



THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

From Greece to the World

THI Programs Empowering Hellas

2023 Annual Report








The Hellenic Initiative

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-  TheHellenicInitiative
-  The_Hellenic_Initiative
-  THI_OneGreece
-  The Hellenic Initiative
-  HellenicInitiative2

#THI

#OliMazi

#GreeksHelpingGreeks

#TheHellenicInitiative

About THI

The Hellenic Initiative (THI) is a global, nonprofit, secular institution mobilizing the Greek Diaspora and Philhellene community to support sustainable economic recovery and renewal for Greece and its people. Our programs address crisis relief through strong nonprofit organizations, led by heroic Greeks that are serving their country. They also build capacity in a new generation of heroes, the business and philanthropic leaders, the commercial and social entrepreneurs with the skills and values to promote the long term growth of Hellas and well-being of its people.

THI Vision / Mission Statement

The Hellenic Initiative is a global nonprofit organization that brings together Diaspora Greeks and Philhellenes to invest in the future of Greece through programs focused on crisis relief, entrepreneurship, and economic and social development.



THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

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THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

Letter From The Executive Committee

To all THI Friends,

As we look back on the last eleven years of The Hellenic Initiative (THI), we're truly thankful for the trust and unity shown by our friends and supporters. Your support has played a vital role in advancing our mission.

At THI, our mission remains unchanged: to bring together Diaspora Greeks and Philhellenes to invest in the future of Greece through programs focused on crisis relief, entrepreneurship, and economic development. In the last eleven years, we've observed a significant change in how Diaspora Greeks perceive their connection to Greece, as they reconnect with the country on deeper levels beyond mere sentimental attachment.

Once viewed as a holiday destination, Greece now stands out as a lively and dynamic entity worthy of attention and investment. THI's efforts have helped connect Diaspora Greeks with grassroots projects in Greece in impactful ways, ranging from backing local NGOs to guiding aspiring entrepreneurs. Transparency and accountability and effectiveness are the cornerstones of everything we do.

We want to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who has trusted us, especially during Greece's tough economic times. While the worst of the crisis may be over, its effects linger, highlighting the ongoing need for support and collaboration.

As we move forward, we invite you to be part of our efforts in building a brighter future for Greece and its people.

With gratitude,
The THI Executive Committee

Executive Committee



President Bill Clinton

Honorary Chairman,
42nd President of the
United States



**Andrew N. Liveris,
Chairman**

Former Chairman and Chief Executive
Officer, The Dow Chemical Company



**George P. Stamas,
Board President**

Senior Partner,
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP



Nicholas W. Alexos

EVP, Chief Financial Officer,
Univar Solutions



Drake Behrakis

President, Marwick Associates



Dean Dakolias

Managing Director,
Fortress Investment Group, LLC



George David

Chairman of the Board, Coca-Cola
Hellenic Bottling Company



John D. Georges

Chief Executive Officer, Georges
Enterprises



Father Alexander Karloutsos

Honorary Advisor



Muhtar Kent, Emeritus

Chairman of the Board of
Directors, former CEO,
The Coca-Cola Company



John Koudounis

Chief Executive Officer,
Calamos Investments



Nikos Koumettis

Europe Middle East & Africa (EMEA)
Group President, The Coca-Cola
Company



George M. Logothetis

Chairman and Chief Executive
Officer, Libra Group



Dennis Mehiel

Chairman and Chief Executive
Officer, Four M Investments, LLC



Michael G. Psaros

Co-Founder and Managing Partner,
KPS Capital Partners, LP

Board Members



Maria Allwin

Philanthropist



George Anderson

Area Chairman, Gallagher Risk Management Services



Peter Barris

Chairman, NEA



John P. Calamos, Sr.

Founder, Chairman and Global Chief Investment Officer, Calamos Investments



Aristides (Aris) S. Candris

President and CEO – Retired, Westinghouse Electric. Co.



John Catsimatidis

Chief Executive Officer, The Red Apple Group



Achilles Constantakopoulos

Chairman, Temes S.A.



William P. Doucas

Chairman, Elutions



Jeremy Downward

Founding Partner and Board Member, Alpheus Advisors



Theane Evangelis

Co-Chair, Litigation Practice, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP



George Frazis

Chief Executive of Consumer Bank, Westpac Group



Dimitris Georgakopoulos

Co-founder and Managing Partner Outseta LLC



Sir Stelios Haji-Ioannou

Creator and Owner The easy family of brands



Constantine Karides

Senior Partner, Reed Smith LLP



Amb. Eleni Kounalakis

Lieutenant Governor of California



Ted Leonsis

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Monumental Sports and Entertainment



George M. Marcus

Founder and Chairman, The Marcus & Millichap Company



Corinne Mentzelopoulos

Chief Executive Officer, Château Margaux



C. Dean Metropoulos

Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, C. Dean Metropoulos & Co.



Nick Mitaros

Director, Jalouse Pty Limited

Board Members (continued)



Pericles Navab

Chairman and CEO, PITCO Foods



William Spell

Founder and President, Spell Capital Partners and Spell Family Office



James Neary

Senior Partner, Warburg Pincus



Nikos Stathopoulos

Managing Partner and Member, Investment Committee of BC Partners



Nicholas G. Pappas

President, Nicholas G. Pappas & Co.



George Svokos

Senior Vice President, Sales, and General Manager, API at Albany Molecular Research Inc.



Caterina Papoulias-Sakellaris

Philanthropist



Harry Wilson

Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, MAEVA Group, LLC

Ambassadors



Princess Tatiana

Co-Chair, THI Ambassadors



Peter J. Poulos

Co-Chair, THI Ambassadors



Nia Vardalos

Actor, Writer, Producer, Director



Arianna Huffington

CEO and Founder, Thrive Global

Staff



Peter J. Poulos

Interim Executive Director



Christina Maroulis

Operations Manager



Michael Printzos

Greece, Country Head



Nick Tsismenakis, CPA

Controller



Artemis Kohas

Director of
Community Development



John Mindala

Design Consultant, Mindala Design



Xeni Kouveli

Social Media Manager



Dean Sirigos

Contributing Editor



Tania Myrsioti

Social Media Assistant Manager



Constantine N. Skarvelis

Secretary



THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

What's New at THI



**THE
HELLENIC
INITIATIVE**

THE 1821 SOCIETY

1821 marks the year that Greece began the campaign to gain its independence from the Ottoman Empire. With help from Greeks in the Diaspora and Philhellenes, that independence was achieved.

The 1821 Society has been founded by The Hellenic Initiative as a new “Philiki Eteria” (the secret society founded in 1814 by Diaspora Greeks to fight for Greek Independence). As modern-day Diaspora Greeks, we are as committed to that freedom for Greece as our ancestors ever were. Today, that cause means helping Greece rebuild its economy, reversing the brain drain, and addressing Greece’s humanitarian needs. We are also committed to passing down the fullness of our Greek legacy to the coming generations, by connecting global Hellenism through the

1821 Society. By joining, you honor the memory of your ancestors, and help the next generation of Greeks who are committed to finding solutions.



Members’ generous annual contributions help sustain organizations and NGOs in Greece working for the Greek people and fund programs throughout the calendar year. Members also have access to special programs and functions of The Hellenic Initiative, and it is hoped will renew their commitment to the Society on an annual basis. The giving levels for the 1821 Society are listed below.

1821 SOCIETY ANNUAL DONOR LEVELS

The Lord Byron Circle

\$18,210

2 years membership

In honor of history’s greatest philhellene who inspired, funded, and fought in the Greek revolution.

Benefits:

- ✓ Invitations to:
 - Annual exclusive, members-only gathering at world-class venue with insider access to top-level Hellenes and Philhellenes. Intimate two days to include organized discussions, networking lunches, receptions and dinner.
 - Annual THI Board Retreat weekend.
 - Bimonthly online talks with some of the world’s greatest minds.
- ✓ VIP seating at all THI events
- ✓ Four complimentary tickets to THI’s London and NYC Galas
- ✓ Profiled in 1821 Society newsletter and The National Herald
- ✓ All other Philiki Eteria benefits

Philiki Eteria Member

\$1,821

year

In honor of the diaspora secret society that sparked the Greek War of Independence.

