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AGAPW Honors Journalist Tina Santorineou (Video)

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Costas Bej/TNH

Seen (L-R) are Tina Santorineou, Eleni Kostopoulos, Effie Lekas, AGAPW Vice-President, and Maria V. Vases, Executive Assistant to the Consul General of Cyprus. Veteran journalist Santorineou, a pioneer voice in Greek American radio programming, was awarded by the Association of Greek American Professional Women (AGAPW) on Oct. 26, 2010 in downtown Manhattan.

NEW YORK - Veteran journalist Tina Santorineou, a familiar voice to Greek American radio listeners for more than two decades, could hardly hide her emotion and tears during her acceptance speech for the award given to her by the Association of Greek American Professional Women (AGAPW) on Oct. 26, 2010 in downtown Manhattan. Dozens of Greek Americans and non-Greeks alike gave Santorineou, a pioneer voice in Greek American radio programming, a warm round of applause for her longtime contribution to the community. "I miss the radio, and I miss all of you. I love you all because you are like family to me," she said as she got choked up. The ceremony took place as part of a symposium put together by the newly-found New York-based organization, which is just months old. The event, entitled Honoring the Success of Greek American in the News Media, provided an in-depth look at the contributions made by accomplished Greek American women in the media and their personal success stories. A special panel of guest speakers included CBS News business correspondent Alexis Christoforous, Danielides

Communications President and founder Joannie Danielides, New York Times health reporter and author Anemona Hartocollis, and CNN senior producer Penny Manis.

Santorineou made her debut on New York's radio waves back in 1972, co-hosting The Sound of Greece with the late Theodosia Athas. She signed off for the last time on the same AM radio station where she began her career on September 12, 1994.



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Tina Santorineou is seen posing with her award.

"I wanted to write a book, but I decided against it because I might write a few things that would upset some people, and there is no reason for that," she told The National Herald. "I'm still bitter about a lot of things, which in my opinion should not have happened as they did." Santorineou said she was touched by AGAPW's decision to honor her, and she expressed her satisfaction over the fact that Greek American women, such as the evening's four panel speakers, are gaining fame and recognition for their careers in the U.S. media. During the Q&A session, she told an audience member that she was not optimistic about the future of Greek language programming in the United States, and added that she was also concerned about the future of the Greek press in America.

Greek Parliament deputy Dionysia Avgerinopoulou, of the conservative main opposition New Democracy party, was on hand for the event and briefly greeted the audience. Speaking to TNH, she expressed her happiness at the initiative shown by AGAPW in organizing the symposium. She also spoke about the importance and nature of the

contribution made by journalists, and also touched on the problems facing media organizations today.

In a statement to TNH, A.G.A.P.W. President Dr. Olga Alexakos, who was in Greece, said that, "We wanted to express our gratitude and recognize the major role Tina Santorineou played in the Greek American Community. Her contribution was huge." Another young journalist, Eleni Kostopoulos, served as event moderator, and engaged each of the speakers with separate questions at the end of the discussion. Introductory remarks were made by former network producer Dorie Klissas, who is currently the Media Director at NYU Langone Medical Center. Remarks were also offered by AGAPW Vice-President Effie Lekkas, and Treasurer Sophia Katsambis. AGAPW is an independently run, not-for-profit organization, started by and run by women. It is based in New York City and serves as a forum for information, resources, support and networking opportunities for Greek American women, who are working in various professional and business fields.



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A view of the symposium, as the audience listens attentively to the panel discussion.

The Association of Greek American Professional Women (A.G.A.P.W.) held a symposium entitled HONORING THE SUCCESS OF GREEK AMERICAN WOMEN IN THE NEWS MEDIA: An In-Depth Look at Their Contributions to Both Ethnic and National Media and Their Personal Journeys on the Road to Success, on Tues. Oct. 26, 2010 at the offices of Hughes Hubbard & Reed, located at One Battery Park Plaza. This event will featured a panel of several special guest speakers from the media and a tribute to the legendary Tina Santorineou, a pioneer voice in the Greek American community. Along with Ms. Santorineou, this symposium featured the following guest speakers: Alexis Christoforous, CBS News Business Correspondent Joannie Danielides, President and Founder, Danielides Communications, Inc. Anemona Hartocollis, New York Times Health Reporter and author of "Seven Days of Possibilities: One Teacher, 24 Kids, and

the Music That Changed Their Lives Forever” Penny Manis, CNN Anderson Cooper 360, Senior Producer Accomplished young journalist Eleni Kostopoulos moderated the discussion. Introductory remarks were made by former network producer Dorie Klissas, who is currently the media director at NYU Langone Medical Center. AGAPW is a new independently run organization, started by and run by women. AGAPW is a not for profit organization based in New York City and serves as a forum for information, resources, support and networking opportunities for Greek American women, who are working in various professional and business fields.