In 2014, the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation celebrated 30 years of life and achievement. This newsletter presents a review of the Cultural Foundation’s activities for this year, a year marked by notable contribution and creativity.
Since its establishment in 1984, the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation has developed a wealth of activities, in keeping with the objectives originally delineated for the Cultural Foundation by the Bank of Cyprus. The Foundation’s main strategic aims are to encourage research and study of Cypriot civilisation in the fields of archaeology, history, art and literature, as well as to preserve and disseminate the cultural and natural heritage of Cyprus. In 2013, the Cultural Foundation went on to incorporate all the operations of the Laiki Bank Cultural Centre. After the merge, the Cultural Foundation also took on the Collections and publications of the Laiki Bank Cultural Centre, as well as the management of the Pierides Museum in Larnaka.


The Cultural Foundation Collections have been enriched over the years by a number of donations:
• in 2008 by the archive of photographs of Manuel Baud-Bovy and Aristea Tzanou Baud-Bovy
• in 1999 by the Archaeological Collection of George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides (donated by Clio and Solon Triantafyllides)
• in 1993 by the Map Collection of Antonakis and Laura Georgiades
• in 1988 by the Map Collection of Mikis and Agnes Michaelides
• in 1987 by 51 of Elektra Megaw’s watercolours under the general theme “Wildflowers of Cyprus”.
Further, the Cultural Foundation curates three museums:

- the Museum of the History of Cypriot Coinage, in Nicosia
- the Archaeological Museum of George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides (donated by Clio and Solon Triantafyllides), in Nicosia
- the Pierides Museum, in Larnaka, which hosts a Collection of Ancient and Medieval Cypriot Art, as well as a collection of maps of Cyprus.

One manner by which the Cultural Foundation achieves its objectives is the publication of books and folios that pertain to archaeology, history, art, literature and the environment. This is precisely why the Foundation periodically organizes exhibitions, lectures and scientific conferences devoted to these areas. In addition to the above, the Cultural Foundation has expanded its activities overseas, collaborating closely with major organizations and museums, both in Cyprus and abroad. Since its inception, it has held more than 57 exhibitions in Cyprus, Greece and a number of European cities.

Both Cypriot and foreign institutions have recognised the incessant, multifaceted activities of the Cultural Foundation. Some of the awards garnered by the Foundation are:

- in 2008 the “Archaeology Award 2008” of the Republic of Cyprus
- in 2007 by the Benaki Museum, in Athens
- in 1991 by the Historical and Ethnological Society of Greece
The Cultural Foundation curates three museums. The aim of their operation is to provide the public with unhindered access to three of its most significant Collections. The Museums are open on a daily basis. Educational programmes for primary and secondary education students are organized regularly with the approval of the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Cyprus. The Museum of the History of Cypriot Coinage and the Museum of George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides Collection (donated by Clio and Solon Triantafyllides) are housed at the Cultural Foundation building, in a central, historical part of Nicosia, the Phaneromeni neighbourhood. The Pierides Museum is housed at the Pierides family residence in Larnaka.
The Museum was established in 1995 and since then it is the only one of its kind in Cyprus. A large part of the Foundation's Numismatic Collection is on display in this permanent exhibition, at the Cultural Foundation premises. The presentation of more than 500 coins, divided in nine chronological periods (23 showcases), trace Cyprus' tumultuous history, from the first coins minted on the island in the 6th century B.C. to contemporary times. Each showcase includes a brief introductory text enhanced by relevant illustrative material. Important coins from each historical period are illustrated in enlargement within the text while each coin is accompanied by a short explanation of measurements, weight and depicted icons. Included in the initial collection is a bronze coin from the Roman period, of emperor Claudius (A.D. 41-54), donated to the Bank by a member of the Board of Directors of the Group. This coin bears on the reverse the inscription «КОИО(Ν) КУПΠΙωΝ» (League of the Cypriots) within a laurel wreath; it was a symbol of unity among the peoples of the island; this particular coin has been the official logo of the Bank of Cyprus since 1963.

In January 2014 the Cultural Foundation and the Cyprus Institute initiated a sustainable joint project aiming at the scientific visualisation of the Numismatic Collection with the use of the innovative tool Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI). Applying RTI, the Roman coin used as logo by the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation is now projected on a screen at the Museum.
Museum of the George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides Collection
(donated by Clio and Solon Triantafyllides)

The George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides Collection was donated to the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation in 1999 by Clio and Solon Triantafyllides. In 2002, the Museum was inaugurated in the Phaneromeni building. The Collection covers a wide span of the Cypriot history and archaeology, from the Early Bronze Age (2500 B.C.) to the Medieval period (16th century).

The Museum features the entire Collection which numbers more than 600 ancient objects, including unique specimens of Mycenaean pottery and representative pottery from the Geometric, Archaic, Classical, Roman and Medieval periods, clay figurines, an important collection of sculptures in limestone as well as seals, jewellery, coins and objects made of copper.

