The deserted CYA Auditorium as COVID-19 forced students to return home mid-semester.
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kris Todd
Chairman, Board of Trustees, College Year in Athens, Partner, Kellogg, Hansen, Todd, P肥 Friel & Peel, LLP

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Deadline for submissions for the next OWL: September 15, 2020

The Coronavirus pandemic has proven the old adage that there’s a silver lining in some clouds or that one can find opportunities even in the most acute difficulties. The use of technology by the public sector, adopted in a big scale in the course of a couple of weeks, transformed the lives of our students. Overnight all of about 150 CYA spring students had to leave Greece from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their apartments with synchronous K-12 to universities on March 11. CYA had to abide and sent its students to work from their appart
FOUNDER’S DAY

On February 13, 2020, CYA honored the memory of CYA Founder Ismene Phylactopoulos at its annual Founder’s Day event. Ismene’s resilient and innovative spirit enabled her to achieve her goals, making her an “example of female emancipation and a role model for young women,” as President Alexis Phylactopoulos (Member, CYA Board of Trustees) and Nicole, her grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

In July 2009, Kitty Kyriacopoulou generously hosted CYA’s annual Board of Trustees meeting on the island of Milos. Above, Kitty playing a game of Tavli (backgammon) with fellow Trustee George Daniel during a break between Board meetings.

Kitty KYRIACOPOULOU

It is with great sadness that we recognize the passing of Kitty Kyriacopoulou. A long-time benefactor of CYA, Kitty served on the Board of Trustees for 35 years and later as Trustee Emerita, and supported CYA’s drive to acquire essential facilities next to the Panathenian Stadium. Kitty was a prominent figure in Greece, leaving her mark on Greek society and serving as a role model for professional women. She was particularly interested in education, which drew her to the cause of CYA. Her guidance and support helped CYA in its development, making it the institution it is today. She is survived by her children, Ulysses (Member, CYA Board of Trustees) and Florica, her grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

The night served as a reflection on CYA’s history and the dedication of the staff and faculty. Although CYA’s inspiring past and promising future were highlights of the celebration, President Phylactopoulos also stressed its present: “CYA today has what it had back in 1962: great people who work with passion, with the feeling that CYA belongs to them because they came to think of it, to do. CYA is the people, its faculty, its administration, its staff. Without them, without you, CYA is nothing.”

CYA professor Nanno Marinatos gave a speech on CYA’s past and present. She discussed her history and roles at CYA as well as her experience as a Professor and Chair of Classics at the U of IL. She was able to touch upon the history of CYA, the changes in Classics and curricula today and how CYA has navigated these changes very successfully.

Professor Marinatos discussed Mr. Phylactopoulos’ vision for CYA and the fact that he realized while Classics had to remain one of the cores of the program, it had to be only one part of a broader focus. If Greek Classical studies were not made relevant to American students in the 21st century, shrugage was inevitable and there was even the danger of total extinction. CYA’s current curriculum is diverse and includes Greece’s classical heritage as well as many disciplines from the social sciences. In closing, Nanno shared some personal stories about her years teaching at CYA and working with Dr. Kimon Giocarini, then Director of Studies.

In July 2009, Kitty Kyriacopoulou generously hosted CYA’s annual Board of Trustees meeting on the island of Milos. Above, Kitty playing a game of Tavli (backgammon) with fellow Trustee George Daniel during a break between Board meetings.

Please Note

Due to budget constraints as a result of COVID-19, CYA will not print the alumni newsletter this year. We have every intention to resume print copies as soon as we can (2021).

Evgenia Mylonaki

Last July, Evgenia Mylonaki represented CYA at the Iris Murdoch Centenary Conference at the University of Oxford. Iris Murdoch is one of the most prominent philosophers, fiction writers and public intellectuals of the 20th century. Her philosophical work covers a major part of the history of philosophy, but also the philosophical traditions and the established disciplines in the field. This conference was organized by the Iris Murdoch Research Centre of the University of Chichester and St. Anne’s College and Somerville College of the University of Oxford. It was attended by more than 130 delegates from around the world and, besides the specialist talks, it included an exhibition of material from the Iris Murdoch’s archive and a number of public events on literature, theatre and music. Evgenia presented a paper on Iris Murdoch’s conception of Moral Perception. The paper was well received.

Despina Iosif

Despina coauthored with Henry Jakubowski, Professor of Chemistry at College of St. Benedict/St. John’s University Galen and Modern Healing. Postgradum 3, 2019, 13-39. Based on his voluminous writings and the number of centuries that medical healers adopted his healing canon, Galen was probably the single most influential medical healer in Western medicine of all time. The article explores Galen’s life and medicine, and sheds light on the ideas of this man are consistent with and can still illuminate evolving paradigms for explaining and treating disease, illness and relieving human suffering.

Athena Hadji


Maria Vidali

Maria presented in the 17th conference Arttechnics Network: Mind, Land and Society, at the Technical University of Cat- alovia UPC, School of Architecture ETSAV in Barcelona, 29th-31st of May 2019 a paper titled: Narrative, metaphor and fiction as tools in architectural education.

2019 was a very productive year for Dr. Papadopoulos as two publications were presented at conferences proceedings: a) Exceptional objects from old excavations. The case of Aegian artifacts at Igoumenitsa (19th excavation season) and Mneme and propaganda in the early Late Bronze Age Argos: The case of the “Sigeo Rhythm”. In ad- dition, Dr. Papadopoulos with Assist. Prof. Anna Oesterholt (MSU) received a research grant for the publication of a Bronze Age cemetery in Papigos, Cyprus, excavated by Papadopoulos in 2008.
FULBRIGHT OPPORTUNITY INFORMATION NIGHT

On November 20, CYA hosted a casual dinner event for students interested in learning more about or applying to a Fulbright Program in Greece. The Fulbright Awards Program offers scholarships to US Citizens for academic research and/or lecturing in all disciplines at various educational, cultural, and research organizations in Greece. For more information visit https://us.fulbrightonline.org/.

The purpose of the gathering, aside from a nice dinner and mingling with interesting people, was to facilitate networking and inform anyone curious about grant opportunities. Fulbright participants and staff also attended and were able to give students some great insight into the program, process, and experience.

STUDENTS ATTEND ECONOMIC SUMMIT

Students from professor Romolo Gandolfo’s class Contemporary Greek Politics and Society attended the 30th Annual Greek Economic Summit, hosted by the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, at the Athensxmm Intercontinental hotel in December 2019. This year’s theme, “Turning the Odds” reflected the country’s dynamic efforts to turn the page and rapidly return to a sustainable path of growth and global competitiveness amid the challenges facing countries and economies today. Professor Gandolfo and his students attended talks by political figures, industry leaders, experts and influencers such as the Minister of Finance Chrisostos Staiikouras, the Chairman of the Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV) Theodore Fissas, and the US Ambassador to Greece Geoffrey Pyatt. The students were very excited about attending this top-level conference, and happy to discover that, thanks to the courses they were taking at CYA, they could fully enjoy these presentations and place them in a meaningful economic and political context.

