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The National Library of Greece

2018 was a year of historic significance for the National Library of Greece, as the project of its relocation to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center reached its successful conclusion.

The transfer of its collections from the Vallianio and Votanikos buildings to its new premises at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center began on the 8th of January, and was completed in April. The relocation cost was €489,800 and was fully subsidized by a capital grant issued by the Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, totaling €3,414,000, provided by the Greek State to support the relocation of the National Library of Greece to the SNFCC, which was added to a €5 million grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

The pilot operation of the National Library of Greece began on Monday, July 2, 2018, with the Reading Rooms of the Lending Department, Periodicals and Manuscripts welcoming the public for limited opening hours, to begin with, which gradually grew longer.

A little later, as part of its modernization, the National Library of Greece gave the public access, on a trial basis, to the e-Reading Room, a new digital service allowing registered users to read books in the Greek language free of charge, for a set period of time, remotely, through their PC, tablet or smartphone.

Finally, alongside and complementary to its primary mission, the National Library of Greece ran, during 2018, a series of scholarly events, notably a tribute to the Holocaust, and the first photography exhibition by the poet Kostas Zafeiropoulos entitled Ta Peteina, Portraits Athens 2017, creating a space of intellectual freedom and creativity, as distinctive as it is unique.

The Greek National Opera

If 2017 was the year that, slowly but surely, the GNO began a new chapter in its history at its new premises at the SNFCC, then 2018 was the year when it expressed, clearly and tenaciously, its new artistic identity. Enthused Greek and international audiences discovered the capacities of the only opera house in Greece, under the ideal conditions of production afforded by its new facilities. In the Stavros Niarchos Hall and the Alternative Stage, the Greek National Opera presented sharp productions, both contemporary and classic, in its effort to create a representative picture of its approach to the art of opera, ballet and musical theater in our days.

National and international premieres, new commissions, themed series, collaborations between different art forms, features, festivals, innovative educational and social programs: these are but a few of the areas the Greek National Opera is investing in, with a view of cultivating a new relationship with its audience, as well as to supporting the meaningful evolution of the organization’s artistic identity. High attendance and positive reviews by audiences and critics alike are an early indication of the success of the venture. At the same time, in self-reflection and in acknowledgment of less than successful choices, 2018 was a landmark year in the history of the Greek National Opera, and an essential step towards a new era, where the organization spreads its wings to take on the global scene and new ambitious challenges.
The Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF), in addition to being the force behind the vision, the creation and the funding of the construction of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, is also an exclusive sponsor, invaluable partner in a series of initiatives, and organizer of a week-long program of events at the SNFCC.

The SNFCC is the largest single grant of the SNF. The total cost of the project reached €630 million. The Foundation delivered the SNFCC to the Greek Society on February 23rd, 2017. Following the handover, the SNF announced its commitment to continue supporting the SNFCC for five years, through grants of €53 million that support the implementation of free public programming and help cover a portion of SNFCC’s operational costs. All events run by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center described in this report were open and free to the public, and were realized thanks to those grants.

In addition, the SNF continued its support for the SNFCC Membership Program in 2018 (more on Members on page 60), whilst, as part of its Recharging the Youth initiative, it offers young people aged 18-35 the opportunity to gain work experience as paid interns at the SNFCC and in actions organized jointly with the Greek National Opera and the National Library of Greece (more information on page 11). Finally, the SNF continues to offer support through direct grants to both the National Library of Greece and the Greek National Opera, which are housed at the SNFCC. Specifically, the SNF supported the relocation of the NLG and the GNO to the SNFCC, through a €5 million grant to each organization, and continued its support to the GNO in 2018, through a grant for the development of the Alternative Stage.
The SNF’s actions at the SNFCC

Summer Nostos Festival

The SNF, as part of its broader philanthropic action, returns to the SNFCC each June, to organize and fund the Summer Nostos Festival (SNFestival), a multidisciplinary international festival of art, sports and education, with free entry, which is addressed to people of all ages and interests, and aspires to serve as an open creative forum of assembly, that fosters free expression and the exchange of ideas.

In 2018, from the 17th to the 24th of June, 186,000 visitors enjoyed, once again, this multidisciplinary summer festival, which featured 496 Greek and international artists, such as Joyce DiDonato, Anna Vissi, Stereo Nova, Seu Jorge, the Athens State Orchestra, etc. The SNFestival included more than 75 unique events on five different stages and several locations across the entire Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center.

Annual International Conference on Philanthropy

In 2012, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation inaugurated the annual International Conference on Philanthropy, which has since been held in Greece every June. The 7th SNF Conference took place on June 21-23, 2018 at the SNFCC. The conference investigated one of the most talked-about concepts of the current era, that of Disruption, examining, among other things, the consequences of widespread inequality in social cohesion, both in economic terms and with regards to unequal access to equal opportunities. In addition, the conference presented people who, through their innovative work, strive to reverse the vicious circle of inequality and bring about positive changes on a local and global level. The conference featured 80 distinguished guest speakers from Greece and abroad.

DIALOGUES

In late 2017, the SNF launched DIALOGUES, a monthly series of events, which illuminates aspects of its main areas of activity: Arts and Culture, Education, Health and Sports, and Social Welfare. Through its grants and events open to the public, the SNF aims to foster discussion on pertinent issues, to create a platform for the exchange of ideas, to present people who inspire a new way of thinking, and to build bridges of collaboration between individuals and groups around the globe.

