



ATHENS COLLEGE

Hellenic-American Educational Foundation

Kindergarten • Elementary • Junior High • High

ATHENS COLLEGE • PSYCHICO COLLEGE • KINDERGARTEN J. M. CARRAS

1925

President's Report

2020-2021



ATHENS COLLEGE

Athens College was founded in 1925 by enlightened Greeks, led by Emmanuel Benakis and Stephanos Delta, with the support of American philhellenes. It belongs to the Hellenic-American Educational Foundation (HAEF), a not-for-profit organization. For almost a century, it stands as a beacon of primary and secondary educational excellence, incorporating best global educational practices of Greece and beyond. The premier education provided is enriched with a program of diverse extracurricular and social outreach activities.

We promote excellence and encourage our students to take advantage of the opportunities being offered to them, as well as to reach their highest potential. We shape responsible global citizens and future leaders, nurtured by the values of the intellectual heritage of Greece and the liberal values of the United States and Europe.





2020-2021

An exceptional year



FROM THE PRESIDENT

In my second year as President of Athens College, I would like to express my appreciation for the solid bonds that unite the Athens College family members. The mission of Athens College sets high standards with even higher ambitions for our future, and we are fortunate to have a unique community of students, parents, staff, alumni, and friends who care deeply about our School and play a crucial role in the realization of our goals.

We continue to live through difficult times, but now, after a year and a half in which our lives have been upended, this is the moment to honor the ways in which we have changed through this experience – how our own priorities and values have shifted or sharpened.

In 2020-21, we faced several tough challenges on a daily basis yet we remained focused, united and strong putting safety first for both students and staff exceeding state-imposed crisis management measures taken, while implementing our strategic goals. We were still able to achieve outstanding academic results and invest in our staff development, aiming to further improve the quality of education we provide, reducing gradually the number of students in the classroom, and increasing the percentage of students admitted through exams. Faithful to the values of the founders of Athens College, we always keep a close eye for developments in education around the globe in order to secure our position as a leader in educational excellence offering premium quality learning experiences to our students.

Staying true to the roots of our School, our focus is towards enhancing excellence – and not only in academia. For 2021-22, we awarded Merit Scholarships to outstanding students and, for the first time, Scholarships of Special Interest to children with exceptional talent and accomplishments in sports and the arts. We reinforced Financial Aid Scholarships enhancing student body diversity, revived Regional Scholarships and established Special Purpose Scholarships for children from underrepresented minorities, always subject to entrance exams. Even so, we still have a lot of work to do in this area.

As we approach our Centennial, we will continue to invest in resources aiming to raise the educational bar even higher, while supporting the well-being and safety of our students and staff. We will work to promote a culture of caring and responsibility with empathy and integrity.

I just have one message for you: my vision of a smaller school with closer and stronger personal ties, more inclusive and accepting, even better.

I am grateful to have you as partners on this exciting journey.

Professor Costas Synolakis '75
Athens College President



FROM OUR BOARD CHAIRS

As I am completing my first year as Chair of the Board of Directors, I am happy to report that the state of our school is excellent in spite of the ongoing pandemic. Strangely enough, the pandemic brought us the benefit of the successful continuation of online teaching at all levels of our pre K-12 operation. Our teaching staff mastered swiftly this new skill so our students were able to complete their year with the expected academic outcomes. Thanks to the vigilance of our Crisis Management Committee, when our students were allowed to return to the classroom, Covid consequences were promptly contained.

I assumed the Chair of the Board following the successful tenure of my colleague Nikos Tsavlis, whom I want to thank publicly for his leadership and for his continued dedication to Athens College.

Athens College has always been an integral part of my life. I am the wife of an alumnus, mother of two alumni, grandmother of four Athens College students and former President of the Parents Association. I am glad that I can now continue my involvement with this great institution at the helm of its Board of Directors. We worked hard with the members of our Somateion, the Board of Trustees, and the President to ensure academic excellence and financial stability in challenging times. For a second year, we provided emergency financial and psychological assistance to community members affected by the pandemic.

I take pride in that no member of our teaching staff was furloughed and no pay cuts were made in spite of the difficulties created by the pandemic. Our financial assistance program continued and 3.5 million euros was awarded to students in need. An innovative program of merit scholarships was established and 18 such merit scholarships were offered, including two scholarships for students with stellar performance in athletics and music. The regional scholarship program, has been reestablished and highly promising students from refugee families have already become beneficiaries of this initiative.

This past year marks also the second year of our new President's tour of duty. President Synolakis has worked closely with our Board of Directors and our Board of Trustees to bring about significant changes that will help our institution move forward. One such effort is the gradual lowering of the numbers of students enrolled so that students can have more of the personal attention they deserve. The merit scholarship program has also been the initiative of President Synolakis.

Another important development has been the magnificent donation of an Arts Center by Athens College alumnus, Dimitris Daskalopoulos. This new building is expected to be completed by 2025, moving our school into a new educational era.

In 2025, Athens College will celebrate its Centennial. This will be a time to reflect on our past, get inspiration from our achievements so far, and contemplate the future of our school when the world will be totally different from what it is today and what it was when the founding fathers of Athens College dreamt of and created our marvelous institution. We expect to involve members of our community through a process of reflection, in order to redefine the mission of Athens College as we move forward to the next 100 years.

Annika Papantoniou
Chair of the Board of Directors

The unprecedented challenges imposed by the pandemic demonstrated the extraordinary resilience of our community. I wish to thank our President, the faculty and all the staff. They overcame the daily operating challenges they faced while remaining steadfast in their commitment to our long-term goals. We were able to protect the salaries of our employees and maintain the breadth and quality of our education. We supported financially those most impacted by the pandemic and expanded scholarships to reach a broader pool of deserving talented students. And for the first time in a long time we were able to reduce incoming classes and reduce classroom sizes. As we prepare to usher the second century of Athens College, our compass is set on the singular objective our founders set for us. To provide the best possible education to the most deserving students. We will need to strengthen student assessment in admissions in order to attract the best and the brightest. We will need to strengthen faculty assessment and provide our teachers with all the tools necessary to bring the best in our students. And we will need to strengthen the sense of community fostered by fairness, empathy and the pursuit of excellence.

I entered Athens College in 1966 as a young child and graduated ten years later a young adult prepared and eager to face the world. We learned to tell the truth and respect our peers. We understood that a just society is built on meritocracy. We competed relentlessly, but recognized our peers for their successes. It did not matter whether you were rich or poor. Born in Athens or a remote island, the child of a professor, a fisherman or a dislocated immigrant family. What mattered was how good a student, how good an athlete, how talented a writer or a musician you were. We took pride in that sense of community, We were proud of each other's accomplishment and even today we pull for each other.

Children entering primary school today will most like devote themselves to careers which are not recognizable today. In such a rapidly evolving employment landscape, the need to develop critical thinking skills, a truly international mindset and sound judgement is paramount. When I was a student at Athens College, the primary focus of my education was to learn facts. Facts are ubiquitous today and knowledge of data is only a click away. The ability to discern data and make wise decisions will be the most valuable and highly prized skill.

Furthermore, job qualifications are increasingly defined by international standards and our students will be measured by international standards of excellence. It is of no use anymore to be a good Greek doctor if you do not measure up to the highest global standards of medicine. Our students will be called upon to compete against the best, both in Greece and around the world. Our deeply rooted bi-cultural identity is more significant than ever. Athens College students have always been citizens of the world, we welcome the challenge and we embrace it.

On behalf of all the members of the Board of Trustees I wish to express our unwavering commitment to offer the next generation the same opportunities this wonderful institution gave all of us.

Alexis Michas '76
Chair of the Board of Trustees

GOVERNANCE

The Hellenic-American Educational Foundation (HAEF) is a non-profit organization, governed by a Board of Directors, which collaborates with a Board of Trustees in New York (Board of Trustees of Athens College in Greece) in order to promote the School’s goals. Members of both Boards, many of whom are alumni, are distinguished professionals who volunteer their services.