SPYRA is an innovative digital programme also running in the Museum, the only one of its kind in Cyprus, which serves to bring archaeological exhibits from the Museum’s showcases closer to the visitor with the use of a touch screen.
Established in 1974, the Pierides Museum curates one of the most important archaeological collections in Cyprus. It was named after the Pierides family, acclaimed collectors of antiquities who, headed by Demetrios Pierides (1811-1895) in the 19th century, went on to put together a significant collection, now on display at the museum.

In 2013, the Cultural Foundation incorporated all the operations of the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Centre, including the management of the Pierides Museum. The Museum is housed at the Pierides family residence in Larnaka, which was built in 1825, and covers major periods of Cypriot prehistory and history. Visitors to the museum may journey through centuries of Cypriot culture, across 9000 years of civilisation on the island, starting from the Neolithic period, the Bronze Age, to the Geometric, Archaic, Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine-Medieval eras. The museum also hosts a collection of old maps of Cyprus and the Eastern Mediterranean, as well as the Collection of Hellenistic and Roman glass vessels.

Since 2004, the Museum has begun hosting art exhibitions of well-known artists, as well as lectures on issues pertaining to its Collections and other matters of interest. In 2006, the Museum inaugurated a series of educational programmes and summer workshops for primary education students.
The Cultural Foundation oversees six Cyprological collections. Its strategic curatorship of these collections is designed to enrich, safeguard and maintain the collections, as well as make them available for study and research, and present them to the public.
The Collection counts more than 400 maps and includes the majority of the known printed maps of Cyprus dated between the 16th-20th centuries. It is an important series that provides a detailed picture of the development of Cypriot cartography, the course of which is intertwined with the island’s turbulent history.

**Maps**

In 2014, the Numismatic Collection was enriched with among other items, a copper coin of Richard the Lion-Heart, issued in Cyprus in 1191.

**Obverse:**
Half-length bust of ruler, wearing crown(?) and loros, and holding a cross sceptre in the right hand and a globus cruciger(?) in the left. Illegible traces of a legend left of the ruler.

**Reverse:**
Cross monogram, on a base with steps with the Latin letters REX attached to the arms of the cross. Around dotted circle.

Diameter: 17,5 mm

---

**Scherer Heinrich, “Palestina, Terra Sancta 1699”**

Munich 1702.


Antique map of the region of the Holy Land in Roman times, with a title cartouche featuring symbols of the Holy Land and the crosses on Golgotha. It presents the mountainous landscape of Cyprus and of the surrounding region.

Dimensions: 235x360 mm
Cyprus’ engravings included in the Collection depict landscapes and highlights from the island’s fauna and flora, as well as monuments, town views, scenes from everyday life and important historical figures. Also included is a series of watercolours entitled “Wildflowers of Cyprus” by Elektra Megaw, as well as old photographs and postcards of Cyprus.


Post card by J.P. Foscolo, The railway station in Evrychou, 1922.
Manuscripts and Rare Books

The Collection includes handwritten letters by Frankish and Venetian merchants (1407-1512), whereas the printed editions, mostly incunabula, include rare travel, historical and geographical editions dated between the 16th and 20th centuries.

*Lamento et ultima disperatione di Selim Gran Turco per la perdita della sua armata, il qual dolendosidi Occhiali, & di se stesso & d’altri, Racconta cose degne d’esser intese. Con un Dialogo di Caronte, & Caracosa, & altre compositioni piacevolissime nel medesimo genere.*

Venice, n.n., [1571].

First edition, uncommon, of this verse effusion on the victory of the Christian forces at the battle of Lepanto.

*Mariti Giovanni, Viaggi per l’ Isola di Cipro e per la Soria e Palestina.* [Lucca, Jacopo Giusti; Florence, Gaetano Cambiagi for the Royal Printing Office, and Giglio for Stecchi και Pagani, 1769-1776.]

First edition. This very important work is of great value to the history of Cyprus, with most of the material on Cyprus in volume I. Abbé Giovanni Mariti spent many years in Cyprus as an official of the Tuscan consulate in Larnaka. His writings on the island are amongst the most important texts on Cyprus.

*[PAOLI Sebastiano], Codice Diplomatico del Sacro Militare Ordine Gerosolimitano oggi di Malta, raccolto da vari Documenti di quell’ Archivio, per servire alla Storia dello stesso Ordine in Soria [...in Rodi ed in Malta...] e illustrato con una serie cronologica de’ Gran Maestri, che lo governarono in quei tempi.* Lucca, Salvatore και Giandomenico Marescandoli, 1733-1737.

First and apparently only edition. This major source for the history of the knights of Malta, contains many documents from the archives of the Order, some of Cypriot interest. These documents pertain to all the Order’s activities, military and economic ones.
Contemporary Cypriot Art Collection

The Collection of Contemporary Cypriot Art includes paintings, engravings, video-art, sculptures and mixed-material constructions by acclaimed Cypriot artists. The ultimate purpose of the Cultural Foundation is to gradually put together a representative collection to serve as a retrospective of 20th century visual arts in Cyprus.

