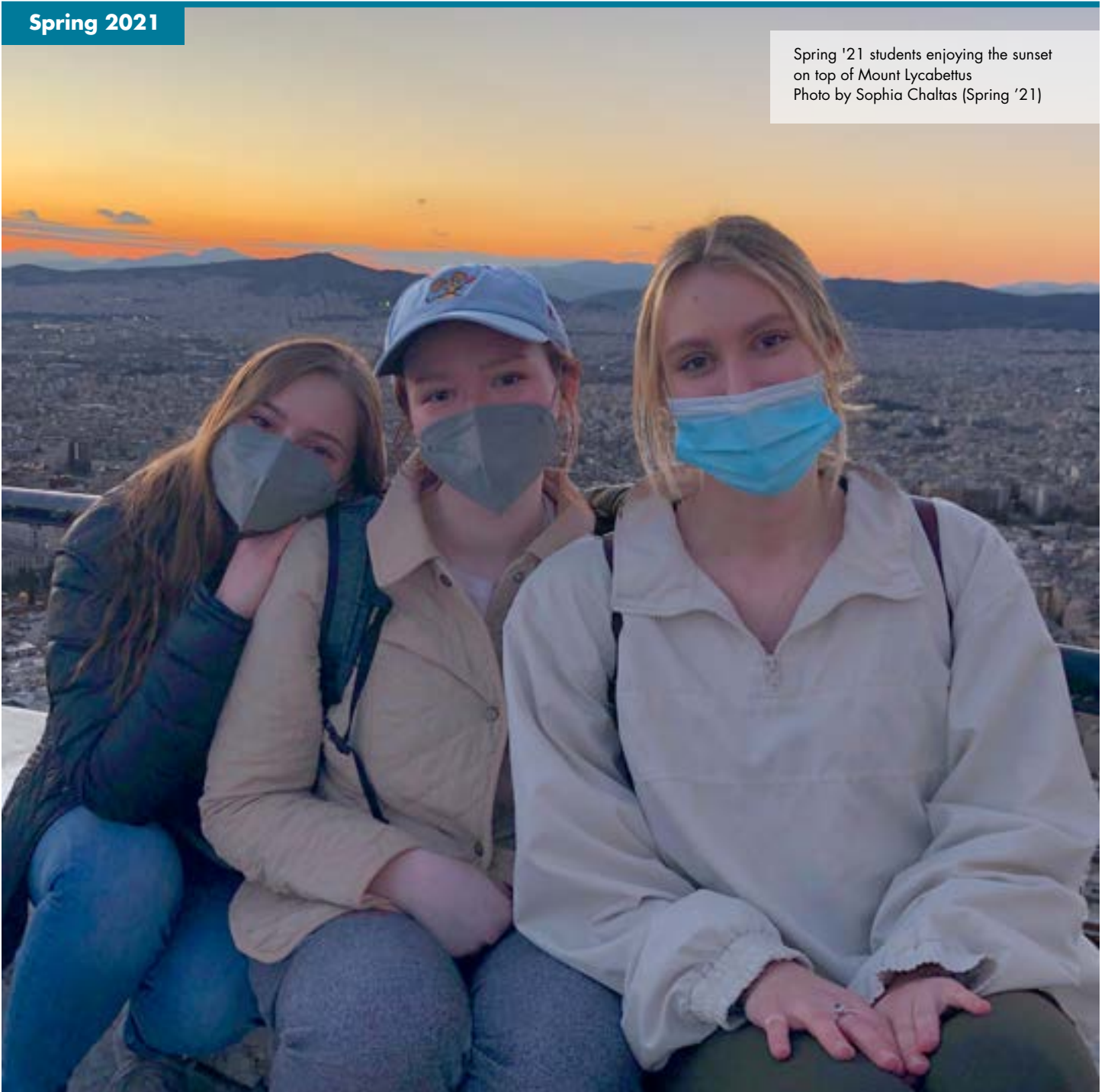


THE OWL

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF COLLEGE YEAR IN ATHENS

Spring 2021

Spring '21 students enjoying the sunset
on top of Mount Lycabettus
Photo by Sophia Chaltas (Spring '21)



5 PLATEIA STADIΟΥ, ATHENS, GREECE

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The Bicentennial of the Greek War of Independence was celebrated all over the world this past March with a series of cultural, educational, and festive events. It was a time for remembrance and reflection on the past and future of this new nation, the first nation-state after the Napoleonic wars.

The role of the Greeks of the diaspora in Moldavia and Wallachia, inspired by the values of American independence in 1776 and the French Revolution in 1789, by the ideas of the enlightenment, and the words of diaspora Greeks like Rigas and Koraes synthesized the intellectual background of a revolution. The influence of classicism induced a philhellenic movement in Western Europe fueled by the romantic poetry of Byron, Shelley, and Keats inspiring people to become sympathetic to the Greek cause. In America, the poetry of Fitz Greene Halleck and the fiery sermons of people like Edward Everett and Thomas Winthrop in Boston and Nicholas Biddle and George Beddel in Philadelphia mobilized political and economic support. Quite likely the abolitionist movement played a positive role as well.

What is also remarkable is that the uprising of the Greeks in 1821 happened at a time when the Powers of the day, Austro-Hungary, Russia, Prussia, England, and France, had all joined together in the Holy Alliance at the Congress of Vienna to keep a world order that was totally intolerant to nationalistic uprisings. It is in this forbidding context that the Friendly Society in Odessa was planning the Revolution. Its leader, Alexander Ypsilantis, Greek officer in the Russian army and aid de camp to the Tzar, in his impetuous way preempted the revolution and started military action in Wallachia by collecting a small army of students abroad and in so doing pushed the Greeks of the Peloponnese to an uprising. Other areas of Greece joined the long and bloody revolt but after seven years of fighting and despite countless acts of bravery and sacrifice, the war against the Ottomans was not going well for the Greek side. It lasted long enough, however, so that the Big Powers,

seeing the prospect of Greek annihilation, eventually changed their position in favor of the Greeks and in 1827 destroyed the Ottoman and Egyptian fleets in the naval battle of Navarino, thereby sealing the independence of the young nation.

At CYA, the historic occasion of the beginning of the Revolution was commemorated in March with remarkable virtual lectures given by two important historians of modern Greece, Columbia University professor Mark Mazower and Haverford College professor Alexander Kitroeff. Both events were co-hosted by the Consulate General of Greece in Boston and offered under the auspices of the Embassy of Greece in Washington, drawing thousands of viewers thanks to modern technology and social media. Recordings of both are available at [Mark Mazower](#) or [Alexander Kitroeff](#). Apart from offering to our alumni and friends a deeper understanding of the complexity of the Greek Revolution, both lectures underlined the enormous influence that philhellenism played in the 19th century, mobilizing public opinion in the US and Europe, radically transforming the political scene and tipping the scale not just in favor of the embattled Greeks but also in favor of the ideals of liberty, independence, human rights, and constitutional governance.

Reflecting on the past, one can say that a lot was accomplished in these two hundred years and a lot remains to be done. The young nation enlarged itself with the Balkan Wars, suffered the Catastrophe on its centennial having to absorb 1.5 million fellow Greeks from Asia Minor, endured the Nazi occupation and the civil war but always remained on the right side of history. All this and the present circumstances of the world pandemic, severely impacting Greece after nine years of economic crisis, speak of the resilience of her people. The 25th of March 2021 marked a turning point in many things: the brand of the country, diplomacy, and a general rather abstract sense that Greece is done with her past, recognizing her shortcomings and moving forward to the next century.



CYA was born only 130 years after the end of the Greek Revolution. Although dedicated to making our students interculturally competent, there is no doubt that the deeper impetus for CYA's creation was the study and cultivation of the art, language, and history of ancient and modern Greece, in essence promoting classicism and Greek studies, the same elements that shaped public opinion in the 19th century to give Greece its freedom, elements which have provided her soft power ever since. Byron's "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage" and Shelley's "Hellas" have influenced generations toward the same ideals. Byron writes in the "Isles of Greece",

*The mountains look on Marathon –
And Marathon looks on the sea;
And musing there an hour alone,
I dream'd that Greece might still be free;*

Greece has indeed remained free. The thousands of CYA's alumni, who hold Greece in their hearts, demonstrating their attachment to this country every day, are the new philhellenes. Greece inspired some through CYA to discover their career pursuits, while to most she gave the discovery of themselves.

ALEXIS PHYLACTOPOULOS, *President*

Deadline for submissions for the next OWL: August 15, 2021

VIRTUAL LECTURE SERIES – SEASON TWO

After a series of fascinating virtual lectures over the summer, CYA renewed its Virtual Lecture Series for the fall season.

