



PANHELLENIC AFFAIRS

Building a better America through Education & Hellenism

January 2011

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Scholarship Awards

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Stavros Niarchos
Foundation



*The PanHellenic
Foundation newsletter
is produced to keep
you apprised of the
Foundation's ongoing
efforts – and how you
can join in those
efforts to build a
better America
through Education
and Hellenism.*



The PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation Celebrates its 2010 Annual Awards Gala

\$250,000 in Cash Grants Given to 40 Brilliant Hellenes!

Nearly 500 people attended this year's Awards Gala that took place at the historic Hilton Chicago. This largest ever event of the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation was attended by family, friends and philhellenes wanting to share in the Foundation's celebration of 40 of the "best and brightest" Greek-American students.

Foundation Founder and Chairman Chris Tomaras, in his address to the audience, said: "We must continue to encourage our students, and to demonstrate that we believe in them... that we recognize their potential... and that we rely on them for becoming tomorrow's leaders and contributors in the American society."

This year, the Foundation awarded 40 of the nation's top Greek-American scholars who demonstrated the highest academic performance. "Of these, 20 students who applied on the basis of financial need, confirmed by submitted documentation, received \$10,000 each. The other 20, whose families can meet today's financial challenges, received \$2,500 each, as we feel that these kids also deserve our encouragement and recognition like all other hard working kids," explained Mr. Tomaras. The total amount awarded was \$250,000.

The evening started with the awards ceremony, held separately in theater style seating at the International Ballroom, where all the awards were distributed and all the presentations were made. The award recipients paraded on the stage, one by one, to receive their awards. Each of the donors attending who contributed \$10,000 presented the award in person to each recipient. Several students

from various parts of the country who could not attend the event were shown on a video screen.

The speeches were limited to "thank you" remarks on behalf of the students by Andreas Kalantzis, also an award recipient, and Ms. Frances Fragos Townsend, this year's Paradigm Award recipient. In addressing the award recipients, Ms. Townsend emphasized: "You must not forget your roots and you must always be proud of your ancestry. It is the substance you are made of, and the guiding light to your destinations."

Describing the future plans of the Foundation, Mr. Tomaras referred to the program "Birthright Greece" by which qualified American-born students of Greek descent, who have never visited Greece, will be afforded the opportunity to do so on trips organized and paid for by the Foundation. He stressed the significance of the newfound understanding and appreciation of their heritage that will undeniably transpire from this experience. Mr. Tomaras closed by expressing his gratitude to all the contributors, with special thanks to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation which provided \$80,000 in scholarships payable over four years.

Next followed a cocktail reception at the Normandie Lounge where the guests had an opportunity to meet and congratulate the students. During the cocktail reception, a silent auction took place at the Foyer with a number of gifts offered for bid that included jewelry, some designed by Konstantinos, vacation packages, trips to Las Vegas, tickets to sports events, restaurants and many other offers at bargain prices.

(continued on the inside)

A Message from the Chairman



It is with a deep sense of humility and honor, mixed with satisfaction and pride, that we welcomed our guests in record numbers to celebrate our best and brightest students at this year's gala. It is a feeling of great fulfillment to have the opportunity to award 40 students for their hard work and accomplishments and thus encourage them to continue on their course to future success.

These sentiments are shared by all of us at PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation, by the

proud parents of our recipients and by all our contributors. We have all played an important roll in the process, but we all recognize the significance of the donors' part. Without their involvement and support, our mission would be very difficult, if not impossible, to accomplish.

In that spirit, on behalf of the Foundation, I express my heartfelt thanks to all of you and urge you to continue to support us. And in the spirit of the new year, please consider making a tax deductible contribution so we can continue to promote Education and Hellenism while we offer help to those who need it.

With this opportunity, I express the warmest wishes to all our friends and contributors to enjoy the Holiday Season and for a New Year filled with health and prosperity.

A handwritten signature of Chris Tomaras in black ink.

