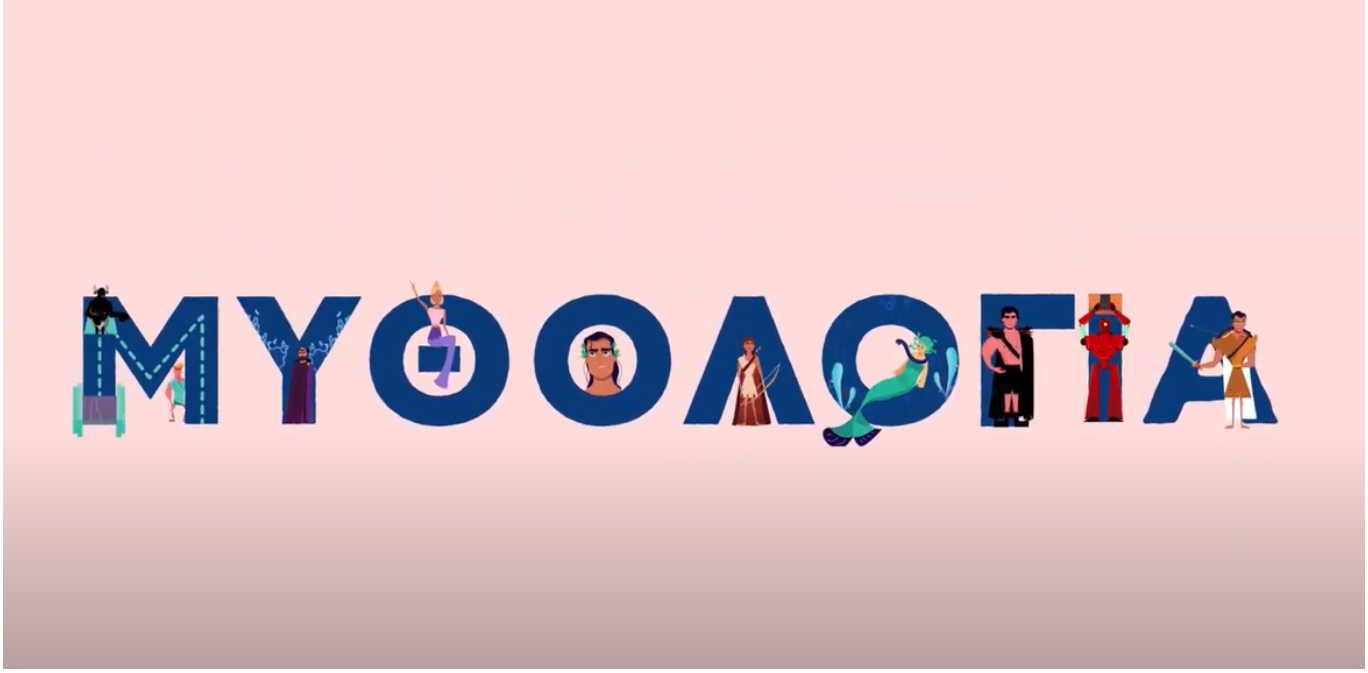
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Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Supports Young Learners in the Greek Diaspora With StaEllinika's New Mythology Course



The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America will offer new Greek mythology courses to students in the United States thanks to Staellinika, an initiative of the General Secretariate for Public Diplomacy and Greeks Abroad (GSPDGA) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Centre For Hellenic Studies at Simon Fraser University (SFU) . The project was developed with the support of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF).

The new Greek mythology courses are available in both Greek and English—and are an addition to a suite of story-driven and game-based language courses designed to engage preschoolers, elementary students, and young adults in the Greek diaspora.

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America will continue to work alongside the GSPDGA and the SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies in the coming months. The planned release of new content and modules will further enrich the courses with mythology, culture and additional language content as schools across North America diligently prepare for a new school year starting this fall.

Deputy Foreign Minister Konstantinos Vlasis stated that "The continuous

enrichment and constant updates of the Staellinika platform contributes significantly to the success of our initiative by constantly attracting new users. We are particularly pleased that the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and personally the Most Reverend Archbishop Mr. Elpidoforos have embraced our initiative and supported it in practice from the first moment. With its help, the important role it plays in the preservation and promotion of our cultural heritage is proven once again “.

Mr. Ioannis Chrysoulakis, Secretary General for Public Diplomacy and Greeks Abroad stated that “Staellinika offers a bridge for young Greeks in the diaspora to reach the roots of their heritage. GSGAPD is proud to support this initiative and to work with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, who will be instrumental in disseminating this cultural product to the diaspora.”

Dr. Anastasios Koularmanis, Director of the Education Department of the Archdiocese of America, noted “the role Greek mythology can play in helping children develop critical thinking skills and creativity. The stories we learn as children shape our minds by instilling values and morals, as well as helping us learn how to communicate with one another. Staellinika’s mythology courses combine playfulness with an exceptional learning experience, appealing to both children and adults alike.“

Director of the SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies, Dr. Dimitris Krallis, noted: “Staellinika offers a fun and informative learning experience during a time of great anxiety, as our societies take steps into an emerging post-pandemic world. The next generation of the Greek diaspora will be provided with the necessary tools needed to keep Greek language, culture and its history, alive and thriving well into the future, as a result of the collaboration with our long-time partners at the Greek Government and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, and with the support of the SNF.”

StaEllinika has now reached over 30,000 learners across multiple platforms after being adopted last year as the official tool of the Hellenic Republic for teaching and learning the Greek language, mythology and elements of Greek culture in the Greek Diaspora.

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