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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Glorious Night of Celebration with Top Greek Musical Artist Anna Vissi

Generous contributions allow the National Hellenic Museum to continue sharing the Greek story

CHICAGO, IL - More than 700 guests enjoyed a fun and exciting evening celebrating Greek heritage and Hellenic ideals at the National Hellenic Museum's Gala at the Hilton Chicago on Saturday, May 14.

From the magnificent cocktail reception through dinner, live auction, lively Greek dancing, and late night concert, it was a night to remember. With an Olympic theme, in a dazzling ballroom, friends and families gathered to honor the legacy of Hellenism and ensure that the stories of ancestors are shared and remembered.

Philhellenes from around the nation and world traveled to Chicago for this well-known spring event, coming from as far as Greece, Los Angeles, Washington D.C., Charlotte, and New York City.

Headlining the event was internationally acclaimed musical star Anna Vissi, one of Greece's bestselling artists of all times, who enthralled the crowd with her warm persona, well-loved songs, and dazzling vocals. Her late night show brought the house down with an extraordinary performance that had the entire ballroom on their feet.

Laura Evans, anchor of Fox 5 News at 5 in Washington D.C., was master of ceremonies and auctioneer David Goodman entertained and thrilled the crowd of high-spirited bidders.

Donations raised at the Gala are essential for helping the Museum connect generations from all walks of life to Greek history, arts, and humanities through outstanding exhibits, programs, and events that provoke thought and enrich lives.

Asked what it means to be Greek, Dr. George Korkos, Chairman of the Gala Committee replied: "Laughter, music, Parea, our love of family, of friends, our deep faith; the heirlooms left by generations in every one of our families."

"The National Hellenic Museum is the center of the Greek diaspora in the United States," said Korkos. "It is an important piece of our national and international identity, enriching lives, honoring our ancestors, bringing us all together, and strengthening the bonds of community."

An elegant sponsor reception organized in collaboration between the NHM Board of Trustees and the National Hellenic Society (NHS), including NHS Board Chairman, George Marcus, was held Friday, May 13 in the beautiful Conrad Suite of the Chicago Hilton.

Throughout the weekend, representatives from many Greek, Hellenic, and Orthodox organizations attended meetings and social gatherings at the Museum and across the city, confirming that the NHM serves as a great hub for the many affiliations that connect Greeks, Philhellenes, and all Americans.

The National Hellenic Museum is "a testament for the last 100 years and a beacon for the next 100 years," said Museum donor Chris Dalmares, in a video shared with guests during dinner.

The 2016 Gala was a successful fundraiser and great time for making connections across the worldwide community. Mark your calendar next May for this annual Greek social event that should not be missed.

Photo 1:

National Hellenic Museum Gala cocktail hour in the Grand Ballroom at the Chicago Hilton.
Photo by Dimitri Eliopoulos/Elios Photography ©2016.



Photo 2:

From left to right: Michael Johnson, John Koudounis, Eleni Bousis, James Pantelidis. Photo by Dimitri Eliopoulos/Elios Photography ©2016.



Photo 3:
From left to right: Jim Logothetis, NHM Board Chairman John Calamos, Mae Calamos, David Horner. Photo by Dimitri Eliopoulos/Elios Photography ©2016.



Photo 4:
Gala Chairman Dr. George Korkos on stage with Anna Vissi. Photo by Dimitri
Eliopoulos/Elios Photography ©2016.



Photo 5:

Mike Manatos and Gala Master of Ceremonies Laura Evans. Photo by Dimitri Eliopoulos/Elios Photography ©2016.



Photo 6:

Anna Vissi performs for a crowd of 700 at the National Hellenic Museum Gala. Photo by Dimitri Eliopoulos/Elios Photography ©2016.



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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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