Board of Directors

Chairwoman: Annika Papantoniou
Vice Chairman: Alexandros Phylactopoulos '65
Secretary: Vasilios Niadas '69
Treasurer: Sergios Ambariotis '78
Members: Gerasimos Alivizatos x75
Damianos Abakoumkin '85
Constantinos Delicostopoulos '90
Nikiforos Diamandouros '61
Alexandros Kamarinos '94
Nikolaos Tsavlis '66
Hera Valsamaki-Ralli

Board of Trustees

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Vice Chairman: Robert McCabe
Secretary: Yannis Manuelides '76
Treasurer: George Antoniadis '80
Members: George Dangas '83
G. Williamson McDiarmid
Maria - Lisa Farmakidis '91
Dimitris Gondicas '74
Konstantinos Kanellopoulos '82
Judge E. Leo Milonas
Nikolaos Monoyios '68
Alexandros Nehamas '64
Alexandros Poulias '91
Petros Sabatacakis '65
Vasilios Salapatas '55
Jeff Wachtel

Foundation Members

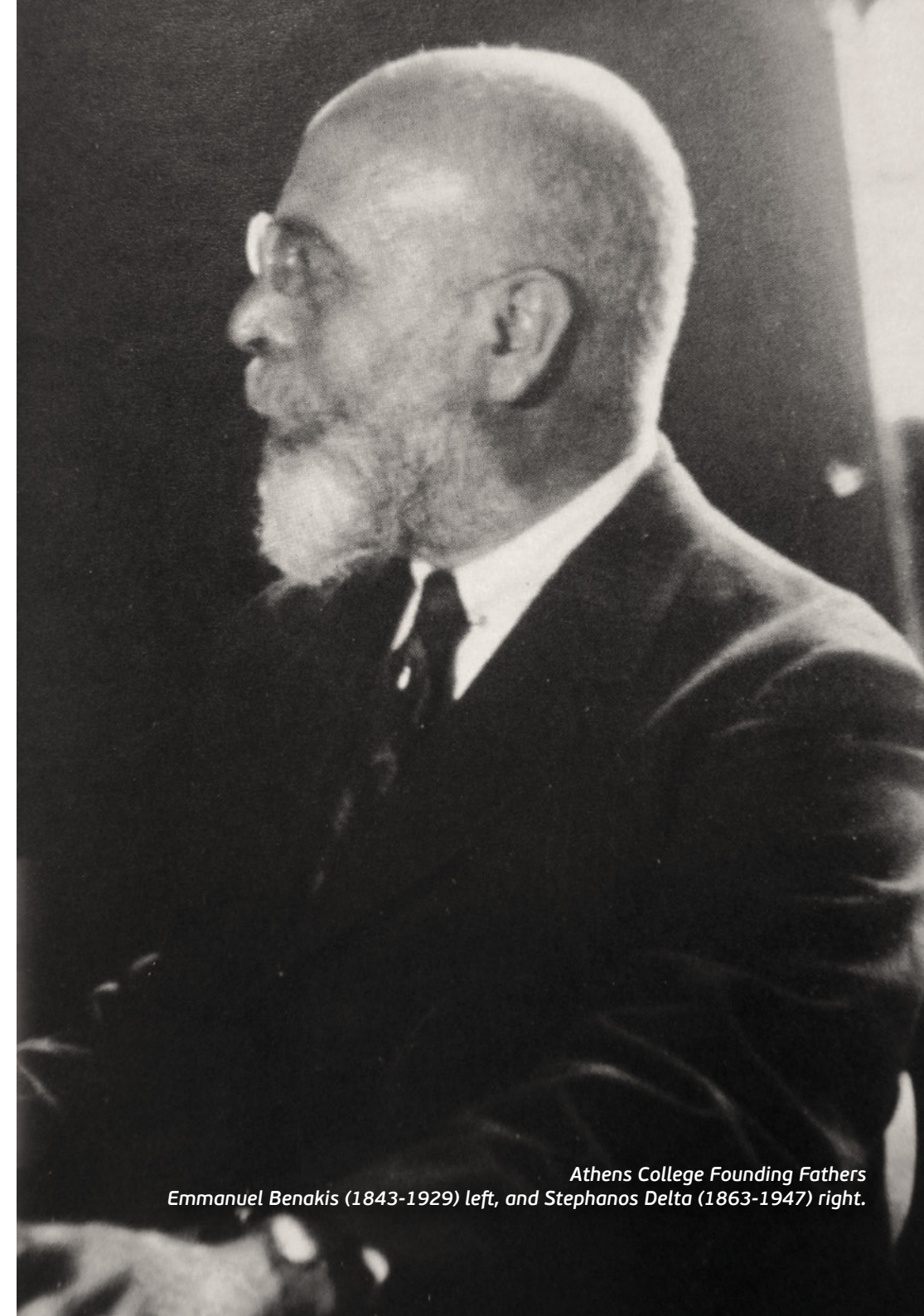
Anna Angelicoussis
Gerasimos Alivizatos x75
Damianos Abakoumkin '85
Sergios Ambariotis '78
Alexandra Athanasiadou-Sotiriou
Mihail Athanasoglou '65
Panayotis Bernitsas '67
Dionisios Cokkinos '57
Petros Constantinidis
Georgios Dalacouras '57†
Titina Daskalaki-Vasiliou
Mikaela Daskalopoulou
Constantinos Delicostopoulos '90
Nikiforos Diamandouros '61
Apostolos Doxiadis '58
Nikolaos Ebeoglou '55
Elli Filippopoulou '88
Vasilios Fourlis '79
Alexandros Kamarinos '94
Konstantinos Kanellopoulos '82
Konstantinos Kanonis '62
Dimitrios Karamanos '59
Vyron Katsaros '57
Ioannis Kazazis†
Dimitrios Kerameus '95
Loula Kertsikoff
Charalambos Konidaris '86
Iro Kokkou
Georgios Koutsis '90
Marianna Latsi
Anastasia Mania '88
Antonios Markezinis x65
Athanasios Martinos '68
Athina Martinou
Rafael Moissis x52
Nikolaos Nanopoulos '71
Vasilios Niadas '69
Ioli Paki
Dimitrios Papalexopoulos '80
Annika Papantoniou
Alexios Papastavrou '88
Voula Papoutsani
Aristides Pittas '78
Alexandros Phylactopoulos '65
Alexios Pilavios '72
Andreas Potamianos x52†
Grigorios Prastacos '69
Georgios Prokopiou
Nikolaos Ritsonis '68
Vasilios Salapatas '55
Alexandros Samaras '67
Alkistis Tricha-Athanasouli
Nikolaos Tsavlis '66
Georgios Tsopelas '86
Charalambos Tsoutrelis '52
Nikolaos Vafias '68
Panagiotis Vafiadakis '70
Hera Valsamaki-Ralli
Marianna Vardinoyannis
Petros Vasilaras
Mary Zacharov
Georgios Zambikos '48
Alexandros Zaoussis '73