September 16, 2020

Democracy: Old & New



John McK. Camp II



John Karavas

CYA Trustee Emeritus, Professor **John McK. Camp II**, Director of the Athenian Agora Excavations at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, gave a lecture titled *Democracy: Old & New*. CYA professor of archaeology **John Karavas** facilitated the discussion.

Professor Camp discussed the history of Athenian democracy, and what it can teach us about contemporary governments, through his archaeological dig at the Athenian Agora. Through studying democracy's original form, Professor Camp argued, we can implement wisdom from ancient Athens to current political and governmental issues and find solutions to pressing problems.

[Link to Article](#)

[Watch this lecture on YouTube](#)

September 30, 2020

Connecting the Brain to Machines: From the Presocratics to Elon Musk



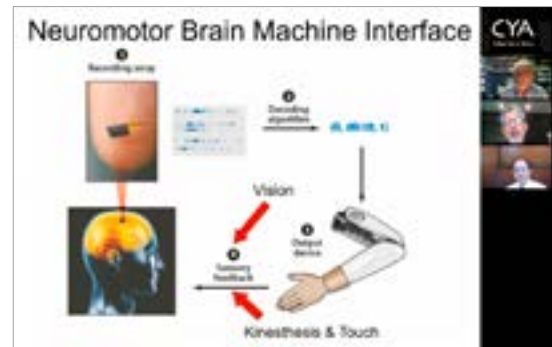
Nicholas
Hatsopoulos



John Pezaris

CYA Trustee and alumnus, **Nicholas Hatsopoulos** (CYA '83), Professor of Neuroscience at the University of Chicago explored the Ancient Greek origins of neuroscience and tied the history of the field to the development of cutting-edge technologies to be used in neuroscience. Professor Hatsopoulos, along with a team of scientists and researchers, studies machine-brain interfaces.

In the discussion, titled *Connecting the Brain to Machines: From the Pre-Socratics to Elon Musk*, Professor Hatsopoulos explored the Ancient Greek origins of neuroscience and tied the history of the field to the development of cutting-edge technologies to be used in neuroscience.



CYA alumnus **John Pezaris** (CYA '83), an Assistant in Neurosurgery at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School, provided fascinating insights and asked probing questions as the lecture's discussant. Dr. Pezaris currently runs the Visual Prosthesis Laboratory at Mass General where his team uncovers secrets of the visual system in order to restore sight to the blind.

[Link to Article](#)

[Watch this lecture on YouTube](#)

October 29, 2020

When Future Meets the Past: New Archaeological Methodologies in Action



Hüseyin Öztürk



Sam Holzman

CYA Professor and field archaeologist, **Hüseyin Çınar Öztürk**, outlined developments in the field of archaeology from the middle of the twentieth century to today. **Sam Holzman** (CYA '10), former CYA Trustee, served as discussant for the virtual lecture. Holzman serves as the Digital Archaeology Associate at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.

Professor Öztürk currently works with the Small Cycladic Islands Project to survey the tiny islands in the Cyclades that were once home to important ancient sites. By using photogrammetry and drones, archaeologists can map out and model entire islands in order to best study the archaeological remains there.

[Link to Article](#)

NO VIDEO – Speaker's request

November 19, 2020 Energy and Climate Change: Rhetoric and Reality



Raphael Moissis



Ulysses Kyriacopoulos

Dr. **Raphael Moissis**, Chairman Emeritus of the CYA Board of Trustees and Chairman Emeritus of the Foundation for Economic and Industrial Studies (IOBE), participated in CYA's Virtual Lecture Series. In his presentation, *Energy & Climate Change: Rhetoric and Reality*, Dr. Moissis examined the often-stark differences between the rhetoric of Europe's stated policy regarding energy and climate change and the scientific and economic reality of one of today's most pressing issues.

Ulysses Kyriacopoulos, CYA Trustee and a significant figure in the Greek business world served as discussant for the lecture, providing interesting insight about climate change and energy from an entrepreneur's perspective.

[Link to Article](#)
[Watch this lecture on YouTube](#)

December 16, 2020 Discovering the Universe

Dionysis P.
SimopoulosCatherine
Vanderpool

In the last installment of CYA's Virtual Lecture Series for the year 2020, **Dionysis P. Simopoulos**, astrophysicist, Director Emeritus of the Eugenides Planetarium in Athens, and vocal advocate for science education in Greece, examined the secrets of our universe. In his lecture *Discovering the Universe*, Simopoulos guided attendees through the history of astronomy, the timeline of fundamental discoveries and theories about space and the universe, and the future of space exploration and further developments in the field.

Simopoulos began by highlighting humankind's persistent wonder, curiosity, and connection with the cosmos throughout history. It seems that man and the universe have an unbreakable link that

inspires this fascination with space, one that has inspired countless monumental scientific discoveries. Most notably, humanity's understanding of space was significantly enriched by the boom of discoveries that came in the middle of the twentieth century.

Catherine Vanderpool, former CYA professor, archaeologist, and an emeritus member of the board of the Gennadius Library of the American School of Classical Studies, Athens, served as discussant for the virtual lecture.

[Link to Article](#)
[Watch this lecture on YouTube](#)

January 27, 2021 Ancient Quarrel Between Poetry and Philosophy



Michael K. Kellogg



K. Chris Todd

Michael K. Kellogg, founding and managing partner in the law firm of Kellogg Hansen Todd Figel & Frederick, P.P.L.C., and author of books on philosophy and the history of western thought, discussed the much-debated critical battle of philosophy and poetry. What Plato called "the ancient quarrel between poetry and philosophy" was a quarrel over primacy. Which is most important to the city state: poetry or philosophy? Which has the strongest claim to wisdom?

Facilitating the discussion was CYA's Chairman of the Board of Trustees, **K. Chris Todd**, a name partner in the Washington D.C. law firm of Kellogg Hansen Todd Figel & Frederick, P.P.L.C., and a good friend of Michael Kellogg.

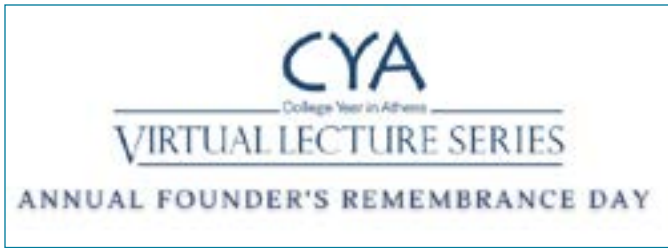
[Link to Article](#)
[Watch this lecture on YouTube](#)

[View all episodes of the CYA Virtual Lecture Series here](#)

THANK YOU

CYA Trustee, **Yiannis Monovoukas** made a significant financial contribution to CYA this year; he provided funding that will cover a portion of air travel costs to students who will be enrolling in Fall '21 or a CYA GAP program.

FOUNDERS DAY LECTURE



February 10, 2021

The Metamorphoses of Education Abroad



Brian Whalen



Hal Haskell

Commemorating its founder, **Ismene Phylactopoulou**, CYA hosted a special lecture on Education Abroad. Guest speaker **Brian Whalen**, Executive Director of the American International Recruitment Council (AIRC), gave a brief history of education abroad and discussed where things are, and where things are going in the field.

Education abroad has a long past but a relatively short history. Transformative educational journeys to foreign lands resonate deeply in many cultural and intellectual traditions. But only in the past 50 years has education abroad developed as an organized field of higher education. Mr. Whalen discussed:

'What is important to know about the history of education abroad as an academic enterprise', 'How will the Covid-19 pandemic change this field', and 'what will education abroad look like in the near and long-term future'?

Dr. Brian Whalen is among the most well-known and influential international education leaders; he was the President and CEO of The Forum on Education Abroad for a dozen years. He served as resident director in Italy for the University of Dallas and Boston University and was the Senior International Officer at both Marist College and Dickinson College. He has taught graduate and undergraduate courses at Boston University, Brookhaven Community College, Dickinson College, Lesley University, University of Dallas, and the University at Albany. A widely published scholar, Brian was for 25 years the founding editor of *Frontiers: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad*, the first peer-reviewed international education journal. Brian has contributed to many higher education initiatives globally and has participated in national policy level meetings at the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Education, and the White House.

The discussion was facilitated by Dr. **Hal Haskell**, Professor Emeritus of Classics at Southwestern University. A widely published scholar in North American and European journals and an expert in Greek and Latin language and literature and Aegean Bronze Age archaeology, Hal Haskell serves on CYA's Academic Advisory Roundtable.

