

Conference Recap

The members of the Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians wish to thank the community of SS Constantine and Helen Cathedral in Richmond, VA for hosting our 2018 Annual Conference. The 4-day event was held on October 11-14 with rehearsals, a CMI, delicious meals and wonderful entertainment. Fotini Nichols from Annunciation Cathedral in Baltimore, was this year's guest conductor and the guest organist was Teodora Adzharova, also from Annunciation Cathedral. Despite nearly a whole day of no electricity due to hurricane Michael, rehearsals went on as scheduled and the music of Nicholas Roubanis was brought to life. This Roubanis music is part of a National Forum project to adapt "legacy" liturgies to the new Archdiocesan-approved English. Two of our conference participants, George Theodossiou of Brockton, MA and Tony Giallourakis of Clearwater, FL helped to spearhead the effort. Fr. Chrysostomos Gilbert and Renée Root presented a Church Music Institute on The Order of the Liturgy, and on Singing - Best Practices. Comedian, BASILE! kept us all laughing with his unique brand of Greek humor, and Nick Kyrus tickled the ivories to choruses of *To Kokoráki* with handy props from the Annapolis crew. Kudos to the host committee and the entire Cathedral Choir in Richmond for a successful conference. [**CLICK HERE**](#) to read a note from Fifi.

Elections

Congratulations to our newly elected 2018-2020 officers:

Paul Mavromihalis	President
Barbara Bambacus	Vice-President
P.J. Missiras	Treasurer
Miriam Kotsonis	Secretary
Alexa Garrison	Virginia District Supervisor
Fotini Nichols	Maryland District Supervisor

Pam Sande Greater Philadelphia District Supervisor
Kathryn Athanasoulas New Jersey District Supervisor

2020 Music Review

The music of Nicholas Roubanis was again selected for the 2020 Conference to be held in Annapolis, MD. The guest conductor will be Lucy Papadakes from Holy Trinity Cathedral in Charlotte, NC. (Selection of music and conductor is done two years in advance.)

Athenagoras Medallion

The recipient of this year's **Athenagoras Medallion** was Pamela A. Sande from St. Luke in Broomall, PA. Pam has been in the choir for many years and has served on the board of the EFGOCM for more than ten years. Congratulations to Pam for this honor presented by the Federation on behalf of the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians.

Years of Service

10-year awards were presented to Perry Alexion, Elaina Avgeropoulos, Carol Crouse, Dina Mellas, Brian Fink, Regina Petinos, and Marina Mikhail.

A 25-year certificate and pin was presented to Demetra Peters. 50-year certificates and pins were presented to Polly Ploussiou, Galina Schneider, Stefanos Niktas, Fotini Nichols, Stephanie Kalogredis, Dr. Eli Donkar and Nikki Chergotis.

And for the first time since the federation has been keeping records, there were several church musicians who have attained 75 years at the psaltirion or in the choir. Congratulations to Helen Kehayes, Peter Kehayes, Irene Burton, Nick Coumanis, Mary Vourlas and Irene Mathas.

Also recognized were Vivian Bacalis, Hope Demitry and Alex Lambros for 60 years, and to Elaine Kyrus, James Loizou and Christina Chukalas for 70 years.

Scholarships

Joey Chavez, Elias Kotsis and Peter Papadopoulos each received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Gallos and Mitchum Scholarship funds. Congratulations to these fine young men in the pursuit of thier musical studies.

If you made a pledge to the scholarship fund at the conference, please fulfill your commitment. [**CLICK HERE**](#) for scholarship information.

2017 Conference Recording

Participants in the 2017 EFGOCM Conference (Perth Amboy) who attended this year's Conference received their complementary CD of the Gallos IV Liturgy. The remaining 2017 participants will receive their copies of the recording from their District Supervisors or Choir Directors. The CD was recorded, edited, and produced by Miriam Kotsonis.