Chris Tomaras

Master of Ceremonies

We were honored and overjoyed to have Chicago's own, Greek-American Fox TV Sportscaster and three time Emmy winner, Lou Canellis serving as the evening's emcee. For 10 years, Lou Canellis was one of the special correspondents regularly appearing on 190 North, ABC 7's top-rated entertainment and lifestyle program airing Sunday nights. Since 1998, Lou has served as a college basketball play-by-play announcer for ESPN TV. He has also covered Super Bowls, World Series and has been part of ABC Radio's coverage of the 2000 Summer Olympics. Lou's heartfelt testimony about growing up in a Greek immigrant family – how working in the family's dry cleaning business and his parent's love of education served to mold his character – hit a home run with both the award recipients and attendees. Lou's gracious support and candid insights contributed greatly to this memorable evening.



The PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation Celebrates its 2010 Annual Awards Gala *(continued from cover)*

The evening continued with a sit-down dinner at the hotel's illustrious Grand Ballroom. During dinner, a live auction was held that featured an eight-day and a five-day vacation with all expenses paid, including airfare, to some of Greece's 5-star hotels such as Grand Bretagne, Costa Navarino's Romanos and Blue Palace Resort in Crete. The retail value of both packages was \$17,600. Entertainment was added to the evening with dancing and music to the tunes of jazz, blues and Greek clarino offered by the Chris Sarlas orchestra and songs by the two sisters, Lexy and Stephanie Prodromos.

Noted as the Greek-American Community's most illustrious social event in Chicago, a number of clergy, political and civic leaders attended, including: His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago; Ambassador Anastasios Petrovas, Consul General of Greece in Chicago; the Hon. Circuit Judge James K. Booras; Alexi Giannoulas, Illinois State Treasurer; Mariyana Spyropoulos, Commissioner of the Water Reclamation District of Chicago; Dean Maragos, New Trier Township Committeeman; Dr. Thanasis Economou, NASA Senior Planetary Scientist and 2009 Paradigm Award recipient; Eleni Bousis, President of the Greek American Rehabilitation & Nursing Centre; Demetrios Kozonis, Chairman of the Chicago Sister City-Athens Committee; Endy Zemenides, Senior Advisor to Alexi Giannoulas; Helen Alexander, Director of Development of the National Hellenic Museum; as well as officers of universities, educational institutions, Greek-American organizations and media representatives.



Paradigm Award Recipient

A memorable highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Foundation's annual Paradigm Award, to the Foundation's first female recipient, Frances Fragos Townsend, as a distinguished Greek-American achiever, presented by Illinois State Treasurer, Alexi Giannoulas, during the awards ceremony segment. Ms. Townsend is well known as the former Homeland Security Advisor to President George W. Bush and is a frequent CNN National Security Contributor. She appears regularly on network and cable television as a counterterrorism, national and homeland security expert. She previously served as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor for Combating Terrorism from May 2003 to May 2004. Prior to serving for President Bush, Ms. Townsend was the first Assistant Commandant for Intelligence for the U. S. Coast Guard. Before that, Ms. Townsend spent 13 years at the U.S. Department of Justice under the administrations of President George H. W. Bush, President Bill Clinton and President George W. Bush.



The PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation thanks the following individuals, foundations, corporations and organizations for their generous donations and support during the 2010 calendar year. This support enables the Foundation to continue its mission of educating Greek-American students and building a better America through Education and Hellenism.

Many Thanks to Our 2010 Contributors

The financial commitment of the Foundation is substantial, and its success depends entirely on contributions from the community. We express our heartfelt gratitude and thanks to all of our gracious contributors. Your generosity is truly inspiring.

Scholarship Grant Donors, \$10,000+

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PANHellenic
SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION

OUR MISSION

This Foundation has a singular mission: to promote education by which Greek-American PanHellenic Award Recipients become significant achievers and, guided by the values of their Hellenic upbringing, contribute meaningfully to the ongoing development of the American society.

WHO WE ARE

The PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation is an Illinois non-profit corporation with an IRS designation of 501(c)(3). It is administered by a Board of Directors and an Executive Committee (Officers). A separate Advisory Board representing a range of professional disciplines provides to the Foundation guidance and support. The selection of Scholarship Award Recipients is made by an Academic Committee appointed by the Board of Directors. This Committee works independently and makes its decisions based on defined criteria. Members of the Board of Directors, Officers, the Advisory Board and employees of the Foundation may not serve on the Academic Committee.

