



NATIONAL HELLENIC SOCIETY



## *DEREE - The American College of Greece Partners with National Hellenic Society to Launch Heritage Greece Program in June 2010*

**DEREE – The American College of Greece** announces an exclusive partnership designed to bring young Greek Americans in touch with their roots and heritage in Greece.

The **Heritage Greece** program is a gift from the **National Hellenic Society** to highly qualified young Greek Americans. The Program will send up to 20 participants on a free, two week, peer group immersion trip to Greece in mid-June 2010. The program was created to ultimately connect hundreds of young Greek adults with their Hellenic identity and heritage over the next several years. A fully integrated cultural, educational and recreational immersion trip, eligibility for the Program is open to candidates who are undergraduate college or university students of Hellenic heritage between the ages of 18-26 who have never been to Greece.

The National Hellenic Society and DEREЕ-The American College of Greece are committed to making Heritage Greece a major bridge between Greece and Greek American youth by offering more meaningful connections to Greece, the Greek people and to forging a deeper and more personal appreciation of Hellenism. The experience of other international homecoming programs has proven successful at building stronger relationships between Diaspora youth and the ancestral country.

The visiting students will be hosted at DEREЕ residences close to the College's campus in Aghia Paraskevi, a suburb of Athens, just 6 miles from the city's center. The students will attend DEREЕ courses tailored for the program and will receive three academic credits, accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc., through its Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.

Participants will also visit important archaeological and religious sites, tour the countryside and visit traditional villages and the Greek islands. Moreover, the students will meet and engage with members of the Greek government and Parliament, officials of the US Embassy in Greece, and other leaders from the areas of business, media and culture.

The visiting Greek Americans will be paired with peer students of DEREЕ – The American College of Greece, throughout their stay.

The program is made possible by the generous support of the National Hellenic Society, whose mission it is to celebrate Hellenic heritage by sponsoring and organizing programs and activities that promote and preserve the values and ideals of Hellenism.

DEREE – The American College of Greece is an independent, non-profit, co-educational institution in the American tradition of higher education. It offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs in business and the liberal arts. For 135 years, the College has been a bridge of understanding and friendship between Greece and the United States of America. Today, the College has more than 3,500 students from approximately 50 countries, and over 33,000 alumni worldwide.

---

For more information about the Program,  
please contact Melita Leoussis, Heritage Greece Program Coordinator  
for The American College of Greece at [m.leoussis@acg.edu](mailto:m.leoussis@acg.edu) and at +30 210 6009800, ext. 1239  
or Art Dimopoulos of the National Hellenic Society at [info@hellenicsociety.org](mailto:info@hellenicsociety.org) and at +001 703 442 1443