



Association of  
Greek  
American  
Professional  
Women

**Under the Auspices of The Consulate  
General of Greece in New York**

**In Celebration of Women's History Month**

**The Association of Greek American  
Professional Women  
(A.G.A.P.W.)**

**Welcomes You to its Signature Annual  
"Greek American Woman of The Year" Award**

**Honoring**

**Ms. Paulette Poulos**  
**Executive Director Leadership 100**

**Keynote Speaker**  
**Dr. Eleni Andreopoulou, M.D.**

**Master of Ceremonies**  
**Ms. Anthoula Katsimatides**

## *PROGRAMME*

*Invocation:*

~ *Reverend Dr. Robert Stephanopoulos*

*Welcome:*

~ *Dr. Olga Alexakos, President and Founder of  
A.G.A.P.W.*

*Introduction of Master of Ceremonies Ms. Anthoula  
Katsimatides*

*Greetings:*

~ *The Honorable Manos Koubarakis, Consul of Greece to  
New York*

~ *Maria Logus, Esq., President, National Philoptochos  
Society*

~ *Mr. George Tsandikos, Chairman, Leadership 100*

*Introduction of Honoree:*

~ *Dr. Eleni Andreopoulou*

*Recitation of poem:*

~ *“Γένους Θηλυκού έχουν ορισθεί”*

*Presentation of Citation by The Honorable Aravella Simotas,  
New York State Assemblymember*

*Message by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios*

*Presentation of the Greek American Woman of the Year Award*

*Response:*

~ *Ms. Paulette Poulos*

*Presentation of the Excellence Tuition Scholarship to award  
recipient Ms. Elena Karavassilis - Dr. Aphrodite Navab*

*Performance:*

~ *Ms. Flora Kirou, vocals*

~ *“Μυρτιά” (Myrtle) - Mikis Theodorakis*

~ *“Τ' Αστέρι του Βοριά” (The Northern Star) - Manos  
Hadjidakis*

~ *“Climb Every Mountain” - Rodgers and Hammerstein*

*Closing Remarks:*

~ *Dr. Olga Alexakos*

## BIOGRAPHIES

### Paulette Poulos

Paulette Poulos is Executive Director of the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Endowment Fund, Inc., a leading charitable membership organization, whose purpose is to support the Greek Orthodox Church in America and advance Orthodoxy and Hellenism. She has held the position since 2005, previously serving as Director of Development. Her career spans some 50 years of executive leadership, financial development, philanthropy, Church and community service.

Beginning in 1965 with the Department of Laity of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, she moved rapidly to become Associate Director of Youth Ministry in 1970, Director of LOGOS, one of the main stewardship agencies of the Church in 1972, and Administrator for the late Archbishop Iakovos serving from 1984 to 2005.

Ms. Poulos is credited with having raised significant funds for the Greek Orthodox Church of America, Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology, the Archbishop Iakovos Library and Learning Resource Center and Leadership 100.

Her expertise in administration, development, philanthropy, public speaking and membership cultivation in the United States and worldwide earned her recognition and honors from numerous organizations, including the 2006 Honoree of Hellenic American Neighborhood Action Committee (HANAC); the 2008 Commendation by the City of New York, Office of the Comptroller; 2008 Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology Women's Vocational Ministry Award; and the 2014 Hellenic Heritage National Public Service Award presented by the American Hellenic Institute.

Ms. Poulos has served on numerous committees and boards including the Governing Board of the National Council of Churches of Christ, National Committee for the Archbishop Iakovos Library and Resource Center at Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology, Brookline, Massachusetts and the Archdiocese National Youth Commission. She is an active member in the Greek Orthodox Community and is a member of the following parishes: Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, New York City, Church of Our Saviour, Rye, New York, Three Hierarchs, Brooklyn, New York, Annunciation New York City, St. John the Baptist, New York City and St. Fanourios, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Paulette grew up in Brooklyn, New York and is the daughter of the late Rebecca and Charles Poulos. She has a sister Carol residing in Raleigh, North Carolina and a brother, Peter residing in Brooklyn, New York, a

graduate of our Theological School. Paulette presently resides in White Plains, New York.

