

2024 PIE

January 22, 2024

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Dear partners, volunteers, and friends,

It is a joy to welcome you to our Museum's New Year's pie event and I wish you all the best for 2024.

As customary, I will briefly talk about the events of '23 and some of our plans for '24.

The past year was marked by the decision of the Greek state to declare our Museum the National Museum of Natural History. The regulation has already been prepared, soon to be voted on by the Greek parliament; the statute of the Museum reformed, and the technical data sheet has been submitted to Rec

At the same time, 2023 was a fruitful year with rich scientific and educational work and special events:

The large exhibition of the visual works of Angelos Goulandris entitled Astronaut on Earth was truly a special event for the Museum.

He presented his artistic side, completing her understanding of his multifaceted personality, whose spirit is always diffused in Museum. The exhibition was a great success, receiving a response from art-loving audience, and received wide publicity in magazines, newspapers, television, radio and podcasts.

As part of the program of events on the effects of Climate Change with the participation of reputable scientists, the themed event stood out "Adaptation to Climate Change, new challenges new ideas" with speakers:

Maria Damanaki, Advisor for Climate and Marine Policy, Kostas Professor Kartali at EKPA, member of the European Scientific Committee Union, and Kalliopi Radoglou, Professor of Forestry at Demokritio University. cycle of speeches will continue this year examining the relationship of Climate Change with economic development, on Monday February 26, with speakers the emeritus professor Tassos Giannitsi, the President of SEV Dimitris Papalexopoulos, and the Deputy Minister of Environment, Alexandra Sdoukou.

I will soon refer to the most important activities of our departments starting with the research and education departments.

The Soil Ecology and Biotechnology Laboratory participated and continues as coordinator of the KALLISTI project, of the Ministry of Rural Development, for spot fertilization in crops where one was applied for the first time robotic wet lubrication system with sensors.

He also participated in the Nature 2000 committee of the Ministry of Environment while at the same time he was engaged in the study of the equipment program of workshops for the Recovery Fund and the Technical Bulletin.

The Bioanalytical Laboratory's research on Alzheimer's Disease goes on. The results were presented in 3 publications, and they did presentations at three international conferences.

His research work on Alzheimer's Disease will continue with cooperation of the Technical University of Vienna (TUW) based on approved EMBO Advanced Collaboration Grant program. Participation in this

program was considered a success for the Museum and we received congratulations. The educational department of the Natural History Museum received 13,500 students of all ages. Created 3 new training programs, organized new Panhellenic Student Painting competition for this year entitled "A shell on the bottom", while 19 educational programs have been sent for approval to Ministry of Education.

This year, for the first time, students were given programs using tablets for each student. Also implemented some online tutorials programs in schools as well as Creative Employment Workshops

From the educational department of the Gaia Center we are informed that: The exhibition "Climate Change & Us" was visited by 7,000 students in 2023.

The exhibition "Earthquake in the Museum" 2,000 students.

For the new school year, 7 new educational programs were planned and online visit guide for Educators.

It also hosted a teacher's day related to the exhibition "Climate Change and Us".

Organized Summer-Camp for two weeks, entitled "Heroes of the planet" with the support of many departments of the Museum.

In collaboration with the Paleontology department, participated in the Conference:

Global and Local Progress & Challenges and with the collaboration of Healthy Seas educational workshops were held for the S/K on the topic "Dive into plastics".

Finally, he participated in a conference of the Ministry of Culture and the International network for Sustainable Development UNSDSN with which we also have a memorandum cooperation.

Our goal is to educate and inspire people to to understand the critical issues of our time and to protect him our planet and life.

The educational departments and the scientific staff of the Museum in collaboration with the scientific committee of the Museum will study strategy so that our educational activities are upgraded to become more targeted, relevant and impactful.

The preservation of the natural environment of Parnitha and, especially, the Estate of Tatio, is of vital importance for Attica.

The botanical department of the Museum in the context of the cooperation with the Ministry Culture completed the long-term study of the biodiversity of the flora of the former Royal Estate of Tatoi.

He also contributed to the completion of the project "Compilation of Red Lists of Endangered Plant Species of Greece" of OFYPEKA.

I also want to refer to his "Atlas of the Hellenic Flora" edition of leading Botanical Scientist Arne Strid, his long-time collaborator Botanical Department of the Museum, where on the dedication page it is written: St

Niki Goulandris and Elli Stamatiadou for their huge contribution to Greek Botany.

Our Botanical department is also mentioned in his thanks, and partners Dionysis Mermigas and Angeliki Dimas. More in your email has been sent.

During 2023 in the Hydrobiology department the collections increased by 700 about specimens of mostly marine molluscs.

In the Department of Geology - Paleontology the collections were enriched, by donations but also field work, by about 70 mineral samples and fossils.

As a representative of the Museum in SDSN Greece (United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network) website k) and in collaboration with the educational department of the GAIA center, a survey was carried out for the Sustainable Development Goals and our report "Climate change and us", which we presented at the 11th International Conference on Sustainability Development.

In addition, in 2023 the collaboration with the Hellenic Geological Authority began of Mining Research to find marine fauna in key locations of the islands of the central Aegean.

Added 200 new specimens to the collections of the Department of Terrestrial Zoology.

The Department participates in a digitization program of butterfly specimens of our collection, in order to study the effect of climate change on size of butterflies.

Around 6500 samples and its first results were digitized program were presented at the 11th Panhellenic Conference of Hellenic Ecological Society.

The Museum Library acquired V-Smart, an Integrated System Management of bibliographic data and digitized material. V-Smart belongs to the latest generation of Information Systems and guarantees the best possible documentation, preservation and promotion of the bibliography and archival wealth of the Museum.

