by the A3TEX Sapienza Research Center in collaboration with the Archaeological Parks of Pompeii and Herculaneum, Phase 1 focuses on two well-preserved textile workshops within Pompeii: the House of Narcissus and the House of Camillus.



POMPEII, ITALY

BRICO Pompeii (Bringing Color to Pompeii) traces the origins of Pompeii's famous pigments, from geological source to painted wall. Using advanced scientific analysis and digital models of Roman maritime trade. Led by the Archaeological Park of Pompeii with international academic partners, the project compares pigment compositions across social contexts and compiles an open-access pigment library, positioning paint as a uniquely place-specific form of archaeological evidence and a powerful new window into Roman commerce, craftsmanship, and cultural exchange.



POZZUOLI, ITALY

Led by ISTIAMSS (Istituto Italiano per l'Archeologia Marittima e delle Strutture Sommerse) and international partners, "Between Land and Sea" (2021–2027) documents the submerged remains of the ripa Puteolana. Once a vital Roman port on the Gulf of Naples. Underwater surveys, photogrammetry, and GIS mapping have already located storage complexes, workshops, and the long-lost Temple of the Nabateans. The project also aims to transform a post-industrial coastline into a protected cultural resource open to researchers and the public.

The Projects



ROME, ITALY

One of Rome's most iconic imperial monuments, the Column of Marcus Aurelius, is undergoing its first comprehensive conservation campaign in decades. Led by the Soprintendenza Speciale di Roma, the project combines high-resolution photogrammetry and a new 3D information system to document and protect the Column's vast sculpted frieze in extraordinary detail. The same data drives interactive digital experiences that reconstruct the column's lost color and enable virtual exploration — making one of Rome's most powerful visual narratives of imperial history freely accessible to the world.



STOBI, NORTH MACEDONIA

The Balkan Heritage Foundation is leading the conservation of the Theodosian Palace at Stobi — a cornerstone of the site's Master Conservation Plan and one of the most significant Late Antique residences in North Macedonia. The 4th–6th century CE complex, featuring richly decorated mosaics, marble elements, and a central peristyle court, is being carefully restored using sustainable methods and authentic materials that maintain its excavated character. The project also trains local specialists, ensuring long-term stewardship of Stobi's monumental heritage.



Mayor-Gualtieri & ARL Director Darius Arya

ECL Press Conference on Rome's Capitoline Hill Draws Global Attention

On October 24, 2025, Ancient Rome Live hosted a landmark press conference in the Sala del Carroccio of Rome's historic Palazzo Senatorio on the Capitoline Hill, the symbolic heart of the city, to present the eleven 2025 recipients of the Expandere Conscientiae Lumen (ECL) initiative across seven countries.

Rome Mayor Roberto Gualtieri welcomed attendees, emphasizing the importance of sustained investment in research and cultural heritage and congratulating the award recipients. Elon Musk, whose foundation provided the $1 million grant supporting the initiative, participated virtually and reflected on his interest in the ancient world and suggested that artificial intelligence could open new approaches to historical knowledge through archaeology and ancient material culture.

For ARL Director Darius Arya, the event captured exactly what ECL is designed to do. "Each project contributes meaningful new insight into the ancient world while demonstrating how innovation and rigorous scholarship can work hand in hand." On the hill that once held the Temple of Jupiter and has anchored Rome's civic life for three millennia, the setting could not have been more fitting.

Darius Arya and Elon Musk





ARL-Curated Travel Courses

In 2025, Ancient Rome Live led five immersive, educational travel courses across Italy, France, and Tunisia — bringing participants directly into the ancient world. Not behind glass, not in a lecture hall. On the ground, inside the sites, face to face with the history.



Spring 2025 *NCSU: Rome* participants and director Darius Arya

Spring 2025 programming opened with three week-long courses, all led by Darius Arya. The Romans in Southern France, ARL's first program in the region, explored the Roman imprint on Provence, with Professor Fred Klein joining as a special guest expert. History of Ancient Roman Architecture, ARL's ongoing academic partnership with the NC State University College of Design, returned for another in-depth study of Rome's built legacy. And The Greeks in Western Sicily made its debut, taking participants across three millennia of history on one of the Mediterranean's most layered islands.

Fall programming crossed the Mediterranean entirely. A seven-day journey through Tunisia, led by Darius Arya, guided participants across the region's most significant ancient sites, tracing the layered histories of Greek, Roman, and later civilizations written into the landscape. Back in Italy, Imperial Palaces and Popes took participants through the hidden imperial and papal gems of Rome and Lazio.

All of our travel courses combine immersive experiences, expert logistical planning, and academic depth brought to life and personalized by Ancient Rome Live.



Participants attending the Spring 2025 *The Romans in Southern France*

Spring 2025

- *History of Ancient Roman Architecture NCSU:* a five-day program for NCSU Collage of Design.

