

ACOUSTE



KEY

*Celebrating
Sixty Years*

METROPOLIS OF BOSTON FEDERATION

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH MUSICIANS



The Beautiful Skyline of Boston's Back Bay

Metropolis of Boston Federation 60th Anniversary Conference Comes Home to Boston!

Beantown, The Hub, Cradle of Liberty, America's Walking City, City on a Hill, Athens of America, Puritan City, Cradle of Revolution, City of Higher Learning, home of the Red Sox, the Patriots, the Celtics, the Bruins and the Revolution - Boston is known by many different names by many people. To members of the Greek Orthodox Community, Boston is also the Birthplace of the New England Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs that was founded in 1946 as the first formal organization of Greek Orthodox church musicians in the Western Hemisphere.

During the weekend of November 3rd, 4th and 5th, Boston will be the host city for the 60th Anniversary Conference of the recently renamed Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians. The historic Annunciation Cathedral of New England will serve as the backdrop for this highly anticipated event. The Conference Committee, under the energetic leadership of Dean Limberakis, Choir Master of the Cathedral Choir and President Emeritus of the Metropolis of Boston Federation, has been hard at work planning the many events that will unfold during the weekend.

Dr. William M. Harmand, director of the St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church Choir in Syracuse, NY for over 25 years, has been selected to guest conduct a choir of more than 100 voices for the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at this Conference. He is the son of the Very Rev. Michael Harmand, who has ties to the Metropolis of Boston and the Annunciation Cathedral.

The guest organist will be Chris J. Zervos, who has served as the accompanist of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral Choir of Toledo, OH for 22 years. He is the composer of the bilingual liturgical setting for the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom that will be chanted at the Hierarchical Liturgy that will culminate the Conference.

This year's Divine Liturgy will feature a wonderful youth choir comprised of youngsters from the surrounding parishes of Greater Boston. Toulia Sparages, Senior and Youth Choir Director of the Transfiguration Church in Lowell, MA, will guest conduct this group.

Fellowship, food and fun will be in abundant supply throughout this beautiful fall weekend. From Friday's "Chowda-Fest" kick-off dinner and Saturday's elegant Grand Banquet honoring the Past Presidents of the Federation to the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning, this year's Conference promises to be the biggest and most highly attended Conference ever.

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MBFGOCM LIST OF DISTRICTS

DISTRICT 1

Maine

Bangor	St. George
Lewiston	Holy Trinity
Portland	Holy Trinity
Saco	St. Demetrios

New Hampshire

Concord	Holy Trinity
Dover	Annunciation
Franklin	Transfiguration
Keene	St. George
Laconia	Taxiarchai
Manchester	Assumption
	St. George Cathedral
	St. Nicholas
Nashua	St. Philip
Newport	St. Vasilios
Portsmouth	St. Nicholas
Somersworth	Assumption

Vermont

Burlington	Dormition of the Mother of God
Rutland	St. Nicholas

DISTRICT 2

Massachusetts

Andover	SS. Constantine & Helen
Dracut	Assumption
Haverhill	Holy Apostles
Ipswich	Assumption
Lowell	Holy Trinity
	St. George
	Transfiguration
Newburyport	Annunciation
Peabody	St. Vasilios

DISTRICT 3

Massachusetts

Clinton	St. Nicholas
Fitchburg	Holy Trinity
Marlboro	SS. Anargyroi
Southbridge	St. George
Webster	SS. Constantine & Helen
Worcester	St. Spyridon Cathedral

DISTRICT 4

Massachusetts

Arlington	St. Athanasius the Great
Boston	Annunciation Cathedral of N.E.
	St. John the Baptist
Cambridge	SS. Constantine & Helen
Lexington	St. Nicholas
Lynn	St. George
Roslindale	St. Nectarios
Somerville	Dormition of the Virgin Mary
Watertown	Taxiarchae
Weston	St. Demetrios
Woburn	Annunciation

DISTRICT 5

Massachusetts

Braintree	St. Catherine
Brockton	Annunciation
Cohasset	Nativity-Assumption
Fall River	St. Demetrios
Hyannis/Centerville	St. George
Mansfield	St. Gregory
New Bedford	St. George

DISTRICT 6

Connecticut

Danielson	Holy Trinity
Enfield	St. Nicholas
New London	St. Sophia
Norwich	Holy Trinity

Rhode Island

Cranston	Annunciation
Newport	St. Spyridon
Pawtucket	Assumption

DISTRICT 7

Massachusetts

Chicopee	SS. Constantine & Helen
East Longmeadow	St. Luke
Holyoke	Holy Trinity
Pittsfield	St. George
Springfield	St. George Cathedral

**With Fear and reverence you
should stand in church, for our
Christ is invisibly present with
the holy angels.**

**-Elder Ephraim
(Counsels p. 410)**





September 2006

To the members of the Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians

Dear brethren,

I greet you at the beginning of the ecclesiastical year with my prayerful wishes that you are the recipients of God's grace and heavenly gifts. I am looking forward to seeing you at the Choir Federation Conference scheduled at the Annunciation Cathedral of Boston, in November. I am especially looking forward to celebrating the Hierarchal Divine Liturgy where Dr. William Harmand from Syracuse, NY, will be the guest conductor, and Chris Zervos from Toledo, OH, who has composed the music for this year's Conference, will be the guest organist.

This year's Conference will mark a significant milestone, the 60th Anniversary since the establishment of the Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians. Once again, we will have the opportunity to share fellowship and encourage one another in exercising this most important Liturgical Ministry. I am pleased that our Youth Choir, conducted by Toula Sparages of the Transfiguration Church in Lowell, will also participate in the conference.