In 2018, the SNFCC hosted nine of these monthly events, on a wide range of subjects, from journalism to football, and from fashion to the role of food in contemporary societies, with the participation of hundreds of people, who attended the events in person or watched through live streaming.

SNF RUN

The evening race SNF RUN: Running into the Future took place on the 23rd of June 2018, on International Olympic Day, with the participation of approximately 4,000 runners in 6K and 10K races, as well as a special 1K race for Special Olympics athletes.

In addition, the SNF RUN: FIRST RUN 4K race took place once again as the year changed over. This was the first time that the race took on a philanthropic nature, as runners were asked to make a symbolic contribution in lieu of an entry fee. The SNF trebled the total amount of €15,590, donating €46,770 to the non profit organizations listed below, which do important work in the protection of vulnerable people: the Therapeutic Riding Center of Serres (KETHIS), the Hellenic Sports Club For Physically Disabled People (PASKA), and the Association for People with Kinetic Disabilities and Friends PERPATO.
The SNFCC’s prerogative to serve as a new model of public space, open, free, without restrictions on access of any type, where everyone feels welcome.

→ Establishing the SNFCC, through targeted actions, as a place of celebration, where the residents of Attica celebrate important occasions and periods.

→ Synergies and collaborations with tourism organizations, and promoting the SNFCC as a landmark of contemporary Athens.

After 3 million visits in 2017, a number that far exceeded all projections, the growth in visitor numbers to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center continued into 2018. In only just two years of operation, the SNFCC has become established as the top destination for entertainment, learning and sports, as well as a leading cultural destination in Attica, while the Stavros Niarchos Park has secured its place among the major metropolitan parks of the capital.

In 2018, the SNFCC received 5,300,000 visits, a growth of 76% compared to 2017. This growth also applies to each individual month of the year compared to the same month in 2017, where, in certain cases, it exceeds 400%.

This remarkable increase in visitor numbers is the result of a series of strategic moves, including:

→ Further support for the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center’s arts, educational and sports programs, most of them free, thanks to an exclusive grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, as well as the first full year of the Greek National Opera’s operation at the SNFCC.

→ The consistently high quality of services (safety, hygiene, customer service), despite the significant increase of visitors.

### Visitors

5,3 million visits in 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Visitors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>400,756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>308,470</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>363,558</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>471,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>424,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>436,855</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>335,971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>389,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>507,901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>488,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>422,181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>748,068</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SNFCC Visitor Traffic 2018
The last point is also confirmed by the results of a major, double study with adult visitors (on site survey) and the adult population of Attica (telephone interviews), with the participation of more than 3,000 respondents, which was conducted in December 2018, in collaboration with QED Market Research.

According to this survey, 93% of residents of Attica and 99% of visitors have a positive impression of the SNFCC, and 91% of the general public (residents of Attica) believe that the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center is an open, accessible space, which has upgraded the quality of life in the local area, as well as the cultural level of the city, changed the image of Athens and provided a breath of fresh air.

In terms of services, 87% of visitors believe that the SNFCC maintains the appropriate level of safety, while 99% have a positive impression of the level of cleanliness, and 90% have a positive impression of the level of customer service provided.

The study also demonstrated that one out of two adult residents of Attica has already visited the SNFCC, and that each visitor comes five times on average. This trend of repeat visits indicates that the general public is becoming familiar with a new model of a public cultural venue, which was one of the original intentions of both the Stavros Niarchos Foundation and the Greek State.

(Values are expressed as percentages.)
Building on the foundations it laid in 2017, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center reinforced its role as a cultural producer and destination in 2018, broadening the range of cultural events in its programming, and launching important partnerships with cultural organizations abroad.

The SNFCC's programming for 2018 included music, dance, cinema, theater, performing and visual arts, and aimed at providing numerous and varied cultural experiences and opportunities for entertainment to people of all ages.

In 2018, admission to the largest part of the SNFCC's cultural events was free, thanks to an exclusive grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, thus removing financial, social and other barriers that traditionally prevent the public's access to culture.

### 3,000 free activities and events in 2018

#### Cultural activities 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film screenings</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film screenings for children</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theater and Performance</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibitions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Through the Music Escapades concert series, the SNFCC presented leading names of the Greek alternative music scene, as well as up-and-coming artists. The line up in 2018 included: Alex Dante, Dirty Fuse, George Gaudy, Idra Kayne, Olga Kouklaki, Lip Forensics, Plastic Flowers, Sigmataf, Irene Skylakaki, S.W.I.M. and Thee Holy Strangers.

The Jazz Chronicles series continued to promote the Greek jazz scene, hosting in 2018 concerts by Stefanos Andreadis’ Flying Jazz Quartet, Yiorgos Fakanas Group ft. Tim Garland, Jazz Baroque, the Jazz Octet of the Military Band of Athens, the Jazz Voyage Group, the Petros Klamanpis Orchestrette, the George Kontrafouriis Baby Trio, the Tamuz Nissim & George Nazos Quartet, Babis Papadopoulos, Sugahspank! & The Swing Shoes ft. Irene Dimopoulou, Christos Tambourazis and Aggeliki Toubanaki.

