

THE OWL

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF COLLEGE YEAR IN ATHENS

Steve Diamant came out of retirement to take our Fall '22 students on the study travel trip to the Peloponnese. Photo taken by Fall '22 Media Lab Intern, Ana Maria Nunez (Washington University/St. Louis) at Mycenae.

Spring 2023



5 PLATEIA STADIU, ATHENS, GREECE

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Greeks are known for their rather direct questions about one's language, ethnicity, religion, all of which can get one into trouble these days. The direct question I get when I meet new people in Greece is, "what is this College Year... whatever, and what does it do?"

"We change young peoples' lives", I respond. "My colleagues and I run a school, now in its 60th year, which offers American college students the opportunity to earn academic credit at their college or university by living in another country. So they come to Greece, away from their comfort zone, and study the Greek language and culture, breathe its air, listen to its music, taste its food, discuss its politics, enjoy its literature, learn about its great history, observe its religion, and go away having lived a life-changer, one that transforms them personally but also one that makes them life-long spiritual friends of Greece. This is what we do" I say. "People who have become global citizens, having lived outside their country and experienced the agonies and the hopes of other people, are better equipped to make a difference in the world". As the former Chair of the Board of Trustees, Chris Todd, liked to remark, if more American leaders had studied abroad during their college careers, the world would be a better place.

CYA was the brainchild of an emancipated Greek woman who had a vision in 1962 to start CYA without fearing failure as long as she could explore the limits of her vision. Having withstood political turmoil in the US due to Vietnam and in Greece with the junta during its formative years, and then regional wars and economic crises plus a pandemic, CYA proved resilient and expanded its curriculum from its classical studies base to include fields from the social sciences and now even venturing in the area of STEM and undergraduate research thanks to a collaboration with one of Greece's leading research institutes.

Thanks in part to the generosity of its Trustees, it acquired its own academic facilities like its flagship building in a stunning Athens location next to the marble Kallimarmaro Stadium.

CYA is now a robust, self-sustainable, secure independent institution at a time when the field of study abroad is increasingly dominated by for-profit conglomerates that offer multisite study abroad, sometimes with modest academic expectations. At the same time, Greece's introvert educational system is starting to look outward inviting collaborations from abroad with Greek public universities. CYA looks at these developments with a confidence that emanates from its academic excellence, its superb faculty and staff, and its exemplary governance practices.

There are issues before us that need our attention which I expect will be our priorities for years to come. One such is a creation of an endowment. Our school needs to stop being only tuition driven. An endowment will allow more faculty development, educational tools in line with new technology, and more DEI by including students from lower income groups. The school also needs adequate housing for an enlarged student body. But the pressing priority is to raise funds for the construction of a Study Center in place of a townhouse that CYA has acquired, thus creating a small campus and a venue for interaction between our students and the local student community. The silent phase of this campaign is underway with a large matching gift by the current Chair, Daphne Hatsopoulos, matched to a certain degree by members of the Board of Trustees.

I have been fortunate to lead this extraordinary institution for 37 years surrounded by a superb team of colleagues, who all helped CYA become what it is. There are hundreds of instructors and many administrators who gave a good part of their careers to our institution. I honor them all and express our gratitude to them but mentioning names is always a perilous exercise and I will not attempt it.



This is my last "Letter from the President" as I move by decision of the Trustees to the position of Executive Chair of the Board. I am handing over the baton to a highly-qualified, experienced, and committed colleague, our Executive Vice President and Head of Academic Affairs, Theoni Scourta, who will be President of CYA as of 1 July 2023. She will have my full-hearted support in her new role and I am confident that under her leadership, CYA will thrive as it continues its mission of changing young peoples' lives for a better world.

Alexis Phylactopoulos, *President*

The Board of Trustees of College Year in Athens announces its recent decision to strengthen CYA's leadership structure.

Alexis Phylactopoulos, who has admirably served as President of College Year in Athens since 1986, was elected to the newly established governance position of Executive Chair of the Board of Trustees of CYA, succeeding Daphne Hatsopoulos, who served as interim Chair since July 2022. In his new capacity, Mr. Phylactopoulos will Chair the Board of Trustees and support and advise the new President of CYA, with whom he will jointly design CYA's strategic goals and vision. The Executive Chair will maintain his presence at CYA, function as the public face of CYA, represent the institution in Greece and abroad, engage in fundraising in the US and Greece, and oversee the school's construction projects.

Theoni Scourta has been selected by the Board of Trustees to be the new President of CYA, succeeding Mr. Phylactopoulos. The Board's selection came after a thorough search process by the consulting firm Egon Zehnder. The search concluded that Ms. Scourta, as an internal candidate, had the credentials, experience, and commitment and was ideally suited to assume the tasks of this challenging position. As President of CYA, she will have the overall responsibility for the institution.

Theoni Scourta has ten years of experience at CYA, having served with great success as Academic Director since 2013 and, more recently, as Executive Vice President and Head of Academic Affairs. Theoni was born in Patras, Greece. She is an art historian with a research interest in contemporary art. She received an MA from California State University, Los Angeles, in Art History and another MA in Comparative Literature from the University of Indianapolis. She has taught for more than 25 years in the US and Greece. She served as an assistant to the head of the Greek EPP-ED delegation to the European Parliament in Brussels for five years, after which she returned to Athens to head the academic department of AKTO Art & Design College before joining CYA.

Angelos Papadopoulos, Ph.D. in Archeology from the University of Liverpool and a CYA instructor since 2013, has been appointed to succeed Theoni Scourta and assume the role of Director of Studies at CYA. Angelos will be in charge of the Academic Affairs of CYA for a three-year assignment.

Peggy Myresiotou was named Executive Vice President and Head of Administration of CYA.

All the above changes are effective 1 July 2023.

The Board of Trustees extends wishes for success to all new appointees. Furthermore, it would like to express its profound gratitude for Alexis Phylactopoulos's extraordinary service, spanning an impressive 37 years, to CYA and to the Study Abroad field worldwide. His unwavering dedication has left an indelible mark on our institution, shaping it into the thriving organization it is today.

Sincerely,

Daphne Hatsopoulos

Chair of the Board of Trustees
College Year in Athens

CYA PRESIDENT PHYLACTOPOULOS ATTENDS BOARD EVENTS

Board of Trustees Gathering January 2023

CYA's Board of Trustees gathered for their semi-annual meeting in Cambridge, MA. After the meeting, **Daphne Hatsopoulos** hosted a lovely reception where CYA staff, institutional partners, friends, and alumni gathered to reconnect and celebrate CYA's 60th year of operations.



Consul General of Greece in Boston, Symeon Tegos, with Mr. and Mrs. Behrakis.



Mr. Phyl with CYA's first student, Ruth (Chute '63) Knapp, and her husband, Whit, whom she met in Athens!

