

# GreekNews

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## LEADERSHIP 100



### 24th Annual Conference presents awards of excellence, approves new grants

Orlando, FL.

The 24th Annual Leadership 100 Conference, which took place February 12-15, 2015, at The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes in Orlando, Florida, featured the presentation of the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Award for Excellence to the renowned Greek academician, artist and designer, Ilias I. Lalaounis, who passed away in December of 2013, accepted by his wife, Lila, at the Grand Banquet finale on Saturday evening, February 14, 2015.

Other recipients included program speakers and performers Dr. Eleni Andreopoulou, of the faculty at the Weill Cornell Medical College/New York-Presbyterian Hospital in New York City; Dr. Panagiota Andreopoulou, an Attending Endocrinologist in the Department of Medicine at Hospital for Special Surgery and Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Endocrinology at the Weill Cornell Medical College; Michael Psaros, Co-Founder and Co-Managing Partner of KPS Capital Partners, LP; Peter Tiboris, the renowned conductor, and Eilana Lappalainen, the celebrated dramatic soprano; as well as to International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), accepted by Constantine M. Triantafylou, Executive Director and CEO.

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## Congressional Hellenic and Israeli Alliance marks second anniversary

### TSIPRAS: PLAN TO OVERTHROW GOVERNMENT



Prime Minister Alexi Tsipras (shown with Vice President Yiannis Dragasakis) blamed Europe's conservative powers and his predecessor Antonis Samaras for setting a trap aiming at the financial suffocation of Greece. (Page 39)



### Event attended by members of congress and Greek and Jewish American organizations. HALC and AJC held a day of joint advocacy in Congress

By Apostolos Zoupaniotis

Washington, DC. Greek and Jewish American organizations joined members of Congress in celebration of the second anniversary of the Congressional Hellenic Israeli Alliance, a bi-partisan group of members of Congress promoting the strengthening of the relationship of all four countries.

A reception took place on Wednesday, February 25, on Capitol Hill, supported by the American Jewish Committee, Hellenic American Leadership Council and the Cyprus Federation of America. Over a dozen members of

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## ANASTASIADIS CONCLUDES VISIT TO RUSSIA

Nicosia.- CNA

President Nicos Anastasiades has said that Cyprus and Russia wish to enhance their ties and cooperate even closer in an attempt to create conditions for peace and stability in many areas, adding that this cooperation will continue irrespective of reactions and concerns others may have.

President Anastasiades, who concludes his official visit to Russia on Saturday, met with St. Petersburg Vice Governor Alexander Govorunov.

The Vice Governor said that relations between the two countries are based on mutual understanding, adding that Cyprus remains a credible partner.

He pointed out that the meeting Cyprus President had with President Vladimir Putin in Moscow and the agreements signed show that both countries share the same objective to further enhance their relations.

Govorunov said that Cyprus is a popular tourist destination among Russians, adding that in 2014 tourists flying from St. Petersburg to var-

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Russian President Vladimir Putin (R) and Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades (L) during their meeting at the Novo-Ogaryovo residence outside Moscow, Russia, 25 February 2015. Photo: KREMLIN POOL

## CULTURE

### Living Stone Maidens: The Caryatid Hairstyles Project

By Vicki James Yiannias

New York.- It seemed as if some delicate but heady scent from the ancient past filled the air around the photograph, a close-up of rich, honey-colored hair elaborately curled, twisted, and braided in a lush recreation of the hairstyle of a Kore figure; the texture was palpable, and then the sudden feeling that this real woman had walked in the Panathenaic procession to the sound of flutes and cymbals.

"They are no longer frozen in a distant, remote past on the Acropolis, but become ancient Greek ancestors and 'sisters' to young women of today. I find that immediacy a real-

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# Living Stone Maidens: The Caryatid Hairstyles Project



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ly thrilling and amazing idea to contemplate," Dr. Linda Wolk-Simon, the Director and Chief Curator of Fairfield University Museums wrote to the GN about the recreations of the hairstyles of the 6 Kore maidens of the Erechtheion shown in close-up in the exhibition, "Photographs of the Caryatid Hairstyling Project" at the Greek Consulate in New York.

Another phase of Professor Katherine Schwab's Caryatid Hairstyling Project, the exhibition is on view through March 27.

By demonstrating that the Caryatid's hairstyles are absolutely real and authentic, not artistic invention, she continues, "the Caryatid Project makes those beautiful stone maidens come to life, and in a quite startling way. Among the many really engaging and thought-provoking aspects of the Caryatid project is the way it forges a connection between the millennia-old, foundational culture of ancient Greece and the contemporary, modern world".

Professor Schwab, who is Professor of Art History at Fairfield University and also Curator of the Plaster Cast Collection at Fairfield University's Bellarmine Museum of Art spoke to the guests at the opening of the exhibition, first giving great thanks to Ambassador Georgios Iliopoulos, Consul General, and Mrs. Anthousa Diakopoulos-Iliopoulos for their suggestion to host the exhibition, to Mr. Manos Koumbarakis, Consul, to other guests mentioned below, and to Rev. Jeffrey von Arx, S.J., President of Fairfield University for the "happy collaboration."

