



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΣΙΚΑΓΟΥ

January 2022

Dear Reverend Fathers, Oratorical Chairpersons, and Participants,

We hope this new year brings health and happiness to you, your families, and your communities. Once again, we are pleased to announce that the **39th Annual Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical and Fine Arts Festival** will be held on **Bright Saturday, April 30, 2022** at **Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, 9400 West Congress Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53225**. We continue to anticipate a return to our **in-person format** of spiritual celebration and fellowship for all in attendance. Please keep in mind the following important dates and information as you begin your preparations:

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Metropolis Festival continues to offer 5 categories (Speech, Essay, Poetry, Iconography, and Vocal Solo) each with 2 divisions (Junior and Senior). Once again, our Metropolis youth are invited to register for as many as **two separate events** at the Metropolis Festival. The guidelines for these changes are contained in the enclosed **Parish Information Packet**. We hope these changes will welcome more participation at the Festival.

In addition to the **Parish Information Packet**, we have also enclosed a list of this year's **Topics** (for Speech, Essay, and Poetry), **Music Selections** (for Vocal Solo), and the **Tips and Resources** published by the Archdiocese to assist the Participants with their submissions. **Please take time to read through these documents.**

REGISTRATION

We are asking that **each Festival Participant** and **each Oratorical Chairperson** submit their registration forms online through the Google Document links found on the Metropolis website at <http://www.chicago.goarch.org/oratorical-festival> (or simply click [Chairperson Registration](#) or [Participant Registration](#)). Please note that these forms are different from those found on the Archdiocesan website. **We prefer that the Oratorical Chairperson Registration Form be submitted as soon as possible so that we may contact you with important information. The deadline for submitting the Participant Registration Form is Monday, April 11, 2022.**

DEADLINE

All entries for Speech, Essay, Poetry, and Vocal Solo, both Junior and Senior Divisions, must be submitted no later than **Monday, April 11, 2022**. These submissions must be sent **electronically to oratoricalfestival@gmail.com**. All entries for Iconography, both Junior and



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΣΙΚΑΓΟΥ

Senior, must be sent **by mail or hand delivery to Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church**, 7021-33 Hohman Avenue, Hammond, IN, 46324, ATTENTION: Audrey Polite/Oratorical Festival. **Late submissions in any category will not be judged.**

HOTEL INFORMATION

Annunciation has reserved a block of rooms for Friday and Saturday evenings, April 29-30, 2022, at the (Hilton) Homewood Suites, Wauwatosa (Milwaukee), located at 11320 West Burleigh Street, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, 53222, a 2-minute drive to the church. Discounted reservations at the rate of \$139.00 (plus taxes) per night may be made by calling (414) 444-2844 or using the link <http://www.my-event.hilton.com/mkewuhw-of5-6af1d63a-d5c1-4779-8f8b-a78f9f758d57/> and the code "Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church/Oratorical Festival 2022." The discounted rate, which includes a complimentary hot full breakfast, free Wi-Fi, fitness center, business center, and indoor pool, will be available **until March 31, 2022.**

AWARDS LUNCHEON/DAY-OF-FESTIVAL INFORMATION

Additional information regarding the Awards Luncheon and a schedule for the day of the Festival will be sent to you as the date draws nearer.

POSTER

An updated poster advertising the Festival is enclosed. We hope that you will display it in a prominent location in your parish. The poster features the icon written by Jenna Magas of Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church of Westchester, Illinois, winner of the 2021 Senior Iconography Division. A hard copy of the poster will be mailed to all parishes.

NATIONAL ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

The National Oratorical Festival, which includes only the Metropolis winners, both Junior and Senior, for the Speech category, is scheduled to take place **in person** during the weekend of June 3-5, 2022 at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Dallas, Texas.

We ask that you forward this Metropolis Festival information to everyone at your parish who is involved in a youth ministry, as well as parents of your church school registrants. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to e-mail us with any questions at oratoricalfestival@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Audrey Polite
Andrea Tsakopoulos
Co-Chairs,