Soon the new electronic catalog of the Library will be available on the Museum's website.

The financial services department with a heavy workload every day managed 4 co-financed projects and one Foundation project with the YPPO, submitted a proposal together with the Collections department for our participation in the Disco program, included the Museum in the "DIGITAL BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION" program, completed the building competition for the Project "Upgrading and modernization of the buildings of the M.G.F.I.", grouped in competitive procedures the supplies of the Foundation from the Recovery Fund, while supporting the activities of other departments.

The technical services department was mainly busy last year with the works of the energy upgrade program of the Museum, the which is completed at the end of this year. And of course at work maintenance and support of the Museum buildings, events, curated the lighting of the Astronaut Exhibition, rebuilt it call center while he began the study of the modernization of the facilities of the Natural History Museum.

The IT department created new services to the visitor but and to schools, created an interactive application for its use Ball from a large touch screen to be operated by the visitor, cooperated with the training departments as well as with the business development department for new services and kept its various functions ready Museum. It has also kept operating costs down over the years secure sponsorships from major IT companies.

The main work of the art department was the study and realization of the exhibition "Aggelos Goulandris Cosmonaut on Earth". He collaborated with departments responsible for the Christmas program and did the study and production of porcelain for the shop inspired by the new exhibition Angelos Goulandris.

The Business Development and Communication department had the organization and the coordination and editing of the opening of the exhibition, "Aggelos Goulandris, Cosmonaut on Earth". Also the festive program of the Museum "Mystiki Christmas mission with the agents of the planet". Organize it STEM education program "Smart Cities" for 2000 sponsored students of the I. S. Latsis Foundation and collaborated in the Summer Camp. He provided her his help and collaborated with many departments of the Museum, while prepares proposals for sponsorships.

He edited the feed of the website and newsletters with news of everything the sections of the Museum. 55 newsletters sent, I became 8000 on the 23rd recipients.

On FACEBOOK with 440 posts we have reached 112,500 "friends".

On INSTAGRAM we had a 16% increase in followers which are now 8,300.

Our Greek Wetland Habitat Center branch, in Thessaloniki, where its purpose is, as its name suggests, to highlight, study and protect of biotopes and wetlands, in 2023 completed 10 studies on protected areas. Made 4 publications in international peer-reviewed scientific journals and 24 conference and technical presentations meetings in Greece and abroad.

He submitted 10 proposals and 5 new projects were approved inside and outside Greece.

Completed hydrologic simulations of 15 physical watersheds of lakes and the mapping of the bottom of 13 lakes.

Created an educational package and two Center exhibitions Information.

It has received the approval of the Ministry of Environment for its continuation lake monitoring program until 2029 and its extension to 79 monitoring stations.

The Paleontological Museum of Rethymnon throughout 2023 has a guided tour students from the schools of Crete (about 600 students). Organize them educational programs entitled "Voyage in the Tethys Ocean" and speech on the fossil animals of Greece. In the context of this presentation participants had the opportunity to tour old environments virtual reality using special glasses and marveled iconic animals of the past such as mammoths, dinotherians and ammonites.

In the context of its cooperation with the "Idea Network" AMKE - Geopark of Psiloritis, organized the International Museum Day educational activities for his visitors. While with his presence at the 3rd Celebration of the Psiloritis Geopark, the September 2023, he informed the audience about the fossils of the area and organized activities for the little friends.

In the store in 2023 there was a steady upward trend in sales Weekends and especially increased traffic throughout the holiday season.

The new Angelos Goulandris product range contributed to this as well as new products collaborations with well-known artist/designer names.

Iris Passou completed her 30-year collaboration with the Museum and a new person, Gianna Sotiropoulou, took over the shop.

In the Events Department, despite the renovation work of the Museum due to program of the energy upgrade, the number of events and the revenues from them, fluctuated at approximately the same levels in relation to last year.

The good relationship with Deipnosophistrio has created a steady income for the Museum.

I want to thank Takis and Dimitris Christophileas, Diomedis Kapsalis and Dimitris Skarmoutsos as well as their associates.

Our successful collaboration, their love for our work, and the friendship that has developed between us, they are a great support for the Museum.

We hope we are all well in 2024 and moving forward on her path creative collaboration.

For 2024 the Museum together with the Metropolis of Rethymnon and the University of Crete, are organizing a Symposium for September 24, entitled "Earth, one sustainable planet for all - Call to Action - Change is possible'.

The conference has been placed under the auspices of the Patriarch and its President of Democracy, and we are proceeding with its implementation.

In closing, my dear colleagues and friends, I want to thank you very much all the staff for their dedication and work. Human resources is our most important asset and we expect it to lead the way in the transformation and development of our Museum.

Also our volunteers whose contribution to its smooth operation Museum is particularly important. On behalf of the Museum, I express them

Thank you very much and best wishes for health and happiness in 2024.

Today with more than 70 volunteers supporting the Educational departments of the Museum, the Shop, the Collections, the Art Department, the Library but also their decisive role in the operation of the Museum

On weekends, they leave the mark of their offer indelible and the essence of their offer valuable.

Our era is an era of partnerships. Even more so now that the Museum becomes National. In this spirit, we seek to conclude memorandums cooperation with large institutions and organizations.

I would like to emphasize the decisive contribution of all members of the Board of Directors. Without their support in all areas we could not reach as here.

We are proud because we contribute to such a great project that they started the founders Angelos and Niki Goulandris at a time when its subjects environment did not have today's importance.

I wish you all a Happy New Year and a healthy New Year!

And I close with a mandinada

That in the world you desire and shape with your mind,
may the year bring it to your door!