

**Caffè Umbria Educates & Builds Infrastructure for Expansion with New Training Lab in NW Portland**  
*The Dedicated Training Facility will Be the First of Several New Locations in 2017*

**Portland, OR** – January 15, 2017 - Poised for growth in 2017, Seattle based coffee roastery [Caffè Umbria](#) opens its first Training Lab, to share three generations of coffee knowledge with new employees and wholesale customers. The Training Lab, located at 1700 NW Marshall, Portland, is a dedicated home for the company's training team to provide a focused, hands on coffee education. A grand opening celebration is planned for Thursday, February 16, from 4:00 - 8:00 pm. Guests will have a peek behind the scenes and an opportunity to chat with Caffè Umbria owners Emanuele Bizzarri, Jesse Sweeney and Pasquale Madeddu about expansion plans and their quest to bring a consistently exceptional Italian coffee experience to a new generation of coffee lovers.

Opening festivities include traditional Italian libations: Prosecco and [Espresso Corretto](#), served alongside light hors d'oeuvres. In addition to special gifts for the first 50 guests, Caffè Umbria will donate \$1 for every attendee to [Seeds of Progress](#), a nonprofit organization focused on improving living standards, through health and education services, of the coffee communities we partner with in Nicaragua.

Students visiting the Training Lab will be given the knowledge and tools necessary to prepare espresso drinks and coffee using a variety of brew methods and meet our high standards for excellence in every cup. Training also includes background information about Caffè Umbria, its coffees and roasting philosophy, troubleshooting and tips on cleaning and maintaining equipment. Training is curated to match each wholesale partner's individual needs and provided on an ongoing basis.

The Portland Training Lab will be the first step in building the infrastructure to support 2017 expansion plans in the Pacific Northwest and Chicago. The addition of the Portland lab has also added job opportunities locally, as well as new training positions in cafès regionally.

**Quote:**

*"I'm the third generation of a family of Italian roasters. I remain faithful to my family's tradition of blending and roasting coffee and am devoted to sharing that authentic experience through our cafès and wholesale customers. By educating and training our wholesale partners about those traditions, we ensure everyone a consistent experience, whether I prepare their coffee drink, or one of our baristas does."*

--- Owner Emanuele Bizzarri

**About Caffè Umbria**

Caffè Umbria partners Emanuele Bizzarri, Pasquale Madeddu and Jesse Sweeney founded their first roastery in Seattle in 2002. The company currently operates [cafès](#) in Seattle's Pioneer Square and Ballard neighborhoods, Portland's Pearl District and Chicago. Our roasting facility is based in Seattle's South Park neighborhood.

Equipped with a state-of-the-art roaster and a great passion for blending and roasting, Caffè Umbria captures the true essence of Italian espresso and coffee with the convenience and service of a local roaster. Our coffee is offered at a variety of fine restaurants, coffee houses, and specialty stores. [Learn more.](#)

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