



Wilmington Chapter #95

808 N. Broom Street

Wilmington, DE 19806

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, PLEASE

AHEPA GALA RAISES OVER \$110,000 FOR ODYSSEY CHARTER SCHOOL'S GLOBAL EDUCATIONAL CAMPUS

Wilmington, DE – More than 200 invitation-only guests attended the Odyssey Charter School's "Boundless Journey Gala," which was held February 2nd at the Wilmington Country Club. The event was sponsored as a Regional Banquet by the Supreme Headquarters of the Order of AHEPA, under the auspices of Wilmington Chapter #95, the founding organization of the school.

Over \$110,000 was raised that evening and many more donations are expected to be given to the campaign. Most importantly, AHEPA has pledged to raise the \$2 million needed to build the school's 22,000 square foot gymnasium.

The Gala was the brainchild of AHEPA Past Supreme President Carl Hollister and Supreme Treasurer George Horiates, both of whom secured the funds to underwrite the entire costs of the Gala, so that all monies collected and pledged that evening would be donated to the cause.

AHEPAns from California to Thessaloniki, Greece came to celebrate AHEPA's commitment to the Greek ideals of Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence! The keynote speaker, Professor Pericles Mitkas, Chancellor of Aristotle University in Thessaloniki, Greece, announced a partnership between Odyssey and Aristotle University. The initiative would create a Center of Aristotle's School of Philosophy at Odyssey for the purpose of providing foreign language teachers training and certifications. Aristotle University is the largest University in Greece and one of the largest in Europe. Other speakers included Mr. Dimitri Dandolos, Dr. Marina Mattheoudakis, Dr. Lynn Worden, Mrs. Denise Parks, Mr. Riccardo Stoeckicht, Mr. Josiah Wolcott, and Odyssey Students.

Among the guests were AHEPA Supreme President George Loucas, Daughters of Penelope Grand President Demi Thomas, University of Delaware President Dr. Dennis Assanis, and other AHEPA Family dignitaries from District 5 and throughout the United States. Master of Ceremonies was Basil Mossaidis, Executive Director of AHEPA.

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The Gala committee was Co-chaired by Dimitri Dandolo and Vasiliki "Soul" Mistras. Other Committee members included George Horiates, Carol Dandolo, the Honorable Paraskevi Wolcott, and Dino Charalambides.

The Order of AHEPA (American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association) was founded in 1922 in Atlanta, Georgia. Its mission is to promote the ancient Greek ideals of Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence through community service and volunteerism. Wilmington Chapter #95, established on February 14, 1926, is the driving force behind the creation of the Odyssey Charter School and has included among its members, Delaware US Senators J. Caleb Boggs and William V. Roth.

The Odyssey Charter School's mission is to prepare students for a lifelong enthusiasm for learning, to develop a keen awareness of world citizenship and culture, and to establish critical thinking and problem-solving proficiency through the added learning of the Modern Greek language and mathematics focus.

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To view video coverage of the event:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7W4pW6byT0c&feature=youtu.be>

For more information, please contact:

Dimitri Dandolo

Phone: 302-983-1883

Email: dandolcl@comcast.net