The Cosmos series of concerts at the Stavros Niarchos Hall explores different musical universes, inspired by the Japanese artist Susumu Shingu’s eponymous sculpture suspended from its ceiling. In 2018, Cosmos welcomed important Greek and international musicians, bands and projects. Indicatively, there were classical music concerts by Solisti Veneti, the Camerata - The Friends of Music Orchestra, and the for

pianists Janis Vakarelis, Cyprien Katsaris, George Lazariadis and Achilleas Wastor, jazz-fusion by Kyriakos Sfetsas and the Greek Fusion Orchestra, and the electropop sounds of Eleanor Friedberger, inspired by nighttime Athens.

The Parklife concert series at the Great Lawn of the Stavros Niarchos Park has by now been firmly established as a musical destination of springtime, summertime and autumnal Athens. In 2018, the stage at the Great Lawn hosted, among others, Goran Bregović, George Dalaras, Planet of Zeus, Locomondo, Vasilis Lekkas, the Thrax Punks, the Athens State Orchestra, Stavros Xarchakos’ music ensemble En Chordais & Organois, and the Big Band of the Military Band of Athens.

In 2018, SNFCC Sessions presented a series of musical meetings with guests from the global music scene. What makes SNFCC Sessions unique is the fact that they combine an open discussion with a DJ set, thus allowing the audience the opportunity to delve deeper into the work and philosophy of each artist. The SNFCC Sessions guest list for 2018 included the music producer Adrian Sherwood, and the American guitarist, singer, visual artist, author, producer and co-founder of Sonic Youth, Lee Ranaldo.

Other music projects presented at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center in 2018 include the modular cycle of songs and music Rue Lepsius by Nikos Xydakis, a day-long tribute to Manos Hadjidakis in partnership with the Greek National Opera, a concert by Ninos Du Brasil, a tribute by Giorgis Christodoulou to the songs of the Interwar period, and a concert by the Pharos Wind Ensemble.
In 2018, dance activities were developed even further at the SNFCC. The successful Social Ballroom platform not only carried on with lessons, parties and tributes to mambo, tango, salsa and the blues, but expanded to include a three day dance festival in July.

In addition, the SNFCC hosted the Gaga.People dance seminars, in collaboration with the Embassy of Israel in Athens.

Finally, around 400 dancers of both genders from the Lyceum Club of Greek Women turned the SNFCC into a giant floor of Greek traditional dances, while choreographer Marianna Kavaliratou premiered Bastet, a show with music by Dom Bouard created as part of the Summer Nostos Festival, which is organized and funded exclusively by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

In addition, as part of global celebrations to mark 100 years from the birth of Ingmar Bergman, the SNFCC, in partnership with the Swedish Embassy in Athens, organized a two-day tribute featuring film and documentary projections, as well as lectures.

2018 also saw the continuation of the SNFCC’s collaboration with the Mediterranean Festival of Kallithea, with films by the pioneering creator of science fiction films, Georges Méliès.

Finally, the SNFCC also hosted pre-festival screenings for the Syros International Film Festival 2018, which was exclusively sponsored by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.
In 2018, **Parabases**, the SNFCC’s Reader’s Theater, presented a series of semi-staged performances. Under the direction of Katerina Evangelatou, Efi Theorou and Argyro Chioti, and with the participation of actors Orfeas Avgoustidis, Dimitris Katalefas, Nikos Kouris, Olia Lazaridou, Maria Nafpliotou, Dimitris Piatas and Evi Saoulidou, Parabases presented works by Nikolai Gogol, Kostas Karyotakis, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Alexandros Papadiamantis, Antob Chekhov and Jaroslac Hasek.

On September 3rd, **Fanny Ardant** appeared at the Stavros Niarchos Hall for a one-off performance of Cassandra by Christa Wolf, directed by Hervé Loichemol.

In addition, the SNFCC welcomed the **Action Hero** group and their trailer, in which they traveled across Europe recording lovesongs, as part of the Oh **Europa** project, whose transmitter still sends its message out from the SNFCC.

**Exhibitions**

→ The first international solo show of the artwork of Greek set designer and former Art Director of the Greek National Opera, **Stefanos Lazaridis**, was held between 04/02 and 31/05. The exhibition was organized by the GNO, in conjunction with the National Bank of Greece Cultural Foundation, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, and the National Library of Greece.

→ In September and October, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center presented sixteen black-and-white sculptures of monumental dimensions by Sofia Vari, as part of the outdoor exhibition **Forms and Contrasts**.

→ In October, the SNFCC inaugurated **SNFCC Fence**, a large-scale group photography exhibition that stretched across 400 meters of its perimeter. 777 people from 12 countries responded to the open call for participation published in August, and submitted more than 2,300 photographs. Of these, 107 photographs by 89 photographers were selected. The exhibition was designed and organized in partnership with United Photo Industries, an organization based in New York, and realized thanks to an exclusive grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.
In 2018, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center launched a series of collaborations and co-hosted events with major international cultural organizations, with a view of presenting and promoting high quality productions to the Greek public.