[Link to Article](#)

[Watch this lecture on YouTube](#)

APPRECIATION FROM AN ALUMNA

In response to the Founder's Day lecture, we received this nice note from alumna **Beatrice (Meyer '67) Ring**, addressed to **Alexis Phylactopoulos**:

The transformative nature of study abroad cannot be understated. For me, my time in Greece helped me to:

- Gain a deeper understanding of a culture different from my own
- Gain the ability to communicate in a language not my own
- Embrace the skills to negotiate everyday elements in new and interesting ways (ordering groceries, making telephone calls, using transportation etc. dining in restaurants, celebrating holidays etc)
- Gain new friendships which have served me through the years
- Learn about oneself and one's weaknesses and strengths

For me it was an astounding growth experience to be 'plunked' down by your mother and Raphael and Jean Demos in an Athens apartment where I couldn't read a single word, didn't know the Greek alphabet or language, and to know that at the end of the day I could feed myself, get a job and make new friends... that taught me the skill of self-reliance and gave me the confidence I would use the rest of my career.

CYA continues to be the most important single experience of my youth for which I continue to be eternally grateful. And much of that gratitude must be directed to your mother who, even before the school year began, taught me the tools to make my year abroad astounding.

So while you honor your mother today as founder of CYA, I will use it this evening to raise a glass to her amazing skills as a teacher of life.



Maria Vidali, who teaches Contemporary Urbanism, participated (online) in the Experiential Design—Rethinking relations between people, objects and environments conference, in January 2020, organized by Florida State University, AMPS and PARADE, thanks to a CYA grant. Her presentation and paper titled *Architecture beyond the built form. Understanding and Imagination* was later published in Graham Cairns, Eric An (eds.), AMPS Proceedings Series 18.1., pp. 54-60



Congratulations to CYA professor **Eleni Fassa**, on her new book, *The Birth of a Cult: Sarapis and the Ptolemies in Alexandria during the 3rd century BCE* (transl.). Why is a cult founded? How is it created and organized? What myths and rituals are applied in order to promote a new god? "The birth of a cult" is a book on the relation between religion and politics during one of the most fascinating eras of Hellenism.



Despina Iosif published her latest book on Libanius and the Roman Prisons (University of Crete Press, 2020). Libanius was teacher of rhetoric in Antioch late in the 4th century AD and the orations he composed are a valuable source on how Roman officials run the provinces, how trials were conducted and how criminals were treated in the late antique Mediterranean world. Despina Iosif has another book forthcoming by University of Crete Press on Ancient Greek and Roman Paradoxography.

Angelos Papadopoulos, who teaches Bronze Age Aegean Prehistory and Ancient Materials and Technologies in the Greek World at CYA published in late 2020:

Papadopoulos, A. (2020) *Deconstructing the Image of the Warrior. Adaptation, Alteration and Rejection in Late Bronze Age Eastern Mediterranean from an Aegean perspective*, in J. Driessen & A. Vanzetti (eds.) *Communication Uneven. Acceptance of and Resistance to Foreign Influences in the connected Ancient Mediterranean*. Louvain, 169-187.

Papadopoulos, A. (2020). Review of Kristian Kristiansen, Thomas Lindkvist and Janken Myrdal, eds. *Trade and Civilization: Economic Networks and Cultural Ties, from Prehistory to the Early Modern Era* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018, *European Journal of Archaeology*, 23.4: 627-631.

Despite the COVID-19 restrictions, he presented four papers at three international conferences:

- 1) **"Seeking the Cypriot merchant in the LBA Mediterranean: Personal possessions as indicators of identity?"**
- 2) **Connections with the west? Mycenaean and Cypriot pottery from Tell el-Hesi, 50 Years at Hesi: New Discoveries from an Old Dig** at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), Boston, 18-21 November.
- 3) **The Cypriot and Aegean pottery from Tell el-Hesi: Merchants from Cyprus in the southern Levantine trade networks?** at the conference Beyond Cyprus: Investigating Cypriot connectivity in the Mediterranean from the Late Bronze Age to the end of the Classical period, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens, 8–11 December.
- 4) **Mycenaean pottery and 'objects of no value'.** Finds management and issues of division during the British Museum excavations in Cyprus in the late 19th c. AD" at the conference Empire & Excavation. Critical perspectives on archaeology in British-period Cyprus, 1878–1960, CAARI and British Museum, 29-30 January 2021.

A VIRTUAL VASILOPITA CUTTING!

January 13th, CYA had the traditional cutting of the Vasilopita, in the virtual presence of the CYA staff. Vasilopita is a New Year's Day cake that traditionally contains a hidden coin or trinket which gives good luck to the receiver. The story of the Greek Orthodox custom of the Vasilopita with the lucky coin inside began in Asia Minor.

Before cutting the Vasilopita, CYA President, **Alexis Phylactopoulos**, warmly addressed the staff and offered encouraging thoughts regarding the school in these difficult times.

The President proceeded to cut the Vasilopita, reserving a piece for each member of staff. Instead of the lucky coin, a lot was drawn and three winners won a special box of goods.

Congratulations to the lucky winners: **Erica Huffman** '93 (Director of Alumni Relations), **Angeliki Dasiou** (cleaning staff) and **Maria Malliou** (Financial Officer).



OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM: CYA'S WINTER SESSION

CYA offers two Winter Session options: participating in an excavation taking place in Voula, a suburb of Athens or a fast-paced course within and about the city of Athens.

Anthropology of the City: Exploring Modern Athens with CYA professor **Aimee Placas**, is a course that studies the different realities of this city, by exploring, observing, and speaking to people.

Class guest Dr. Tyler Boersen, International Press and Media Officer at Develop Athens took students on a walk around the city center and offered insight into ongoing projects (photo). Dr. Boersen spoke about Athens as a unique and complex city and highlighted recent interventions that encourage Athenians to imagine and interact with city spaces in new ways.



DONATE TO CYA

By giving to CYA, alumni and friends help secure the present and future of an institution which has been dedicated to the highest quality study abroad education since 1962. Donations make so many things possible from the continuous improvement of our facilities, to the development of new courses, the funding of professor sabbaticals and research, to inviting renowned visiting professors and granting student awards for those less fortunate to name a few. Please give to CYA and together we will make the next 60 years even more special.

Make a gift by check

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

Please contact our Bursar for details: bursar@cyathens.org
Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Giving Levels based on annual contributions

Benefactor	\$25,000+
Patron	\$10,000-\$24,999
Sponsor	\$5,000-\$9,999
Supporter	\$1,000-\$4,999
Contributor	All other gifts

ALUMNI BOOK CLUB

On October 14th CYA announced their new virtual alumni book club. **Ariana Gunderson** (Spring '13), with the help of CYA's Director of Alumni Relations, **Erica Huffman** (Spring '93), spearheaded the project. So far the group has met virtually five times and have read the following books. If you are interested in participating, please email Erica at alumni@cyathens.org.

Outline by Rachel Cusk

Eurydice Street by Sofka Zinovieff

Scorpionfish by Natalie Bakopoulos

The Two Faces of January by Patricia Highsmith

Three Summers by Margarita Liberaki



1967 COUNTER COUP

Submitted by Lynn (Dominick '68) Novack



The years before 1967 were years of political instability, with frequent leftist protests and riots. On April 21, 1967, a group of Colonels overthrew a caretaker government, one month before the national elections that were predicted to elect the Greek American socialist Andreas Papandreou.

Colonel Papadopoulos was named Prime Minister. The Greek Parliament was dissolved, and Syntagma Square stayed mostly empty and the Parliament Building remained cold and dark.

The Junta stayed in place until 1974, when it was toppled after the Greek military lost more than half of Cyprus to the Turks, where they remain to this day.

December 14, 1967:

The Day After the Counter Coup...

"Yesterday, I was sitting here on a calm day in our apartment when I heard the sound of jets buzzing over Athens. About an hour later, we found out that King Constantine was leading a counter-coup against the Junta in Northern Greece, that there were tanks in Syntagma Square, and fighting up north. The rest of the day was devoted to following all the scraps of news we could get, which were very contradictory. Mrs Phyl stayed in Mrs H's apartment (first night spent in Athens in 30 years! — shows how nervous she was. She, like all of us, was hoping the king would be victorious). We talked with her at length. We also listened to a news broadcast in English over the national station, throwing out the most outrageous propaganda. But it eventually became apparent to us that the king had lost and was fleeing the country.

We went to bed at midnight but were woken at 2:00 AM by the loudest explosion we'd ever heard: a large bomb going off very close by! We were absolutely terrified. Silence for half an hour, then a deafening rumble outside our apartment: this time, a tank. It stopped right below us on Denocratous, soldiers jumped out and picked up some men loitering there, piled back in with their prisoners, and the tank rumbled off. No lights or cars anywhere, and the only other noise was the sound of the heavy apartment wooden shutters going up and down in the darkened square. It was really, really eerie.

Eventually we got to sleep for a few hours. This morning, we found out that the military Junta is in complete control, with the King and his family exiled in Rome. The counter-coup was a complete fiasco, but the Junta claimed no bloodshed. Right... people were being tortured all the time in that warehouse across from where Margot Camp lived. They would turn on revving motorcycles at night to dampen the sounds of the screams.

