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June 25, 2025



Dear Esteemed Guests, Honored Speakers, Exhibitors, Sponsors, and Friends,

Welcome to the 34th Annual Hermes Expo.

It is with deep pride and heartfelt gratitude that I welcome you to this year's gathering, a celebration not only of business, but of community, culture, and connection.

What began over three decades ago as a bold idea, to create a space where professionals could come together, exchange ideas, and form meaningful partnerships, has grown into something far more powerful. The Hermes Expo has become a catalyst: for opportunity, for unity, and for preserving and elevating Hellenism through enterprise.

In a world that often rushes past human interaction, this event stands as a reminder that our greatest strength lies in coming together, face-to-face, heart-to-heart, business-to-business. The conversations we have here, the hands we shake, and the ideas we exchange, these are what make our communities vibrant and our networks strong.

This year, I am especially proud to highlight three key pillars of the Expo:

The Business Conference, featuring thought leaders who bring clarity to today's most urgent economic topics:

- Michael Bolos, exploring how reviving U.S. manufacturing will help drive the AI revolution
- Phil Kafarakis, sharing insights on the evolving food industry and opportunities for growth
- Adam Moraitis, offering a market outlook and actionable ideas for financial resilience

The Vendor Showcase, a bustling marketplace of innovation and creativity, where businesses from across sectors—healthcare, textiles, tourism, real estate, lifestyle, technology, food, and more, present their products and services in an atmosphere of trust, collaboration, and community.

The Hermes Awards Dinner, where we pause to recognize individuals whose leadership and service inspire us all and whose work uplifts the Greek-American spirit.

It is also with great honor that we welcome George J. Tsunis, Former U.S. Ambassador to Greece. His service strengthened U.S.–Greece relations in profound ways, and his presence here today reminds us that diplomacy, community, and commerce are deeply intertwined. We thank him sincerely for his mission, his example, and his support.

In another historic step forward, we are proud to share that the Hermes Expo International has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with TIF–HELEXPO, Greece's national exhibition agency, under the leadership of Dr. Kyriakos Pozrikidis. This agreement launches new trade missions between the United States and Greece, a major step in expanding the Expo's global impact.

None of this would be possible without our sponsors, whose generosity empowers our mission...
Our exhibitors, who bring energy and purpose to the showcase floor...
And our families and friends, whose belief in this vision fuels everything we do.

Let us move forward, united by values, driven by connection, and inspired by our shared legacy.

Sincerely,

Paul Kotrotsios
Founder & President
Hermes Expo International



34th Hermes Expo

NETWORKING BUSINESS EXPO



June 25, 2025
11:30am – 10:00pm



Grand Marquis
Old Bridge, NJ, USA



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



George J. Tsunis

US Ambassador to the
Hellenic Republic
(2022–2025), United States



Phil Kafarakis

President & CEO
IFMA The Food Away from
Home Association



Dr. Kyriakos Pozrikidis

Managing Director
TIF – Helexpo



Michael Bolos

CEO
Thunderbird LLC



TO PRE-REGISTER FOR THE BUSINESS
CONFERENCE AND EXPO SHOWCASE,
SCAN THE QR CODE

AGENDA

BUSINESS CONFERENCE (11:30AM–2:00PM)

FREE ADMISSION WITH YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION

- 11:30am–12:00pm
 - Networking Reception
- 12:00pm–2:00pm
 - Doing Business in the USA and Trade Mission to Greece: Building Transatlantic Partnerships
 - Business Innovation Showcase and Franchising Opportunities
 - Greece as a Business Gateway: Opportunities for Investment and Trade Collaboration

GRAND OPENING (2:00PM)

- Opening Session: Welcome Remarks & Vision

EXPO SHOWCASE (12:00PM–6:00PM)

FREE ADMISSION WITH YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION

- Exhibitor Booths:** Explore innovations, services, and products from our featured partners
- Wine Tasting & Networking:** Sample local and international selections
- Interactive Demos:** Explore the latest ideas in action with live presentations

COCKTAIL RECEPTION (6:00PM–7:00PM)

TICKETED EVENT

AWARDS DINNER (7:00PM–9:00PM)

TICKETED EVENT



www.hermesexpo.com



2025 HERMES EXPO CONFERENCE



June 25th

12:00pm - 2:00pm

Grand Marquis
Old Bridge, NJ, USA

1ST ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION FINANCE, WEALTH & MANUFACTURING

Explore how smart wealth strategies and U.S. manufacturing revival are shaping the future. Join industry leaders for insights on building financial strength and driving economic growth.

Speaker Lineup



ANDREA PAGIAZITIS

FVP, Market Manager
Provident Bank

12:05pm - 12:20pm



ADAM MORAITIS

Owner and Investment Advisor
Pegasus Wealth Management

12:25pm - 12:40pm



**Keynote
speaker**

MICHAEL BOLOS

CEO
Thunderbird LLC

12:45pm - 1:00pm

2ND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION TRADE, TARIFFS & TRANSATLANTIC BUSINESS

Tariffs and trade policy are reshaping global business. Join experts as they explore U.S.-Greece economic ties and how to navigate cross-border opportunities in a shifting landscape.