Collaborations

In April, the Chamber Music Society (CMS) of New York’s Lincoln Center, the largest chamber music organization in the US, made its very first appearance in Greece, presenting Odyssey on the Alternative Stage. The event was organized jointly by the SNFCC and the CMS, while the entire schedule of appearances of the CMS in Greece was realized thanks to an exclusive grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

In June, the SNFCC, Carnegie Hall and El Sistema Greece collaborated on staging two simultaneous shows in Athens and New York, as part of the Lullaby Project. New mothers and pregnant women came together with experienced musicians in order to write and perform their own lullabies.

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The SNFCC also developed partnerships in Greece, taking part in the Municipality of Athens Culture Net, where, among other things, it spearheaded the organization of the first Culture Night, as well as in the Syngrou Network that brings together local government organizations, non-profit foundations and cultural and educational institutions active along and in the region of Syngrou Avenue.

*More on the SNFCC’s partnership with El Sistema Greece on page 49.*
Lectures and Talks

A fundamental goal of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center is to function as a hub of knowledge for all people, regardless of age and educational background, as well as to illuminate a broad range of subjects through a series of talks and lectures.

2018 began with an open discussion between the Athenian public and the emblematic duo of contemporary art Gilbert & George, coordinated by the author Michael Bracewell.

In September, as part of Athens 2018 - International Book Capital series of events organized by the Municipality of Athens, with the Stavros Niarchos Foundation as a major sponsor, and in conjunction with the Embassy of the United States in Athens and Patakis Publications, the SNFCC hosted a talk by the Pulitzer prize winning author Jeffrey Eugenides.

The 2018 lectures series also featured speakers such as Marina Lambraki-Plaka, Professor Emeritus of Art History and Director of the National Art Gallery - Alexandros Soutsos Museum, Ioanna Panantoniou, set and costume designer, clothing and textile historian, and President of the Peloponnesian Folklore Foundation, Emmanouela Kantzia, PhD in Comparative Literature, who ran a series of lectures on the connection of modern Greek poetry to ancient Greek literature, and Andreas Giakoumakatos, Professor of History, Critical Analysis and Theory of Architecture, who guided his audience on an architectural journey through six cities.

In addition, in partnership with the Fulbright Foundation and the American Community Schools of Athens, the SNFCC organized the two-day forum Redesigning Educational Systems: From Theory to Praxis, as well as hosting, for the second year running, events of the Ibero-American Festival Literature in Athens - LEA, which was held under the auspices of the Embassy of Spain in Athens, the Embassy of Colombia in Rome, and the Society of Authors and realized with the support of Acción Cultural Española and the honorary consulate of Colombia in Athens.
In the belief that education is an ongoing process, regardless of age, the SNFCC has developed a series of workshops and educational programs for children, youth, adults, and people aged 65+.

**Adults and Lifelong Learning**

In 2018, 10,273 people took part in educational programs on the subjects of architecture, nature, art, science and technology, increasing the rate of participation by 61% compared to 2017.

Particular emphasis was placed, once again, on developing the digital skills of people aged 65 and above. 5,703 people attended the 249 classes offered for beginners or advanced learners, increasing the rate of participation by 61% compared to the previous year.

In addition, 2018 saw the launch of the *Lifelong Learning* program, on a pilot basis, which is targeted at people aged 65+ and is an adaptation of the corresponding educational program for schools, attesting to the fact that there are no restrictions to knowledge.

Approximately sixty-three thousand people used the public computers available at the ground level of the National Library of Greece building in 2018, and 1,186,651 connections to the SNFCC’s free Wi-Fi network were recorded.

**Children’s workshops**

For the children visiting the SNFCC with their guardians, there were classes and seminars on offer almost daily. Many of these programs had been designed to allow the joint participation of children with and without disabilities. In 2018, 8,711 children took part on programs on architecture, nature, art, science and technology.

The above was realized thanks to an exclusive grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.
The SNFCC has developed a program of school visits aimed at familiarizing students with its main features and sharing its philosophy and its vision.

In 2018, 117,904 students from 1,585 schools took part in these visits and in tailored educational programs for preschool, primary and secondary school children. In addition, a number of free-flow programs were also created for the participants of school visits.

The above was realized thanks to an exclusive grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.
To the Cultural Center

Subject: Climate Change

We had an excellent presentation by Giannis and Panagiotis on climate change, what we can do to improve it.

We saw how the SNFCC works through the virtual reality headsets.

A wonderful day with excellent people.

Educators:

I've been in education for 32 years. I am really impressed with the program and its creators.

Based on the program we attended, which was excellent, we will also organize a planting activity at the school in the immediate future.

3rd Primary School of Aigaleo

The program was perfect. The facilitators did a wonderful job. They were patient, they won the students over, and helped them all take part. The children loved it and we left very happy. Thank you so much!

60th Primary School of Athens

Children:

I am older than the Park, I am 5 years old, so I will look after it!

6th Kindergarten of Perama

I like everything about the building! I learned how it saves energy, I liked the experiments and the park. I want to come again.

Primary School of Perachora
Encouraging sports and physical exercise as part of a healthy lifestyle is a key priority for the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center. Thousands of residents of Attica use the facilities at the Stavros Niarchos Park and across the SNFCC to take part in the Sports and Wellbeing programs on offer, as well as to follow their individual exercise routines.