It is all so sad. When will Greece ever be free again? But we are all safe, and we sure have seen and experienced some history."

And for the rest of our academic year, there was a big bomb crater in the middle of Denocratous between all the student apartments and the apartment for the dining room and library. It must have had a 25 feet radius, and been about 12-15 feet deep. It was a constant reminder that the Colonels were still in charge.

During our year there, we were forbidden to speak about politics with anyone, lest we get ourselves and them into trouble. We were forbidden to listen to music by Theodorakis and other leading composers who were leftist. It was a scary time, politically, as it was also the year of a Greek-Turkish standoff over Cyprus (resolved peacefully with negotiations led by Cyrus Vance), and in the U.S., the assassination of Martin Luther King, followed by the assassination of Bobby Kennedy.

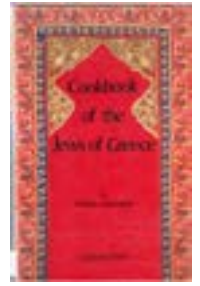
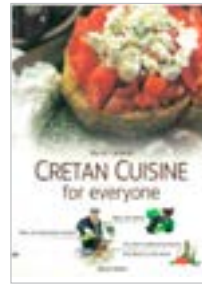
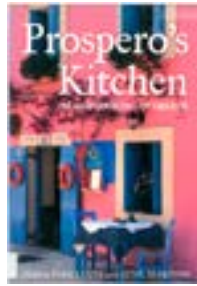
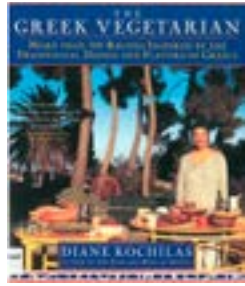
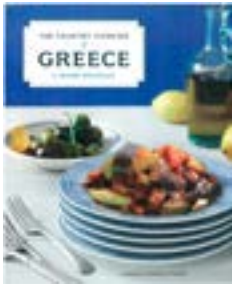
ADDENDUM: We recently had a Zoom call with seven classmates participating, and we compared stories. One classmate said she and her roommates had gone out driving with friends from Athens College to see what was happening, and the police had stopped them. They were scared to death, but my classmate claimed they spoke no Greek and were just American tourists who had gotten lost — and the police let them go. We all had memories of the shutters being raised and lowered in the darkness. The rest of our year was relatively uneventful, as long as we followed the rules. And it was a spectacular year for all of us, remembered with intensity and passion for Greece.

Lynne Dominick Novack, Senior Fellow, John G Tower Center on Political Studies at Southern Methodist University (SMU), spent her career organizing programs in foreign policy and national security at various universities and non-profit organizations. She and her husband John divide their time between Dallas, TX and Patagonian Chile.



Lynne Dominick, Katharine Weld, and Elizabeth Brittain at Sounion

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CYA LIBRARIAN



All of us have enjoyed cooking during lockdown. Some people cooked good old recipes and others preferred to explore new cuisines and tastes. This time, the Librarian recommends cookbooks that will bring back to your memory tastes and smells from Greece. Dishes that will keep you company until the next time that you visit Greece and eat under the shadow of an old tree at a taverna, a few meters from the beach.

The Country Cooking of Greece

by Diane Kochilas. San Francisco: Chronicle books, 2012.

"Two hundred recipes range from whole grains and a diversity of nutritious Greek greens to hand-shaped pastries and the briny bounty of the Mediterranean and Aegean seas. This book is the guide to the next wave of Greek artisanal products we will come to use and appreciate, such as grape must and mastic.

More than just a cookbook, this is a cultural guide. Learn to navigate the tavern scene, the extensive Greek holiday meals, and the drinking rituals that accompany the meze spread, heavy with regional specialties such as you might find in any traditional taverna."

The Greek Vegetarian: More than 100 recipes inspired by the traditional dishes and flavors of Greece

by Diane Kochilas. New York: St. Martin's Griffin, 1996.

"In this authoritative, exuberant cookbook, renowned culinary expert Diane Kochilas shares recipes for cold and warm mezes, salads, pastas and grains, stews and one-pot dishes, baked vegetable and bean specialties, stuffed vegetables, soups, savory pies and basic breads, and dishes that feature eggs. Brimming with classic dishes, regional favorites, and inspired innovations, The Greek Vegetarian pays tribute to one of the world's most venerable and healthful cuisines."

Prospero's Kitchen: Island Cooking of Greece

by Diana Farr Louis, and June Marinos.
London: I.B. Tauris, 2012.

"Corfu, Cephalonia, Zakyntos and other Ionian islands are home to one of the finest cuisines of the Mediterranean. The stamping-ground of Captain Corelli and Lawrence Durrell, the Ionians have always held a particular, almost mystical, fascination for visitors, while for many of the thousands who travel to the region each year it is the special nature of Ionian cooking that forms an essential and unforgettable part of their experience.

Featuring over 150 easy-to-follow recipes as well as a wealth of information on Ionian culture and customs, beautiful photographs and original illustrations, *Prospero's Kitchen* is an essential guide to Greek cuisine with a lyrical Ionian accent."

Cretan Cuisine for everyone

by Myrsini Lambraki. Heraklion: Myrsini edition, 2005.

A book that includes information on the culture of the Cretan cuisine and the home cooking traditions. Easy and fast recipes with step by step photos.

Kitchen in Corfu: Rustic Ionian Cooking.

by James Chatto and W.L. Martin. London: Clearview books, 2012.

"A Kitchen in Corfu takes as its subject the gathering of food and cooking in Loutses, a small village in northern Corfu where the old traditions of lining and eating still flourish. The book's shape follows the landscape: the hills and sea, the olive groves and vineyards, orchards and vegetable gardens where the villagers hunt and grow their food."

Cookbook of the Jews of Greece

by Nicholas Stavroulakis. Athens: Lycabettus Press, 1990.

"The Cookbook of the Jews of Greece is more than a cookbook, for, in addition to the 287 recipes, some unique and others unusual variations on familiar Persian, Arab, Turkish, and Greek dishes, it is lavishly illustrated by the author with over sixty drawings of Jewish life throughout Greece and documented with descriptions of local customs and traditions that were the settings for a rich and varied cuisine."



CYA Librarian Georgia Katsarou

VIRTUAL INTERNSHIPS



Emma Pierce (L) and Aimee Placas (R) during an online meeting.

As previously announced, CYA is offering Virtual Internships. In CYA's virtual internship program, a CYA faculty member supervises a curriculum that supplements the student's internship project, running activities that increase cultural immersion, facilitate intercultural communication, and give the intern the tools needed to make the most of an international internship experience virtually.

CYA Faculty member **Aimee Placas** is running internships this winter with **Emma Pierce**, a student from the College of Charleston. This is what Emma shared:

My name is Emma Pierce and I am a junior studying at the College of Charleston. This semester I am doing an online internship with ELIAMEP, a Greek foreign-policy research institute, through CYA. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity and will be engaging in a 12-week research project entitled "Familiar Strangers". I will be collaborating with one other intern who is located in Europe and we will work together to explore the perceptions that the people living on either side of the Atlantic have about each other. I am responsible for researching how American citizens and the government view Europeans and the EU. My work will be focused from the beginning of the Obama administration to the beginning of the Biden administration. The first half of my internship will be dedicated to academic research. I will discover what academia has to offer in regard to America's perception of Europe. The second half of my internship will be creatively based. I will conduct interviews with friends, professors, researchers of my choice as well as create my own questions and surveys in order to further my understanding. ELIAMEP's social media platforms will also be at my disposal

during this portion of the internship so I can ask questions as well as report my findings to the public. At the end of the internship, I will write a paper in which I compile my research findings and ELIAMEP will use this information to better understand the ways in which people on either side of the "Big Pond" view one another.

GAP YEAR



CYA has added Gap Year Programs to its outstanding academic offerings!

More and more students are participating in Gap Year programming worldwide and CYA is happy to announce its new Gap Year Program which gives students the opportunity to enrich their life experience before college.

For those students taking a Gap Year, CYA offers an amazing opportunity. Students will experience Greece and Greek culture in depth while living in the center of Athens but also traveling around the country. Trips around the country and on-site and experiential learning get students outside of the classroom and into the world, expanding their worldview and preparing them for their future studies.

CYA will offer this opportunity every semester, and each offering will be centered around fascinating themes from Ancient to Modern Greece.

For more information visit the [Gap Year Programs](#) page on our website.

