2013 was a landmark year for the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation, and for the Bank of Cyprus as a whole. In the wake of the developments that took place in March, the Cultural Foundation went on to incorporate all the operations of the Former Laiki Bank Cultural Centre. More specifically, the Cultural Foundation took on the Collections and Publications of the Laiki Bank Cultural Centre, as well as the management of the Pierides Museum in Larnaka. Fully aware of our mission and the incalculable wealth of our collections, we at the Cultural Foundation carry on our efforts to secure the most significant asset of our land, which is none other than our Civilisation.
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THE BANK OF CYPRUS
CULTURAL FOUNDATION

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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 organises 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 organisations and museums, both in Cyprus and abroad. Since its inception, it has held more than fifty-five exhibitions in Cyprus, in Greece, and in a number of European cities. In February 2000 it opened a branch in Greece.

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

- The Republic of Cyprus “Archaeology Award” (2008)
- Benaki Museum (2007)
- The Historical and Ethnological Society of Greece (1991)
- The International Map Collectors’ Society – IMCoS (1990)
In June 2013, the Cultural Foundation absorbed the whole of the operations of the Cultural Centre of the Former Laiki Bank. The Laiki Bank Cultural Centre was established in 1983. The Centre has been proactive in preserving, promoting and enhancing Cyprus’ cultural scene. Its primary focus was in the fields of art, history, education and publications.

In 2000, the Centre took on the management of the Pierides Museum in Larnaka, which houses the Ancient Cypriot Art collection and part of the Ethnographic Collection.

The year 2003 saw the opening of the Byron Avenue Museum in Nicosia, where the Centre went on to hold a series of bi-annual exhibitions, enriched by educational programmes and special tours for students and groups.

Its annual framework of activities included exhibitions, educational programmes and the preservation of Cyprus’ historical heritage through the Bank’s Collections of Contemporary Cypriot Art, Rare Books, Documents and Photographs related to Cyprus and the Middle East region. Large-scale projects and programmes aimed at researching and documenting Cypriot culture have been systematically promoted over the years.

The publication programme of the Centre, which focuses on books that present important aspects of the history and life of Cyprus, comprises more than forty editions.
In June 2013, the Collections of the Cultural Centre were transferred for safekeeping at the “Collections Hall” of the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation. Here, the Collections will be kept unimpaired and registered in the Archives of the Cultural Foundation as “Closed Collections” with a separate code, in order to historically preserve their identity.

The Cultural Foundation also takes on the management of the Pierides Museum with its Collections.

All salvaged historical documents, printed matter, machines etc of the Former Laiki Bank will be gathered in the Historical Archive of the Bank of Cyprus, before being registered in its Archives under a special unit, for historical and scientific purposes.

The Cultural Centre’s Publications are available for purchase at Agora, the Cultural Foundation’s Shop, and soon on the internet.
MUSEUMS

The Cultural Foundation curates two museums. The aim of their operation is to provide the public with unhindered access to two of its most significant Collections. The Museums are open on a daily basis. Educational programmes for primary and secondary education students are organised regularly with the approval of the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Cyprus. Both museums are housed in the Cultural Foundation building, in a central, historical part of Nicosia, Phaneromeni neighbourhood. Since June 2013 the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation curates the Pierides Museum at Larnaka.
The Museum of the History of Cypriot Coinage

The Museum was established in 1995 and since then it has been the only one of its kind in Cyprus. A large part of the Foundation’s Numismatic Collection is on display in this permanent exhibition. 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. Included in the initial collection is a bronze coin from the Roman period, donated to the Bank by a member of the Board of Directors of the Group. This coin bears the legend «ΚΟΙΝΟ(Ν) ΚΥΠΡΙΩΝ» (League of the Cypriots); 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. Each showcase has 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 has a short explanation of measurements, weight and depicted icons.