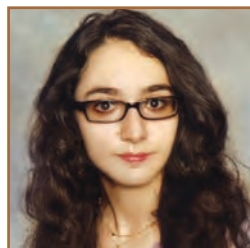
Scholarship Award Recipients

Forty bright young scholars were inducted into the PanHellenic Honors Society. Twenty students received \$10,000 each, based on merit and financial need, and 20 received \$2,500 based on merit only. We congratulate, once more, our 2010 Award Recipients for being distinguished as this year's best and brightest scholars and we wish them success in all of their endeavors. The 40 award recipients, bios and photos of whom you can see on our website, are:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) Iris Agrafiotis, University of California-Berkeley | 21) Jessica Ann Metzger, Washington University in St. Louis |
| 2) Eve Marie Avdoulos, Michigan State University | 22) Vasiliki Mitrakos, Northwestern University |
| 3) Courtney Estelle Basile, Ball State University | 23) Dimitra Mouzakis, Columbia College Chicago |
| 4) Joanna Christina Boardman, University of Alabama | 24) Anastasia Nitis, Iona College |
| 5) Asimina Angeliki Boutzoukas, Florida State University | 25) Theodore Papadopoulos, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign |
| 6) Andrea Gaspar, University of Texas at Austin | 26) Constantine Demetrios Pappas, California State University, Fresno |
| 7) Nicole Eleni Ginarte-Papaspis, University of Massachusetts, Boston | 27) Alexandra Marie Plattos, University of Illinois at Chicago |
| 8) Katerina Glyptis, Harvard University | 28) Michelle Susan Prew, Boston College |
| 9) Katerina Eleni Kafkas, University of Massachusetts-Lowell | 29) John Tucker Sigalos, Vanderbilt University |
| 10) Andreas Gus Kalantzis, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | 30) Louis Andreou Spanias, University of California-Berkeley |
| 11) Nickolaos Zackary Kallis, University of Florida | 31) Amalia V. Stavropoulos, New York University |
| 12) Dean S. Karahalios, Loyola University Chicago | 32) Nikitas J. Tampakis, Princeton University |
| 13) George Stephen Karas, Harvard University | 33) Sydney Marie Thayer, University of Southern California |
| 14) Alexis Maria Keramaris, School of the Art Institute of Chicago | 34) Rebecca G. Theophanous, University of Pittsburgh |
| 15) Athanasios G. Kondilis, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | 35) Arthur Stephen Tingas, University of Virginia |
| 16) Marie Alexandra Latsa, Ohio State University | 36) Yolanda Maria Tselepidakis, University of New Hampshire |
| 17) Eleftheria Lekkas, Rutgers University | 37) Leonidas George Vasilakos, Boston College |
| 18) Nickolas Loukedes, Saint Anselm College | 38) Christina Verdous-Petrou, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign |
| 19) Aikaterini Makridakis, Northern Illinois University | 39) James Peter Xamplas, Northwestern University |
| 20) Sotirios Alexandros Malamis, University of Michigan | 40) Mina Zissopoulos, New York University |



A significant honor for the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation was to be recognized by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF), which provided for and initiated the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Four Year Scholarship. This award was offered to two PanHellenic award recipients, contributing \$10,000 dollars to their education every year for four years. This meaningful philanthropic act has provided two outstanding students, Andreas Kalantzis and Mina Zissopoulos, with a secure foundation that will allow them to pursue their long term scholastic endeavors.



"The Stavros Niarchos Foundation recognized the significance of our work, and selected the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation to receive the first ever Stavros Niarchos Foundation Four Year Scholarship. For us, this is a great honor and we are deeply grateful, as are the two recipients, and promise to administer the Grant in accordance with the set guidelines," stated Chris Tomaras.

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation was established by Stavros S. Niarchos in 1966 to support and promote his vision and interests in education, social welfare, health and medicine, arts, and culture across the globe. To date, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation has provided total grant commitments of \$1.2 billion through more than 1,900 grants to nonprofit organizations in 90 nations around the world.



PANHellenic SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

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2010 Awards Ceremony & Gala



All photos from the 2010 Awards Gala are available online in the Photo Gallery of our website.