We in the Metropolis of Boston are blessed to have exceptional choirs whose members appreciate the priceless treasure of our Orthodox Hymnology. I am grateful to all of you for your dedication to liturgical music and your service to our communities. I look forward to the Conference in November.

With love in the Lord,

METHODIOS
Metropolitan of Boston

Choir Federation Membership

It's that time of year again when we remind all of our parishes in the Metropolis of Boston about their Choir Federation membership dues. We ask that each Church pay by the time of the Annual Conference, November 3-5 this year. If a Church is not currently paid, then its representatives cannot vote on any matters at the annual business meeting during the Conference. This is a major issue as the Federation wants all parishes to have a say (*vote*) on any changes pertaining to all of us. So please be sure to take care of this matter as soon as possible. Please send dues (\$100) and choir roster to Treasurer Jim Maheras. *For more information, please see the dues notice on page 19.*



National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians Annual Meeting - Nashville, TN



National Forum Delegates George Theodossiou, Heidi Mason, National Forum Chairman Dr. Vicki Pappas and Dean Limberakis

Nashville, TN - More than 1500 delegates from throughout the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America descended upon the Nashville Opryland Resort and Convention Center in mid-July for the 38th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress and 30th Annual Meeting of the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians. There was no mistaking who was there and what was going on. Banners with the logo of the Archdiocese along with the Congress theme, "Share the Truth of the Gospel and the Love of Christ," were hanging every several yards on the lampposts that lined the endless pathways of the sprawling complex. There was a sea of clergymen dressed in black along with countless laymen and women, all with nametags and red lanyards hanging from their necks proclaiming "Clergy-Laity." Other conferences and conventions were taking place simultaneously in the hotel, but none could match the enormity of ours. In and among all of this grandeur, approximately 40 delegates from the National Forum of Greek Orthodox

Church Musicians met, sang, deliberated, learned, taught, planned and shone as a light that preserves the rich musical heritage of our faith. MBFGOCM delegates included President Heidi Mason, Vice President George Theodossiou and President Emeritus Dean Limberakis.

Sunday's Divine Liturgy, held in the Grand Ballroom, was certainly a royal presentation. The service was officiated by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios along with all of the Metropolitans of the Archdiocese. National Forum members joined the 120-voice choir comprised of the members of MEFGOX, the Mid-Eastern Federation. The bilingual liturgical setting was composed by Chris J. Zervos of Toledo, OH and conducted by Evey Simon of the Detroit, MI area.

Sunday evening the National Forum hosted a reception, attended by hierarchs, priests and invited guests. National Forum members sang under the direction of Joanne Kambouris, choir director of Clearwater, FL. This year's recipients of the St. Romanos Medal in recognition of their many years of teaching Byzantine music, the Rev. Dr. Nicholas Kastanas and Dr. Jessica Suchy-Pilalis, were announced.

National Forum members sang once more at the opening ceremonies of the Congress. After His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios officially opened this year's Congress, the National Forum meetings began. Led by Dr. Vicki Pappas, National Chairman of the Forum, the delegates reviewed past projects and presented new ones. Emphases on English use in our choirs as well as encouraging the youth to sing are major objectives. A youth choir database has been developed and a Youth Choir Newsletter is being published and sent electronically throughout the country.

The National Forum offered a congregational singing workshop to the clergy and laity of the Congress. The Forum is in the process of producing a hymnal containing common English translations to be eventually distributed to all the parishes of the Archdiocese. Twelve hymns of the Liturgy were presented at the workshop. When the hymnal is complete, it will be presented to the Synod for final approval. It is a vital need to provide our congregants with a common English translation of the hymns of our Church.

Many guests visited our meetings, including His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, to congratulate and commend the members of the National Forum for their valuable contribution to the liturgical and musical ministry of the Church. This year's meeting was somewhat special as there was quite a substantial psalti representation among the delegation. It was very informative to engage in dialogue with our chanter counterparts.

As well as carrying on with usual National Forum business, there was plenty of downtime each evening. Fun dinners were designed to not only experience the fine dining and culture of Nashville but also to promote additional discussions, collaborations and camaraderie among the Conference participants. The delegates were graced with impromptu piano concerts in the hotel lobby by Paul Barnes of Lincoln, NE, a sing-a-long with "dueling" pianos played by Nick Kyros and Joanne Kambouris, and an evening at the Grand Ole Opry. After a long and very productive week, it was time to bid farewell to all our old and some new friends until next year. The Metropolis of Boston will host the 2007 National Forum meeting at Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, MA.

Many thanks to Susan Karcanes of Westfield, NJ, National Forum recording secretary, for providing us with her Minutes from the Annual Meeting.



Pastor's Corner

Faithful Members of the Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians

We are most pleased to be welcoming you to our beautiful and historic Annunciation Cathedral of New England, the seat of our beloved Metropolitan Methodios, for your MBFGOCM 60th Anniversary Conference in early November.

You are coming here to foster and maintain a high standard of singing among all choirs of the Federation. Your purpose has been to promote the study, development and performance of church music and to provide a means of developing the character, personality and fellowship through music. These are the goals for instituting this Federation in addition to inspiring and making each and every one of us true worshippers.

Three years ago our beloved Annunciation Cathedral family had the opportunity to celebrate its Centennial Anniversary. During that year we took time to reflect upon the noble dream of the pioneers who nurtured and transformed to reality a vibrant community for their children and grandchildren. For many years our Cathedral was the only organized ecclesiastical and Greek Orthodox presence in the Boston area. Our Cathedral then became the mother as many other parishes came forth from her womb.

So you also have the opportunity to celebrate and reflect upon those pioneers who sixty years ago established the Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians. This 2000-year tradition of church music is an incredible treasure that has been bestowed upon our parishes and should be shared with all Greek Orthodox Christians.

