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ONE OF CHICAGO'S TOP EPICUREAN EVENTS, KOUZINA, ANNOUNCES 2018 CHEF PARTICIPANTS



The National Hellenic Museum's Annual Event Invites Attendees to Enjoy an Evening of Gourmet Adventure, with Renowned Chicagoland Chefs Presenting Tastes of Their Finest Dishes Inspired by Greek Flavors on November 1

CHICAGO (October 2018) — One of Chicago's most exciting, "hidden gem" culinary events of the year, **Kouzina**, a "Twist on the Classics", hosted by the **National Hellenic Museum (NHM)**, 333 S. Halsted St., is proud to announce the chefs and restaurants participating in the 2018 event. A night of dining, drinking and mingling with the second city's culinary elite, attendees are invited to taste their way through bites from Chicago's top culinary minds, all with the influence of Greek culture on Thursday, November 1 from 6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

"As Chicago's dining scene continues to take the spotlight nationally and serve as the home to some of the best chefs and culinary teams in the world, we are honored to be able to bring a select group of them together each year for Kouzina," said National Hellenic Museum President Dr. Laura Calamos. "Although we are The National Hellenic Museum, Kouzina is not just an event for Greeks—it is for all those who love how cultures can be influenced by, and brought together through, food and flavors. We are excited to open our doors and raise a glass to the community during one of our most anticipated events of the year."

The following chefs will present their take on Greek cuisine at Kouzina 2018:

- Louie Alexakis, Avli Taverna
- George Bournas, Psistaria

- Sophie Evanoff, Vanille Patisserie
- Larry Feldmeier, The Albert
- John Gatsos, Tavern on Rush
- Mark Grimes, Che Figata
- Nate Henssler, Portsmouth
- Peter Kappos, Greek Islands
- Tom Leo, Grecian Delight Foods
- Jorgina Pereira, Sinha Elegant Cuisine
- Alain Roby, All Chocolate Kitchen
- David Schneider, Taxim
- Adam Tanner, CityGate Grille
- Elizabeth J. Tokarczyk, Inspired Catering and Events

Proceeds from Kouzina will benefit the NHM and allow the museum to expand educational offerings for the community and continue the preservation of Greek history, culture and art. During Kouzina, attendees may enjoy drinks atop the NHM's Rooftop Terrace featuring remarkable panoramic views of downtown Chicago, indulge in bites from a diverse and talented set of Chicago's top chefs, and mingle throughout the Museum. Shortly before Kouzina, the NHM opened a new exhibition, *George Kokines: Layers Revealed*, which traces Kokines' artistic development and accomplishments in Abstract Expressionism as well as his journey to embrace his Greek American identity through some of his most well-known art pieces. Explore the amazing spaces at the National Hellenic Museum, taste new flavors, make new friends and see what the influence of 3000 years of history and culture can do to inspire your senses.

The NHM thanks their 2018 sponsors, including Platinum Sponsors, The Calamos Family and The Koudounis Family and Gold Sponsors, John and Martha Cannis, Grecian Delight Foods and the Parthenis Families, and Devanco Foods.

Tickets are \$100 per person in advance or \$125 at the door, and include food, wine and full access to the museum. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <https://www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/calendar/kouzina/> or call (312) 655.1234.

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About the National Hellenic Museum

The National Hellenic Museum (NHM) portrays and celebrates Greek history and the Hellenic legacy through educational classes, exhibits and programs. With a growing repository of over 20,000 artifacts, the Museum catalogs and highlights the contributions of Greeks and Greek Americans to the American mosaic and inspires curiosity about visitors' own family journeys through cultural expression, oral history and experiential education. Located in Chicago's Greektown, the NHM provides lifelong learning for the whole community using artifacts and stories to spark inquiry and discussion about the broader issues in our lives.

For more information, visit <http://www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org> or call 312-655-1234. Follow NHM on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.