“Collector coins of Cyprus”

A themed exhibition entitled “Collector coins of Cyprus” is presented at the Museum of the History of Cypriot Coinage. The exhibition presents the rationale behind the decision of the Central Bank of Cyprus to issue the collector coins. At the same time, the exhibition is associated with the creative work of the museum’s educational programme.
Archaeological Museum of 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 Mediaeval period (16th century). It was precisely this chronological succession of the objects which dictated the display of the Collection in the Museum. Designed to state-of-the-art specifications, its purpose is to highlight the age-long Greek civilization on the southernmost edge of Europe. The Museum features the entire Collection which numbers more than 600 ancient objects. The items that are not on display in the main showcases have been gathered in one separate showcase, accessible to researchers and the public alike.

The Museum ran the educational program, entitled "The dancing statue" in 2013. The program was intended for primary education pupils.
The Pierides Museum

Established in 1974, the Pierides Museum curates one of the most important archaeological collections in Cyprus. It has been named after the Pierides family, acclaimed collectors of antiquities who, headed by Demetrios Pierides (1811–1895) in the nineteenth century (1839), went on to put together a significant collection, now on display at the 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 began 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 for primary education students. A summer workshop intended for children aged 9–12 was incorporated into the educational programmes in 2011, running for the months of June and July. In the context of this programme, children are invited to assume the role of an archaeologist and conduct an excavation in the Museum's yard.
COLLECTIONS
NEW AQUISITIONS

The Cultural Foundation oversees five 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.

Since June 2013, the Cultural Foundation has taken over the four rare Collections of the Cultural Centre of the Former Laiki Bank: a. the Collection of Art Works by Cypriot Artists; b. the Collection of Rare Books and Documents; c. of Engravings, Photographs and Postcards; d. the Ethnographic Collection. The Cultural Centre’s Collection have been transferred for safekeeping to the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation “Collections Hall”, where they will be kept unimpaired, registered in the Archives of the Cultural Foundation. The Ethnographic Collection will make up the sixth Cyprological Collection of the Cultural Foundation.
In 2013, modern coins were included in the numismatic collection, among which gold and silver collector’s coins issued by the Central Bank of Cyprus to commemorate its 50th anniversary.

**Obverse:**

**Reverse:**
A composition depicting a young girl holding an olive branch with fruit whilst in the background there are alternating symbols of the Cyprus pound and the euro. Nominal value: €20 for the gold coin and €5 for the silver one. Inscription: ΚΕΝΤΡΙΚΗ ΤΡΑΠΕΖΑ ΤΗΣ ΚΥΠΡΟΥ 50 ΧΡΟΝΙΑ [CENTRAL BANK OF CYPRUS 50 YEARS].

Designer: George Stamatopoulos

**Maps**
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.

**Homman Heirs, “IMPERII TVRCCI EVROPAEI TERRA, in primis GREAEICIA…”**
Berlin (?), 1741. Dimensions 57×51 cm
Copper engraving presenting an interesting map of the Ottoman Empire from Corsica to the Black Sea and from the Balkans to Egypt, including Cyprus. The cartouche is surrounded by 25 medallions-coins of ancient Greece.

**Manesson Mallet (Alain), “NATOLIE”**
Coloured copper-engraving depicting Asia Minor, the Black Sea & Cyprus. Dimensions 15×11 cm
From the edition by Mallet, Description de l’Univers, contenant les différents systèmes du Monde, Paris, 1683. The author, Alain Manesson Mallet, was an engineer in the service of the King of Portugal, and later of Louis XIV in France.
Engravings, Old Photographs and Watercolours

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 the everyday life and important historical figures. Also included is a series of watercolours entitled “Wildflowers of Cyprus” by Electra Megaw, as well as old photographs and postcards of Cyprus.

In June 2013, the Collection was enriched with a large number of exhibits from the equivalent Collection of the Former Laiki Cultural Centre. Representative items of the Engravings Collection are:

Photograph by Theodoulos N. Toufexis, 1905. The photographer is shown among students in the Chemistry Lab of the Nicosia Pancyprian Gymnasium.

Postcard, J.P. Foscolo, “Ancient Church and Open Air Class”. Kalopanayiotis Village, Cyprus”, 1923. (The card shows an outdoor school in the forecourt of the Monastery of St John Lampadistes).