## **Eleni Andreopoulou**

Dr Eleni Andreopoulou is an Associate Professor of Medicine at Weill Cornell Medical Center/ New York Presbyterian Hospital specializing in the care and treatment of patients with breast cancer. Prior to this appointment she held faculty positions at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine/ Montefiore Medical Center and the University of Texas/ M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

Dr Andreopoulou completed her training in world class academic institutions in both Europe and the US, including St Bartholomew's Hospital and the Royal Marsden Hospital/Institute of Cancer Research in London and the New York University School of Medicine. In addition to her active clinical practice she has a research interest in precision medicine. Her main focus is on next generation oncology trials and incorporation of technology to fast track development of biologics and targeted therapy to effectively treat breast cancer. She is an investigator in several clinical trials of novel therapeutic approaches in advanced disease including her principal investigator role for development of agents sponsored by the National Cancer Institute.

Dr Andreopoulou has published several peer-reviewed articles, reviews, editorials and book chapters, and has given lectures at international and national conferences. She is a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, the American Association of Cancer Research, the Royal Society of Medicine in England and the American Women's Medical Association. She has also been active with Breast Cancer awareness programs covering screening and prevention with a particular focus locally in underserved minorities.

Dr Andreopoulou is a third generation Greek-American who is active in her down time promoting Hellenism and Orthodoxy within the Greek community. Although born in New York City she was raised in Greece. She is an active member of Leadership 100. In February 2015 she was awarded the Archbishop Iakovos Award of Excellence. This award acknowledges her considerable accomplishments in science and medicine as a member of the diaspora community.

## **Elena Karavassilis**

Elena Karavassilis is a young Greek American living in Bayside, Queens. Elena is currently attending Queens College, CUNY as an upper sophomore. She has achieved being on the Dean's and Principal's Honor Roll lists every semester, while majoring in Communication Sciences and

Disorders and minoring in Psychology. Elena discovered the passion she has for speech pathology at a young age as a result of growing up with a cousin who has had to face the challenge of a speech disorder. Her desire to become the best speech pathologist she can possibly be has motivated her to exert herself in her studies. She hopes to be able to make a difference in children's lives by improving the quality of their everyday life experience.

While school is a major priority, Elena always finds time to give back to her community. She grew up very close to her Greek community by attending Greek school starting at grade K-8, attending Sunday school, and being an active member of GOYA (Greek American Youth Association) in her church. Elena represented the Greek American community of Katerini in the 2013 Greek Independence Beauty Pageant of the Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater New York. She has been volunteering at St. Nicholas church as a Kindergarten Sunday school teacher since 2010 and really enjoys opening the door for the young children to the understanding of their religion. Furthermore, Elena has been working to support herself financially, while being a full time student working towards completing her BA.

## **Anthoula Katsimatides**

Anthoula Katsimatides was recently cast to play a character who was "attractive, vivacious, edgy, bursting with the desire to grab life!" This describes Anthoula perfectly! Passionate about everything and always on the go, Anthoula is eagerly pursuing her acting career. She is a true artist at heart, even though it took her time (three careers) to get here.

Anthoula was born and raised in Astoria, Queens and was a proud graduate of PS 70, JHS 10, and William Cullen Bryant HS. Having earned a Bachelors degree in Business Administration at Baruch College and a Masters degree in Secondary Education at Queens College, Anthoula was an account executive in the ad world and a high school ESL and English literature teacher. She then pursued a career in politics/government and worked with former Governor George Pataki as a Community Affairs assistant, navigating ethnic minority communities of NYC through government bureaucracy and representing the Governor at events across the city. After September 11th, 2001, Anthoula worked at the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation on the massive rebuilding effort and served as the main point of contact for the families of other victims.