COLLEGE YEAR IN ATHENS HOSTED BY THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF GREECE IN BOSTON

In early January, CYA had the honor of being hosted at the Consulate General of Greece in Boston by Consul General Stratos Efthymiou. Consul Efthymiou noted CYA’s important history of inspiring students and philhellenes to come to Greece for academic purposes, enriching the country’s academic and cultural landscape.

Alexis Phylactopoulos, President of CYA, and Daphne Hatsopoulos, Secretary of the Board of Trustees and wife of the late George N. Hatsopoulos, a historic benefactor of CYA, spoke at the reception.

CYA LIBRARY

In fall 2019 the CYA Library was given some much needed extra space by expanding to an adjoining room which now hosts the Reserve Collection as well as a long study table. A very pleasant reading corner was created by the new layout with two comfortable armchairs in the section where the Reserve Collection used to be, and more room was given to the Main Collection for its further enrichment.

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A self-proclaimed mythology fan, Kate was interested in the differences between how to treat them. As an EMT, Kate acted with them firsthand, learning about their illness and how to treat them with the skills and knowledge she has gained in the classroom to the test.

One of Kate’s favorite parts of her volunteer work was that she felt she’s been able to provide more continuity at the clinic than usual. The doctors she works with are volunteering their time and efforts, so they often stay for about two weeks before switching out with a new doctor. Kate, on the other hand, had been helping at the clinic mid-September through the end of the semester. After she had been coming for weeks, she felt confident helping doctors recognize recurring patients and checking on their previous problems before helping them with new ones. This was far from Kate’s first time venturing out into the medical field. She is a certified EMT, has worked in a clinic and trauma center, and has shadowed a variety of different medical professionals already. But even with all this experience under her belt already, she feels that her experiences here in Greece have been unique. While shadowing in the US is just “watching,” she describes her work here shadowing and with the volunteer organization as more “interactive” and “involved.” She’s had the chance to speak up and give her opinion to real medical professionals in a way that she hasn’t had the chance to do in the US. While she has loved the work she has done in the US previously, she admits that “it’s one thing to learn it in the classroom but it’s another to actually go and to see what you’re learning in class in action and to see the consequences of it.” In her volunteer work in Greece, Kate got to witness the healing impact her help has had on real people.

Kate with Dr.Spyros Sarpanonis, the surgeon she has been shadowing

This healing impact is all the more meaningful because Medical Volunteers International assists refugees. For Kate, it was different than caring for patients at a hospital back in the US. Without the work of organizations like MVI, it can be extremely difficult for refugees to find medical care. In countries like Greece, where so many refugees have arrived in the past few years, this kind of humanitarian aid is critical. By setting up close the situations of these refugees, Kate has gained more than just medical experience from her volunteering – she feels that her work at MVI has “opened up a whole new realm of sympathy.”

When it comes to future CYA students who are considering volunteering, Kate’s advice was simple: “Don’t be hesitant... it’s going to be great.”

For her amazing work throughout her time at CYA, Kate was named the Student of the Semester for fall ‘19! Bravo Kate!

By Abby Wolfe, Fall ‘19, who attended CYA from The University of Notre Dame

CYA student Kate Foster made the most of her time in Greece

CYA STUDENTS MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR SEMESTER IN GREECE

CYA STUDENTS PUBLISH PAPERS IN JOURNAL

Recently, four CYA students, Blaine Cheramie, Fall ‘19; Nicole Tubman, Fall ‘19; Sophia Sarra, Fall ‘19; and Joshua Anthony, Spring ’19, published articles in the Post Augustum journal. The Post Augustum is an online journal dedicated to the history of the Mediterranean world during the first Christian centuries. The journal was created and run by CYA Professor Despina Josif and D.J. Krysaltas, Professor at the University of Thessaly, along with other historians who specialize in the period. Original scholarly articles, research, and book reviews from both Greek and international scholars are featured on the e-journal.

Noting the incredible achievement of publishing a scholarly article as an undergraduate, Professor Josif said, “Getting exceptional current and former CYA students interested in the chance for their first scholarly publication, a publication which will proudly appear on their CVs, is very important for me. Caring about our students and their scholarly achievements does not of course stop when they leave CYA.”

The alumni themselves were thrilled about the opportunity to be published in the Post Augustum. Blaire Cheramie described her feelings about getting published: “Through CYA and my Religions of the Middle East course with Professor Despina Josif, I was able to achieve something I never expected during my semester abroad! The experience of writing an article to be published is an exciting melding of new ideas and the feeling of finally being heard.” Sophia Sarra reflected on the access to the broader academic world she gained through being featured in the Post Augustum, stating, “When Professor Josif brought up the possibility of publishing our papers, I was ecstatic. I felt like instead of exploring the topic itself – which was fun enough on its own - we could actually add to and influence the great body of academic literature from which we learned.”

The CYA alumni published articles addressing a broad range of topics regarding early Christianity and the ancient Mediterranean world. Nicole Tubman conducted research on the connection between the ancient figure of Pan and the Christian devil, using artistic imagery and ancient sources. The paper touched on her interests in folklore, Greek mythology, and art. “It was like putting together a puzzle in a sense, matching the imagery and the reasoning behind it. It felt more like a personal project than a school assignment in the end, it was so enjoyable,” Nicole expressed.

Joshua Anthony published two articles in the Post Augustum. The journal was a perfect fit for Joshua, as “most of [his] research falls on this line between classical antiquity and early Christianity, and Post Augustum happens to specialize precisely in this [period].” In his first paper, Joshua examined the relationship between “Christianity and Roman culture in late antique Germanic kingdoms,” while his second was focused on “the theological significance of Greek literary motifs in the composition of St Luke’s Gospel and the Book of Acts.”

Blaise’s piece, titled “Intersections of Martyrdom and Gender: Dressing a broad range of topics regarding early Christianity and the ancient Mediterranean world. Nicole Tubman conducted research on the connection between the ancient figure of Pan and the Christian devil, using artistic imagery and ancient sources. The paper touched on her interests in folklore, Greek mythology, and art. “It was like putting together a puzzle in a sense, matching the imagery and the reasoning behind it. It felt more like a personal project than a school assignment in the end, it was so enjoyable,” Nicole expressed.

The sentiment was shared by all the alumni who were published: “now, being able to say that I have a published piece in a journal (among so many other opportunities provided by CYA), I know that I have gained professional experience on top of all the good memories,” Blaire noted. She added, “I am so grateful to Professor Despina Josif for how she connected with and believed in me and all of her students, and for this incredible chance to share our thoughts with a larger, global classical community!”

