**Summary of Current Year Activities**

1. We held a successful in-person Conference at the Panaghia of Island Park, NY in November 2023, the first ever conference at that location.
   There were excellent Workshops for senior and youth choir members given by Father George Kazoulis, Cappella Romana Artistic Director and Founder Alexander Lingas, and a Youth Choir workshop featuring members of the District Youth Choir, with a keynote address and Q/A by Dawn Helene, whose liturgy premiered fully at the conference. Hilary Baboukis was an excellent guest director for the Liturgy, accompanied by Dawn Helene. Annual awards and years of service recognitions were distributed. Two Demetrios E. Pappas Scholarships were awarded to University Students pursuing music degrees ($2000 total). The Cabaret Night fundraiser was a big success, with funds raised equaling two scholarships.

2. At our November and January meetings, we discussed and ultimately voted on some important items concerning our church music ministry:
   The Federation nominated and voted to approve the same slate of officers for the 24-25 term, with Costas Tsourakis elected for a second term as President, and Dawn Helene and Peggy Stilianos switching their respective roles. Following the approval of a grant of up to $500 for churches within our parishes to help with the cost of materials for their music ministries, the Federation voted to name the grant in honor of Jeffrey Nicholas Economou, one of the federation’s founding fathers and its inaugural President. The first grant is being awarded to the St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in Orange, CT.

3. The Federation continues its Music Symposium Series where members of the Federation sing music by a wide range of composers representative of the entire National Forum.

**This Year’s Highlights and Major Accomplishments:**

**Church Music Institute (CMI) Summary**

- Photini Downie Robinson commenced her CMI Series: Shaping the Psaltria: Reflections of a Female Cantor. Additional dates are being considered for 2024.
### Youth Initiative Activities

- **Archdiocesan Children’s Choir**, to be led by Costas Tsourakis. *It is expected to begin this Spring, with an inaugural performance in June 2024.*
- **Our Federation is continuing its efforts to encourage our young people to participate in the Life of the Church by teaching them the beautiful music of our Holy Orthodox Church.** *We offer our A.D. parishes assistance to establish or to rebuild their youth music programs and/or to introduce a program on hymnology into their Catechetical School Programs.*

### Newsletter

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**Frequency:** twice annually

**Editor’s Name/Address:**
Peggy Stilianos-Foy,
24 Seneca Trail, Ridge, NY 11961

### Plans for the Coming Year

1. Award Grants for Church Music Ministry Assistance
2. Visits to AD Parishes to provide guidance and support
3. Renewal, Archdiocesan Children’s Choir
4. Continue CMI Series and institute workshops
5. Prepare youth for oratorical festival and re-institute youth choir conference
6. Conference at the Hartford Connecticut Cathedral

### Next Convention

**Dates:** 11/1-11/3 2024  
**Location:** Cathedral of St. George, Hartford Connecticut  
**Music:** Tikey Zes