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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nov. 4, 2016

National Hellenic Museum Announces StoryCorps Partnership

Non-profits work to preserve the stories of our lives

CHICAGO, IL - The National Hellenic Museum is expanding its efforts to preserve and share the stories of the Greek American community through a partnership with StoryCorps, a nonprofit organization committed to providing people of all backgrounds and beliefs with the opportunity to record, share, and preserve the stories of their lives.

Since 2003, StoryCorps has collected and archived more than 45,000 interviews from nearly 90,000 participants. It is one of the largest oral history projects of its kind and millions listen to the weekly broadcasts on NPR's Morning Edition and on storycorps.org.

"The voices of our aunts and uncles, parents and grandparents are precious," said Laura Calamos Nasir, PhD, Interim President. "And their stories, their struggles, their hopes and their dreams are a priceless legacy that we must preserve. Everyone has a story to tell and we want to hear them all."

In addition to the National Hellenic Museum's Oral History Center appointments, interview time slots will be available on a monthly schedule throughout 2017 to record your own audio oral history at the Museum.

"Through our Oral History Center we've preserved hundreds of stories that could have been lost to the ages, but there is so much more wisdom and experience that we are at risk of losing forever; what it means to be Greek, what it means to be American, the importance of family, the pain of struggle and the joy of life's success," said Dr. Calamos.

The heart of the StoryCorps project is simple; it's a conversation between two people who are meaningful to each other, whether it's a friend or a family member. For approximately 40 minutes, participants ask each other questions. When the interview is over, a trained facilitator will provide participants an audio copy of the interview. The interview will also be archived in the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

On Dec. 13, the National Hellenic Museum and StoryCorps will hold an interactive workshop about the tools and resources needed to highlight and celebrate the voices of the community through interviewing, recording and preserving conversations. Attendance is very limited. Please call (312) 655-1234, ext. 11 for more information.

The National Hellenic Museum's Oral History Center is generously donated by Frank S. Kamberos.

Photo 1:

After attending a National Hellenic Museum Oral History workshop offsite, Jack Dulgarian interviews Lou Nicozisis about his experiences as a Greek American.



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Located in Chicago's Greektown, the sleek 40,000-square-foot National Hellenic Museum at 333. S. Halsted St. is both contemporary and timeless, connecting all generations—past, present and future—to the rich heritage of Greek history, culture, art and the Greek American experience. The National Hellenic

Museum, previously known as the Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center, has been fulfilling this mission since 1983.

For more information, visit <http://www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org> or call 312-655-1234.
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