Speaker Lineup



LAUREN PLATZ

International Trade Specialist
U.S. Commercial Service

1:05pm - 1:20pm



KYRIAKOS POZRIKIDIS

Managing Director
TIF - Helexpo

1:25pm - 1:40pm



**Keynote
speaker**

PHIL KAFARAKIS

President & CEO
IFMA

1:45pm - 2:00pm

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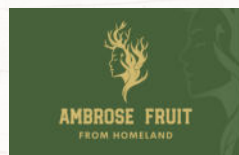
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PHILIP D. MURPHY
GOVERNOR

June 25, 2025

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to extend greetings to all in attendance for the 34th Annual Hermes Expo.

The Hermes Expo is a prominent trade show that promotes commerce and communications, and culture by bringing together thousands of business owners, professionals, and attendees from around the world. The Hermes Expo works to expand and build new business connections and economic ties between the United States and Greece, and we are fortunate that this annual forum occurs here in the Garden State. As Governor, I commend this organization and all those who have committed their time and effort to bring business opportunities to New Jersey.

Special congratulations to tonight's keynote speakers: Tom Kean Jr.; George J. Tsunis; Phil Kafarakis; and Dr. Kyriakos Posrikidis. Your successes have inspired and benefitted the lives of many.

Best wishes for a successful and memorable event.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Phil Murphy".

Philip D. Murphy
Governor

THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

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NORTHERN AFRICA
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

June 10, 2025

Dear Friends,

Since 1992, the Hermes Expo has been a premier event spotlighting and connecting businesses within the Hellenic-American community and beyond. Its continued success reflects the strength, innovation, and leadership that Greek-Americans bring to New Jersey and to our nation.

As a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the Congressional Hellenic Caucus, I deeply value the enduring bonds between the United States and Greece, as well as the countless contributions of the Greek-American community here in our state. The Hermes Expo provides an important platform to celebrate Hellenic heritage, foster economic partnerships, and strengthen these vital ties.

I would also like to congratulate this year's event honorees: George Tsunis, Alec Economakis, Nick Pashalis, Ioustini Frangouli, Loukas Loukopoulos, George Athanasopoulos, Dr. George Tsiolias, Michael Paphotes, Charles Capetanakis, Dimitris Geaneas, and Irina Kapetanakis. Thank you all for your dedication to the community and making a positive impact through your work.

Greek-Americans remain an essential part of New Jersey's civic, cultural, and economic life. They bring the values of hard work, faith, and family that make our communities strong. I am thankful for the Expo's leadership for promoting opportunity, entrepreneurship, and cooperation both locally and globally.

Thank you for your dedication to this proud tradition. I wish you great success for the 34th Annual Hermes Expo and continued prosperity in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T.H. Kean, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Thomas H. Kean, Jr.
Member of Congress



Mexico City, June 1 2025
Protocol # EE/Γ/100407US/2025

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To: the Organizers
of the 34th Hermes Expo Awards Gala
info@hermesexpo.com

Dearest fellow Greeks in the Diaspora,

Thank you very much for inviting me to Grand Marquis NJ, on June 25th to attend the 34th *Hermes Expo Awards Gala* and join you at the dining table.

It is a pleasure to know that your endeavors do keep on numbering 34 consecutive events.

As I have only recently assumed office in the Metropolis of Mexico, my pastoral calendar which has been fixed a long ago, does not permit me to give anything more than a "thank you" and a "go on with the good work" response.

Wishing you the best possible outcome, *and continuing to pray for all,*


the METROPOLITAN
to Mexico
+ IAKOVOS of Mexico

Exarch of Central America and the Caribbean



*Consulate General of Greece
New York,
The Consul General*



Dear Mr. Kotrotsios,

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest greetings to all participants, exhibitors, organizers, and guests of the 34th Hermes Expo International.

For more than three decades, Hermes Expo has stood as a distinguished platform promoting business, cultural, and professional exchanges between Greece, the United States, and the global Hellenic diaspora. It has created a bridge through which ideas travel, partnerships are forged, and new opportunities emerge—faithfully serving its founding purpose of connecting people through enterprise and shared values.

Under the inspired leadership of Mr. Paul Kotrotsios, the Expo has evolved into a vital institution for the promotion of Greek entrepreneurship and innovation abroad. Each year, it brings together diverse voices and industries, highlighting the best of what Greek and Greek-American businesses have to offer and reinforcing the enduring friendship between our two nations.

This year's gathering is once again a celebration of excellence, innovation, and community. It honors those whose work reflects the dynamic spirit of Hellenism: creative, resilient, and future-oriented. I offer my warm congratulations to the award recipients and to all those whose presence and participation make this event a success.