One of 74 rare photographs of items from the “Cesnola Collection”, late 19th century. This is the largest collection of antiquities ever to have been exported from Cyprus by the General and then US Consul to Cyprus, Luigi Palma di Cesnola. The photograph shows Cesnola posing amidst Cypriot antiquities.
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.

In June 2013, the Collection was enriched by a large number of books and documents from the equivalent Collection of the Former Laiki Cultural Centre, which includes among other items:

Christoforo Sylvestrani Brenzone
Vita et Fatti del Valorosiss. Capitan Astorre Baglione
Verona, 1591

A rare publication on the life and work of General Astorre Baglione, who fought with Marcantonio Bragadino during the siege of Famagusta in 1571. Following the city’s surrender, he was decapitated by Turkish Governor Lala Mustafa.

Max and Magda Ohnefalsch-Richter
Studienblatter von Cypern, Cyprus, 1895

German Max Obnefalsch-Richter compiled this deluxe photo album with the help of his wife, Magda, to document his explorations in Larnaka, Salamis, Ormideia, Xyloymbou, Idhalion, Tamassos, St Heracleidius etc. The album contains photographs and watercolours displaying various archaeological finds, as well as elements from the Cypriot tradition. Max and Magda Ohnefalsch-Richter offered this unique album to Germany’s imperial couple as a token of honour and gratitude for the financial aid they had provided them with for their journey.
Contemporary Cypriot Art Collection

The Collection of Contemporary Cypriot Art numbers more than 400 works of art — 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.

In June 2013, the Collection was enriched with a large number of art works from the equivalent Collection of the Former Laiki Cultural Centre. Some of these significant new works are:

Ioannis, Suitcases, Series: Departure I
1988, mixed technique
large: 41×41×14 cm
small: 40×38×9 cm

Christoforos Savva
Winter’s Landscape
1962, mixed technique
58×70 cm

Ioannis Kissonerghis
The Port of Kyrenia
1930, oil on wood
39×69 cm
In June 2013, the Cultural Foundation took over the Ethnographic Collection of the Former Laiki Cultural Centre. Back in the early 2006, the Cultural Centre acquired the Ethnographic Collection of the Pierides Foundation in order to preserve and promote it both inside and outside Cyprus. The 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 Pierides Museum, whilst selected exhibits are displayed on loan at the regional Ethnographic Museum in Avgorou.

The Cultural Foundation has placed the Ethnographic Collection under its ongoing Preservation Programme for Rare Collections.

Corner wall-closet made of pine wood with wood carved and painted decoration in the Akanthou style, 116×66 cm. Wall-closets are often encountered in traditional Cypriot houses, located either in a niche or a corner.

“Amalia” costume, prevalent in Cyprus before the mid-19th century. Originally, it was the official attire of ladies in the city, where it was preserved until the adoption of European garments. Later on, it was spread into the countryside, where it survived as bridal and festive gown during the 20th century.
The events and exhibitions presented in the halls of the Cultural Foundation are open to the public and complemented by special catalogues. 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.
The Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation presented a photo exhibition by Sergey Yastrzhembskiy, entitled "Impressions". The exhibition of Sergey Yastrzhembskiy featured 63 photographs from Africa and Europe, and also from Russia and Cyprus. The most prominent feature of his impressive photographs, which in fact are more reminiscent of paintings, is that they all depict the Earth but have been taken from a height of hundreds of meters above sea level. By observing the photographs, the viewer may compare countries and continents from above, as if flying over the depicted places.

On opening day, the 52-minute film “Africa: blood and beauty” by Sergey Yastrzhembskiy was shown in Russian with English subtitles.

The exhibition was held under the aegis of the Honourable Mr Vyacheslav D. Shumskiy, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Cyprus. The event was realised with the support of Christodoulos G. Vassiliades & Co LLC. It ran from 16 January to 31 May 2013.
Wednesday Evening Lectures

The Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation and the Embassy of Israel in Cyprus, inaugurating a cooperation in cultural affairs, launched a series of evening lectures under the general title "A Cultural Journey in Israel". Aim of the lectures was to present to the public of Cyprus the contemporary culture of Israel. The three lectures were given by eminent professionals in the fields of the visual arts, literature and music and were as follows:

On 13 March, Dr Dalia Manor gave a lecture entitled "Art in Israel. Between the Local and the Global".