Benefits:

- ✓ Invitations to select THI events throughout the year
- ✓ THI 1821 Society Experiences
- ✓ 1821 Society monthly newsletter





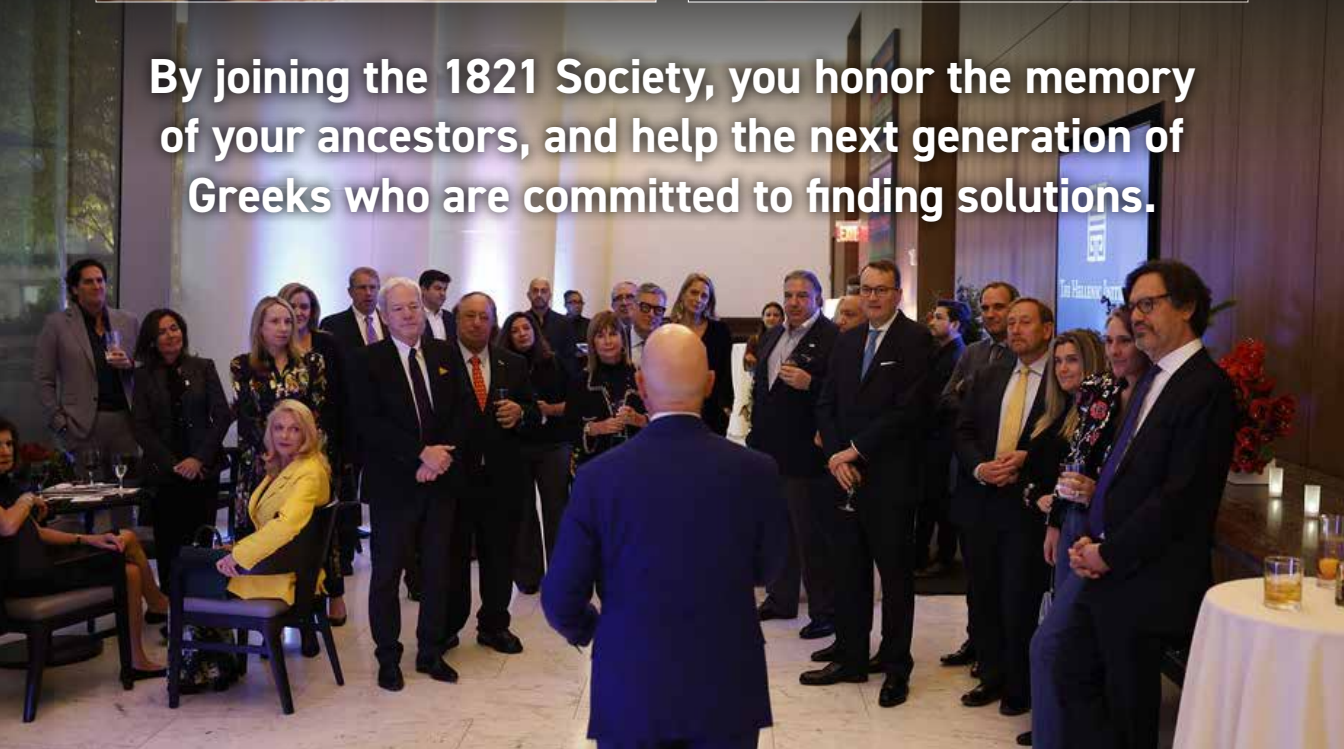
THE 1821 SOCIETY

Vandy Club Reception

An opportunity to learn about the newly inaugurated 1821 Society



By joining the 1821 Society, you honor the memory of your ancestors, and help the next generation of Greeks who are committed to finding solutions.





The Lord Byron Circle

\$18,210

Andrew N. Liveris	Nikos Koumettis
George P. Stamas	Ted Leonsis
Nicholas W. Alexos	George M. Logothetis
Maria Allwin	Paul and Kelly Lountzis
George Anderson	George Marcus
Michael Angelakis	Dennis Mehiel
Peter Barris	Corinne Mentzelopoulos
Drake Behrakis	C. Dean Metropoulos
John P. Calamos, Sr.	Pericles Navab
Aris Candris	James Neary
John & Margo Catsimatides	Nicholas G. Pappas
Achilleas Constantakopoulos	John Aristotle Phillips
Dean Dakolias	Michael Psaros
Jeremy Downward	Caterina Papoulias-Sakellaris
Theane Evangelis	George Sampas
Nic Faitos	Nick Scandalios
Dimitris Georgakopoulos	Simos Simeonidis
John D. Georges	Lea Soupata and Sotirios Zervoulas
Sir Stelios Haji-Ioannou	William Spell
Kosmo Kallierakos	Nikos Stathopoulos
Leah Kats	George Svokos
Leonidas & Cindy Kontothanassis	Spyros Svoronos
David Kostel	John Tentomas and Niki Yannakis
John S. Koudounis	Spiro Verras
Amb. Eleni Kounalakis	Christiana Zouzias

Philiki Eteria Member

\$1,821

Angelique Fiorini Alexos	Nicholas Navab
Constantine Vasilios Alexos	Thomas Navab
Justinian Theodore Alexos	John Aristotle Phillips
John Anderson	Dr. Georgios Sabatakos
Thomas Constance	Peter and Aphrodite Skeadas
Olga Karakada	Nick Tsismenakis
Fr. Alex Karloutsos	

List as of August 8, 2024



SUMMER YOUTH ACADEMY

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH EUROHOOPS

At The Hellenic Initiative, we believe in the power of education and sports to transform lives. Together with Eurohoops, a renowned basketball organisation, we have partnered to create a new, unforgettable summer experience for 100 young people who deserve every opportunity to succeed.

Camp Highlights:



Empowering Underprivileged Youth

The Hellenic Initiative proudly sponsors this camp, ensuring access for those in need.



Safe & Fun Environment

Our camp is a safe place for kids to make friends, grow and have a blast!



Expert Coaching

Eurohoop's skilled trainers will provide top-notch coaching and mentorship to the children.



Character Development

Beyond basketball skills, we install values of teamwork, perseverance, inclusivity and respect.

Intensive Basketball Training:
Improve fundamental skills and learn advanced techniques.

Team Competitions & Games:
Put skills to the test and bond with fellow campers.

Life Skills Workshops:
Inspiring sessions to foster personal growth and resilience.

Mentors:
Meet and learn from basketball idols and special guests.

By supporting **THI's Summer Youth Academy**, you are supporting underprivileged youth across Greece, giving them an incredible summer experience.



EMERGENCY RHODES



WILDFIRE RELIEF FUND

An unprecedented prolonged heatwave sparked wildfires which ravaged the mainland and the islands. The wildfires destroyed forests, homes, businesses, displaced thousands of people and killed thousands of animals. The Hellenic Initiative Wildfire Relief Campaign helped firefighters, first responders and our vetted nonprofit organizations save Greece.

Wildfire Relief Campaign collected over

\$134K

(\$134,130.22)

from over

4,7K

(4782) individuals

coming from

31 countries



EMERGENCY GREECE



THESSALY FLOOD RELIEF FUND

The unprecedented floods devastated central Greece and had taken lives, destroyed villages, homes and businesses, displaced thousands of people and killed livestock. It is estimated that an unbelievable 750,000 acres were flooded, 97% of which was arable land. The Hellenic Initiative Thessaly Flood Relief Campaign helped and supported the victims and first responders and our vetted nonprofit organizations.

Thessaly Flood Relief Campaign collected over

\$70K

(\$70,970)

from over

90 donors

(91)

coming from

10 countries



THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

THI Programs Update



THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

Since 2012¹, THI has deployed \$22.1 million in Greece through 301 grants, in the two core areas of our mission:

\$22.1 MILLION

Economic Development

\$13 million

Crisis Relief

\$9.1 million

Total 2023 Grantmaking

\$1,131,549.69

Economic development grants fund programs related to job creation and entrepreneurship and support Greece's start-up ecosystem. Economic development comprises 60% of total dollars deployed. Crisis relief programs related to food insecurity, homelessness, wildfire relief and other humanitarian needs in Greece comprise approximately 40% of total dollars. These funds are deployed to a wide variety of best-in-class NGOs and nonprofits operating in Greece. THI has made 301 grants since inception.

