



NEW YORK CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR GREEK LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

The New York Chapter of the AFGLC is dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of Greek language and culture in institutions of higher learning. Our mission is to emphasize and preserve the Hellenic civilization, language and culture to all Greeks, Greek-Americans and Philhellenes in the Americas, and to promote programs relevant to Hellenic Language, Culture, History and Tradition. The first immediate goal of the NY chapter of AFGLC is to help establish a Center of Hellenic Studies associated with an **Endowed Chair at Stony Brook University** that will encourage the study of Hellenic culture at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

The NY Chapter of the AFGLC is administered by a committee as follows:

Dr. Stella Tsirka, President

Dr. Vassilis Danginis, Vice-President

Mr. Peter Tsantes, Treasurer

Mrs. Maria Syrigos- Kanakoudas, Secretary

Advisory Board: Ms Kay Gemelas, Mrs. Betty Turner, Ms Eleni Gonatas, Ms Martha Danginis, Dr. Basil Rigas, Mr Michael Nicodemou, Ms Jane MacArthur.



Members of the leadership committee of the NY Chapter of the AFGLC along with Dr Balis during the October 11th 2009 inaugural event at Stony Brook University.

The inaugural event launching our efforts towards the establishment of the Center took



The musicians:
Grigoris
Maninakis and
the
Mikrokosmos
Ensemble and
the guest young
artist, Nikitas
Tampakis.

place on October 11th 2009 at Stony Brook University with a musical performance by Grigoris Maninakis and the Mikrokosmos Ensemble. The performance was titled ‘From Erotokritos to Axion Esti’, and included poems of world-renowned Greek poets set to music by the best of Greek composers. The event was sponsored by the Alexander S.



Younger
participants in the
event read the lyrics
(poems) of the

Onassis Public Benefit Foundation (USA). During the performance, college- and high-school-aged Greek-American students took to the podium, one at a time, to read (in English) the poem / lyrics of each song that followed. The event was an important first interaction with the community of Long Island, NY, who participated enthusiastically.

A second event, a presentation of the book “Lost to the West: The Forgotten Byzantine Empire That Rescued Western Civilization” by Lars Brownworth, has been scheduled

for January 24th 2010, as a celebration of the day of the Three Hierarchs and the Greek Letters.