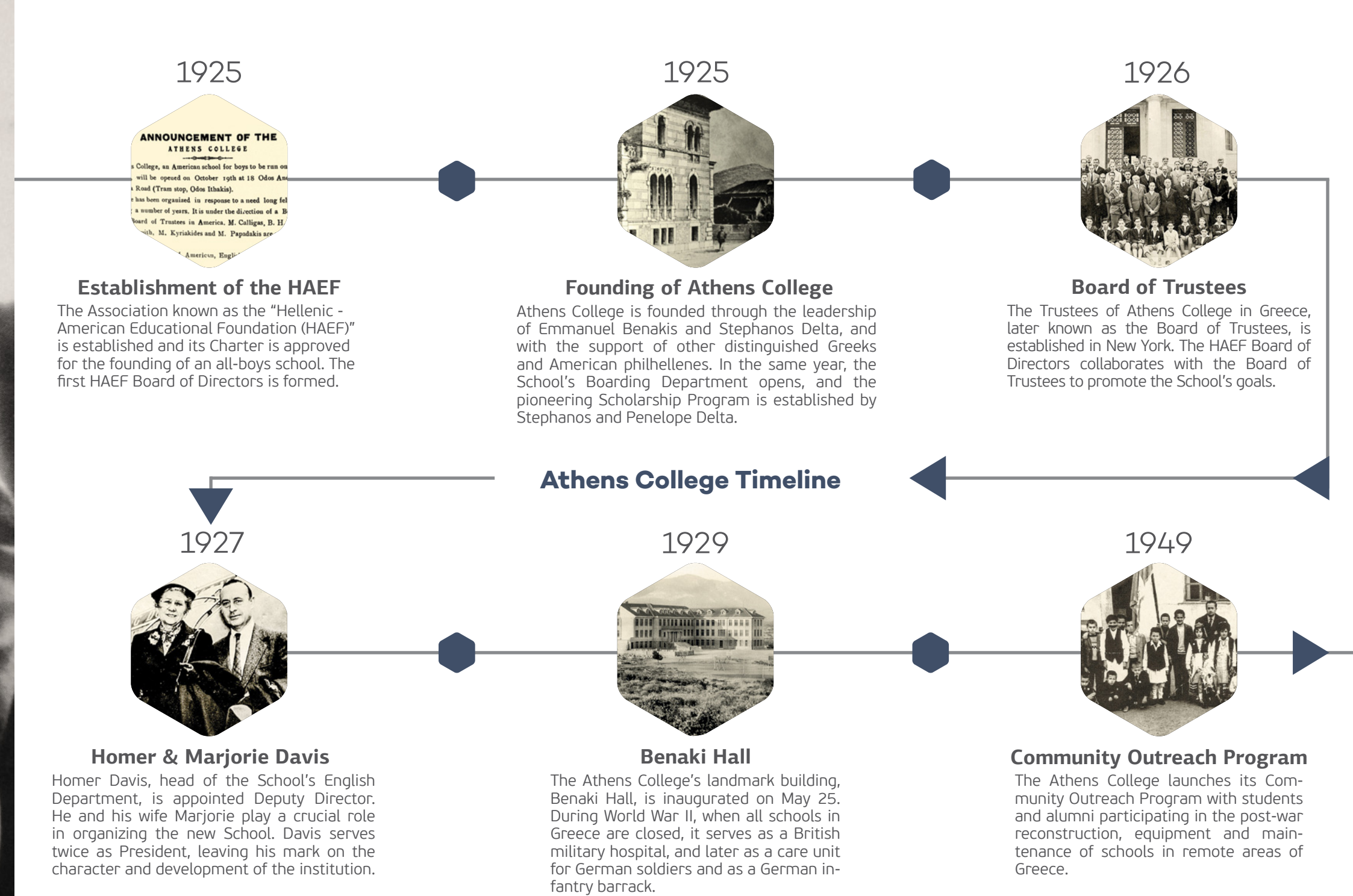


*A beautiful change of scenery amidst the COVID-19 lockdown in February 2020...
A selection of photos from our snowy Psychico campus.*





*Athens College Founding Fathers
Emmanuel Benakis (1843-1929) left, and Stephanos Delta (1863-1947) right.*



1962



Award by the Academy of Athens

The Athens College Student Community receives an award by the Academy of Athens for its continuous outreach program. To this day, the Student Communities continue this tradition, partnering with a wide range of NGO's, public agencies and official bodies in Greece and abroad.

1963



Fulbright Fellowship Program

The Athens College Fellows Program is launched, bringing recently graduated young Americans to campus. Today, the College hosts the largest number of US Fulbright Fellows of any institution in Greece. Fellows work with students across divisions as mentors, coaches, advisors, role models and more.

1964-1967



Library & Science Buildings

The central Library and Natural Science Buildings are constructed. The Library and the Science Buildings, complement and enhance the educational process by providing students with the environment, materials and equipment necessary to develop and practice research skills.

1977



Bodossakeio Building

The pioneering Bodossakeio Building in Kantza hosting the Athens College Elementary School is inaugurated. In 1978, it wins the Distinguished Building Award by the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

1977



Co-Ed School

After 52 years of operation as an all-boys school, Athens College becomes co-educational. Its first female students, 69 in number and equivalent to 25% of the student population, graduate at Commencement 1988.

1980



Psychico College

Psychico College is established. The new School, initially just an Elementary School, is housed on the Psychico campus, in buildings with underused capacity due to a shrinking Boarding Department. In 1995, the elementary school is relocated to Kantza, in the newly built Latseio Building.

1982



Athens College Theater

The new Athens College Theater is built. Apart from its primary role in the operation of the School, the Theater serves as an educational and intellectual center and contributes to the cultural life of Athens by hosting a series of events.

1984



Adult Programs

The Adult Education Program is launched, at first serving just the College Community and eventually the greater public. With a wide variety of courses, taught by renowned professionals, it is the oldest Adult Education Program offered in Greece, and the largest program offered in a school.

1996



International Baccalaureate

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP) is successfully introduced and is now the largest program in Greece and one of the biggest in Europe. Since academic year 2000-2001, the IBDP is administered by Psychico College High School.

2010



Informatics Center

The George Economou Informatics Center is established to promote the use of pioneering technology in education, using state-of-the-art equipment. Four years later, the Center operates from the new Alexandra Martinou building on the Psychico campus.

2014



Kindergarten

The model dual language "John M. Carras" Kindergarten is built on the Psychico campus. During its first year of operation, it receives the Platinum LEED building (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) awarded by the US Green Building Council.

2019



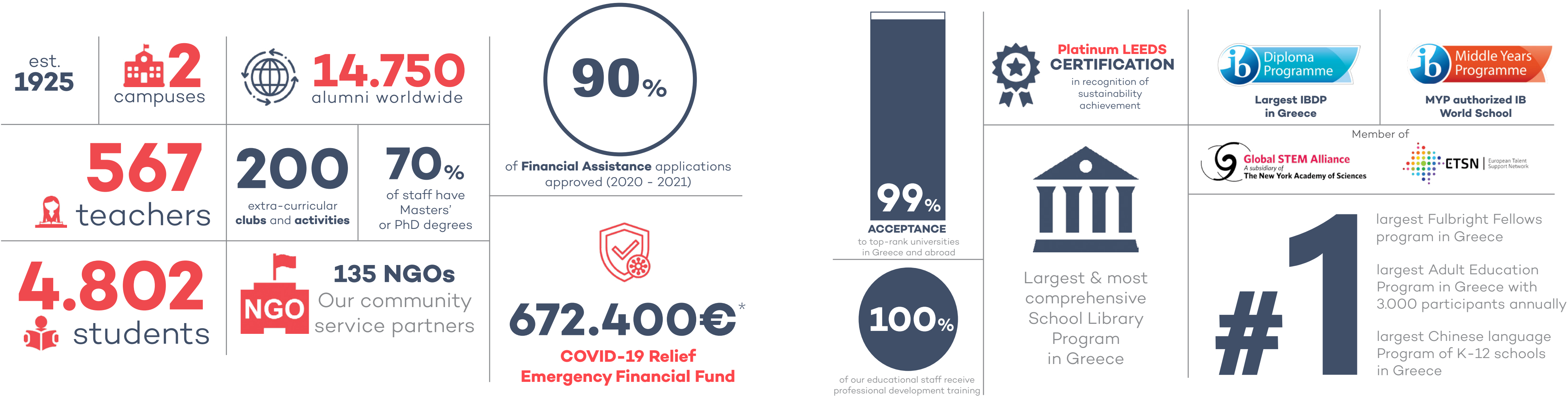
MYP Authorization

Athens College and Psychico College are authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IB) as IB World Schools for the Middle Years Programme (MYP), which is implemented in Junior High School and the 1st grade of High School.

Athens College

Timeline

ATHENS COLLEGE AT A GLANCE



*For academic years
2019 - 2020 & 2020 - 2021

OUR ALUMNI WORLDWIDE have been

shortlisted for **Nobel prizes**

elected **Prime Ministers** of Greece

selected as **Global Leaders** by Google

elected to US **National Academies**

awarded by the European Organization for **Nuclear Research**

listed among the **top-ranked Researchers worldwide**

awarded the **National Medal of Science** by President Barack Obama

named in the Top 100 Annual Lloyds List for Shipping

named in the **top 100 World Art Collectors list**

awarded the **Presidential Young Award** by US Presidents

elected members of the **Academy of Athens**

named in **America's Top Doctors** list

appointed **Presidents** and **Deans** at top-ranked Universities and Colleges

honored with prestigious awards such as **Hamaguchi, Horace Mann, Mofatt-Nichol**
and the **Distinguished Fellowship Award** by the American College of Cardiology

competitors in **Greek National Sports Teams**

competitors in the **Olympic Games and World Championships**

named **best female Comedian** by CNN

elected to the Hall of Fame **National Inventors USA**

holders of **World Champion Ski records**

awarded as World acclaimed Fashion Designer

awarded by The Hellenic Initiative for **humanitarian** work with **refugee children**

awarded **Righteous Among Nations** title

awarded by the **Greek National Literature Committee** for **Best Poetry Collection**

OUR INNOVATION IN LEARNING

Kindergarten

The “John M. Carras” Kindergarten provides a unique, exciting learning experience and builds a solid foundation for students’ future academic, social and emotional trajectories. It offers a dual language pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten program for children aged 4 – 6 that focuses on the holistic development of the child and prepares them to be good communicators and knowledgeable, caring and open-minded learners. Currently in the process of becoming a certified school for the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP) in the Early Years, the Kindergarten offers an interdisciplinary curriculum with a wide range of arts-oriented and STEM activities and provides its young learners with opportunities to discover the world through play in a safe, diverse and nurturing environment.