As the Consulate General of Greece in New York, we remain committed to supporting initiatives that foster economic cooperation and strengthen the ties of friendship and shared heritage between Greece and the United States.

May the 34th Hermes Expo International be marked by meaningful exchanges, new ventures, and lasting achievements.

With sincere congratulations and best wishes for continued success,


Iphigenia Kanara





Steven Mamakas, Executive Officer

Mayor's Office of Economic Development



TOWNSHIP OF OLD BRIDGE

Paul Kotrotsis, MBA
Founder & CEO, Hellenic News of America
Founder, President & CEO | Hermes Expo International

Dear Paul,

I would like to take this opportunity to first congratulate you on the 34th year of the Hermes Expo, as well as making Old Bridge Township the Expo's new home. I would also like to express my appreciation for your efforts to assist the Old Bridge Mayor's Office of Economic Development in fostering economic growth between your organization and the Old Bridge Township business community and other communities. My office works closely with our local businesses, stakeholders, developers, and investors seeking opportunities both within Old Bridge Township and the international business community.

Old Bridge Township is the perfect location to bridge the Greek, American, and Township cultures together through your platform. Through working together, there is no doubt we will drive commerce and forge strong relationships with our diverse businesses across our town with your domestic and international partners. This annual event will be a great opportunity to continue to explore the over 600 + businesses that make up the Old Bridge Township business community. Furthermore, the Expo will provide us with an opportunity to show that Old Bridge Township is an unbeatable location with its well-educated workforce, demographics and strong retail and wholesale marketplace profile.

I am looking forward to working with you and networking with the Greek American community, companies, representatives, business leaders and entrepreneurs. Also, I am eager to interact with prospective partners from both sides of the international marketplace at the event and in the future. I wish you another successful Expo here in Old Bridge Township.

Thank you again for all your efforts,

Steve Mamakas

Executive Officer, Mayor's Office of Economic Development
NJBIZ – NJLM Public Private - Partnership Award Winner



Larissa 09-04-2025

Hellenic Republic
Region of Thessaly
Governor
Region of Thessaly Headquarters
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Tel: 001 2413-506552-4
E-mail: governor@thessaly.gov.gr



To : Mr Paul Kotrotsios
Grand Marquis, 1550 US-9, Old Bridge,
NJ 08857, HIIA

Dear Mr. Kotrotsios/Dear Paul

I would first like to extend my heartfelt thanks for your kind invitation to participate in the **34th HERMES EXPO**.

As you may recall, I was unable to attend last year's **33rd HERMES EXPO** due to the many responsibilities I undertook as the newly elected **Regional Governor of Thessaly**. These obligations made it impossible for me to be away for an extended period and to travel such a long distance at that time.

Nevertheless, the Region of Thessaly was ably represented, and our high-ranking delegates returned especially satisfied with the overall quality of the Expo, the valuable contacts and meetings you organized, and above all, your signature **Greek hospitality** during their entire stay in the United States.

The benefits derived from our participation were significant and fully aligned with our objectives—namely, to foster deeper ties between our Region and the Greek-American diaspora, to promote Thessaly's high-quality agri-food products, and to build channels of communication and cooperation between our exporters and distribution networks for Greek agricultural products in the vast U.S. market.

Since assuming administration of the Region, we have worked tirelessly to address the challenges we inherited. One year on, we have made **remarkable progress**. Our recovery plan, with a strong focus on supporting agriculture and livestock, is moving forward effectively. At the same time, we have developed a **comprehensive strategy** to promote the exceptional agricultural products of our region.

In this context, our participation once again in **HERMES EXPO** is both purposeful and strategic. We firmly believe that the Expo offers a vital link to the U.S. market in the agri-food sector and serves as a valuable platform to enhance the outward-looking profile of the Region of Thessaly.

This year, I am pleased to inform you that—barring unforeseen circumstances—I will personally lead a strong delegation representing the Region of Thessaly at the **34th HERMES EXPO**.

The delegation will include the four **Regional Vice-Governors of Thessaly**, one representative from the opposition, and two senior officials who play key roles in the agri-food sector and in the promotion of our agricultural products.

In closing, I would like to thank you once again for your gracious invitation and to warmly congratulate you on your long-standing, selfless, and continued contribution to the Hellenism of the Diaspora.

I wish you every success in your endeavors, as well as good health and happiness to you and your family. I would also like to extend a heartfelt invitation for you to visit us in Thessaly, where we would be honored to host you and share with you the unique beauty and heritage of our Region.

