The entire staff of Kofinas Fertility Group joins the Hellenic Medical Society of New York in saluting the many contributions of this year’s honorees.

Congratulations to tonight’s distinguished honorees, Dr. George Kofinas, Dr. Florentia Christodoulidou, and Dr. Katherine Fleming!
Eighty-first Annual
Scholarship Dinner Dance

Honoring

Distinguished Physician
George D. Kofinas, M.D., FACOG

Distinguished Philhellene
Katherine E. Fleming, Ph.D.

Distinguished Colleague
Florentia Christodouldou, M.D.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2017

JW Marriott Essex House
160 Central Park South
New York, NY 10019
THE HELLENIC MEDICAL SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

CELEBRATES THE 81 YEARS SINCE IT’S ESTABLISHMENT, SERVING THE OMOGENIA AND GREECE

AWARDS PROGRAM
STUDENTS OF EXCELLENCE

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

GRADUATE PROGRAM
SPECIALTIES FOR DOCTORS

TRAINING PROGRAMS
CONFERENCES, LECTURES, RADIO, TELEVISION, INTERNET

PROGRAMS SUPPORT TO GREECE
‘FRATERNIZATION’ THE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF ATHENS

COOPERATION PROGRAM WITH BUSINESSES
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WEBSITE DOCTORS - MEMBERS OF OUR SOCIETY
DOCFINDERS™
THE HELLENIC MEDICAL SOCIETY OF NEW YORK
AND
THE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF ATHENS
FRATERNIZATION
“ΑΔΕΛΦΟΠΟΙΗΣΗ”
MAY 23RD
2013
Greetings
December 2, 2017

George Liakeas, M.D., President
The Hellenic Medical Society of New York
Post Office Box 1952
New York, New York 10156

Dear Dr. Liakeas, Members of the Board of Directors, Distinguished Guests, Members of The Hellenic Medical Society and their families and friends,

I greet you in the love and peace of our Lord as you gather for the 81st Annual Scholarship Gala of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York.

The Hippocratic tradition has an ethical principle enshrined in the oath, *With purity and holiness I will pass my life and practice my art* and it is this promise that I observe defines your lives as distinguished members of our faith community and as caring and careful physicians and professionals in the healing profession. Thank you for offering your God given talents and resources for the benefit of your patients and your communities, and for the advancement of your Greek Orthodox Church in America.

I congratulate Katherine Fleming, Ph.D Provost of New York University, George Koffinas, MD and Florentia Christodoulou, MD for the honor paid to them this evening as they provide ample illustration of what it means to offer the maximum and the optimum of themselves for the well being and growth of others. In this same spirit, I congratulate and commend each of you for the priority you place on the philanthropic dimension of your organization.

As always, I wish you an evening filled with Christian love and fellowship and a life flourishing in Christian purpose and effort.

With paternal love and esteem in Christ,

+ DEMETRIOS
Archbishop of America
Honorable Mr. President and Distinguished Members of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York,

Dear Friends,

It is a great honor to extend to you my warmest greetings and congratulations on the occasion of the 81st Annual Scholarship Gala of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York.

I would like to express my gratitude for the kind invitation to celebrate with you this remarkable day and to convey our deepest appreciation to the honorees Ms. Katherine Fleming, Ph.D., Mr. George D. Kofinas, M.D. and Ms. Florentina Christodoulidou, M.D. for their valuable work and notable achievements, which reflect their continuous efforts in fulfilling the purpose of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York.

For more than eight decades, the commitment and the dedication of the members of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York have inspired the younger generations of the Greek Diaspora in addressing the common challenges for the benefit of the Hellenes and of the Greek-American Community as a whole.

In concluding, let me wish to the Hellenic Medical Society every success in the future.

Kornelios S. Korneliou

New York,
15 November 2017.
It is with distinct honor and pleasure that I extend to the Executive Board and the members of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York, my warmest greetings and most sincere congratulations on the occasion of the Annual Scholarship Gala.

I am deeply honored to have received an invitation to join you paying tribute to this year’s three honorees whose contribution in their respective fields and their advocacy on the ideals of Hellenism is highly appreciated.

Mrs. Katherine Fleming, Ph.D, Mr. George d. Kofinas, M.D. and Mrs. Florentia Christodoulidou are distinguished Physicians who serve as an example to the younger generation of Doctors of Hellenic Heritage.

I avail myself of this opportunity to praise the Hellenic Medical Society of New York for its remarkable program to offer grants and scholarships as well as for the achievements of its prominent members and I congratulate the President of HMS for his exemplary leadership and praise his altruistic initiatives to save lives and enhance the wellbeing of people in need.

I extend my best wishes for an enjoyable evening and I wish you continued success in your noble endeavors.

V. Philippou

Ambassador Vasilios Philippou
Consul General of the Republic of Cyprus
New York, November 13th, 2017

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I extend my appreciation with most profound feelings of reverence and respect to the Hellenic Medical Society of New York on the occasion of its 81st Annual Scholarship Gala.

I would like to congratulate your Organization on its constructive, educative and inspiring course, as well as its noble purpose to meet and maintain the high ethical standards for the practice of medicine as embodied in Hippocrates’ famous Oath.

This year your Board honors “Distinguished Philhellene” Katherine Fleming, “Distinguished Hellene” George D. Kofinas and “Distinguished Colleague” Florentia Christodoulidou. We take pride in our honorees for their devotion to duty and commitment to serve science and society.

I would like to express my conviction that the Hellenic Medical Society of New York will expand, thrive and continue inspiring with its admirable and highly commendable work.

The Consulate General of Greece will always be by your side to provide support to your laudable efforts.

Sincerely,

Dr. Konstantinos Koutras
Consul General
Program
GALA PROGRAM

Welcome
Lorraine Chrisomalis Valasiadis, M.D.
Helen Gouzoulis Koutsos, M.D.
Nicole Contos Liakeas

Invocation
His Eminence
Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America

Greeting
George Liakeas, M.D.
President

Awards Presentations

- Distinguished Physician Award
  George D. Kofinas, M.D., FACOG

- Distinguished Philhellene Award
  Katherine E. Fleming, Ph.D.

- Distinguished Colleague Award
  Florentia Christodoulidou, M.D.

Dinner / Dancing / Music

Benediction
WELCOME

On behalf of the Hellenic Medical Society Gala Committee, it is with great honor and pleasure that we welcome you to the 81 Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance. Since 1975, our society has awarded scholarships to exceptional medical students and research scientists. We also honor physicians, scientists and Hellenes for their groundbreaking contributions to medicine, science and the community.

This year the Distinguished Physician Award goes to Dr. George Kofinas for excellence in his field of Obstetrics and Gynecology. The Distinguished Colleague Award goes to our devoted physician Florentia Christodoulidou who is an internist in private practice in Astoria. The Distinguished Philhellene Award goes to Dr. Katherine Fleming, provost of New York University and historian with a passion for Hellenic culture and civilization.

We are also excited to continue our Hellenic Medical Society Young Initiative Project which has grown immensely in the last year. We hope to continue to connect our mentors from the society to these young ambassadors and inspire the next generation of medical professionals. We thank you for supporting our wonderful mission with your financial support and hope to see you at our upcoming events.

We wish you a magical evening at the gala tonight and a prosperous new year filled with health, love and happiness.

Warmest wishes,

Lorraine Chrisomalis-Valasiadis, M. D.
Eleni Gouzoulis-Koutsos, M.D.
Nicole Contos Liakeas
Dear Friends,

I welcome you to the 81st Annual Scholarship Gala of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York. It’s heartening to see so many members in attendance and, surely, a source of encouragement for the future physicians, scientists, and health professionals among us as well.

