Staff member Vassilis Karavassilis showing newly arrived students the secrets of tavli (backgammon) on the orientation trip.
Photo by CYA President Alexi Phylactopoulou.
Greece can give to the adventurous spirits. To Rome, Florence, Prague, or Paris for a line in order to speak to family and friends. To make an appointment and wait in ten had to visit the OTE offices on Stadiou very expensive and very rare. Students of- fax machine with a cylinder by which one writer with a typeball, which we considered since cell phones were still in the sphere communications were done by regular post and correspondence was kept in iron filing... and to Deinokratous St. where the CYA and to Deinokratous St. where the CYA...
Our inaugural CYA Student Conference, themed Greece and Beyond: Notions of Identity in the Greek World, took place on May 3 and 4 at the CYA Academic Center. The conference explored the essence of what it means to be Greek and why people need to identify themselves as Greek.

Six CYA students, Kelly Platt, Skidmore College; Jamie Dawes, Emory University; Alyssa Mendez, Columbia University; Sophia Kiernan, University of Notre Dame; Andrew Hosler, Ohio State University; Melissa Ballow, Susquehanna University; and one, Margaret Corn, Columbia University via Skype, presented papers on a wide range of areas, drawing comparisons with how ancient views of “Greek-ness” conform with or differ from modern views. Presenters also addressed how contemporary challenges (ranging from population movements to supra-national structures) shape and reshape national identities and offer diverse answers to the question “Who is a Greek?”.

The keynote speaker at this year’s conference was Dimitris Christopoulos, President of the International Federation of Hellenic Studies (IFHES) and President of the International Federation of Hellenic Studies in America (IFHSA). Christopoulos’s keynote, “Religious Belief and Political Theory, particularly in issues related to Citizenship, Christopoulos’s keynote, presented papers on a wide range of areas, drawing comparisons with how ancient views of “Greek-ness” conform with or differ from modern views. Presenters also addressed how contemporary challenges (ranging from population movements to supra-national structures) shape and reshape national identities and offer diverse answers to the question “Who is a Greek?”.


The second day of the conference commenced with an introduction by Kostis Karpouzis. Four students presented their papers: Sophia Kiernan with The Pope’s 2001 Visit to Athens: The Challenges of Religious Identity in Greece, Alyssa Mendez with Under the Koukoula: The Many Competing Faces of Greek Anarchist Identity, Melissa Ballow with Who Tells Your Story? How the Publishing Industry Shaped the Greek Fantasy, and Andrew Hosler concluded with The Effect of the Greek Diasporic Community in France on the Modern Greek Enlightenment.

Conference highlights

The conference offered CYA students an exclusive opportunity to present and discuss their academic research, share their knowledge and engage in discussion in an open forum, creating an important channel for the exchange of information between students and academics. Other highlights of the conference included a presentation by guest lecturer Valerie McGuire and closing remarks by CYA President Alexis Phylactopoulos.

We thank all students who participated and contributed to the success of our first student conference, as well as the hard work and efforts of the conference committee in developing and planning this event. Looking ahead to next year’s conference, we hope to steadily gain momentum, representing Greek, Thai, and post-colonial studies presented papers that engaged with the theme Crypto-Colonialism and the Global South. The closing panel (photo below), presented papers: Sophia Kiernan with The Pope’s 2001 Visit to Athens: The Challenges of Religious Identity in Greece, Alyssa Mendez with Under the Koukoula: The Many Competing Faces of Greek Anarchist Identity, Melissa Ballow with Who Tells Your Story? How the Publishing Industry Shaped the Greek Fantasy, and Andrew Hosler concluded with The Effect of the Greek Diasporic Community in France on the Modern Greek Enlightenment.

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DONATION OF BOOKS TO THE CYA LIBRARY

CYA would like to show its deep appreciation for the generous gift made by Professor Keith Adams (CYA ’74), who kindly donated thirty-four books from his private collection to the CYA Library. The books focus on the art, archaeology and history of the Mediterranean and include titles such as Classical Archaeology edited by Susan E. Alcock and Robin Osborne, The Etruscans by Graeme Barker and Tom Rasmussen, The Archaeology of Mediterranean Prehistory edited by Emma Blake and A. Bernard Knapp, The Land of Immits by Alan M. Greaves and The Aegean Valley: a historical geography from antiquity to the Roman period by Peter Thonemann. His generosity has helped give more depth to the research materials we can offer and will directly benefit our students and faculty alike. For this, we are sincerely thankful.

FACULTY NEWS

CYA’s Philosophy professor, Dr. Evgenia Mylonaki, has been granted a post-doctoral fellowship to carry out a 2-year research project on “Practical Reasoning as Power” at the University of Athens with professor Stathis Psyllios. This is the second time that professor Mylonaki received a post-doctoral fellowship.

CYA professor Despina Jossif, along with Professor D.J. Kytattas of the University of Thessaly and three other scholars of late antiquity have created a new website called Post Augustum (www.postaugustum.com/en) that focuses on the history of the Mediterranean during the first post-Christian centuries. The site aims to provide a constant update with articles, research, book reviews, news both from the Greek and international academia, and quotes of original sources. Post Augustum Journal publishes high-quality original articles, either in Greek or in English.