Elementary School

The Athens College Elementary School offers students ample opportunities to develop personally, academically, socially, and emotionally. While employing the Greek national curriculum, it is also a candidate to become a certified school for the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP) and encourages its students to make sense of the world around them and take ownership of their own learning. Through student-centered teaching methods, students focus on key areas of learning such as communication, language and literacy, problem solving and reasoning, physical and creative development. They are exposed to a wide variety of globally significant ideas and issues in their day-to-day learning whether that be science, language, math and the arts or extra-curricular activities. We aim to help our students develop solid study skills, positive attitudes and become caring and responsible global citizens.



Junior High School

In Junior High School students continue to build on the knowledge, skills, and attitudes they develop at the Elementary School level. Junior High School implements the Greek national curriculum and is also an International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP) authorized school. Students are exposed to a wide range of real-world issues, have the opportunity to connect knowledge across subject areas and develop skills that will enable them to become well-rounded and autonomous learners. We empower students to ask challenging questions, to know themselves, to develop responsibility and care for others through service learning and achieve excellence on their own terms. At the same time the students’ academic experience is enriched by a wide range of clubs and extra-curricular activities in both academic and non-academic areas including forensics, robotics, fencing and many more.



High School

High School students continue to follow the MYP curriculum where they meet the Greek national curriculum requirements. At this grade level, students also complete a Personal Project, which is an essential part of the MYP, giving them the opportunity to explore their passions, build awareness of their own learning processes, develop research, thinking and self-management skills and demonstrate their understanding of core values, while experiencing firsthand the process of inquiry, action and reflection. The students’ Personal Projects are externally moderated against globally set criteria. In grades 11 and 12, students can choose to either exclusively follow the Greek national curriculum, which is enriched in all subject areas, or to follow the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (DP). Whichever path of High School they opt for, we make sure to successfully prepare them for university studies both in Greece and abroad.



IBDP

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) is now recognized in almost every country in the world as one of the pre-eminent university-entrance qualifications for students studying outside of their home country. At Athens College, the IBDP has been offered since 1996, with an impressive track record of academic achievement and acceptance rates in the most reputable higher educational institutions in the world. Our DP is one of the largest in Europe, it takes pride in offering an extensive range of subjects within the six main subject areas taught, thereby giving learners an opportunity to keep their options open and discover what their passion is. The skills that they develop within the two years of the IBDP include research, data analysis, academic writing, public speaking, project management, time management, leadership and becoming active in a global community.



Lifelong Learning

Athens College believes in empowering its faculty to be the best educators they can be. Our program for continuing professional development Educate the Educators is a dynamic teaching and learning program developed by educators for educators. Our School collaborates with global educational institutions and provides series of seminars and hands-on workshops designed to meet the demands of educators and cover their specific needs in a variety of subjects. Furthermore, members of our faculty deliver inspiring lectures on their areas of interest open to the wider educational community.

Athens College runs an Adult Education Program since 1984, the oldest and largest in Greece. Offering a very diverse range of afternoon and evening courses to adults, this program aims to broaden students’ knowledge for both personal and professional enrichment. Foreign languages, sports, social science and culture, personal development, the arts, and business are all included in its course offerings.





INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF ATHENS COLLEGE PRESIDENT

The Inauguration Ceremony of new Athens College President, Professor Costas Synolakis '75, member of the Academy of Athens, was held successfully in the courtyard of Benaki Hall in October 2020.

The ceremony was unassuming, with no physical presence of guests and spectators, due to the unique conditions imposed by the pandemic. At the same time, however, it had the majesty that befits our School keeping alive the tradition of the original Presidential inauguration, which first took place in October 1960, when President Homer Davis handed over the administration and seal of Athens College to his successor, Charles M. Rice. It was also a particularly important ceremony for our School's alumni as all of the distinguished speakers were graduates, each of them giving their own testimony and sending a strong personal message to their fellow alumni and the entire College family.

Opening remarks were delivered by the Deputy Minister of Education and Religious Affairs, Sofia Zacharaki, as well as by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Hellenic-American Educational Foundation (HAEF), Nikolaos Tsavlis '66, and by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Alexandros Michas '76. Speeches were made by Raphael Moissis '52, member of HAEF, Gerasimos Alivizatos '75, member of the BoD, Dimitris Gondicas '74, member of the BoT, Konstantinos Papadiamantis '78, President of the Athens College Alumni Association and Christos Papanikolaou '85, General Coordinator of the HAEF School Units. Keynote speakers were Elli Andriopoulou '93, Chairwoman and Managing Director of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center and Mary Katrantzou '00, world-renowned fashion designer.

Departing President Richard L. Jackson gave a brief recount of his three-year term of office and thanked the entire College family for their fruitful collaboration. Professor Costas Synolakis '75 was handed the School seal from his predecessor and gave a Presidential Pledge to Athens College by reciting a section of the Athenian Ephebic Oath. In his speech, Professor Synolakis developed his vision and goals for Athens College and vowed to devote all of his powers to lead Athens College as a beacon of educational excellence in Greece and beyond. His Eminence Metropolitan Gabriel of Nea Ionia, Philadelphia, Irakleio and Chalkidona honored the ceremony with his presence.

Members of the Athens College community from all over the world watched the ceremony live and welcomed our new President with great enthusiasm.



Bottom Right: The handing over of the Presidency of Athens College from Homer Davis to Charles M. Rice on Saturday, October 8, 1960. Third from the left is Aristides Kyriakides, Chairman of the HAEF Board of Directors, and on the right, Panagiotis Kanellopoulos, Deputy Prime Minister of Greece (Athens College 1925-1975, Fifty Years Since its founding, 1976, p. 183)

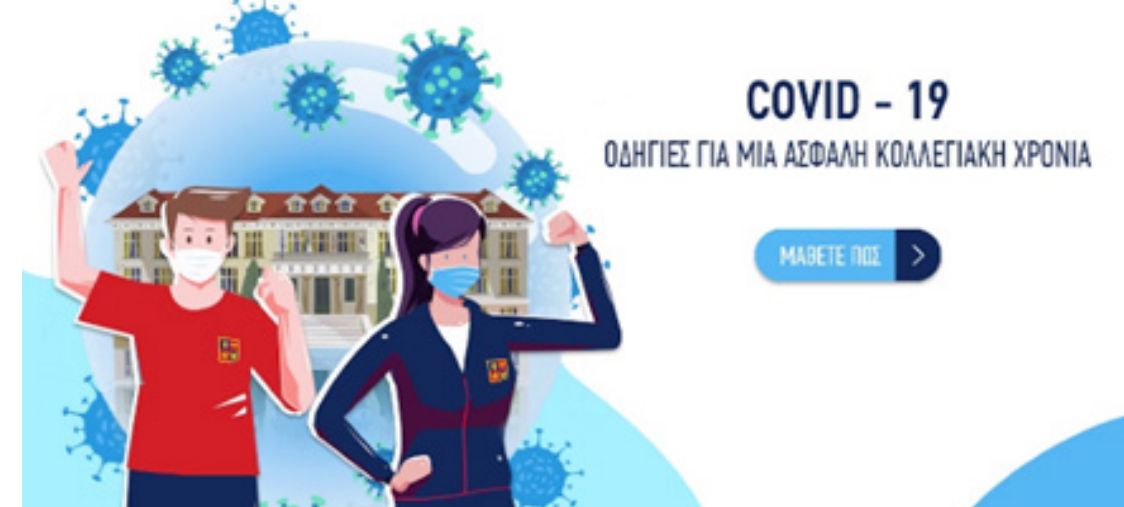


KEEPING ATHENS COLLEGE SAFE

As part of the new reality imposed by the pandemic, our School rigorously followed all State-imposed measures aimed at preventing the spread of the new coronavirus. Apart from these, however Athens College also implemented additional ones to protect the health of everyone on campus. These included:

- Establishment of a HAEF Crisis Management Committee and a Crisis Management Office
- Questionnaire sent to parents and assessment of needs
- Appointment of a COVID-19 administrator and deputy administrator in each school unit
- Ongoing detailed communication plans, educational videos and updates for parents, students, staff and alumni. Video-messages by the President or School Physician announcing all prevention measures
- Mandatory COVID-19 molecular testing to all staff and optional testing for students, upon returning to school after holi days and quarantine periods
- Temperature screening of everyone entering Athens College (school buses and campuses)
- Daily SMS messages reminding parents to check their children for symptoms before leaving for school
- Distribution of face masks to all student and employees and strict implementation of use in school premises
- Continuous updates on COVID-19 for all members of the Athens College community with lectures by COVID-19 Experts
- Dedicated, informative COVID-19 section on Athens College website





Αντώνης Μακρίης
Πρόεδρος Υπουργείου Παιδείας



LIVE
STREAM

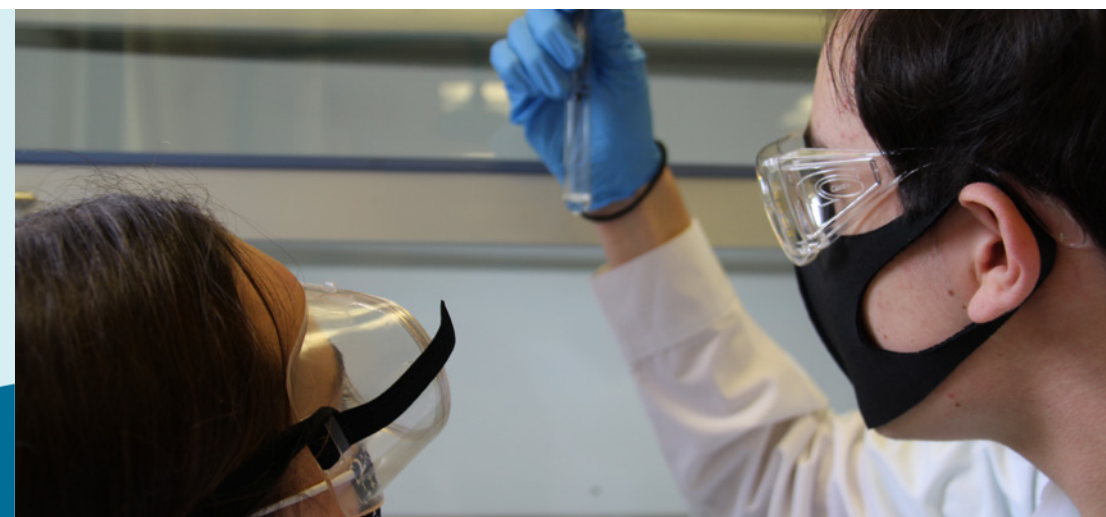


Βάνα Παπασαββέλου
Κοινητική Πολιτική - Λογιστική ΕΚΠΑ

Επιστροφή στο Σχολείο:
Η διαχείριση της νέας πραγματικότητας COVID-19



ENSURING
SAFETY
ON CAMPUS



CRISIS MANAGEMENT

The establishment of a Crisis Management Office came at a crucial time as it coincided with the lockdown of academic year 2020-2021. Apart from the coordination of all measures taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19, this newly established Office also initiated a series of actions on campus in order to improve our School's daily operation.

In collaboration with other departments, some of these actions have already been implemented and others are to be completed in the new academic year. To name a few:

- Upgrade of bus route monitor for parents & student bus allocation system
- Campaign for a green campus and organization of school recycling projects
- Recycling bins in every classroom and building on campus
- New 3D maps for both campuses
- Evacuation exercises in case of fire & earthquake in all grade level classes
- Campaign promoting vaccination with stickers and flyers allocated around campus
- Removed unused waste containers and junk from both campuses
- New campus routes and gates to divert traffic in order to avoid congestion
- Fire patrols in both campuses during extreme high temperatures in summer 2021
- Planning the Elementary and Junior High School graduation ceremonies, which took place in new outdoor locations for the first time.





A DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

As pioneers in technology, Athens College has always offered access to cutting edge technology that meets the needs of an ever changing educational environment and to enhance teaching methods by utilizing all available technological tools. Interactive material, easy-to-use software, and platforms that manage the educational process are available to all teachers to assist them in enriching the classroom and teaching experience.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, Athens College was fully prepared for a transition to digital learning. The College procured synchronous and asynchronous platforms of communication between students and teachers. Distance learning was complemented by the rich electronic database offered by our Schools' libraries. We offered laptops to all students who needed them to ensure the unobstructed, consistent and safe continuation of their studies remotely.

Our new Direction of Informatics and Digital Education, took several actions regarding the transition of digital services to the Cloud, as part of a specific development plan. These include:

- Digital management of education focusing on the distance learning process (synchronous and asynchronous)
- Creation of quality multimedia educational material adapted to students' needs
- Training of teachers, administrative staff and parents on digital skills
- Improvement of the School's communication tools with students, parents, teachers, partners and the general public
- Ongoing support of parties involved using technological automations and tools which reduce workload and inefficiencies
- Modernization of the College's infrastructure and a safe gradual transition to Cloud with respect to personal data
- Effective communication of specific informatics projects, as points of reference for other educational organizations

A STATE OF THE ART WEBSITE & PORTAL

The launch of a new website and portal in December 2020, under a new official, globally recognized educational domain name (athenscollege.edu.gr), marked a new beginning for our School.

The Steering Committee which facilitated the development and realization of this project, was composed of members of the Somateion, Board of Directors, Members of the School Direction, Alumni specializing in technology and senior Staff members from the Communications and IT teams. The project implementation and conceptualization was led by the Communications Team.

Built on a hi-tech platform, our new website provides users with the opportunity to explore all stages of learning at Athens College and all that the Athens College experience encompasses. That includes our history, our values and traditions, virtual campus tours, information on all School activity, our students' achievements, our priorities, our facilities, our community outreach programs, as well as the wide range of extra-curricular activities and Adult Programs that we offer.

This new platform allows for customization and personalization of operations. Through one-way authentication, students, parents, teachers and staff have all-access to the portal where they can find tailor made information and content targeted to their needs, as well as access to all School applications, such as Webmail, Office 365, TEAMS, ManageBac, Bus Route Monitor and more.

Our website features daily updates regarding latest School news, vivid imagery and videos, live-streamed events often open to the public, exclusive interviews featuring distinguished alumni and guests, information.

Together with our fast-growing social media channels on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube, reaching daily a global community of more than 13.000 users, our website constitutes the most important informative and communications vehicle between our School and its global community.



www.athenscollege.edu.gr



RAISING THE BAR: ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS 2020-2021

Athens College has an outstanding legacy of academic excellence while learning is an active pursuit that takes many shapes and forms. There is no one set track record for students here. The opportunities are limitless. For yet another year, Athens College students have excelled in many different areas. To name a few:



99% success rate in the Panhellenic Exams



100% success rate in renowned universities such as Columbia, MIT, Yale, Brown, Oxford, Imperial, LSE, Bocconi



1st place in the Panhellenic Forensics Association Tournament 2021



1st Prize in the 10th Panhellenic Student Philosophical Essay Competition



1st place in the Social Innovation Relay Competition 2021 by Junior Achievement Greece



Distinctions in Panhellenic and international sports championships in swimming, track and field, tennis, archery, water ski, water polo, rowing, beach volleyball, horseback riding, judo and more



1st Prize in the 8th Museum of Cycladic Art Kids' Contest among 6,000 global entries



Distinctions in global and local Mathematics Competitions



1st & 2nd Prizes in 3rd PanHellenic 3D Design & Printing Competition



1st and 2nd place in the Panhellenic Competition STEM STARS GREECE organized by the US Embassy in Athens



1st Prize at the Panhellenic Scratch Advanced Robotics Competition



Edison International Award, King Abdul-Aziz & his Companions Foundation for Giftedness and Creativity Award and Ricoh Sustainable Development Award at the International Science and Engineering Fair 2021



WHERE LIFE CHANGERS ARE MADE

We believe that community service is a powerful mechanism for change. Through various volunteering activities, our students learn to help others, expand their worldview, develop empathy and come to understand their responsibility to take action for a positive impact.

Every year we partner with more than 135 local and global NGOs and other institutions, such as Greenpeace, The HOME Project, Axion Hellas, Association of Friends of Children with cancer “ELPIDA”, Make a Wish, Safe Water Sports, Together for Children, The Church of Greece, the Jewish Museum of Greece, WWF, to give students hands-on, service learning opportunities.

