

## Invitation to a Competition in Ancient Greek:

### “Μικροφιλοσοφικοί Διάλογοι“: Short Philosophical Dialogs

**It concerns: high school students following ancient Greek language courses and their teachers on the subject**

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#### The Hellenikon Idyllion

The Hellenikon Idyllion, also known as the Garden of the Muses, is an artistic and cultural meeting place on the Gulf of Corinth, which aims to promote the ancient Greek language as well as the fine arts.

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#### The goal

With the competition for the year 2024, we continue to pursue the goal of promoting the classical Greek language as well as the noble art of Philosophy among young people. Our hope is that by doing so, we can contribute to the achievement of good life and happiness. Our wish is knowledge of Ancient Greek obtained at school to be used for creative philosophical dialogs.

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#### The challenge

In groups of up to 7 people, engage in a dialog as Greek philosophers. Choose an important, tricky, funny or strange question as a starting point and create a philosophical dialog based on Plato's great example! Bring this dialog on stage and record it as a video (video duration about 5-10 minutes)! The pronunciation can be either Erasmian or Modern Greek.

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#### The winning prize

All dialogs will be judged by our distinguished jury and certificates will be awarded to the participants. The first prize winner group will receive a week's free accommodation at our arts and culture resort. The winners of the second prize will receive four days of free accommodation. The teachers of the winning groups will also win free accommodation accordingly, even if they do not participate in the dialog. Of course, they are very welcome to perform with their students! Important: Several first and second prizes can be awarded! It is also possible to invite Greek students and teachers to have a festive meal together with you after the performance of your dialog, and thus to establish valuable intercultural contacts.

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#### Ideas

- You can enhance your dialog with a musical piece embedded in or placed either before

or after this dialog. Care should be taken so that the music does not make the dialog difficult to be understood, but rather emphasizes it.

- For example, you can use a quote from a Greek philosopher or verses from an ancient poet as a starting point for your dialog. However, the choice of a question about the challenges of our time can be just as exciting!
- To be inspired, take a look at the excerpt from this year's event, where the students of the Benedictine grammar school in Ettal, under the direction of Roland Jurgeleit, philosophize on the topic "How to live - πῶς βιωτέον;"! See link below.

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## Conditions

- On time submission of the video and a file containing the text both in Ancient Greek as well as in your native language.
- Permission to upload the video to YouTube and other social media. We will then provide the video with subtitles in Ancient Greek and English.

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## Application deadlines

- If you are interested in participating in this competition, we would be grateful if you could let us know by December 20, 2023 by sending an email to [info@idyllion.eu](mailto:info@idyllion.eu)
- Video and text must be sent to us electronically before March 23, 2024
- the judging of the dialogues, including the announcement of the first and second prizes, will take place by April 15, 2024 at the latest

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## Evaluation

A distinguished international jury will evaluate your contributions:

- Stefano Pagliaroli, Professor of Italian Philology and Greek and Latin Humanistic Philology at the University of Verona, Italy
- Federico Aurora, Academic Librarian of Classics at the University of Oslo, Norway,
- Thomas Andersen, classical philologist, philosopher, artist and former high school teacher from Norway,
- Julia Diamantopoulou, classical philologist and poet from Greece,
- Irene Mavropoulou, classical philologist, founder and principal of the Fronein Ancient Greek School and doctor of educational sciences from Greece
- Roland Jurgeleit, classical philologist, philosopher and former secondary school teacher from Germany, Chairman of the Timaeus Society e.V.
- Andreas Drekis, founder and director of Hellenikon Idyllion and sponsor of this multi-year competition and the seminar "Speaking Ancient Greek Together and Philosophizing Today", which has been taking place for 31 years.

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## Possible partial funding

- In the case of intercultural contact with students from Greece, you may be able to apply for financial support from your government through a special program.

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Would you like to improve your knowledge of Ancient Greek?

Then join us in The Hellenikon Idyllion, Greece, to practice Attic Greek orally together with a group of interested and inspiring enthusiasts! Two relevant courses are provided; the first after Christmas and the other in summer 2024 for the 32nd year. The shorter course from December 30 to January 6, is free of charge and the only costs are those for accommodation. The longer course is a seminar to be held in the summer, from July 13 to 27 and it can be booked for 50 Euros (promotional project).

Please also take a look at our website: [www.idyllion.eu](http://www.idyllion.eu)

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us!

Looking forward to your positive response,

Best regards,

Andreas Drekiis

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Link to the video of this year's event:

[https://youtu.be/NR\\_hR6lCN1k](https://youtu.be/NR_hR6lCN1k)

Here is also a link to the video of the Spanish school class that won the competition in 2018:

<https://youtu.be/g3YFz2fBX98>