¹ As of end March 2024

2023 Economic Development Grants

REGENERATION

ReGeneration

ReGeneration is Greece’s largest human resources firm, formed in a joint venture between THI and the Coca-Cola Company to reverse Greece’s “brain drain.” ReGeneration places college-educated Greeks under age 29 in six-month paid job placements to launch their careers. In over 90% of cases, these internships turn into permanent positions. The program provides extensive training programs to up-skill, re-skill, and train candidates for employment.

What we accomplished with your gift:



Since its launch in 2014, ReGeneration has created 3,732 youth placements in the job market, working with more than 1,399 companies and unlocking more than 30 million euro in salaries. The program has offered approximately 850,000 hours of soft and hard skills training, as well as 380,000 hours of up/re-skilling through its general and bespoke ReGeneration academies.





Venture Impact Award

Founded in 2020 and run by THI, the Venture Impact Awards Program is an annual series of awards providing direct financial support to Greek early-stage startups. Teams are vetted on their overall ability to generate financial results while demonstrating impact at large for Greek society. Grants are awarded to all of those seeking capital to expand, create new jobs in Greece or address social and/or environmental problems. The awards were established with the support of the Charles C. Condes Trust and the Helidoni Foundation.

What we accomplished with your gift:



The Venture Impact Awards have supported a total of 49 winners with \$805,000 in prize funding. The winning teams have represented a wide array of sectors important to the Greek economy including agro/food, environment, computer science, education, recycling/upcycling, healthcare, eco-mobility, bio composite materials, cosmetics, social innovation, and microfinance.

2023 Venture Impact Award Winners



\$10,000 Winner



\$20,000 Winner



\$10,000 Winner



\$10,000 Winner



\$20,000 Winner



\$10,000 Winner



\$10,000 Winner



\$10,000 Winner



\$20,000 Winner



\$10,000 Winner



\$20,000 Winner



\$10,000 Winner





Cyprus Seeds

Cyprus Seeds supports the commercialization of research projects with strong IP value and global market potential in Cypriot universities and research institutions. The program provides funding and mentoring to transition research projects from the laboratory to the marketplace.

What we accomplished with your gift:



Since its inception in 2018, Cyprus Seeds has backed 19 research teams, helping in the creation of 6 spinouts, with an additional 2 projects securing licensing agreements. Furthermore, the program has supported the filing of 8 international patents and contributed to the employment of 40 scientists in Cyprus.



VentureGarden

VentureGarden launched in 2014 as a joint venture between Anatolia College in Thessaloniki and ALBA in Athens, with THI as founding donor. VentureGarden is a free comprehensive, educational, and training program for entrepreneurs who wish to create viable start-ups in Greece.

What we accomplished with your gift:



Since its launch, VentureGarden has remained faithful to its motto of growing ideas into viable businesses. To date, it has played a pivotal role in helping create or support 281 ventures and generating 792 jobs for the economy. The companies it has helped create have collectively raised over \$8,5 million in funding, growing its overall impact in the entrepreneurial landscape and Greek economy.





Venture Fair

In 2015, THI founded an annual competition in Athens, which brings together investors from across the globe for a pitching event featuring a selection of Greece's most promising startups. Companies seeking to raise \$2-5M are selected from applicants across Greece. THI trains the teams to prepare their pitch decks and presentations.

What we accomplished with your gift:



Since inception, a total of 82 companies have presented at THI's Venture Fair, with over 70% of those companies still active, and having raised more than \$500 million from other investors.

Participating Teams





Global Greek Film Initiative

The Global Greek Film Initiative is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting Greek cinema and filmmakers on an international scale. It aims to raise awareness of Greek cinema, support Greek filmmakers in reaching global audiences, and foster collaboration within the international film community.

What we accomplished with your gift:



THI funds were used to support the Greek film industry and enhance its infrastructure. GGFI organized a series of workshops in collaboration with seasoned film professionals from Greece and the US. These workshops aimed to cultivate skilled professionals, equipping them with the training they lacked, thereby preparing them for employment within the Greek film market.



2023 Crisis Relief Grants



Axion Hellas

Axion Hellas is dedicated to supporting vulnerable groups in remote areas of Greece, including the islands and mainland. Due to economic challenges and geographic isolation, these regions often struggle with limited access to essential services. The organization is devoted to improving the well-being of these communities by enhancing access to healthcare, education, infrastructure, and cultural activities.



What we accomplished with your gift:



In 2024, the organization plans to visit 5 to 7 islands in the Aegean Sea, prioritizing the delivery of preventative medical care, educational initiatives, and infrastructure development projects. THI funds will play a vital role in supporting the mission's budget, covering expenses such as transportation for volunteers via RIB boats, accommodations, and providing necessary equipment.



Desmos

Desmos is a nonprofit umbrella that matches donations from individuals, corporations, and foundations to pressing needs within Greek society. It operates as a platform where donors can offer resources such as food, clothing, medical supplies, and educational materials, which are then distributed to various charitable organizations across Greece.

What we accomplished with your gift:



THI funds were allocated to support Desmos' response to the February 2023 earthquakes in Turkey. They were used to purchase 9 containers, each capable of accommodating up to six survivors and equipped with essential amenities, like furniture, electricity, and heating.





Doctors for the World

DfW provides medical aid and assistance to vulnerable populations in Greece and around the world. They offer healthcare services, advocate for the rights of marginalized communities, and work to improve access to healthcare for those in need.

What we accomplished with your gift:



On December 5, 2023, the Greek government declared a crisis in Central Greece, particularly in Thessaly and Magnesia, due to unprecedented rainfall causing severe flooding, notably around Volos, Karditsa and the coastal regions of the Pelion Mountain peninsula. DfW committed to assisting the affected population, with THI funding allocated to support their efforts. The program's key objectives were to provide comprehensive primary healthcare services, tailored support for vulnerable cases, mental health assistance, distribution of personal protective equipment, and raising awareness of public health risks associated with water-borne viruses.



Ukrainian Relief Program

In response to the War in Ukraine, THI made three specialized gifts providing relief to the over 30,000 Ukrainian refugees who fled to Greece from their war-torn country.



METAdrasi

METAdrasi is a Greek nonprofit dedicated to facilitating the reception and integration of refugees and immigrants in Greece.

What we accomplished with your gift:

THI funds were used to support approximately 40 Ukrainian women with their children, who have sought shelter in the organization's dormitory located in downtown Athens.



Melissa

Melissa is a network of migrant and refugee women living in Greece. It aims to promote empowerment and active citizenship, create, and sustain bonds, and build a bridge of communication with the host society.

What we accomplished with your gift:

THI funding allowed Melissa to address the ongoing needs of the Ukrainian population it serves through targeted initiatives, including running Greek and English classes, providing mental health support for those traumatized by conflict, and offering childcare and parenting sessions to assist single mothers to find a job and integrate into Greek society.



Prolepsis

The DIATROFI program, an effort by Prolepsis, extends its support to students in primary and secondary public schools living in socioeconomically vulnerable areas across Greece, actively contributing to the fight against food insecurity and obesity.

What we accomplished with your gift:



Prolepsis was the recipient of the funds raised during THI's 2023 Easter Appeal. The funds raised supported the children of a school in Kileler with around 2,750 meals.



Together for Children

TfC is a nonprofit, civil partnership established in 1996, with a mission to ensure that every child in Greece has access to sustainable living conditions, and equal opportunities. TfC achieves this by providing support to children and families in need through a range of programs and partnerships with child welfare organizations across Greece.

What we accomplished with your gift:



THI funds were used to support the organization's helpline, serving as a lifeline for distressed parents and children, offering services that allow them to live mentally healthy lives. Later in the same year, TfC received a second grant from THI as a response to the Thessaly floods. Those funds were used to help fully pay for the renovation of the destroyed local health unit of Giannouli, Thessaly.



National Hellenic Students Association

The National Hellenic Student Association (NHSA) of North America, is a collation of Hellenic university student organizations throughout the United States and Canada. NHSA conducts educational, professional, and social initiatives and activities.