On 17 July, Nissim Calderon spoke on “The Culture of Israel as a Reflection of its Region and Roots”.

On 23 October, Shira Geffen and Etgar Keret gave a joint lecture on the making of their film "Jellyfish– Learning to swim in the Celluloid Sea". The lecture was followed by a showing of the film.
Writing-Illustration and Narration Workshops for Children

On Saturday the 27th of April 2013, on the occasion of the International Children’s Book Day, the Cultural Foundation in collaboration with the Cypriot Association of Children and Youth Books organized an event devoted to books for children. The event, intended for children, featured workshops on how to write, illustrate and narrate a fairy tale. More specifically, three workshops were held:


Exhibition: Cyprus and Geology. Science–Environment–Culture

The exhibition showcases the genesis and emergence of the island of Cyprus. With the use of photographs and diagrams the visitor learns about the geological processes which gave birth to an island of unique geology, topographic features, microclimatological conditions and fertile soil covered with thick forest and a great variety of flora and fauna, and 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 years long history of art and civilization.

The exhibition opened on 12 June. It will run until 30 June 2014. It is supplemented by a publication of the same name, authored by geologists Giorgos Constantinou and Ioannis Panagides.

An educational programme for primary education students is available in the framework of the exhibition, as well as a series of lectures and excursions for the wider public.
Conference: “History and Economy in Cyprus, 19th–20th century”

On Friday 6 December, the Historical Archives of the Bank of Cyprus, in collaboration with the University of Cyprus, the European University of Cyprus and the Research Promotion Foundation co-organized a one-day-event titled “History and Economy in Cyprus, 19th–20th century”.

The event fell under the Cyprus Research Promotion Foundation’s Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Innovation 2009–2010 (DESMI 2009–2010), co-funded by the Republic of Cyprus and the European Regional Development Fund, specifically under ANOP/1/0609/15.

The event was followed by the Second Workshop in Economic History, entitled “History and Economy in Cyprus under British rule”, based on evidence from the Historical Archives of the Bank of Cyprus, on Saturday, 7 December 2013. The aim of the Second Workshop in Economic History was to fill part of this void, by bringing students into contact with available sources of economic content, drawing examples from the extensive Historical Archives of the Bank of Cyprus. The Workshop was free for students (of historic or economic background).
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 85 000 students have had the opportunity to learn more about the civilization and history of Cyprus, and about other nations, while simultaneously enjoying unprecedented aesthetic experiences.
Three different educational programmes were implemented in 2013 with the aim of enabling students to experience their visit to the respective exhibitions in a unique way.

The Dancing Statue

*The Dancing Statue* was the title of the educational programme of the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation for the Museum of George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides (donated by Clio and Solon Triantafyllides). The general title of the educational programme is *The Dancing Statue* and features three different sub-programmes addressed to 4th, 5th and 6th grade pupils. Composed by artist Maria Loizidou, the programmes aim at acquainting the children with specimens of ancient Cypriot art. The goal is for students to grasp the common thread that runs through the island’s history by observing appealing shapes, sketches and forms they can identify with. The programme continued until April 213.

Gods and heroes

Gods and heroes, the educational programme implemented by the Museum of the History of Cypriot Coinage, continued during the academic year 2012–13. 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 firstly 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. At the end, the children draw their own coin inspired by the variety of themes presented in the Collector’s Coins of the Central Bank of Cyprus.

Cyprus and Geology. A Journey in Time

The educational programme *Cyprus and Geology. A Journey in Time* has been 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.
ANNUAL EVENTS

LECTURES – PRESENTATION OF PUBLICATIONS
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.