Each year, we give much thought to the selection of our honorees. This year, in addition to our distinguished colleagues George D. Kofinas, M.D. and Florentia Christodoulidou, M.D., we are proud to honor Katherine E. Fleming, Ph.D.

Dr. Fleming is not only the respected Provost but also the Alexander S. Onassis Professor of Hellenic Culture and Civilization in the Department of History at New York University. We owe deep thanks and appreciation to Dr. Fleming, who has devoted her life to the study of the history of Hellenism -- the unique and uniquely rich heritage that defines us as individuals and as a medical society.

Every ethnic group takes pride in its history and achievement, but we Hellenes lay claim to contributions to humanity that span more than 4000 years. From the Minoan-Mycenaean era, to Classical Greece and the brilliance of Periclean Athens, to the Hellenistic period symbolized by the Great Lighthouse and Library of Alexandria, to the Roman and Byzantine Empires and, even, including occupations by crusaders and Ottomans, our contributions to the arts and sciences and to Christian civilization are unsurpassed and undeniable. They have even been called “The Greek Miracle.”

Collective courage defines our heritage as well -- the stand of the 300 Spartans at Thermopylae that some believed saved western civilization, or the revolution of 1821 that led to the resurrection of the Greek nation as an independent state, or the resistance to the fascist powers commemorated on OXI Day.

Flashes of Hellenic genius and flares of courage mark our great works of art, literature and heroic battles won -- but also the low-burning flames of struggle and steadfastness. The latter brings to mind the homeland’s toil to emerge from its current crisis. The philanthropic efforts by HMS and other Diaspora institutions are crucial to recovery.

It’s often easy to get caught up in the rush of our professional and personal lives. We forget the good fortune that puts us in a position to help. We must embrace the contributions needed to ensure a brighter Greek future, especially for our young people. They entail more than providing financial aid through our scholarship funds. We have a rare opportunity to have a direct impact on their lives. Whenever possible, we can choose a great and honorable mission. We can mentor and guide our aspiring physicians, biomedical professionals and scientists. We can contribute to the education of our youth in their Greek heritage and can contribute to cultural institutions in the Greek-American community.

As a colleague, I share the frustrations of our profession and industry in these turbulent times. Physicians are often considered undervalued. Many are concerned about the possibility of being minimized by artificial intelligence and most of us struggle with health care bureaucracy. But I encourage us all to set aside our concerns and focus on our value to our young people.

To paraphrase John F. Kennedy, “ask not what the Hellenic Medical Society can do for you, ask what you can do for the Society’s future members.

I take pride in our members both as leaders in a demanding field and as contributors to the Greek-American community. But, in the coming year, I challenge our members to surpass everything our forebears have accomplished - for the benefit of generations to come.

Yours in health and prosperity,

George P. Liakeas, M.D.
President, Hellenic Medical Society of New York
Prometheus
Friend of Mankind
George D. Kofinas MD, FACOG
Distinguished Physician
George D. Kofinas MD, FACOG

**Distinguished Physician 2017**

George D. Kofinas MD, FACOG is the founder and medical director of the Kofinas Fertility Group established in New York in 1987. Dr. Kofinas earned his Medical Degree from the National and Kapodistrian University, School of Medicine in Athens, Greece in 1975. After he discharged his obligations to the Greek State by serving as a medical officer with the medical corps of the Greek army and as a physician at a rural Greek region (Agrotiko), he migrated to the United States to pursue his specialty training in Obstetrics and Gynecology. After the completion of his residency in 1984, he pursued subspecialty training in the field of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at the SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY. After the completion of his fellowship, he was appointed Assistant Professor in the division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility in 1986 at SUNY Downstate. Dr. George Kofinas is double board certified in both Obstetrics and Gynecology and Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility.

In July of 1987, he was appointed Director of the division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility within the department of OB/GYN at the Brooklyn Hospital Center. In 1996, he was appointed Chairman and Residency program director at the Brooklyn Hospital Center where he served in this capacity until the year 2000. In 2001, Dr. Kofinas relocated the Kofinas Fertility Institute from Brooklyn Hospital to New York Methodist Hospital where he was appointed Director of the division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility.

An accomplished Reproductive microsurgeon, Dr. Kofinas was instrumental in the development of minimally invasive surgical techniques for the treatment of gynecologic conditions that cause infertility, pain, and bleeding problems in women. He is credited with many firsts in Brooklyn. He established the first In Vitro Fertilization Center in Brooklyn, the first successful egg donation program and the first embryo and oocyte cryopreservation program. Surgically, he was the first to perform laparoscopic minimally invasive procedures in Brooklyn for conditions such as ectopic pregnancy, ovarian cysts, myomectomies, and hysterectomies.

He is a member and fellow of numerous medical associations including the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Society of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, Society of Reproductive Surgeons, Society of Assisted Reproductive Technologies and the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists. Dr. George Kofinas is internationally renowned for his pioneering work in minimally invasive reproductive surgery, assisted reproductive technology and fertility preservation. His relentless pursuit of excellence and in house development of innovative laboratory techniques earned his group the distinction of being a center with some of the highest success rates in New York State, according to the latest published data by the Society of Assisted Reproductive technologies (SART).

A career long educator, Dr. Kofinas has trained more than 110 residents in reproductive and gynecologic surgery and has received several professional and excellence in teaching awards. Dr. Kofinas has made countless presentations on research and treatment topics in reproductive medicine in the United States and worldwide. He has authored and co-authored several peer reviewed scientific papers and has been included in New York Magazine’s Best Doctors in New York for 19 consecutive years.

Dr. Kofinas and his group of physicians are noted specialists in treating infertility and reproductive surgical disorders with a full range of treatment options including Assisted Reproductive technologies, IVF, and minimally invasive and robotically assisted reproductive surgery. Dr. Kofinas is a pioneer in fertility preservation and will be the first to offer easily available ovarian tissue preservation for cancer patients about to undergo fertility ending chemotherapy in the tri-state area.

Dr. Kofinas and his group operate three reproductive medicine centers located in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Staten Island. They offer the entire spectrum of diagnostic and treatment services to couples with infertility and women with severe bleeding and pain disorders, such as endometriosis and fibroids.

Dr. Kofinas is proudly overseeing the construction of a fourth center in Manhattan that will serve as the flagship center and headquarters for the Kofinas Fertility Group. The state of the art operating rooms and laboratory facilities will allow an even higher standard of care and will be the first all-inclusive, independent and freestanding reproductive medical and surgical facility in the New York City area. This center will allow both harvesting, freezing and re-implantation of ovarian tissue all within one facility. The utilization of this service is expected to increase in the next decade as the procedure has been experimental for years and is quickly earning its position as a first line therapy option for fertility preservation. Most importantly, Dr. Kofinas has treated thousands of patients and helped bring the miracle of children into many families who had lost all hope.
Katherine E. Fleming
Distinguished Philhellene
KATHERINE E. FLEMING

Distinguished Philhellene 2017

Katherine E. Fleming was named Provost, New York University in April of 2016. A historian, she joined the NYU faculty in 1998, where she is the Alexander S. Onassis Professor of Hellenic Culture and Civilization. She also served for many years as the Associate Director and then Director of the Remarque Institute.

Beyond NYU, Dr. Fleming has been a longstanding associate member of the History Department of the École Normale Supérieure, Paris, and also served as the president of the Board of the University of Piraeus. A specialist on modern Greece, the Balkans, and the Mediterranean, she is most recently author of Greece: A Jewish History, which won several prizes, among them the National Jewish Book Award and the Runciman Award. She holds a doctorate in history from the University of California, Berkeley and an M.A. (Chicago) and B.A. (Barnard/Columbia) in comparative religion.