In our liturgical hymns one can find the dogmas and the teachings of our faith. In these hymns one can find the path that leads to salvation. And so, your role in the worship experience is invaluable. I commend you and pray that you humbly keep working hard, through the gift of music, Christ's light and saving message for all to hear and receive the knowledge of the truth.

May our Heavenly Father bless you and let your mind sink deep into the study of the words of the Spirit, which you sing, until your soul is roused to the heights of understanding and thereby is moved to glorify God.

† Fr. George Daskalakis
Dean, Annunciation Cathedral

Quick Notes

Worcester, MA – Elpida Miliias, Choir Director of St. Spyridon Cathedral, has retired after 50 years of service. The parish is hosting a retirement dinner in her honor on October 28, 2006, at 5:30 p.m. All are welcomed to attend. Tickets are \$35 per person and may be obtained by contacting the Chairperson, Serena Shields, at 508-845-8589 or serenashields815@aol.com or the Cathedral at 508-791-7326. Axia!

Worcester, MA – Elpida's successor as Choir Director of St. Spyridon Cathedral is Bill Pappazisis. Don't forget to congratulate him the next time you see him. Welcome aboard, Bill!

Portsmouth, NH – Former NEFGOC President Jim Maheras (2003-2005), Choir Director of St. Nicholas Church, has retired as Choir Director but will continue to sing for services and also chant as part-time psalti. We know you'll keep yourself busy, as usual, Jim!

Braintree, MA – St. Catherine's Church, formerly of Quincy, has established at its new location a choir under the leadership of Christopher Gilbert, a seminarian studying at the Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline. We understand Chris had his own choir at age 12. Wow!

Lynn, MA – The Choir at St. George will be participating in the Christmas opera, "Amahl and the Night Visitors," with Mass Theatrica on December 8-10. The third and final concert will be a benefit performance for the Maliotis Cultural Center and will include Christmas Music sung by the St. George Choir. Information on the first two performances can be obtained from Stacey Arambages, Choir Secretary, at arambages@comcast.net. Tickets for the Maliotis performance can be obtained through the Maliotis website (www.maliotis.org) or by phoning 617-522-2800. What a great opportunity!

Newburyport, MA – The Annunciation Church will be hosting the **Yale Russian Chorus**, a men's a cappella choral ensemble, on October 28, with a reception following the performance. For tickets or more info, contact John Tsakirgis (978-499-7822). Good luck!

Lynn, MA – St. George Choir members will be releasing in early December their second Christmas CD entitled, "Christmas on Broadway." For more information, please contact Stacey Arambages at arambages@comcast.net or mail to 21 Garden Lane, Wakefield, MA 01880. Congrats!



Obituaries

Arthur J. Peros

Arthur J. Peros of Mashpee (formerly of Waltham), MA, long-time choir director, recently passed away on September 5, 2006. He was raised in Cambridge, attended Cambridge High & Latin High School and Harvard University, and earned his MBA from Boston University. He served in the Army during World War II. Mr. Peros was retired from B.F. Goodrich Chemical Co.

He served as choir director for more than 20 years each in the Greek Orthodox parishes of Sts. Constantine and Helen in Cambridge and Taxiarchae in Watertown. When he moved to Cape Cod, he directed the choir at St. George Church in Centerville and St. Michael the Archangel Church in Cotuit.

As a church musician, Mr. Peros received the Patriarch Athenagoras Medal for Distinguished Diocesan Service in 1997 and the Archbishop's Years of Service Medal in 1988 for his 53+ years of service as choir director. He was a co-founder of the New England Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs, as well as one of its former presidents.

Mr. Peros and wife Irene, married for 56 years, enjoyed winters in Punta Gorda, FL and gatherings with family and friends. Besides his wife, he was the devoted father of Joanne Sinerate and her husband John, Virginia Segalini and her husband Mark, and Deborah Finnell and her husband Brian; grandfather of Stephanie, Nicole, Jesse, Dana, Arthur and Alexandra.

Ernest A. Villas

Ernest A. Villas of Weston, MA, passed away on July 14, 2006, after 50 years of faithful service to the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

Mr. Villas' accomplishments were many and touched thousands of people. He was a leading figure in the establishment of GOYA and served as its first National Chairman from 1951-54. He also was founding chairman of the Council of Eastern Orthodox Youth Leaders of the Americas in 1954, during which time the largest gathering of Orthodox faithful (over 12,150) participated in Pan-Orthodox Vespers officiated by Archbishop Iakovos in 1963. Mr. Villas was founding president of the Diocese of Chicago Choir Federation in 1957 and chairman of the GOYA National Chapel Committee responsible for planning the construction of a chapel at Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline. He served as Executive Director of the Hellenic University Foundation in 1960 and from 1962-1982 was the Director of the Department of Laity for the Archdiocese. Mr. Villas composed and published a much-needed Orthodox Liturgical Hymnal in Greek and English – used extensively in Orthodox churches throughout North and South America. From 1970-1980, Mr. Villas was coordinator of the Archdiocesan Clergy-Laity Congresses. In 1982 he was appointed Director of the Archdiocese Department of Religious Education and was instrumental in establishing the St. John Oratorical Festival.

His funeral was held at the Holy Cross Chapel in Brookline.

Aionia i mnimi afton.