What we accomplished with your gift:



THI funds supported a Beach Clean Up mission organized by NHSA in Glystra-Lagonisi, where volunteers picked up hundreds of microplastics, cigarette butts, and other debris strewn across the beach. In total, the efforts of the volunteers resulted in the collection of over 50 kilos of trash.



Benaki Museum

Since its establishment in 1931 the Benaki museum has transformed into one Europe's premier cultural institutions listing diverse collections spanning Greek, Islamic, Chinese, African and American art. With 9 annexes, 4 archives, 7 conservation labs and 5 shops the museum stands as a testament of cultural preservation on an international scale.

What we accomplished with your gift:



THI funds were used to renovate the Museum's third floor in Kolonaki, a space dedicated to the history of Hellenism in the 19th and 20th centuries.



Food Bank Greece

Food Bank Greece (FBG) was founded in 1995 and is a member of the European Food Bank Federation. FBG collects food suitable for consumption but non-sellable and donates it to charities, soup kitchens, orphanages, and other nonprofits. FBG collects thousands of tons of food from over 100 food companies on an annual basis and distributes it to over 150 soup kitchens.

What we accomplished with your gift:



THI funds were used for targeted purchases supporting FBG's Emergency Food Fund. FBG's donations received are sometimes lacking in certain nutritional areas, including milk, cereals, legumes, rice, tomato paste, and olive oil. Over the years, THI's aid has translated to more than 951,000 meals and 81,000 glasses of milk.



We4all / Plant a Tree in Greece



We4all is a Greek nonprofit dedicated to sustainability and environmental protection. Its initiatives include planting, watering, and nurturing trees, as well as preserving forested areas. We4all also provides environmental training programs, with a focus on collaborating with schools.

What we accomplished with your gift:



By the end of 2023, through THI's Plant a Tree in Greece program, we had planted 14,200 trees in Evia (Rovies, Limni, Papades, Kerasis, Skepasi), Attika (Peania, Varymbombi), and, finally, on the island of Chios (Kalamoti).





Breathe

BREATHE was born out of Princess Tatiana’s passion and dedication to well-being. It was created to destigmatize mental health, promote self-care, and create awareness of mental health issues in Greece.

What we accomplished with your gift:



THI supported the launch of the organization’s second national campaign, leveraging its partnership with internationally recognized athletes.



Athens & Thessaloniki Jewish Communities

Their mission is to uphold their rich historical legacy, nurture and enhance the Jewish identity of their members, and provide much-needed support to their members.

What we accomplished with your gift:



Thanks to THI funding the communities acquired 2 vehicles, one for each city, enabling them to aid community members in need, particularly the elderly, the sick, individuals without family support, and those facing mobility challenges. They do so by actively supporting the blood donation process, particularly by facilitating the communication between hospitals and patients. The efforts are assisted by the nonprofit Bloode, whose description follows.





Bloode

Bloode’s primary mission is to address the pressing issue of blood shortage in Greece. Bloode’s work is focused on helping the National Blood System to become self-sustaining and able to fulfill all the country’s annual blood needs.

What we accomplished with your gift:



Since partnering with THI, Bloode has expanded its reach from 4 public hospitals to 16, significantly amplifying its impact. Over the course of 2023, Bloode assisted in the collection of nearly 105,000 blood units, nearly one-fifth of the country’s total requirements.



Nosilia

Nosilia, established in 2001, is a Greek nonprofit aiming to fulfill primary healthcare, home care, and palliative care needs for individuals in need, extending support also to their families. Nosilia offers such services free of charge, serving a diverse demographic, including the elderly, chronically ill, and disabled individuals.

What we accomplished with your gift:



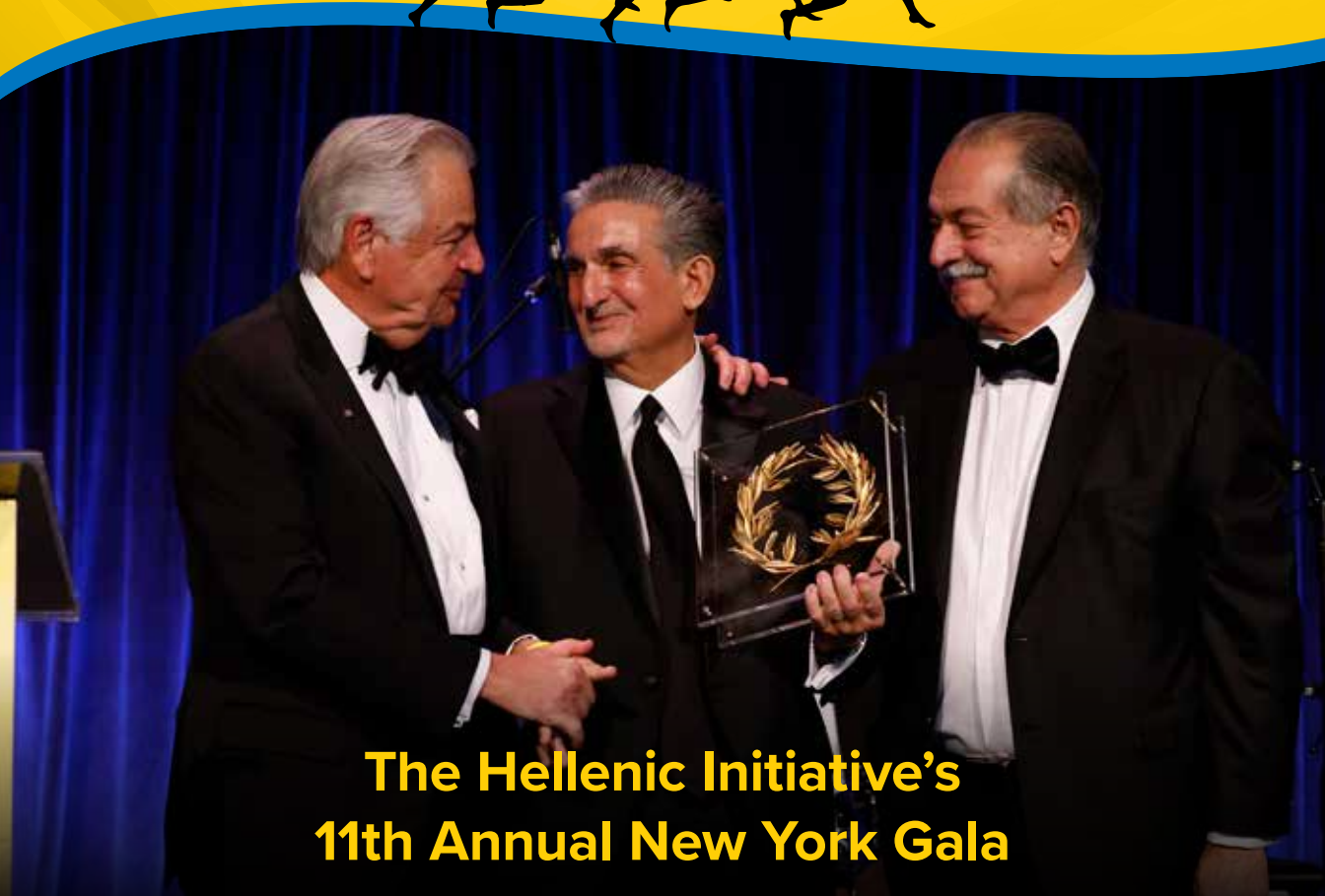
THI funds supported Nosilia’s Giras Timan program, which focuses on providing essential home-based palliative care services to vulnerable elderly patients in Athens. This program aims to improve their quality of life and offer support to their caregivers by delivering personalized medical and holistic primary healthcare services directly to their homes, free of charge.



THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

11th Annual NY Gala

The 11th Annual GALA



The Hellenic Initiative's 11th Annual New York Gala

The Hellenic Initiative (THI) held its sold-out 11th Annual New York Gala on Saturday, December 2, 2023, raising more than \$2.5 Million making it the most successful fundraising event not only in the organization's history but among the global Greek Diaspora.

Noted philanthropist Ted Leonsis, founder, chairman, principal partner and CEO of Monumental Sports & Entertainment, was honored for his service as a founding member of the THI board and his embodiment of *philotimo* (φιλότιμο) — translated as helping others and taking pride in community. Mr.