In 2015 she was awarded honorary Greek citizenship by the Hellenic Republic, and in 2017 she was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Macedonia (PAMAK), and has also been elected to an honorary doctorate from Ionian University.
Florentia Christodoulidou, M.D.
Distinguished Colleague
FLORENTIA CHRISTODOULIDOU, M.D.

Distinguished Colleague 2017

Dr Dia, as she is affectionately called, is a physician who had lead the fight against breast and cervical cancer. She personally implemented a free breast exam and Papanicolaou test for women without insurances, at her own expense. The project continues today, thanks to Dr Dia through the Women’s Issues Network (WIN), which is a sub-division of the Pancyprian Association of America and Mount Sinai Hospital of Queens.

Dr Dia is a true philanthropist. She continues to care for many of the Hellenic students who are studying in New York without the benefits of insurance and financial means for health care. This often includes her funding their medications and laboratory tests.

When you ask Dr. Dia what her hobbies are, she says, “I have no time “. That’s because her true hobbies are, her concern for people and her love of children. She is the president of the Pancyprian Association Women Issues Network. She is an active member of the Hellenic Medical Society, and she was a Board member for many years. She is also a member of the Cyprus Federation of America, and Panpaphian Association of America. Last year she joined the “Omada Aigaiou “a large group of volunteers who travel to the distant small islands of the Aigean and offer their services to the people of the islands. Her work within these organizations exemplifies her love of people. The organizations she belongs to, have something in common: they make a unique contribution to improving the quality of life to its member’s community.

She graduated from the Aristotelian University Medical School in Salonika, Greece. Upon completion of medical school and residency in radiology, she came to the United States to continue her studies. After she completed her residency in Internal Medicine and Fellowship in Hematology/Oncology she came to Astoria New York in 1990 and entered into private practice. She got involved with “Omogenia” in 1994. Her main concern, to educate the Hellenic Community about health issues through weekly television shows (sponsored by the Kyrenia Cardiovascular Center of New York Hospital Medical Center of Queens), new paper articles, health fairs and workshops. She has received numerous awards, including: The Constantinos Parrigopoulos Award from the Center of Byzantine Studies of Queens, Pancyprian Association Dance Group Award, and the Romanian Medical Society Award, member of the year. She also received a Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Service from U.S Congress, Congresswoman C.B Maloney. Elipides Award 2002 In recognition of Outstanding Services to those who could not help themselves and Evagoras Pallikarides Award of Merit 2004 from the Panpahian Association of America. The Society of Foreign Consul in NY, Certificate of Recognition, for outstanding achievement and contribution to community empowerment 03-11-2011. In 2013 she received the Ronald McDonald House Greek Division Award and the Physicians Recognition Award by Sharing and Caring - The Face of Hope, Recovery and Cancer Survivorship. In 2015 the Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater New York Honor Dr. Christodoulidou as Woman Of the Year for Recognition of her outstanding contribution to the preservation of Hellenic Culture and heritage and for all she has given, taught and shared. In 2016, she received the Pan Arcadian Federation of America New York Chapter 1 “Geros tou Moria” Greek of the Year Award in Recognition of her Scientific Contribution, and her selfless services to the Greek community.
GALA CHAIR
Lorraine Chrisomalis-Valasiadis, M.D.
Helen Gouzoulis Koutsos, M.D.
Nicole Contos Liakeas

GALA COMMITTEE
Panagiota Andreopoulou, M.D.
Ioannis Hatzaras, M.D.
Gus Lambropoulos
Michael Plakogiannnis, M.D.
Neofitios Stefanides, M.D.

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR
Sotirios G. Stergiopoulos, M.D., MBEE

JOURNAL CHAIR
Evangelia Tsavaris
Scholarships and Awards
BIOMETICAL RESEARCH GRANTS
AND AWARDS FUNDS

Although the USA continues to be the leader in scientific discovery and the development of new technologies, the biomedical research sector continues to receive insufficient support. Some research grants have been reduced and others have been eliminated. As a result, careers in research have become more difficult to pursue.

In 1988 The Hellenic Medical Society of New York initiated the Biomedical Research Grants and Awards Fund to encourage and support biomedical research conducted by students of Hellenic heritage. Grants are awarded for research project conducted by an M.D. and/or Ph.D. candidates who have authored and published scientific papers and in addition to secondary school students, to stimulate their interest in biomedical research. Since the inception of the funds, over $145,000 has been awarded to more than 120 recipients.

The officers and members of the HMS express their appreciation to all who established and continued to support the following named Grants and Awards in honor of distinguished colleagues: Drs. Leonidas Lantzounis, Michael Mulinos, Christ Bozes, and Apostolos Tambakis.

Congratulations!

Sotirios G. Stergiopoulos, M.D.
Chair, Biomedical Research Grants and Awards Fund
## Past Awardees

**Leonidas Lantzounis, M.D. Biomedical Research Grant**

- Antonis A. Armoundas
- Helen Badoyannis
- Leon D. Boudourakis
- Ann M. Chapas
- Ellie Coromilas
- Paul A. Costas
- Mariza Daras
- Perry Fisher
- Irene Georgakoudi
- Stephanie Alexia Giorgiou
- Sophia P. Hirakis
- Christopher J. Hoimes
- Pavlos Kaimakiotis
- Mike Kalogiannis
- Achilefs N. Kapandis
- Martha Karakelides
- Andrew L. Karanas
- Ioannis Konstantinidis
- Charalampos Lyssikatos
- Yiannis Hodies-Mameletzis
- George Manousos
- Asimina Manta
- Stavros Memtsoudis
- Helen J. Merianos
- Anastasios Mirisis
- Jason Mouzakes
- Efthemia Nicolopoulos
- Yannis Paulus
- Alexandros D. Polydorides
- Stavra Nicole Romas
- Evanthia Rousos
- George Sakoulas
- Nicholas Sanfillippo
- Christine Sarris
- Virginia Athena Triant
- Andromahi Trivelas
- Myra Trivelas
- Emmanuel Tsatsas
- Dialecti Voudouris
- Dimitri Voudouris
- Stelios C. Wilson
- Sakkarios Zairis
- Athanasios Zavras

**Stavros Hartofilis Research Grant**

- Perry Fisher
- Evangelia Lazaris
- Christos Ioannis Mouzakitis
- Christos Theophanous

**Federation of Hellenic Societies of North America High School Essay Award**

- Raphael A. Kirou

**Dr. Spyros and Vivian Mezitis Hellenic Fund**

- Ioannis Anastopoulos
- Katrina Krog
- Myra Trivelas
- Anna Diyamandoglou

**Michael G. Mulinos, M.D., Ph.D. Postgraduate Essay Award**

- George Alexandrakis
- Antonis A Armoundas
- Leandros Arvanitakis
- Yiannis S. Chatzizisis
- Maria Choupres
- Nicholas Christakes
- George Costarelis
- Panayiotis Ellinas
- Christian Harmuth
- Joseph P. Hasapes
- Iphigenia Naya Kehayes
- Christos Georgiades
- Polyxeni Gourzi
- George Kontaxakis
- Katherine Michaelis
- Nicholas J. Nissiros
- Antonios J. Panagiotakis
- Michael Papaklis
- Christopher A. Pappas
- Nikolaos Psalidis
- Gerasimos Petراتos
- Apostolos Voudouris
- Elias Thomas Zambidis