Conference Area Rehearsals



Conference Area Rehearsal at St. Vasilios Church, Peabody, MA

The Annunciation Choir of Cranston, RI and the St. Vasilios Choir of Peabody, MA both hosted Conference Area Rehearsals recently at their respective parishes. The attendance at both rehearsals was very good and everyone appreciated the time spent to work on some of the more challenging hymns and parts. Many thanks to Manny Mihailides and his committee in Cranston and to Fr. Costin Popescu and his committee in Peabody for being such gracious hosts, for feeding us all so well with delicious food, and for the fellowship that was offered. Special thanks also go to Dean Limberakis and Tony Vatosios for conducting and to Ona Calogrias and Sophia Argeros for accompanying on the organ.

Don't forget to attend the Dress Rehearsal, which will be held at the Annunciation Cathedral in Boston, on Sunday, October 29, at 3:00 p.m. See you there!



A Message From Our MBFGOCM President

*What is the role of a Choir Director (CD)?**

Musical

1. Selects hymns/music that are suited for his/her choir, be it vocal range, text, harmonic structure, language and/or a variety of other factors.
2. Analyzes the components of the music.
3. Schedules rehearsals to learn the new music and review previously learned music that may need attention. The CD should be aware not to overdo rehearsals by repeatedly drilling the music.
4. Encourages the choir, who is now ready to make its presentation of the music.

Administration Responsibilities

1. Remains in touch with the priest, psalti and Youth Director, if children sing for Divine Liturgy or special events.
2. Orders music and supplies, i.e., binders, markers, tab sheets, etc.
3. Stays in touch with choir members, especially if a member has been absent for a period of time.
4. Maintains piano/organ and robes so that they are in good condition.
5. Sends announcements of upcoming events.

Caring

1. Cares about all aspects that the position entails.
2. Keeps up with announcements and mailings from other choirs and local Federation.
3. Attends conferences and workshops in order to keep the Music Ministry of our Church thriving. When attending these events, the CD learns of new ideas and music and is better able to develop programs that are suited for his/her own parish.
4. Seeks continuing education by reading current literature, listening to new music and discussions with other CDs.
5. Assists new choirs or CDs in the area, if necessary.

What then makes for a successful CD and Choir? The answer is PREPARATION. As in any other job, the same holds true for your position as Choir Director in order to sing the glorious hymns of God.

Yours in Christ,
Heidi Mason

*Based on *Musica, No. 11*, a publication of the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians

A Message From The Editor

It is with great pleasure, and a little trepidation, that I begin my tenure as Editor of our beloved *Acouste Key*. I have worked on the AK staff for several years and have grown to appreciate the great service that the publication provides to the Greek Orthodox Church Music community of the Metropolis of Boston. It is gratifying to hear from people that I meet from around New England and even from around the country how much they anticipate receiving each edition. I would like to work towards continuing to grow and improve the content provided to even better serve our needs and help to perpetuate the rich musical heritage of our Greek Orthodox worship. Please let our staff know what *YOU* would like to see featured in future editions.

Yours in Christ,
George Theodossiou

Voice Tip

Evelyn Czaja

Here we are embarking on a new liturgical and choir season. One of our first major events is the Annual Conference of the Choir Federation - its 60th anniversary - which will be held from November 3-5 at the Annunciation Cathedral in Boston. Did I say "major?" We have been rehearsing the Conference music all summer and will be until that weekend. So, we've already hit the ground running. For those of you who have taken a complete vacation from singing during the summer, you have had a well-deserved rest. However, this means that the muscles of your larynx (vocal cords) have not been used in a "singing" manner. Singing takes more muscle than talking. If you are a jogger beginning your jog for the day, you need to stretch your muscles and warm up. You can't start at top speed. Same thing with your voice. You need to take it slow a bit, be sure to warm up at every choir rehearsal - including before the Sunday Divine Liturgy - and get back into the swing of it. Your larynx is a combination of cartilage and tiny muscles, which your body is also made of. Whatever you do to your body, you do to your larynx. Whatever precautions you take for exercising your body, you need to do with your vocal muscles. Starting off the Choir Season smart means being ready for the Conference weekend and being able to last all year enjoying what you do for your church ... that would be singing.





Patriarch Athenagoras I Award

This Award is a means of giving recognition within an individual Metropolis to persons whose Metropolis-wide contributions to the music ministry of the Church are worthy of this distinction. The recipients shall have significantly contributed talents and/or service to the development and perpetuation of the choirs within the Boston Metropolis served by MBFGOCM. By so doing, these individuals shall have fostered the aims and goals of MBFGOCM and the National Forum. The Patriarch Athenagoras I Medal shall consist of a medal specially designed for the National Forum and shall be given to each Award recipient. The recipients shall also receive a letter of commendation from Metropolitan Methodios.

The candidates shall:

- † Be church musicians who are active and contributing members of a Greek Orthodox Church within the Boston Metropolis which is served by MBFGOCM, or clergy within the Metropolis who have made significant contributions to the Church Music Ministry.
- † Have a significant length of dedicated and meritorious service to the Church Music Ministry of the Boston Metropolis.
- † Have demonstrated exceptional service at the Metropolis, regional and local levels within one or more of the organizational structures which support and promote the well-being of the total Music Ministry Program.
- † May have demonstrated distinction in one or a combination of conducting, composing, accompanying, singing, chanting or service in the Church Music Ministry.
- † May have demonstrated exceptional leadership or service in promoting regional and local Church Music Ministry programs.
- † Be nominated based solely on his or her contributions within the Metropolis.

For further information, please refer to the *New England Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs Constitution, By-Laws, Procedures Reorganized With New Concepts And Revisions For The 2003 Federation Conference*, which was disseminated at the 2002 Choir Directors Conference.

Person's Name: _____

Parish: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Please state briefly why you believe this person should receive this award.