Anthoula is involved in many charitable endeavors. Specifically, she is proud of the JaM Foundation for Life, created in memory of her loving brothers, John and Michael. ([www.Jamfoundation.org](http://www.Jamfoundation.org)) John died on September 11, 2001 and Michael committed suicide one year earlier. She is a major supporter of the Samaritans in NYC ([www.smaritansnyc.org](http://www.smaritansnyc.org)), an organization solely devoted to preventing suicide and helping people in crisis. She also was appointed by Mayor Bloomberg to the board of directors

of The National September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial & Museum ([www.911memorial.org](http://www.911memorial.org)).

As an actor, she has had parts in major films such as "Taking Woodstock" (directed by Oscar-winner Ang Lee) and "The Family" (starring Robert Deniro and Michelle Pfeifer) where she was sent to France to be directed by the incredible Luc Besson. She recently shot scenes in the following films: "Bereave" opposite Jane Seymour, "Adult Beginners" opposite Rose Byrne and in "Before I Disappear", the feature version of the short film "Curfew" which won the Oscar for Best Short in 2012. Her TV appearances include roles in: "Damages", "Big Lake", "In Treatment". She also had the honor of working as production coordinator as well as playing a small role in the short film, "Irene and Mary," as Olympia Dukakis' niece. She is also a producer on the official documentary film about Olympia Dukakis (see [www.OlympiatheFilm.com](http://www.OlympiatheFilm.com)).

Anthoula made her own off-Broadway debut in "Murder in The First" (59E59 Theater), has performed at St. Luke's Theater in "My Big Gay Italian Wedding" and absolutely loves being on stage! Katsimatides has developed her own onewoman show, called "What Will People Think?" and has performed sold-out shows at festivals in NYC, namely the Solo Plus One festival, the One Woman

Standing Emerging Artists Festival, and the prestigious UnitedSolo festival at Theatre Row off Broadway. She has one more performance left on Saturday, November 22nd at 7:30pm at Theatre Row 410 W. 42nd Street bet 9&10 Ave. For tickets visit <http://unitedsolo.org/us/2014-whatwillpeoplethink>.

Anthoula does voice-overs & commercials & has her own radio show titled "Color Your Life" on Thursdays @7pm on Hellenic Public Radio Cosmos 91.5FM. For more, please visit [www.anthoula.com](http://www.anthoula.com) and follow her on Twitter & Instagram @AnthoulaKats.

## **Flora Kirou**

Flora Kirou, soprano, was born in Thessaloniki, Greece in 1991 and moved to New York with her family when she was 9 months old. She knew she wanted to be a singer from a very young age. She started taking voice lessons when she was 12 years old at the Harbor Conservatory for the performing arts. Afterwards, she attended the Fiorello LaGuardia Arts High School where she majored in voice and graduated with honors. Flora graduated from Mannes College the New School for Music in May 2013 with a Bachelor of Science and a major in vocal performance. She returned to Mannes and is now pursuing her Masters of Music.



Flora has performed in many different venues and locations as a member and soloist of the Archdiocesan Metropolitan Youth Choir, including the Metropolitan Opera in celebration of the Olympics (2003); the United Nations (2004); Tampa, Florida with Mario Frangoulis to honor His All Holiness Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch (January 2006); Alice Tully Hall (2009), and in a concert tour to Istanbul, Turkey, Nicosia, Cyprus, and Peloponnissos, Greece (July 2011). She sang with the Archdiocesan Metropolitan Youth Choir in September 2012 and December 2013 at Carnegie Hall as both a choir member and soloist. Flora has performed in a full opera production in Fiorello LaGuardia HS of "The Mikado" by Gilbert and Sullivan and has starred in the principal role as *Yum-yum*.

She has sung in several opera scenes concerts at Mannes College and has also participated in various Summer Music Programs, including in Novafeltria, Italy in July 2010, where she performed in Rimini, Bologna, and Novalfeltria. In June 2011, she participated in a program called "Songfest" in Malibu, California, in which she also performed several times. From mid-May to early June 2012 she participated in a program called "L'Art du Chant Francais" in Perigold, France. Flora sang *Dido* in a full production of Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas" and *Ilia* in Mozart's "Idomeneo" at the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival in the Summer of 2013. This Summer of 2014 she gave a recital in Kastoria, Greece with classical and Greek folk songs. Flora is looking forward to more recitals and scenes performances at Mannes College.

