

Media Contact:

Rena Lee Director of Museum Experience National Hellenic Museum 333 South Halsted Street Chicago, IL 60661

Office: 312.655.1234 ext. 27

Cell: 224.565.2982

Email: rlee@hellenicmuseum.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 29, 2015

The National Hellenic Museum is proud to support the 2nd Annual Immigrant Heritage Month

NHM joins nationwide effort to highlight immigrant impact on history and future of America

CHICAGO, IL - The National Hellenic Museum supports the second annual Immigrant Heritage Month, an initiative to partner community organizations, elected officials, corporations, artists, and thought leaders to gather and share inspirational stories of American immigrants.

During the month of June, the Museum encourages Greek Americans to celebrate their immigrant heritage by telling their own unique individual or family story. The Museum's Oral History Project preserves these stories for the future so that we can learn about the immigrant experience and Greek journey. Interviews are free for individuals and groups at the Museum. Call the Museum for an appointment.

Opening on June 19 is a new exhibition about celebrity immigrant, Hollywood actor, and artist, Anthony Quinn. Quinn emigrated from Mexico when he was three and worked hard to overcome any limitations of his heritage to eventually become one of the finest actors of the 20th century. Although not of Greek descent, he transcended the boundaries of culture to become the quintessential Greek through his defining role in *Zorba the Greek*.

The public is invited to a special opening reception for the exhibition on June 18 at 6 pm with honored guests Katherine Quinn and family. Proceeds from the reception go to the Anthony Quinn Foundation. Tickets are available on the museum website.

The museum will wrap up Immigrant Heritage Month on June 28 with a film screening of *The Guns of Navarone*, released in 1961. The movie takes place during the Second World War when the Allies' try to capture the German-held Greek islands in the Aegean Sea in 1943.

Throughout Immigrant Heritage Month, the National Hellenic Museum looks forward to recognizing the tremendous impact that immigrants from Greece and all over the world have had in creating the rich fabric of American culture.

Visit <u>www.welcome.us</u> and <u>www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org</u> for more information on how to share your story and learn more about the nation-wide effort.

###

About welcome.us

Welcome.us, a non-profit organization, is dedicated to celebrating a United States that is fueled by immigrants from around the world. Immigrant Heritage Month honors the ways in which America and the immigrants who have built our country are linked in a shared, productive history.

About the National Hellenic Museum

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. Follow NHM on Facebook and Twitter!