ACADEMIC ADVISORY ROUNDTABLE MEETS

CYA's Academic Advisory Roundtable meeting was held in person in Athens, in early October 2022. Roundtable members had the opportunity to view CYA through the eyes of its students, by joining art history professor Athena Hadji's *The Art and Craft of Curating: Making Sense of Art in the 21st Century* class in Hydra, where they visited the Jeff Koons' Apollo Installation exhibited at DESTE Foundation's Project Space, as well as the archaeological site and museum of Brauron, with ancient history and epigraphy professor Robert Pitt. Meetings took place in several formal and informal settings, where the members had the chance to discuss the future of the school with administration and faculty.

In attendance were:

- Michael Arnush, Associate Professor of Classics and Associate Dean of the Faculty, Skidmore College
- Jennifer Ewald, Director, Office of Study Abroad, Fairfield University
- Hal Haskell, Professor Emeritus of Classics, Southwestern University
- Pam Haskell, Professor of Classics, Southwestern University
- Alexander Kitroeff, Professor of History at Haverford College and CYA
- Margaret Wiedenhoeft, Executive Director, Center for International Programs, Kalamazoo College

IN MEMORIAM: ANNE STEWART



Anne Stewart, member of CYA faculty 1990-2020, passed away in May 2023 after a lengthy illness. Anne was an instructor who had given the better part of her teaching career to CYA. In 2005, Anne was one of the first faculty members to embrace new technology and turn her famous slides into digital ones. At CYA she taught numerous courses and tutorials.

In these 30 years, she left behind a legacy of excellence in teaching and thousands of former students, who learned from her about ancient Greek mythology, sculpture, vase painting, and Athenian sites and monuments. She is survived by her husband, Michael Tillotson, who can be reached at: M_Tillotson@msn.com.

“One of the things Professor Stewart most enjoys about teaching in museums and sites—other than the fact that she is standing in front of the objects she loves, she admits—is “...seeing the eyes of students light up when they first see something they have studied back home right there in front of them. This happens frequently, and right from the start: the first room of the historical galleries of the National Museum has the four foot high Dipylon Amphora from 750 B.C. that nearly anyone who has done anything ancient knows. Right there, no ropes, no glass. Students often ask ‘is that real?’”

—excerpt from *THE ‘OOMPH’ HASN’T GONE OUT OF IT: A CONVERSATION WITH PROFESSOR ANNE STEWART* by Soenja Soldovieri, from the Spring 2007 OWL newsletter

CYA HOSTED EVENT BY ELIAMEP AND THE BERTELSMANN FOUNDATION



Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP) coorganised with Bertelsmann Foundation the launch event of the Greek module of the Transatlantic Periscope, at the auditorium of the College Year in Athens CYA/DIKEMES. The Transatlantic Periscope is an interactive, multimedia tool that brings together expert commentary, high-quality media coverage, official policy documents, quantitative data, social media posts, and gray literature.

CYA HOSTS A SITE VISIT FOR US PARTNERS



We were delighted to host a group of Study Abroad professionals and faculty from US higher education institutions who visited Athens to discuss with CYA faculty and staff and find out more about the CYA experience. CYA had visits from partners at Pomona College, St. Olaf College, Siena College, Scripps College, Wesleyan University and Vassar College.

CYA ATTENDS THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

CYA faculty and staff attended the Archaeological Institute of America and Society for Classical Studies Joint Annual Meeting in New Orleans in early January.

CYA professors **Nina Papathanasopoulou Myers, Rosa Vasilaki** and **Robert Pitt** collaborated on a workshop entitled "Studying Abroad in Greece—Reflec-

tions on Pedagogical Methods." CYA President **Alexis Phylactopoulos** also attended the conference.

As we do every year, CYA hosted a reception; CYA Executive Vice President **Theoni Scourta** and CYA Director of Alumni Relations, **Erica Huffman**, (Spring '93) along with professors Papathanasopoulou and Vasilaki were joined by alumni, institutional partners, friends and supporters; everyone enjoyed the reception and took the opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new contacts.



Brittany Hardy (Fall '15), Connor North (Fall '15), Marcus Lobo (Spring '18), Carolyn Dorey ('17-'18), Alan Shapiro ('68-'69), Catharine Judson (Fall '08), Brian Martens (Spring '08/CYA Trustee), Jim Newhard ('91-'92), Allie Davis ('17-'18)



Catharine Judson (Fall '08), Anne Duray (Summer '08), and Brian Martens (Spring '08, Alum Trustee)



CYA faculty members Nina Papathanasopoulou and Rosa Vasilaki



Matt Pincus (Spring '10) and Sam Holzman (Spring '10) – roommates reunited!

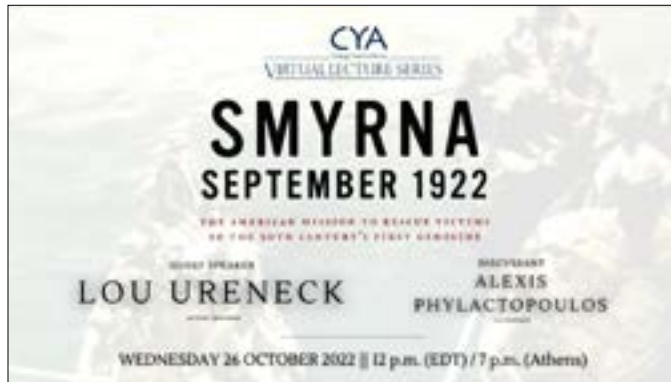


Theoni Scourta (VP Academics CYA), Sarah Morris, Professor of Classical Archaeology and Material Culture at UCLA, John Papadopoulos (Director, Agora Excavations), Rosa Vasilaki (faculty CYA)

VIRTUAL LECTURE SERIES

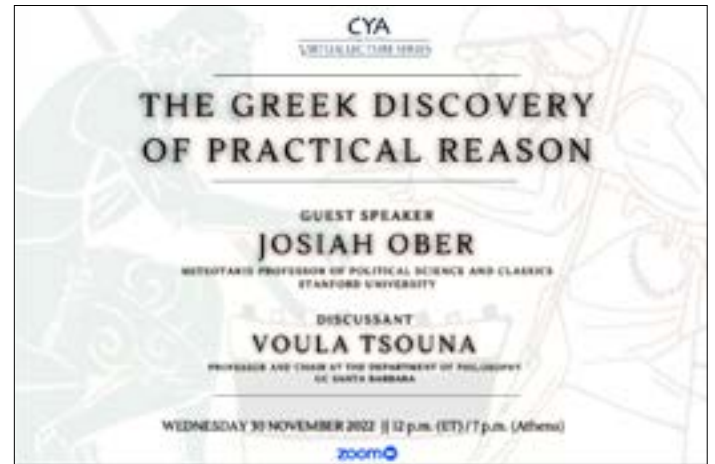
CYA's Virtual Lecture Series continues to be a way for our school to engage with our alumni and friends, offering one-hour lectures with guest speakers who are experts in various academic and/or professional fields. Up until the end of the year, CYA has broadcasted 22 such virtual lectures.