PICTURE YOURSELF IN GREECE THIS SUMMER

Learn more and apply [here](#)

SUMMER SESSION I (June 2 - June 30, 2021)

ARCH 346 / HIST 346 The Strangeness of Ancient Greece: Diversity, Difference and Regionality among the Greek States (Athens, Peloponnese)

ARCH 321 Excavating in the Aegean: The Despotiko Field School (Paros, Antiparos)

ARTH 356 / CHTE 356 The Present Past: Re-imagining Greece Through Heritage (Athens, Crete, Rhodes)

LIT 348 Becoming a Traveler: Writing in Greece (Athens, Poros, Nauplion)

SUMMER SESSION II (June 30 - July 28, 2021)

ECON 343/ POLSCI 343 Plague, Politics, & Populism | Classical Athens as Parable for Modern Greece and Europe (Athens, Delphi, Delos, Mykonos)

ANTH 325 The Anthropology of Food in Greece: the Mediterranean Diet and More (Athens, Naxos, Ikaria)

ARCH 347 When Egypt meets the Aegean: Interconnections in the Bronze Age Eastern Mediterranean (Thera [Santorini], Crete, Athens)

REL 351 The Geography of Faith: Paul and the Emergence of Christianity in Greece (Athens, Corinth, Philippi, Thessalon)

URBS 334 Greek Island Architecture, Culture, and Identity. (Naxos, Amorgos, Santorini, Tinos)

VIRTUAL MARATHON, ACTUAL RUNNING!

Two Fall 2020 CYAers ran the Athens Authentic Marathon during lockdown.

Every year in Athens, thousands of runners have the opportunity to participate in the Athens Authentic Marathon, covering the same ground as Pheidippides, the hero of a legend that inspired modern Marathons. (Phidippides was a messenger, who is said to have run from Marathon to Athens to bring news of the Greek victory over the Persians at the Battle of Marathon, in 490 BC.)

Like most things this past year, the 2020 Athens Marathon was different. Due to the restrictions for the prevention of Covid-19, the Marathon was held virtually! This meant that participants could run on a chosen path around their neighborhood, and track their distance digitally, in order to cover the official 26 miles.

Fall 2020 students **Benji Hess** and **Jennifer Frank**, decided to participate, Benji running the full Marathon and Jennifer the 5k race.

We spoke to them about their experience and found that they were both excited to have participated!

Jennifer: I am very glad that Greece decided to hold the Virtual Marathon this year. It was very fun to participate in, and it felt great to be part of such an important annual tradition.

Benji: the experience was absolutely incredible. Although I didn't keep up with my training before the event, I somehow managed to make the distance (with a couple gas-station breaks along the way, hah).



What route did you decide to take?

Jennifer: In order to find a good route, I looked up the 5K route from past years. It took me by the National Garden, the Temple of Zeus, and the University of Athens. I listened to music and enjoyed sightseeing as I ran.

Benji: I decided to head south. My halfway point was Vouliagmeni, and I managed to hit Ilioupoli, Argiroupoli, and Glyfada along the way. I left Athens at around five in the morning, and I caught the sunrise right as I was approaching the coast—it was an incredible experience to be running while the city was waking up!

During your semester with CYA, what did you like doing for exercise?

Jennifer: Throughout the semester, I enjoyed running through the National Gardens and in the Panathenaic Stadium by CYA! These spots were so easily accessible from our neighborhood, which I'm very grateful for.

Benji: I would take walks almost every night, normally to one of the Western hills past the Acropolis.

We would like to end this article by sharing Benji's beautiful memory of the end of his Virtual Marathon Run:

The end of my race was particularly special; Jennifer and **Theo Karplus** (Fall '20) met me at the Panathenaic Stadium right as I was finishing up with a banner made of trash bags, hah! Running through it, they took me home and surprised me with a brunch. All of my classmates were there waiting, and we had a lovely Sunday-morning meal. I'll never forget that moment or the folks I got to share it with.

FIVE THINGS I'M GRATEFUL FOR THIS SEMESTER

by Jacki Healy (Fall '20)

This year has been nothing like I expected, in both the best and worst ways.

From COVID-19 and lockdowns to social justice movements and presidential elections, 2020 has been a challenge and a contradiction to everything we'd anticipated. But 2020 has also brought so much good: new ways of communicating, creating, and connecting. New friendships, new challenges, new successes, new experiences.

In 2020, and this semester particularly, I have so much to be grateful for. Here are 5 of them, in no particular order:

This Current Moment



I'm sitting cross-legged on the third floor balcony of CYA. In the sun, it's just warm enough to go without a jacket, probably one of the last times I'll be able to do so this term. I'm looking out over some kids laughing and riding bikes near the Panathenaic Stadium, and a bit to the right is the Parthenon in the distance. I'm listening to my favorite playlist of happy songs, and the sun is huge in the sky as it starts to descend. It seems surreal. At the beginning of this year, I never would have guessed that I'd be here, basking in the glow of the Mediterranean sun setting, feeling nothing but gratitude for everything in my life. I am so thankful.

Grecian Skylines



Photo taken at Meteora on September 27, 2020

Right now, faint colors are starting to paint the Athenian horizon, a view I'll never get tired of. But it's not only this spot at this moment that is beautiful; every single place I've been in Greece has an incredible view. Be it sunrise, sunset, midday, or even cloudy and raining, every skyline in Greece is a stunning view. Each time, it makes me pause – and not just to take a picture. They are all unique and breathtaking, and the views bring me a feeling of awe and peace. They are the prettiest reminders of how blessed I am to be studying abroad and exploring a new place during this crazy time!

Delicious Food



This one is quite self-explanatory, but Greek food!!! I have been here for two months and have not had a single bad meal. I've tried so many new things, tasted different dishes, and absolutely fallen in love with Greek cuisine. The only part that I'm not thankful for is how much I'm going to miss it when I go home!

Amazing Support



CYA's Yiota Vouzna helping student Theo Karplus keep her balance while taking a photo at Lissos Gorge in Crete.

As I've already mentioned, this year and this semester have been rife with trying circumstances. If it weren't for the incredible support of my family, my therapist, my professors, and the CYA administration and staff, this experience wouldn't be anything close to how wonderful it is. My family keeps me grounded and connected to things at home, while cheering me on and encouraging me to experience all Greece has to offer. My therapist has helped me work through the emotional and mental effects of changing plans and varying lockdown restrictions. My professors have been great about adapting to ever-shifting schedules, instruction formats, and availability of on-site learning. And, most especially, I'm thankful for the CYA staff and administration, who have done so much to make our time here the best it can possibly be. From rescheduling field study trips, to keeping us informed about new regulations, to encouraging our Greek language practice, to providing us with art supplies and other fun things to do during lockdown, they have made this such a fun and exciting experience!

Incredible Friends



Fall '20 CYAers Jennifer Frank, Benji Hess, Theo Karplus, Gwyn Stith, and Jacki Healy!

With only nine of us total studying at CYA this term, it was inevitable that we'd spend a lot of time together and hopefully get along. However, I can't believe what good friends we all have become! I feel so lucky to be here in Greece with this incredible group of people. We've been through adventures, challenges, quarantines, and more together, and we've definitely bonded and had a lot of fun. This semester has been full of memories and stories for a lifetime, and even if we don't stay in touch, I will definitely hold these people and this time in my heart.

The sun has now dipped below the tree line, the Acropolis is lit up in all its glory, and the sky's faint colors have deepened and darkened into a richly colored sunset. A slight chill is now blanketing Athens, but I'm still warmed by all the joy, gratitude, and love I have for these things and more.

All this to say, I am very very thankful for this place, these people, and this incredible experience.

Jacki Healy (Fall '20) is currently a sophomore at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin. She is interested in history, classics, theatre, psychology, and museum studies.

THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT

The Accounting Department, based in Athens, is vital to CYA's operations and we are fortunate to have a fantastic duo who keep CYA running.

Maria Malliou



Maria Malliou joined the CYA/DIKEMES family in 1995 as an Accountant and is currently CYA's main financial officer. She was born in Stuttgart, Germany, where she lived with her family before repatriating back to Greece. Mrs. Malliou holds a B.A. in Accounting from the Piraeus Technical Institute and an M.A. in Banking from the Hellenic Open University. She lives in Athens with her husband Spyros and their two sons Fotis and Sotiris. Fotis is currently attending his second year at the Technical University of Crete studying Electrical and Computer Engineering, while Sotiris is in his second year of Lyceum which is the equivalent of being in the Junior year of high school.

Tell us what you do for CYA; what is your role?

As the Financial Officer of DIKEMES I mainly deal with all the issues concerning Greek taxes, labor legislation and payroll. Additional responsibilities include reconciliation of accounts, preparing an unadjusted trial balance of DIKEMES. Assisting me here in Athens is my co-worker Vana Bika. I am also responsible for financial statements between DIKEMES and our North American office where I collaborate closely with my fellow colleagues Maria Marakas and Cornelia Herzfeld. The four of us work closely together adjusting entries at the end of the fiscal year and of course making certain that our sheets are balanced in our end of the year budget.

What do you like most about your job?

It is really exciting to work as an Accountant in an academic institution where one is able to meet young people full of energy and different points of view, making one feel that this job is not only about numbers but also a place full of young knowledgeable faces.