Students also lead and act in partnership with other students through campus service clubs and independent projects. Our staff and students have worked together on some of the country’s – and the world’s – most pressing challenges.

Despite adverse conditions stemming from the lockdown this past year, our School’s Social Welfare and Diversity Office coordinated the collection of essential items by students from all grade levels for the relief of the residents of areas in Greece hit by devastating floods and an earthquake. As part of this initiative, students also campaigned to raise money for the purchase of interactive whiteboards to be sent to schools of the afflicted areas.

Alumni often point out to their shared efforts with classmates to make an impact on those in need as the most formative experiences of their lives. Since 1949, students and alumni have rebuilt, equipped, and maintained more than 20 severely damaged schools in the most remote islands and rural areas of Greece. Today, hundreds of Athens College graduates are leading and serving non-profit and public service organizations around the world.



**Οι μαθητές μας
στο πλευρό
των μαθητών
και των κατοίκων
της Σάμου**

Θέλω να Βοηθήσω

Συγκεντρώνουμε χρήματα, για να αγοράσουμε
διαδραστικούς πίνακες (smartboards) για τα σχολεία της Σάμου



Left: Athens College Student Communities collected more than 550 parcels containing essential items for the residents of Farsala and Mouzaki in the Karditsa region who were affected by heavy floods and the residents of Samos hit by a catastrophic earthquake. Students also raised money to buy technological equipment to send to the island’s schools.

PARTNERING WITH GLOBALLY DISTINGUISHED INDIVIDUALS AND FOUNDATIONS



Talks with COVID-19 Experts

Members of the Hellenic Committee for COVID-19 Professor of Pediatric Infectious Diseases Dr. Vana Papaevangelou and President of the Hellenic Society for Infectious Diseases Dr. Panagiotis Gargalianos, spoke to the College community on the latest developments regarding the pandemic.



Partnering with Harvard Graduate School of Education

We partnered with the Out of Eden Learn team from Harvard Graduate School of Education's Project Zero and organized an online Panhellenic Symposium for educators from all over Greece. It included a series of workshops, where participants learned about Out of Eden best teaching practices.



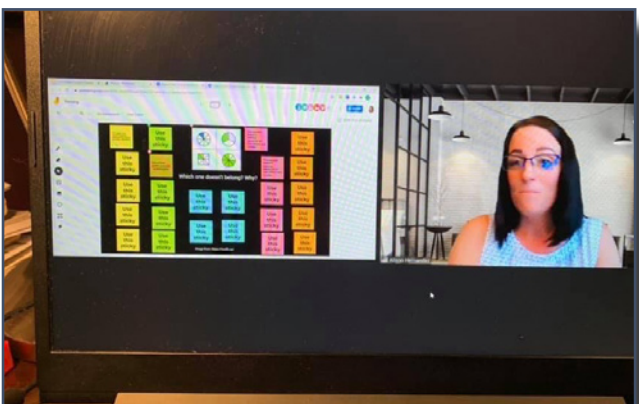
Empowering women: Chat with Elli Andriopoulou '93

Chairwoman and Managing Director of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center and alumna Elli Andriopoulou '93 spoke to female High School students, shared her experiences in life and career and answered all of their questions.



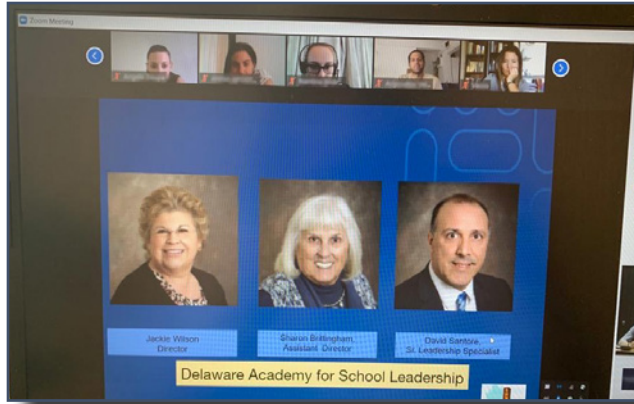
Lecture series for the Athens College Tribute to Greece's 200-year anniversary from the start of the Revolution

As Greece celebrated the 200-year anniversary from the start of the Revolution in 1821, our School organized a special tribute with a series of online lectures by distinguished guest speakers to our students who answered all of their questions regarding the events of the Greek National Uprising. Former President of the Hellenic Republic and Professor Emeritus of the Law School of the University of Athens Mr. Prokopios Pavlopoulos gave a lecture entitled "The Meaning of the National Uprising of 1821", as part of our celebrations to mark the March 25, 1821 National Anniversary. Professor Emeritus of Political History at the University of Athens and alumnus Dr. Thanos Veremis '62 spoke on the Transformation of a Revolution. A third lecture was delivered by Assistant Professor of Diplomacy and International Organization of the University of Peloponnese Mr. Antonios Klapsis on the role of diplomacy in the struggle and the final outcome of the Greek Revolution of 1821.



Collaboration with Arizona State University

We collaborated with the Arizona State University and organized a series of online lectures for our educators as part of our continuous teachers' professional development program. Seminars were held for educators to familiarize themselves with best practices and online educational tools so as to thrive as digital teachers.



Collaboration with the University of Delaware

Our School collaborates every year with the College of Education and Human Development of the University of Delaware and offers seminars to its newly hired members of faculty. This year's online seminars, had a workshop format and gave educators an opportunity to familiarize themselves with lesson planning, classroom management, and effective methodology for synchronous distance teaching.



Meetings with social activity ambassadors

We organized a series of online meetings of our female students with Mmes Marianna Vardinoyannis, Katerina Panagopoulos, Sofia Bekatorou, and Alkistis Protopsalti, who have all been recognized in Greece for their social action. They shared with our students their experiences and stories, inspiring them with their goals, the power of their souls, and the course of their lives.



Talk with Digital Strategist Karla Ruiz Cofiño

Internationally renowned specialist in child development and behavioral issues and author of award-winning books Betsy Brown Braun spoke on "Parenting in a Pandemic" and Digital Strategist & Social Media Specialist Karla Ruiz Cofiño spoke on the countless possibilities the digital world has to offer, but also about the dangers lurking for users.



Teaching refugee children

Athens College collaborated with NGO "The HOME Project" as well as the Ecumenical Refugee Program of the Church of Greece, offering the opportunity to unaccompanied refugee children to attend the School in order to pursue a better future. Throughout the year, our educators provided preparatory lessons to them to sit for the College's entrance examinations.



Joint Activity with Special Olympics Hellas

Athens College collaborated with Special Olympics Hellas for an activity involving its students and Special Olympics athletes who created works of art, inspired by the Special Olympics Winter Games 2022. Our School was certified as Unified Champion School by Special Olympics Hellas and jointly organized an online conference to promote the values shared by both institutions.



ΠΑΝΕΛΛΗΝΙΟ ΜΑΘΗΤΙΚΟ ΣΥΝΕΔΡΙΟ

Υπό την αιγίδα του Υπουργείου Παιδείας και Θρησκευμάτων

**«Διάλογος ή σύγκρουση πολιτισμών;
Με αφορμή το ορόσημο των 2.500 χρόνων
από τη Μάχη των Θερμοπυλών
και τη Ναυμαχία της Σαλαμίνας»**

11-12 Φεβρουαρίου 2021



PANHELLENIC STUDENT CONFERENCE

2,500 years from the Battles of Thermopylae and Salamis

In collaboration with the "Marianna V. Vardinoyannis Foundation", our School organized a two-day online Panhellenic student conference on the occasion of the 2,500-year milestone of the Battles of Thermopylae and Salamis. This was one of the official events of the "Thermopylae-Salamis 2020" Anniversary Year held under the patronage of H.E. the President of the Hellenic Republic Katerina Sakellaropoulou. Both the President and the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs alumna Niki Kerameus '98 gave opening remarks.

A total of 1,732 students and teachers participated representing 67 schools in the Greek mainland and islands, Germany, the United States, Cyprus, Great Britain, and Turkey. Of those, representatives from 23 Junior High and High Schools presented papers of superior standard characterized by professionalism and originality.

Under the guidance of their respective teacher-advisors, students had studied the two emblematic, historical events, which shaped 5th century BC ancient Greeks as citizens of an organized city-state.