Congratulations to all the CYA alumni who were published in the Post Augustum!

EUPRIPIDES PLAY • THE SUPPLIANTS

On December 17, students and faculty enjoyed a performance of Euripides’ Suppliants put on by Professor Demetrios Kritsotakis’ Ancient Greek students. Their performance was moving as well as fresh and original, and was thoroughly enjoyed by audience and actors alike.
CYA held a reception for Alumni and Friends January 4th in Washington, DC. The event was held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America/Society for Classical Studies. CYA President, Alexis Phylactopoulos, CYA Vice President for Academic Affairs, Theoni Scourta, and CYA Director of Alumni Relations, Erica Huffman ’93, attended the event along with nearly 70 guests, including local area alumni/parents and conference attendees.

Chairman of the Board of Trustees of College Year in Athens, Chris Todd, and Treasurer of the CYA Board of Trustees, Peter Allen ’65, joined CYA Advisory Roundtable member and Adjunct Professor at Southwestern University Pam Haskell, CYA Advisory Roundtable member and Chair, Classics at Southwestern University Hal Haskell and CYA faculty members Jeff Vanderpool and Nina Papathanasopoulou along with former CYA faculty member Tessa Dinsmoor at the festive occasion.

Several alumni in the field were able to join as well, including: Professor of Classics and W. H. Collis Vickers Professor of Archaeology Emeritus at Johns Hopkins University Alan Shapiro ’69, Senior Associate Member, postdoc at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens Sam Holzman ’10, Research Associate, Archaeology at Bryn Mawr College Mary Dabney ’75, Professor of Classics at Washington University in St. Louis Cathy Keane ’91, Associate Professor of Classics at Franklin and Marshall Gretchen Meyers ’91, and Assistant Professor of Classics at Knox College Mitchell Parks ’07. The event is a great opportunity to re-connect with friends and fellow CYA alumni and friends as well as meet new people. Great food and conversation made for a fun night!
COVID-19 PANDEMIC

SPRING 2020: A PICTORIAL OF A SEMESTER CUT SHORT

The outbreak of COVID-19 this past March and the rapid sequence of events forced our Spring 2020 students into a hasty departure, in order to reach home before the U.S. lockdown. It was a sad time at CYA, saying good-bye to our students so soon after we had welcomed them to Athens.

And when schools were ordered closed and students had to leave, CYA was quick to respond to the task of salvaging the semester.

Students had been enjoying classes in the open, on archaeological sites, in cafes. They also had time to enjoy a trip to Delphi and another to the Peloponnese.

When dining facilities were ordered to close, CYA continued to offer lunch as take-out. Students took it in stride, coming to the Academic Center to pick up packets for all their apartment-mates.

Missing the Spring 2020 class, CYA organized two live sessions to bring a feeling of Greece to students at home. The first was a live tzatziki-making session with Nadia and Meni! The second was a Syrtaki dance lesson, with several administrators dancing to the tunes of Zorba the Greek, while others clapped encouragingly off camera! To view these and other videos link to our YouTube page here.

Although studying under lockdown instead of studying abroad was hard, students responded commendably—sometimes aided by their beloved pets!

Some instructors even added short entertaining spots to their sessions, to offer moral support and break the monotony of online class.

Instructors even added short entertaining spots to their sessions, to offer moral support and break the monotony of online class.

No farewell party this spring, no hugs, no tears. Instead, a heartfelt wish to see all our Spring 2020 students again, soon, under less stressful circumstances.
The customary end-of-semester faculty meeting of Spring ’20 was moved this time from a conference room to a virtual one. Thanks to digital technology, more than 30 faculty members and several Administrators joined in on May 13 to hear the latest from President Phylactopoulos and to exchange views and news with their colleagues.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

On September 24, Richard Seaford, Professor Emeritus of Classics and Ancient history, University of Exeter, gave an inspirational talk on Ancient Greece and the Perils of the Twenty-first Century: The Importance of Limit elaborating on what we can learn from Ancient Greece as a tool for confronting the disintegrative tendencies of the twenty-first century.

Dr. Seaford wrote: “This lecture draws on recent research in order to suggest a way in which ancient Greece can be an inspiration for us in confronting the disintegrative tendencies of the twenty-first century. I started by comparing the relief sculptures of the Assyrians with those of the Greeks, equally beautiful but very different in spirit. What emerges is the distinctiveness of two Greek ideas: firstly, of conflict as either harmonious or rule-bound, and secondly of the individual person as autonomous. Both harmony and rules constitute limitation of the autonomous individual, be it in musical or athletic competitions, commerce, or warfare. The importance of limit is central to various spheres of Greek culture: aesthetics, economics, cosmology, ethics, and politics. Modern societies are generally rule-bound, and increasing vulnerable to the social, environmental, and psychological destructiveness of the crowd of unlimited acquisitive individualism, by which the ancient Greeks would be horrified. For them limit and self-limitation were not bleakly negative but rather might belong to a compelling vision that was aesthetic, emotional, and intellectual.”

On October 2, John S. Pezaris ’83, member of the research faculty in the Department of Neurosurgery at Massachusetts General Hospital, and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurosurgery at Harvard Medical School, gave a talk on progress toward artificial sight and restoration of vision to the blind. John attended CYA in spring of 1983.

According to Dr. Pezaris, “Blindness is a widespread condition with millions of people affected worldwide. The primary causes are diseases of the eye that leave the rest of the visual brain largely intact. In the Pezaris Laboratory at the Massachusetts General Hospital, we hypothesize that by sending signals from an external camera directly into the brain, we can provide restoration of sight, at least in crude form. This talk reviewed our efforts to realize this idea through the creation of a visual prostheses. While technically challenging, the research also raises questions about the nature of visual perception that we have explored through simulations of artificial vision.”

Dr. Seaford wrote: “In the United States, there are more than 1 blind person for every 40 people. In 2016, 1.3% of the worldwide population was blind. In the United States, 1% of the population is visually impaired. According to the World Health Organization, 466 million people worldwide are visually impaired, and 196 million are blind. The number of people with visual impairments is expected to increase by 50% by 2050.”

On November 19, CYA professor Nina Papathanasopoulos spoke about Martha Graham’s iconic ballet Night Journey, a retelling of Sophocles’ Oedipus Rex, where Graham reinterprets the tragedy through Jocasta’s eyes, peering into her psyche. Choreographer Penny Diamantopoulou, who has studied at the Martha Graham School and is now teaching the Graham technique at the National School of Dance (Athens, Greece), provided valuable insight into the performative aspects of Graham’s piece. The two speakers prepared the audience to fully appreciate the riveting performance that followed, by students from the National School of Dance.