Helene Black
“Epidermis II”, 1994
mixed media
100x90 cm

Lefteris Olympios
“The Table”, 1996
oil on canvas
140x200 cm

Christos Petrides
“Sky Balloons”, 1992
mixed media
100x130 cm
The Ethnographic Collection comprises unique specimens of Cypriot folk art, including carved-wooden furniture, ceramics, embroideries and textiles, traditional costumes, paintings and jewellery. A large part of the Collection is housed at the Cultural Foundation in Phaneromeni, another part at the Pierides Museum, whilst selected exhibits are displayed on loan at the regional Ethnographic Museum in Avgorou.

Clay vessel, glazed. Discerned on the neck is the face of a bearded man. A similar vessel dated to the 19th century was discovered in Samos and is known as “papa Manols”.

Dimensions: Height: 44 cm, diameter of rim: 5,5 cm, diameter of base: 16,5 cm

Silver “zarf” decorated with a combination of the “trifouri” technique with enamel, from the late 18th/early 19th century. Zarf of this kind are amongst the oldest and more elaborate to have survived in Cyprus.

Dimensions: Height: 4 cm, diameter: 5,5 cm

Girdle with double-sided embroidery on the two narrow sides.

Dimensions: Width: 21 cm, length: 208 cm
The events and exhibitions presented in the halls of the Cultural Foundation are open to the public daily.

The Cultural Foundation uses its agenda of events as a good opportunity to bring the Cyprus public in contact mainly with the history and civilization of the rest of Hellenism, as well as with world history and contemporary art sets and trends.
“Cyprus and Geology. Science-Environment-Culture” Exhibition

The exhibition was inaugurated in June 2013 and closed in August 2014. It showcased the genesis and emergence of the island of Cyprus. With the use of photographs and diagrams, the visitor learned about the geological processes which gave birth to an island of unique geology, topographic features, microclimato logical conditions and fertile soil covered with thick forests and a great variety of flora and fauna.

The exhibition was supplemented by a publication of the same name, authored by geologists George Constantinou and Ioannis Panayides.

An educational programme for primary education students was available in the framework of the exhibition, as well as a series of lectures and excursions for the wider public with George Constantinou and Ioannis Panayides as speakers and guides.

Lectures: The birth and uplift of Cyprus, Mineral Resources, Cupriferous deposits, Natural disasters, Water resources, Hydrocarbons.

Excursions: Geology of Troodos, Mine of Skouriotissa, Thalassa Museum - Cape Greco, Pafos.
On April 12, the Cultural Foundation participated in the “Second Spring Fiesta” with a series of events and activities for the whole family. The Fiesta took place in the Phaneromeni area to support the Cyprus Anti-Cancer Society.

The events were hosted at the outdoor premises of the Cultural Foundation and included the “Lazarus Easter Carols” by the Traditional Songs Choir of the Holy Bishopric of Morphou, “Songs” by the children’s choir of the Archangel Hellenic Conservatory and “Adaptations of Cypriot and Greek Songs” by Happy Day band.

With the guidance of the Cyprus Food Virtual Museum and the Kyperounta Women’s Group, people prepared sesamota and avkotes, namely Easter sesame breads and breads with eggs in symbolic shapes. Various workshops operated for Holy Saturday candle decoration, as well as for creating fanciful Easter decorations.

The public also enjoyed guided tours at the Cultural Foundation Museums, where they had a chance to discover aspects of the Cypriot civilisation.
On the occasion of the International Museum Day 2014, the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation inaugurated on May 16, the exhibition “Cyprus Banknotes. Environment-History-Folk Art. Their iconography through the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation Collections”.

The exhibition will be open until June 2015. It presents a selection of landmarks from 1914, which marked the first issue of a Cypriot banknote by the British, to 1955. It goes on to explore more extensively the iconography of the series of banknotes of the Republic of Cyprus issued from 1961 to 1997, pivoting around the environment, History and Folk Art of Cyprus. These banknotes were in circulation until their replacement by Euro banknotes in 2008.

The aim is to bring out the routes connecting the iconography of banknotes of the Republic of Cyprus to items from the Collections of the Cultural Foundation.

The exhibition is organized by the Museum of the History of Cypriot Coinage and the Bank of Cyprus Historical Archive. It is accompanied by a Catalogue under the same title and an educational programme.
International Museum Day

The theme of the International Museum Day 2014, namely “Museum collections make connections”, was the axis around which the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation organized a series of activities on May 18.

Guided tours were offered at the Museum of the George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides Collection and the Museum of the History of Cypriot Coinage, as well as for two exhibitions running at the Cultural Foundation: “Cyprus and Geology. Science-Environment-Culture” and “Cyprus Banknotes. Environment-History-Folk Art. Their iconography through the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation Collections”.