SHAPIO, HERZFELD HONORED

Professor Alan Shapiro (CYA ’69), Department of Classics, Johns Hopkins University, was honored by the American Friends of the German Archaeological Institute (AFDAI) and the AIA, who hosted a special dinner honoring him and Professor Günter H. Kappcke, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. Also, Yale’s Hellenic Studies Program hosted Shapiro on October 31st for a lecture titled Athena and the Athenians: Re-assessing the Special Relationship.

Professor Michael Herzfeld, CYA Advisor (and former CYA faculty), was honored by a symposium hosted by Brown University’s Modern Greek Studies in October. The two-day event began with a keynote address by Herzfeld entitled Greece Between Imperial Rivals: The Crypto-Colonial Chimeras. The following afternoon, a number of scholars representing Greek, Thai, and post-colonial studies presented papers that engaged with the theme Crypto-Colonialism and the Global South. The closing panel (photo below), included reflective and amusing remarks by Peter Allen (CYA ’65), of Rhode Island College, who spoke of professor Herzfeld’s introduction to ethnography when visiting Peter during his fieldwork, and by Susan (Ashbrook) Harvey (CYA ’74), of Brown University, who met Herzfeld when she was a student at CYA.

From left: Peter Allen, Yannis Hamilos, Susan Harvey, Michael Herzfeld
DON’T BE AFRAID TO KEEP REINVENTING YOURSELF: A Chat with Robert Leary (CYA ’82)

By Arianna Chen
CYA Student Blogger, Fall 2017

When Robert Leary (CYA ’82) came to Pangrati and stepped into the College Year in Athens building, it was a homecoming of sorts. A former student of the CYA Union College faculty-led program in 1982 while studying politics at Union College, he is now back in Athens for a different reason: as the new CEO of The Olayan Group, a global conglomerate of investment and operating companies based in Athens, London, New York and Riyadh. It can be said that a lot has changed since 1982. Mr. Leary is now connected to CYA not as a student, but as a former trustee and alumnus; he has added a political science degree and a law degree to his name; and has broadened his scope past politics through working extensively in law and the financial sector.

I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to sit down and talk with Mr. Leary about his time with College Year in Athens and how it has impacted not only his interests and career trajectory, but also his outlook and perspective on life. As I learned the story of how he got to College Year in Athens, the experiences there that changed him as a person, and how his career path has evolved, it became increasingly clear that while many things have changed, what has stayed the same are the lessons learned and experiences gained during his time in Greece with College Year in Athens.

Funnily enough, Mr. Leary had not even planned on studying abroad despite his loose for international affairs. However, in a twist of fate, his best friend at Union called him to tell him that there was an opening at CYA and that he should apply. A lover of politics and history; the opportunity to study the political climate and history of Greece was something that was too attractive for him to pass up (and of course, the prospect of having fun with his best friend in another country) just like that, his life was changed.

His time at CYA cultivated his interest in international affairs, and he even credits CYA with helping him become a more global thinker. He encouraged him to see similarities among different people and cultures instead of just viewing them as separate groups of people. As he further reflected on his time at CYA, he concluded that one of the best things about CYA was the experiential learning—it brings life to the things that were being taught in the classroom. Whether it was going on a trip with CYA or without CYA, whether it was an archeological site or a hot tourist spot, it all allowed him to get to know the culture, the people, and feel for different parts of the country. His favorite trip, which also impacted him the most, was when CYA traveled to Myanmar in the Phe-tho-pone-nese— he gushed that the idea of an amazing culture and civilization existing in those mountains and seeing it in person was something that reading a book or hearing about it cannot encapsulate.

His stories and reflections on his time here suggest to me that the identity of CYA has not changed one bit. It continues to have a focus on experiential learning by integrating field trips with classes and continues to push people out of their comfort zones to really assimilate into the Athenian culture.

Three best things to do while in Greece according to Robert Leary

• Visit the Island of Paros for the best of Greek island life.
• Hike up Lykavittos Hill for the best view of Athens.
• Take a day trip to Sounion and marvel at the Temple of Poseidon.

CYA still takes that same trip to the Peloponnesian (fun fact: I had coincidentally just gotten back from it the day before I met Mr. Leary); I experienced that same moment of awe when I looked at the Lion’s Gate and Grave Circle A at Mycenae after learning about it in my classes (albeit thirty-five years later). I am noticing that I am having a more global view, and no longer stuck in my Bay Area bubble (and Claremont bubble— I’ve just been jumping from bubble to bubble apparently). I even came here for the same reasons as Mr. Leary— because of the importance Athens holds in terms of politics and history and the unique opportunity to see it all in person. This just goes to show the timeliness of the experiences and lessons CYA strives to provide.

Even though I am not entirely done with my semester here yet (thank goodness, I’m not ready to leave yet), I am already grateful for the environment of learning and growing that CYA promotes through its field trips, classes, and attitude towards being abroad.

Throughout the conversation, Mr. Leary reiterated a piece of advice to me that has helped him. Don’t go through life in a rush, and don’t be afraid to keep reinventing yourself along the way, even if it means taking a step back. Life is short, so have fun and work hard, but if you find that you are miserable move on.