Sincerely yours

Dimitris Kouretas
Governor of Thessaly

To:
Paul Kotrotsis, MBA
Founder & CEO, Hellenic News of America
Founder, President & CEO | Hermes Expo International



NATIONAL INSTITUTION
FOR THE ORGANISATION OF EXHIBITIONS,
CONFERENCES AND CULTURAL EVENTS

Thessaloniki 22/04/2025
Prot. N. 523

Dear Mr. Kotrotsis,

On behalf of TIF - HELEXPO, Greece's national exhibition organization, we extend our heartfelt congratulations on the 34th anniversary of the Hermes Expo.

Hermes Expo has long served as a remarkable platform connecting Greek - American businesses, leaders, and institutions, while fostering new opportunities in trade, investment, and cultural exchange. The Expo's role in fostering dialogue, partnerships, and economic opportunity aligns with our own mission at TIF - HELEXPO.

As we deepen our collaboration through our recent Memorandum of Understanding, we look forward to expanding our joint efforts to promote trade, innovation, and cultural exchange during the 34th Hermes Expo event.

In response to your request, I would be glad and honored to lead the Greek delegation and participate as a keynote speaker in the business conference you are organizing during the 34th Hermes Expo, which I am certain will be both impactful and insightful.

Wishing you continued success and a fruitful 34th Hermes Expo.

With appreciation, ★

Kyriakos Pozrikidis

CEO, TIF - HELEXPO

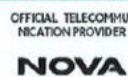
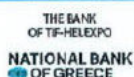


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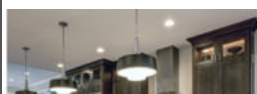


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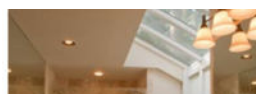
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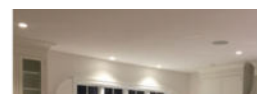
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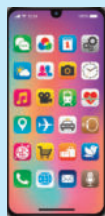
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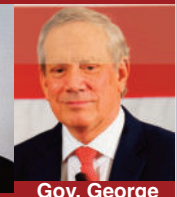
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Our Mission is to promote education by providing scholarships and programs to Greek American students who, guided by the values of their Hellenic upbringing, have the potential to become life-long significant achievers and contribute meaningfully to society.

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INTERCOLLEGIATE HELLENIC SOCIETY GLOBAL



The Intercollegiate Hellenic Society Global (I.H.S. Global) is a Not-For-Profit organization rooted from a 50+ year old organization (Intercollegiate Hellenic Society Sef) headquartered in New York. I.H.S. Global brings together Greek & Cypriot College/University Clubs, students, young professionals, and alumni globally. The organization consists of over 200,000 members of Greek and Cypriot descent. Many of our alumni are now in prominent positions and owners of major corporations.

We are proud to support the Hermes Expo International and welcome all participants, sponsors, and businesses to reach us if they need any interns, employees, or looking to make a donation for an official tax write-off, as we are an official 501(c)(3) Not-For-Profit organization. All our business sponsors who wish to be public are fully advertised on all our social media platforms to our wide range of members globally. We welcome all professionals who would like to take on the role as a mentor to a Greek or Cypriot student or young professional.

I.H.S. Global has helped many Greek and Cypriot undergraduate students, graduate students, and alumni. Throughout the years, we also have supported numerous Greek and Cypriot causes globally. Some of these causes include helping to raise awareness and money for St. Basil's Academy, St. Michael's Home, Breast Cancer Awareness, Ronald McDonald House, and Cooley's Anemia Foundation. In addition, we have provided scholarships to multiple students throughout the years. The organization offers undergraduate, graduate and alumni scholarships.

Our organization has hosted events in various countries around the world. These include events in Canada, Greece, and the United Kingdom. Furthermore, I.H.S. Global has helped Greek artists, musicians, small business owners in starting up their careers.

We have also helped many students, young professionals, and alumni network, find jobs, find friends, and spouses. I.H.S. Global is committed to bringing together Hellenes globally to support causes important to our Hellenic roots.

We have chapter boards globally who aspire to help carry on and teach new generations about the Hellenic culture.

I.H.S. Global is a unique organization that is the youth and the next generation of Hellenism. Furthermore, we also hold several educational events and social mixers for our members to attend and network throughout the year.

We have created a global Hellenic network for students and alumni. Our main purpose is to globally unify Hellenic student, alumni, Hellenes, and carry on the Hellenic heritage globally to future generations. I.H.S. Global is the next generation and is proud to be a part of the Young Professionals Chapter of the Hermes Expo International.

CONTACT US: Phone: **646-580-2816**

Email: **info@ihsglobalnetwork.org**



*Best wishes to our friends at the Hermes Expo on
the occasion of their 34th Annual Awards Dinner Gala!*

*The Order of AHEPA Supreme Lodge
and AHEPA Board of Trustees
extend heartfelt congratulations to our brothers*

*Alec Economakis
Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles*

*Michael Papaphotes
AHEPA Board of Auditors*

*George Athanasopoulos
Charles Capetanakis
Dimitris Geanas
Loukas Loukopoulos
and the rest of the evening's distinguished honorees!*

*Savas C. Tsivicos
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Chairman, AHEPA Foundation Inc.*

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**Congratulations and
Best of Luck for
Continued Success to
Paul Kotrotsios**



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Jrina

With hearts full of pride and joy, we congratulate you once again on being selected as an honoree at the 34th Hermes Expo Awards Gala.