Educational games for children included a “Treasure Hunt” and crafts such as jewellery-making inspired by the Cultural Foundation’s museums.
During the summer, the Cultural Foundation presented two exclusive music concerts at its Open Air Theatre, in Phaneromeni.

Stefanos Korkolis and Sofia Manousaki gave a concert on July 22. The famous composer, pianist and singer Stefanos Korkolis visited Cyprus after long and successful tours abroad accompanied by a new talented singer, Sofia Manousaki. They performed a selection of the composer’s songs, as well as various cover songs of well-known Greek singers.

On July 29, Evanthia Reboutsika and her band presented “The Show begins...”. A performance filled with music born through images, music that has lent itself to films, TV series and plays, with colours and flavours of the East and the West.

All proceeds were donated to the Social Grocery Angaliazo.
“Cyprus at the turn of the 20th century” Exhibition

From October 7 until November 2, the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation and the Historical and Ethnological Society of Greece organized the photography exhibition “Cyprus at the turn of the 20th century”. The exhibition was accompanied by a relevant publication and lectures.

The selection of photographs was first presented in Athens to honour Cyprus 40 years after the Turkish invasion of the island. The Historical and Ethnological Society then donated a set of reprints to the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation for it to organize a traveling exhibition across various cities of Cyprus.

The exhibition consists of 88 photographs that were first presented at the large “Cypriot Exhibition” held in Zappeion in 1901. The photographs depict the daily life, costumes, dances, activities, customs and mores of the island’s inhabitants during the first decades of British rule. Also depicted are landscapes, anonymous Cypriots of urban or rural origin, as well as monuments and antiquities from across Cyprus.
The Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation and the Embassy of Israel in Cyprus, within the framework of their cultural cooperation, continued for the second consecutive year the series of evening lectures under the general title “Cultural Heritage and Urban Environment: The Israeli Experience”.

Eminent professors in the fields of architecture and conservation presented to the Cyprus public their experiences through projects in Israel and shared information about the conservation of cultural heritage.

On October 22, the architect, town planner and conservation architect, Giora Solar, gave a lecture entitled "Archaeological & urban conservation in Israel".

On November 19, the UNESCO chairholder in Urban Design and Conservation Studies, professor at the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design in Jerusalem, Michael Turner, spoke on "Modern heritage in Israel - The case of Tel Aviv".

Wednesday Evening Lectures
From Fruitopia to the Island of Fireworks. 
An amazing journey to the magical worlds of Eugene Trivizas.

The Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation, on November 21 to 23, organized a three-day event dedicated to the work of Eugene Trivizas.

On November 21, at the Cultural Foundation’s premises in Phaneromeni, an exhibition was inaugurated under the title “From Fruitopia to the Island of Fireworks. An amazing journey to the magical worlds of Eugene Trivizas”. It is an exhibition of the G. Gounaropoulos Museum enriched with works by Cypriot artists, ending in June 2015. On November 22, the Cultural Foundation organized at its outdoor premises a day of storytelling for children by Eugene Trivizas. On November 23, a lecture on the role of imagination in the educational system, the scientific progress and entrepreneurial innovation, entitled “Murdering the Innocents”, was organized at the Solonas Triantafiellides Hall in the Bank of Cyprus Headquarters.

Related activities scheduled to continue until the end of the exhibition, include storytelling events on Saturdays by well-known Cypriots.
On Saturday, 29 November 2014, the third edition of the Economic History Workshop was realized at the University of Cyprus. Themed “Banks and Wars”, the Workshop was co-organized by the Bank of Cyprus Historical Archive, the University of Cyprus and the European University of Cyprus.

In view of the fact that the Modern and Contemporary Economic History of Cyprus has not been sufficiently studied, the workshop aimed at inviting postgraduate students (pursuing either History or Economics) to access available sources of economic and banking nature and draw examples from the Bank of Cyprus Historical Archive. The main objective of the Workshop was to bring out the importance of the economical dimension and incorporate it into the history of Cyprus.

Presentations were followed by the students’ participation in the Workshop entitled “Aspects of Economic History through processing evidence of the Bank of Cyprus Historical Archive”. Having delved into the archival material provided by the Historical Archive, students presented their research findings to the public.
Aspiring to bring youth closer to the art, literature and culture of Cyprus, the Cultural Foundation has launched a ground-breaking initiative in the form of specialized programmes. By means of such specially designed educational programmes, more than 95,000 students have had the opportunity to learn more about the civilization and history of Cyprus, and about other nations.
Three different educational programmes were implemented in 2014 with the aim of enabling students to experience their visit to the respective exhibitions / museums in a unique way.