Submitted by:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Date submitted: _____

Please mail this information by October 27, 2006 to:

Manny Mihailides, 221 Sauga Avenue, North Kingston, RI 02852





St. John of Damascus Award

This Award is given to a person who may or may not be a member of this Federation and who has made valuable contributions to the development and enrichment of our Greek folk music and/or the music of our Church, or who has contributed significantly to the advancement of our choirs. Every year at the conference MBFGOCM will present this honorary member award. Choir members who are dedicated can be nominated. The final decision will be made by the executive board.

Honorary Member Nomination Form

Person's Name: _____

Parish: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Please state briefly why you believe this person should receive this award.

Submitted by:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

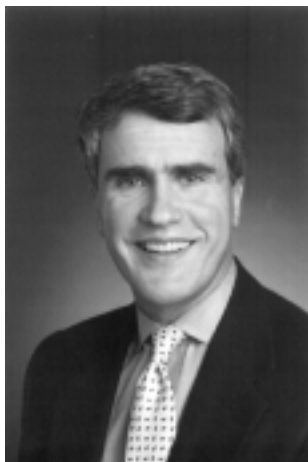
Date submitted: _____

Please mail this information by October 27, 2006 to:

Manny Mihailides
221 Sauga Avenue, North Kingston, RI 02852

Conference Biographies

William M. Harmand, M.D. - Guest Conductor



William M. Harmand

William M. Harmand, M.D., the son of the Very Rev. Michael and Presvytera Mary Harmand, was born and raised in Syracuse, NY.

Bill has been involved in music for most of his life. He started as a member of the junior choir and graduated to the adult choir, which he has directed for over 25 years, at St. Sophia's Greek Orthodox Church in Syracuse in a career that has spanned over 40 years. From 1974-1978, while completing his graduate medical education at the University of Toronto, he was choir director at All Saints Greek Orthodox Church in Toronto.

His musical career includes directing 10 musical productions with the St. Sophian Players. He has guest conducted at numerous Mid-Eastern Federation workshops, concerts and Divine Liturgy services. In 1978, he composed a Divine Liturgy in celebration of his father's 25th service anniversary.

Bill received a B.A. in Chemistry and music minor from Syracuse University and a M.D. from SUNY Upstate Medical Center. He is Board Certified by the American Academy of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery and is a consulting Laryngologist for the Glimmerglass Opera, Syracuse Opera, Syracuse Children's Chorus and the Syracuse Oratorio Society. Bill is also on the Board of Directors for the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, Civic Morning Musicals and the Syracuse Children's Choir.

A past recipient of the Archbishop Iakovos Service Award, Bill presently lives in Jamesville, NY, with his wife, Kathleen, and son, Michael Ian, who is a freshman in college.





Conference Biographies

Toula Sparages - Guest Youth Conductor



Toula Sparages

Toula Sparages was born and raised in Boston and attended the Annunciation Cathedral in the 1940-50s. Her father, assistant chanter, taught her many church hymns. She sang in the Cathedral choir under the direction of Christine Nikitas and took piano lessons for 5 years with Pauline (Barlas) Walter.

She graduated from Girls' Latin School in 1955, attended secretarial school for two years, and met and married Arthur, whom she had met at a choir conference in New Haven, CT. Toula later went back to college and graduated cum laude in 1977 with a B.S. in Music Education from Lowell University (now University of Massachusetts - Lowell). She holds an Orff Schulwerk Certificate she received in 1984 from Lowell University. She taught elementary school music in Andover for 20 years and retired in 1998. After her public school retirement, she taught music at the Hellenic American Academy in Lowell for four years and continues to play piano for some of their special holiday programs.

Toula is currently the choir director at the Transfiguration Church in Lowell. Prior to that, she was not only a choir member and assistant organist, but also the director of a very successful youth choir for 9 years. An active member of the Philoptochos, Toula has written musical skits and coordinated talent shows for them.

For the past 13 years, Toula has been music teacher at the Transfiguration Church's Vacation Church Camp - a very popular summer program that attracts many children from throughout the Merrimack Valley and the surrounding area. VCC conducts Saturday workshops throughout the year, and Toula volunteers her time to bring music to the children of her parish.

She is a former officer of NEFGOC, serving as recording secretary for two years, and has presented youth workshops for the Metropolis of Boston Choir Federation.

Toula and Arthur are the proud parents of three children and eight grandchildren. They hope to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in 2007.

Chris J. Zervos - Guest Organist



Chris J. Zervos

Chris J. Zervos, composer of *The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom: A Bilingual Choral Setting*, was born and raised in Ohio. As a teen, he joined Toledo's Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral's choir and was made its accompanist within 6 months, a position he has held for 22 of the last 42 years.

In 2001, Chris organized *Summer of the Arts*, a parish youth program incorporating church music, religious education, Greek folk dance and arts & crafts classes. His parish priest asked Chris to arrange the Church Hymn, *Evlogitos I Christe - Blessed Are You Christ*, in Greek and English and in one musical score. His desire to share the beauty of our liturgical texts with those new to the faith or without an understanding of liturgical Greek led him to begin his bilingual compositions, published in 2003. In 2006, he published *Faithfully Yours*, a collection of original music of faith celebrating the cycle of life.

Chris earned a B.A. in History from the University of Toledo, where he was a member of the Blue Key National Honor Fraternity. He performed in school and community productions and was director and arranger of his college chorale.

Chris, a past President of the Mid-Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians, is a member of the Coordinating Committee of National Forum. His liturgical setting was sung by MEFGOX at its 2005 convention in Pittsburgh and at the 2006 Clergy-Laity Congress in Nashville. He sings regularly with the Metropolis of Detroit choir and the choir of the Orthodox Christian Council of Greater Toledo, as well as his home parish.

Chris was a custom home builder and land developer for 31 years. Today he is the Division Manager of Building Inspection for the City of Toledo.