**Christ Bozes, M.D. High School Essay Award**

- Donna Antioniadis
- Aurelie Athan
- Nikki Arvanites
- Joanna Barkas
- Michael Bois
- Hyacinth Bouzalakos
- Peter Christodoulou
- Agnes Z. Dardas
- Jaclyn Christoforatos
- Lindsey Colman
- Elena Conis
- Theodore C. Deligiannis
- Ellen Demetrakopoulos
- Kristina Demill
- Gloria Despina Dimino
- Theodore G. Drivas
- Eve Frangopoulou
- Alyssa Fishman
- Sapho Zoe Gilbert
- Alexander Goussis
- Dimitris P. Haldeos
- Michael Hanley
- Shannon Hood
- Jonathan B. Joannidis
- Marie Kartsonis
- Evangelia Katsoulakis
- Panayiotis Kenwick
- Tara Saber-Khiahani
- Evangelos Konstantinou
- Theodota Kontopoulou
- Erica Kontoulas
- Nikolaos Kostaras
- Nicholas Kritharis
- Athena Laskaris
- Evangelia Lazaris
- Alexandra Livanos
- Michael Malegiannakis
- Eleini Manis
- Panayiota Mavromihalis
- Arianna J. MacNeill
- George Meskouris
- Katherine Michaelis
- Christos Mouzakitis
- Alex Orfanos
- Emily Panasis
- Ashley Eleni Papapetrou
- Konstantina Papathomas
- Demetrios Papazaharias
- Georgia Patikoglou
- Paul Petarakos
- Dimitrios Psaltais
- Samuel C. Ruchlewicz
- George Sidiroglou
- John Sotiriades
- Susan Spedalle
- Abraham Stathopoulou
- Constantine Stavropoulos
- Erini R. Svakos
- Catherine Tarzia
- Antonios Tsimenakis
- Sophia I. Tsiris
- Maryann Vlahos
- Alice Zervoudakis
MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The medical students of today represent the future of the medical community. The Hellenic Medical Society of New York, recognizing the financial challenges of rising educational costs and the pressure from decreasing borrowing opportunities, proud of the scholastic achievements of those who prepare to succeed us, established the Medical Scholarship Fund in 1978, to offer a financial reward and assistance to medical students of Hellenic heritage who excel in their studies and are in need of financial support. Although this award or support is only symbolic we hope it provides solace and encouragement to them in the knowledge that their mentors and indeed the entire Hellenic American Community value their efforts and acknowledges its commitment to them.

Congratulations!

Sotirios G. Stergiopoulos, M.D.
Chair, Medical Scholarship Fund
Dr. Apostolos Tambakis Postgraduate Award

Constance Maglaras

Dr. Apostolos Tambakis Postgraduate Award

Maria Figetakis

Dr. Apostolos Tambakis Postgraduate Award

Kathy Rodogiannis

Dr. George N. Papanicolaou Award

Christopher George Xanthos

Dr. George N. Papanicolaou Award

Michael Sideris

HMS-NY Scholarship

Sophia I. Zigouras

NY Institute of Technology
College of Osteopathic Medicine
E-Trade Scholarship

Antonios Dimopoulos
SUNY Downstate Medical Center
College of Medicine

Dr. Stavroula Angelakos-Gabriel Memorial Scholarship

Alexander Duke
Stony Brook University
School of Medicine

Dr. Constantinos Vardopoulos Scholarship

Christoforos Koumas
Hofstra Northwell
School of Medicine

Dr. James Nicholas Memorial Scholarship

Vassiliki Papagermanos
Hofstra Northwell
School of Medicine

Drs. Joyce and Anthony Kales Scholarship

Maria Pliakas
University of Michigan
Medical School

Dr. Anthony and Sophia Vasilas Memorial Scholarship

Alexis Tchaconas
Hofstra Northwell
School of Medicine

Dr. James and Lena Spyropoulos Memorial Scholarship

Christos Mouzakitis
SUNY Upstate
Medical University

Dr. Demetrios Kotsilimbas Memorial Scholarship

Andromahi Trivellas
Tulane University
School of Medicine

Dr. Polyvios N. Coryllos Memorial Scholarship

Kellie Gergoudis
Mt. Sinai School of Medicine
HMS SCHOLARSHIP Awardees

Nicholas Divaris
Nicholas Donas
Stella Douros
Elizabeth Efthimiou
Panayiotis A. Ellinas
Nicholas F. Evageliou
Buckminster J. Farrow
Alyssa Fishman
George J. Florakis
John Fotiades
John Gaitanis
George Galanis
Polyxene Gazetas
Ilenna George
Maria Dona Georgiades
Christos Georgiades
Dimitrios Georgostathis
Catherine Gerontis
Marion George
Natalie Georgakis
Anthony Georges
Demetris Giannaris
Polyxeni Gourzi
Anastasia Demetri Grivoyannis
Dimitris P. Haldeos
Constance Haralambopoulos
Basil M. Harris
Constantine F. Harris
Joseph P. Hasapes
George J. Hatsios
Vaios Hatzoglou
Sophia P. Hirakis
Christopher J. Hoimes
Matthew L. Hoimes
Shannon Hoodann
Anamaria Iakovou
Ilias A. Iliadis
Christos Z. Kaimakliotis
Pavlos Kaimakliotis
Mike Kalogiannis

Anna Kaltsas
Athena G. Kaporis
Martha Karakelides
Giorgos C. Karakoussis
Petros C. Karakoussis
Demetrios Karides
Dean G. Karalis
Andrew Karasakelides
Demetrios Karides
Ilona Karka
Dennis Katechis
John Katopodis
Alexandra Katsikis
Evangelia Katsoulakis
Irene Kleopoulos
Nicholas Kleopoulos
Nikitas Kleopoulos
Diana Klopis
Angela Kokkosis
Ronald Kokolis
Efrossini Antonia Kolios
Faye Kokotas
Christine S. Koniaris
Connie H. Kostacos
Emanuel Kostacos
Katherine Kostakos
Christoforos Koumas
Iakovos K. Koutras
Paul E. Kovatis
Vicki Kritsovas
Katerina Krogh
Matthew Kusulas
Chris Lascarides
Diane L. La Rosa
George Lazarou
George Liakas
Anthony Loizides
Margarita Lolis
Kristen Lott
Elias Loukas

Nicholas Divaris
Nicholas Donas
Stella Douros
Elizabeth Efthimiou
Panayiotis A. Ellinas
Nicholas F. Evageliou
Buckminster J. Farrow
Alyssa Fishman
George J. Florakis
John Fotiades
John Gaitanis
George Galanis
Polyxene Gazetas
Ilenna George
Maria Dona Georgiades
Christos Georgiades
Dimitrios Georgostathis
Catherine Gerontis
Marion George
Natalie Georgakis
Anthony Georges
Demetris Giannaris
Polyxeni Gourzi
Anastasia Demetri Grivoyannis
Dimitris P. Haldeos
Constance Haralambopoulos
Basil M. Harris
Constantine F. Harris
Joseph P. Hasapes
George J. Hatsios
Vaios Hatzoglou
Sophia P. Hirakis
Christopher J. Hoimes
Matthew L. Hoimes
Shannon Hoodann
Anamaria Iakovou
Ilias A. Iliadis
Christos Z. Kaimakliotis
Pavlos Kaimakliotis
Mike Kalogiannis

Anna Kaltsas
Athena G. Kaporis
Martha Karakelides
Giorgos C. Karakoussis
Petros C. Karakoussis
Demetrios Karides
Dean G. Karalis
Andrew Karasakelides
Demetrios Karides
Ilona Karka
Dennis Katechis
John Katopodis
Alexandra Katsikis
Evangelia Katsoulakis
Irene Kleopoulos
Nicholas Kleopoulos
Nikitas Kleopoulos
Diana Klopis
Angela Kokkosis
Ronald Kokolis
Efrossini Antonia Kolios
Faye Kokotas
Christine S. Koniaris
Connie H. Kostacos
Emanuel Kostacos
Katherine Kostakos
Christoforos Koumas
Iakovos K. Koutras
Paul E. Kovatis
Vicki Kritsovas
Katerina Krogh
Matthew Kusulas
Chris Lascarides
Diane L. La Rosa
George Lazarou
George Liakas
Anthony Loizides
Margarita Lolis
Kristen Lott
Elias Loukas
HMS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