How do you spend your free time/weekends?

I did not have a lot of free time the past few years because I was completing my master's degree. Most of my time during the weekends was spent studying, running to libraries, and writing my thesis. Now that I have completed my studies, I have more time to spend with my family. Going on long walks, reading, watching my sons play soccer—and going to the cinema are just some of the hobbies I enjoy the most!

If you could meet anyone, living or dead, who would it be?

I would like to have a class reunion with CYA's class of 1995-1996 which was the first year I started working at CYA. I have very fond memories of some of the students from that year and they hold a special place in my heart. Also, I would definitely like to meet Lazaros Christoforidis our financial advisor (who passed away 3 years ago), whose advice in this critical period would have been really precious.

If you were not an Accountant, what job would you choose to have?

I would like to do something related to tourism that will give me the opportunity to travel more, meet new people and get to know more places.

How has your career grown while you have been at CYA?

When I came to CYA all accounting processes were conducted manually. So I was responsible for converting all processes to electronic format. This was a great undertaking as I worked for months to be able to computerize everything prior to 1995. Accounting has changed a lot in Greece in the past years. All our government filings and payments have been converted to digital format. These new government regulations are quite challenging, but they keep me motivated to learn new things.

Why do you think study abroad is important?

Studying abroad is really important, it is the perfect way to truly learn a different culture by being part of it. While I was in college, I had the opportunity to be an Erasmus student and live abroad, but I did not take that chance and I regret it. For that reason, I am strongly encouraging my sons to take the opportunity and study abroad as I believe it will definitely make an impact on their lives.

Vana Bika



I was born in Athens, but my family moved to Nafaktos when I was twelve years old and I finished school there.

I came to CYA/DIKEMES in February 2001, when the financial services were looking for an Accounting Assistant. Maria Malliou was then pregnant with her first child and the late Lazaros Christoforidis needed help in the Accounting Office. Fortunately, I was lucky to join the CYA/DIKEMES team, and the three of us had a particularly good collaboration. I want to express my gratitude for having the opportunity to work with Mr. Christoforidis, who stood by me all these years and from whom I learned so much about life and work.

Tell us what you do for CYA; what is your role?

My job is to be informed about and deal with labor and tax issues. It is a high responsibility job that has to do with laws and numbers, and you need to be as informed as possible. Sometimes, you must move fast because deadlines are the next morning and you must prepare accounting papers from scratch and submit them on time.

Apart from being an Accountant at CYA/DIKEMES I am also a mother. I have eleven-year-old twin boys and an eight-year-old girl. When I am not at work, I have a busy day with my family at home.

What do you like most about your job?

What I like most about accounting is that you organize and manage the books for people and companies; I like the attention to detail that's needed, and that you can help people achieve their financial goals. Also, it is a demanding job because new things are constantly emerging, and I need to stay informed by attending seminars and studying, so this keeps me on my toes. I never get bored of it. There is always something to do and something new to learn.

What have you studied and where?

I studied Accounting in Messolonghi and got my B.A. in Accounting from the Technological Education institute in 1997. While working and practicing at an accounting office I took examinations for the University of Piraeus. I received my B.A. in Business Administration in 2007, while already working at CYA/DIKEMES.

If you were not an Accountant, what job would you choose to have?

If I were not an accountant, I would like to become a special education teacher. It's something completely different from what I'm doing right now. There are many children who due to some neurological issues cannot attend school. As a special education teacher, I would help these children and their families learn basic principles of education that they would use so that in the future these children would be able to move on and live on their own.

Why do you think study abroad is important?

Study abroad is necessary because students can see and get to know new places, different from those where they live. They meet different cultures and mentalities of people, and of course create new friendships. They learn the language of the country or at least how to communicate with its citizens, visit its archeological monuments, and they leave with their suitcases full of experiences that will be unforgettable in their lives.

For us who work in a study abroad program it is particularly important because it gives us strength, joy and keeps us young. We wish all our students to leave Greece having achieved what they came for and live happy and exciting lives. Only then do we consider that we did our job properly.

On February 16, Athenians woke up to an unusual scenery: Cyclone Medea had covered everything in snow, even the Parthenon! Below, residents enjoying the unexpected treat on the Stadium plaza in front of CYA.



A SUCCESSFUL SEMESTER DESPITE COVID-19

In Fall '20, some things were different, but some things remained the same

Adjustments had to be made in class...



...but plenty of opportunities to study al fresco...



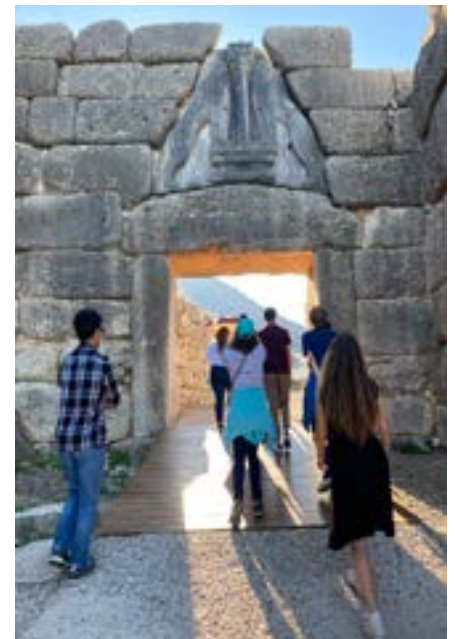
Open air sculpture class at the First Cemetery of Athens



The pandemic did not stop our study travel trips

Crete

Mycenae



A MAGICAL MOUNT OLYMPUS HIKE

by Theo Karplus (Fall '20)

In September 2020, seven of our nine fall students hiked to the second highest peak (Skolio) of Mt. Olympus. The weather was amazing, they could even see all the way to Mt. Athos. They were led by Christos Nicolopoulos, an experienced mountain guide, with whom CYA has been working for many years.

MediaLab intern **Theo Karplus** wrote this blog about the event:

There is no mountain range comparable to the awe-striking Mount Olympus in Greece.

This trip, organized by CYA, was a memorable experience for every student who participated. From the sunset breaks on the first day, to stargazing at the overnight lodge, to celebrating at the peak and dipping our toes into the waterfalls at the bottom, every moment was special and unique.

Jennifer Frank says that hiking up Mount Olympus was truly unforgettable: "With such historical significance and interesting mythology surrounding it, I was so glad CYA proposed this trip". She mentions some of her favorite parts of the hike being the view of the milky way at night, hearing everyone's voices echo through the valleys, and the incredible bonding experience that students shared with each other.

Dima Rentel speaks of the stunning and vibrant color palette of the mountain: "We got our three primary colors on the trip – the deepest greens from all the trees and foliage around us, the most stunning blue from the clearest sky, and a vibrant red when we woke up for the sunrise!" For him, the highlight of the hike, along with the beautiful scenery, was being able to spend quality time with his CYA friends.

Two more students agree that it was a great opportunity to grow closer to other CYA students. Spending a night together in a shelter on top of a mountain after a steady day of hiking creates a special connection. Speaking of connections, **Gwyn Stith** adds: "The mountain's deep connection with Ancient Greek religion adds a spiritual significance to the experience, and the view at the top took my breath away."



L-R: Theodora (Theo) Karplus (Knox College), Jennifer Frank (University of Pennsylvania), Kenneth (Benji) Hess (Washington and Lee University), guide Christos Nicolopoulos, Gwyn Stith (The College of Wooster), Elliot Rydell (Reed College), Seth Weinrich (Beloit College), Dimitrios (Dima) Rentel (Carleton College)

Another perspective relating to the difference between life in the mountains and life back in Athens was added by **Elliot Rydell**, who mentions that the contrast between the stillness of nature and the typically bustling city sounds students are accustomed to is very noteworthy. For him, "the times when one is able to hear only bird calls echoing off of forested cliff-sides are, in a way, just as important for our individual education as our classwork."

Like all my fellow CYAers who participated in this excursion, I too appreciated having the opportunity to unleash my inner mountain-climber and conquer the terrain of Mount Olympus. It was a profound, once-in-a-lifetime experience that we all value both collectively as well as personally.

To "summit up", Mount Olympus was spectacular!

Theo Karplus is a junior at Knox College. She is double majoring in Business and Political Science

DELPHI AND METEORA

Who says COVID-19 slowed life down? This fall, the optional trip to Ioannina, Metsovo, and Meteora did not materialize due to the semester's low enrollment. CYA decided to reward the nine brave students who made it to Greece by turning the field trip to Delphi into a two-day excursion that included an overnight in the town of Kalambaka and visits to some of the most beautiful monasteries on top of the Meteora rock formations. Armed with masks and a sunny disposition, the students enjoyed thoroughly this extended trip and the breathtaking views at both Delphi and Meteora.