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 primary and secondary education schools.
Lectures – Presentation of publications

Numismatics Lecture
“Coinage and History. The Case of Cyprus during the Archaic and Classical Period”, by numismatist and archaeologist Dr Evangeline Markou. This lecture was part of the series of lectures on numismatics, an activity of the Museum of the History of Cypriot Coinage since 1996. The lecture presented historical moments of the Cypriot city-kingdoms during the Archaic and Classical periods (6th–4th centuries BC). It concentrated on those cases where recent numismatic research offers valuable elements for revealing aspects of the economy, politics and, in extension, of the history of the Cypriot city-kingdoms. The lecture was delivered in Greek and it will be published by the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation in both Greek and English.

Book Presentation in the “Environment” series
Cyprus and Geology. Science–Environment–Culture
On Wednesday, June 12, the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation presented its latest addition to the series of publications on the Environment, entitled Cyprus and Geology. Science–Environment–Culture by George Constantinou and Ioannis Panayides. Dr Sophocles Michaelides, Director of the Bank of Cyprus Group, and Mr Yiannis Kypri, Chairman of the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation, introduced the event. The book was presented by Dr Andreas Panayiotou, Geologist, Director of the Hellenic Bank.

Book Presentation in the “Folios–Exhibition Catalogues”
Holy Bishopric of Tamassos and Orini
On Tuesday, 12 March 2013, at the Events Hall of the Studies Centre of the Holy Monastery of Kykkos in Archangelos, the book was presented by: Stavros Photiou, Associate Professor at the University of Cyprus, Byzantinist Andreas Foulas, and Giorgos Georgis, Associate Professor at the University of Cyprus. The event was addressed by the Most Reverend Isaiah, Metropolitan of Tamassos and Orini, and Mr Yiannis Kypri, Chairman of the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation.

Book Presentation in the series “Children and Young Adults Literature”
Ο θησαυρός του Λαβυρίνθου και οι επτά σφραγίδες
The Cypriot Association of Children and Youth Books, and the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation presented the book Ο θησαυρός του Λαβυρίνθου και οι επτά σφραγίδες [The Labyrinth’s Treasure and the Seven Seals] by Theosodia Argyraki-Asargiotaki (First Prize in the 2011 Children-Young Adults’ Book Pancyprian Competition). The book was illustrated by Katerina Chochlidaki (First Prize in the 2012 Children’s Book Illustration Competition). Mr Costas Katsonis, President of the Children’s Books Association presented the book. The event was held on Saturday, 25 May 2013, in the context of the Award Ceremony for the Annual Children’s Literature Competition, announced by the Association and sponsored by the Cultural Foundation.
Sponsorships-Competitions

The Cultural Foundation since its establishment in 1984 sponsors the annual literary competition of the *Cyprus Association on Books for Young People*. More than sixty works have been granted with awards and appraisals. Since 2000 the Cultural Foundation undertakes the editing and publishing of the awarded work while since 2002 it announces an annual Illustration Competition for the awarded book.

**Annual Competition of Children’s Literature—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 of Children’s Literature on Saturday, 25 May 2013. The Competition is announced by the Association and sponsored by the Foundation. The event included: results announcement, reading of the rationale for the awards, presentation of awards for 2012, acceptance speeches by the winners and presentation of the book *Ο θησαυρός του λαβυρίνθου και οι επτά αφραγίδες* by Theodosia Argyraki-Asargiotaki.

**Cypriot Association of Children and Youth Books**

In 2013, the book *Το Αουτσάϊτε* by Anastasia Xenofontos Gaitanou was awarded the first prize among 16 books. The second prize was presented to the book *Μία, το αόρατο κορίτσι* by Despina Mantzari, and a distinction was given to the book *Όσο σ’ αγαπώ δεν σ’ αφήνω* by Evangelia Papaioannou.

**First time author competition**

In the First-time Author Category, no prize was awarded. Distinctions were given to the books *Παραμύθια για όλες τις ηλικίες*, by Elena Evagorou and *Ο Γατρούλης και η συντροφιά του*, by Michalis Nicolaou.

The award ceremony took place on 25 May 2013 at the premises of the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation.