Anna Marie Loukissa
Helen Maliagros
Antonios Mammis
Anastasios Manaris
Eleni Maneta
Daniel Matathias
John C. Mavropoulos
Demetri J. Merianos
Helia J. Merianos
George Meskouris
Peter Michaelos
Katherine Michaelis
Maria Misthos
Theofanis J. Mitsinis
Vasili B. Moragianni
Maria M. Mountis
Karen A. Mourtzakis
Jason Mouzakis
Joanna C. Nacopoulos
David George Nazarian
Nickie Niforatos
Antonios J. Panagiotakis
Demetrios Panagiotou
Kelly Papadakis
Anthony J. Papadopoulos
Vassiliki Papagermanos
Ashley Eleni Papapetrou
Theodore A. Papasenos
Dimitria Pappadopollos
Alexandros P. Pappas
George P. Pappas
Mike M. Pappas
Theodore Parpasenos
Lilly-Rose Paraskevas
George Patounakis
Maria Patselas-Papoutsis
John Pattaras
Constantinos Petinos
Paul Petrakos
Peri Petras

Gerasimos N. Petratos
Theodora Petratos
Philip Petrou
Emanuvel Petroukakis
Anastassios Pittas
Maria Pliakas
George Plitas
Demetri Poulis
George Anastasios Pourakis
James M. Pritsiolas
Leonidas M. Pritsiolas
George Psevdos, Jr.
Urania Rappo
Elény Romanos
Thalia Robakis
Constantine Rossakis
Ourania Rossetos
Evanthia Theodosiou Roussos
Elias Sakalis
George Sakoulas
Hera Sambaziotis
Christina Elizabeth Sarris
George A. Sarris
John Sarris
Margarita M. Sergonis
Ioannis C. Siderias
Kostas S. Sideridis
George Sidiroglou
Despina Siolas
Maria Skamagas
Tjoyia Spetsiieris
Alex C. Spyropoulos
Theodore Stamatakos
John Stagias
Panagiotis Stathas
Costas Stavriskis
Jacqueline E. Tamis
Alexis Tchaonas
Felicia V. Tenedios
Spiro Theoharakis

Theoharis C. Theoharides
Soultana Tomopoulos
Virginia A. Triant
Andromahi Trivellas
Sophia V. Tsakraklides
Antonios Tsismenakis
Constantina Tsitlakidis
Vassilos Tsafos
Michael J. Tsapakos
Ekaterini Tsapos
Louis Tsarouhas
Dora Tsatsos
Apostolos Tsiouris
Simon Tsiouris
Kalliope Tsirilakis
Sophia I. Tsiris
Antonios Tsismenakis
Andromahi Trivellas
Myra Trivellas
Effie Tsomos
Evangelia Tsomos
William Vanarthos
George Vassolas
Nicholas G. Vatakis
Stelios S. Viennas
Lazaros T. Volikas
Dimitrios Voudouris
Nicholas Voutsinas
George Vratsanos
Vasiliki Karantza-Wadsworth
Andreas E. Xagoraris
Lucille Xenophon-Fillas
Paraskevas Xenophonos
George Dimitrios Xepoleas
Stamatis Xydas
George D. Yancopoulos
Loretta A. Zacharopoulos
Peter A. Zahos
George Zanaras
Nikolas Zaphiros
Stephanie Zarefes
NAMED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Named Scholarship Funds require a minimum commitment of $25,000, of which an initial deposit of $5,000 is required to establish the fund. More information is available through HMSNY Administration Tel. 718-398-2440

Named Scholarship Funds

- Dr. Stavroula Angelakos-Gabriel Memorial Scholarship
- Theodore & Evelyn Chengelis Memorial Scholarship *
- Dr. Polyvios N. Coryllos Memorial Scholarship
- E-Trade Scholarship
- Dr. Demetrios Flessas Memorial Scholarship *
- Drs. Anthony & Joyce Kales Scholarship
- Dr. Demetrios Kotsilimbas Memorial Scholarship *
- Dr. James Spyropoulos Memorial Scholarship
- Dr. Constantinos Stefanides Memorial Scholarship *
- Dr. James Nicholas Memorial Scholarship
- Dr. Constantinos Vardopoulos Scholarship
- Dr. Anthony and Sophia Vasilas Memorial Scholarship
- HMS NY Scholarship Fund
- Christ Bozes Essay High School Fund *
- Stavros Hartofilis RESEARCH Fund
- Leonidas Lantzounis RESEARCH Fund *
- Michael Mulinos RESEARCH Fund *
- Dr. Apostolos Tambakis RESEARCH Fund

- HMS NY/Cornell Papanicolaou Scholarship Fund
- Dr. Apostolos Tambakis Fellowship in Ophthalmology at Harkness Eye Institute Columbia University *

(* inactive)
Scientific Symposium and Scholarship Award Ceremony

Greeting

George Liakeas, M.D.
President of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York

Moderator

Lorraine Chrisomalis Valasiadis, M.D.
Assistant Clinical Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Scientific Lecture

“The Role Of Genetics In Reproductive Medicine”
George D. Kofinas, M.D., FACPG
Director of the Fertility Institute
New York-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital

Scholarship Award Ceremony

Sotirios Stergiopoulos, M.D., MBEE
Scholarship Chair of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York

Friday, December 1, 2017 at 6:30 PM
Lenox Hill Hospital/Northwell Health
131 E 76th Street, Einhorn Auditorium, New York, NY
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIA

1983 - LUNG CANCER
1984 - PARKINSON’S DISEASE
1985 - INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY
1986 - SPORTS MEDICINE
1987 - CHOLESTEROL AND METABOLISM
1988 - BREAST CANCER
1989 - DIABETES MELLITUS
1990 - THALASSEMIA
1991 - STROKE
1992 - HEART DISEASE
1993 - NEPHROLOGY
1994 - SLEEP DISORDERS
1995 - HYPERTENSION
1996 - PRACTICE OF MEDICINE FROM ART TO SCIENCE THROUGH INFORMATION
1997 - ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE
1998 - WORLD CONFERENCE
1999 - NUTRITION AND HEALTH
2000 - CLINICAL TRIALS IN CARDIOLOGY
2001 - UPDATE IN ORTHOPEDICS
2002 - TRANSPLANT SURGERY
2003 - RENAL HYPERTENSION
2004 - NEUROENDOCRINOLOGY
2005 - IMPLANTABLE CARDIAC DEVICES
2006 - PANCREAS
2007 - GLOBAL APPROACH TO CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE
2008 - PROSTATE CANCER
2009 - ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE / DEPRESSION
2010 - CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE COLITIS
2011 - NEUROLOGY / NEUROLOGIC SURGERY
2012 - GASTROINTEROLOGY/NEPHROLOGY/ NUTRITION
2013 - CARDIAC SURGERY AND CARDIOLOGY UPDATE
2014 - PHARMACOLOGY IN MEDICINE
2015 - TRANSITIONS IN MEDICINE
2016 - UROLOGY
2017 - OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY
The Society
The Hellenic Medical Society of New York
January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2018

Executive Board

Dr. George Liakeas
President

Dr. Panagiota Andreopoulou
1st Vice President

Dr. Michael Plakogiannis
2nd Vice President

Dr. Sotirios Stergiopoulos
Secretary

Dr. Frixos Goussis
Assistant Secretary

Dr. Demetrios Karides
Treasurer

Dr. James Melis
Assistant Treasurer

Dr. Nicholas H. E. Mezitis
Immediate Past President
Ex Officio

Dr. George John Tsioulias
Past President
Ex Officio

Evangelia Tsavaris
Administrator

Specialty Areas

Finance
Dr. George Liakeas (E)
Dr. Demetrios Karides (E)
Dr. Andreas Cosmatos
Dr. James Melis (E)

