LAPITHOS MUNICIPALITY

Lapithos news

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The Union of Occupied Municipalities of Cyprus holds event to honour personalities from Lapithos

In a moving and dignified event organized by the Union of Occupied Municipalities of Cyprus held on Wednesday 19 June, at the "Panos Solomonides" Municipal Cultural Centre in Limassol, distinguished individuals from occupied municipalities were honoured for their contribution to culture and sports.

Following a proposal by Mayor Soula Mourettou, the Municipal Council of Lapithos decided to honour four distinguished citizens for have significantly contributed to their respective areas and have raised the profile of Cyprus both locally and internationally.

From the field of sports, Andreas Eleftheriou and Mikis Siakallis were honoured.

• **Andreas Eleftheriou**, Physical Education teacher, renowned coach and javelin athlete, holding a national record of 71.40m, with notable achievements in national, European, and Balkan competitions.

• **Mikis Siakallis**, Physical Education teacher and high jump athlete, who held the national record of 1.97m for six consecutive years, also competing in long jump and decathlon with distinctions in national and pan-Hellenic events.

From the field of culture, historian Dr Kostas Kyrris and actor and director Photos Photiadis were honoured.

• **Dr. Kostas Kyrris**, historian, researcher, and Doctor of Philosophy, was recognized for his work on highlighting and promoting Cyprus' historical identity. He served as Director of the Cyprus Research Centre and wrote poetry and theatre plays. He received numerous awards for his contributions to literature, science, and research, and his rich production of books, articles, and studies. He is considered one of the most prominent intellectual figures in Cyprus, Greece, the Balkans, and the Near East.

• **Photos Photiades**, actor and director, with a long presence in the artistic and cultural life of Cyprus and abroad. He performed in theatre, television, and radio, and successfully directed numerous productions. He run drama workshops for teachers and students in many countries, focusing on ancient theatre, and performed in major international theatres, earning multiple awards as both actor and director.

The awards are a small token of gratitude to individuals who, through their lives and work, keep the memory of our occupied homeland alive serving as shining examples for future generations.

Double celebrations for the 30th anniversary of the twinning of the Municipalities of Lapithos and Mandraki (Nisyros) and the 75 Years of Artistic Career of Lapithos-born Composer, Musician, and Conductor Phaedros Kavallaris

On 28 June the Municipality of Lapithos held an event at Palace Theatre to celebrate both the 30th anniversary of its twinning with the Municipality of Mandraki, Nisyros, and the 75-year artistic journey of Lapithos-born composer, musician, and conductor Phaedros Kavallaris. The event, titled "*Singing for Lapithos, singing for my homeland*", was a great success.

Nisyros Mayor Christofis Koronaios and his his wife Kalliopi Kavaliotou joined Deputy Mayor of Culture Dimitra Kafetzidaki.

The event started with the reading of the Twinning Oath. In their addressed Lapithos Mayor Soula Mourettou and Nisyros Mayor Christofis Koronaios Nisyros reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining the strong ties between the two municipalities and expressed hope that the next celebration of their twinning would take place in a free Lapithos and a free Cyprus. Gifts exchange followed.

THE SECOND PART OF THE EVENT WAS DEDICATED TO PHAEDROS KAVALLARIS. Mayor Soula Mourettou and the Municipal Council honoured the distinguished composer, who brings pride to Lapithos and Cyprus abroad. The audience had the opportunity to enjoy a moving concert followed by a reception during which all attendees received a commemorative gift while the Mayor and Municipal Council members cut a cake carrying the logo of the Municipality of Lapithos.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to the success of the event.