**Pancyprian School Competition of Contemporary Theatre and Ancient Drama in memory of Panayiotis Serghis**

The Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation has been the sponsor of the Competition for the past fifteen years, thus bringing its own contribution to education. This year, the following schools and performances were awarded distinctions: The following schools and performances excelled in 2013:

In the “Contemporary Theatre” category, High Schools & Lyceums:  

*Nicosia District*  

Akaki Regional High School, with *I Hate Hamlet* by Paul Rudnick; The Apostle Barnabas Lyceum, *A child counting the stars*, by Menelaos Lountemis.
Larnaka and Free Famagusta District
Panos Ioannou Kokkinochoria High School, with Lysimacha by Andreas Koukkides; Livadia Regional Lyceum with You never can tell by Sven Orno.

Limassol and Paphos District
The Apostle Paul High School, Ωσπολλάτε αρκοντύναμεν, by Michalis Pitsilides; Linopetra Lyceum, Don Camilo by Sotiris Patatzis, based on the play by Jiovannino Guareschi.

In the “Ancient Drama” category (Cyprus-wide):
Dherynia “Peace and Freedom” High School for Aristophanes’ Ecclesiasusae; and Aghia Fylaxi Lyceum for Euripides’ Trojan Women.

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.

Cooking Competition: “Cooking à la chypriote”
As part of its contribution to education, the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation has offered a number of books from the Literature for Children and Young Adults series as prizes for a Cooking Competition addressed to children and young people. “Cooking à la chypriote” was organized by Intercollege Nicosia (Culinary Arts Programme) and the Cyprus Food Virtual Museum, under the aegis of the Ministry of Education and Culture.
The Cultural Foundation has developed a significant publishing programme, numbering to date more than 170 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.
Children and Young Adults’ Literature

*Ο θησαυρός του Λαβυρίνθου και οι Εφτά Σφραγίδες*
[The Labyrinth’s Treasure and the Seven Seals]

Theodosia Argyraki-Asargiotaki

The book *O θησαυρός του Λαβυρίνθου και οι Εφτά Σφραγίδες* [The Labyrinth’s Treasure and the Seven Seals] by Theodosia Argyraki-Asargiotaki won first prize at the 2011 Pancyprian Children’s Book Competition organized by the Cyprus Association on Books for Young People and sponsored by the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation. The book was illustrated by Katerina Chochlidaki.

Chochlidaki was awarded first prize at the 2012 Children’s Book Illustration Competition announced by the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation. The historical novel of Theodosia Argyraki-Asargiotaki, *Ο θησαυρός του Λαβυρίνθου και οι εφτά σφραγίδες*, stands out for its attractive plot, uncomplicated, straightforward language, and fictional originality and inventiveness. Drawing her themes from the core of the rich, unique in its dimensions history of Minoan Crete, the writer crafts a fascinating story in which the protagonists, in the course of their own adventure and quest, guide the reader through the secrets of the Minoan Civilization, which vividly emerges as the myth unfolds.

Cyprological Studies and Lectures

*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 organised in November 2011 by the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation, and co-organised by the University of Cyprus Research Archaeological Unit, the Open University of Cyprus Graduate Programme in Theatre Studies, the University of Cyprus Department of Classics, and the Cyprus Theatre Organisation (THOC). It represents one of the most coordinated efforts ever made towards the study of aspects of theatrical activity in ancient Cyprus and the reception of ancient drama by contemporary theatre practitioners and audiences. The authors look at issues relating to the Cypriot dramatists of antiquity and other ‘Craftsmen of Dionysus’, as well as to the use and construction of ancient theatres in Cyprus. Also examined here, are matters pertaining to the contemporary reception of ancient theatre on the island, e.g. the staging of plays for a present-day audience, the contribution of Cyprus to the presentation of the plays and the promotion of those less known, along with readings and performances reverberating the contemporary history of Cyprus.
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 forest and a great variety of flora and fauna and 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 years 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.
The book includes extensive studies across a wide range of topics related to the Diocese of Tamassos and Orini, bringing to the fore its cultural treasures and ecclesiastical monuments, known for the remarkable wall-paintings and other relics they preserve.