Gods and Heroes
“Gods and heroes”, the educational programme implemented by the Museum of the History of Cypriot Coinage, continued during the academic year 2014. Designed to stir the children’s interest in coins with an emphasis on mythology and history, the programme spans the period of the Cypriot city-kingdoms (6th-4th centuries B.C.) and the Hellenistic years (330-30 B.C.). The children first attend a brief introduction to the world of coins, their history, iconography and production, before closely observing specific coins in the museum by completing an interactive workbook, specially designed for this purpose. The programme aims at developing a series of skills as observation, critical thinking, recall of knowledge, group work and creativity.

Cyprus and Geology. A Journey in Time
The educational programme that was designed in the framework of the exhibition “Cyprus and Geology. Science-Environment-Culture”, with the aim of offering the children answers to basic questions about the world surrounding us. During the programme, the children have the opportunity to see printed visuals, rocks and fossils, as well as tools and objects related to mining. They are able to view the country in which they live from a different angle, and also learn to observe their surroundings and understand the importance of the science of geology. The educational activities aim to help the children understand and discuss various geological topics pertaining to the environment, water and mineral resources, copper and the modern mining industry in Cyprus. An educational notebook with informative texts and interactive exercises accompanies the programme.

Cyprus Banknotes. Images and Symbols
The educational programme was organized within the context of the periodical exhibition “Cyprus Banknotes. Environment-History-Folk Art. Their iconography through the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation Collections”. The programme aims at introducing the pupils to the rich iconography of the banknotes of the Republic of Cyprus, reflecting the island’s long history, rich natural beauty and its folk art. The children discover the history of the banknotes and learn to observe their basic characteristics and understand their importance. An educational notebook with informative text accompanies the programme.
LECTURES–PRESENTATION OF PUBLICATIONS–EXCURSIONS
The Cultural Foundation has set up a series of lectures given once every three years on topics such as “History and Archaeology”, “Numismatics” and “Cartography”. Also, presentations are held of all new book releases in combination with pertinent lectures and excursions.

SPONSORSHIPS–COMPETITIONS
The Cultural Foundation sponsors the annual literary competition of the Cypriot Association of Children’s and Young Adults’ Books and announces an annual Illustration Competition for the awarded book. It also sponsors the Pancyprian School Theatre Competition organized by the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Cyprus Theatre Organization.

DONATIONS
As part of its overall contribution to education, the Cultural Foundation donates each year part of its publications and digital productions to schools, libraries and foundations.
Lectures—Presentation of Publications—Excursions

Lectures and Excursions “A journey in the geology of Cyprus”
In the framework of the exhibition and publication Κύπρος και Γεωλογία. Επιστήμη-Περιβάλλον-Πολιτισμός [Cyprus and Geology. Science-Environment-Culture], the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation organized a series of lectures and excursions from January until December 2014. The lectures were given by the two authors of the publication and curators of the exhibition, geologists George Constantinou and Ioannis Panayides who also led the excursions.

Lecture and publication presentation
Η Εθνογραφική Συλλογή του Ομίλου Λαϊκής [The Laiki Group Ethnographic Collection]
The publication was presented in February 2014, through a lecture given by its author Euphrosyne Rizopoulou-Egoumenidou, Professor Emerita at the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Cyprus, with the title “The Pierides family Ethnographic Collection”.
The Ethnographic Collection has been accumulated over the years by three generations of the Pierides family in Larnaca. It is an important collection of objects of Cypriot folk art, acquired by the Laiki Group in 2006. Since June 2013 it belongs to the Collections of the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation. Representative items from the Collection were on display during the lecture.

New book presentation
Το Αρχαίο Θέατρο και η Κύπρος [Ancient Theatre and Cyprus]
On March 7, the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation presented the publication Το Αρχαίο Θέατρο και η Κύπρος [Ancient Theatre and Cyprus] edited by Andri H. Constantinou and Ioanna Hadjicosti.
The book consists of a collection of papers presented at the homonymous symposium which was organized in 2011. The list of contributors includes distinguished connoisseurs from Cyprus, Greece and abroad, both academics and theatre practitioners, analysing issues of theatrical archaeology, philology and theatre science. In the framework of the presentation, Savvas Patsalides, Professor of Theatre Studies at the Aristotle University in Thessaloniki, gave the lecture “A revealing journey: Ancient theatre and Cyprus”.

Lectures in the framework of the exhibition
“Cyprus at the turn of the 20th century”
Two lectures were organized on the occasion of the photography exhibition “Cyprus at the turn of the 20th century”. On October 14, Associate Professor George Georgis and Christina-Evelyn Christodoulidou, PhD Candidate at the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Cyprus, gave a lecture entitled “Georgios Frangoudes and the grand Cyprus Exhibition in Athens, in 1901.”. On October 29, Euphrosyne Rizopoulou-Egoumenidou, Professor Emerita at the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Cyprus spoke on “The exhibition of the Cypriot costumes in Athens, 1901. National identity and local character”.