Apart from the historical events, students examined the role of historical knowledge as a basis for the development of identity and understanding of diversity, the manner and conditions of dialogue, the coexistence between civilizations, as well as the role of adolescents and young adults in peaceful and constructive coexistence of people of the world.



OUR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Provide a high-quality education using best practices from Greece and abroad

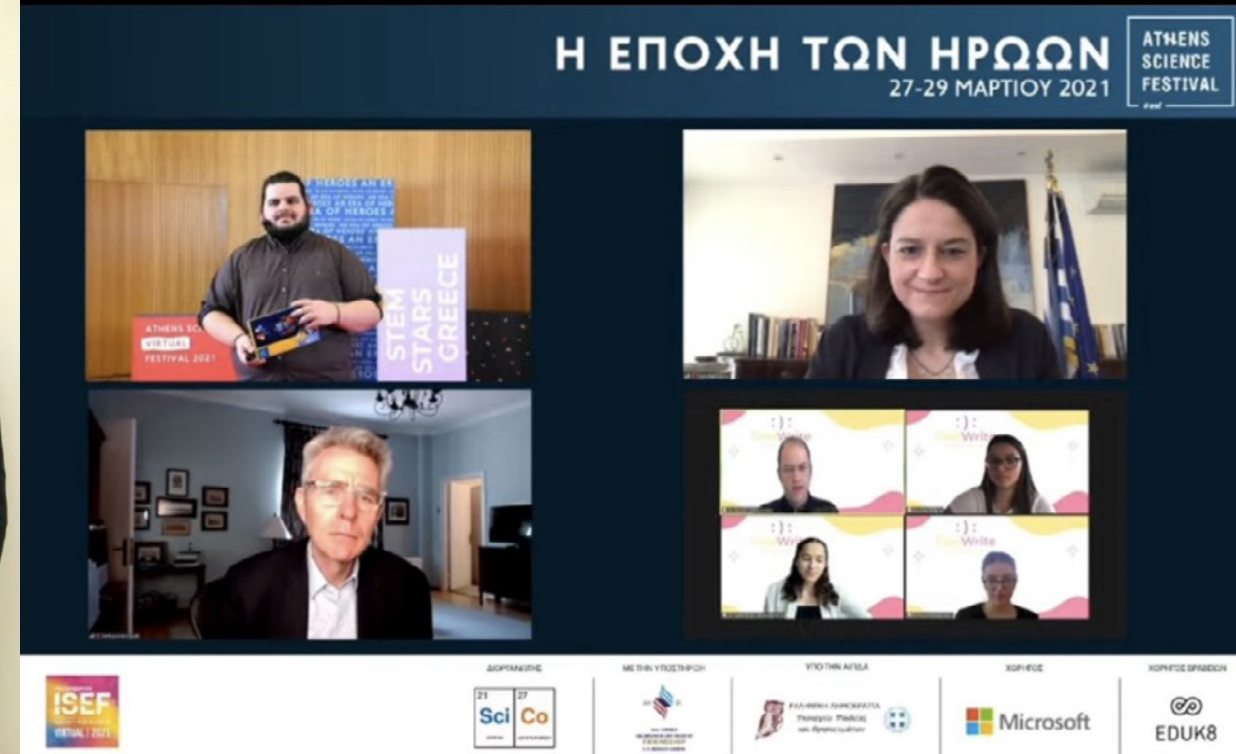
We provide an academic-pedagogical program that serves the “Mission Statement” of the Hellenic- American Educational Foundation and combines humanistic education with cutting-edge technology, as well as Greek heritage infused with contemporary, global intellectual and educational trends. The academic-pedagogical program integrates the Greek National Curriculum with additional teaching hours for selected subjects. The curriculum is enriched with a variety of extra-curricular activities, which give our students endless opportunities to discover and develop their interests and talents. Our School implements contemporary teaching methods, which stimulate creativity, critical thinking and reflection. These aim at engaged learning through an active community of students, extensive research in our Library and laboratories, and activities that promote cooperation, ecological awareness and social responsibility.

Prepare our students to become active and responsible global citizens

In today’s world of constant change, we equip our students to face the real world challenges with respect to diversity and social justice, who are also key components of school life. We believe that a diverse student body broadens our students’ horizons, makes them more extroverted, enriches their experiences and creates bridges of communication with other cultures. From Kindergarten through to High School and the IB DP, our students take part in various community activities, actively participate in projects of public benefit, engage in environmental action while cultivating their sense of responsibility.

Invest in our teachers and support their further development

Educators continuously advance and evolve professionally throughout their careers. We provide the largest Professional Development and Training Program in Greece addressed to educators, which includes a wide range of seminars and workshops on contemporary best educational practices and methodologies that attract and foster inspired teachers who, in turn, help students blossom academically, socially and personally. We collaborate with renowned educational institutions in Greece and abroad such as the Harvard Graduate School of Education, the College of Education and Human Development of Delaware University, the Arizona State University Prep Digital, the University College London Institute of Education, the University of Athens and the University of the Peloponnese. We attract educational partners from around the globe to implement innovative best practices and to participate in the debate on the challenges of 21st century education.



OUR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Collaborate with distinguished academics and professionals and internationally renowned institutions to inspire our students and the broader College community

Our School is open to collaboration and dialogue with all local authorities, the State, the Academy of Athens, as well as foundations in Greece and abroad. As a beacon of education and lifelong learning in Greece, Athens College has instituted a series of synergies, lectures and events, partnering with world-renowned institutions, academics and professional representing the realms of education, science, arts, music, business, athletics and more.

Mobilize collective giving to support the School's mission and the vision of its founders

Athens College is an independent, non-profit organization. Each year, the Scholarship Program allows hundreds of students whose families have limited financial means to study at the College.

The support of donors and volunteers- members of the College family – alumni, parents and friends – is invaluable and honors our School's longstanding tradition of giving. It empowers our students, sustains the high-quality education we provide and promotes a multifaceted concept of excellence, creating a modern and diverse student community. We encourage support of innovative programs and activities that reflect the values and choices of our donors, which simultaneously serve the strategic goals and priorities of the School. We give tomorrow's graduates the resources to develop actions that will have an extraordinary impact on society and ensure the College experience for future generations of students.

Communicate with Athens College alumni, parents and friends from all over the world

The continuous credible and timely flow of communication and dialogue with alumni, parents and friends of Athens College, the development of appropriate promotional material, our contemporary and user-friendly website and the ever-evolving social media and use of technology such as live streaming, allow us to share our latest news, events and achievements and communicate the Athens College priorities and initiatives with the global community. Lectures and events are broadcast live to our students, alumni and parents around the world and are, where relevant, open to the public for educational and inspirational purposes.



COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES 2021

Despite significant difficulties and restrictions that came as a result of the pandemic for a second consecutive year, the 92nd Commencement Exercises were immaculately held in an atmosphere brimming with emotion and pride with a limited number of attendees, including students, their parents and necessary administrative staff.

Our School rigorously followed all measures dictated by the State in order to ensure the safety of everyone on campus and to prevent the spread of the new coronavirus. Innovative practices that were introduced successfully during last year’s ceremony were put into place once again. Just to name a few: an online alphabetical seating, high-definition mega screens to maximize visibility for the audience and dedicated custom-made helpdesks and personnel to ensure guest facilitation. Also, protective plexiglass stands were used between the seats, state-of-the-art technological equipment (HD cameras, drones and more) provided excellent coverage of the event and live streaming ensured that all members of the Athens College community who – due to restrictions- were not able to attend, could view the Commencement Ceremony from the comfort of their own homes.

The ceremony began with the traditional march of alumni who attended the event. Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis ’86, who honored us with his presence on the occasion of his daughter’s graduation, also descended the steps of Benaki Hall. The march concluded with the graduates of 2021, 411 young men and women in total, equipped with values, knowledge and skills ready to take the next step in their lives.

Chairwoman of the Board of Directors of the Hellenic-American Educational Foundation, Ms. Annika Papantoniou, and Athens College President, Professor Costas Synolakis’ 75 gave welcoming speeches, the latter bestowing the prestigious President’s Award upon Raphael Moissis x52 for his invaluable, significant and timeless contribution to the College.

This year’s Commencement keynote speaker was Professor of Infectious Diseases – Pathology at the Medical School of the University of Athens Dr. Sotirios Tsiodras who, in reference to the unique circumstances we are braving, spoke about freedom in our lives, as well as the responsibility that goes hand in hand with that freedom. He encouraged graduates to live their freedom responsibly whilst recognizing the uniqueness of the freedom of others.