Your journey, marked by perseverance, excellence, and a deep love for your heritage, has touched the lives of so many and uplifted the Greek-American community in profound ways.

You are a shining light — a reflection of strength, grace, and unwavering spirit.

As we celebrate your achievements, know that our admiration for you knows no bounds.

You are, and always will be, our greatest joy and inspiration.



With boundless love and pride,

Mom, Dad, Lucio, Corina, Yiayia Irini and Yiayia Kali



CONGRATULATIONS TO

IRINA KAPETANAKIS

On behalf of Rumble Boxing NYC, Boston,
Hoboken and Jersey City for winning the
Athena award at this year's Hermes Expo.

We also extend our heartfelt congratulations
to all Honorees & the Hellenic News of
America for the event

rumbleboxinggym.com



Congratulations
TO
Paul Kotrotsios

Events like the Hermes Expo hold deep significance for the Greek-American community, serving as a powerful catalyst for unity, entrepreneurship, and cultural preservation.

Hermes Expo empowers Greek-American professionals and business owners to connect, collaborate, and grow, strengthening both their enterprises and their shared heritage.



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Vasilios Mataragas
President



Intl. Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus
PSEKA

Salutes Hermes Expo

and
reminds all exhibitors that we
are also commemorating
the
51st Anniversary
of the illegal invasion and
continued occupation of Cyprus.

The occupation must end.



Philip Christopher
President



Congratulations

The Hermes Expo is a vital platform for promoting Hellenism through enterprise, connection, and cultural pride.

It strengthens the Greek-American community by uniting professionals who carry forward our values of philotimo, innovation, and heritage.



Ilias Katsos, President



Congratulations

TO

Paul Kotrotsios

Your unwavering commitment to excellence and your enduring dedication to uplifting the Greek-American community continue to inspire and unite us all.

Here's to building bridges, creating opportunities, and preserving the legacy of Hellenism for generations to come.



Archon Michael & Robin Psaros



Congratulations

To the Honorees of the
34th Hermes Expo

and to

Paul Kotrotsios

Your dedication continues to inspire
excellence, foster connection, and preserve the
spirit of Hellenism for generations to come.



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Congratulations

to the honorees of the
34th Hermes Expo
and to

Paul Kotrotsios
for his visionary leadership and
unwavering commitment to
supporting and strengthening
the Greek community.



The Polos family
James, Rita, Nicolette, Angela, Sophia



Συγχαρητήρια

Συγχαίρουμε και ευχαριστούμε τον εκδότη και διευθυντή της έγκριτης εφημερίδας Hellenic News, τους συνεργάτες του και τον Ερμή Expo International, τον κορυφαίο αυτόν Οργανισμό, για την ανεκτίμητη προσφορά του στον απόδημο ελληνισμό που επί 34 συνεχή έτη παρουσιάζει και προωθεί ελληνικά προϊόντα, επιχειρήσεις, υπηρεσίες, τους επιστήμονες, τον τουρισμό τις επικοινωνίες, τον ελληνικό πολιτισμό στο εξωτερικό και συμβάλλει στις ελληνοαμερικανικές σχέσεις φιλίας και συνεργασίας.

Το έργο του επεκτείνεται και στα θέματα της ελληνικής παιδείας και πολιτισμού με διάφορα προγράμματα και σοβαρούς στόχους.

Συγχαίρουμε τους διοργανωτές αυτής της λαμπρής εκδήλωσης και όλους τους τιμώμενους διαπρεπείς παράγοντες, για το σημαντικό έργο που προσφέρουν σε διάφορους τομείς.

Άξιοι!

Με όλη μας την αγάπη Ανδριάνα και Γεωργία Φιλιώτη.



Congratulations
to
Lucas Loucopoulos

on this most deserving honor!

You are an inspiration to our community.



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Congratulations TO Paul Kotrotsios

Proud to support an event that uplifts our community, preserves our heritage, and brings people together, just as we do around the table. With admiration for Paul Kotrotsios, whose vision and dedication continue to serve as a beacon for Hellenism and entrepreneurship.



Fotis Farmakis
Co-Owner



Leadership 100

We are pleased to join the
34th Annual Hermes Expo Awards Dinner Gala
on June 25, 2025,
in honoring distinguished members of Leadership 100
who have made outstanding contributions to Greece
and the Greek American Community:
George J. Tsunis, former U.S. Ambassador to Greece
and
Nick Pashalis, Co-founder AVRA Estiatorio

We congratulate all the honorees and commend them for their
support of Orthodoxy and Hellenism.