Chris and his wife of 33 years, Persilla, have two children: Christopher (and wife, Tricia) and Jacqueline.



2006 Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians
60th Anniversary Conference
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral of New England



General Conference Information

- Dates:** Friday, November 3, 2006 to Sunday, November 5, 2006
- Host:** Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral of New England
514 Parker Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02120
(617) 731-6633
Cathedral Center
162 Goddard Avenue
Brookline, Massachusetts 02445
- Coordinator:** Dean Limberakis, Choir Master, Annunciation Cathedral of New England
Telephone: (617) 850-1258 email: dlimberakis@hchc.edu
- Music:** *The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom: A Bilingual Choral Setting* arranged by Chris J. Zervos.
The cost is \$20 per book plus shipping. Please order from:
CJZ Press Ltd.
2159 Evergreen Road, Toledo, Ohio 43606
Telephone: (419) 534-2937 email: chrisjzervos@aol.com

**** PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR MUSIC AND CHOIR ROBE ****

- Conductors:** **Adult Choir** William M. Harmand, Choir Director
St. Sophia Church, Syracuse, New York
- Youth Choir** Toula Sparages, Choir Director
Transfiguration Church, Lowell, Massachusetts
- Organist:** Chris J. Zervos, composer of the music for this conference
Holy Trinity Cathedral, Toledo, Ohio

Conference Registration Information

- Hotel:** Holiday Inn Boston-Brookline (near Kenmore Square)
1200 Beacon St., Brookline, Massachusetts 02446
(617) 277-1200 or 1-800-939-8821
- Room Rate:** \$139+tax per night
- Deadline:** October 30, 2006 - You must register by this date to receive the conference rate. Be sure to identify yourself and reference the FEDERATION MUSIC CONFERENCE
- Check-in Time:** 2:00 p.m. **Check-out Time:** 12:00 Noon

*Individuals must call the hotel directly to make reservations.
Any reservations received after the deadline will be accepted on a rate and room availability.*

Directions from the HOTEL to the CATHEDRAL

Take a LEFT as you leave the Holiday Inn and cross over Beacon St. at the lights onto St. Paul St.
At the next set of lights at the top of the hill take an immediate LEFT onto Longwood Ave.
Stay on Longwood Ave. for 1 (one) mile
Turn LEFT onto the Avenue of the Arts, which is Huntington Ave., for 0.2 miles
Turn RIGHT at the lights onto Ruggles St. (after the Fire House)
Turn RIGHT at the next set of lights onto Parker St. The Cathedral is on the corner at the lights



*2006 Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians
60th Anniversary Conference
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral of New England*



Conference Deadline Dates

Today	Federation Dues: \$100 for Choirs \$10 for Individuals
October 27, 2006	Award Nominations due for Patriarch Athenagoras I Award and St. John of Damascus Award
October 27, 2006	Your Choir Picture; Ads for Commemorative Album
October 30, 2006	Hotel Reservations
October 31, 2006	Registration without late fee
In advance of conference	Guest Meal Tickets

Conference Fees

Your 2006 Conference Registration Fee covers Friday's Dinner and Saturday's Continental Breakfast, Lunch, and the Grand Banquet, Sunday's Reception, registration bag, handouts, and gifts. The reception after Sunday's Service will be a brunch in the Cathedral Upper Hall hosted by the Parish Council.

Adults: \$100 if postmarked by October 31, 2006
\$110 if postmarked after October 31 (late fee)

Youth: \$10

Each registration form must be accompanied by a check or the registration will not be considered valid. Please make check payable to MBFGOCM Conference 2006 and send with appropriate adult/youth registration forms, guest meal forms, etc. to:

MBFGOCM Conference
P.O. Box #665
Brookline, Massachusetts 02446

Conference Registration Times

You may register at the Cathedral in person at the following times:

Friday, November 3, 2006	Cathedral Upper Hall	5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 4, 2006	Cathedral Upper Hall	8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Conference Commemorative Album

Space is available for your ad in the COMMEMORATIVE CONFERENCE ALBUM. The contract form is on the following page. Please consider being a part of this beautiful keepsake album.

Choir Picture

Please forward a glossy color photo and roster of your choir along with a \$25 processing fee, in addition to the cost of the ad, to be included in the Commemorative Album. To be included in the album, the deadline is October 27, 2006.

We prefer camera-ready artwork. Please type your roster on a separate sheet of paper and attach it, along with your choir picture (no staples, please!), to the advertising contract along with your payment. Original photos will not be returned. Let us have 100% participation from all of our choirs!!!





Conference Commemorative Album Advertising Contract

Date _____ Name of Business or Patron _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Tel. No. _____

The undersigned agrees to pay the sum of \$ _____ for a _____ page ad size or a "Friends" listing (see below), in the 2006 MBFGOCM Commemorative Album, and is subject to the terms of this contract.

Signature _____ Printed Name _____

Rate Schedule

Front Page	To the highest bidder
Back Page	\$750
Inside Cover (Front)	\$500
Inside Cover (Back)	\$400
Full Page	\$200
Half Page	\$175
Quarter Page	\$100
Friends (Name Listing)	\$ 25

If placing a business ad or personal patron ad, please enclose black and white camera-ready artwork (or a business card). Do not staple. We prefer camera-ready artwork. Please mail to the address below.

If camera-ready artwork cannot be furnished, the ad will be set in type by the Album Committee. Please type your information or message on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to this form along with your payment.

If you are a "Friends" supporter, please print your name below as you wish it to appear on the "Friends" page.