The ceremony concluded with an impressive lighting of Benaki Hall to commemorate the 200-year anniversary since the start of the Greek Revolution of 1821.





ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONIES



In an atmosphere of great joy we celebrated the graduation of our students from Elementary and Junior High School in June, following a difficult year, full of challenges. The ceremonies took place for the first time in new outdoor locations, which created a unique setting on both campuses.

Athens College President Professor Costas Synolakis '75 and the School's administration expressed immense pride and congratulated all students who successfully reached the end of a stage in their student life, prepared to begin a new one.

During the ceremonies, video tributes that captured moments from the life of the students, as well as from Student Community outreach actions, were screened.

Presidents of the Student council of each school gave a farewell speech to their classmates.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, attendance was limited but the ceremonies were broadcast live for everyone to watch on our website.





A SINGULAR SCHOOL, A COLLECTIVE EFFORT

We would not be able to provide Athens College's unique educational experience without the support of the College family.

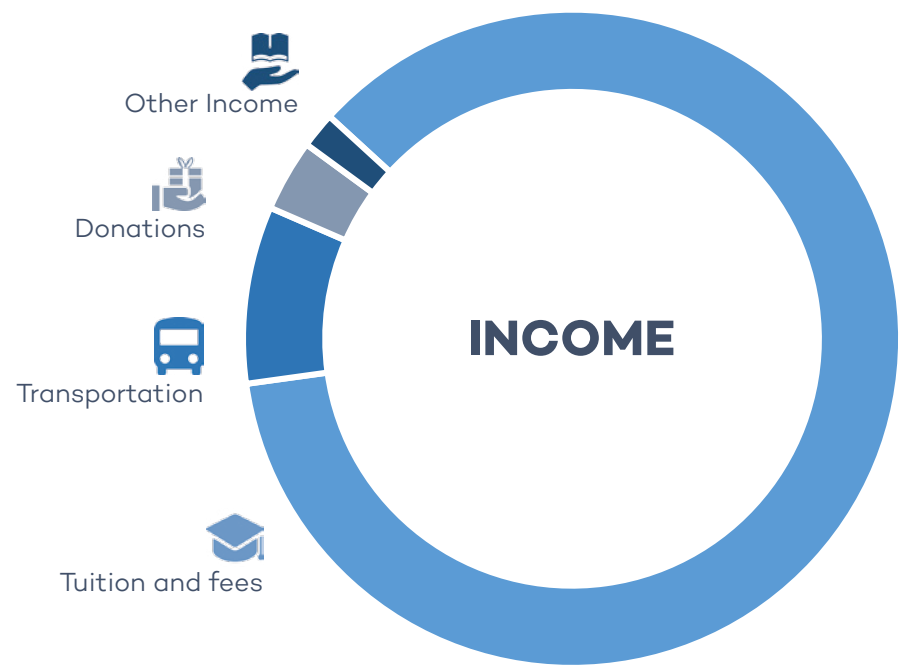
Your giving empowers our students. It provides access to children who would otherwise never have the opportunity to attend the School and keeps our community intact and united. During fiscal year 2020-2021, we were able to offer financial assistance to more than 1.000 students (including COVID-19 relief), almost 25% of our student body, of which 30% represents gifts from private donors.

Your support also helps our School to evolve, to pioneer, and to better equip today's students and tomorrow's global citizens to make a difference and have an extraordinary impact on society. It preserves and enriches the College's distinctive character and ensures the College experience for future generations of students. It helps leverage support from other institutions and donors across the world. It fosters synergies with universities, corporations and other organizations, enhancing the School's added value, competitiveness and international exposure.

As we approach 2025 and the celebration of the 100-year anniversary of the College's founding, we are setting new and important goals. To achieve them, we need to act collectively and decisively. We need to mobilize more members to support our School in order to maximize the impact of our giving. With your help, we can.

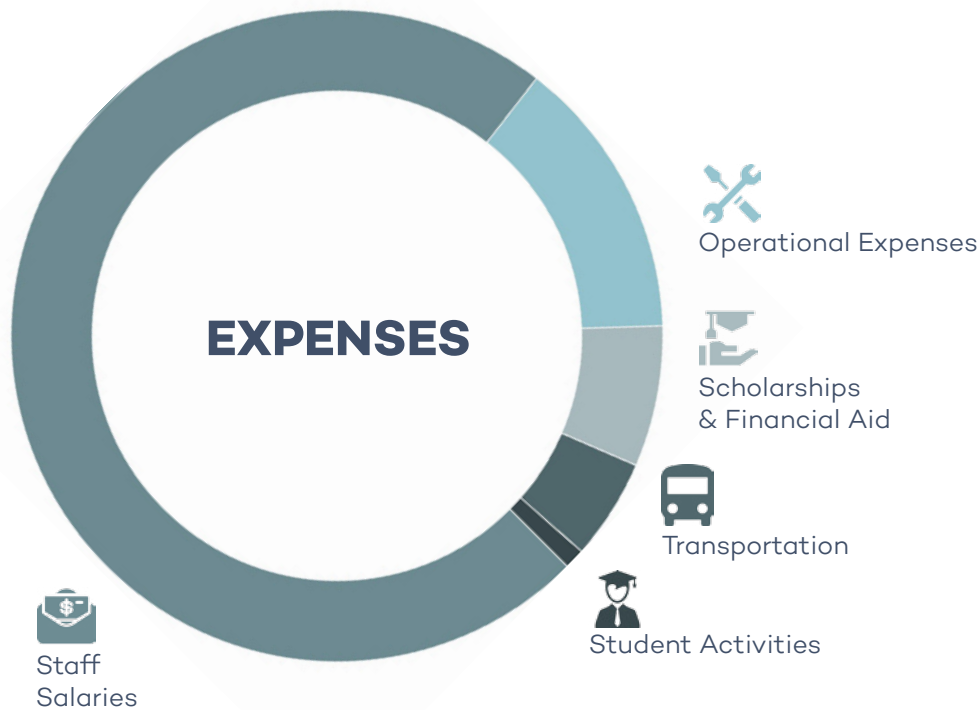
We count on you - our community of alumni, parents and friends - to keep Athens College's tradition of giving alive.

www.athenscollege.edu.gr/give



91% Tuition and fees
4% Transportation
4% Donations*
1% Other Income

* Included are gifts made in accordance with the donors' wishes towards scholarships, as well as other intents (projects and infrastructure, programs, etc.)



73% Staff Salaries & Benefits
14% Operational Expenses
7% Scholarships & Financial Aid
5% Transportation
1% Student Activities

Despite the worldwide ongoing challenges imposed by the pandemic, Athens College secured its financial stability and healthy status, entering the new year with maximum enrollment and operating within our annual budget.

During 2020-2021, financial assistance was given to over 1,000 students (including emergency financial aid to parents affected by the pandemic), a number equivalent to almost 25% of the student body. Of the total assistance given, which amounted to 7% of revenues, 37% was funded through gifts from members of the College family, individuals, companies and organizations.

Our long-term strategic priority is to put operating surplus towards reserved funds and the endowment in order to ensure the financial stability and sustainable development of our educational institution.

The challenge today is to keep our tuition fees affordable while striving to perpetually improve the learning environment and the quality of education we provide. Current circumstances require us to continue to support students whose families are facing financial difficulties, to respond to the uncertainty of Greece’s economy through a combination of conservative budgeting and prudent day-to-day management, and to diversify and increase the flow of income, including that from private support through gifts.

Contributing to the larger society is a cornerstone of Athens College’s pedagogical philosophy and the vision of our founders. Support through donations helps our School reduce its dependence on tuition by providing a predictable source of income. It funds the “Merit Scholarship” program, which attracts academically top-tier students. It facilitates the development of innovative programs and allows improvements to our facilities. It offers the Athens College experience to students from all walks of life and secures our School’s ability to offer its services to future generations of students by modernizing its facilities, as well as its technological and logistical infrastructure.



The mission of the Hellenic-American Educational Foundation is to contribute to society as a beacon for Greek education, developing responsible global citizens and future leaders, inspired by Hellenic heritage and both American and European liberal values. Its aim is to provide the essence of education by helping each individual to achieve their highest potential and unique aspirations, instilling in them respect for themselves and others, cultivating a sense of civic duty, and exemplifying the highest ethical standards. Our aim, through academic excellence and critical thinking, is to inspire and transform students into graduates distinguished by creativity, teamwork and a spirit of discovery.



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