Leonsis is the majority owner of the NBA's Washington Wizards, the NHL's Washington Capitals, and the WNBA's Washington Mystics.

A portion of the evening's proceeds will help fund the THI Summer Youth Academy, which will debut in July 2024 with Mr. Leonsis serving as the 2024 Academy Chair. The program will offer basketball coaching, life skills workshops, and mentoring from basketball idols and special guests. THI has partnered with basketball training and sportsmanship organization Eurohoops to create an unforgettable summer experience

for 100 young Greeks with limited resources.

The black tie New York Gala, THI's largest annual event, hosted more than 900 dignitaries and guests from the US, Canada, UK, Europe, and Australia. The event kicked off with a cocktail reception at the premier event space 48 Wall followed by a walk on a red-carpet across Wall Street to the celebrated Cipriani Wall Street for a seated dinner where they were welcomed by THI Board Chairman and Co-Founder Andrew N. Liveris and THI Board President and Co-Founder George P. Stamas.















THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

THI Around the World

THE 7TH ANNUAL LONDON GALA

7th Annual London Gala

The Hellenic Initiative's (THI) 7th Annual London Gala held at The Dorchester on Thursday, October 5th 2023, demonstrated the Greek Diaspora's solidarity with the people of Greece, raising more than \$300,000 – a record.

The sold-out Gala was co-chaired by THI Board Member Nikos Stathopoulos, THI London Board Member, Constantine M. Logothetis and THI International Ambassador Princess Tatiana. The event was attended by 410 guests and honored the Stelios

Philanthropic Foundation, whose mission is to support a diverse range of charitable activities, primarily in places where the founder, Sir Stelios Haji-Ioannou, has lived and worked – the UK, Greece, Cyprus, and Monaco. Also honored was the Hellenic Marine Environmental Protection Association (HELMEPA), whose mission is to increase commitment in Greece's maritime community to the prevention of pollution, protection of the marine environment, and safety at sea.

GALA HONOREES



**STELIOS PHILANTHROPIC
FOUNDATION**



HELMEPA









ATHINA23 Gala

On Tuesday, June 6, The Hellenic Initiative (THI) hosted a Gala Cocktail Celebration at the Zappeion Megaron to pay tribute to Vardis J. Vardinoyannis, Chairman of the Board of Motor Oil, for his lifetime contributions to business and philanthropy, and to celebrate THI's philanthropic and economic development work in Greece, over the past 11 years.

This is the second THI Anniversary Gala Celebration aiming to honor distinguished individuals for their generous contributions to the country's development, through their professional accomplishments and positive impact on the Greek society.

THI Chairman, Andrew N. Liveris, stated "It's with great pride and admiration that we gather to celebrate the remarkable work of The Hellenic Initiative in Greece and pay tribute to a true beacon of leadership in business and philanthropy Mr. Vardis J. Vardinoyannis. This evening, we come together to reflect on the collective power of individuals and organizations united in the pursuit of a stronger and more prosperous Greece. THI is here reaffirming the Greek Diaspora's commitment to building a brighter future for generations to come."

The event welcomed dignitaries and THI Board Members committed to mobilizing the Greek Diaspora and Philhellene communities across the world to

promote the country's image and invest in its future.

THI Executive Committee Member & ATHINA23 Chair, John S. Koudounis, who presented Mr. Vardinoyannis with the award, stated "It is an honor for me to have been chosen the Chair of ATHINA23. Tonight, was a wonderful event, our most successful Athens event to date, helping support all the great work that The Hellenic Initiative does. Our honoree this evening, Mr. Vardis Vardinoyannis, and his family have supported and contributed to so many Hellenic causes over the last 50 years, including many of THI's own grantees. Tonight's impact would not be possible without the tremendous support of all our amazing sponsors that will help give back to our main focus of crisis relief, entrepreneurship, and economic development."

Attending the event were THI Co-Founder and Board President, George P. Stamas, THI Board Member & ATHINA23 Co-Chair, George J. Anderson, THI Board Member & THI VentureFair Chair, Nikos Stathopoulos, THI International Ambassador & Zappeion Event Co-Chair, Tatiana Blatnik, THI Greece Country Head & THI VentureFair Co-Chair, Michael Printzos, and THI International Ambassador & Zappeion Event Co-Chair, Peter Poulos, among others.







The Hellenic Initiative Wraps Up Another Successful Annual Venture Fair Powering The Next Generation Of Startups In Greece

Celebrating 11 years of contributions to a better future for the country

Building on the successful momentum of the past editions, the 7th Annual Venture Fair pitching competition for startups was held on Tuesday, June 6, by The Hellenic Initiative (THI) at the Hotel Grande Bretagne, in Athens.

The Venture Fair, one of the largest startup events in Greece has become a platform for the country's vibrant startup ecosystem and a magnet for investments and capital to Greece. Since 2015, a total of 72 startups have come on stage to present to this forum. These startups moved on to raise almost \$500 million of investment, creating approximately 1,500 jobs in Greece.

A day of connection, valuable insights, and innovative ideas, this year's Venture Fair brought together Greece's brightest and most talented entrepreneurs with leading figures of Greece's and the global business and investment landscape.

10 THI-vetted startup companies across various sectors pitched their presentations to an expert panel of judges drawn from THI's Board members, major donors, supporters, and stakeholders.

Advantis Medical Imaging, Clio Muse Tours, Dataviva, EVO Human Performance, Finclude, Finloop, Hosthub, Vimachem, Vimodji and Wecook were the competition's participants.

A shortlist of 5 companies was selected followed by a short Q&A session.

Taking home the pitch competition crown (and \$25,000 cash prize from THI) was Clio Muse Tours.

Congratulating the participating companies, THI co-founder and Board President, George P. Stamas, stated, "Our inaugural Athens Venture Fair took place in 2015. Since then, annually, we have selected the best and brightest among Greece's burgeoning venture capital community and provided them a forum to present to, and received funding from a broad investor base that sees the opportunity that Greece's entrepreneurs can provide. Congratulations to this year's presenters and we wish them the best."

As part of the event, a panel discussion was held, entitled Why Greece? Why Now?, featuring US Ambassador to Greece,

George J. Tsunis, THI Board Chairman Andrew N. Liveris, THI Executive Committee Member, John Koudounis, THI Board Member, Jeremy Downward, and THI Venture Fair Chair & THI Board

Participating Teams


ADVANTIS
MEDICAL IMAGING


Clio Muse
TOURS


dataviva


EVO
FOR HUMAN PERFORMANCE

finclude 

finloop

 hosthub

 VIMACHEM
MEDICAL IMAGING & DIAGNOSTICS

 vimodji

 we
cook



Member, Nikos Stathopoulos, who exchanged insights and views on Greece’s profile as an enticing business and investment destination and growing innovation hub. The discussion was moderated by Athens Correspondent, Financial Times, Eleni Varvitsiotis.

Nikos Stathopoulos, THI Venture Fair Chair, THI Board Member and Chairman of Europe at BC Partners, stated “The true potential of Greece lies in its remarkable human capital, entrepreneurial spirit, and unwavering determination. The Hellenic Initiative Venture Fair serves as a testament to the Diaspora’s collective commitment to fostering innovation, driving economic growth and building a brighter future for Greece. This year’s participating teams join a distinguished group of 72 others from past Venture Fair events, which collectively raised nearly \$500 million in investment from Greek and foreign investors, while creating over 1,500 jobs in Greece.”

US Ambassador to Greece, George J. Tsunis, stated “It’s wonderful to be here today, at the Grande Bretagne in beautiful Athens. The global Diaspora has come to Athens to talk about regeneration, to talk about how to modernize and help Greece’s economy. Over the last couple of years, Greece has the fastest growing economy in Europe. And I expect that is going to continue. Investors have found Greece’s foreign direct investments to be at record levels, unemployment is coming down dramatically, they have a wonderful debt profile and it’s becoming a very dynamic economy. Greece and the US are working together to bring peace, stability, and prosperity to the region. We are here today to discuss ways to take the economic relationship to a new level. The United States is committed to making the US - Greek relationship stronger than ever across every pillar: intelligence, military, education, culture, and economy.”



The Venture Fair’s past success stories include some of Greece’s most successful start-ups, such as Blueground, Spotawheel, Natech, Think Silicon, and Accusonus.