Schwab explained that she began Caryatid Hairstyling Project wanting to solve two questions. "What kinds of braids form the Caryatid hairstyles? Can they be replicated? In 2009, with professional hairstylist Miley Torres and six students who were chosen as models we set out to discover more about the elegantly arranged braids." A fifteen-minute video of Torres, who had studied the Caryatids' hairstyles, beautifully recreating all 6, answers both questions simultaneously.

Also conveying immediacy is the music for the video. In the Ionic Mode to match the columns of the Erechtheion, which are of the Ionic Order, it successfully sets an otherworldly mood of the past with its unfamiliar sound. It was arranged by Dr. Laura Nash, Associate Professor of Music and Chair of Visual and Performing Arts at Fairfield University.

The film, which has been shown internationally, also shows the Acropolis laser cleaning and an important, pre-1907 photograph found in the Dinsmoor Archive at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens.

Professor Schwab talked about the meaning



of these hairstyles within Classical society, saying, "The results of the Caryatid hairstyle recreations project are that these specific hairstyles were important in the presentation of these maidens. They were part of a larger message that the young women are ready for marriage, and that they reflect an ideal beauty."

In a statement that identified the techniques used in the ancient hairstyles as timeless, she said, "Texture, style, and braids in today's trends can find new meaning in these remarkable and complex hairstyles worn by the renowned Caryatids of the Athenian Acropolis."

The video also reveals the fact that the hair industry in the U.S. is valued above sixty-seven million dollars.

Five of the original Caryatids, columns supporting the South Porch of the Erechtheion, the temple on the north side of Acropolis dedicated to Athena and Poseidon, are spectacularly on view in the Acropolis Museum, while Kore C is still in the British Museum. Cement copies of the Caryatids have replaced the original Caryatids of the Erechtheion, now safe from the elements in the new museum.

The photographs in the exhibition were in-

stalled from the vantage point of one standing inside the South Porch of the Erechtheion behind the Caryatids.

The Consul General, Ambassador Iliopoulos, told the GN that even though much has always been written about the Parthenon, this still continues today, and there is an ongoing lively debate. The originality of the exhibition is what intrigued the Consul General, he said, noting that this exhibition follows last year's exhibition of Professor Schwab's sketches of the Parthenon Metopes, "An Archaeologist's Eye: Parthenon Drawings of Katherine A. Schwab." "This year's theme of the Caryatid hairstyles drew the Consulate's attention because it was different," he said.

"Our cooperation with Fairfield University is exceptional, and we look forward to its continuation," said Ambassador Iliopoulos, going on to say, "The Consulate tries to organize exhibitions that have something new to put forward, always, of course, related to Greece. We want this truly beautiful building to be a point of reference for Greece in New York, not only for administrative matters such as visas and pass-

ports, etc., but also for culture."

Hair artist Miley Torres told the GN that she also related to the past when she was creating the intricate ancient hairstyles. "I was totally transported to that time... I saw each Caryatid as my typical client sitting in my chair: she wants to feel beautiful, and our hair has always played a big part in our feeling great--and unique--as women," she said, "When I first studied the Caryatid hairstyles I saw that each was very different from the other... the hair texture, thickness, length, etc. This is when I knew that the woman each Caryatid represented would have been trying to present herself as a distinct individual. By braiding and curling her hair in different ways that would enhance her great asset, each woman was able to stand out."

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Archdeacon Panteleimon (a 1996 Fairfield University graduate), The Rev. Jeffrey von Arx, S.J., President of Fairfield University, and H.E. Nafsika Nancy Eva Vraila, Minister Plenipotentiary Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, Amalia Cosmetatou, Executive Director of the Onassis Foundation (USA), were among the distinguished guests.

Miley Torres and two of the Caryatid Project hair models, Shannon Berger and Amber Nowak were present, and a distinguished contingent from Fairfield University attended, "individuals without whose help, the Caryatid Project would not have been possible," Professor Schwab noted at the beginning of her remarks. Dr. Linda Wolk-Simon, Director and Chief Curator of Fairfield University Museums, Carey Mack Weber, Collections Manager and Registrar at Fairfield University Museums Tiffany Davidson, Museum Assistant (Fairfield University Museums) Dr. Marice Rose, Associate Professor of Art History and Professor Ronald Davidson, Director of the Humanities Institute and Chair of Religious Studies.

The Bellarmine Museum of Art at Fairfield University will be exploring this theme further in Professor Schwab and Professor Marice Rose's upcoming exhibition "Hair in the Classical World," opening in October of this year.

Professor Schwab has been awarded three separate fellowships by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Robert E. Wall Award at Fairfield, as well as other honors and grants in support of her research on the Parthenon Metopes, the Caryatid Hairstyles, and restoration work on the plaster cast collection.

Grayscale scans of Professor Schwab's Metope research drawings can be seen in the Parthenon Gallery of the new Acropolis Museum (<http://tinyurl.com/yd87m4w>).

For information on the video showing the Caryatid hairstyles, visit

[www.fairfield.edu/caryatid](http://www.fairfield.edu/caryatid) <<http://www.fairfield.edu/caryatid>