Our two lectures that aired in the fall were *Smyrna, September 1922*, with guest speaker Professor Lou Ureneck who discussed the events that occurred in Smyrna in September of 1922 and how the American humanitarian rescue mission saved tens of



thousands of refugees; and *The Greek Discovery of Practical Reason* with guest speakers Professor Josiah Ober & Voula Tsouna who traced practical reason from its ancient origins to its modern and contemporary permutations.

Both lectures, along with the rest of CYA's Virtual Lecture Series can be viewed [here](#).



CYA HELLENIC EXECUTIVE PROGRAM

CYA's Hellenic Executive Program offered its fourth seminar to all who were interested and desire to further their knowledge on topics associated with Greece, from ancient civilization to modern-day development.

The Aegean Islands: a Geopolitical History from 1912 to the Present, taught by Professor **Alexander Kitroeff**, was a four week educational seminar that examined and addressed the geopolitical past and present in the Aegean Sea, a region that, along with Cyprus, has been the site of tensions between Greece and Turkey in the post-World War II era.

CYA has had the privilege of having 44 participants take one of the four seminars.

LECTURE HELD IN HONOR OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

CYA hosted a talk with Generation 2.0 for Rights, Equality & Diversity. Activists Nikos Deji Odubitan, Natani Petros, and Cassie Marie Lorilla; they discussed their efforts and work in the field. This lecture was held in honor of International Education Week 2022.



CYA TALKS

This past fall, CYA introduced a new initiative for events at the Academic Center, in Athens. "CYA Talks" are informal discussions offered at midday with people who are active in their community and experts in their field for in-person, live, informal, unscripted conversations with our faculty, our students, our staff, and our friends of CYA.

For our inaugural discussion, we had our very own CYA trustee and alum, **Endy Zemenides** ('95), engage in a discussion on American foreign policy and security issues in the Eastern Mediterranean with CYA Professor and Greece's National Security Advisor **Thanos Dokos**. The discussion drew a crowd of sixty people, and students participated in the Q&A.

CYA also hosted two additional discussions at the Academic Center in collaboration with HALC (Hellenic American Leadership Council). One with Athanasios Ellis (editor in chief of *Kathimerini*, English edition) and Endy Zemenides '95 on Congress, the Midterms, and the US-Greece Relationship and one with Roderick Beaton (renowned author and one of the most influential personalities in the field of Greek studies) exploring the common threads that define the Greek people—from the Minoans and Mycenaeans to today.



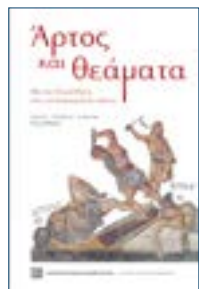
Athanasios Ellis



Roderick Beaton



FACULTY NEWS



CYA professor **Eleni Fassa** has published a new book: *Bread and Games: Violence and Entertainment in the Greco-Roman World*, from Crete University Press.

"There was a time when the People bestowed every honor—the governance of provinces, civic leadership, military command—but now they hold themselves back, now two things only do they ardently

desire: bread and games." Satirists like Juvenal were relentless against the entertainment practices which prevailed in the Roman Empire. For hundreds of years, people around the Mediterranean flocked to theaters, amphitheaters and circuses to witness all sorts of spectacles: actors, dancers, mimes, magicians, but also gladiators, chariot races, executions of criminals, animal and water shows. This new book by CYA Classics Professor Eleni Fassa casts light on violent forms of public entertainment which became exceedingly popular in the Greco-Roman world.

It is a collection of literary and inscriptional sources, translated in modern Greek, and accompanied by a concise introduction. The sourcebook features the importance of spectacle as a form of political and social interaction and draws on the rise of gory performances in the heart of Greek and Roman urban landscapes.

Eleni Fassa studied at the Universities of Athens and Exeter. She holds a PhD in Ancient History from the University of Athens (2011); her thesis concerned the foundation and organization of the Sarapis cult in Alexandria during the early Ptolemaic period.

Her research interests focus on the epigraphic evidence of religious ideas and practices in the Eastern Mediterranean during the Hellenistic and Roman period. She also has a MA in Ancient Drama (Hons) from the University of Exeter, UK and has a BA in Classical Philology from the University of Athens, Greece.

She teaches Beginning and Intermediate Latin and Beginning and Ancient Greek.

CYA ATTENDS FORUM CONFERENCES

In March CYA President **Alexis Phylactopoulos** was accompanied by Student Advisor **Rachael Bittick** and Student & University Relations Coordinator **Annie Dawson** at The Forum on Education Abroad's 19th Annual Conference in Seattle. Every year, our staff enjoy meeting with partners and working together to create life-changing international experiences for students!



CYA's President, Alexis Phylactopoulos, attended The Forum on Education Abroad's EMEA Conference in Milan, Italy in October 2022. The goal of this conference is to create dialogue to explore the pressing issues shaping the future of international education in these regions, something of vital importance to CYA.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWS

Evita Arapoglou, author and valued CYA Trustee, gave a virtual guided tour of the exhibition she curated, "Asia Minor Hellenism: Heyday—Catastrophe—Displacement-Rebirth" via Zoom on November 19, 2022. The event was co-hosted by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation and The Benaki Museum as part of SNF's Hellenic Together 4.0 lecture series.

In February 2023 the Modern Greek Studies Association announced that CYA Advisor **Michael Herzfeld** has assumed the position of Editor of the *Journal of Modern Greek Studies* until the May 2024 issue. Tom Papademetriou, President, Modern Greek Studies Association wrote: "We are fortunate that as a highly accomplished scholar and former president of the MGSA he has agreed to lead the journal for the coming year. We greatly appreciate his generosity to the field of Modern Greek Studies through his service, stepping in to serve as Editor after his own retirement."

Michael Herzfeld, (D.Phil., Oxford; D.Litt., Birmingham) is Ernest E. Monrad Research Professor Emeritus in the Department of Anthropology at Harvard University, and among other positions is the IIAS Professor of Critical Heritage Studies Emeritus at Leiden University, and Chang Jiang Scholar at Shanghai International Studies University. He has had a remarkable career with a deep range of experiences as a scholar, teacher, and editor. His numerous books and articles are well-known and highly influential in the field of Modern Greek Studies and Anthropology. Michael Herzfeld is particularly experienced as an editor having served for several years as Editor of the *American Ethnologist*. He has also served as Associate Editor for Social

Sciences of the *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, and he continues to serve on several editorial boards and is Editor at Large of *Anthropological Quarterly* as well as co-editor of *New Anthropologies of Europe* (Indiana University Press).

We are proud to announce that **Christine Kondoleon**, CYA Trustee, renowned scholar, curator and the George D. and Margo Behrakis Chair, Art of Ancient Greece and Rome at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, was honored by the Alpha Omega Council with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

CALIFORNIA BOARD EVENT



Mr. Gerry Ranglas, a new CYA Trustee, Greece's Ambassador to the USA, H.E. Alexandra Papadopoulou, Mrs. Jeannie Ranglas are pictured here with Mr. and Mrs. Phylactopoulos.