On December 18, CYA hosted a lecture by Jennifer Neils, Director of The American School of Classical Studies at Athens, titled Re-reading the Parthenon Sculptures. The event was organized by The Princeton University Athens Center for Research and Hellenic Studies and the Princeton Club of Greece, and sponsored by CYA.

Since 1750 dilettanti and scholars have been challenged by the sculptural program of the Temple of Athena Parthenon, and each generation has produced its own interpretations. This talk presented some of the newest ideas about what the ancient Athenians might be attempting to express in this, one of the most ambitious, iconographic programs of all antiquity.

Legal Issues in the Parthenon Marbles Conflict

On October 29, Dr. Flessas is an honorary fellow at Kent Law School, attached to the Centre for Heritage Studies. The Parthenons, or Elgin, Marbles debate is one of the oldest and most contentious cultural property disputes. Greece and the UK have been arguing about the claim that the Parthenon Marbles should be repatriated since 1833. As new initiatives are launched for the return of the marbles, Dr. Flessas discussed the legal barriers to their return and raised some questions about the difficulty of repatriation cases more generally.

Re-reading the Parthenon Sculptures
CYA STUDENTS HELP PROTECT ATTICA’S VITAL WETLANDS: VRAVRONA CLEANUP WITH HELMEPA

During Fall semester 2019, nine CYA students participated in a cleanup of the Vravrona wetlands with HELMEPA, the Hellenic Marine Protection Association. Mike Pakuris (Rollins College), Sophia Musiak (Oberlin College), Lydia Bontrager (Kalamazoo College), Blaike Cheramie (Scipps College), Alex Gallaher (Pacific Lutheran University), Veda Chandwani (Siena College), Annolisa Brand (The College of Wooster), Genevieve Fisher (Wellesley College), and Abigail Brown (Gettysburg College) participated in the event.

Vravrona, a prominent landscape is of the utmost importance. The Erasinos River renders it suitable for many Union Habitats Directive and the Natura 2000 European network of protected areas. Included in this network are sites that house important ecosystems and wildlife. Students met with environmentalists from all over the world, and they learned about interesting internship positions available to them. “This is exactly the type of international exchange I was going for” Blake Cheramie declared after speaking with the Executive Officer of the Australian Marine Environment Protection Association (AUSMEPA), John Nash. The cleanup also provided opportunities for continued participation in environmental activities with HELMEPA. Abigail Brown, a student who took part in the cleanup, went on to volunteer with HELMEPA for the duration of the semester.

HELMEPA’s mission is to engage the public, especially young people, in environmental protection and education. Beyond frequent beach and wetland cleanup events, HELMEPA offers classes to children about the environment, ecosystems in Greece, and how to protect the planet. This collaboration between CYA and HELMEPA was made possible by the work of CYA’s Executive Director of Student Affairs, Nadia Meliniotis, who organized the event.

In total, CYAers filled five large bags with trash. CYA’s participation in the recent wetlands cleanup provided the students the opportunity not only to help remove waste from the sensitive ecosystem but also to make connections in the environmental field.

Sophia working with ARCHELON Sea Turtle Rescue Center in Glyfada, a beach-side southern suburb of Athens. ARCHELON, as Sophia stated, “works on conserving the sea turtle’s habitats, educating the public about [sea turtles], and provides medical and rehabilitation services [to the turtles].” As the negative human impact on turtles and their habitats is evident, ARCHELON does incredibly important work in helping these sensitive animals thrive in Greece. Sophia often interacted with turtles directly during her time at ARCHELON, by feeding injured sea turtles and cleaning their tanks. Through her volunteer experience at ARCHELON, Sophia met many people in the environmental and conservation fields from Greece and Europe. She also had the chance to see parts of Athens that are very different than the urban city center, an aspect of her time volunteering that she considered very special. Having the opportunity “to give back to the community while doing something [she] is passionate about” enhanced Sophia’s study abroad experience, one that she “would do all over again!”

Sophia enjoying her time at ARCHELON

TWO CYA’ERS DESCRIBE THEIR VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES: VEDA CHANDWANI AND SOPHIA MUSIAK

With the help of CYA’s Executive Director of Student Affairs, Nadia Meliniotis, CYAers have the chance to volunteer in many different fields, enriching their study abroad experience by engaging in important charitable work.

Two Fall 2019 students, Veda Chandwani (Siena College) and Sophia Musiak (Oberlin College), describe their eye-opening experiences working for medical and environmental causes.

Veda volunteered with Medical Volunteers International (MVI). MVI provides necessary healthcare to refugees, including medicine and access to doctors. As Veda noted, “It’s extremely important that refugees are able to get this help, as many cross the border without the medications they need.” For chronic conditions such as diabetes and high cholesterol, Veda volunteered at MVI’s clinic called STEP’s, in triage, “where [patients] stand in a line to see a doctor.” Veda assisted doctors and staff by translating Hindi and Urdu to English, and back. She also distributed medicine to those in need, and helped decide who needed medical attention beyond that which the clinic could provide.

This experience was extremely important for Veda, a pre-med student at Siena College. She remarked, “volunteering while I studied abroad in Greece has opened me up to the rest of the country and the variety of people that live here… volunteering with MVI has made me more aware of the world. I hope I will be able to come back later in life, once I have my M.D., and be a visiting doctor working with MVI.”

Mike Pakuris and Nadia Meliniotis, Executive Director of Student Affairs, enjoying their volunteer efforts!

Alex Gallaher and Abigail Brown give a “thumbs up” to the cleanup!

Sophia enjoying her time at ARCHELON

NORTH AMERICAN OFFICE NEWS

CYA on the Road! CYA’s Fall 2019 recruitment season was a huge success thanks to our amazing Campus Relations Representatives! CYA Campus Reps visited over 85 campuses throughout the U.S. and met with prospective and accepted students, faculty, study abroad staff and CYA alumni. The Fall 2019 Campus Rep team included Rachael Bittick (Fall ’17) from the University of Michigan, Cara Johnson (Fall ’17) from Gettysburg College, and Emily Parker (Fall ’17) from Macalester College. Thank you for your continued commitment and support to CYA.

CYA on the Road!

III: Presentation

CYA’s Institutional Relations Manager, Alexia Lingas spoke at the Institute for International Education during the NAFSA 2019 Conference in Washington D.C. Alexia talked about the importance of cultural exchange in study abroad, emphasizing the need for international experiences and partnerships that enable students to easily go abroad. These transformative international experiences will shape the next generation of global citizens.