- *The Romans in Southern France: a* seven-day exploration of ancient Rome in Southern France including Arles, Pont du Gard, and more.

- *Ancient Greece in Western Sicily:* a six-day adventure tracing a millennia-spanning heritage, with a focus on Phoenicians, Greeks, and Romans



Participants in Agrigento Spring 2025 *Ancient Greece in Western Sicily*

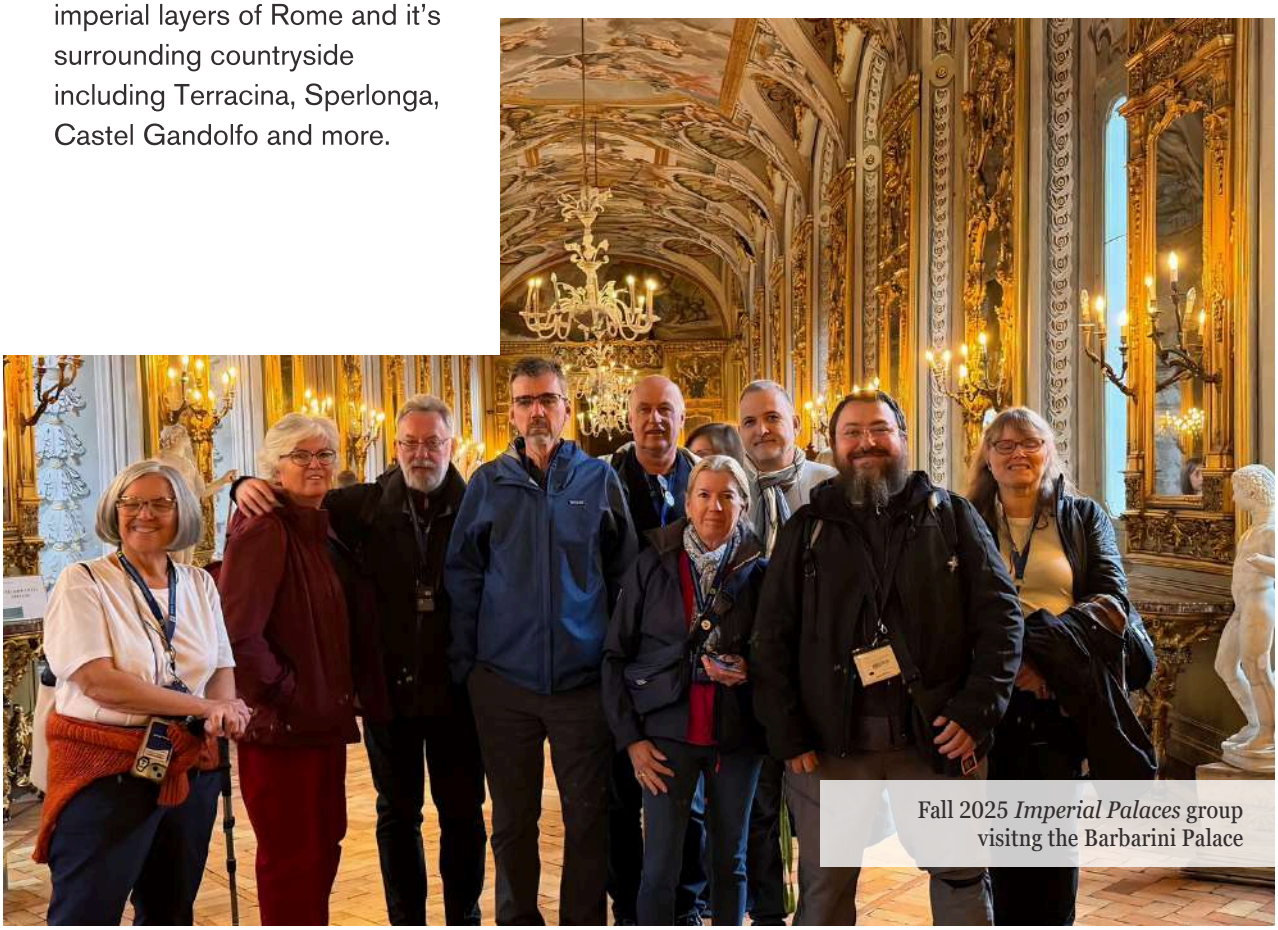


Participants visiting Tunisia Fall 20245 *Tunisia*

Fall 2025

- *Tunisia:* Seven-days discovering Tunisia's history from Punic control through to Roman domination, the arrival Islam and more.

- *Imperial Palaces & Popes:* Seven-day deep dive of the imperial layers of Rome and it's surrounding countryside including Terracina, Sperlonga, Castel Gandolfo and more.