27
Sponsorships–Competitions

Children’s and Young Adult Literature Competition

The Cultural Foundation since its establishment in 1984 sponsors the annual literary competition of the Cyprus Association on Books for Young People. More than 60 works have garnered awards and appraisals. Since 2000, the Cultural Foundation undertakes the editing and publishing of the awarded book (with 11 books published by 2014), while since 2002 the Foundation announces an annual Illustration Competition for the awarded book.

Children’s and Young Adult Literature Annual Competition Award Ceremony

The Cyprus Association on Books for Young People and the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation jointly organized the award ceremony for the Annual Competition for Children’s and Young Adult Literature on April 7. The Competition is announced by the Association and sponsored by the Foundation. The event was organized on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Cyprus Association on Books for Young People and was held under the auspices of the Minister of Education and Culture, Costas Kadis who addressed the event. Costas Katsonis, Chairman of the Cyprus Association on Books for Young People, presented the work of the Association while the Director of the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation, Lefki Michaelidou, talked about the 37 years of sponsorship offered initially by the Bank of Cyprus and then by the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation.

The event also included an exhibition of awarded books and a musical performance by the Larnaka Music Lyceum.

Children’s and Young Adult Literature Competition 2013 Results

The novel Η απίστευτη αποκάλυψη Σεμπάστιαν Μοντεφιόρε by Anna Koupanou was awarded the first prize among 10 books. The second prize was awarded to the book Μυστήριο στην αυλή by Eva Kasiarou and the distinction was awarded to the book Νυφήλια by Vasiliki Kati.

Children’s and Young Adult Literature: First-time Author Competition 2013 Results

In the First-time Author Category, no first prize was awarded. The second prize was awarded to the book Του τόπου μου τα πάθη by Costas Praxitelous and a distinction was awarded to the book Τρία ξαδέλφια και ένα αερόστατο by Costas Papaioannou.

Illustration Competition 2013 Results

The 2013 Illustration Competition for the awarded book Η απίστευτη αποκάλυψη Σεμπάστιαν Μοντεφιόρε by Anna Koupanou, attracted submissions from both Greece and Cyprus. Despina Manolarou received the first prize.
Pancyprian School Competition of Contemporary Theatre and Ancient Drama in memory of Panayiotis Serghis

Panayiotis Serghis was a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation. The Cultural Foundation has been the sponsor of the Competition for the past 18 years, thus bringing its own contribution to education. The competition is co-organized with the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Cyprus Theatre Organization. The 25th Pancyprian Competition was organized between February 17 and March 24, 2014. The following schools and performances excelled:

In the Contemporary Theatre category, High Schools & Lyceums:

*Nicosia District*
- Archbishop Makarios III - Plati High School, with “Mugged” by Andrew Payne
- Olympion Private School, with “Η Πεντανόστιμη” [The delicious one] by Lena Divani

*Larnaka and Free Famagusta District*
- Petrakis Kyprianou High School, with “Ευτυχώς Τρελάθηκα” [Luckily I have gone mad] by Giorgos Roussos
- Agios Georgios Lyceum Larnaka, with “The dinner game” by Francis Veber

*Limassol and Paphos District*
- Agios Athanasios Lyceum, with “Fools” by Neil Simon
- Agias Fylaxeos Lyceum, “Κλέψε λιγότερο” [Settimo: ruba un po’ meno] by Dario Fo

In the Ancient Drama category (Cyprus-wide):
- Ethnomartiras Kyprianos Lyceum, Strovolos for Aristophanes’ “Lysistrata”

Donations

*Παιδική Χαρά Magazine Contest*
Since 2001, either thematic or periodical exhibitions of the Cultural Foundation have been systematically combined with a monthly contest announced by the Foundation and presented in Παιδική Χαρά, a primary education magazine. Students from across Cyprus participate in the contest. Books from the Foundation’s “Literature for Children and Young Adults” series are donated as prizes.

Donations to libraries and charitable foundations
Apart from the publications that were donated as prizes, the Cultural Foundation donated in 2014 a selection of publications to communities and charitable foundations, with an eye to enriching their libraries and aiding research by scholars and the wider public alike. One of these was the Holy Monastery of Saint Heracleidios.
The Cultural Foundation has developed a significant publishing programme, numbering to date more than 200 publications, each serving to enrich the bibliography of Cyprus and furthering research in the fields of Cypriot cartography, numismatics, history and archaeology, art and literature, including literature for children and young adults. The Cultural Foundation also publishes exhibition catalogues, guides to archeological sites and Byzantine monuments, literature pertaining to the environment and audiovisual material devoted to a variety of other topics.
The eighth addition to the series “Guides to Byzantine Monuments of Cyprus”, entitled *O Ναός του Αρχαγγέλου Μιχαήλ στον Πεδουλά* [The Church of the Archangel Michael in Pedoulas] is now available in Greek. The book is published by the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation in collaboration with the Holy Bishopric of Morphou and the Department of Antiquities.

Apart from the Byzantine monuments of Cyprus included in the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage list, the guide series will cover additional monuments of significance found in Cyprus, Byzantine and post-Byzantine alike. Net proceeds of the sales will be ceded to special funds at Holy Bishoprics and Monasteries intended for the monuments’ restoration needs.

