

HELLENIC LINK-MIDWEST

A SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL LINK WITH GREECE ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΤΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ P.O. Box 3, Park Ridge, IL 60068-0003

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Chicago Greeks at the Turn of the 20th Century

On Sunday, October 22, 2023, at 3:00 pm Central Time, Hellenic Link-Midwest will present *Dr. Michael Davros* in a talk titled: "Chicago Greeks at the Turn of the 20th Century." The event will be held at the lecture hall of the Holy Taxiarchai and Saint Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church, 7373 N Caldwell Ave, Niles, Illinois.

Dr. Davros will present archival research on Greeks from their early arrival in the city of Chicago. Greeks played a significant role in rebuilding the city after the Chicago Fire, yet confronted many of the same acculturation difficulties faced by all immigrants at the turn of the 20th century. Greeks not only participated in the rebuilding of the city, but established a firm basis for cultural participation in their own community and in Chicago with the establishment of educational institutions, businesses, and churches which helped to promote and maintain Hellenic culture. Many Greek immigrants faced prejudice and discrimination, but managed not only to survive but thrive despite disruptions of their communities. The lecture will also turn to focus on problems associated with the displacement of Greektown by the relocation efforts of Mayor Richard J. Daley to situate the University of Illinois at Chicago in its current campus.

Dr. Michael G. Davros teaches in the Departments of English, at Northeastern Illinois University, and as an adjunct at Oakton Community College. As Honors Program Professor at Northeastern, he has taken students on Field Study tours to many locations in Greece. He has lectured throughout the United States, in Greece, and in India on diverse topics in Greek American and African American literature. As author of the photohistory Greeks in Chicago, Davros worked with Alice Kopan and Steve Frangos to memorialize many of the photographs of DePaul University Professor Andrew Kopan. In his courses, he teaches the literature of conflict and features Greek-American authors as well as other ethnic authors. Davros holds degrees from Tulane University, Louisiana State University and a doctorate degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

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