

## **Alberto Falcone, CBA - QAI**

“Sometimes it happens that curiosity becomes an interest, interest becomes a passion, passion becomes a job and job becomes a great opportunity to learn a new language, to meet talented persons, to make new friends”.

So says Albert Falcone, and for him it happened in 1995 at a balloon seminar in Florence; following an enquiry to Pioneer about QBN & CBA, Alberto discovered that balloons could be a business, not just a hobby. Soon after being awarded his CBA, he started teaching for Balloon Express Italy and had his first international opportunity at IBAC in 2003.

“I love working with balloons because through them is possible change the colour of the world and to know very happy people”.

Alberto speaks Italian, French and a fast-improving English. He has taught all over the world for Pioneer and projects his teaching method to delighted students no matter the language.

"Every time I inflate a balloon I can put something special inside, like a sun ray, a butterfly tail, a fun thought..."

### **2002. Teacher of the Year**

### **2003. Teacher of the Year**

### **2004. International Teacher of the Year Premio Qualatex**

- 1998. 1st Price for Most Artistic Use of Balloons in Italy
- 1999. 1st Price for Large Sculpture on the First Italian Balloon Art Competition
- 1999. 1st Price in Germany, 12 Minutes Competition in Mainz
- 2000. 1st Price Large Sculpture on the 2nd Italian Balloon Art Competition
- 2001. 1st Price Figure Competition, BACI, Florence, Italy
- 2001. 3rd Place Balloon Figure Competition, IBAC, Chicago, USA
- 2001. 2nd Place Delivery Bouquet Competition, IBAC, Chicago, USA
- 2002. 1st Place Large Sculpture Competition, IBAC, Chicago, USA
- 2002. Designer of the Year, IBAC, Chicago, USA
- 2002. 2nd Place Balloon Figure Competition, IBAC, Chicago, USA
- 2002. 2nd Price Large Sculpture Competition, BACI, Italy
- 2002. 2nd Place Table Centerpiece Competition, IBAC, Chicago, USA
- 2004. 3rd Place Large Sculpture Competition, IBAC, Los Angeles, California, USA
- 2004. 2nd Place Non-Round Competition, IBAC, Los Angeles, California, USA
- 2004. 2nd Price Large Sculpture Competition, BACI, Italy
- 2005. 1st Price Large Sculpture Competition, BACI, Italy
- 2005. Mr. Images Price in Italy
- 2007. 1st Price for Large Sculpture Competition, BACI, Italy
- 2008. 1st Price Centerpiece Competition, BACI, Italy
- 2008. 3rd Price for Large Sculpture Competition, BACI, Italy
- 2008. 1st Price for Large Sculpture in Moscow Balloon Festival
- 2008. 1st Price Figure Competition, David Grist Award, BACI, Florence, Italy
- 2009. 1st Price Figure Competition, David Grist Award, BACI, Florence, Italy
- 2009. 1st Price Centerpiece Competition, BACI, Florence, Italy
- 2009. 1st Place Medium Balloon Sculpture, Twist and Shout, California, USA