Fall 2019 CYA Ambassador Flight Award Recipient

Each semester, CYA partners with STA Travel to award a $500 Flight Voucher to the most active CYA Student Ambassador. We’re happy to announce that this year’s winner is Rachel Klein (Fall ’19) from Wesleyan University! CYA Ambassadors are awarded many perks, including a free two-week stay in a CYA apartment, in appreciation for their participation in the program. Congratulations Rachel! Thank you so much for your continued support and commitment to CYA. Enjoy your next adventure!

Fall 2019 CYA Ambassador Flight Award Recipient
While visiting Athens I had the opportunity to see and experience all parts of CYA, Athens, and greater Greece. Sitting in on several of CYA’s classes, I thoroughly enjoyed a learning environment where inclusiveness was fostered by the professors’ teaching style, and where students were not afraid to ask questions, to debate their opinions, and to dive deeper into their various topics. It made me want to be a student again!

I was also able to meet and interact with most of the CYA staff and faculty. It was great to create deeper relationships with several of my colleagues, and feel at ease with everyone from day one, which helped me understand the bonding students express in their messages and blogs after their semester at CYA! During my short visit I met many students who potentially could become CYA’s Student Ambassadors, sharing their CYA experience and encouraging others on their home campuses to consider the life-changing opportunity to study abroad in Greece.

One of my favorite activities was to take nightly strolls throughout the streets of downtown Athens. Every night while in Athens, sometimes with CYA colleagues, sometimes on my own, I would walk from my Panagiri apartment to downtown Athens and explore the neighborhoods. I felt that, by doing this almost every day, I was able to get a better idea of what Athens is like as a city. When I arrived, I felt slightly intimidated by this monumental city, but by the end of my trip, I truly felt like I had a home here!

The highlight of my time in Greece was definitely joining the trip to Metsovo. I had heard so much about this beautiful, pristine, mountainous village in the Northeastern region of Greece. For three whole days we visited historical sites and unique sites, enjoyed breathtaking landscapes, and met local residents! This fan of adventure was definitely joining the trip to Metsovo, Ioannina, and Meteora, led by two wonderful professors, Marinatos, and John Kazaris! I really appreciated this trip as an opportunity to get to know the students better and experience with them some of the activities they participate in! This fantastic trip allowed us to see and experience the Northeastern region of Greece. For three whole days we visited historical sites and museums, UNESCO-protected villages and unique sites, enjoyed breathtaking sceneries, and experienced the Greek culture away from the hustle and bustle of Athens. Seeing this part of Greece really opened my eyes to a side of the country that, perhaps, not many people get to experience. From the mountainous town of Metsovo to the towering rock formations in Meteora, this was one of my favorite trips I have ever been on!

I am using this experience and new knowledge to better advise students as they begin their CYA journey. It is my job to make sure that from the moment they start their application to when they land in Greece, their questions are answered and they feel prepared to make their time studying abroad a positive and successful experience. Having been given the opportunity to see exactly what goes into creating the CYA experience, I feel as though I can help these students in a much greater capacity!

**ATHENA’S ODYSSEY**

By Adam Fletcher ’03

On an especially hot August afternoon in Athens, I remarked to a coworker, ‘en, πάρα πολύ ζέστη. Fountain her face, my coworker quickly corrected me, πάρα πολύ ζέστη. I asked her to explain the difference—when you would use one word instead of the other—and she put it this way: μου is like a glass that’s full, and πάρα πολύ is like a glass that’s overflowing.

I was in Athens that summer for the Athens Olympics, working for NBC, the American television station providing coverage of the games. After my Spring 2003 semester at CYA, which I consider among the most transformative experiences of my life, I was determined to find a way to return to Greece. Because Athens was set to host 2004 Olympics, I worked to get myself offered to get on NBC’s crew. I called NBC’s offices in New York, they told me to send over a resume and a few months later I got a call to hire me as an assistant on their studio lighting crew. It was an utterly unglamorous position—I was hired as a “local” and had to pay for my own airfare and find my own accommodations—but it was a way back to Greece. That summer was great. I worked 14-hour days for two months straight with only one day off. And yet by the time the Olympics ended, I had saved enough money to be able to live on my own in Athens for a couple months.

In the early evening of September 11th, 2004, a Saturday afternoon in Athens, the games had ended, I began my usual walk to Carrefour, located on the busy Vass. I tried to pick up some groceries. About halfway there, sitting alone and hungrily looking forward to one of the large apartments lining the road, was a small gray kitten. It concerned me that there were no other cats, neither its siblings nor its mother, around. Almost immediately, and without much thought, I told myself that if the cat were still there on my way back, I would take it home with me. Even now I can’t explain why I said it was about that cat and that moment that so inspired me. I had interacted with hundreds of stray cats both during my time at CYA and during the Olympics—and at that time this particular cat seemed unremarkable, just a typical short-haired gray kitten with stripes, but without any especially striking features. If the Fates are real, then surely they were at work this day.

Knowing that the stores were closed on Sundays, I hurried on to Carrefour, made sure to buy some cat food and litter, and rushed back to collect the kitten I hoped was still there. She was, only now she was awake and playing, and no longer seemed quite so vulnerable and helpless! I tried to scoop her up and carry her off, but she kept wriggling and squirming, making it impossible to take her with me. I rushed home, dropped off my groceries, and looked for something in which I could carry her. The only thing I could find was the box holding the memorabilia NBC had given me, so I dumped everything out and rushed back to find the kitten, and fortunately she was still there. Before taking her, I asked a man walking out of a nearby apartment whether the cat was his, or anyone else’s. He said he had shown it up a couple of days before but didn’t think she belonged to anyone, and thought it was fine if I took her. I scooped her up and dropped her into the box, and had to keep the flaps closed because she was jumping up and down inside trying to escape. I remember peaking into the box, looking into her eyes, and deciding that her name would be Athena. It seemed apropos to name her after the goddess whose name her birth city also shared.

We bonded during our first evening together. She filled her belly, she played, and she made herself comfortable on my bed. She was also covered in fleas, and so I pulled out a comb and combed her, removing as many as I could. Using a damp cloth, I wiped her down and bathed her, and eventually she fell asleep, snoring partly on my chest and partly cradled in my right arm—the same place she slept most nights for the next 15 years. At the end of October, I brought her back from Greece to my home in Cleveland, and from Cleveland we eventually moved to Albuquerque together. Then, about nine years later, back to Cleveland. Everywhere I went, she went—a life full of adventure.

**VIRTUAL LECTURE SERIES**

In our effort to stay connected with our community and engage with our students, alumni, friends, and partners, CYA is launching a series of virtual activities, lectures, webinars, and cultural/historical walks in Athens, we will be able to interact in ways different from what we previously knew.