Membership
Dr. Panagiota Andreopoulou

Events
Dr. Stella Lymberis
Dr. George Liakeas (E)
Dr. Nicholas Mezitis

Information Technology
Steve Wang

Education & Community Outreach
Dr. Stella Lymberis
Dr. George Liakeas (E)
Dr. George John Tsioulias

Real Estate
Dr. George Yatrakis
Dr. Demetrios Karides (E)
Dr. George Liakeas (E)

Scholarships Grants / Awards
Dr. Sotirios Stergiopoulos (E)

Weill Cornell Dr. Papanicolaou / Hellenic Medical Society Fund
Dr. Spyros Mezitis
A Synopsis of the History of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York

The Hellenic Medical Society of New York (HMS) has its origins in the Greek-American Medical Fraternity, an organization co-founded by the renowned physician George N. Papanicolaou during the First World War. The organization officially registered with the New York State authorities in 1920. Drs. George N. Papanicolaou, Constantinos Carousos and Constantinos Logothetis served consecutively as presidents of this fraternity.

In 1924, the Greek-American Medical Fraternity changed its name to the Greek-American Intercollegiate Club and broadened its scope. This new club was presided by a newcomer to the United States, a surgeon named Dr. Polybios Coryllos. Dr. Constantine Psakis served as its secretary of the society. Dr. Coryllos had become well-known while organizing the first mobile surgical units at Verdun and Chateau Thierry in France in 1917. These mobile units were supported by doctors and nurses from the Roosevelt Hospital of New York City. Dr. Coryllos received honorary medals from the French, Romanian and Greek governments. He subsequently became Professor of Surgery at Cornell Medical College of New York, and was Chief of Surgery at the Metropolitan and Seaview Hospital in New York City. Following Dr. Coryllos, Dr. I Regussis and Dr. Themistokles Mavrocardatos served as presidents of the Greek-American Intercollegiate Club. The club continued its activities until 1945 when its president, Dr. Savvas Nittis, changed its name to the Hellenic University Club of New York we are familiar with today.

In 1936, Dr. Coryllos with other members of the Hellenic University Club formed The Hellenic Medical Society of New York (HMS), a professional organization of physicians. The founders included the pediatrician Christos Bozes, the internist Alexander Alexio, the dermatologist Nicholas Pattakos, the gynecologist Avraam Soukouris and the surgeon Constantine Psakis. The specific objectives of the HMS included creating a network of Greek-American Physicians, cultivating fraternal relationships among its members, and promoting public health initiatives in conjunction with other medical societies.

The board envisioned the establishment of a Greek-American medical library and hospital in New York City. However, the sudden death of Dr. Coryllos in 1938 and the Second World War interrupted the project. During the War, Dr. Constantinos Carousos and Dr. Leonidas Lantzounis served as HMS presidents. Dr. Lantzounis was very active in war relief efforts to Greece along with the benefactors Mrs. Reynolds-Kehagias and Mr. Pericles Lantzounis.

After the Second World War, HMS activities were predominantly social. The affairs of the society were conducted by Dr. S. Nittis, Professor of Hematology, Dr. Michael Mulinos, Professor of Pharmacology, Dr. Louis Ferris (Seferlis) in 1960, Dr. Constantine Foustanos in 1965 and Dr. George Haziris in 1967.

Between 1967 and 1971, a full-fledged membership drive was conducted and HMS membership increased from 20 to 160 physicians. Dr. Theophilos Deliyanidis, president from 1969 to 1971, oversaw the drafting of a revised constitution and by-laws, and organized committees with specific...
responsibilities. Annual social affairs and gala celebrations were introduced during this period to fund the medical education of Greek-American youth.

In 1971, the society obtained tax-exempt status as an educational organization, thus greatly facilitating donations. A program of lectures featured distinguished speakers, including professors from the University of Athens Medical School such as Drs. Malamos, Tountas, Courias and Chryssospathis. During annual social affairs, honorary certificates were awarded to prominent physicians and citizens.

From 1971 - 2000, the society made great strides in unifying the Greek-American physicians in the New York metropolitan area and neighboring states, and in accomplishing its community goals. The following physicians were presidents of the HMS during this period: Dr. Nicholas Arabos (1972), Dr. Marinos Petratos (1975), Dr. Themistocles Chryssospathis (1977), Dr. Apostolos Tambakis (1979), Dr. George Kokotakis (1981), Dr. Anthony Vasilas (1983), Dr. Antoine Haronas (1985), Dr. Steve Fochios (1990), Dr. Peter Tsairis (1996) and Dr. George Yatrakis (1997).

In 1975, Dr. Marinos Petratos, HMS President, successfully organized the scholarship fund. Drs. Mulinos, Lantzounis and Bozes were among the first major donors to the fund.

Memorable among the many HMS-sponsored events was the dedication of the bust of Dr. George N. Papanicolaou at Cornell Medical College in 1979, under the guidance of Dr. Konstantine Velis. In 1983, its replica was donated to the University of Athens by the Dr. George N. Papanicolaou Memorial Committee. The society’s by-laws were revised in the same year. In 1981, the first issue of the quarterly HMS Newsletter was published, edited by Dr. Anthony Vasilas and Dr. James Gabriel. The newsletter kept HMS members regularly informed of activities and functions.

Membership in the HMS increased steadily. A membership directory, featuring members’ hospital affiliations, specialty and contact information was compiled by Dr. Nicholas H. E. Mezitis, and Dr. Anthony Vasilas in 1990 and remained in use as a referral guide for many years. Starting in 1980, Dr. Vasilas and the late Dr. Flessas supervised the transfer of scientific textbooks and medical equipment to hospitals throughout Greece, Cyprus and Northern Epirus in present day Albania.

HMS by-laws were revised again in 1983 under the supervision of Dr. Peter Tsairis and Dr. Nicholas Romas. As a result, new committees were introduced and others were expanded. As local professional meetings became more frequent, annual national and international outreach programs were established and more scholarships were awarded. The first national outreach program for physicians outside the New York metropolitan area was organized by Dr. Sypros G. E. Mezitis in Philadelphia in 1995.

Greek-American physicians’ from New York first participation in a conference in Greece was the PanHellenic Congress against Tuberculosis at the Athens Academy, in May, 1909. In 1969, the HMS co-sponsored the Sixth Middle-Eastern Paediatric Congress in Athens. In 1971 the HMS supported the Post-Graduate Seminar of Mental Retardation organized by New York Medical College in conjunction with the Athens University Medical School.

In 1984, The Hellenic Medical Society of New York officially began co-sponsoring conferences in Greece with regional medical societies. These conferences were initially organized by Dr. Demetrios Flessas, who also advised the Greek-American educational organization Krikos in founding new state medical schools in Greece. The medical seminars were continued under the leadership of Dr. Alexander Karfopoulos through 1997, when the 14th Medical Seminar on the island of Rhodes, jointly directed by the Education Committee Chairman, Dr. Nicholas H. E. Mezitis and the International Outreach Committee Chairman, Dr. Marinos Petratos, featured record participation and visits to Athens and the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople.

The new millennium introduced a dynamic group of young physicians with excellent academic
credentials, who promoted recognition of the HMS nationally and internationally. Dr. Spyros G.E. Mezitis (2000 - 2004) expanded the educational programs with strong support from the pharmaceutical industry as well as philanthropic, and became a founding president of the Federation of Hellenic Medical Societies of North America.