Robert Leary’s three pieces of advice for past/present/future CYAers

• Know that the value of CYA isn’t apparent for several years after you’ve done the program.
• The value of the CYA program is less about the actual learning curriculum and more about the experience you have there and how it impacts the way you live your life.
• Try to make a point to come back to Greece at some point in your life because you’ll see some of the things you saw at CYA in a different light (and possibly a better way!).

The author would like to note that in her conversation with Mr. Leary, it is that Greece continues to be a favorite event of the year. Not only was she able to gain an understanding of diverse cultures, religion, and art. Her hobbies included cooking, wine, archaeology, glass collecting, and making her own beads and jewelry. Friends and family will remember her abiding love of all funny creatures, especially groundhogs. Cathleen’s final weeks were spent surrounded by family. She took delight in being part of Zander and Hannah’s wedding, which was conducted in her hospital room.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggested a memorial donation to: Camp Arcadia, Maine, where she spent her childhood summers: camparcadia.com/scholarshipfoundation/

The Women’s Fund of the country of Georgia: womenfundgeorgia.org/en/

about tab=4

College Year in Athens

cyathens.org/148/1/give-now/
NAFSA CONFERENCE

CYA IN LOS ANGELES

In May, CYA was represented at the NAFSA: Association of International Educators Conference by Chris Todd, Chairman of the CYA Board of Trustees; Alexis Phylactopoulos, President of CYA, and his wife Mariella; Peggy Myresiotou, V.P. of Administration; Katie Sievers, Associate Director of Campus Relations; Alexis Lingas, Senior Coordinator of Campus Relations; and Popi Triantafyllidou, Strategic Planning Manager who all traveled to Los Angeles in May to represent CYA at the NAFSA Conference.

In addition to meeting with partners from colleges and universities across America, CYA hosted a reception on May 31st. The event took place at the incredible GRAMMY Museum at L.A. Live®. Guests enjoyed Greek food, an open bar, and the lively conversation that comes with great company and many years of shared memories. While we could not pass up the chance to gather with those in our field who are usually scattered throughout the world, it was also a perfect chance to celebrate 55 years with the local alumni who embody CYA’s vibrant life. We are very grateful to the alumni who spent their Wednesday evening with us, some after traveling hours to get to downtown Los Angeles.

The following evening, June 1, CYA alumna Laura Belfiglio Gold (Spring ‘82, from DePauw University) graciously offered to host a small cocktail party for CYA administrators by the pool at her house in Pasadena. Also in attendance were CYA alumni Susan Blake (CYA ’66-67), Mary Russell (CYA ’66-67) and Steve Gratwick (CYA Spring ’90).
ELLEN PAUSTRA-LANDIS, who talked about her love of Greece, emphasizing its rich setting as the “cradle of civilization,” the beauty of the country, and (of course) the food. Classics professor Nancy Evans also spoke about the benefits of studying on-site with CYA. Wheaton Study Abroad staff were on hand to discuss some of the logistics of studying abroad. While students ate gyros, the Greek club members, students, and CYA staff had a chance to enjoy a lively conversation about Greek and American cultures, living in a foreign country, and more.

International Education Week (IEW), held in November each year, is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. This joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education is part of their efforts to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders on hand to discuss some of the logistics of studying abroad, to study, learn, and exchange experiences.

Throughout 2017, CYA has been honored to host a series of lectures by distinguished scholars at our Academic Center in Athens:

- On February 14, Brendan Burke (CYA ’89), Associate Professor and Department Chair of Greek and Roman Studies at the University of California San Diego, gave a lecture titled: Bronze Age and Archaic Boeotia: New Research at Ancient Eleon. The lecture highlighted work of the Eastern Boeotia Archaeological Project (EAP) focused on ancient Eleon, a little-known site in eastern Boeotia approximately 12 km from Thebes. Work since 2007 has involved a regional survey and systematic excavations, part of which is run as an archaeological field school. The site has evidence from the early Mycenaean period in the form of elaborate burials, settlement levels from the Palatial and Post-Palatial phases of the late Mycenaean age, and monumental architecture and indicators of cult activity from the Late Archaic and early Classical periods.

- On March 13th, Thomas W. Gallant (CYA ’76 and member of CYA’s Board of Advisors), Professor of Modern Greek History and Archaeology at the University of California San Diego, gave a lecture titled: Murder on Black Mountain: Love and Death on a Nineteenth Century Greek Island. The brutal murder of English Captain John Parker and his dog, Duffly, on the Greek island of Kefalonia in May 1849 created a cause célèbre in mid-nineteenth century Europe. Using documents from archives in Greece and Great Britain, the lecture explored the contours of social life in nineteenth century Greece.

- On April 5th, Stathis N. Kalivas, Arnold Wohlers Professor of Political Science at Yale University, gave a lecture titled: A Short History of Greece’s Modern Past. Since 2009, Greece has been in the midst of a never-ending crisis that has attracted global attention. The lecture explored Greece’s “modern past” to get a better understanding of the present and to appreciate a fascinating and not widely known sense of its historical trajectory into the modern world. CYA was thrilled to host this public lecture and to have students interact with the author of textbooks they study in class.