**STAFF ORIENTATION TRIP**

Last fall, CYA’s Student Advisor, Hailey Lovett, visited our campus in Athens for two weeks. Hailey, who joined CYA in May 2018, oversees the application and pre-departure process for students. This includes the role of the Ambassador Program Coordinator. She loves hearing about each student’s every opportunity of working with students both before they get to Greece and after they return to their home campuses! This trip to Athens allowed Hailey to interact with CYA staff and faculty, and to learn about and share opportunities from the student’s perspective!

Hailey above Monastiraki square

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**ALUMNI REFLECTIONS**

By Shre Ganatsek ’80

Thirty years ago this week, it was spring vacation at CYA, and I was lucky enough to be able to travel to Israel with some friends from the program. We had few plans other than to arrive in Jerusalem, AL, and backpack around the country. We started by going through long and heavy security before leaving Athens. Officers of some sort then boarded the plane, and sat in the front row next to the cockpit, carrying machine guns. We were given aspirin, and then our laptop was scanned again. We were passed, (possibly Jews emigrating), with a goat and several ducks. The short flight was otherwise uneventful, and we made our way to a comfortable hotel in the Old City, which I considered among the most memorable for me. I was to CYA for starting me on the path toward the friendship of a lifetime.

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**MEMORY OF EASTER AT CYA**

This past December I lost my beloved Athena, a cat, and I've grieved for her every day since. If it’s possible for a person and an animal to be soulmates, then surely Athena and I were soulmates—inescapable, best friends. In the days immediately following her passing, I struggled at first to express to friends just how much Athena meant to me. But then my mind went back to the conversation I had had on that August afternoon in the summer of 2004, coincidentally about the time Athena entered this world: μου is like a glass that’s full, and πάρα πολύ is like a glass that’s overflowing. I thought that’s how I love for Athena was—always overflowing. Life will never be the same without her, but how fortunate I have been—and how indebted I am to CYA for starting me on the path toward the friendship of a lifetime.
MEET THE 2019–2020 MEDIA LAB INTERNS!

Each semester, CYA’s MediaLab welcomes a group of interns to the team.

FALL INTERNS:

The MediaLab was excited to welcome two media interns for the Fall ’19 semester: Claire Jeantheau and Abby Wolfe. They spent the semester sharing their own study abroad experiences and highlighting the experiences of other students through the CYA blog and social media. Get to know a bit about them here:

Claire Jeantheau

“Hi, I’m Claire! I’m a junior at Dickinson College studying Classics, Education, and social entrepreneurship. Between my classical language and philosophy classes at CYA, I’m looking forward to exploring all the hills, ancient sites, and museums around Athens—and satisfying my new love of Koulibri bread rings!”

Abby Wolfe

“Hi! I’m Abby, and I am a junior at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana. I am a Political Science major and Sociology minor, and could not be more excited to be spending this semester in Athens! While here, I’m taking classes on the modern politics of Greece and the financial crisis, as well as business ethics and communications. Back at my home institution, I work for the media company that films and airs all Notre Dame athletics on networks like ESPN3 or NBCSN.

During my summers, I have worked at a sports media company called to fly back home due to the pandemic, the CYA MediaLab offered interns the opportunity to continue collaborating with CYA in the form of a virtual internship. 8 out of nine interns decided to pursue the internship program. Graphic design projects, video collages, articles and Instagram takeover videos were completed by the interns during the lockdown, all while dealing with the multiple difficulties and stress caused by the pandemic.

Meet the Spring ’20 MediaLab interns as they introduced themselves on the CYA blog, in the beginning of the semester:

Jessa Ho

“Hi there! My name is Jess! I am originally from New Milford, Connecticut, but I am currently studying global cultural studies and marketing at Washington University in St. Louis. I’m super excited to be exploring Greek culture and cuisine and visiting classical-era ruins in the next four months. In my free time, I enjoy longboarding, guitar, spontaneous traveling, and any means of creative expression. I am incredibly excited to document all of my incredible experiences in Greece!”

Hannah Ziomek

“Hi, my name is Hannah and I’m a junior at Skidmore College. I’m a potential double major in Classics and English and I love to write! I’m excited to be a part of the media lab team and really get to experience Greece this semester.”

Jenny Cheung

“Jenny Cheung is a junior studying Business Administration and History at the University of Southern California (USC). She is currently working as a content creation intern at Insider Publications in Athens and is passionate about social media, digital marketing, and entrepreneurship. In her free time, she enjoys designing websites, traveling, and reading.”

Jayne Tully

“Jayne Tully is a junior at the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio. As an English major and a Classics minor, I can’t wait to combine my love of writing with not only the rich history, but also the vibrant present of Athens. I plan to spend probably too much time looking for the perfect place to run, and also participate in online workshops and activities that connect them to Greek culture and society, as well as providing professional development. The internship positions will be filled according to a plan agreed upon by the student, the CYA faculty advisor, and the host organization.

More information about the Gap Semester Program here

SPRING INTERNS:

In spring 2020, the MediaLab was happy to gain nine new collaborators! The MediaLab worked with this new group of interns on exciting, creative projects throughout the semester. The interns worked on interviews, articles, videos, collaborative projects and creative social media campaigns. When CYA Students were called to fly back home due to the pandemic, the CYA MediaLab offered interns the option to continue collaborating with CYA in the form of a virtual internship. 8 out of nine interns decided to pursue the internship program. Graphic design projects, video collages, articles and Instagram takeover videos were completed by the interns during the lockdown, all while dealing with the multiple difficulties and stress caused by the pandemic.

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More information about the Gap Semester Program here

SPRING INTERNS, continued

Nicole Brays

“Hi! My name’s Nicole and I am currently a sophomore at DePau University in Chicago. I am studying Communications along with peace and religion. I am very passionate and curious individual and love learning about people and culture. I am excited to live in Athens for four months and cannot wait to experience all the challenges and rewards that Greece has to offer.”

Nika Schoonover

“Hi! I’m Nika, a sophomore studying Journalism and Political Science at DePau University. I love to study the impact media has on politics and society and hope to be a news reporter after college. I am really excited to study in Athens to explore the rich history and culture of the region. I cannot wait to share these explorations with you through the CYA Media Lab.”

Sheridan Blitz

“Hello! My name is Sheridan, I’m a third year from Oberlin College, and I was born and raised in the Bay Area! I’m double majoring in Psychology and Anthropology and double minor in Philosophy, and Peace and Conflict Studies. At CYA I’m taking philosophy and archaeology classes. I will primarily be one of the photographers for the Media Lab so let me know if you’ve found any majestic photo ops! I love to stay active and explore the outdoors, cook lots of meals, hang out with animals (especially horses), do artsy things, meditate, etc… I am also working on building my own business for integrative plant based lifestyle solutions with a one-on-one consulting model. Also, my favorite color is yellow!”

