

PEOPLE LIKE US...

Every week, "Kosmos" newspaper will be presenting stories of Greeks in Australia. If you would like to share your story with us, send us an email and your favourite photo at: kosmos@kosmos.com.au



Two words about me:
Loyal and Determined

Where was I born:
Sydney, Australia

Star sign:
Capricorn

Family status:
Single

My origins:
My parents are both from Volos, Greece.

Two words about my family:
Hospitable and Affectionate

About my work:
As the coordinator of the Greek Festival of Sydney my work involves working with a committee to review event applications and to come up with ideas to include in the Greek Festival program. The Greek Festival includes an almost 2 month program of events that is launched at Greek Fest Darling Harbour. My job is to co-ordinate all the events included in the program. This includes working to put together all the required applications for Greek Fest Darling Harbour, co-ordinating the Darling Harbour program, working with all stakeholders to coordinate the logistics of Greek Fest, working with event applicants to organise appropriate venues and coordinate the events that are part of the program.

In addition to the Greek Festival of Sydney, I also coordinate the Greek Film Festival. This includes again working with the Festival committee to select films for the program, coordinating the schedule, working with the cinema to coordinate film movement, coordinating and or-



cludes working, a work out and every now and then a drink with some great friends. There

Dimi Lafazanos

Co-ordinator of the Greek Festival of Sydney

ganising cinema advertising for the sponsors and organising the launch night.

Marketing the 2 events is also an important part of the role as Festival co-ordinator and includes development of the full colour programs, distribution, writing press releases, web site development and liaising with the various parties for publicity purposes.

My interests:
Fitness, kickboxing, travel

My favourite food:
Seafood

My favourite book:
At the moment I am reading 'Mao's Last Dancer' and generally any book that is autobiographical and inspirational is good reading for me

About my life in Australia:
Life here is very routine and in-

are also times where I spend most of my down time with family. Although my brothers and sisters are starting or have families of their own, we still get together regularly. However, around Greek Festival time, life does tend to revolve around the festival and the events.

My relationship with Greece:

Besides my parents who were the only ones who migrated to Australia, all aunties, uncles and cousins reside in Greece. As I get older the bond with Greece grows and since 2001 I have traveled back 4 times and at-



tempted to live there in 2002. I love everything about the Greek culture and am proud to be in a position that permits me to reflect that through my work here at the Greek Festival.

What I like about living in Australia:
I like that I have my family and



some great friends here.

What I don't like about living in Australia:

When comparing life here to life in Greece, we seem to have very different priorities. Very generally it is instilled in us that we need to work and save for our retirement and I think we forget to live today because we're too busy thinking about tomorrow. I also do not like that Australia is so isolated from the rest of the world and the weather just seems to be getting progressively worse. Where's summer?

If I would like to live in Greece one day and why:

I love the Greek lifestyle and the Greek pride that seems to be a standard quality of the Greeks in Greece. The history, the Greek islands, the weather, the attitude and the fact that a trip to visit any other European country doesn't involve a 19 hour flight.

My personal big dream:

At the moment is to re-locate to Greece and experience the way of life first hand

My life philosophy:

Dream as if you'll live forever, live as if you'll die tomorrow

Sophia & Christina Kaloudis won the junior finalists' title

VOCALISTS, musicians and dancers were among performers who flaunted their talents at the annual talent Plaza Popstars performance at Cronulla recently. The Cronulla Beach central business district event was held at the Pavilion Stage, Cronulla, and judged by Wayne Scott Kermond and Katie Kermond. "The talent we saw has been outstanding," master of ceremonies Chris Farnham said. "Without the support of local business to host the event and sponsor prizes, these types of shows could not happen.

"It is so important for quests such as these to go ahead as it encourages and nurtures up-and-coming young performers." Riverwood duo Sophia and Christina Kaloudis, aged 8 and 10, won the junior finalists' title. Six performers from Planet Dance of Menai took out second place, and Annalise Wells, 12, of Hurstville, on guitar and vocals, took the third spot. In the seniors' section, vocalist Susan Rose, 16, of Roselands performed her interpretation of You're Going To Hear from Me to win the crown for first place. Second place went to Katrina Ambrose of St Johns Park, performing her own composition on guitar and vocals. The AP Performers Jazz Troupe from Taren Point danced their way into third place.

All winners received prizes including money to be spent at any of the Cronulla Beach CBD businesses, plus a portfolio photo shoot and prints from MAMM (models, actors, musicians management) International Talent Agency and Photographic Studio. Plaza Popstars, which is a Sutherland Shire Council event, was presented by Cronulla Beach CBD, a division of the council.



BY MONICA HEARY - Article from the Leader
photo: Entertainers: Riverwood duo Sophia (left) and Christina Kaloudis perform their winning junior routine.