In 2018, the SNFCC in partnership with the Regeneration & Progress NGO, organized 2,157 athletic programs for all ages and all fitness levels, with particular attention on facilitating the inclusion of people with disabilities. These programs were joined by a total of 49,923 people, increasing the rate of participation by 121% compared to 2017.

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Number       Participants:
Athletic programs for adults: 1,358 24,501
Athletic programs for children: 799 25,422
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The SNFCC Running Track, which includes the outdoor gym, is open daily from 6 in the morning until midnight, with free admission for all. Running along the perimeter of the SNFCC is a 2.5K bicycle lane*, while the Canal can accommodate kayaks and sailboats (in association with the Nautical Club of Kalamaki). These facilities were enriched in 2018 with the addition of the Outdoor Games Area, which hosts basketball, football, tennis and other sports.

Participation in all sports activities is free, thanks to an exclusive grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

*More information of the SNFCC’s cycling initiatives on page 61.
Providing opportunities for entertainment for the whole family, to allow children and adults to spend quality time together, is one of the fundamental aims of the SNFCC.

Thereby, many of the athletic, musical and educational actions of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center have been designed on that principle, encouraging parents and children to exercise, learn and have fun together. In addition, initiatives such as offering pedal boat rides at the Canal during the summer months, or designing festive events that include and attract people of all ages, were inspired by the same rationale.

Admission to all of the above events is free, thanks to an exclusive grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.
Celebrating at the SNFCC

Clean Monday, Easter, May Day, Christmas, New Year’s Eve: days on which we all gather to celebrate and have fun together. From 2017, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center has become one of the top destinations for residents of Attica - and not only - on important dates on the annual calendar, a trend that was reinforced in 2018 thanks to targeted actions realized through an exclusive grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

The last Sunday of Carnival and Clean Monday

Fifty thousand people visited the SNFCC over the 18th and 19th of February, in order to celebrate the last Sunday of the Greek Carnival and the first day of Lent (Clean Monday), with Latin and traditional music, carnival-themed workshops for children and adults, enactments of customs and, of course, kite flying, with attendance increased by 8% compared to 2017.

Easter

During the Holy Week, the SNFCC presented concerts by the musicians of the Camerata - The Friends of Music Orchestra, Maria Farantouri in Mikis Theodorakis’ Epitaph, and the Jazz Voyage Group, combined with a themed Reader’s Theater performance, and Easter workshops.

May Day

More than 33,000 visitors flooded the Stavros Niarchos Park on the first day of May, to celebrate the advent of spring with music, dance, themed workshops and flower wreaths.
Just like the year before, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center transformed into a Christmas World and welcomed children and adults from December 1, 2018 until January 7, 2019.

The Ice Rink the Canal returned for the second year running and, together with three towering firs at the Agora and 80 decorated trees, created a magical Christmas scene.

For the first time this year, the SNFCC hosted a Festival of Light, through a series of interactive installations that comprised an atmospheric winter landscape. Four of the installations were premiered in Greece, and another three were designed especially for the SNFCC. The installations were realized under the artistic supervision of the Athens Digital Arts Festival (ADAF).

Alongside the above, the SNFCC offered an extensive program of events that included a host of popular artists from the world of theater and music narrating Christmas tales, under the direction of Yorgos Nanouris, acrobatics by the FLIP Fabrique group from Canada, and numerous concerts and musical events.

The festivities reached their crescendo on New Year’s Eve, with a concert by the Italian singer Mario Biondi and a massive party featuring a DJ set by Huey Morgan, frontman of the Fun Lovin’ Criminals. Over 19,000 people celebrated the change of the year at the SNFCC, which was marked by a spectacular fireworks display.

Overall, during the Christmas period, 918,500 people visited the SNFCC, achieving an increase of 80% compared to the same period in 2017.
A Space without Exclusions

Actions for people with disabilities

In 2018, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center introduced simultaneous interpretation in Greek Sign Language to many of its lectures and talks. In addition, it continued to offer activities, workshops and athletic programs for people with disabilities, such as, for example, sailing for adults and adolescents with intellectual disabilities, the We Create Art All Together workshop series, and percussion classes for families, while also launching new programs, such as Blind Tennis for children with limited vision or blindness, which was held at the new Outdoor Games Area.

2018 was also the second year running that the SNFCC took part in the events for the International Day of Disabled Persons in December, with a recital by Lenia Zafeiropoulou, while, on the day, all of the SNFCC’s activities were designed or adapted to welcome people with disabilities.

Finally, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the inception of the Special Olympics movement, the SNFCC was lit up in red, the organization’s color, in participation in the global Light Up for Inclusion drive, along with 220 monuments and buildings across the world.

El Sistema

The SNFCC’s partnership with the Greek branch of the international El Sistema program was developed even further in 2018. El Sistema was created to provide opportunities for social integration, creative expression and joy for all children, regardless of background, through an innovative educational methodology. Music is the link that brings together children from different countries, social backgrounds and experiences, and contributes to the cultivation of collective consciousness, collaboration and intercultural understanding.