EXCELLENCE IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION: CYA joins Diversity Abroad!

CYA is now a proud member of the Diversity Abroad Global Network. The network is made up of colleges and universities, government agencies, non-profit and for-profit organizations, who are committed to increasing access, diversity, and equity in global education, enhancing the experience of students studying abroad.

We support the important work of the Diversity Network to promote best practices and provide resources to better recruit, advise and serve the needs of diverse students, highlighting our commitment to excellence in international education.

CLASS OF ’71-’72 MAKES A DONATION

It is heart-warming to see CYA class—members of previous decades remember with affection their time in Greece and to hold reunions in the US. In one such reunion, held in Kelseyville, CA, the CYA classes of ’71 and ’72 collected funds for a class gift. These funds contributed to new computer and software equipment dedicated to the study of Digital Archaeology & Urbanism. A plaque commemorating this generous gesture by the ’71 and ’72 CYA classes was installed last week at CYA’s Academic Center. We are proud of our alumni and thank them for their ongoing support and genuine willingness to leave their mark here at CYA.

The generosity and spirit in which every CYA supporter gives back to the CYA community continues to have a positive impact today and for the future. Your help benefits students and enables us to continue our mission of providing students with high-class academic programs along with the latest technology and resources.

SUPPORTERS OF CYA HONORED WITH NAMED CAMPUS FACILITIES

CYA, in recognition of the great generosity, love and support of our institution shown by these trustees, has named two spaces on the 2nd floor of its Academic Center at Plateia Stadiou 5 in their honor.

A multi-purpose set of rooms that overlook the Marble Stadium and its plaza in front, with the Acropolis in the background has been named the ANNE & JAMES ROTHENBERG CONFERENCE SUITE. It is a fabulous space that offers CYA much use in many different ways.

The auditorium, often used for the many public lectures that CYA hosts, has been named the DAPHNE & GEORGE HATSOPOULOS HALL.

Anne F. Rothenberg (CYA ’66) has served on the CYA Board of Trustees since 2005. She is also the Chair of The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Her late husband, James F. Rothenberg, was a philanthropist, chairman of the board of directors of Harvard Management Company, and a co-chair of The Harvard Campaign.

Daphne Hatsopoulos has served on the Board of Trustees of CYA for 55 years and is currently Secretary. She is also a Trustee of the Boston Museum of Science. Her husband, George N. Hatsopoulos, is the Founder and Chairman Emeritus of the Thermo Electron Corporation and served for 33 years as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of CYA.

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HELP CYA GO GREEN

If you are currently receiving a copy of The Owl by mail but you would rather access it online, please notify us at info@cyathens.org (or use the online form to let us know). We will email you the link to The Owl when it goes on our webpage. Thank you for your consideration.

CYA APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

CYA alumni and friends planning to visit Athens, please keep in mind that CYA may have apartments available for rent. CYA student apartments are conveniently located in the Pagonistri neighborhood of Athens and provide a less expensive option than hotel accommodations. For availability and rates please send a request to programs@dikemes.edu.gr.
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Three more ways to make a tax-deductible contribution to CYA

1. Gifts of Stock
When transferring appreciated stock to College Year in Athens, you may be eligible for a tax deduction equal to full fair market value of the stock, avoiding the capital gains tax on the stock’s increased value. In order for your gift to be acknowledged, it is important to notify CYA of the type and amount of stock you will be giving. You may do this either personally or through your agent or broker.

2. Matching Gifts
Your employer may match your charitable donations, multiplying the impact of your gift. To learn if your organization participates, please contact your human resources office.

3. Named Scholarships
What better way to support a deserving CYA student than through a named scholarship? You can honor a special person and give the incredible experience of College Year in Athens to an academically qualified student who would not otherwise be able to attend.

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A TRIBUTE TO NICOS STAVROULAKIS

I would like to honor Nicos Stavroulakis by remembering that his talents included insufficiently acknowledged painting and illustrating. In the latter connection, he created a brilliant collection of illustrations for an edition of the poems of C. P. Cavafy that, as I recall, was never published but should have been. I learned a lot from Nikos about how much more than 5th-Century Athens there has always been to the Greek people and their history. He also recognized and reached out to me as a Southern American Jewish kid whose Sephardic roots were on the island of Rhodes, and his lasting influence on me, and now my family, has to do with how he connected me with my heritage and changed my relationship to Judaism. He invited me to the Jewish Museum of Greece, where I worked and learned about the life my family would have led before they emigrated from Rhodes to Alabama and Georgia. That experience cemented my feeling of connection to a history and culture whose richness goes beyond liturgy and creed, and that connection and understanding has sustained aspects of my life for thirty years.

Nicos welcomed me into his home and brought me to Chania during the break before I left for my semester in London. I remember learning about Epiphany/Theophany at the harbor, and I remember (of all things) the household custom of flossing at the table after meals. Nikos helped give me the sense, in that brief time, that I could travel on my own and navigate cultural difference in Greece and beyond.