The guide provides a retrospective of the history and location of the village of Pedoulas and its ecclesiastical monuments, followed by a chapter on the architecture of the church. The roof, floor, doors, holy Altar, pews and iconostasis are presented in separate sections.

The chapter on the iconographic programme looks at the wall-paintings of the church, signed by the painter Minas of Myrianthousa in 1474. Separately discussed is the dedicatory wall-painting featuring the family of the donor, priest Vasileios Chamados, and the monumental representation of a sword-bearing Archangel Michael.

The next chapter provides iconographic and stylistic remarks pertaining to the wall-painting decoration, as well as a description of the icons, the works of Minas (circa 1474) and Loukas (16th century).

A glossary, a list of full-page photographs and bibliography supplement the book, along with the architectural drawings of the church, made by architect Diomedes Myrianthefs. All the wall-paintings are traced and numbered in the longitudinal sections of the drawings.
The Church of the Holy Cross of Ayiasmati
Texts by: Christos Argyrou, Diomedes Myrianthefs
English translation: Deborah Whitehouse

After the first edition of 2006, the publication *The Church of the Holy Cross of Ayiasmati* in English was reprinted in 2014. Through the pages of this concise illustrated guide the visitor can learn the history of the medieval Monastery of the Holy Cross of Ayiasmati, situated near the village of Platanistasa. In the chapter discussing the architecture of the church useful information is given on the typology of the monument and the building materials, while chapters dealing with the wall-paintings of the sanctuary, the main church and the portico include commentaries and descriptions of the masterful representations which cover almost all surfaces of the monument’s walls. Another chapter describes the carved wooden sanctuary screen, the icons, the holy Altar and the furnishings of the Church of the Holy Cross of Ayiasmati. In the last chapter an account is given of the decoration of the church’s wooden roof-beams and floor, bricks of which bear carved and relief patterns. The monument is inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage site list. The guide is also available in Greek and German.

The Church of Our Lady of Asinou
Texts by: Christodoulos Hadjichristodoulou, Diomedes Myrianthefs
Russian translation: Vital Zaikovsky

After the first edition of 2002, *The Church of Our Lady of Asinou* in Russian was reprinted in 2014. The church of Our Lady of Asinou is the sole remnant of the Monastery of Forvii, founded by Magister Nikiforos Ischyrios in 1099. The church is decorated with wall paintings dating from the 12th, 13th, 14th and 17th centuries. The architecture of the church in conjunction with the outstanding murals makes it one of the most important surviving Byzantine monuments, now declared part of World Cultural Heritage (UNESCO). The guide includes a historical account of the Monastery of the Forvii, an architectural description of the monument, a description and commentary on the wall paintings, the wood-carved icon screen and portable icons. Descriptions are accompanied by ground plans, diagrams of sections in which the wall paintings are enumerated and colour photographs of the interior and exterior of the monument. The guide is also available in Greek, English, French and German.
Every year, the Academy of Athens, the Supreme Spiritual Institution of Hellenism, honours individuals, groups and associations for outstanding contribution to their land or country, by conferring awards and honorary distinctions aimed at cultivating and promoting Sciences, the Letters and Fine Arts. During the annual Celebratory Session of the Academy of Athens, which took place on 19 December 2014 at the Academy Megaron, the Institute granted awards and commendations for 2014. Among those honoured were geologists George Constantinou and Ioannis Panayides, commended on the suggestion of the Class of Positive Sciences.

The book describes and presents with panoramic photographs and diagrams the genesis and emergence of Cyprus as well as the geological processes which gave birth to an island of unique geology, topographic features, microclimatological conditions and fertile soil covered with thick forests and a great variety of flora and fauna; also with abundant water and mineral resources as well as hydrocarbons. All these elements, together with its geographical position at the crossroads between three continents, formed the basis for an excellent habitat for people and of a ten thousand year long history of art and civilization.

The book is not intended only for geoscientists but also for several other disciplines, such as historians, archaeologists, agronomists, mining and civil engineers, hydrologists, doctors -for the evolution of medicine and pharmacology in Cyprus- teachers and professors for teaching purposes, as well as for everyone who wants to know Cyprus.

The book is divided into nine basic chapters: Geographical position and natural characteristics; Earlier geological operations; Geology; The uplift of Cyprus and its paleogeographic evolution; Colonization by the first animals and plants; Geo-dangers and natural disasters; Mineral resources; Water resources and Hydrocarbons. The publication is supplemented by extended bibliography and a glossary.
Agora is the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation’s shop, at the ground floor of the building. In offer here, are the Foundation’s publications and audiovisual productions as well as replicas of exhibits from its Collections.

Since 2013, all publications of the Laiki Bank Cultural Centre, focusing on such areas as history, folk art, history of art etc., are available for purchase at Agora.