During Dr. Spyros Mezitis’ presidency, Dr. Apostolos Tambakis donated his medical office at 60 Plaza Street in Brooklyn to the Society. The annual George Papanicolaou Symposium expanded in association with Panevoikois Society as well as broader OMogeneia support, and the Weill-Cornell Medical Students receiving the annual scholarship were presented to the HMS symposium attendees. HMS started participating in the annual March 25th Hellenic parade on 5th Avenue. The HMS website was organized efficiently.

Dr. George D. Dangas (2004 - 2008) expanded relationships with medical societies of the Hellenic Diaspora through the newly formed Global Hellenic Medical /Bioscientific Network and secured scholarship support from the Greek Ministry of Health. This expanded the number of scholarship/award recipients. Then Minister of Health of Greece honored HMS in 2005 by awarding the head of Goddess Hygeia, located in the HMS office ever since. HMS led the Network into holding large annual conferences in Kos (2007), Pafos (2008), and Lagonisi (2009), including many delegates from 23 countries around the world and broad participation from the governments of Cyprus and Greece. Dr. Roy Vagelos received the Inaugural Career Achievement Award in 2009. The annual HMS Gala was held twice at the top of the Rockefeller Center and Past Prime Minister of Greece along with active Ministers of Greece and Cyprus participated regularly. Dr. Dangas also supervised the organized revision of the HMS bylaws (ultimately approved in 2007) and during his tenure the Board voted for the official HMS office to always be called “Tambakeion” (plaque bestowed in 2005). In the 2007, the Alexander Onassis Public Benefit Foundation became the first institution to receive the HMS annual Distinguished Hellene Award. The first HMS book on “George Papanicolaou Career – The Way to the Pap Test” by Maria Papanicolaou-Kokkori was finalized with the longtime help of Dr Anthony Vasilas and distributed.

Dr. George J. Tsioulias (2009 - 2010) completed renovations of the Brooklyn office and inaugurated its use as the headquarters of the Society by moving the Tambakeion Office from Manhattan. He also cultivated relationships with other Hellenic-American professional and community organizations in the NY Metropolitan area and promoted ties to the ‘ΟΜΑΔΑ ΑΙΓΑΙΟΥ’, which brings physician specialists to the remote frontier islands of the Aegean. He became the 1st ever HMS President to be elected as the Grand Marshal of the March 25, 2010 Hellenic parade on 5th Avenue, a great honor for HMS.

In January 2011, under the administration of its new president Dr. Nicholas H.E. Mezitis, the Society entered a period of significant change, as it re-confirmed its mission after 75 years of growth. The era of new forms of communication was embraced with a new, dynamic, interactive website incorporating Facebook and Twitter, and a monthly e-News Bulletin. Videos from all major Society events are permanently posted to the website and to YouTube increasing our Society’s visibility and widening the outreach of its message.

Trademark protection was secured for the Society name (THE HELLENIC MEDICAL SOCIETY OF NEW YORK™) and its logo, originally designed by Dr. Theophilos Deliyanidis. Community outreach was strengthened through radio and television health programs in both Greek and English and by Docfinders ™, a physician referral hotline linked to the Society website, which includes current information on all active members of the Society.

The relationship with Weill-Cornell Medical School and New York Hospital was confirmed through the introduction of annual contributions from the Society to the George N. Papanicolaou Medical Scholarship Fund and through support of the George N. Papanicolaou Cytopathology Laboratory Summer Tutorial program.
The Society now honors past presidents and members deceased at an annual Archdiocesan Divine Liturgy and HMSNY Memorial Service.

Mary Kalopothakes M.D. Distinguished Female Physician - Scientist Award was established to be awarded in April each year.

The PARTNERS IN MEDICAL PRACTICE ™ program was introduced to acknowledge businesses offering benefits to our members and to our Society. Barcoded photo IDs are now available and are issued annually to Society members and PARTNERS in good standing to ensure access to events and benefits.

The Scholarship and Grants program was expanded to support fellowships at major teaching hospitals, scholarships for Greek students at American medical schools, summer school programs in Greece, exchange programs with Greek Universities, and observerships at New York teaching hospitals for physicians visiting from Greece. In 2010 - 2012 the Society sponsored a full two-year Fellowship in Ophthalmology at the Harkness Eye Institute of Columbia University, supported by Foundation donations in honor of Dr. Apostolos Tambakis. This year, the Society formally established its support for the Science Lab, in memory of Mrs. Virginia Tambakis, and a Science Program of Excellence at the St. Demetrios High School in Astoria, Queens.

The Hellenic Medical Society of New York has also been active in providing guidance and support to groups delivering aid to the Greek population suffering in its greatest financial crisis after the Second World War. In May, it entered into a fraternization agreement ‘ΑΔΕΛΦΟΠΟΙΗΣΗ with the Athens Medical Association ΙΑΤΡΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ ‘representing 25,000 physicians in Greece.

This agreement provides for the professional presence of our Society and its members in Greek medical missions to underserved areas. As another expression of Society commitment to the youth of Greece, 101 laptop computers and computer support services were purchased through the One Laptop Per Child (OPLC) Program and were donated to a secondary school in Kalamata, Greece through contributions from the family of Dr. Apostolos Tambakis.

The Society’s commitments to unity as an organization and within the Greek American community continues under the presidency of Dr. George Liakeas, M.D. Following the Vasilopita Ceremony in January of 2015, the Medical Society along with organizers from the Hellenic American Chamber of Commerce, the Hellenic American Bankers Association, and the Hellenic Lawyers Association met to discuss ways in which our organizations could work more closely together. These discussions continue and are leading to concrete initiatives.

The Medical Society happily co-sponsored or supported many 2015 events of other organizations including celebrations of Oxi Day and the NYC Greek Film Festival. Participation, and the promotion of the activities and efforts of other organizations was promoted by the society’s Executive Board. Electronic communication, verbal announcements, and physical presence at the annual symposia such as HABA’s 33rd Anniversary Dinner honoring Hollywood film producer Michael Tadross, and HACC’s 67th Annual Dinner Dance honoring philanthropist Andreas C. Dracopoulos, director and co-President of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, were just a basic way of expressing support. We were particularly happy to participate in the annual St. Demetrios High School fundraiser luncheon where Dr. Apostolos Tambakis was recognized for his generous support and contributions to the school and its students.

As in previous years, the society hosted its annual Mary Kalopothakis Symposium at Lennox Hill Hospital. The 2015 honoree was the accomplished Dr. Eleni Tousimis for her efforts in the field of breast cancer. Drs. Stella Lymberis and Eleni Andreopoulou gave riveting lectures of their own.

The success of the Mary Kalopothakis Symposium was matched by the excitement surrounding our annual Papanicolaou Symposium which the society co-hosted with the Weill Cornell Medical Hospital,
the Panevoikos Society of America, The Hellenic Federation of Medical Societies of North America, and the Prometheus-Greek Teachers Society. Dr. Katherine Hajjar was honored as was the society’s very esteemed Dr. Ioannis Zervoudakis who received the Weill Cornell Hospital Lifetime Achievement Award.

Along with Dr. Spyros Mezitis, the Federation of Hellenic Medical Societies of North America, the Hellenic Relief Fund, AHEPA, the Mytilenian Society of America, and many of the other Hellenic ethnic organizations, the society has made its presence known and demonstrated unity amongst the omogenia and by participating in events hosted by Archdiocesan Cathedral Philoptochos Society, Philo4Thought, and on the broadcasts of Cosmos FM.

The 2015 Gala was a great success thanks to the tireless efforts of its Chairs, Dr. Theodore Diktaban, Susan McCarthy, and Nicole Contos Liakeas,

2016 began with the Vasilopita Ceremony in January and continued with the Apokries celebration in March, a Taste of Greece Wine & Food Tasting event in September, and culminating with the Oxi Day Symposium in October, the Medical Society co-sponsored many events with other professional Hellenic societies. The mutual support that is cultivated and fostered throughout the year has been recognized as an important way to showcase the services and talents of so many of our members.