FRIENDS AD _____

Please Enclose Your Check and Ad Materials with this Contract
Make check payable to MBFGOCM Conference 2006, and mail to:

MBFGOCM Commemorative Album
Dean Limberakis
Annunciation Cathedral Center
162 Goddard Avenue, Brookline, Massachusetts 02445
(617) 850-1258

DEADLINE FOR ALL ADVERTISEMENTS IS OCTOBER 27, 2006





Adult Registration Form

Important Notice: Each registration form must be accompanied by a check or the registration will not be considered valid. Please make check payable to MBFGOCM Conference 2006 and send your payment together with the appropriate adult/youth registration forms, guest meal forms, etc. to the address listed below.

(Please Print)

Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms. First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home/Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____

Parish Name _____ Parish City _____

VOICE PLACEMENT (circle one)

Soprano Alto Tenor Bass

Are you a choir delegate for your parish? YES NO

(Dues must be paid prior to Conference)

Do you have a Youth Choir in your parish? YES NO

Do you have guests attending? YES NO

(If so, please attach Guest Meal Order Form)

REGISTRATION FEES

The adult fees are as follows (payment must accompany each registration form):

\$100 if postmarked by October 31, 2006 \$110 if postmarked after October 31, 2006

Make checks payable to **MBFGOCM Conference 2006**

Mail check and Registration Forms, Guest Meal Order Form, etc. to:

**MBFGOCM Conference
P.O. Box #665
Brookline, Massachusetts 02446**





Youth Registration Form

The Youth Choir is Open to Children Age 8 and Up

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ E-mail _____

Parent's Name _____ Cell Phone _____

Parish Name _____ Parish City _____

Age _____ Grade in School _____

Known food and/or drug allergies _____

Do you sing in your church Youth Choir? YES NO

Do you have a parent attending the adult conference? YES NO

Is your parent interested in chaperoning? YES NO

REGISTRATION FEE

The Youth Fee will be \$10 for music, meals (including admission to the Grand Banquet), activities, etc.

Make check payable to **MBFGOCM Conference 2006** and mail check, Registration Form and Youth Release Form to:

Mail all forms to:

MBFGOCM Conference
c/o Mrs. Toula Sparages
P.O. Box #665
Brookline, Massachusetts 02446

If you are mailing this form and the Youth Registration form only, mail directly to:

Toula Sparages
5 Luan Circle
Chelmsford, Massachusetts 01824
e-mail: toulaarthur@comcast.net





Youth Release Form

I hereby give permission for my child _____ to participate in the Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians 60th Anniversary Conference to be held at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral of New England, Boston, Massachusetts on November 3-5, 2006, and hereby release MBFGOCM and the Cathedral from any liability for any accident or injury that may occur during the course of said event, including travel to and from activities that are held at locations other than the property of the Cathedral. I hereby authorize any medical treatment for my child in the case of an accident or illness. Further, my child understands that he/she must abide by all rules of this event. I also accept full responsibility for any charges for damage caused by my child.

Date _____ Signature of Parent or Guardian _____

Contact Tel. No. of Parent/Guardian during the Conference _____

Insurance Company _____ Tel. No. _____

Name of Insured _____ Relationship to Child _____

Insurance Policy Number _____

Doctor's Name _____ Tel. No. _____

Parish Name _____

Parish City/State/Zip _____

Child's Date of Birth _____

Please return this completed form with your Youth Registration Form. This form must be received before your child may participate in any of the activities.

Mail all forms to:

MBFGOCM Conference
c/o Mrs. Toula Sparages
P.O. Box #665
Brookline, Massachusetts 02446

If you are mailing this form and the Youth Registration form only, mail directly to:

Toula Sparages
5 Luan Circle
Chelmsford, Massachusetts 01824
e-mail: toulaarthur@comcast.net





Adult Choir Schedule

Friday, November 3 (Cathedral)

- 5:00 p.m. Registration
- 6:00 p.m. *New England Chowda-Fest*
(chowder, salata and dessert)
- 7:00 p.m. Rehearsal of Liturgical Music with
Guest Conductor William Harmand

Saturday, November 4 (Cathedral)

- 8:00 a.m. Registration and Continental
Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Rehearsal of the Liturgical Music
for Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
- 12:00 p.m. L U N C H
- 1:00 p.m. Rehearsal Continues
- 2:45 p.m. Annual Federation General
Business Meeting
- 4:15 p.m. Dress Rehearsal with Children's
Choir

GRAND BANQUET

**Cathedral Center, 162 Goddard Avenue
Brookline, MA**

- 6:30 p.m. Social Hour
 - 7:00 p.m. Dinner
- Following Dinner:
Honoring Past Presidents
Musical by the
Cathedral Singers
Dancing with music by the
Makredes Ensemble

Sunday, November 5 (Cathedral)

HIERARCHICAL LITURGY

- 8:30 a.m. Warm-up and line-up
 - 9:15 a.m. Proceed to Sanctuary
 - 9:30 a.m. Doxology and Hierarchical Liturgy
 - Noon Brunch Reception
- Everyone Invited - Hosted by the
Cathedral Parish Council

Youth Choir Schedule

Saturday, November 4 (Cathedral)

- 8:00 a.m. Registration and Breakfast
"Goodies"
- 9:00 a.m. Rehearsal
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. Rehearsal Continues
- 12:30 p.m. L U N C H
- 1:30 p.m. Activities (Museum of Fine Arts)
- 3:45 p.m. Rehearsal and Dress Rehearsal
with Adult Choir

GRAND BANQUET

**Cathedral Center, 162 Goddard Avenue
Brookline, MA**

- 7:00 p.m. Dinner

Sunday, November 5 (Cathedral)

HIERARCHICAL LITURGY

- 8:30 a.m. Warm-up and line-up
 - 9:15 a.m. Proceed to Sanctuary
 - 9:30 a.m. Doxology and Hierarchical Liturgy
 - Noon Brunch Reception
- Everyone Invited - Hosted by the
Cathedral Parish Council

Would Your Parish Like To Host an Upcoming Federation Conference?