Fall 2025 *Imperial Palaces* group visitng the Barbarini Palace



Donor Recognition

Ancient Rome Live exists because of people who believe in what we do. The following individuals, organizations, and institutions made that belief tangible in 2025, with generous contributions that keep our mission free, open, and moving forward. We are deeply grateful to each of them.



VISIONARIES $25,000+ - 3

PATRONS $10,000 – $24,999 - 7

SPONSORS $5,000 – $9,999 - 1

SUPPORTERS $1,000 – $4,999 - 10

FRIENDS $500 – $999 - 6

MONTHLY SUSTAINERS - 18 recurring monthly contributors with an average contribution of $25 per person, per month

FOUNDATIONS
THE MUSK FOUNDATION $1,000,000

CORPORATE PARTNERS
A&E NETWORKS $15,000



Financial Overview

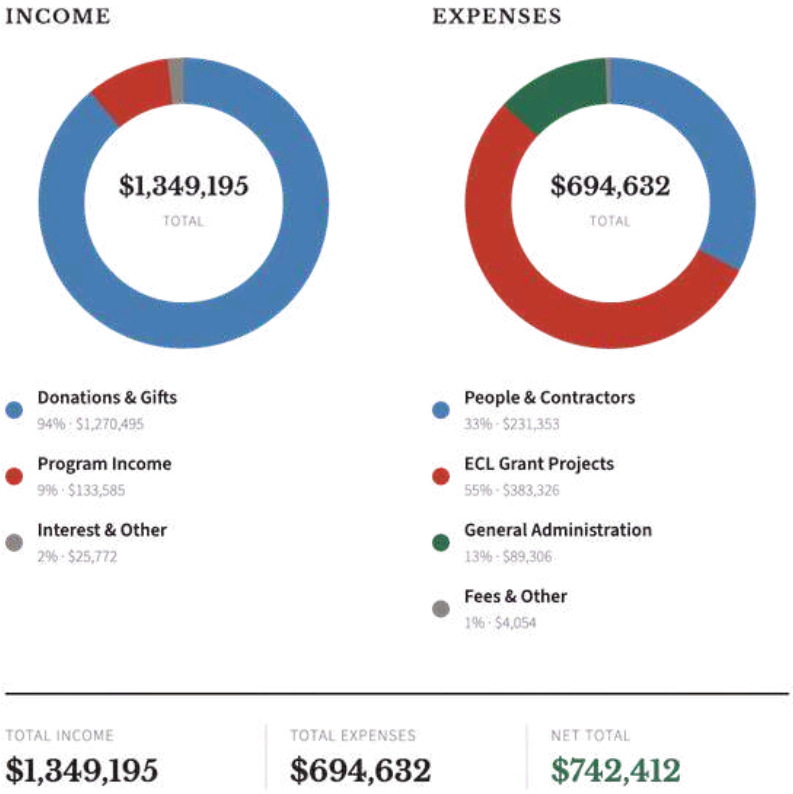
2025 was another remarkable year for Ancient Rome Live

Thanks to the continued generosity of our donors, including a second landmark contribution from the Musk Foundation, we received $1,270,495 in contributions in 2025, a 0.9% increase over 2024's historic total. In 2026, we're setting our sights on $1,300,000. If you're reading this, you're part of how we get there.

Our travel programs generated $133,585 in course income, with additional revenue from YouTube and online programming, a reflection of an audience that doesn't just follow what we do, they want to be part of it.