Demetrios G. Logothetis, Chairman
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Advancing Orthodoxy and Hellenism in America



Congratulations
to all Honorees
& to my friend
Paul Kotrotsios!



Andreas Economou
Philadelphia, PA



Congratulations

to

Alex Theodosiou and Mike Zavolas
for their outstanding philanthropic work and
dedication through the
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Congratulations
to
Paul Kotrotsios!

On uniting the Greek-American and
Cypriot-American Business
Communities. Empowering
Opportunity. Advancing Our Legacy





CONGRATULATIONS!

The Daughters of Penelope Grand Lodge
Congratulates The Hellenic News of America on its
34th annual Hermes Expo and 37 years of the publication!
Congratulations also to all the esteemed Honorees of the 34th annual
Hermes Expo Awards Dinner including Sons of Pericles Supreme
President Alec Economakis, AHEPA Past District Governor Michael
Paphotes, and AHEPA 287 President Dimitris Geaneas!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
PARTNER AND COLLEAGUE
CHARLES CAPETANAKIS ESQ.

AND ALL THE HONOREES AT THE
34TH HERMES EXPO AWARDS GALA!

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Hermes Business Conference Speakers

Mike Bolos

Chief Executive Officer, Thunderbird

As CEO of Thunderbird, Mike Bolos plays a critical role in both daily operations and long-term strategic planning. He leverages his diverse background in law and entrepreneurship to lead with clarity and impact. Mike oversees corporate strategy, plant-level decision-making, and M&A activity, including integration and growth across Thunderbird's family of companies.

Before becoming CEO, Mike served as Chief Legal Officer of Thunderbird, following a successful career in law and business. He founded the consumer product company DeskView and previously worked at top firms such as Jenner & Block and McGuireWoods, focusing on antitrust, trade regulation, and corporate governance.

Mike holds a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, an MBA from The Wharton School, and a B.S. in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University, with additional studies at Harvard and the University of Oxford.

Phil Kafarakis

President & CEO, IFMA – The Food Away From Home Association

Phil Kafarakis is a globally recognized executive and thought leader with over 40 years of experience across the food industry. He currently serves as President & CEO of IFMA, representing companies throughout the \$1.5 trillion Food-Away-From-Home industry—including manufacturers, supply chain partners, and restaurant operations.

At IFMA, Phil is the architect of the transformative 'LevelUp2027' strategic plan, focused on expanding education, enhancing technology, and launching media platforms like the podcast 'The Food CEO Xchange.' His leadership has driven exponential growth in membership, revenue, and industry visibility.

Previously, Phil served as President of the Specialty Food Association and as Chief Innovation & Member Advancement Officer at the National Restaurant Association. Earlier in his career, he led foodservice businesses at McCormick, Cargill, Jones Dairy Farm, and Kraft. Born in Athens, Greece, Phil is an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and a proud member of Leadership100. He holds a B.S. in Business from Northern Arizona University and an Executive MBA from Georgetown University.

Adam Moraitis

Owner & Investment Advisor, Pegasus Wealth Management

Adam Moraitis is the Owner and Investment Advisor at Pegasus Wealth Management, bringing over 20 years of experience in private wealth and portfolio management. He began his career at Merrill Lynch, later managed nearly \$500 million in assets at Wilmington Trust, and most recently oversaw \$400 million in portfolios at PNC Private Bank in Princeton, NJ. Adam specializes in working with high-net-worth families, retirees, and entrepreneurs, offering a personalized and strategic approach to long-term investment and retirement planning.

Adam Moraitis Continued...

He holds a B.S. in Finance from Rutgers Business School and is fluent in Greek and Spanish. An active figure in the Hellenic community, Adam serves as Vice President of South Jersey for the Hellenic Federation of New Jersey and is a member of AHEPA Chapter 69 and the Corthion Andros Society. He enjoys spending time with his wife and two sons, Georgios and Niko.

George Georgopoulos - New Business Developer, Provident Protection Plus

George Georgopoulos serves as a Producer in the Commercial Lines Department at Provident Protection Plus. He specializes in delivering tailored insurance solutions, ensuring each client receives coverage that aligns with their unique needs. With a strong focus on open communication, client education, and market awareness, George fosters trust and long-term relationships. His commitment to staying informed on regulatory changes and industry trends enables him to offer innovative solutions and strategic guidance that drive success for his clients and partners alike.

Greg Wasielewski - Senior Business Consultant, Fiserv

Greg Wasielewski is a seasoned sales professional with over 30 years of experience in the industry. He currently serves as a Senior Business Consultant at Fiserv, where he supports Provident Bank and other non-financial institution partners across Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York. Greg earned his B.S. in Marketing in 1990 and has since held multiple sales and management roles. For the past 11 years at Fiserv, he has provided cutting-edge payment solutions to small and medium-sized businesses across a range of sectors—including retail, restaurants, service providers, nonprofits, and wholesale B2B organizations. His consultative approach and deep understanding of the payment landscape have made him a trusted partner to clients navigating the evolving business ecosystem.