POPI BALOGLU RETIRES

Popi Baloglu, Director of Housing and Catering, retired in December 2022. Popi joined CYA staff in 1988 as Assistant Manager of housing and catering and over the next three decades, oversaw extensive growth of CYA's Housing Department and Dining Hall. In her role, she supervised the dining room (including kitchen staff, meal planning, purchasing, catering of events, sack lunches for field trips, etc.) and was responsible for the general maintenance of the CYA apartments, of which there are now close to sixty. Students will remember Popi for her smile and positive attitude, as well as her hospitality.

At an event in December at Mr. Phylactopoulos' home, members of the administration gathered to celebrate Popi's tenure at CYA and to share memories and stories. Mr. Phylactopoulos spoke and mentioned what Popi means to CYA by pointing out some of her virtues, including her loyalty to the school, her negotiating skills, the way she embraced all the students like a mother, her passion in organizing all social events, from our welcome dinners, to Thanksgiving, and farewell gatherings.

To learn a bit more about Popi, please read on about her in this interview from 2018:

Popi has lived, studied and worked in four different countries. She was born to a Greek family in Istanbul and went to school there until the age of fifteen. Then she moved with her parents to Johannesburg, South Africa, where she went to college and worked for eight years as a drafts person. In 1984, she moved to the United States with her son and worked in Boston for five years.

One day she received a phone call from Mrs. Vassiliadou, her predecessor at CYA: "I knew this lady from Istanbul—we were like mother and daughter. So every summer when I came from South Africa or from the States to Greece, I used to tell her I wanted to find a job like hers". Mrs. V. asked Popi to move to Greece and become her assistant. "We spoke on the phone on a Friday and by Monday I had accepted, and that is how I joined CYA! When she retired seven years later, I got her position".

A lot has changed since then. "In 1988, we only had nine student apartments for around fifty students. Today, we have 51 apartments around Pangrati and more than 500 students and visiting groups per year". The CYA dining room was at 20 Patriarchou Ioakeim in Kolonaki, where it stayed until 2004. "The atmosphere was very homely. We had our own chef who would cook everything from scratch. All of the ingredients he used came fresh from the nearby open air market, always held on a Friday, as it continues to be even today".

Popi has also noticed another big change at CYA, the addition of summer sessions to the school's academic offerings. "May to July is a very challenging period because we follow a lot of different schedules. I have to keep track of the cleaning ladies, the housekeepers, the students, any problems, special diets, understand who is gluten-free, who has allergies...Many things.

I never stop. It can be difficult but also very rewarding—I love my job!"



Popi always made holidays special for students



Popi pictured with her team: Christina Tsilika, Kallia Alexandridi, Olympia Kappatou



Popi and Mr. Phylactopoulos at her Retirement Event in December 2022



Fall 2022 started off with arrivals in late August; students hit the ground running and experienced a jam-packed semester full of exciting and enriching classes, activities and trips.



Professor **Hüseyin Öztürk** took students to the National Garden on a gorgeous day in Athens for their *Aegean & Ancient Greek Art & Archaeology* course. Through this course, students develop a diachronic and multi-faceted understanding of the evolution of human culture in the region.



From Delphi to Athens, CYAers spent their first weekend in Greece checking out all the sites!



CYAers went on a staff-organized trip to the island of Chios where they got some hands-on experience making pasta and harvesting aloe vera.



Crete: Students visited The Palace of Knossos, the Spinaloga Islet, the Archaeological Museum of Heraklion, and some even went to a local brewery.



Professor **Yiannis Karavas** took students of his history course, "To the Strongest: The Ancient Near East from the Death of Alexander to the Coming of Rome," to the Hellenic Maritime Heritage Park where they went aboard a restoration of a Greek trireme.



Field study is an integral part of the CYA experience. Fall semester students got the opportunity to visit the Peloponnese—exploring the archaeological sites of Olympia, Mycenae, and Epidaurus. Highlights included visits to local wineries, olive mills, honey farms, and monasteries.



There's never a dull moment at CYA! In October, students had the choice to attend one of two exciting CYA-organized excursions: Metsovo and the Meteora Monasteries, or Hiking Mount Olympus!



Our *Beginning Modern Greek* course puts students' language skills to use every chance they get by interacting with locals throughout Athens. They took a group excursion with Professor **Angeliki Anagnostopoulou** to the Friday Laiki, immersing themselves in Athenian culture, taking in the vibrant sights and sounds of the market, and practicing their Greek!



Professor **Evangelia Chatzikonstantinou** took her *Urban Sustainability: Theory and Case Studies in Greece* class to the coastal zone of Athens. During the field trip, they visited different areas of the coastal zone, analyzed their environmental characteristics and the conflicts that are expressed in the way the city is related to the sea.



Farewell Dinner



ATHENS MARATHON

Several CYAers participated in the Fall '22 Athens Marathon and 5K this year:

- Ian Aadland - Full Marathon
- Mayu Alten - Full Marathon
- Samuel Anderson - Full Marathon
- Nate Kuhlmann - Full Marathon
- Maria Natsis - Full Marathon
- Anna Scott - Full Marathon
- Samhita Bheemireddy – 5k
- Zoe Blough – 5k
- Alice Cheng – 5k
- Bassem Darwish – 5k
- John Jablonski – 5k
- Jeremy Schmelkin – 5k
- Fiona Xu – 5k

FALL '22 MEDIA LAB INTERNS



Pictured, from left to right are: **Lily Grochowski** from Gettysburg College, **Ana María Nunez** from Washington University St Louis, **Montserrat Ambrosio** from Columbia University, **Michael Nevradakis** (CYA Faculty), **Patrick Linehan** from Kalamazoo College, and **Samuel Carp** from The University of Cincinnati.



CYA ALUM AMBASSADOR REFLECTS

Michael Newton (Swarthmore '24, CYA Spring '22, Alum Ambassador), who studied at CYA and then in Australia, wrote this piece.

I loved studying abroad in Greece so much that I just had to do it again, but this time in Australia! Currently, I am in Sydney, Australia for the semester studying education and mathematics. This time around, I am extremely prepared all thanks to my experience at CYA.

Studying abroad through CYA has taught me quite a bit. Academically, the mantra of "Greece is your classroom" has allowed me to approach traditional Australian classroom norms from a unique perspective, one that challenges me to think critically and deeply. Moreover, the adventurous, collaborative nature of CYA classrooms prepared me to navigate different elements of education that are often stationary.

Travel-wise, I've no fear! Travelling [through] a country where English is not the dominant language has certainly allowed me to travel Australia with ease. The friendly nature of Greek people

made me comfortable for solo travel, to make new friends, and talk to strangers. I will say the Greek and Australian landscape are incomparable, but one thing for sure is that I am having as much fun as I did while I was in Greece.

Finally, the sense of independence is a tenet I will never forget from my time at CYA. It is always scary restarting in a new environment. While CYA is a program, my current study abroad is direct enrollment. There are no set groups, field trips, or events; it truly is everyone for themselves. While this was a difficult transition for me, I will always be able to lean on what my time at CYA has taught me: how to be independent. Solo-traveling is a scary yet fun way to embrace the idea of independence and be ready to mold it to what you want it to be. Here, I can spend some days by myself and not feel like I am missing out on anything. Here, I can wake up and say yes to a plan without knowing where it will take me. Here, I can continue to build upon the foundation CYA provided me to achieve the happiest and healthiest version of me I can be.