In the years after, we were sometimes in touch (there was a never-followed-through-on-plan for him to calligraph our ketubah), and I always hoped to see him again. There was something about his friendship that promised that possibility. In the year before he died, we reconnected just a bit when one of my children wanted to do a project on him. I hope that moment gave him a sense of the reach of his good works and influence.

Nicos was the first truly cosmopolitan, citizen of the world I have known. I would like to honor Nicos by remembering that his lasting influence is the possibility he promised, and the promise he kept.

Edmund Keeley, Trustee Emeritus
Stead Professor of English Emeritus and Director of Hellenic Studies Emeritus, Princeton University

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I would like to honor Nicos Stavroulakis by remembering that his talents included insufficiently acknowledged painting and illustrating. In the latter connection, he created a brilliant collection of illustrations for an edition of the poems of C. P. Cavafy that, as I recall, was never published but should have been. I learned a lot from Nikos about how much more than 5th-Century Athens there has always been to the Greek people and their history. He also recognized and reached out to me as a Southern American Jewish kid whose Sephardic roots were on the island of Rhodes, and his lasting influence on me, and now my family, has to do with how he connected me with my heritage and changed my relationship to Judaism. He invited me to the Jewish Museum of Greece, where I worked and learned about the life my family would have led before they emigrated from Rhodes to Alabama and Georgia. That experience cemented my feeling of connection to a history and culture whose richness goes beyond liturgy and creed, and that connection and understanding has sustained aspects of my life for thirty years.

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Nicos was the first truly cosmopolitan, citizen of the world I have known. I would like to honor Nicos by remembering that his lasting influence is the possibility he promised, and the promise he kept.

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FULFILLING OUR PLEDGE TO THE GENERATION STUDY ABROAD INITIATIVE

CYA is a Commitment Partner of the Institute of International Education (IIE) Generation Study Abroad (GSA) Initiative. The GSA Initiative brings employers, governments, associations, and others together to build on current best practices and find new ways to extend study abroad opportunities to tens of thousands of college students.

CYA has pledged to increase enrollment by strengthening partnerships with educational institutions in the U.S. and overseas. Here are some of the important things we’ve done working towards achieving that goal:

• CYA successfully hosted The Forum on Education Abroad’s 3rd European Conference in October 2016, fostering conversations that will contribute to the increased support and success of future U.S. students abroad. CYA faculty and staff presented sessions at the Conference on the subjects of service learning and volunteerism during study abroad.

• Prior to the Forum Conference, CYA invited study abroad directors to attend a program site visit, where CYA administrators met one-on-one with US colleagues to determine ways to increase study abroad participation from each of their schools.

• To strengthen partnerships with educational institutions in the US, CYA has added a Senior Coordinator of Campus Relations to our North American staff; her role is to visit campuses year-round to allow CYA to better understand administrators’ needs and fresh, crusty bread.

PREVIOUSLY ON THE BLOG

In addition to continuing a $3,000 discount for students from state universities, CYA has increased its discount for full-year program participants.

• CYA has increased opportunities for Student Ambassadors to contribute to CYA’s goals, including talking to prospective students at study abroad fairs. These opportunities, along with a newly compiled Professional Development Resource, help Ambassadors better articulate the benefits of study abroad and further their own career objectives.

• The Social Media Assistant program has been replaced by an even richer Social Media Internship program, guided and directed by a Communications faculty member. Through this program, a new CYA Blog has been created, which features student articles, photos, program news and more. This program has been our most comprehensive effort to date at sharing the CYA student experience.

• In 2016, CYA made it possible for 219 students and faculty to study abroad through customized programs, a 20% increase from the previous year. This trend is expected to continue in 2017 alongside the growth of CYA semester and summer student numbers.

NEW SOCIAL MEDIA DEVELOPMENTS:

In March, CYA launched the CYA blog cyathens.net, an online space hosting news, student blog posts, and other CYA related stories facilitating the sharing of information across social media. We also established a new Facebook Group for alumni of CYA! Check it out by searching for (Alumni of College Year in Athens/ CYA) on Facebook.

Finally, we have a new LinkedIn page, and we encourage CYA alumni to check it out and connect. As it is an official university page, you can now use it to list CYA on your resume within LinkedIn. We would be more than happy to hear from alumni and friends regarding any CYA stories that you would like to contribute or photos you’d like to share. To submit social media stories or photos, please contact the Media Lab at medialab@cyathens.org.

Please follow us, connect with our social networks, “like,” and “share” our CYA stories!

ATHENS MARATHON 2017

Congratulations to CYA students and alumni who ran the marathon!

Marathon (42k)
Peyton Lindley (Fall ’17, Indiana University)
Nikki Anderson (Fall ’17, San Jose State University)
Samuel Kupiec (Fall ’17, Union College)

10k
Lindsay Schwartz (Fall ’17, Whitman College)

5k
Julia Spiegel (Fall ’17, College of the Holy Cross)

Mary Ninneman (Fall ’17, The University of Notre Dame)

ARTICHOKEs A LA POLITA

Ingredients:
10 pieces frozen artichokes
2-3 potatoes, peeled and cut in 2 inch cubes
3 carrots, sliced
1 cup frozen peas
1 cup chopped scallions
½ cup chopped fresh dill
1 cup olive oil
Juice of 2 lemons
Salt, pepper

Preparation:
In a pot with a wide bottom heat the oil over medium heat. Add the scallions and carrots and simmer until translucent. Add artichokes, potatoes, peas and dill and mix gently for 2-3 minutes. Add salt and pepper, the lemon juice, and warm water enough to just cover the vegetables. Let it come to boil, then lower the heat and let the pot simmer for about 1 hour, or until the water has been absorbed. While cooking, shake the pot gently from time to time to stir the vegetables. Serve with a wedge of lemon, feta cheese on the side, and fresh, crusty bread.