Andrea Pagiazitis - First Vice President, Market Sales Manager, Provident Bank

Andrea Pagiazitis brings over 25 years of experience in the retail banking industry. As First Vice President and Market Sales Manager at Provident Bank, she leads business development efforts and manages branch teams across the Central Region of New Jersey. Andrea is passionate about motivating and mentoring her teams while fostering strong community relationships. Her mission is to strengthen local economies by encouraging businesses and individuals to bank locally, ensuring the communities Provident Bank serves continue to grow and thrive.

Lauren Platz - International Trade Specialist, U.S. Commercial Service

Lauren Platz is an International Trade Specialist with the U.S. Commercial Service, the trade promotion arm of the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration. She helps U.S. companies across New Jersey navigate export processes, understand international regulations, and identify reliable global business partners. The U.S. Commercial Service advances U.S. economic growth by promoting exports and ensuring fair access to global markets. With 106 domestic and 122 international offices, it serves as a global advocate for American business, providing a first line of defense against unfair foreign trade practices. Based in Trenton, Lauren works directly with local companies to expand their international reach and strengthen U.S. competitiveness abroad.

34th Hermes Expo Awards Gala Honorees

Master of Ceremonies

James Polos

Executive Director, Middlesex County Improvement Authority

James Polos serves as Executive Director of the Middlesex County Improvement Authority, leading public-private development initiatives such as the North Brunswick train station, the renovation of the New Brunswick Train Station, and several major infrastructure projects in Central New Jersey.

A lifelong public servant, Jim has held roles as Mayor of Highland Park, Middlesex County Freeholder, and now serves as Commissioner for the NJ Police Training Commission, Chairman of the Crime Stoppers Program, and Trustee of the Middlesex County 200 Club. He is also Highland Park's Emergency Management Director and a Silver Life Member of the NJ State PBA.

A proud Greek-American, Jim played a key role in the AHEPA Monroe Senior Housing project and serves as Vice President of the Metropolis Council of New Jersey, appointed by His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos. An Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and devoted member of St. George GOC in Piscataway, Jim is above all a family man—husband to Rita and father to three daughters: Nicolette, Angela, and Sophia.

George James Tsunis

Former U.S. Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic

Ambassador George J. Tsunis presented his credentials to the President of the Hellenic Republic in May 2022, following his nomination by President Joe Biden and confirmation by the U.S. Senate. A proud Greek-American with deep roots in Platanos, Nafpaktia, Ambassador Tsunis embodies the Hellenic ideals of *καλοσύνη*, *αγάπη*, and *φιλότιμο*, values instilled in him by his immigrant parents.

He is the Founder, Chairman, and CEO of Chartwell Hotels, and has held several key public service roles, including Chairman of the Battery Park City Authority and the Nassau University Medical Center. A founding trustee of the Hellenic American Leadership Council and a trustee of The Hellenic Initiative, he has long championed Hellenic engagement and philanthropy.

Earlier in his career, he served as a partner at Rivkin Radler LLP and held multiple counsel roles in New York government. He holds a B.A. from NYU and a J.D. from St. John's University School of Law.

An Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the recipient of numerous civic honors, Ambassador Tsunis is dedicated to service, leadership, and the preservation of Hellenic values. He is married with three children.

Irina Kapetanakis

Entrepreneur • Rumble Boxing Franchise Leader

Irina Kapetanakis is a dynamic entrepreneur and trailblazer in the fitness industry whose success exemplifies resilience, innovation, and leadership. With a background in Fortune 500 companies, she brings a powerful combination of strategic sales acumen and operational excellence to every venture she leads.

As a franchise owner and operator, Irina has played a pivotal role in the expansion of Rumble Boxing. Her Hoboken studio became the brand's top-performing location globally, and in 2024, she acquired four original NYC Rumble studios—achieving 200% growth and tripling membership in under a year. Her portfolio now includes several of the top 10 highest-revenue Rumble studios worldwide.

Irina's impact continues with new studio openings in Jersey City (2025) and Boston (2024). Her ability to build strong local business partnerships and foster vibrant, inclusive fitness communities sets her apart as a visionary business leader and role model for women entrepreneurs.

Justine Frangouli-Argyris
Author • Journalist • Cultural Advocate

Justine Frangouli-Argyris is an acclaimed Greek author, journalist, and cultural leader. A native of Lefkada and a graduate of the University of Athens Law School's Political Science department, she has contributed to Greek newspapers, radio, and television since 1983.

She is a columnist for HuffPost Greece, a reporter for Hellenic DNA, and a weekly contributor to local Lefkadian media. Justine has authored 18 books, including biographies and novels rooted in real-life stories. Her literary debut was the biography of Archbishop Spyridon, *The Lonely Path of Integrity*.