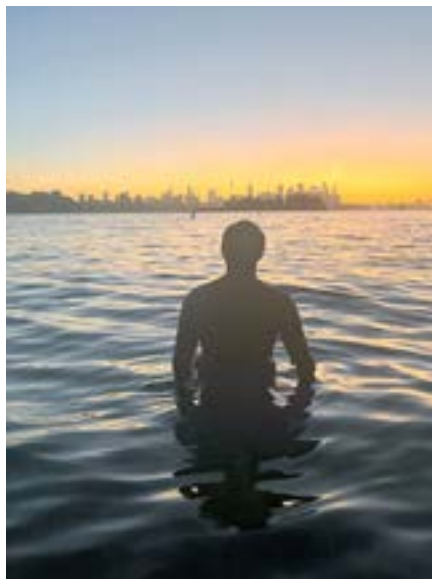
SOTIRIA VASSILIADOU DIES AT 97



It is with sadness that CYA learned of the passing this past January of **Sotiria Vassiliadou** who had been in charge of CYA's housing and dining services from 1988 until 1996. Mrs. Vassiliadou remained a close friend of CYA, joining us at special occasions, until recently when her health unfortunately restrained her ability to visit frequently.



Atop the Palamidi Fortress, embracing the adventure!



Catching the Sydney sunset, looking onto the skyline

STUDENT AFFAIRS FEATURE: CRAFTING

On April 19th, 17 students participated in the free crafting session that CYA held. Students were provided with materials and they created some wonderful pieces of art!

Most people painted but others did decoupage (decorative boxes and post card design), used paint and markers to draw, decorated postcards, and one student painted and decorated a Venetian carnival-style mask.

Student Affairs Advisor, **Jennifer Holland** (CYA '99) oversaw the crafting experience.



OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM: VOULA

CYA's winter course, "Excavations at Aixonidai Halai (Voula Field School)," led by Professor **Yiannis Karavas**, gives students the opportunity to explore the field of archaeology in three different settings: on-site excavations, class lectures, and lab. The first segment of the course is focused on on-site excavations near the modern Athenian suburb of Voula which, in antiquity, was associated with Aixonidai Halai, one of the main coastal municipalities of ancient Attica. The site is likely the location of the ancient municipality's agora. While on the dig, students are introduced to archaeological fieldwork and all related aspects of current research methodology and theory, under the supervision of trained professionals from the Greek Ministry of Culture and the Greek Archaeological Service.



CYA DONOR APPRECIATION

As we celebrate our 60th Anniversary, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude to all our alum donors who have generously supported our mission over the years. Your contributions have helped us provide a transformative study-abroad experience to generations of students.

A list of combined gifts, including matching and designated gifts for donations received from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, will be published in our upcoming newsletter.

ATTENTION: In our previous OWL, when publishing our donor list for all who contributed between July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022, we neglected to name **Valentine Talland** '80 when thanking our donors. We sincerely apologize to Val for this oversight and thank her for her continuous support.

We want to assure all our donors that we value your support and are committed to appropriately recognizing your generosity. We encourage all our donors to contact the development office (development@cyathens.org) if they have experienced similar occurrences, as we are committed to correcting any oversights.

We cannot overstate the importance of donations to CYA. Your contributions enable us to provide students with life-changing experiences that broaden their horizons and expand their perspectives. As we embark on the next 60 years, we look forward to your continued support and partnership in our mission to promote global citizenship and cultural understanding.

Thank you for your continued support of CYA.

CONSIDER GIVING

College Year in Athens was created sixty years ago to introduce young Americans to the Greek culture and establish Greece as an educational destination. Since 1962, over 11,000 students have studied at CYA and have experienced first-hand what it means to be global citizens. By offering an academically rigorous program of studies combined with the vibrant experience of day-to-day contact with the people, monuments, and landscape of Greece—a rapidly evolving country with a uniquely varied past—our students have gotten to know Greece and, most importantly, got to know themselves.

Thanks to the dedication and determination of our staff, the resourcefulness of our faculty, the trust of our governance, the support of our alumni, and the willingness of our students, CYA has managed to further its mission of offering American university students a transformative study abroad experience.

CYA hopes that you will continue to aid and support our institution. Your generosity will help us fulfill our mission of offering our American university students a life-changing, trans-cultural competence that aims to make them world citizens.

MAKE A DONATION

Donate now—Help CYA continue to provide a unique and extraordinary study abroad experience.

Donate [here](#)

Mail

Make a gift by check—mail a check or money order to:
College Year in Athens
PO BOX 390890, Cambridge, MA 02109

Wire Transfer*

Bank of America, ABA 026009593
100 Federal Street Boston, MA 02109
Acct. 0000501-69735 (College Year in Athens, Inc.)

*Please notify development@cyathens.org when you have made the transfer.

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION TO CYA

Gifts of Stock

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

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.

Named Scholarships

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

Recurring, Monthly Giving

Monthly giving is an easy way to make your support for CYA go further, with less impact on your budget. Automatic monthly contributions help CYA administration with its budgetary planning, while at the same time allowing your automatic contributions to be spaced out over 12 months. Implementing this kind of support is simple to set up online, and simple to terminate should the need arise.

Planned Giving

Many people choose to support organizations that mean the most to them with a gift through their will or trust or planned arrangement. These types of gifts are known as planned gifts and are usually fulfilled after one's passing. Planned gifts provide a unique opportunity for one to create a lasting legacy for CYA. It is also a way to make a gift that costs nothing today—and that helps you make a tax-wise investment in your future and CYA's. For more information about leaving a CYA Legacy gift and opportunities for permanence, please contact CYA's Development Office at development@cyathens.org.

TOPOGRAPHY AND MONUMENTS CLASS

Professor **Robert Pitt**'s course, *The Topography and Monuments of Athens*, is an exclusively site-based course that gives a comprehensive overview of the topography, archaeology and history of Athens.

Students explore every major site — and many minor ones — paying attention to their physical setting, architectural and archaeological characteristics, and position in the political, religious and social lives of the Athenians.



Professor Pitt took students to Areopagus and Philopappos Hill to discuss the role of these sites in Athenian life.



CYA
College Year in Athens

KEEP US UPDATED!

New job? New city? Exciting updates to share? Let CYA know by submitting a class note for the alumni newsletter, **THE OWL**.

A promotional graphic for CYA (College Year in Athens). The graphic features a woman sitting on a rocky hillside, looking out over a city. The text on the graphic reads: "KEEP US UPDATED! New job? New city? Exciting updates to share? Let CYA know by submitting a class note for the alumni newsletter, THE OWL." The CYA logo is in the top left corner.

COOKING CORNER

FAKORYZO

An easy lentil and rice dish, rich in vegetable protein.