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center hosted several actions in conjunction with El Sistema, giving the participants, Greek, immigrant and refugee children alike, the opportunity to meet big names of the music scene, learn from them and work together on joint projects. In 2018, the children of El Sistema Greece and the El Sistema Greece Youth Orchestra collaborated on concerts open to the public with the Music Director of the Radio France choir in Paris and the BBC Singers in London, So Jeannin, the Art Director of El Sistema Sweden and the Il Pomo d’oro orchestra, Ron Davis Alvarez, and the Latin Brass Connection ensemble, to name but a few, as well as taking part in the Lullaby Project*, which was realized in partnership with Carnegie Hall.
Barça Foundation

On the 3rd of June, 200 refugee children taking part in the FutbolNet methodology program of the Barça Foundation in Greece, had the opportunity to play, learn and practice with the Barcelona FC veteran Giovanni Silva De Oliveira at the SNFCC facilities.

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation collaborates with the Barça Foundation to run athletic and educational programs that follow the FutbolNet method, at refugee accommodation facilities. The method uses sports as a vehicle to promote sportsmanship, understanding and tolerance, with the aim of encouraging social integration and inclusion in local reception societies, through the personal empowerment of the children and young refugees taking part.

Athens Pride

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center was lit up in the colors of Pride during the Athens Pride Week 2018 and, in partnership with the organization, organized the Ride with Pride bicycle ride, which started at the center of Athens and finished at the SNFCC Visitors’ Center.

Penny Marathon

In 2018, the SNFCC hosted, for the second year running, the final 10 K of the Penny Marathon animal welfare race, which participants could run or cycle accompanied, for a part of the course, by their dogs. The Penny Marathon is held in honor of stray animals in Greece and the people who have voluntarily committed themselves to their protection.

In addition, 2018 saw the continuation of the SNFCC’s collaboration with organizations such as the street paper Schedia, the International Organization for Migration, and the No Finish Line race for charity.
Le nouveau temple d'Athènes

Renzo Piano’s soaring new HQ for the Greek national opera and library is surrounded by a 52-acre park dotted with playgrounds and picnic areas. Admire the views from The Lighthouse, a glass box floating above the cove.

An International Landmark

In 2018, approximately 25,000 people enjoyed 1,427 free guided tours of the SNFCC buildings and the Stavros Niarchos Park. Around 20% of guided tours were delivered in English, mostly for the benefit of tourists.

In addition to Greek and English, literature and maps were also produced in French, German, Spanish, Italian and Chinese versions, for the convenience of visitors from abroad.

Finally, there was further investment in cultivating the image of the SNFCC as a new Athenian landmark, both in Greece and abroad. With the assistance of institutions and organizations such as Marketing Greece, the Greek National Tourism Organization, and the Municipality of Athens, several print, electronic and television media visited the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center and presented it to their audiences.

Indicatively, there were reports on television channels of the US, Russia, Italy, France, the United Kingdom, China, Sweden, Germany, and Switzerland, and features in international publications such as Condé Nast Traveler, the American edition of Vogue, the French Madame Figaro, the New York Times, the Guardian, Le Point, etc.
Environmental Sustainability

The SNFCC is the first large-scale cultural project to achieve the most stringent environmental certification in the world: LEED Platinum, issued by the American Green Building Council.

Platinum level Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, the highest possible rating for environmentally conscious and sustainable buildings, verifies that the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center was designed and constructed in a way that maximizes the wellbeing of the people present on its premises, thus creating ideal working conditions. It also certifies that the SNFCC uses fewer resources, and reduces waste and the organization’s carbon footprint, as well as the cost of its life cycle.

In addition, the Stavros Niarchos Park was honored, on 07/07/2018, with the First Prize in the category of innovative contemporary concept or design of a park of garden, as part of the European Garden Awards 2018/19.

The Stavros Niarchos Park extends over 21 hectares and includes more than 1,400 trees and 300,000 shrubs - a living laboratory of environmental sustainability and a venue for sports, entertainment and culture, at the same time. The Stavros Niarchos Park, which occupies 85% of the SNFCC’s total area, has been designed in accordance with the principles of sustainability, with respect for the ecosystems and alternations of a site in constant evolution. It is a welcoming and open space whose flora and character reflect the Mediterranean landscape.

The LEED certification covers six key areas at both the design and construction stages:
The utilization of renewable energy sources for energy production, and of advanced automation systems for energy conservation is a key factor in the design of the SNFCC.

Energy production

The SNFCC’s energy canopy, measuring 100x100 meters, which suspended above the Greek National Opera building and the Lighthouse, is covered with 5,700 solar panels, able to produce up to 2.2 GWhs per year, substantially contributing to the Center’s energy needs. The energy canopy was activated in May 2017.

In 2018, almost one quarter of the SNFCC’s energy needs was covered by electric energy it produced itself, despite the fact that its energy needs had meanwhile increased, due to the National Library of Greece coming into full operation.

The canopy’s energy production was 2,278,801 KWh, preventing the release of 1,442 tons of CO2 into the atmosphere.
Energy Conservation

As is the case with all venues receiving high visitor numbers, the SNFCC, the NLG and the GNO have steadily increasing energy requirements for heating, cooling, ventilation, lighting and hot water.

The aim of the SNFCC from its inception was to cover these requirements while, at the same time, keeping its energy consumption to a minimum. For that purpose, smart monitoring, management and energy conservation systems were installed during its construction. The energy study that incorporated these technologies was a prerequisite and played an important part in the SNFCC achieving LEED Platinum certification.