COOKING CORNER

NEW MEDIA LAB INTERNS

We are pleased to introduce our 2017 Media Lab interns from this past fall semester. They worked directly with the Social Media Coordinator, Sofia Stavropoulou, on the guide to the use of social media. We also established a new Facebook Group for alumni of CYA. Check it out by searching for (Alumni of College Year in Athens/ CYA) on Facebook.

Finally, we have a new LinkedIn page, and we encourage CYA alumni to check it out and connect. As it is an official university page, you can now use it to list CYA on your resume within LinkedIn. We would be more than happy to hear from alumni and friends regarding any CYA stories that you would like to contribute or photos you’d like to share. To submit social media stories or photos, please contact the Media Lab at medialab@cyathens.org.

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Rachael Bittick, an Anthropology major from Emory University, won first place in the 5k. Arianna Chen, a Politics major from Pomona College. Her blog is: https://arirambles.wordpress.com/.

Alexa Palomo, a History and Anthropology major from Emory University. Her blog is: http://www.thefreeprovidence.com/
FROM CLASICS TO CATS: A CYA ALUMNA RETURNS TO GREECE!

By Maggie Chatter (CYA Fall '14)

When I left Athens at the end of my CYA semester (Fall ‘14), I knew I would have to find a way to return to Greece. At the time, I never knew that I didn’t dare to dream it would be only a few years later. After graduating from Colby College in 2016 with a Classics degree, I went on to begin veterinary school at Cornell. At orientation at the beginning of the year, I found a proposal that would provide funding for vet students to complete projects of their own design abroad, mostly in developing countries, but with some money available also for other areas. As soon as I heard this, the gears started turning trying to come up with a project proposal that would allow me to return to Athens to work with the stray dogs and cats that had so fascinated me when I was there. I had fallen in love with both the dogs that would follow my archaeology class around each site every time we visited, and enjoyed watching Greek jewe’s in their robes and slippers shuffle out to feed the neighborhood cats, and wanted to learn more about how these animals are cared for and by whom, and get involved myself. I was thrilled to learn that my proposal had been approved, I was going to work with a very new organization (Protect, Aegea, Greece) to learn how to implement an auditing system for stray dogs (basically going around a nearly defined area a few days in a row, keeping track of the numbers and health status of the dogs using an app), which would be helpful in spay/neutering efforts. Unfortunately, Greek bureaucracy got in the way, and I found out a few days after my arrival that the auditing training wasn’t going to be happening and PAG didn’t have much else for me to do yet (they were still in the very long process of procuring an office). I frantically sent emails out to various organizations I found online, and quickly connected with 9 Lives Greece, a volunteer network that feeds huge numbers of stray cats in various neighborhoods around the city, and tries to shift the focus of my project to concentrating efforts to spay and neuter and keep track of the populations, the problem just spirals out of control.

These past six weeks have been incredibly rewarding, and I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to learn and do so much about the issue. I hope I can bring some of what I have learned back to the US both to raise awareness about and money for the efforts here in Greece, and maybe to see if any of it might be useful in the parts of the US that are dealing with similar problems with stray. It’s funny to think that without my semester at CYA, I never would have gotten involved in this work, or even known about the problem of stray cats in Greece at all!

Maggie Chatter was a Classics major at Colby College.

For more information about 9 Lives Greece, or to make a donation to help with the sterilization and feeding expenses, visit www.ninelivesgreece.com

FROM CLASSICS TO MARBLE CARVING IN MOUNTAINOUS CRETE

By Alyssa Mendez (CYA Spring '17)

FROM THE CYA BLOG: MARBLE CARVING IN MOUNTAINOUS CRETE

We worked side-by-side for hours fully immersed in our work. There was never any pressure to talk nor any distraction from the work. When the blades of the large saw were not working, the only noise in the studio was that of birds in the trees or, in the afternoons, that of sheep being herded into a pasture nearby. This silence was only occasionally interrupted by conversa- tion. Most often when one of us needed a break from the prolonged focus the marble demanded, he or I would sit quietly as the other worked, admiring the process and relaxing before resuming.

It was in this no-stress context that I came to appreciate the process of sculpting. Without any distraction, I focused on the angle at which my chisel hit the stone, how hard I swung the hammer, and whether the stone chipped away evenly. I started when we returned to leave, one professor mentioned to Giannis that I had carved marble while in Athens. He responded with the suggestion that I return the next day to begin carving in his studio. Of course I agreed, excited to have something to do in the morning, typically a slow time in terms of interviews. From the next day on, I returned to Giannis’ studio daily to carve a wild pear and a glass of raki, two items to which I was often treated by villagers either in their houses, at feasts, or in the kafeneio (a traditional, usually males-only café).