Also on sale are unique collector’s and rare items, such as replicas of maps, engravings and watercolours of Cyprus, as well as authentic collector’s coins. Agora also offers an array of jewellery, decorative items and gifts inspired by the Cultural Foundation’s Collections and Museums.
New Products and Jewellery

Agora now features a new collection of office objects, bags and ornaments. Various sets of jewellery inspired by the Cultural Foundation’s Collections are also available. There follows a selection of representative items:

**Notebooks**
Inspired by traditional Cypriot embroideries. *Ethnographic Collection.*

**Mouse pad**
Inspired by traditional Cypriot embroideries. *Ethnographic Collection.*

**Bag**
Inspired by a colossal bearded head. Cypro-Archaic period, 750-480 B.C. *George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides Collection.*
Bag
Inspired by a wooden bread stamp. 
*Ethnographic Collection.*

Christmas ornament
Ornamentation by Antigone
Inspired by the *Ethnographic* and *Map Collections.*
**Toy Series**

**Ornamentation: Katia’s Treasures**

Necklace. Detail from a pair of identical gold ‘reels’.
Cypro-Archaic period, 6th century B.C.
*George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides Collection.*

**Ornamentation by Paraskevi Gelaraki**

Earrings inspired by a piece of embroidery.
*Ethnographic Collection.*

**Ornamentation: Peripatum**

Earrings inspired by a footed bowl with a freeze of concentric circles.
Cypro-Archaic period, 750-480 B.C.
*George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides Collection.*
The Cultural Foundation has developed a significant publishing programme, numbering to date more than 200 publications. Since 2013, the Laiki Bank Cultural Centre publications are available for purchase at Agora. Indicative titles:

**Aromatic and Spicy Plants in Cyprus**
*From antiquity to the present day (2007)*
Georgios N. Hadjikyriakou

The book describes 206 woody, bushy, semi-bushy and herbaceous plants (189 species, 26 subspecies and a hybrid). These plants all contain or exude essential oils and other substances, or can be used as spices to provide flavour, taste and aromas to food and other substances. Apart from their descriptions, where available, evidence and information is given on their nomenclature, ecology and propagation in Cyprus and overseas. The book is published in English and Greek.

**Telemachos Kanthos.**
*Το πορτρέτο ενός δημιουργού (2005)*
Chrysanthos Christou, Eleni Kanthou

It consists of two volumes. In the first volume, Eleni Kanthou puts on record the biography of Kanthos, seen through the eyes of a daughter. The biography is followed by a critical analysis of the painter’s work by academician Chrysanthos Christou. The second volume is devoted exclusively to a photographic documentation of Kanthos’ work, wherein the reader is invited to enjoy the artist’s enchanting visual world. The book is published in Greek.

**Οι Σιδηρόδρομοι της Κύπρου (2004)**
[The Railways of Cyprus]
Michael Radford

A publication featuring the history of the Cyprus Government Railway, as well as that of the railways of the mines of Cyprus. The publication is enhanced by numerous photographs and is in essence a journey of knowledge for the younger generations and a reminiscence trip for the older ones. The book is published in Greek.
Collector’s Editions

In recent years, the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation has presented a number of collector’s editions.

*Louis François Cassas and Cyprus (2009)*

Six facsimiles from the Collection of Engravings of the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation

They present views of Cyprus’ cities and monuments: namely, views of Kyrenia, Larnaka, Famagusta, the Bellapais Abey and St. Hilarion’s castle.

*Maps of Cyprus from the 16th to the 18th century (2009)*

Eleven facsimiles from the Map Collection of the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation

These are maps of Cyprus which have circulated in Europe and contain significant information both on the island’s mapping and on its centuries-long, tumultuous history. Apart from Cyprus’ maps, the folio also contains another notable group of maps of the Mediterranean and the Near East.

Bazaar of Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation Publications

From November 30 until December 19, on the occasion of the Cultural Foundation’s annual bazaar, publications and other *Agora* products were offered at special prices. The event included the presentation of *Agora’s* new products, inspired by the Cultural Foundation’s Collections and Museums.
Cultural Foundation's Board of Directors as of February 2014

Chairman:
Prof. Vasiliki Kassianidou

Members (in alphabetical order):
Dr Demetra Bakirtzis
Dr George Georgis
George Hadjipieris
Prof. Maria Iacovou
Sylvia Ioannou
Titina Loizidou
Anna Marangou
Lefki Michaelidou
Nikiforos Orphanos
Aristos Stylianou

Cultural Foundation’s Administration and Staff

Director:
Lefki Michaelidou

Eleni Zapiti, Curator
Dr Ioanna Hadjicosti, Curator
Christina Christodoulou, Curator
Louiza Trachonitou, Officer, Agora
Charalambos Christou, Technical Services
Stelios Tsiopanis, Technical Services

Dr Christodoulos Hadjichristodoulou, Head of the Bank of Cyprus Historical Archive