Delphi



Meteora

ALUMNI DECADE REUNIONS WERE A SUCCESS

COVID-19 provided us with a new (and some might say improved) way of connecting with our alumni who are spread throughout the US and the world: Virtual Reunions!



As virtual technology became part of our daily life, it was exciting to be able to hold a series of very successful reunions online; it was wonderful having alumni join us from all parts of the world, who would have not been able to participate in person. CYA Administrators and faculty really enjoyed catching up with former students; and best of all, our alumni got to share their memories with others from the same decade, and to fill each other in on what they are up to these days.



MEDIALAB INTERNS OF FALL 2020

Each semester, CYA's Media Lab welcomes a group of interns into the team. In the Fall semester, the Media Lab welcomed **Jacki Healy** and **Theodora Karplus**! The two interns collaborated with the Media Team on exciting, creative projects throughout the semester.



MediaLab interns Theodora Karplus (l) Jacki Healy (R)

Hi! My name is **Jacki**, and I am a sophomore at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin. My major is currently undecided; however, I am interested in history, classics, theatre, psychology, and museum studies. In addition to these interests, I also love photography, writing, exploring, and more! My philosophy on life is to always be learning, so was excited to be working with CYA's media team and learning about content creation and marketing. I feel so lucky and blessed to have spent a crazy semester in beautiful Athens; I truly was living my dreams!

Hello! My name is **Theo** and I'm a junior at Knox College. I'm double majoring in Business and Political Science! I am interested in creativity and entrepreneurship, which is why I started my own lifestyle/travel type blog on Instagram and YouTube expressing my passions. I am thankful for the opportunity to have worked with CYA during such an unprecedented semester and really go behind the scenes exploring my experience abroad. Some of my other interests are rock & roll music, working out (especially hiking), art, cooking/baking, and trying new things!

MEET CYA'S NEW SOCIAL MEDIA INTERN: CLAIRE JEANTHEAU



Hello and Γεια, everyone! I'm Claire, and this February, about a year after I returned home from studying abroad in Athens, I started working as CYA's Social Media and Digital Content intern. This

is my senior year at Dickinson College, where I study classics and educational studies. My Fall 2019 semester with CYA was one of my most transformative college experiences—from working with MediaLab to diving into philosophy to exploring the Athens subway system—and I'm so excited to showcase the stories of other students past and present as intern! My day-to-day projects include designing graphics and weekly announcements; developing campaigns for the CYA Instagram; and researching how we can connect with more offices and undergraduates on social media. I also just helped launch a new video series, Alum Spotlight, where past CYA students share how studying abroad shaped their life and plans for the future.

Feel free to reach out to me at intern@cyathens.org if you'd like to nominate an alum, or to tell me a great story or social media idea. I can't wait to meet more of CYA's welcoming community!

COOKING CORNER

GREEK CHEESE PIE

Provided by Elina Sinopoulou, Assistant to the President

Ingredients:

- 1 lb Feta cheese
- 1/2 lb. Philadelphia Cream Cheese
- 1/2 lb Ricotta or Greek Anthotiro
- 3 Eggs
- 6 cups of milk (1.5 liter)
- 1 package of 12 phyllo sheets defrosted
- 5 oz melted butter (10 Tbs)

Preparation:

Melt your butter in a frying pan or in microwave. Grease a 9x12 inch baking pan, and start spreading the first 4 phyllo sheets on the bottom of the greased pan. If the phyllo sheets are too big you can scrunch them to fit. Brush each phyllo sheet with the melted butter.

When you finish with the first four sheets you put half of the portion of the cheese mix and also add scattered spoonfuls of cream cheese. Put another phyllo sheet, brush it with butter and on top add the rest of the cheese mix and some more spoonfuls of cream cheese. If you have more cheese mix, you can repeat this procedure by adding another buttered phyllo sheet.

Once you are done with your mix, you finish your pie by adding four more phyllo sheets which you will brush with butter too. You fold the edges of the phyllo sheets around the pan, you brush the top layer with butter and cut through the phyllo (not all the way down).

In a small bowl, beat the eggs and add the milk. You can also add some pepper but not salt because the feta is already too salty. You then pour this mixture on top of the cheese pie and wait for about 30 minutes until it is all absorbed.

You bake your pie for about 40 minutes in a preheated oven at 180 °C (350 °F). When it's crispy on top it's ready. You let it cool for 15 minutes and then cut it in pieces.

Enjoy it!



CYA FALL 2020 RECRUITMENT SEASON

For most, 2020 went virtual, and CYA is no different. Instead of our traditional school visits for study abroad fairs and university meetings, CYA turned to Zoom and other digital meeting platforms to introduce prospective students to CYA's academic programs and offerings. With the help of our 2 Campus Relations Representatives, Katie Thierwechter (SU' 15) and Meddie Hengst (SP' 18), we were able to visit over 60 schools! Check out our virtual trail below! Thank you to all who hosted CYA this Fall, we look forward to being able to be back on campus soon!



SHARE MEMORIES

As we begin planning our 60-year celebration of CYA we would like to ask you to share memories, photos and comments; and for alumni of the first decades, please share memories of our Founder, Ismene Phylactopoulou. Please submit entries to alumni@cyathens.org

LETTER WRITING AS HISTORY: A COLLECTION OF LETTERS

In honor of our 60th anniversary, coming up in 2022, CYA is embarking on a project of collecting letters that alumni wrote while attending CYA. Our aim is to collect letters and then create a temporary exhibit and to add a selection of them to our permanent archives. If you, or your family, have letters you wrote while at CYA, please consider reading through them and consider contributing to the project. We are especially interested in letters detailing field trips or specific classes, daily life and adapting to life in Greece, and of course major historical and political events. More information will be provided this summer, for now we are only asking that you find letters, and read through them for content. If you have any questions or want to discuss the project (or would consider serving on our committee)

CALLING ALL MARATHON RUNNERS:

Please note that we are hoping to hold an alumni event in conjunction with the Athens Marathon in November 2022 – please save the date. More information will be available at the end of 2021.

CLASS OF 1970/71 REUNION

A message from **Mo Carpenter '71**: "The CYA class of 1970/71 is still hoping to have their 50-ish reunion this coming fall. While totally dependent on COVID-19 and shots etc. we are hoping to put together something similar to what we had planned for last September. Following that idea, we would hope that alumni could meet in Athens for about four or five days, and then travel onward to some delightful island that we all want to go to. The people at CYA are totally helpful, and we are all hoping this will work out. Ahhhh the delight of once again drinking retsina and eating souvlaki to our heart's content, while telling stories we have all forgotten or never heard before. The dates are on or around the middle of September, and an email will be sent out to everyone (please let me know if you DO NOT receive one) with information about the event and mostly wanting to know if you will be able to attend. Several hard-core ladies (myself included) are already in, and hopefully our exciting group will grow into a delightful get-together. So PLEASE mark your 2021 calendar for this coming September. Any questions or suggestions, just email me at palenquemmo@yahoo.com."

Make sure CYA has your current contact information; you can email Erica at alumni@cyathens.org to update your information.

ALUMNI TRIP 2022 — JOIN US IN ATHENS!

To celebrate its 60th anniversary, CYA will be hosting an alumni trip in July 2022. Join us in Athens where alumni will stay in CYA apartments (Pangrati), attend lectures by CYA faculty, and participate in a variety of events and site visits in Athens and Nafplion. More details will be announced later this spring. In the meantime, sign up here if you want to receive emails about this trip. Email Erica Huffman, Director of Alumni Relations, for more information at alumni@cyathens.org

REMEMBER WHEN...?

Do you have memories to share?

Please send them to alumni@cyathens.org and you may be featured in the next issue of The Owl.

PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY MO CARPENTER '71



Joan (Crider '71) Marxmiller at the site of Tyrins re-enacting carrying an amphora of water up into the walls of the city



Hillary (Roe '71) Metternich standing outside the Lions Gate at Mycenae



Stephen Fay ('71) doing a Joe Cocker impression in our apartment

PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY SUSAN BLAKE '67



Snowfall in February 1967



FROM THE ARCHIVES...

CYA alumnus **Jack Hermansen '71** gifted us this ticket to the archaeological site of Epidaurus as a memento from his year with CYA.



2020

Stella Hadjiyanis (Spring '20) writes: This summer we are hoping to have a CYA reunion (spring 2020) since our time got cut short. I have been completing my final semesters at Gustavus (small liberal arts school in MN) & job searching!

2018

Amanda Yeoh (Spring '18) is pursuing a Master's in Interaction Design at California College of the Arts.

2015

Emma Taylor (Winter '15, Spring '15) writes: After working at an art and technology start up in Los Angeles from 2018-2020, I left to fulfill my dream of working at Disneyland! It was by far the best job I ever had, but unfortunately cut short due to the pandemic. I'm looking forward to returning once the pandemic is over. I'm still in contact with a few CYAers and have seen them occasionally since our 2015 Spring semester. I also returned to Athens in 2018 and it felt like returning home. I can't wait to be back and walk through Pangrati again!

