

## Translation for the Letter from the Hellenic Republic Katerina N. Sakellaropoulou on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Hellenic Institute

I am pleased to participate in the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the American Hellenic Institute. 2024 is a special year, since it marks 50 years since the restoration of Democracy in Greece, but also the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, an event that continues to hurt us to this day.

Since its establishment, AHI has promoted the strengthening of relations between Greece, Cyprus and the USA, playing an important role in issues concerning the Greek American community. And it has evolved, thanks to the systematic work and collective effort of its members, as well as its Board of Directors, into a valuable and dynamic body of Greek American dialogue, which defends democracy and the state of law.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Angelo Tsakopoulos and Mrs. Cathy Papoulias-Sakellaris who are being awarded this year for their many years of selfless service. These are two of the most prominent representatives of the Greek diaspora, with a long and extremely successful career, who are honored for promoting the values of Hellenism: education, philanthropy, initiative, social responsibility. We are proud of all the worthy representatives of our country abroad, who by their example embody the concept of universal Hellenism, shaping the modern image of Greece.

I am confident that the active Greek-American community will continue to highlight the virtues of our people, occupying a prominent place in the social, scientific, economic and political development of the USA.

I wish the American Hellenic Institute a very happy birthday and an even more creative future.