Dr. Stella Lymberis hosted the annual Mary Kalopothakis Symposium focusing on Lung Cancer and screening. The honoree was Dr. Anastasia Anagnostopoulou, chair of the Department of Pathology at Saint Francis Hospital, The Heart Center, NY. Dr. Anagnostopoulou’s talk was followed by a most informative and interactive discussion by Dr. Julia Smith, Clinical Director, Cancer Screening Program Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center, NYU.

The scientific program of the annual Papanicolaou Symposium featured presentations by the 2106 honoree, Dr. Apostolos Athanasiadis, who was introduced by Symposium Chair, Spyros G. E. Mezitis, M.D., Ph.D., Chairman, and Dr. Stella Lymberis.

Other events in 2016 included the “Pythagorean Self-Awareness Technique for stress management, memory improvement and well-being” which was presented to the community by Dr. Christina Darviri and Dr. Liza Varvogli from the Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece. Further, the Association of Greek American Professional Women (AGAPW) and host Gus Lambropoulos of Wells Fargo hosted a panel on the current state of cancer prevention and treatment. The audience was enlightened by panelists including Drs. Karen Burke, Eve Giannakakou, Ioannis Hatzaras, Stella Lymberis, George Tsioulias, and Alice Zervoudakis.

As in previous years, the society continued to lobby for the benefit of the people of Greece and promote the role of the Omogenia. Along with Dr. Spyros Mezitis and the Federation of Hellenic Medical Societies of North America, a major conference addressing the refugee crisis in Greece was held at which time a proclamation was signed by many Hellenic societies to address the flow of refugees into Greece.

Of all of the activities of 2016, the Society and its board were most proud of their support of young medical and high school students. Initiatives by Drs. Lorraine Chrismalis and Soterios Stergiopoulos to support these students and introduce young resident physicians to the benefits of membership have been and will continue to be one of the society’s most emphasized missions in the year to come. The 2016 Gala Chairs, Dr. Lorraine Chrismalis, Dr. Helen Gouzoulis, and Nicole Contos Liakeas have allowed the Medical Society to close the year with another festive celebration of our efforts and an opportunity to honor strong Hellenes and future talent.
A Retrospective of 2017

The year began with the combined vasilopita reception on January 9th at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity where the spirit of cooperation with Greek American community organizations was again proclaimed and celebrated.

On February 12, 2017 we held our annual Memorial Service for Past Presidents and Members of The Hellenic Medical Society of New York at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity.

Maria Theodoulou, MD, Medical Oncology, Albany, NY received the Dr. Mary Kalopothakes 2017 Distinguished Female Physician Award on March 16 at Lenox Hill Hospital. Stella Lymberis, M.D. offered the introduction and Dr. Theodorou presented an informative and thought-provoking look at breast cancer research and treatment today. There were inspiring testimonials from some of her patients who emotionally identified her as their hero rather than just their physician. Dr. Maria Georgiades Sfakianos moved the audience that evening with her enlightening presentation on trauma surgery and acute care management/fluid resuscitation, also exemplifying the dedication that our members have to their field and their patients.

This year’s Dr. Papanicolaou Symposium held on May 23rd honored Nicholaos E. Papantoniou, MD, Ph.D., Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the National and Capodistrian University of Athens School of Medicine and Chair, 3rd Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology “Attikon” General University Hospital. He was introduced by Dr. Spyros Mezitis, M.D. One of the highlights was the presentation of the Student Essay Awards by Professor Demosthenes Triantafillou, President of the Greek Teachers Association.

HMS members were also honored by other leading Hellenic institutions. Dr. Anna Kaltsas was the recipient of the American Community Schools of Athens’ 2017 Emerging Young Leader Award, and George Yancopoulos, MD, Ph.D was chosen to be one of the Grand Marshalls at this year’s Greek Parade, marching up Fifth Avenue accompanied by a fine turnout of members following the HMS banner.

The Young Initiative Kickoff reception that was hosted by Lorraine Chrisomalis-Valasiadis, M.D., that was held on May 18 was a wonderful way to welcome the next generation of health professionals and students into our community

Once again, I offer my heartfelt thanks to the Society’s administrator, Evangelia Tsavaris. None of this year’s projects would have been possible without her diligent work and passion.

More work lies ahead as the Hellenic Medical Society of New York pursues its agenda of establishing standards of excellence in education and health care and as it promotes networking, mentoring, and mutual support among medical professionals in the Hellenic-American community.

George P. Liakeas MD

Theophilos Deliyanidis, M.D. and Spyros G. E. Mezitis, M.D., Ph.D. New York, New York, USA Nicholas H.E. Mezitis, M.D. (Ed.), contributed to the historical synopsis.
GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2017
Obituary

Dr. Anthony Vasilas, passed away on April 7, 2017, at the age of 93. He was predeceased by his beloved wife of over 65 years and childhood sweetheart Sophie (nee Pappas) and his daughter Paula Roussos. He is survived by his son Peter (Sharon) Vasilas, his daughter Constance (Ramon) Parsons, his son in law Sakis Roussos, his grandchildren Alethea (Josh), Raymond (Juli), Anthony (Jessie), Evanthia (Steven), Sophia (Ryan), Thalia (George), Theodosia, Harris, Richard, Antonia, Paulina, his great grandchildren Will and Owen, his sister Elpis Chandras, and brother in law Nicholas (Alexandra) Pappas. Anthony, a graduate of Columbia College, received his medical degree from New York Medical College. He served in the Navy on Governors Island and Washington, D.C. during the Korean War and later became the Chairman of the Radiology Department at Beekman Downtown Hospital where he practiced until his retirement. He was a founder and President of the Archangel Michael and St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Churches, an Archon and a lifetime member of AHEPA. He helped to revitalize the Hellenic Medical Society of New York, served as its President and was committed to medical education and philanthropic causes. Anthony was the son of Peter and Sophia Vasilas, who immigrated from Mytilene, Greece. He learned the value of hard work growing up in his father’s diner, which provided a foundation for his life.

He was a positive force for many and beloved by all.

Our Heartfelt Condolences to His Family

May his memory be eternal
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The Hippocratic Oath

I swear by Apollo Physician, by Aesclepius, by Health, by Heal-all, and by all the gods and goddesses, making them witnesses, that I will carry out, according to my ability and judgment, this oath and this indenture:

To regard my teacher in this art as equal to my parents; to make him partner in my livelihood, and when he is in need of money to share mine with him; to consider his offspring equal to my brothers; to teach them this art, if they require to learn it, without fee or indenture; and to impart precept, oral instruction, and all the other learning, to my sons, to the sons of my teacher, and to pupils who have signed the indenture and sworn obedience to the physicians’ Law, but to none other.

I will use treatment to help the sick according to my ability and judgment, but I will never use it to injure or wrong them. I will not give poison to anyone though asked to do so, nor will I suggest such a plan. Similarly I will not give a pessary to a woman to cause abortion. But in purity and in holiness I will guide my life and my art. I will not use the knife either on sufferers from stone, but I will give place to such as are craftsmen therein.

Into whatsoever houses I enter, I will do so to help the sick, keeping myself free from all intentional wrong-doing and harm, especially from fornication with woman or man, bond or free. Whatsoever in the course of practice I see or hear (or even outside my practice in social intercourse) that ought never to be published abroad, I will not divulge, but consider such things to be holy secrets.

Now if I keep this oath and break it not, may I enjoy honour, in my life and art, among all men for all time; but if I transgress and forswear myself, may the opposite befall me.

Translated by Drs. Lantzounis and Nittis
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