When I started on the pear, Giannis was at my shoulder with critiques of my drawing and instruction in how he carves when he uses hammer and chisel (a variation on the method I had learned in Athens). After I got going, however, he returned to his work at the big stone-carving saws, and we worked side-by-side for hours fully immersed in our work. There was never any pressure to talk nor any distraction from the work. When the blades of the large saw were not working, the only noise in the studio was that of birds in the trees or, in the afternoons, that of sheep being herded into a pasture nearby. This silence was only occasionally interrupted by conversation. Most often when one of us needed a break from the prolonged focus the marble demanded, he or I would sit quietly as the other worked, admiring the process and relaxing before resuming. This was in no-stress context that I came to appreciate the process of sculpting. Without any distraction, I focused on the angle at which my chisel hit the stone, how hard I swung the hammer, and whether the stone chipped away evenly. I started when we returned to leave, one professor mentioned to Giannis that I had carved marble while in Athens. He responded with the suggestion that I return the next day to begin carving in his studio. Of course I agreed, excited to have something to do in the morning, typically a slow time in terms of interviews. From the next day on, I returned to Giannis’ studio daily to carve a wild pear and a glass of raki, two items to which I was often treated by villagers either in their houses, at feasts, or in the kafeneio (a traditional, usually males-only café).

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To the left: Alyssa’s marble goat; Alyssa in the studio; her pear carving

Alyssa is an Anthropology major at Columbia University in New York City.

The roughly-carved goat came with me to Crete, where I stayed for two months to conduct thesis research in a village where I had worked and lived the previous summer with a field school. Shortly after moving into this village with members of the field school, Giannis, the local sculptor, invited us into his house for a coffee and a tour of his studio. Of course I agreed, excited to have something to do in the morning, typically a slow time in terms of interviews. From the next day on, I returned to Giannis’ studio daily to carve a wild pear and a glass of raki, two items to which I was often treated by villagers either in their houses, at feasts, or in the kafeneio (a traditional, usually males-only café). When I started on the pear, Giannis was at my shoulder with critiques of my drawing and instruction in how he carves when he uses hammer and chisel (a variation on the method I had learned in Athens). After I got going, however, he returned to his work at the big stone-carving saws, and we worked side-by-side for hours fully immersed in our work. There was never any pressure to talk nor any distraction from the work. When the blades of the large saw were not working, the only noise in the studio was that of birds in the trees or, in the afternoons, that of sheep being herded into a pasture nearby. This silence was only occasionally interrupted by conversation. Most often when one of us needed a break from the prolonged focus the marble demanded, he or I would sit quietly as the other worked, admiring the process and relaxing before resuming. This was in no-stress context that I came to appreciate the process of sculpting. Without any distraction, I focused on the angle at which my chisel hit the stone, how hard I swung the hammer, and whether the stone chipped away evenly. I started when we returned to leave, one professor mentioned to Giannis that I had carved marble while in Athens. He responded with the suggestion that I return the next day to begin carving in his studio. Of course I agreed, excited to have something to do in the morning, typically a slow time in terms of interviews. From the next day on, I returned to Giannis’ studio daily to carve a wild pear and a glass of raki, two items to which I was often treated by villagers either in their houses, at feasts, or in the kafeneio (a traditional, usually males-only café). When I started on the pear, Giannis was at my shoulder with critiques of my drawing and instruction in how he carves when he uses hammer and chisel (a variation on the method I had learned in Athens). After I got going, however, he returned to his work at the big stone-carving saws, and we worked side-by-side for hours fully immersed in our work. There was never any pressure to talk nor any distraction from the work. When the blades of the large saw were not working, the only noise in the studio was that of birds in the trees or, in the afternoons, that of sheep being herded into a pasture nearby. This silence was only occasionally interrupted by conversation. Most often when one of us needed a break from the prolonged focus the marble demanded, he or I would sit quietly as the other worked, admiring the process and relaxing before resuming. This was in no-stress context that I came to appreciate the process of sculpting. Without any distraction, I focused on the angle at which my chisel hit the stone, how hard I swung the hammer, and whether the stone chipped away evenly. I started when
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Sandra Reitman (CYA Spring ‘07) and Kaylee Weiler (CYA Spring ‘07) returned to Greece in June and got a chance to visit CYA and retrace their steps in Kolonaki before heading out of the city to Mykonos and Santorini.

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Thomas Karam (Spring ’16) visited his family and friends in Athens. He said about his visit: “Dear CYA, I know I’ve only been here a year since I left, but that year was probably the most nostalgic of my life. On-site learning, personal relationships with faculty and administrators; and wonderful support in education and development; I had it all. From embarking with CYA’s huge assistance, to Monti to simply lounging on the CYA couches after a long walk from my homestay; CYA’s presence encompasses all of my favorite memories from Greece. CYA has provided such an environment, and I greatly appreciate your tireless work in making this place special!”