## Aphrodite Désirée Navab

Aphrodite Désirée Navab is an Iranian-born, New York-based artist whose work mines her Iranian, Greek and American cultural heritage asking questions of its competing histories and politics. Her art is the aching inquiry of an uprooted consciousness seeking new roots. It also serves as a site of critical dialogue and debate. Ultimately, Navab's art haunts our imagination with its beauty and complexity, inviting us to engage in a third space of transnational and cross-cultural initiations, leaving domination and demonization outside the picture." --**Reza Aslan**, author of NY Times #1 Best Seller, *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth*.

In 2004 Navab completed an Ed.D doctorate in Art Education at Columbia University. She received her BA magna cum laude in Visual and Environmental Studies from Harvard College in 1993. Her doctoral dissertation, "Unsayng Life Stories: A Comparative Analysis of the Autobiographical Art of Four Iranians," is the first study specifically focused on the work of artists of the Iranian diaspora. A chapter from it is published in the *Journal of Aesthetic Education*, University of Illinois Press, Volume 41/2 (2007). The dissertation is published in its entirety as *De-Orientalizing Iran: The Art of Sevruguin, Neshat, Navab, and Ghazel*. Lampert Academic

Publishing (2011).

Navab's art has been featured in over one hundred exhibitions and is included in a number of permanent collections including: the Lowe Art Museum, the Harn Museum of Fine Arts, Casoria Contemporary Art Museum, Naples, Italy, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Arkansas State University.

Navab's most recent solo exhibition, *I Am Not a Miniature*, was at Soho20 Chelsea in NYC (Oct.-Nov. 2013). In 2009, her art was featured in the museum exhibition and catalogue, *Through the Lens: Photography from the Permanent Collection*, at the Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami. The exhibition featured only 100 significant photographs from more than 1,000 photographic holdings from: Julia Margaret Cameron and Walker Evans to Cindy Sherman and Gregory Crewdson.

Navab's writing is published in six anthologies, from "Re-picturing Photography: A Language in the Making," in *Photographic Theory: An Historical Anthology* (2014), edited by Andrew Hershberger, UK: Wiley Blackwell, and *POWWOW: Charting the Fault Lines in the American Experience, Short Fiction from Then to Now* (2009), edited by Ishmael Reed, to *Let Me Tell You Where I've Been: New Writing by Women of the Iranian Diaspora* (2006), edited by Persis Karim.

Navab was Assistant Professor of Art at the University of Florida, after completing four years of teaching art studio and art education in the College of Fine Arts there as Adjunct and Visiting Assistant Professor (2000-5). She was Area Coordinator of the BFA and MFA creative photography programs (2003-4). She also taught graduate students in the MAT (Master of Arts in Teaching) program at The School of Visual Arts (2008-9).

Currently, Navab serves on the boards of two independent and non-profit organizations. She is on the Committee of Twenty of Network 20/20, which helps prepare multi-generation leaders in the U.S. to participate meaningfully in the promotion of entrepreneurial diplomacy, trans-national problem solving, and global sustainability ([www.network2020.org](http://www.network2020.org)). She is Vice President of AGAPW (The Association of Greek American Professional Women) whose mission is to promote community and leadership building among Greek-American women ([www.agapw.org](http://www.agapw.org)).

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*The Association of Greek American Professional Women (A.G.A.P.W.) is a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational organization under Section 402 of the Non-for-Profit Corporation Law of the State of New York. The organization was founded in New York City in March of 2010 and is run on a pro bono basis. Forging collaboration and establishing partnerships with other organizations inside and outside the Greek-American community, its mission is to promote community and leadership building among Greek-American women. For further details, including past and future events, please visit [www.agapw.org](http://www.agapw.org).*