Designing a cleaner future

In 2018, the SNFCC launched its partnership with the Center for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving (CRES), as part of the European Heroes project, which is funded by the Horizon 2020 research and innovation program of the European Union.

The purpose of Heroes is to bring together network managers, isolated solar energy producers (such as the SNFCC) and specialists in the area of energy, in order to collaborate on developing sustainable commercial models of photovoltaic systems, which will encourage the adoption of community solar power.

Water resources management

The SNFCC's efficient use of water resources continued into 2018. A substantial contribution was made by the reverse osmosis units processing seawater and non-potable water from boreholes within the SNFCC, which reached 52,762 cubic meters of irrigation water. As a result, no use of drinking water from the public grid was made for the irrigation needs of the Stavros Niarchos Park. At the same time, 2018 saw the launch of a dedicated program of quality monitoring on the water from the boreholes, with the aim of further evaluating and utilizing the groundwater.

Waste management and recycling

Given the increase in visitor traffic to the SNFCC in 2018 compared to 2017, as well as the full operation of the National Library of Greece, there was, as expected, a corresponding increase in waste, which reached 400 tons.

It is worth pointing out that even the waste that could not be recycled was diverted in 2018 towards energy recovery (production of Refuse Derived Fuel), resulting in a negligible quantity of waste from the SNFCC being disposed of at landfill sites.

In 2018, the SNFCC not only reached its consumption target defined by the LEED energy study but, in fact, exceeded it by far. This achievement gains additional weight when taken alongside the fact that in 2018 the SNFCC received 7.5 times more visitors than originally projected in the study.

In that context, the SNFCC will be collecting data from the operation of its energy canopy, in order to feed it back into the creation of new energy models.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consumption target based on LEED study</th>
<th>Actual SNFCC consumption 2018</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electricity 13,070.761 kWh</td>
<td>9,233.851 kWh</td>
<td>-41,55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas 2,398.391 kWh</td>
<td>2,110.761 kWh</td>
<td>-13,63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sustainable Mobility

In addition, for the second year running, the SNFCC took part in European Mobility Week, from September 16th to 22nd, 2018. EMW is an institution established by the European Union in 2002, with the aim of promoting sustainable mobility and encouraging citizens to adopt a different ethos - friendlier to the environment as well as to mankind itself.

As part of European Mobility Week, visitors to the SNFCC had the opportunity to test ride new, innovative electric bikes and learn how to repair their bicycles themselves, while there were also conferences on cycling tourism and best bicycle use practices in major urban centers abroad.

Shuttle bus

Serving as many of its visitors as possible through public transport has been both an aspiration and a key objective of the SNFCC from its inception. Given the lack of progress in that direction so far, the SNFCC continued to operate its shuttle bus service between Syntagma, the Syngrou-Fix metro station, and the SNFCC. In 2018, 168,830 passengers used the service, an increase of 87% compared to 2017. The shuttle bus service is supported by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation and BP, the SNFCC’s Mobility Partner.

Sustainable transportation

Given the high number of visitors received by the SNFCC, which exceeded 5.3 million people in 2018, it is essential to secure the site’s connection to the public transport network, as well as to create a safe bicycle lane connecting the SNFCC to the center of Athens. The SNFCC supports investments in that direction, with particular emphasis on fixed track transport.

SNFCC Bikes

The SNFCC offers a short-term bicycle rental service, with a fleet of 75 bikes, in children and adults sizes, which are available at five rental stations.

In 2018

- 10,943 new registered users.
- 50,419 bicycle rentals (of which, 77% adult-sized, and 23% children), an increase of 14% compared to 2017.
- Bicycle rentals correspond to 95,750 hours of cycling and 32 million calories.

In addition, in conjunction with BP, the SNFCC’s Mobility Partner, the SNFCC installed three bike repair stations, where visitors could get a free checkup and perform basic repairs on their bikes, while also organizing dedicated seminars on safe cycling practices.

Cycling initiatives

In 2018, the SNFCC ran 16 cycling programs for children and adults, with the participation of 390 people.

Visitor Survey: How did you arrive at the SNFCC? (figures represent percentages)

- Car: 41%
- Motorbike: 16%
- On foot: 67%
- Taxi: 3%
- Public Transport: 13%
Business Activity

The SNFCC's business activity is mostly developed upon:

- Venue hire
- Food & drink outlets
- The SNFCC Store
- The parking service
- The bicycle rental service

In 2018, 207 third party events, with 60,793 participants, were held at the SNFCC.

Venue Hire

In 2018, the SNFCC hosted, among other events, the Microsoft Summit, TEDx Athens, Taste of Athens gastronomy festival, the 17th European Conference on Computational Biology (ECCB) and the ICOMIA World Marinas Conference, as well as serving as a hub for events of the Posidonia International Shipping Exhibition.

At the same time, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center developed collaborations with organizations such as the Athens Convention and Visitors Bureau of the Municipality of Athens, for the promotion of Athens as a host city for international conferences.

Food & drink Outlets

The main food & drink outlets at the SNFCC are open 365 days a year.