Nineteen distinguished researchers and academics have contributed to the publication, presenting topics within their expertise, pertaining to the history and spiritual dimension of the Bishopric of Tamassos and Orini, to its saints, monasteries and churches, to the national, social and cultural life of its inhabitants, church architecture and the art depicted on the portable icons and wall-paintings of its monasteries and churches, as well as to its museums, exhibition areas and relics.

The hardbound book numbers 430 pages measuring 23×30 cm and includes a total of approximately 400 coloured and black-and-white photographs. Photo shoot was provided by Randomir Tzvetis whilst photographs were also taken from the Archives of the Bishopric of Tamassos and Orini, the Bishopric of Morphou, the Department of Antiquities and the Archbishop Makarios III Foundation.
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.

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 jewelery, decorative items and gifts inspired from the Cultural Foundation’s Collections and Museums.
A series of silver jewellery inspired by George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides Collection, Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation. Artistic and production supervision: Katia’s Treasures.

**Series Bird**
Detail from a bowl, brown and green sgraffito ware, Mediaeval period. 14th century.

**Series Rosette**
Detail from the outer surface of footed bowl of Bichrome ware. Cypro-Archaic period, 750 – 480 B.C.

**Series Toy**
Detail from a pair of identical gold ‘reels’, Cypro-Archaic period, 6th century B.C.
The Cultural Foundation makes available for purchase a new coin case in a series of numbered collector's coin cases containing Cyprus coins from the era of British rule. In 1879, the British Administration established in Cyprus a new currency system based on a new bronze piaster; a single gold English pound equalled 180 piastres. In 1901, silver coins were issued of 3, 4½, 9 and 18 piastres. In 1955, a decimal currency system, with 1000 mils to a pound replaced the existing one. Coins case no. 7 contains seven silver coins of nine piastres previously circulated, covering all the years of issue:
Queen Victoria, issued in 1901;
King Edward, issued in 1907;
King George V, issued in 1913, 1919, 1921, and
King George VI, issued in 1938, 1940.

From the 30th of November until the 16th of December, a wealth of publications and audiovisual productions were available for sale at the premises of the Cultural Foundation, at 50% discount.
Publications of the Cultural Centre of the Former Laiki

All publications of the Cultural Centre, focusing on such areas as history, folk art, history of art etc will from now on be available for purchase at Agora, the Cultural Foundation’s shop. They will shortly be available online too. Indicative titles:

**Ημερολόγιον του Βίου μου (2007)**
*My Life’s Diary*
Savvas Tserkezis
Editing: Phivos Stavrides

A revised second reprint with additional material of the much-travelled Cypriot Savvas Tserkezis, born in Mazotos, a village in the Larnaka district. In his diary, Tserkezis describes his eventful life and his adventures as an immigrant in the big city centres of the Eastern Mediterranean during the period 1880–1924.

**J. P. Foscolo (2003)**
*Medical History in Cyprus. From Antiquity to the Independence*
Editing: Marina Vryonidou-Yiangou

John P. Foscolo came to Cyprus in 1878, along with the British troops and lived in Limassol up until the end of his life. During this time, he took photographs of the island, its people and its new conquerors. Foscolo’s photographic work exemplifies very high quality, both in terms of technique and creativity.

**Η Ιατρική στην Κύπρο. Από την Αρχαιότητα μέχρι την Ανεξαρτησία (2006)**
*Medical History in Cyprus. From Antiquity to the Independence*
Editing: Marina Vryonidou-Yiangou

This illustrated publication presents the history and evolution of medicine and public health in Cyprus from Antiquity to the Independence. It includes information from historical archives on the development of medical care and infrastructure in Cyprus, as well as diseases and epidemics. Additionally, it gives information concerning the first doctors, nurses and medical officers of the island, with particular reference to the legislative framework of medicine and the evolution of pharmaceutics and pharmaceutical methods applied throughout the centuries.
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