

<u>Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America</u> Ιερα Αρχιεπισκοπή Αμερικής

Office of the Archbishop Ο Αρχιεπισκόπος

October 3, 2022

To the Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy, the esteemed presidents and members of the Parish Councils, the beloved instructors and members of the Greek Folk Dance Troupes of the Holy Metropolis of New Jersey's Greek Orthodox Communities:

It is with much joy and paternal enthusiasm that I delight in announcing the annual 2023 Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey Hellenic Folk Dance Festival, which will be held in Annapolis, Maryland, January 14-15, 2023.

As you know, the Hellenic Folk Dance Festival presents a wonderful opportunity for the youth of our Holy Metropolis to join together with their fellow peers in a spirit of Christian fellowship and camaraderie, so as to engage in traditional song and dance with the aim of cultivating a greater understanding of and appreciation for our proud Hellenic-Christian culture and heritage. Through the Hellenic FDF program, our children are introduced to the vast richness and beauty of our sacred ancestral traditions, while further exploring, strengthening and developing the bonds of mutual amity and fraternity that unite them to one another into lifelong relationships of friendship and solidarity.

Kindly know that all events will take place at the host parish of Saints Constantine and Helen in Annapolis, Maryland. For further information and to confirm your parish's participation, you are welcome to communicate directly by e-mail with Mrs. Felicia Nolan, Co-Chairwoman of the 2023 Hellenic Folk Dance Festival, at <u>feliciakaravellas@gmail.com</u>.

With paternal blessings and love in Christ,

To ALEOIKAS

+ ELPIDOPHOROS Archbishop of America