- Agora Bistro
- Canal Café
- Park Kiosk
- Pharos Café
- Vans on Tour
- Opera Bars at the GNO foyer

Parking service

The car park at the SNFCC has 964 parking spaces on four levels, including designated disabled parking spaces. In 2018, the seven automatic payment machines available at the car park were upgraded to accept contactless payments by credit or debit card.

During 2018, the parking service was used 366,183 times.

SNFCC Store

The SNFCC operates the SNFCC Store, which features an extensive and ever-evolving collection of utilitarian and decorative objects.

SNFCC Bikes rental service

The SNFCC offers a short-term bicycle rental service, with a fleet of 75 bikes, in children and adults sizes, which are available at five rental stations.

For more information, please turn to page 61.
The Membership Program contributes, on the one hand, to the financial support of the National Library of Greece, the Greek National Opera and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, while, on the other hand, also serving as a support network of people who share the organization’s vision.

Through their subscription, Members support the development of a public space where everyone is welcome, without exclusions, while, at the same time, contributing to a project of national scope, which promotes environmental sustainability, cultural production and social cohesion.

In 2018, 4,478 new Members joined the Program. Of those, 3,768 were adults and 710 were children.

SNFCC held 98 events exclusively for its Members, while the latter were also given access to priority booking for a further 21 events.

In 2018, the Membership Program was supported financially by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.
Internship Program

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center S.A. provides young people aged 18-35 with the opportunity to undertake paid internships. The program is addressed to people with an interest in working for a cultural organization of international range, and offered through an exclusive grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, as part of its Recharging the Youth initiative.

The SNF’s Recharging the Youth initiative aims to contribute to the amelioration of the high rate of unemployment on Greece, with the objective of creating better employment prospects and new skill development opportunities for the new generation.

The internship program pertains to areas relevant to the various aspects of the SNFCC’s overall operation, as well as the development of its joint actions with the National Library of Greece and the Greek National Opera. At the same it, it familiarizes the interns with the broader cultural and social framework in which the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center operates. Through the program, the interns develop communication, collaboration, problem solving and knowledge application skills, while having the opportunity to gain insight into the mechanisms and mode of operation of a dynamic, multi-disciplinary organization from within.

In order to ensure the greatest possible impact and the widest possible effect, in 2018 the internship program was divided into two types: with and without academic prerequisites.

In 2018, 188 people completed their internship at the SNFCC under the SNF’s Recharging the Youth initiative. Fifty-nine of these took part in the program without the requirement of academic qualifications.
The SNFCC SA is an equal opportunities employer, prohibiting any discrimination against its employees or candidates on the basis of race, skin color, religion, nationality, national origin, gender, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or any other category protected by law, and ensures fair treatment for all candidates based on their qualifications and the conditions provided by employment law.

On 31/12/2018, the permanent staff of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center S.A. numbered 40 people.

People

Board of Directors

The members of the Board of Directors are appointed by the Greek State in accordance with the founding law of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center.

Lydia Koniordou — Chairwoman (from 18/09/2018)
Nikos Manolopoulos — Managing Director (Chairman from 01/01 to 18/09/2018)
Tina Stea — Member
Andreas Notaras — Member
Dimitris Kavnos — Member ex officio, Mayor of Kallithea
George Koumentakis — Member, Greek National Opera representative
Dimitris Dimitropoulos — Member, National Library of Greece representative
Ever since its construction, the SNFCC has received numerous prestigious awards, the most important of which, up to 31/12/2018, include:

- 2016 ENR Global Best Project Awards: Best Project - Cultural
- UK Building Awards 2016: Best International Project of the Year
- 2017 InAVation Awards: Most Innovative Leisure & Entertainment Facility
- 2016 International Safety Awards by the British Safety Council: Merit
- 2016 Structural Awards: Award for Arts/Entertainment Structures
- EURO SOLAR: European Solar Prize 2017
- International Green Roof Association: Green Roof Leadership Award 2018
- Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA): Award of International Excellence 2018
- Bundesverband GebäudeGrüne (BuGG): BuGG Green Roof of the Year Award 2018
- European Garden Heritage Network: European Garden Award 2018/2019, First Prize - Innovative contemporary concept or design of a park or garden
- EBGE Greek Graphic Design & Illustration Awards 2019: Merit in the category of Digital Illustration, for the SNFCC Christmas World campaign, in collaboration with Odd Bleat

Photographs

Eftyhia Vlachou
Penelope Gerasimou
Giannis Gerolymbos
Giannis Drakoulidis
Nikos Karanikolas
Pelagia Karanikola
Mariza Kapsabeli
Chris Kissadjekian
Artemis Kondylopoulou
Stelios Kyriakis
Athina Liasakou
Nikos Mallakos
Stathis Mamalakis
Kiki Papadopoulou
Dimitris Parthymos
Pavlos Svoronos
Andreas Simopoulos
Angelos Christofilopoulos

SNFCC Fence – Group Photography Exhibition (The SNFCC through your lens)

Giannis Androustopoulos
Tasos Galanis
Margarita Dominou
Dimitris Iatrou
Vicky Kalogianni
Evangelos Loutriotes
Dimitrios Papadakos
Themis Paraschou
Maria Peridou
Ioannis Prabonas
Emily Savva
Georgios Tzanavaris
Christos Ferguson
Katerina Chotsidimitriou
Eleni Christodoulaki