Simon Wang

“Zhiyuan (Simon) Wang is a junior at Macalester College studying Classics and Mathematics.”

Zoe Conway

“Hi, I’m Zoe! I’m a junior at The College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio. As an English major and a Classics minor, I can’t wait to combine my love of writing with not only the rich history, but also the vibrant present of Athens. I plan to spend probably too much time looking for the perfect place to run, and also participate in online workshops and activities that connect them to Greek culture and society, as well as providing professional development. The internship positions will be filled according to a plan agreed upon by the student, the CYA faculty advisor, and the host organization.

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The idea for these new programs germinated at this time of crisis, and they were put together based on what we know how to do best: deliver a quality academic program by utilizing our experience, our connections, and the talents of our excellent faculty. CYA has weathered many crises in its long history, and we are certain that with our hard work and the support of our alumni and friends we will come out of this one better and stronger.
WOULD YOU CONSIDER….

A MATCHING GIFT

Does your employer participate in a “Matching Gift” program? This is a won¬derful way for CYA to benefit, too. Check with your HR department and you will be amazed by how much your gift will be matched.

A CLASS GIFT

It is commonly known that there is strength in numbers and that a group of people has more influence or power than one person. Gifts from a CYA year or semester are a great way to make an impact and are a wonderful way for graduated classes to leave their mark on CYA and be remembered for years to come. Kindly contact Vassilis Simopoulos at vsimop@cyathens.org to discuss how we may discuss the needs of CYA and how your “Class Gift” could make a difference!

REUNION FOR THE CLASS OF 1970-1971

Steven and Mo will be sending out an update regarding the 50th year reunion. The fate of the gathering will be decided in the middle of July, and everyone in contact will receive an email.

Bonnie Wright, Fall ‘71

I manage a team of six education staff and around 25h docents at the Getty Villa, which is one of the two museum sites of the Getty Museum, the other being at the Getty Center. The Getty Villa is the only museum in the US entirely devoted to antiquities! Docents specialize in school tours in-gallery, general public tours in-galley, or general public tours of the Roman architecture and Roman gardens.

Ana Alvarez, Fall ‘17 recently finished her first year at Columbia University’s Art History and Archaeology Ph.D program and her first year of life in the Big Apple, although always holding Athens close to her heart.

Bonnie Wright

as I had been there before coming to CYA. So much history, conflict and inspiration in that small piece of Middle Eastern geogra¬phy, and Zarouz has provided insight and perspective that I would otherwise have lacked.

And similar to this year, Passover, Easter and Ramadan all fell within about a two week period in April 1990. I wasn’t all that religious, but hard not to recognize some significance while traveling there. We spent a few days camping by the Dead Sea, swimming in those intensly salty waters, going on long hikes into the desert, and enjoying the local culture.

And similar to this year, Passover, Easter and Ramadan all fell within about a two week period in April 1990. I wasn’t all that religious, but hard not to recognize some significance while traveling there. We spent a few days camping by the Dead Sea, swimming in those intensly salty waters, going on long hikes into the desert, and enjoying the local culture.

As we have each year, on my fourth trip to the Holy Land, I was reminded of the power of poetry by the exact verse about the Reunion: Memory, continued from page 17

Steve Greene

if I was there to be reminded of both the fragility and permanence we encounter in life, and just how much we have to be thankful for.

COOKING CORNER

BIFTEKIA (LARGE MEATBALLS) AND POTATOES

From Popi Baloglu, Director of Housing and Catering

Meatball ingredients:
2 pounds minced meat (ground beef)
2 eggs
2 onions (grated)
2 garlic cloves (grated)
1 cup parsley (well chopped)
1 tablespoon salt
1 teaspoon pepper
1 pound (approx) bread without crusts that has been maintained and then had the water squeezed out
1 tablespoon oregano
2 tablespoons vinegar
3 tablespoons olive oil

Potatoes ingredients:
6 or 7 potatoes
Salt
Pepper
Oregano
½ cup lemon juice
1 cup olive oil
1 cup water

Preparation:
With your hands, mix the minced meat and other ingredients well, then shape the mixture into (approx.) six large biftekia (oblong patties). Peel the potatoes and cut them in small pieces (small potato will be in approximately 4 pieces). Rinse them well. Place the potatoes in an oven pan. Add salt, pepper, oregano and top with the biftekia. Pour in 1 cup of olive oil, ½ cup lemon juice, and 1 cup of water. Cover the pan with foil and bake in a 370 degree oven for approximately one hour. After one hour remove the foil and bake for 10-15 minutes more.

Nancy Jones Newell ’85

Hardy seems possible that I have been retired for eight years. These days I divide my time between Maine, New York and the southern California desert, visiting family and friends, cooking up fun adventures and seeing live theater. It also takes a bunch of time to stay healthy at this point in my life. Wishing health and happiness to all my really old CYA buddies.

Stacey Coates ’66 is an educational drama consultant who works with both the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and Interact Theatre in Washington, DC. You can learn more here.

Lynee (Novak ‘68) Dominick

We are staying in our casa in Patagonian Chile for an undetermined time this year, as three different flights to the States were canceled by the airlines because of Covid-19. Maybe we will leave in early June, but otherwise, we will hunker down here for the austral winter. We are well and safe, as are our families around the world, in Europe, Asia, and in the US. Very thankful!

David Lewis ’77

After 25 years of creating concrete sculptures, figurines, and paintings under the name Little Neck and Louis (google us), George and I retired in 2013. We now devote our time to volunteering and going back to a community that gave us so much support and love. I sit on several non-profit boards, tend our weedy garden, lament at the state of our country, and often think fondly of CYA and how it influenced parts of my life in the last 4 decades. George and I, together 29 years, (married since 2013) try and visit Greece every couple of years.

Anne (Steinshilper ’77) Scott

My husband and I bought a retirement home in Schinokapsala Crete. It’s time to come home!

Katherine Fleming, Spring ’88, who is Provost at NYU was featured in the Greek Report news portal. A historian, she is the Alexander S. Onassis Professor of Hellenic Culture and Civilization in the Faculty of Arts and Science, and served for many years as the Associate Director and then Director of the Remarque Institute. Read the article here.

Ed Braytwa, Spring ’98

For the last two years I have led the international trade advocacy portfolio for the American Chemistry Council. I work on behalf of US chemical manufacturers to prevent and address barriers to trade and investment and have traveled to every continent except Antarctica. CYA remains a foundational part of my career and life. I will continue to support it in whatever way I can.

Ryan Tipp, Spring ’99

I just wrapped up my fourth year as Managing Editor for the digital farming publication AGDAILY.com — a site that I founded and have enjoyed watching grow. Recently, I took on a second editorial role, this time spearheading the adventure sports website ActionHalk.com. It brings together my love of the mountains, with my travels to beaches, national parks and countries like Costa Rica, and it gives me an outlet to help others better savor the outdoors! Especially amid the kind of year we’ve been having, hitting the trails, camping and kayaking are some of the best things we can still do to have fun and continue experiencing the world around us.

