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National Hellenic Museum raises over \$975,000 at 2024 Gala in support of mission to share Greek history, art, culture and the Greek American story

CHICAGO (October 3, 2024)—The **National Hellenic Museum (NHM)** raised **over \$975,000** this past weekend at its 2024 Gala, in support of its mission to share Greek history, art, culture and the Greek American story. NHM Chairman **John P. Calamos, Sr.** and NHM Trustees and Gala Co-Chairs **Andrea Darlas** and **Hon. Anna H. Demacopoulos (Ret.)** were joined by more than 610 guests, including civic and cultural leaders and philhellenes from across the country at the festive event on Saturday, September 28 at the Hilton Chicago.

Distinguished guests at the NHM Gala included Consul General of Greece in Chicago **Emmanuel Koubarakis** and Consul **Georgia Tasiopoulou**, former Secretary General for Greeks Abroad and Public Diplomacy **Ioannis Chryssoulakis**, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner **Mariyana Spyropoulos**, and **Fr. Elias Villis**, Chancellor of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.

NHM Executive Director **Marianne Kountoures** and NHM Chairman **John P. Calamos, Sr.** gave remarks about the importance of the Museum's educational efforts and sharing the Hellenic legacy to inspire future generations. NHM significantly expanded its educational programs over the past year, providing hundreds of students of all ages and backgrounds with an opportunity to learn about Greek history and the Greek American story, make meaningful connections to their own lives, and explore the enduring principles of the Hellenic legacy.

NHM Gala attendees enjoyed a spectacular dinner and live auction led by auctioneer David A. Goodman, followed by live music and Greek dancing with Mylos Entertainment late into the evening.

The 2024 NHM Gala was made possible by the generous support of donors at every level. Lead NHM Gala sponsors included: Diamond Sponsors **Calamos Investments, John P. Calamos, Sr. and John S. Koudounis**, and **The Halikias Family and Republic Bank**; Platinum Sponsor **Grecian Delight and Peter and Ethel Parthenis**; Gold Sponsors **John and Mae Calamos via The John P. Calamos Foundation**, and **Metropoulos Family Foundation**; and Silver Sponsors **Gus Danos Family, Dyros Inc. and Kenneth and Angela Kondraris, The John S. Koudounis Family, Michael and Robin Psaros and Family, The James A. Regas Family, and Cathy and George Sakellaris**.

The **National Hellenic Museum (NHM)** has a mission to share Greek history, art, culture and the Greek American story. NHM preserves the Hellenic legacy and makes this rich heritage relevant today through its extensive collection of more than 10,000 physical artifacts, hundreds of oral histories, exhibitions, educational programs and special events. Originally founded in 1983 and located in Chicago's historic Greektown neighborhood since 2011, NHM provides lifelong learning for the community and sparks inquiry and discussion about the broader issues in our lives and society. Regular museum hours are Thursday through Sunday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information, visit nationalhellenicmuseum.org or call 312-655-1234.

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