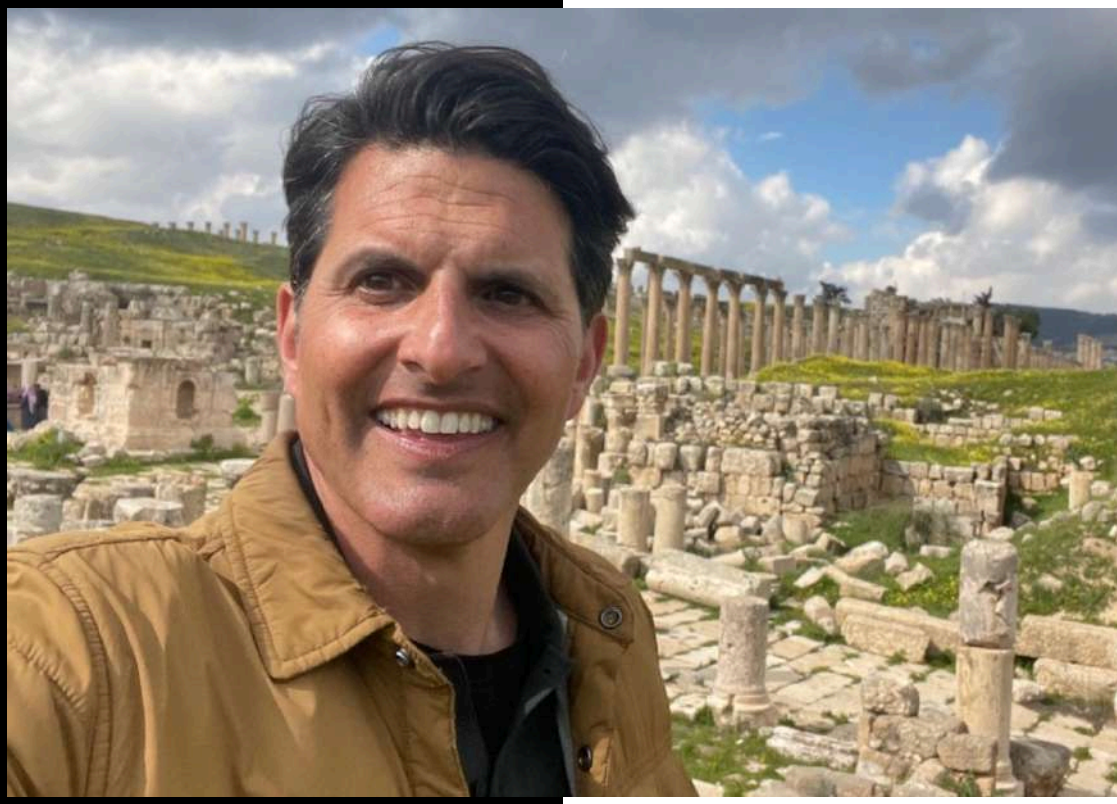
We invested $231,353 in our people and $383,326 directly in ECL Grant projects in 2025. From January 2025 through October 2026, ARL will have distributed $852,000 to ECL projects spanning seven countries across the Mediterranean and beyond, bringing the full weight of the Musk Foundation's investment directly to the ancient world. In 2026, our investment in people grows to $242,959, increasing our commitment to building the team that keeps this work moving forward. Our net total of $742,412 includes approximately $468,674 already earmarked for ECL grant distributions in 2026.

None of this happens without you. Thank you.





The People Behind the Scenes



Direction



Board of Directors

- Dr. Darius Arya
- Prof. Fred Kleiner
- Lauro Lofaro

Scientific Committee

- Dr. Darius Arya, ARL
- Prof. Fred Kleiner, professor Emeritus at Boston University
- Jeanne Marie Teutonico, architectural conservator and former associate director Getty Conservation Institute
- Brent Lane, professor of Heritage Economics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Team

- Darius Arya: Director
- Erica Firpo: Communications
- Mimi Palomino-Gamba: Projects
- Warren George: Webmaster
- Michael Bartlett: Editorial Contributor
- Jamie Heath: Editorial Contributor



Partners

- Pompeii Sites
- North Carolina State University NCSU College of Design
- Musk Foundation

Looking Ahead

Our Goals for 2026

Major Initiatives: Ancient Rome Live is in active discussions with the Musk Foundation for a third and larger round of Expandere Conscientiae Lumen (ECL) grant funding. If awarded, this additional million-dollar investment would continue to support excavations, conservation efforts, and innovative archaeological projects across the Mediterranean.

Continued Filming Expeditions: In 2026, ECL grant funding will support new filming expeditions to document active ECL grant excavations and projects across the Mediterranean, bringing those discoveries directly to our global audience as they happen.

Tech Platform Upgrades: In 2026, Ancient Rome Live will upgrade its website, expand its library of original content, and launch a dedicated image archive to build a richer, more searchable resource for students, educators, and enthusiasts worldwide.

Editorial Expansion: In 2026, Ancient Rome Live will significantly expand its editorial output, publishing new, fact-checked encyclopedic entries that deepen the site's value as a free reference resource for students, educators, and enthusiasts worldwide. A new social media partnership will broaden our digital reach and deepen audience engagement

More Travel Course Offerings:

- *Sicily: Sun-Kissed and Storied* (Spring 2026)
- *History of Ancient Roman Architecture NCSU* (Spring 2026)
- *Adriatic Civilizations* (Fall 2026)
- *Pompeii, Naples and Beyond* (Fall 2026)

Free Monthly Seminars & Masterclasses: In 2026, Ancient Rome Live will continue its free monthly seminars and Masterclasses, bringing distinguished guest scholars and world-class expertise on the ancient world to everyone, everywhere.

Our 2026 fundraising goal is $250,000, anchored by our annual campaign each November. As in 2025, five generous donors will offer a combined $60,000 match for gifts of $100 or more, dollar for dollar. Every contribution goes directly toward free education, original research, and on-the-ground archaeology across the ancient world.



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The ancient world doesn't preserve itself, and neither does the work of bringing it to life. Every donation, partnership, and act of support keeps Ancient Rome Live free, independent, and on the ground where history happens.

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