If so, please submit a letter from your parish asking to be considered as a possible host for a future conference. The request needs to be signed by your Priest and Parish Council President. It is imperative to have their support for a successful conference. Please contact:

Heidi Mason

1770 Bay Road, Stoughton, Massachusetts 02072
heidi.mason@kindredhealthcare.com





Guest Meal Order Form

If you would like to order meal tickets for a guest who is not participating in the Choir Conference, please fill out this order form and return it with your registration form and corresponding payment. We would appreciate receiving the reservations in advance of the conference.

Name of Conference Participant _____

Parish Name _____ Parish City _____

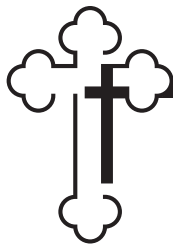
Name of Guest(s): _____

Day	Meal	Cost per Meal	No. of Tickets	Total
Friday	<i>Chowda-Fest</i>	\$12		\$
Saturday	Continental Breakfast	\$5		\$
Saturday	Lunch	\$10		\$
Saturday	Grand Banquet	\$45		\$
Saturday	Dinner for Guest	\$10		\$
	Children 12 and under			
Sunday	Brunch	Open to All		
Total				\$

Make checks payable to **MBFGOCM Conference 2006** and mail with this form to:

MBFGOCM Conference
P.O. Box #665
Brookline, Massachusetts 02446





**METROPOLIS OF BOSTON FEDERATION
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH MUSICIANS**

**Time to Renew Your Membership!
Parish Membership List for 2006-2007**

(November 1, 2006 - October 31, 2007)

The Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians (MBFGOCM) exists for the benefit of all parishes in the Metropolis of Boston. It serves as the liaison between each local parish and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese's religious choral group, the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians, which provides many resources to each parish and Choir Federation. MBFGOCM's ability to support Church Musicians is dependent upon the financial support from its choirs, organists, psaltai, and individuals.

With MBFGOCM's fiscal year (November 1 - October 31) fast approaching, we take this opportunity to invite you to submit a **Choir Membership List**, along with your **Annual Membership Dues** of \$100, and mail them to:

James Maheras, 20 Fairhill Avenue, Rye, NH 03870.

Thank you for your prompt response!

Name of Parish _____ **Parish Priest** _____

Address _____
(Street, City/Town, State, Zip Code)

Tel. _____ **Fax** _____ **E-mail** _____

Choir Director's Name _____

Address _____
(Street, City/Town, State, Zip Code)

Tel. _____ **Fax** _____ **E-mail** _____

Organist's Name _____

Address _____
(Street, City/Town, State, Zip Code)

Tel. _____ **Fax** _____ **E-mail** _____

Parish Psalti's Name _____

Address _____
(Street, City/Town, State, Zip Code)

Tel. _____ **Fax** _____ **E-mail** _____

Youth Choir Coordinator/Director (If you do not have a coordinator, please appoint someone who will be able to work with the Youth Music Ministry in the parishes of the Metropolis of Boston.)

Address _____
(Street, City/Town, State, Zip Code)

Tel. _____ **Fax** _____ **E-mail** _____

Please mail or email (jgmplm@earthlink.net) your separate list of adult choir and junior/youth choir members, giving each name, address, city, state, zip code, telephone, e-mail address, voice part (s-a-t-b), together with this form and your dues (\$100), made payable to MBFGOCM, to:

**James Maheras, Treasurer
20 Fairhill Avenue, Rye, NH 03870**





ACOUSTE KEY

*Celebrating
Sixty Years*

METROPOLIS OF BOSTON FEDERATION

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH MUSICIANS

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE

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Somerville, MA 02143

Carol Salvo
12 Robin Hood Rd.
Winchester, MA 01890

The Official Publication of the
Metropolis of Boston Federation of
Greek Orthodox Church Musicians

This is YOUR Newsletter
Send us your news articles
and photos

To submit information for the
Acouste Key:
Send to Carol Salvo
by email (bcjas@comcast.net)
Deadline Date: November 30, 2006

METROPOLIS OF BOSTON CALENDAR

Church Musicians:
Please send us your dates to add to the Calendar.

2006

October 20 Deadline to submit articles/info for the November *Mini Acouste Key*

October 27 Deadline to submit Choir Pictures and Ads for the Conference Commemorative Album

October 27 Patriarch Athenagoras I Award and St. John of Damascus Award nominations due

October 28 Yale Russian Chorus - Hosted by Annunciation Church, Newburyport, MA
See Quick Notes on page 5 for more details

October 28 Retirement Dinner for Elpida Miliias Worcester - 5:30 p.m.
See Quick Notes on page 5 for more details

October 29 Conference Area Music Dress Rehearsal Annunciation Cathedral of NE 514 Parker St., Boston, MA - 3 to 5 p.m.

October 30 Deadline to make Conference Hotel Reservations

October 31 Conference registration forms must be postmarked to avoid \$10 late fee

November 3-5 **MBFGOCM Conference 2006**
Annunciation Cathedral of New England
514 Parker St., Boston, MA

November 30 Deadline to submit articles/info for the Next Issue of *Acouste Key*

December 8-10 "Amahl and the Night Visitors"
Participation by St. George Choir of Lynn
Dec. 10 - Benefit performance at Maliotis Center, 50 Goddard Ave., Brookline, MA
See Quick Notes on page 5 for more details

2007

November 2-4 MBFGOCM Conference 2007
Submit your bids!