1 cup lentils

2 tbs olive oil

1 onion, cut in small pieces.

1 garlic clove, minced

1 tbs thyme

1 cup Carolina rice

2 liters of water

1 cube vegetable bouillon

2 bay leaves

Lemon zest and juice from 1 lemon

Salt

Rinse and strain the lentils.

Put water in a large pot and bring to a boil. Add the lentils and the salt, cover the pot and boil for 10 minutes. Strain the lentils and leave aside. Throw away the water.

In the same pot put 2 tbs oil and heat on high. Add the onion and then the garlic. Add the thyme and sauté for 1-2 minutes.

Add the lentils and mix well. Add the rice, water, vegetable bouillon, bay leaves, and lemon zest and cover the pot. Let it boil in low heat for 15-20 minutes until all water is absorbed. Remove from the heat and add the juice from the lemon.

Serve with olive oil, pepper, lemon slices and thyme.

CYA | College Year in Athens

SO YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

→

WE HAVE MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALUMNI!

CYA IS LOOKING FOR ALUMNI TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING:

- Be featured on Social Media.
- Write a review or do an interview on GoAbroad or GoOverseas.
- Assist in organizing a reunion.
- Be an Ambassador (2020-2022 alums).
- Send captioned photos of your time at CYA (including class year).
- Be featured in The Owl, CYA's Alumni Newsletter.
- Be a Class Agent.

MORE INFORMATION → EMAIL ALUMNI@CYATHENS.ORG

CYA'S ALUMNI BOOK CLUB

CYA's Alumni Book Club continues to meet once a month to discuss books based in Greece. This year we read the following books. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for information pertaining to the Book Club, please email Erica at alumni@cyathens.org.

Eleni by Nicolas Gage

The Flight of Ikaros by Kevin Andrews

Embattled by Emily Katz Anhalt

A Short Border Handbook by Gazmend Kapllani

Athens: City of Wisdom by Bruce Clark

The Isles of Greece by John Lucas

The Cretan Runner by George Psychoundakis

The Scapegoat by Sophia Nikolaidou

The House on Paradise Street by Sofka Zinovieff

CYA | College Year in Athens

ALUMNI BOOK CLUB

For more information, email ALUMNI@CYATHENS.ORG

Book Title	Author	Date	Time
<i>The Cretan Runner</i>	George Psychoundakis	April 24, 2022	8pm EST
<i>The Scapegoat</i>	Sophia Nikolaidou	May 22, 2023	8PM EST
<i>The House on Paradise Street</i>	Sofka Zinovieff	June 22, 2023	8PM EST

CLASSICS AND GRAPHIC DESIGN – AN INTERVIEW WITH CYA STUDENT ANA MARIA NUNEZ

Ana Maria Nunez (Fall '22) is a junior studying Classics at Washington University in St. Louis.



Aside from Ana Maria's studies, she spends some of her free time volunteering as a graphic designer at a well-regarded media company, CReatures. We spoke with Ana Maria about her academic and extracurricular interests, and how those two combine.

What made you decide to study at College Year in Athens?

I specifically chose CYA because it offers a course on Thucydides at the undergraduate level. I love that class, it's my Monday and Wednesday reason to wake up! I'm doing Latin as well, which is very fun. I prefer Greek because I am in Greece and not Rome. And then I'm taking a pre-history course and an Archaeology course. I haven't done any of that back home, I'm very focused on my languages there. It's something that I've never experienced before. The professors here are so associated with all the historical sites, they will say 'oh we're going to go somewhere where I was working!' and that is very cool to hear. They have a lot of knowledge and it's helped bolster my overall understanding of the ancient world.

How did you first become interested in graphic design?

My mom is a photographer for the family and has been taking photos of us since we were kids. She took a graphic design class, so I followed along on that over the summer seven years ago. Later, I started working for my classics department back at school as a student intern and one of my classes was working on flyers and other promotional material. We had an Adobe subscription, so I decided to start learning how to use Photoshop and Illustrator, I watched a lot of tutorials on Youtube, and there was a lot of self-teaching.

How did you find out about this volunteering opportunity with CReatures?

Initially, I thought that after class, my evenings would be free. Then over the Summer Angela Kouvara (Student Affairs) started sending out volunteering emails and I thought 'this sounds like a lot of fun', so I asked if she had anything that was related to Photography, Videography or Graphic design and she emailed back with a couple of places and CReatures happened to be one of them. I checked out their website and it looked super cool, so I emailed back immediately saying 'this looks super interesting, I would love to do the volunteering there!'

What sort of things do you work on while volunteering at CReatures?

Here at CReatures, I'm like a 'mini employee'. I'm here for five hours a week, and they have little projects for me. The first one was working on a brochure, and then after that, I worked on an Adobe website called Behance, which is like a portfolio for graphic designers; now I'm working on some Christmas graphics. A lot of it is brainstorming and everyone from the group comes up with their own idea and then they assign the official assignment to one person, but with the backing of everyone's ideas.

How would you say your experience in graphic design has impacted your academic career?

I really like what I study in school, I love Classics, and I love to read ancient Greek and Latin, but it's also really nice having a creative field on the side, and I use a lot of what I do in graphic design whenever I have a project for class. If it's filming a video, for example, I do a little animation, title cards, and things that I know from my graphic design side that the average Classics student wouldn't know how to do.

PHILOSOPHY AND FASHION – SHEA’S SEMESTER IN GREECE

Shea Willis (Fall '22) attends NYU and is majoring in Philosophy and French.

After moving to New York City, Shea developed a keen interest in fashion. While studying abroad at CYA, Shea was able to explore her interest and gain hands-on knowledge through a placement opportunity at a local fashion boutique in the center of Athens called Lovecuts, helping the owner Maria Panayiotou. Read on as Shea shares her experience from living in Athens, to working with a local fashion designer.

Shea, how are you finding studying abroad in Athens?

I love it! I really love the classes here because they're all conducted in a seminar style, which is what I'm accustomed to. I chose NYU for the same reason, I like that I was able to find something with a similar philosophy.

As far as life in Athens goes, it's a big city, but different from the ones I've seen! I've done a fair amount of traveling around Europe, and I'd suspected that Athens was going to be similar to the cities of Italy or the French Riviera, but I was shocked by how unique Athens is, it has an identity of its own. Last night I was walking with a friend in front of some office buildings and there was a dug-out hole right in front. We looked and we saw ruins of an ancient building. The integration of the past and the present here is something unique.

Can you tell us about your interest in fashion?

I suppose it's something I gradually developed, especially when I went to college in New York, because I'm from the suburbs originally. People in New York are not afraid to express themselves. It's a huge city and in this anonymity there's freedom. Quickly I realized that I wanted to partake. My interest in fashion flourished then. I started wanting to get more involved in fashion in a hands-on way rather than just styling. Can I tell you a story? I promise it's relevant.

