

## Prometheas's 40th Anniversary Celebration in Washington, D.C.

Washington, DC – The Hellenic Society Prometheas celebrated its 40th anniversary on Saturday, December 1, 2018, at St. Sophia Greek Orthodox



Cathedral's elegant Grand Ball Room.

The H.S. Prometheas, a social and cultural non-profit organization created in 1978, promotes the ideals of Hellenism and Hellenic culture. Since its inception, it has organized hundreds of cultural events, including lectures by distinguished scholars from Greece and the United States, professors, artists, poets, authors, and dignitaries, as well as concerts by Greek vocalists and instrumentalists.

Furthermore, H.S. Prometheas annually organizes the Greek Letters' Day and the March 25th Greek Independence Day celebration in cooperation with other Greek organizations and churches in the Metropolitan Washington area. In addition: it publishes a monthly newsletter of Greek cultural interest in the area and around the world; its Hellenic Writers' Group helps Greek Americans write and publish their works; and its Kyklos group meets monthly to discuss topics of contemporary importance using the Greek language.

Joanna Athanasopoulos Owen, PhD, President of Prometheas, gave the welcoming remarks to 180 attendees, including dignitaries from the Greek

and Cypriot Embassies. Fr. Demetrios Antokas, presiding priest of St. George Greek Orthodox Church, offered the opening prayer.

The festive event included champagne, wine, appetizers, and a sit-down dinner catered by Talia's Cuzina as well as desserts catered by Stella's Bakery. Music was provided by the Golden Flame Band.



Rona Panteli (Embassy of Cyprus), Evan Owen, Chris and Aphrodite Mitsopoulou, Joanna Athanasopoulos Owen, Freida Stefadouros, Achilleas Rakinas (Greek Embassy), Father Demetrios Antokas, Presvytera Maria Antokas (photo by Anthony Apostolides)

After dinner, a video presentation ensued, with greetings from past presidents and founding members of H.S. Prometheus. Past presidents included: Pericles Stabekis (1978-86), Lefteris Karmiris (1986-90, 1996-2017), George Kouroupas (1990-1992), Costas Doultinos (1992-1994),

Voula Kalavritinos (1994-1996), and George Papadopoulos, founding member.

It is worth mentioning that Lefteris Karmiris, one of the founding members and the longest serving President of Prometheus, was recognized for his unparalleled zeal and dedication to the goals of the Society.

The awards presentation followed, with President Athanasopoulos Owen and Vice President Lefteris Karmiris, presenting award plaques to past Presidents: Pericles Stabekis, Lefteris Karmiris, George Kouroupas, Costas Doultinos, and Voula Kalavritinos. In addition, the oldest member of Pro-



metheas, Epaminontas Stassinopoulos (age 98) was recognized.

Joanna Athanasopoulos Owen, Lefteris Karmiris, George Kouroupas, Epaminontas Stassinopoulos, Costas Doultinos, Pericles Stabekis, and Voula Kalavritinos

(photo by Anthony Apostolides)

Certificates of Recognition were presented to past and present Executive Board members for their ten-year service to the Prometheus Board: Achilles Adamantiades, Christopher Agritellis, Tony Alexis, Costas Doultsinos, Basil Economopoulos, Barbara Kakaes, Voula Kalavritinos, Lefteris Karmiris, Elina Karmokolias, Fotis Kitzantides, George Kouroupas, Chris Loukaitis, Constantinos Nicolaou, Spyros Pangalos, Maria Saoutis, George Saviolakis, Despina Skenderis, Pericles Stabekis, and Stratos Tavoulaareas.



Constantinos Nicolaou, Achilles Adamantiades, Basil Economopoulos, Elina Karmokolias, Lefteris Karmiris, Joanna Athanasopoulos Owen, Fotis Kitzantides, Chris Loukaitis, Despina Skenderis, George Saviolakis, Maria Saoutis, Stratos Tavoulaareas, Pericles Stabekis  
(photo by Anthony Apostolides)

Moments of nostalgia peaked as previous presidents reflected on their time spent with Prometheus through the years. A wonderful evening of dancing

and socializing followed the dinner and presentations. It was a festive event and a memorable celebration of Prometheus's success story.

The following Prometheus Board members worked tirelessly to help make this event a success: Joanna Athanasopoulos Owen, Lefteris Karmiris, Magdalene Kantartzis, Alex Spiliotopoulos, Fotis Kitzantides, Eleftheria Francis, Ipatia Apostolides, Yianna Stasinoulia-Albanes, Maria Paschalidis, Tony Alexis, Kostas Kastanos, Sarantos Tselekis, George Saviolakis, Sakis Leris, and Thanasis Himonas. Prometheus would also like to thank St. Sophia's staff for graciously offering their support and help, and to all the members who attended the event. We apologize to those who were not able to attend due to space limitations.

To access the program of Prometheus's 40th anniversary celebration which includes the society's brief history written in Greek, the names of all 110 Board members, and photos of the event (courtesy of Anthony Apostolides) please visit: [www.prometheas.org](http://www.prometheas.org)

The Prometheus Board