MONACO

event

Celebrating a remarkable night in Monaco!

THI raised 60,000 EUR (with a generous 30,000 EUR match from the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation) at our first-ever Monaco event. This inaugural event in Monaco marked a significant milestone for The Hellenic Initiative. We were deeply honored to receive

recognition for our dedicated philanthropic efforts from both the Honorary Consul General of Greece in Monaco and the Hellenic Community of Monaco. Their acknowledgment underscores the impact of our collective efforts in making a positive difference. A heartfelt

thank you goes out to Sofia Vaharis, Petros Machas, and the extraordinary Sir Stelios for their invaluable support. It is through the commitment of individuals like them that we are able to continue our mission and create meaningful impact.





THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

New Leaders

NEW LEADERS



THE HELLENIC
INITIATIVE
#olimazi

The Hellenic Initiative (THI) New Leaders are an international group of like-minded professionals 21-45 years of age who actively believe in investing in the future of Greece through direct philanthropy and economic revitalization. New Leaders are Greeks and Philhellenes of the Diaspora who are passionate about working together (Oli Mazi) to fundraise, donate their time, resources, skills and expertise in helping to build a better future for Hellas.

THI New Leader Executive Committee 2023

Vassilis Arsenis	Alexander Marcopoulos
Stavriana Asprogiannidou	Vasilis Mornto
Niki Backos	Joanna James Moschos
Panagiotis Balomenos	Christos Dimitrios Nikas
Georgia Belesis	Demetri Nikolias
Tefkros Bolanos	Christina Nikolos, Co-chair
Lia Bozonelis	Maria Nikou
Eunice Buhler	Konstantine Ouranitsas, Co-chair
Konstantina Choros	Kyriaki (Sandy) Papadimitriou
Marissa Eliades	Petros Perselis, Co-chair
Kalliope Filax	Alexander Philliou
Konstantinos Flogaitis	Areti Sakellaris
Ellen Grace Furgis	Alex Samaras
Lexi Georgiadis, Co-chair	Dimitri Skambas
Niko Hahalís	Constantine (Kostas) Speridakos
Katerina Iliakopoulou	Elina Stavropoulou
Eirini Ioannidi	George Stellas
George Mark Kailas	Theodora Tavridou
Orestis Kaitezidis	Eugene Theodore
Angelo Karras, Co-chair	Jay K Tourgoutian
Kelly Kollias	Mirianthi Tsismenakis
Alexandra Kontopanos, Co-chair	Nikolaos Vidalis
Dimitrios Kyranos	Denny Venetia Vildiridou
Georgios Laskaris	Marianthi Vlachos
Matthew Lianides, Co-chair	Nicole Vournazos, Co-chair
Louis Loizou	Ioannis Wallingford
Zachary Lountzis	Lia Wrenn
Grigoris (Gregory) Makris, Co-chair	Zacharias (Harris) Xanthos
Athanasios Manole	Theresia Yiallourou
Elias Manolis	George N. Zapantis
	Simoni Zarkada

2023 Marked yet another record-breaking year for THI's New Leaders!

We kicked off our **fundraising cocktail events strong** in **March** opening up two **new cities**. We traveled to **Miami** for an event in early March with a strong local showing as well as many of our Northeast friends who flew in for the festivities. Santorini by Georgios was the perfect South Beach venue with delicious food, live music and breaking plates! On March 25th weekend, we celebrated Greek Independence Day at The National Hellenic Museum in **Chicago** with an unprecedented inaugural cocktail event dedicated to our Plant A Tree program. Generously sponsored by *Calamos Investments*, this was our highest grossing event to date! Chicago New Leaders came out in full force for our first event in their city and many also flew in to celebrate the weekend #OliMazi.

Plant A Tree was a big theme for our New Leaders in 2023 as we set a challenge for our Executive Committee to raise \$25,000 for that program. We are happy to report we raised well over that amount! Part of that success was due to an event we hosted on **Earth Day, April 22, in Philadelphia**. Local New Leaders were asked to plant trees on their own prior to the event, purchase tickets which included one tree per ticket, and then received their official tree planting certificate complete with dedication at the event. A wonderful time was had by all supporting the environment.

Also in April, we reviewed applications for our **New Leader Executive Committee**. We welcomed a robust new committee of 55 members and assigned them to subcommittees based on their skill sets. They are working on many exciting projects on each committee including Fundraising & Marketing, Recruitment & Membership, Programs & Initiatives, Events & Volunteering. We are so grateful for

all their hard work that keeps our community vibrant and growing!

June was a very busy month starting with **ATHINA23 in Athens**. Many New Leaders were in attendance for this important celebration of our work and partners at the historic Zappeion. Just a few days later THI New Leaders co-hosted a **Los Angeles event** in conjunction with LA Greek Film Festival and Global Greek Film Initiative. Greek American singer Evangelia performed, and it was a wonderful night on the West Coast in honor of these three great organizations. Last but not least, at the end of June, we landed back in **NYC with a gallery opening event for Carolina Rovithi**. Her first ever exhibit in the US was hosted by THI with the support of Greece in the US and supporting Luv Michael. We love these collaborations where so many organizations come together to help others. As our Board Members love to say, "a rising tide lifts all boats" and thus we practice our "Oli Mazi" slogan in every way we can. This was a totally new type of event for us, bringing an artistic flair to our cocktail party fundraisers and it was a huge success.

Summer always means Athens, and for the second year in a row, we organized a day of volunteering as well as networking with a purpose. New Leaders from across the globe landed in our beloved Athens for these events on July 12. We began the day with a Plant a Tree Service Project where we went to Varympompi, a fire affected area outside Athens, and watered and weeded trees that THI had previously planted with We4All. We ate with our volunteers at a taverna that was affected by the fires and had to be rebuilt. We very much enjoyed supporting this local business as part of our efforts. That evening, we hosted our first ever **THI New Leaders Global Happy Hour partnering with THI Canada**

and THI Australia. It was wonderful to end the day with a spectacular sunset view of the Acropolis at Skyfall bar. We are extremely proud of the global New Leaders community we have built and will keep this annual tradition going and growing!

Fall events began with a first time ever full weekend of events for our New Leaders around our **7th Annual London Gala** in October. We knew that our New Leader "passport crew" as we have lovingly named it, would travel to London to experience the London Gala and we wanted to provide lots of opportunities for them to participate in other ancillary events should they wish to do so. Friday, October 6, the day after the gala, we had a special private tour of The Hellenic Centre which was then hosting the Vlassis Caniaris exhibit including pieces borrowed from the Tate Modern. That evening, we partnered with Endeavor Greece to host their "Greeking Out" event including panels with cutting edge tech founders and investors. Last, but not least, we had our own **THI London New Leaders Cocktail Fundraiser** at 3 Locks Brewery. **Special guest Nia Vardalos** joined us for a very fun night. It was an epic weekend in London for THI and we look forward to doing it again!

In between our Annual gatherings, speaker series, and happy hours, we always keep our New Leaders engaged. We send a **New Leaders Newsletter** every month. This year, we added a letter from Artemis, our Director of Community Development, to address the group and share her insights about the happenings in the group. We launch an annual membership campaign which actually raised just as much as our events over the year. Our Executive Committee are the most consistently engaged group, participating in meetings focusing

on growing THI's current campaigns and providing their skills to generate strategic thinking about how our community can continue to grow and fundraise to support the people of Greece.

We ended the year strong in both our "home" cities. Starting in New York with a dynamic weekend of events in December. Our **11th Anniversary New York Gala** brought with it a full weekend of events for our New Leaders. Once again, the gala sold out of New Leader tickets beforehand, but we were able to 'network with a purpose' with young professionals across the city at our many other events. We spent Friday night hosting a hugely successful pre-Gala New Leaders Happy Hour at Thalassa sponsored by our friends at Stray Dog Gin. This year's Happy Hour sold 226 tickets to New Leaders eager to be part

of the weekend. It was once again very festive with a DJ and dancing late into the night. Saturday marked Gala day, and New Leaders were once again in attendance in full force! Not to mention we always have an army of volunteers without whom we could never have executed such a large, successful event. This year's after party at Skinos Restaurant featured live Greek music and certainly kept the dancing going into the morning hours.