<Here Shea tells the story of a woman she met who was an amazing chef. After meeting her and tasting her food, Shea was surprised to find out that she was also a philosopher! Talking to her she found out the benefits of doing something tangible parallel to studying Philosophy. Something to keep you grounded and connect you with other people.>

I thought fashion is a very tactile thing, so maybe I could get involved with it somehow. And then I got this email from CYA asking if I'd like to do this placement at Lovecuts and I jumped on that opportunity!"



Can you describe what you do at lovecuts?

I help in the shop, I'll watch clothes being made, I watch how Maria chooses to organize the shop, I'm her little shadow. Right now we're working on the new clothing for the new season and I'm going to help her style the photoshoots for the website and Instagram, so that will be a lot of fun.

I mentioned that I enjoy thrifting a lot and she said 'bring something that you've thrifted that you wouldn't mind making some mistakes on, and I brought this oversized men's pajama shirt, and we're turning it into an actual dress, just as a learning experience! I've been learning all these little tricks about how to physically realize the ideas that one has about a piece of clothing.

Do you think you're learning skills that are going to be useful to you in the future?

I think so yes! I think it's always useful to try out lots of different things. If I end up going into fashion I don't think I would like to be in a job where I'm primarily making clothes, but I think it's important if one is interested in design, for example, to still know how the clothes are made. To know what is possible, what is difficult and what is easy.

2013

On May 8th, **Ariana Gunderson (Spring '13)** registered a domestic partnership in San Francisco, CA with Alexander Rogala. After eight years together, they were delighted to enter their lifelong commitment to the state registry.

1993-95

Rebecca Furer (Fall '93), who studied with CYA from Yale University, stopped by for a visit in October 2022 with her family. Rebecca wrote afterwards: "We are back home in Bonn, and I wanted to say how much I appreciated everything you and the whole CYA team did to make our visit special. It really was a highlight of our stay in Athens, and not just for me, but for the whole family. Thank you so much for sharing the photos you took, and please extend our thanks to everyone there, but especially the ladies in the registrar's office and to Popi for the delicious lunch. Our visit also gave me a wonderful excuse to connect with my four best friends from my time at CYA, and that was a gift in itself."



Rebecca and family with CYA Registrar, Maria Tsahas

Meredith Culhane (Spring '94) writes: "My husband and I have lived in the Boston area since 2003. My oldest daughter Ruby is 21(!) and a junior in college in Oregon. My youngest, Olive, is a senior in high school and headed to college in Vermont in the Fall. We returned to Greece for the first time since CYA this past summer and it was amazing! I showed my family my favorite places, took them to the Acropolis and up Lycabettus, and even found the apartment where I had lived on Xenokratous, plus a little island time. I hope to be back sooner next time!"

Susannah H. Snowden (Spring '94) Smith shares: "Our daughter Adelaide just turned four a couple of days ago! She's growing up in sand and sun and doesn't know any different. (Crazy to me since I grew up with seasons!!) We're in Grand Cayman where I'm an underwater photographer. I sell my fine art underwater photography on island. My husband Donald runs education for the hospital here. I miss Greece tremendously. When we were in Athens a few years ago I showed my husband all my favorite spots. I look forward to getting back there again as a family and showing Adelaide my favorite place in the world! Hello to all my classmates! I'd love to hear from you!"

1990-91

Mike Smith ('91) I manage a team of archaeologists at a large, quasi-public agency down here in Austin, Texas (come visit, y'all!). I'm heading to Italy this summer and will see **Tony Tuck** (Fall '90) at his excavation in Tuscany. It should be fun: the wine will flow, we'll likely make fools of ourselves again, and my wife will be really annoyed at us for having to hear all of our CYA stories again for the umpteenth time.

Peggy Korellis (Spring '91) writes: "I am serving City Colleges of Chicago as the Vice Chancellor of High School Strategy, and am overseeing the implementation of the Chicago Roadmap. It's a comprehensive partnership agreement between City Colleges of Chicago and Chicago Public Schools, to provide more equitable access to opportunities and change the landscape for Chicago's youth. We recently presented our progress to the US Department of Education and then hosted them for a study visit to Chicago so they could see our partnership in action. I visited Greece last summer for a beautiful family wedding in Glyfada, and am going to Crete this summer with my dad for what he says is his final trip to his homeland at age 89. Last degree earned was doctorate back in 2013! Kids are fabulous, Athena is 15 and Niko is 10."

Melissa Georgeady ('91) "Hi everyone, I live in Natick Massachusetts, right outside of Boston. I have run my own small business for the past 17 years, which gives keeps me busy and happy. The best part is I have control of my own schedule and get to spend leisure time traveling and boating, having purchased my own boat five years ago. Four years ago, I went back to Greece for a family trip, which was fabulous but most recently I traveled to the south of France and northern Italy."

Maria Karapelou (Fall '90) Brown "Hope all our CYA '90 classmates are doing great! I have my koumbara and dearest friend **Daphne (Pezaris '91) Maramaldi** for keeping me sane during our almost daily chats while running! Would love to meet up with any CYA alums in the Baltimore/DC area. We enjoyed visiting Athens and CYA last summer and hope to get back soon. Lots of changes on the work front — I began working as a consultant for UNICEF in the Healthy Environments for Healthy Children Programme in 2021. Our kids are growing too fast — Sophia is graduating this June and Theo is finishing up sophomore year. Stay well, friends!"

Elaine Papoulias (Fall '90) Elaine Papoulias is heading into her 24th year at Harvard (currently the Executive Director of the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies), with by far the biggest highlight being the chance to see fellow CYAer and Harvard colleague **Daphne Pezaris Maramaldi**, for lunches, coffees and nostalgic talks about life as college kids in Athens.

Daphne (Pezaris '91) Maramaldi "Much in my life is still very much the same. I'm still working at Harvard's study abroad office (Office of International Education), I still live in Wellesley MA, and I am still in touch with lots of CYAers (**Maria Karapelou Brown, Melissa Georgeady, Elaine Papoulias, Peggy Korellis, Mike Smith**, etc.) My husband **Peter Maramaldi (CYA Summer '99)** is still faculty at Simmons and Harvard Public Health & Dental Schools. What has changed is that our eldest, Stephanos, just finished his first year at Purdue and is currently studying abroad in Florence for summer 2023. Athena is 15, a sophomore

at Wellesley High School, and spends as much time playing volleyball as she can. Since 2016 (minus 2020), we have traveled to Italy and Greece annually and feel very fortunate to catch up with CYA folks often!

1980-81

Koren (Sawyer '81) Benoit: "I just celebrated my 35th year as Curator / consultant with the California State Senate. Spending my junior year in Greece was one of the best decisions I ever made. To this day, I can't believe how fortunate I was to have had that experience, and I share that opinion often. Professor Diamant's field trips were the best – my high point was to see the Lion Gate at Mycenae in person!"



Koren Benoit

Athena Demetriades (Fall '80): "I live in Broadview Heights, near Cleveland, OH. We were in Athens in October and walked around Kolonaki with my son. I retired in June from teaching Special Ed for 35 years. I hike in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park every week, and am subbing at several high schools. Loving life."