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Al was a gifted artist who inspired creativity in the people who knew him. His artistic genius was evident to his middle and high school art teachers. He continued his education at the Art Students League in New York City, the San Francisco Art Institute in California, and CU Boulder. His works were primarily done in oil paint but he also used pencil and pen and ink. Al drew inspiration from his friends, his travels, his mountain cabin west of Lyons, and his time living in Mexico. Whether Al was building a set for the Nomad Theater, orchestrating a dinner party for his closest friends, or climbing the fence at the Parthenon with a high school friend on a full moon night and singing Greek love songs with the guard, his special innovativeness was evident. One friend remarked, “Al was the only true genius that I’ve ever known.” Al Matlack passed away in Longmont, CO on May 6, 2017 and was interred at Longmont Mountain View Cemetery. He will be lovingly remembered by his family and many friends.

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Class Notes, continued from page 21

Wendy White ('67-'68) wrote: "Great fun being back in touch with our classmates Florence "Florendia" Keiser Romanov ('67-'68) and Kitty, now Katherine, Brewster ('67-'68), whose Aunt Joan retired near me in New Hampshire.

Have maintained contact with Peter Allom, aka Lee Sophocles ('67-'68). Teri, Kathleen (once in a blue moon), Susan Blake ('67-'68), and Vicki, all from time to time. Wish we could have even a mini reunion. Peter Allom (CYA '65-'66)’s class does that regularly. Saw my second (after Arne Fuller) CYA contact Ruthie Chute Knapp ('62-'63) recently. What a wonderful world that year opened up...I am still regularly connected to Greece, still fluent."

### CYA ALUMNI CLASS AGENTS

If you are interested in keeping up with the latest at CYA and in serving as the connecting hub between your classmates, learn more about the Class Agent role by contacting Erica Huffman at: alumni@cyathens.org.

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>Oliver Ayer (<a href="mailto:oayer@villanova.edu">oayer@villanova.edu</a>) &amp; Chris Laek (<a href="mailto:jasech01@alumni.gettysburg.edu">jasech01@alumni.gettysburg.edu</a>)</td>
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<td>seeking a volunteer!</td>
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<td>Hannah Ringheim (<a href="mailto:hringheim@gmail.com">hringheim@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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<td>Ethan Baron (<a href="mailto:ethanbaron@gmail.com">ethanbaron@gmail.com</a>) &amp; William Eberle (<a href="mailto:will.eberle13@gmail.com">will.eberle13@gmail.com</a>) &amp; Andreas Glumenakis (<a href="mailto:glumenakis.andreas@gmail.com">glumenakis.andreas@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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<td>Aubrie Boersen (<a href="mailto:aubrie.boersen@gmail.com">aubrie.boersen@gmail.com</a>) &amp; Amy Hoep (<a href="mailto:amy.hoep@gmail.com">amy.hoep@gmail.com</a>) &amp; Terence O'Neill (<a href="mailto:Terence.onestill23@gmail.com">Terence.onestill23@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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<td>Erin Meyers (<a href="mailto:erint12@gmail.com">erint12@gmail.com</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Lucianna Ravas (<a href="mailto:lucianna.ravas@gmail.com">lucianna.ravas@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>seeking a volunteer!</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Adam Fletcher (<a href="mailto:adamfletcher@yahoo.com">adamfletcher@yahoo.com</a>)</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Jennifer Kreft (<a href="mailto:jennypotts697@gmail.com">jennypotts697@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>seeking a volunteer!</td>
</tr>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>Dan Leon (<a href="mailto:dleon@illinois.edu">dleon@illinois.edu</a>) &amp; Anthony Platis (<a href="mailto:agplatis@yahoo.com">agplatis@yahoo.com</a>)</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>Bryan Tipps (<a href="mailto:btipps@bduacor.org">btipps@bduacor.org</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Maro SvatHardoupolou (<a href="mailto:maro.rose@gmail.com">maro.rose@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Stephen Masekunas (<a href="mailto:maseku@mac.com">maseku@mac.com</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Vassilis Rosanou (<a href="mailto:vassilis@gmail.com">vassilis@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>seeking a volunteer!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Susannah Snowden (<a href="mailto:Susannah_snowden@hotmail.com">Susannah_snowden@hotmail.com</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Joel Green (joelgreenstudios.com)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NEWS AND COMMENTS

Date ____________________________

Deadline for submissions for the next OWL: March 1, 2018

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COLLEGE YEAR IN ATHENS
PO BOX 390890
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139-0010
NAME ____________________________ CYA CLASS* ________

ADDRESS (if different from label) ____________________________________________

TEL Day __________________ Evening __________________________

E-MAIL ADDRESS ____________________________

If the above is a temporary address, please indicate how long you expect it to be valid (until? ______ ), and give below a more permanent address or telephone through which you can be found:

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

*Our system is to list fall semester and spring semester students as belonging to the class of the full academic year (e.g., people who attended in fall 1990 and spring 1991 both belong to the class of ’91). Summer students are listed by the year they attended.

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE & MAJOR(s) ____________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION ____________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

CURRENT OCCUPATION ____________________________

WORK ADDRESS ____________________________

☐ I WOULD LIKE CYA TO CONTACT ME ABOUT A POSSIBLE MAJOR GIFT.