Bonnie Wright

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And similar to this year, Passover, Easter and Ramadan all fell within about a two week period in April 1990. I wasn’t all that religious, but hard not to recognize some significance while traveling there. We spent a few days camping by the Dead Sea, swimming in those intensly salty waters, going on long hikes into the desert, and up Masada very early one morning to see sunrise, which did not disappoint. One evening after dinner on the beach, our group wandered down to see some Bed¬ouins, who had set up camp as well. Their accommodations were much more elaborate and comfortable of course, as this was their traveling home. While we didn’t share any common language, they were incredibly gracious and offered tea and hookah. Feeling relaxed and fortunate with our good luck, we thanked them and even¬tually walked back to our campsite, only to find a group of Israeli soldiers close by, sitting around a beach fire. They too were friendly and invited us to join them. There on leave for the Passover holiday, they had just come from serving in Lebanon. Several of the soldiers were the same age as us from CYA and our German friends, and the break by the Dead Sea undoubtedly had a different meaning for them. It’s a bit of cli¬ché, but I definitely felt the timelessness of that place, as well as the shared humanity of several different cultures. What did this experience in Israel mean for me? Hard to say exactly, but surely a moment when my appreciation for and understanding of both the fragility and permanence we encounter in life, and just how much we have to be thankful for.
**JAMES VINCENT RUSTIGAN ’70**

August 16, 1943 - April 20, 2020

Jim Rustigan passed away peacefully at his home with his beloved wife, daughter and cat by his side. He had been struggling with complications of a stroke. He was a kind, gentle soul, a family man who dearly loved teaching and traveling. Born and raised in San Francisco, he attended San Francisco State University where he received a master’s degree in the humanities. He then began a long and successful teaching career at San Francisco City College. Jim also traveled the world and inspired his students with stories, visuals and his deep knowledge of cultural history.

In particular, he was an expert on ancient Greek civilization. During the summer of 2019, he teamed up with his daughter for a trip to Athens and to several Greek islands. This was Jim’s final trip. It was magnificent! Jim is survived by his wife and daughter and his brother and sister.

*Published in San Francisco Chronicle from April 30 to May 3, 2020.*

**KEITH WARREN ADAMS ’74**

October 2, 1948 - May 15, 2020

Keith Warren Adams died quietly in his sleep on Friday, May 15, 2020, at Lynchburg General Hospital, of a rare form of leukemia. He was the loving husband of Deborah Durham for 37 years. Keith was born in 1948 in Georgia, to Louis Adams and Marjorie Wallace Adams, who predeceased him. He grew up in Serena Park, Maryland, and proudly served in the U.S. Air Force, stationed in Izmir, Turkey in 1969-71. While there he traveled the country in local buses, exploring its heritage and culture. He graduated from the University of Maryland-Baltimore County, and took his junior year at College Year in Athens, where he fell in love with archaeology, gaining experience at the excavations at Franchthi Cave. He then received a master’s degree at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in geography, writing about land fragmentation and reconsolidation in Didyma, Greece, which he later published.

After studying archaeology at Boston University, he engaged in archaeological work around the world: woodlands and historical sites in New England; contact period work around the world: woodlands and historical sites in Botswana; Bronze Age in Turkey. After moving to the Midwest; Iron Age sites in Botswana; Bronze Age in Turkey. After moving in the Midwest; Iron Age sites in Botswana; Bronze Age in Turkey. After moving in the Midwest; Iron Age sites in Botswana; Bronze Age in Turkey. After moving in the Midwest; Iron Age sites in Botswana; Bronze Age in Turkey. After moving in the Midwest; Iron Age sites in Botswana; Bronze Age in Turkey. After moving in the Midwest; Iron Age sites in Botswana; Bronze Age in Turkey. After moving in the Midwest; Iron Age sites in Botswana; Bronze Age in Turkey. After moving in the Midwest; Iron Age sites in Botswana; Bronze Age in Turkey. After moving in the Midwest; Iron Age sites in Botswana; Bronze Age in Turkey.

He then became a Senior Staff archaeologist working on historical periods. In the Lynchburg region, he also directed fieldwork at Point of Honor, and more recently worked on projects in Amherst, Florence, and New London. He was Director of the Hurt and Proffitt Archaeology and Material Conservation Laboratories, where he was particularly proud of building conservation equipment, and of artifact photography.

In the meantime, he also participated in archaeological projects in Botswana, and in the Kaymakçlı Archaeological Project and the Central Lydia Archaeological Survey in Turkey. He taught archaeology classes at Sweet Briar College and at University of Lynchburg in the 1990s and 2000s. Beyond archaeology, he especially loved to travel with his wife, rebuilding their house in Amherst, cross-country skiing, golf, cooking, his three adoring cats, and good company. He leaves behind a loving wife, Deborah Durham, his parents-in-law, Susan and Chris Durham; brothers and sisters-in-law, Andrew and Mary and Kip and Andrea; nieces and nephews, many cousins in Georgia, and his very special cousin, Wayne Hanson. We are thankful for the kind and attentive care he received at UMass-Memorial Hospital in Worcester, MA, and Lynchburg General Hospital in Lynchburg, Virginia. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to College Year in Athens, PO Box 369090, Cambridge, MA 02139 or Humean Society of Amherst County, P.O. Box 614, Amherst, MA 01223. Heritage Funeral Service and Crematory 427 Graves Mill Road (434) 239-2465 is assisting the family.

*Keith Adams Obituary here*

**GENE ROSSIDES**

October 23, 1927 - May 16, 2020

After leaving the administration, he worked at the law firm Rogers & Wells. He was the publisher of The National Herald, a Greek-American Newspaper, from 1976 to 1979.

In the wake of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, Rossides founded the American Hellenic Institute in 1974 and his lobbying was crucial in the US government imposing the US arms embargo against Turkey which took effect on February 5, 1975 and remained in place until 1978.

CYA President, Alexy Phylactopoulos, worked closely with Rossides and his AHF staff when he served as a young diplomat in the Greek Embassy in Washington DC in the mid-70s. Thanks to this connection, Rossides was asked to join the Board of Advisors of CYA and remained until his death as Advisor Emeritus. CYA expresses its sincere condolences to his family.

*Excepts taken from The New York Times and Wikipedia*
# College Year in Athens Alumni/AE News and Information

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<th><strong>NAME</strong></th>
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*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 and MAJOR(s):**  

**ADDITIONAL EDUCATION:**  

**CURRENT OCCUPATION:**  

**WORK ADDRESS:**  

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