We continued our tradition with the 3rd Annual Post Gala Executive Committee & Membership Brunch. We have this intimate gathering to thank our Executive Committee for all their hard work and also invite Athena Members to meet us and be part of the conversations we have there about our gratitude and the upcoming year. It is a very heartwarming event with our most dedicated New Leaders drinking

lots of coffee and delicious Greek brunch food again at Skinos. Another exciting partnership we continue to expand is our 'takeover' of **The National Herald**. The newspaper continues profiling our New Leader Executive Committee and Members once every two weeks in a dedicated corner 'takeover'. We have improved the co-branding of this corner in 2023 and continue to be excited about this opportunity. It's a wonderful way for the Greek community to learn more about our talented New Leaders and THI as they all answer why they have chosen to be involved with The Hellenic Initiative!

New Leaders are the future of our organization and the amount of growth we have seen with new city chapters in Miami, Chicago, and Athens point to the value that THI brings to our Global Greek community. Oli Mazi!



*Inaugural Athens Holiday Fundraiser
December 20, 2023*



*THI New Leaders New York
December 1, 2023*



*THI New Leaders London
October 7, 2023*



*The Hellenic Initiative 7th Annual London Gala
October 5, 2023*



*THI New Leaders London Greeking Out
October 5, 2023*



*THI New Leaders Athens
July 19, 2023*



*ATHINA 23 - Plant a Tree Service Project, Varympompi
July 19, 2023*



*THI Exclusive Pre Show Opening Event for Caroline Rovithi, New York
June 28, 2023*



*THI Exclusive Pre Show Opening Event for
Caroline Rovithi, New York June 28, 2023*



*THI New Leaders, Los Angeles
June 8, 2023*



ATHINA23 Anniversary Gala Celebration, Zappeion Megaron, Athens, June 6, 2023



*THI Philly New Leaders Plant Trees for Spring
April 23, 2023*



Chicago New Leaders Launch
March 25, 2023



*Miami New Leaders Launch
March 11, 2023*



THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

New THI Board Members

The Hellenic Initiative Welcomes

WILLAM SPELL

To Its Board

**Distinguished Private Equity Investor
seeks to draw investment to Greece
and help its young entrepreneurs**

The Hellenic Initiative (THI) has announced that William (Bill) Spell has joined its Board of Directors. He is the founder and President of Spell Capital Partners, based in Edina, MN, and the Spell Family Office.

THI welcomes his insights and experience to its efforts to build a New Greece. “I believe the work of the Hellenic initiative is critically important and valuable to Greece,” Spell said. “It’s imperative that my ancestral homeland prospers, both economically and socially, and anything I can do to further that, I will. I hope to make direct investments in the Greek economy and assist Greek entrepreneurs. I will lend my voice in all matters important to the Hellenic diaspora.”

Spell has BS and MBA degrees from the University of Minnesota and began his career as an investment banker. Spell Capital has a 36-year history of investing in private equity, specializing in industrial manufacturing transactions. Since 2018, the firm has invested on behalf of the Spell Family Office. Currently, the family office owns and manages 10 manufacturing platforms located around the world.

Holding numerous leadership positions in the Greek-American community, Spell said that, “as a third generation Greek-American” – the Spell Family (Speliopoulos) emigrated from Peloponnese, Greece over 100 years ago – “I

have a connection with my family’s roots. My family and I cherish our Greek culture and history,” he said.

A member of the Archdiocesan Council of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, Spell is also a fulfilled member of Leadership 100 endowment fund. As an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate Spell serves on the National Council and is on the Patriarch Bartholomew Foundation investment board. He is also a member of the boards of the Metropolis of Chicago Foundation and of Hellenic College-Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, as well as the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine in New York. He is a recipient of the Archdiocese’s prestigious Medal of St. Paul.

Bill and his wife Tiki have been married for 39 years and have two married adult children and two grandchildren. The Spells spend their time in Edina, MN, Scottsdale, AZ, and Sun Valley, ID. He also is the owner of the Spell Estate winery in Sonoma, CA. The couple established the Spell Family Foundation in 1992.

Spell said, “I hope my involvement with THI will continue



to strengthen the Greek diaspora across the world, so that we Hellenes of all nationalities can speak with one voice on all matters important to Greece.”

George P. Stamas, THI’s Board President, stated, “We are honored to have Bill Spell join the Board of THI. His commitment to Greece and the mission of THI will help propel the organization forward during this time of tremendous growth.”

Andrew N. Liveris, THI’s Board Chairman, stated, “The combination of experience in sectors pivotal to Greece’s future and his devotion to Greece and Hellenism makes Bill Spell a most welcome member of THI’s Board.”

Easy Jet Founder

SIR STELIOS HAJI-IOANNOU

Joins The Hellenic Initiative Board

Knighted By HM Queen Elizabeth II at the age of 39, the founder and President of the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation (www.stelios.org), Sir Stelios brings his vision, energy and compassion to THI

Sir Stelios Haji-Ioannou, creator and owner of the ‘easy family’ of brands (see www.easy.com and www.easyHistory.info) starting with easyJet in 1994 when he was just 27 years old, has joined the Board of Directors of The Hellenic Initiative (THI). He was knighted by HM Queen Elizabeth II for “services to entrepreneurship” in 2006. He is also founder and President of the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation, which supports a diverse range of good causes close to home in the countries where he lived and worked including Greece and Cyprus. Sir Stelios signed The Giving Pledge (led by Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffet) in 2017 pledging to give half his fortune to his charitable foundation to continue the good work in perpetuity.

Sir Stelios is using the recurring royalty income from the easy family of brands which is collected by his for-profit company easyGroup Ltd to donate the majority of its profit to the UK registered charity Stelios Philanthropic Foundation which does important charitable works. The flagship charitable program in

Greece is the Food from the Heart initiative which distributes daily free snacks, to anyone in need, and serves approximately 100,000 beneficiaries per month. In 2023 in the heart of Athens, the Stelios Foundation acquired and restored a historic property on 22 Kydathineon street in Plaka which is functioning as a conference hall and it is made available to any Greek registered charity to hold their charitable events for free.

Moreover, Sir Stelios has agreed to lead the Monaco chapter of The Hellenic Initiative where he lives and has agreed to host a charity fundraiser in Monaco on the 25th of June 2024 to raise funds for the THI Summer Youth Academy in Athens.

George P. Stamas, THI’s Board President, stated, “THI is always on the lookout for the most dynamic entrepreneurs and builders of iconic brands, and so we are delighted to welcome Sir Stelios to our Board.”



Andrew N. Liveris, THI’s Board Chairman, stated, “THI’s efforts, which blend economic development – with an emphasis on boosting startups and job creation – and philanthropic support, which includes helping young people receive the material and moral support needed for success, will greatly benefit from the addition of Sir Stelios to its Board.”



THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

In Memoriam

In Memory of THI Board Member

JOHN PAPPAJOHN

Born in Greece in 1928, John Pappajohn immigrated to the United States with his mother at the age of nine months and grew up in the Greek community in Mason City. He graduated from the University of Iowa in 1952, earning his Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree from the then-College of Business Administration, taking six years to do so because he alternated going to college with his two brothers—two would work while the other attended classes.

Pappajohn said he learned the value of hard work early growing up in Mason City. As a child, he had to repeat kindergarten because he spoke little English. His father died when he was 16, forcing him to work while simultaneously attending school. He returned to Mason City after graduating from the University of Iowa and sold insurance, then started Guardsman Life Insurance Company in Des Moines in 1962. He sold the company in 1969 for \$100,000 and used that money to start his own venture capital fund, Equity Dynamics. Focusing on health care and medical technology, the firm grew rapidly, and he became one of the state's most prominent business leaders. Pappajohn has been involved in more than 100 startups, 50+ IPOs, and has served as a director in more than 40 public companies.

As he became successful, Pappajohn decided one of his life's priorities was to give away much of his fortune to benefit the greater good and, ultimately, became one of Iowa's biggest philanthropists.



The Pappajohns provided more than \$100 million in support to philanthropic causes around the world, with a particular fondness for higher education and the arts. Of note are those at the University of Iowa including the Pappajohn Pavilion in the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, the John and Mary Pappajohn Clinical Cancer Center, and the John and Mary Pappajohn Biomedical Research Building.