2013

Ariana Gunderson Spring '13 will begin her Anthropology Ph.D. studies at Indiana University Bloomington in fall of 2021, with a research focus on food. She would be overjoyed to meet any fellow CYA alumni living in Bloomington!
arianagunderson.com

2010

Erika Hankins-Prantil (Spring '10) moved to the NYC area and started a new career at a technology publishing company as a Lead Project Manager after working for nearly ten years in nonprofit in southern Illinois and Columbus, Ohio.

2003

Sheila Lalwani (Fall '03) has been missing Greece since she left!

2000

Dan Leon (Fall '00), is an Assistant Professor of classics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and has a new book coming out in April: *Arrian the Historian: Writing the Greek Past in the Roman Empire*. Check it out [here](#).

Jennifer (Kolnik) Marks (Spring '00) graduated from Brandeis University (Spring 2020) with a MA in Ancient Greek and Roman Studies. She was admitted to the

doctoral program in Classics (classical archaeology) at Johns Hopkins University (Fall 2021). Jennifer will be pursuing research in Minoan archaeology and the material culture of Crete in antiquity. Her interests include craft specialization during the Early Minoan period, notably metallurgy as it applies to the fabrication of jewelry and its use in mortuary practices, as well as loom weaving and the application of ethnoarchaeology to this specific crafting technique.

1999

Professionally, **Ryan Tipps** (Spring '99) is close to hitting the five-year mark as the Managing Editor of AGDAILY.com, a digital agricultural news publication he founded that has grown to one of the largest outlets in the nation and has won numerous awards in the farming industry. Recently, Ryan has covered difficult and sensitive topics, including an enterprising exploration of the **challenges facing Black farmers** and of the impacts cancel culture can have on **those involved in food production**. Ryan lives in Virginia on a small garlic farm with his wife and two kids. Even before the pandemic, Ryan rediscovered his love of running and has been tackling the mountain trails every weekend and having fun competing in races.

1995

Zoe Kontes (1994-95), a professor of Archaeology at Kenyon College and Alumna Trustee at CYA, has a podcast about illegal antiquities. It is available on Apple and Spotify and Stitcher. Check it out at <https://looted.blubrry.com/>. Episodes 2 and 5 have CYA faculty participating. She also teaches a summer course for CYA.

1991

Ben Worth ('90-91) moved back to his hometown of Lexington, VA to work as the Academic Vice President at his local community college, Dabney Lancaster. He has been spending his time while quarantining learning to play the upright bass.

1976

Stephen Polezonis (Fall '76) was elected President of the Connecticut Association of Optometrists, October 2020. The CAO represents approximately 360 Doctors of Optometry, and is the state affiliate of the American Optometric Association.

1975

John Roth ('74-75) writes: After 40 years of teaching Latin and/or Greek at various prep schools I have retired. The timing was perfect as I did not enjoy distant teaching from a computer. Future travel plans are on hold for now but we are looking forward to it. We just bought a house in Albuquerque and will eventually share time between here and Virginia Beach. I recently walked Hadrian's and the Antonine Wall and look forward to the German limes.

1971

Connie (Nordhielm) Wooldrige ('70-71) My husband and I are mostly hunkering down here in Indianapolis and waiting for the pandemic to become an endemic. The lockdown has given me time to push forward with the nonfiction book project I've been at work on for seven or eight years. I can almost see the light at the end of the tunnel. Two of our four kids live in Colorado and Washington State, which has given Carl and me an excuse to put our lives on the line and actually travel... on an airplane...with wings. It might have been the most exciting thing we've done all year!!!

Martha Strook ('70-71) Like all of us we are hunkered down waiting for the vaccine; one shot down and one to go. We are in good health, but eager to go to Denver to meet our granddaughter who was born in October. We go in mid-March! Other than that I am doing a lot of volunteer work. I am the treasurer for our homeowners' association on the island of Molokai, Hawaii. We haven't been able to go there as usual this year, but the island is calling. I am also a volunteer for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges doing accreditation visits to schools in California and Hawaii. This year the visits are all virtual which is interesting, but next year I should be able to once again get my fix of schools as a retired educator. The work is demanding but very rewarding and I do about five a year; my record was seven visits in one year which I decided was too many. If they ask me to go to Japan or the Pacific Islands, however, I will go in a heartbeat. So we are making the best we can of this strange year and looking forward to the rest of this year getting a bit closer to life as it once was.

Maureen Carpenter ('70-'71): We (Jim and I) too are doing the COVID thing, and are waiting for our second shot, or jab as the BBC calls them. I've been counting

the jobs/projects that have cancelled this year, leaving me at home for way too long. During a bout of boredom I managed to connect up with two other archaeologists living in our town, plus another local archaeologist and all together we decided to start our own cultural management firm, since Lake County (where we are living) is now booming in agricultural marijuana. All parcels have to be inspected and surveyed to get a license, so we've been actively walking hills, valleys and vineyards for new growers needing permits. We went one step further by also organizing an archaeological field school, since they too have taken a hit and mostly canceled. We have a delightful historic stagecoach stop that we will use in teaching the methods of excavation, ground penetration radar, surveying and lab work. We are already filled for this coming summer...goodbye boredom!! You can find us [here](#). I am still planning on putting together our reunion this coming September, and look forward to see all our delightful classmates.

1968

Lynn Dominick Novack ('67-'68) writes: My husband John & I ended up stranded through the austral winter at our "summer" place in Patagonia, Chile. Thank god for the internet and Zoom, as we were able to listen to the great lectures offered by CYA. And through that, I was able to reconnect with my two roommates, **Katharine Weld** and **Elizabeth Brittain**. After several calls, we decided to do a Zoom with CYA classmates we could find from 1967-68, and in November, after my

return to Dallas, I organized a Zoom for seven of us. We talked for two and a half hours, and it was wonderful. So, we hope to do another Zoom in the next month or two, with more classmates we can find. Anyone reading this can contact me at lnovack@swbell.net.

Our first Zoom included Katharine and Liza, **Alexa Pallas**, **Becky Nordstrom**, and our former class agent **Kip Hughes**. We shared stories and photos, bringing back so many memories!

1965

Peter Allen ('64-'65) is a co-founder of a new organization called Mount Athos Foundation of America (MAFA). "I joined the Friends of Mount Athos (FOMA) 30 years ago because I had spent ten days on the Holy Mountain in the '70s and loved the place. But FOMA is a British organization and donations are not tax deductible in the States, so a group of us founded MAFA which is a 501c3 entity and thus donations are tax deductible in the States. We raise money to help the monasteries and promote scholarship about the community. For example, we donated money to help monks who came down with COVID and funds to repair a road that was washed out by a freak storm last year. We also give scholarships to individuals doing research on the community. I know many CYA male students visited the monastic community when they were at CYA and I hope they are still interested. Please contact me if you would like to join or donate to MAFA. pallen@ric.edu."

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CYA YouTube channel



cyathens.org

CYA ADMINISTRATION

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Alexis Phylactopoulos, President
Elina Sinopoulou, Assistant to the President

Academics

Theoni Scourta, Vice President for Academic Affairs
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Georgia Katsarou, Librarian

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Peggy Myresiotou, Vice President for Administration
Kristallia Sarlani, Front Desk Coordinator
Alex Makropoulos, Staff Assistant
Anthi Papageorgiou, Staff Assistant
Yiota Vouzna, Staff Assistant

Alumni Relations

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

Development

Vassilis Simopoulos, Development Officer

Educational Travel & Short-Term Programs

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

Financial/Accounting

Maria Malliou, Financial Officer
Vana Bica, Accountant

Housing/Food

Popi Baloglu, Director of Housing & Catering
Kallia Alexandridi, Housing & Catering Assistant
Michalis Alexandridis, Maintenance

Media Lab

Spiros Kourkoulos, Digital Designer
Sofia Stavropoulou, Social Media Coordinator

Strategic Planning

Popi Triantafyllidi, Director of Strategic Planning

Student Affairs/Services

Nadia Meliniotis, Executive Director of Student Affairs
Jennifer Holland, (CYA '99) Student Affairs Advisor

US Administration

Maria Marakas, Bursar and Manager of the North American Office
Alexia Lingaas, Campus Relations Manager
Hailey Lovett, Student Advisor
Cheyenne Paulson, (CYA Summer '15) Digital Researcher
Claire Jeantheau, Social Media Intern

Please note

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

New address? To update your address, use [this link](#)

COLLEGE YEAR IN ATHENS

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*Our system is to list Fall semester and Spring semester students as belonging to the class of the full academic year (e.g., people who attend- ed 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.