Scott Dreher '81: "We love travelling and had a wonderful visit to Athens and the CYA reunion last July! After too many years as a trial lawyer, I'm winding-down my law practice to focus more on creative writing. I help publish a literary/poetry/art journal out of Montana called "Whitefish Review"—we accept submissions so if any of you are writing or art-ing, please let me know! And of course there's soccer—playing, watching, coaching, etc. If any of you visit So-Cal, please give a shout. It's fun reconnecting and sharing stories!"

Susan Clift ('81) Gislason: "I have spent the last 40 years working in my family insurance agency in St. Louis and I love it almost every day. Last year my husband Dave and I relocated to Scottsdale Arizona where we are enjoying the outdoor lifestyle, the beautiful mountains, and spending time with friends. We have found a wonderful church called CCV where we volunteer weekly. Dave and I went on our honeymoon in Greece in 2010 (Athens and Santorini) where I was able to show him my CYA apartment (10 Marasli), hike up Lycabettus, have a glass of wine at the St. George Hotel and had some wonderful meals at tavernas in the Plaka. We had such a terrific time that we have been back twice since, and ... we're planning on renting an apartment in Kolonaki for 30 days next fall! My time with CYA will always be a big part of my life as it introduced me to such a great group of people and an amazing country."

Jim Karozos '81: "I'm retired now from corporate life (PepsiCo) and commercial real estate, so for me, 43 years is a long time ago, but the CYA trip during the fall semester of '80 was memorable.

I was able to visit family members on my mother and father's sides in Crete and Giannitsou. Going to my Dad's village (with **Scott Dreher**), we were able to share a meal and enjoy the company of my Dad's Aunt and Uncle, Thea and Theo. I remember those frequent trips to the nearby pub at the Athenian Inn, singing and performing the Allman Brothers' "Ramblin' Man" and other songs ... Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Freebird" ... with a libation or two! Being present in the cradle of democracy during the 1980 U.S. Presidential election and going to the Hilton when the results were announced. The trip to Cairo, Egypt provided more perspective in such an enormously populous city with a vast historical past.

It may have been only a semester for me, but one that spanned a broad spectrum of my life's family heritage, with on-site learning at sites of great historical art and archeological significance...a fun, wonderful experience with new and old friends... memories for a lifetime!"

Paula Jo (Wheaton '81) Kemler: "I'm living in Northern Michigan enjoying abundant natural beauty and satisfying community involvement through board work and our family foundation. I happily keep in touch with **Tina Zonars '81** in NY, and **Laura (Barnett '81) Webb** who has spent this last year teaching in Barrow, AK, and feel bad that I have not been better about staying connected to the fabulous **Mary (Lawless '81) Plantamura**. No trips to Greece are planned, but we did see more of this country on a long road trip this winter from Traverse City, Michigan to Austin, Texas, stopping frequently to explore places of interest. I've attached a photo from our son's wedding from 2022."



Photo from Kemler wedding, 2022

Valerie (Gilmore '81) Paul: "I'm still managing a travel agency in the western suburbs of Boston. The last few years have obviously not been great in the travel biz but we have come roaring back! I haven't yet been back to Greece since the mid 80's but maybe this year — fingers crossed. After many years of suburban living, my partner and I have just moved into a brand new urban co-housing community north of Boston and are loving it!"

George Romas ('81): "As a Greek American, my time at CYA was incredible (I've since been back to Greece a number of times with my family). Besides the beauty, the history, the people, and the food, I remember our Greek Philosophy professor asking each of us, "What do you want to do with your life?" My somewhat flippant answer was "I want to improve society." She said, "You're a statesman!" Incredibly, I've been supporting the US Government with computer-based solutions for over 40 years. I believe that my experience at CYA provided the inspiration to protect our version of Greek democracy."

Paul Sutton ('81): "I enjoyed the alumni trip this past summer. **Kip Hughes ('68)**, another Denverite, and I have touched base a couple of times since that trip. I am a Professor of Geography and the Environment at the University of Denver and spend a lot of time on climate activism including attending the United Nations Climate Summit in Glasgow.

Joyce White '81: "I've been working as Director of Academic Design (6-8 Social Studies) at McGraw-Hill in Columbus, Ohio. I've been with the company 35+ years, and along the way I've also done some freelance fiction editing, which is

always fun! And now that I've had my shoulder replaced, I'm looking forward to a bunch of travelling over the next six months—maybe I will make it back to Athens after all. And of course, now that Spring is finally here, I'm excited to plant flowers and herbs again, pain-free!"

Tina Zonars '81: "I am living in New York City and working for Christie's Auction House as Co-Chairman of Asian Art. My work requires me to travel internationally including Japan and Hong Kong, Europe, and all through the US. I stay connected with friends around the world. I took my mom back to Greece in October 2019 just

before the pandemic and visited with my cousins from the Zonars side of my family. I hope to go back again soon. I had a lovely reunion with **Laura (Barnett '81) Webb** in New York in November 2021 and I see **Polly Jo (Wheaton '81) Kemler** every summer when I take a short vacation on Lake Michigan. I miss the slower pace of Greece! And I welcome connecting with any fellow alumni in the New York City area!"

CYA ADMINISTRATION

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Yiota Vouzna, Staff Assistant – Library

Alumni Relations

Erica Huffman, (CYA '93) Director of Alumni Relations

Development

Vassilis Simopoulos, Development Officer

Digital/Social Media

Spiros Kourkoulos, Digital Designer
Sofia Stavropoulou, Social Media Coordinator

Educational Travel & Short-Term Programs

Vasso Matrakouka, Short-Term Programs Manager
Vassilis Karavassilis, Short-Term Programs Coordinator
Evgenia Ghizas, Short-Term Project Administrator
Matina Boumpa, Short Term Project Administrator

Financial

Maria Malliou, Financial Officer
Vana Bica, Accountant

Housing/Catering

Olympia Kappatou, Housing and Catering Manager
Kallia Alexandridi, Housing Dept. Assistant
Christina Tsilika, Housing Dept. Assistant
Makis Kypriotis, Maintenance

Human Resources

Katerina Kanellopoulou, H.R. Coordinator

Strategic Planning

Popi Triantafyllidi, Director of Strategic Planning

Student Affairs/Services

Jennifer Holland, (CYA '99) Student Affairs Advisor
Angela Kouvara, Student Affairs Advisor

North American Office

Alexia Lingaas, Associate Director – North America
Rachael Bittick, (CYA Fall '17) Student Advisor
Maria Marakas, Bursar and Manager of the North American Office
Marisa Hopwood, Social Media Coordinator – North American Office
Annie Dawson, Student & University Relations Coordinator

ADDRESSES

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COLLEGE YEAR IN ATHENS

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Deadline for submissions for the next OWL : September 1, 2023

To update your address, please email alumni@cyathens.org.



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COLLEGE YEAR IN ATHENS ALUMNI/AE NEWS AND INFORMATION

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ADDRESS (if different from label) _____

MOBILE PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

If the above is a temporary address, please indicate how long you expect it to be valid (until? _____)

To update your address, please email alumni@cyathens.org.

*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 _____

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