Pappajohn was a member of the Board of Directors for The Hellenic Initiative. His involvement with the organization was an extension of his lifelong commitment

to philanthropy and supporting his Greek heritage. Through The Hellenic Initiative, Pappajohn worked with other members to invest in and support Greek entrepreneurs and provide relief and assistance to those in need. Pappajohn's dedication to The Hellenic Initiative and his efforts to support Greece's economic growth were just one part of his legacy of giving back to his community and making a difference in the lives of others. His belief in the mission of The Hellenic Initiative was unwavering, and it was bolstered by his boundless optimism. We will all miss him very much.

In Memory of THI Board Member

MARIANNA V.

VARDINOYANNIS

Marianna V. Vardinoyannis, a prominent philanthropist and Executive Committee Member of The Hellenic Initiative, passed away on July 24, 2023, leaving a void in the global humanitarian landscape. Her voice and legacy reached well beyond the borders of Greece, impacting countless lives, and transforming the landscape of philanthropy.

She devoted her life to championing various noble causes, with a particular focus on children's health, cultural and environmental preservation, and human rights. As a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, Marianna V. Vardinoyannis used her considerable influence to emphasize the profound impact of education and cultural understanding. Her exceptional efforts were internationally recognized when she was awarded the prestigious 2020 Nelson Mandela Prize by the United Nations, underscoring her commitment to advancing justice, equality, and human rights worldwide.

Her dedication to ELPIDA, the Association of Friends of Children with cancer, epitomizes her commitment to creating a better future for children of all ages and backgrounds. Regardless of the circumstances, she ensured access to world-class healthcare, transforming ELPIDA into a haven filled with love and hope. Her empathetic and solidary efforts alleviated the suffering of young cancer patients and of their families. Through her work, thousands of children from Greece and neighboring countries were saved. She was also instrumental in the creation of the first Pediatric Oncology Hospital in Greece, the biggest Volunteer Bone Marrow Donor Registry and the ELPIDA Guest House.

She served as the Founder



and Honorary President of the Alexandria Center for Hellenistic Studies and held memberships on the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Board of Trustees and the Leadership Council of Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights. Additionally, she served as a trustee for the MENTOR Foundation and the Nizami Ganjavi International Center. Notably, Marianna V. Vardinoyannis was a dedicated member of the Board of the Acropolis Museum, showcasing her commitment to cultural preservation. Academically, she earned a BA in Economics, a BA in the History of Art, and an MPhil in Archaeology. Her humanitarian endeavors garnered numerous international distinctions and awards, recognizing her impactful contributions.

As an Executive Committee Member of The Hellenic Initiative,

Marianna V. Vardinoyannis seamlessly integrated her passion for healthcare and social welfare, contributing invaluable insights and fostering collaborations that extended the organization's impact. Her holistic approach to philanthropy, addressing both immediate needs and systemic challenges, set a standard for effective, compassionate leadership for all of us.

In commemorating the life of Marianna V. Vardinoyannis, The Hellenic Initiative pledges to continue the important work she championed, ensuring that her vision for a healthier, more compassionate Greece endures. Her legacy lives on in the countless lives touched by her kindness, resilience, and commitment to the betterment of humanity.

We will all miss her very much.



THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

Friends of THI



THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

Founding Members and Donors 2023

\$100,000 and above

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Leonidas & Cindy Kontothanassis	Corine Mentzelopoulos, Andreas Mentzelopoulos Foundation
John Koudounis, Koudounis Family Foundation	Michael G. & Robin Psaros
Theodore & Lynn Leonsis	George P. & Georgia Stamas

\$50,000 – \$99,999

American Express	Hellenic Charitable	JP Morgan Chase	Pericles & Neda Navab
Andreas and Shirley	Fund of Florida of the	Dean C. Metropoulos	Sir Stelios Foundation
Kramvis Foundation	Community Foundation	Monumental Sports &	The Coca-Cola Company
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Cusson	Martin Counties		

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Demoulas Super Markets, Inc.	Karsh Family Foundation		Ted Virtue, MidOcean
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\$10,000 – \$24,999

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Chris Ashton, Worley	Stephen & Myrna Greenberg	Michael Miebach, MasterCard	Nikos Stathopoulos
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George Casey, Shearman & Sterling	Lamda Development	Thomas Papadopoulos	The Boro Hotel
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Toula Antzoulis	Alicia Everett	Christopher Marks	Dimitri Sigounas
Vasiliki Argeroplos	Theodoros Fessas	Alexis Maskell	Constantine Skarvelis
Michael Arougheti	Demetri & Lea Fifis	Stratos Mavrogiannis	Jennifer Sklias-Gahan
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Helen Bouboulis	George Koulouris	Christina Nikolos	Christina Tenedios
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Louis Demetroulakos	Nikolaos Karagiannis	Chryssa Papakonstantinou	George Tsokas
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Chrisoula Georgakakis	Kimberle Gray	Dorothea Ioannou	Fotis Karantonis
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Antonis Schwarz	Alexia Stamatou	Julia Tavlas	Mirianthi Tsismenakis
Jeanne Sdroulas		Melissa Taylor	

\$499 and below (continued)

Demetri Tsitsios	Christiana Vasilas	Zacharias E. Xanthos
Kyriakos Tsolakidis	Danai Vasileiou	Theodoros Xenohristos
Gregory Tsonis	Marie Vassilakidis	Demetra Xenos
Olga Tsoudis	Sophia Vassilakidis	Athanasia Xeros
Ritsa Tsoukatos	Penny Vassilatos	Harry Xidias
Evangelia Tsoukopoulou	Eric Vassilatos	William Xifaras
Joanna Tsoumpas	Vicki Velesiotis Scott	Onursal Yakaboyleu
Alex Tsouvalas	Alexandra Veletsis	Christos Yerolemou
Ekaterina Tsukanova	Victoria Veniou	Flora Yiakras
Alicia Tung	Irina Veramidis	Theresia Yiallourou
Kelly Turner	Nikolaos Vidalis	Anastacia Young
Konstantinos Tyriakidis	Denny Vildiridou	Ellen Youssios
Stellio Tzikas	Jasmine Villanova	Berkay Yozz
Irene Tzikas	Penny Vitogiannis	Roula Zacca
Alexandra Tzimopoulos Conway	Peter Vittas	Sophia Zacharatos
Angelo Tzivas	Haris Vittas	Anastasios Zacharioudakis
Olga Tzortzatos	Dionysios Vlachos	Lydia Zacharis
Panagiotis Tzouvalis	James Vosotas	Ari Zachas
María Ullmann	Nicole Vournazos	Noula Zaharis
Christina Urbano	Philip Voutsakis	K Zaharopoulos
Deonisia Urso	Christos Voutsakis	Christos Zalidis
Alexandros V	John Vratsinas	Fran Zamaklar
Nikolaos Vadivoulis	Elizabeth Wahba	Katerina Zanos
Aliki Vagelatos	James Walker	George Zapantis
Theodore Vakrinis	Stella Walkey	Alexios Zaras`
Alexandros Valais	Ioannis Wallingford	Simoni Zarkada
Kyriakos Vamvoudakis	Elizabeth Walton	Zois Zarkas
Marie-Anne Van Oers	Ye Wenjun	Susan Zazzara
Maria Vandis	Dimitri Wens	Zena Zenonos
Eugenia Vadoros	Sandra Westlake	Kalliopi Ziangos
Anastasia Vadorou	Andre Willems	Evie Ziogas
Nicholas Vardinoyannis	Torie Williams	Andrew Ziolkowski
Chris Varones	Kelly Williams	Irene Zolotas
A Vartholomaiou	Michael Winger	Konstantinia Zormpa
Grigorios Varympopiotis	Lia Wrenn	Gary Zouzoulas
Konstantinos Vasilakakis	Aimee Wright	Georgia Zullo
Kirk Vasilas	Madison Xagoraris	
Sokratis Georgios Vasilas	Ifigeneia Xanthopoulou	

List complete as of January 1, 2024

Please reach out to info@thehellenicinitiative.org if you see a listing that needs to be changed.



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