Justine serves as President of the Lyceum of Greek Women of Montreal, a board member of the Hellenic Congress of Quebec and the Hellenic Scholarships Foundation, and was instrumental in the creation of the Statue of the Greek Immigrant in Montreal.

She has been honored by the City of Montreal, named "Hellene of the Year" by the Hellenic Community of Greater Montreal, and awarded both the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal and the King Charles III Coronation Medal for her enduring contributions to the Greek diaspora in Canada.

Charles Capetanakis
Chairman, Hellenic Classical Charter Schools
Partner, Davidoff Hutcher & Citron LLP

Charles Capetanakis is a partner at Davidoff Hutcher & Citron LLP, where he practices in real estate, estate law, civil and white-collar litigation, and government relations. A graduate of NYU and Fordham University School of Law, he has held numerous public appointments, including Chairman of NYC's District 20 School Board and Vice-Chairman of the NYS Project Finance Agency.

He is the founding Chairman of the Hellenic Classical Charter Schools in Brooklyn and Staten Island, both recognized for academic excellence, including National Blue Ribbon status. A dedicated community advocate, he also serves as Vice Chair of the Brooklyn Board for Boy Scouts and is a longtime leader at Holy Cross GOC's Troop 715.

George Athanasopoulos
Community Leader & Entrepreneur

Born in Mazaraki, Greece, George Athanasopoulos immigrated to the U.S. in 1971 and built a successful career in hospitality. In Bound Brook, NJ, he founded several businesses including George's Train Station Restaurant, Trackside Bar & Grill, and Trackside Taxi Service.

A dedicated parishioner of St. George Greek Orthodox Church since 1974, he has served as Board President, Festival Chairman, and Chairman of the Annual Dinner Dance. George is a proud member of AHEPA, the Bound Brook Elks, and the Lions Club, and continues to serve the community with unwavering dedication.

Lucas Loucopoulos
Vice President & CFO, Raceway Petroleum, Inc.

Lucas Loucopoulos is a seasoned executive with over 30 years at Raceway Petroleum, where he currently serves as Vice President and CFO. A graduate of Rutgers University and Fairleigh Dickinson University, Lucas has also devoted decades of service to St. Demetrios GOC (Union) and Kimisis Tis Theotokou (Holmdel), including roles as Parish Council leader and Festival Chair.

A proud AHEPA member for over 40 years, Lucas is deeply committed to promoting Hellenism, faith, and philanthropy within the community.

Alec Economakis
Supreme President, Sons of Pericles

Alec Economakis is the current Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles, promoting Hellenic heritage, service, and brotherhood across North America. A Florida State University graduate, Alec has led national philanthropic campaigns raising over \$100,000 for causes such as the Ronald McDonald House and Children's Miracle Network.

He serves on the Parish Council of Saint Sophia Cathedral in Washington, D.C., and is a dedicated youth basketball coach and community mentor.

Michael Papaphotes
AHEPA Leader • IT Professional

Michael Papaphotes is an IT executive with over 30 years of experience in the legal and corporate sectors. He currently serves as Chapter President of AHEPA Delphi Chapter 25, having previously held the position of District Governor for AHEPA Empire State District 6 and sits on its National Board of Auditors.

He holds computer science and telecommunications degrees from Pace University and is also active in theater and music. Michael resides in Sunnyside, NY.

Dimitri Geaneas
Community Leader & Business Executive

Dimitri Geaneas spent over 35 years in supply chain management at Bristol-Myers Squibb and Colgate-Palmolive, overseeing \$700 million in contract manufacturing. He holds degrees from Stevens Institute of Technology and hails originally from Sparta, Greece.

He has served St. George (Ocean, NJ) and Kimisis (Holmdel, NJ) for over two decades in leadership roles and is current president of AHEPA's Ocean Chapter, where he's helped grow membership from 59 to 110.

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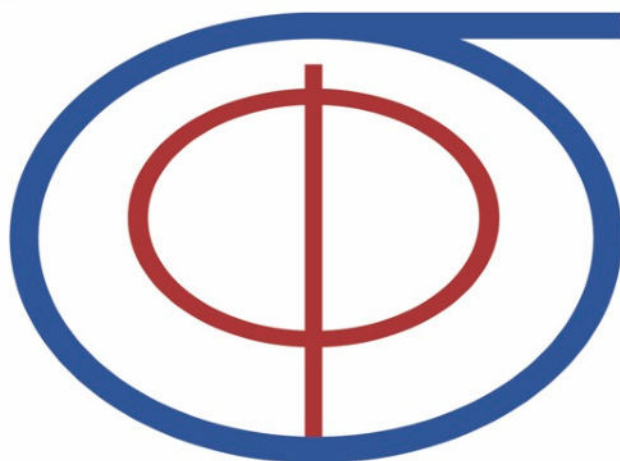
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on its 34th anniversary
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