The annual Chicago Greek Independence Day Parade commemorates the declaration of the War of Independence (Revolution) on March 25, 1821, by our Hellene ancestors against the four hundred year Ottoman occupation. It is also a reminder that freedom and democracy, these very Hellenic ideals, cannot be taken for granted.

This year we will be holding the 59th Annual Chicago Greek Independence Day Parade on March 26, on Halsted Street, in Greek town.

Since its founding in 1964, the Chicago Greek Independence Day Parade has been established as one of the biggest annual events in the Chicago Greek Community. It is being viewed as a celebration of the community’s Hellenic identity and culture, and its contribution to America’s Greatness. Its traditions are kept alive, along with the strong bonds to the Greek Orthodox Church. During this celebration, you can see colorful traditional costumes, worn by young and old; you can listen to ages old sounds; you can observe people feeling happy. It is indeed a wonderful celebration.

If there is one self-defining concept among Greeks, it is the concept of philotimo; Philotimo is a Greek word that is without definition, but impacts the world beyond imagination. The word philotimo comes from the Greek root words “filos,” meaning friend, and “timi,” meaning honor; it can be translated as “friend of honor”. However, the meaning of philotimo extends far beyond the words friend and honor. Philotimo encompasses the concepts of pride in self, pride in family, pride in community, and doing the right thing. Philotimo is an all-encompassing concept that gives meaning to life that stretches well beyond ourselves.

The event is organized by the Greek Parade Committee. The Federation of Hellenic-American Organizations. “ENOSIS” would like to appeal to your philotimo to join us in these celebrations!

Kostas Chaniotakis
President

George Katerinis
Coordinator, Parade Events
1. The marching group will proceed with or without the float and march in rows of three people.  
   Το πεζό τμήμα προπορεύεται του άρματος και βηματίζει πάντοτε σε τριάδες ώστε να αποφευχθεί η εικόνα συνωστισμού.
2. Schools with their students will march in rows of three people.  
   Τα σχολεία με τους μαθητές θα παρελάσουν επίσης σε τριάδες.
3. The parade will begin promptly at 2:30 p.m. All groups shall arrive one and a half (1 ½) hours before the parade begins so there is the proper check from the parade committee.  
   Όλα τα συμμετέχοντα τμήματα θα πρέπει να είναι παρόντα, τουλάχιστον μιάμιση ώρα (1 ½) πριν από την έναρξη της παρέλασης για να γίνει ο κατάλληλος έλεγχος από την επιτροπή της παρέλασης.
4. Everyone marching should have proper attire that is suitable for this National Holiday.  
   Όλοι οι συμμετέχοντες πρέπει να συντηρείσουν στην ευνοία εμφάνιση της παρέλασης με την κατάλληλη εορταστική ενδυμασία.
5. It is prohibited for strollers (for children), animals, and anything negative to march in the parade.  
   Απαγορεύεται να παρελάνουν τα καρότσια για τα μικρά παιδιά και ότι άλλο αρνητικό στην εμφάνιση της παρέλασης, ως επίσης και ζώα.
6. It is prohibited to step on or off a float/vehicle until it is at a complete stop. Also, all dances or acts must have been approved prior to the parade on the day of the drawing.  
   Απαγορεύεται το ανεβοκατέβασμα από τα άρματα η οι χώροι αν προηγούμενως δεν δοθεί έγκριση από την επιτροπή, στη γενική συνεδρίαση για την κλήρωση της σειράς των αρμάτων.
7. The parade assembly and disbanding areas are closed to the public. Only parade participants and staff will be allowed. Family and friends are asked to congregate along the parade route.  
   Οι μη συμμετέχοντες στην παρέλαση, που έχουν τους δίκους τους, είτε παιδιά στην παρέλαση, δεν θα πρέπει να ακολουθούν τα άρματα η τα τμήματα που παρελάνουν.
8. Parade entries must line up in the spot they are assigned. Marchers will have to follow the order and the distance between each group that is parading that is stated by the parade committee.  
   Οι παρελάνοντες θα πρέπει να ακολουθούν την σειρά και την απόσταση που ορίζει η επιτροπή παρέλασης.

THE PARADE IS A TRADITION EVERY YEAR TO HONOR, WITH RESPECT AND PRIDE, 
THE HEROES THAT SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES AND GAVE US THE MOST 
VALUABLE GIFT... FREEDOM! THE SUCCESS OF THE PARADE IS UPON ALL OF US!

Η ΠΑΡΕΛΑΣΗ ΓΙΝΕΤΑΙ ΚΑΘΕ ΧΡΟΝΟ ΓΙΑ ΝΑ ΤΙΜΗΣΟΥΜΕ ΜΕ ΕΥΛΑΒΕΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΥΠΕΡΗΦΑΝΙΑ ΤΟΥΣ ΉΡΩΕΣ ΠΟΥ ΘΥΣΙΑΣΑΝ ΤΗΝ ΖΩΗ ΤΟΥΣ ΓΙΑ ΝΑ ΜΑΣ ΔΩΣΟΥΝ ΤΟ ΠΟΛΥΤΙΜΟΤΕΡΟ ΔΩΡΟ... ΤΗΝ ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΙΑ!
Η ΕΠΙΤΥΧΙΑ ΤΗΣ ΠΑΡΕΛΑΣΗΣ ΕΙΝΑΙ ΚΑΘΗΚΟΝ ΟΛΩΝ ΜΑΣ!
2023 PARADE ENTRY FORM
Parade will be on Sunday, March 26, 2023, 2:00 p.m.
FLOATS & MARCHING GROUPS $1,450* • MARCHING GROUP $300.00
GROUPS WITH THEIR OWN VEHICLE $600.00
Please make check payable to: ENOSIS if you wish to pay by Credit Card, Please call our office
Phone: 847.635.9217 • Fax: 847.635.9223
*PLEASE NOTE YOUR FLOAT MUST BE PAID IN FULL NO LATER THAN
THURSDAY, MARCH 16, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FLOAT ORDER DRAWING
FLOAT ORDER DRAWING THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 7:00 P.M. ENOSIS OFFICE
PLEASE PRINT:
Name of Association, Society, Community, School, Parish, Business, etc.
Name __________________________________________________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________________________
City ______________________________________ State______________ Zip Code __________________
Phone/Fax __________________________________________ Email: _____________________________
Will you have a Float? Yes ☐ No ☐ Will you have a Marching Group? Yes ☐ No ☐
Approximate number of people marching from your organization_________________
Parishes should declare their participating branches (i.e. Grade School, High School, Philoptochos, etc.):
MESSAGE or HISTORY-must be received by 03/16/2023 and
should not exceed eight (8) lines total (Greek and/or English)

Contact Person(s): ______________________________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________________________
City ______________________________ State ___________________ Zip Code _____________
Phone/Fax __________________________ Email: ______________________________________
Signature: ____________________________________ Name ______________________________
Title: ______________________________________ Date _______________________________

FLOAT ORDER DRAWING THURSDAY, MAY 16, at ENOSIS OFFICE
880 North York Road • Lower Level #104 • Elmhurst, Illinois 60126