

## SBS RADIO'S GREEK PROGRAM: OUT OF THE STUDIO & INTO SCHOOLS

The SBS Radio Greek program is taking radio out of the studio and into schools where Modern Greek is taught, making 10 minute radio programs with the students at each school.

SBS Greek Radio presenter Vaios Anastasopoulos will teach the students about radio, conducting interviews and taking video of the radio making process. Programs, interviews and video will be available to listen and view at [sbs.com.au/greek](http://sbs.com.au/greek).

The students will be from a range of year levels, from Grade One right through to VCE. Titled "Why I am learning Greek", the programs will focus on the importance of bilingualism in our education system and issues concerning Greek Australian identity.

The project is being conducted in partnership with the Education Office of the General Consulate of Greece in Melbourne.

The program made with students from Essendon's Ariston Greek School will air next Friday 23 April from 7.00am.

Tune into SBS Radio on 1224am in Melbourne or 1107am in Sydney to hear students and teachers speak about Greek language and culture. The students also perform songs with their music conductor, Mr. Hristos Ioannides.

Melbourne based schools wishing to participate in the program, or for further information, please contact Mr Vaios Anastasopoulos on 03 9949 2100 or go to [sbs.com.au/greek](http://sbs.com.au/greek).



We are very proud that Alexandra Vakitsidis from Adelaide was honoured by the Prefecture of Thessaloniki last Wednesday evening at the 2010 Apodomi Ellinida. Alexandra is a founding member of OEEGA and Vice President of OEEGA in South Australia.

Below is the letter sent by the president of OEEGA to the Sae Executive nominating Mrs Vakitsidis as a worthy recipient for the Apodimi Ellinida Award

*Dear SAE Executive*

*We nominate Mrs Alexandra Vakitsidis as a worthy recipient for the APODIMI ELLINIDA Award and list her achievements.*

*For the past 14 years she, together with a group of like minded men and women who call themselves the "Olympic Spirit" – Greek Friends of The Queen Elizabeth Hospital Research Foundation, has worked tirelessly, to raise funds for cancer research with afternoon teas, cake days, raffles, singing Christmas Carols. These funds have enabled the Foundation to purchase much needed equipment for their research. (A letter acknowledging Alexandra's efforts is attached). In 2000 she staged a very successful Greek comedy at the Woodville Town Hall and the entire proceeds went directly to Queen Elizabeth Hospital (Canteen – Childhood Cancer). In 2007 and again in 2009 Alexan-*



**Alexandra Vakitsidis from Adelaide South Australia, presented with the award by the Prefect of Thessaloniki Mr Peter Psomiadis**

*dra organised and led a group of retired Greek Australians for "pilgrimage" to Greece, where the Prefecture of Florina and the Department of "Greeks Abroad" – subsidiary of Department of Foreign Affairs - acted as their generous hosts.*

*Since the late 1990s Alexandra has worked on the fundraising committee of Flinders University (Department of Modern Greek) for their bi-annual Greek Language Research conference. Alexandra has supported the aged in the Domiciliary Centre and the Ethnic Link Association by organising dance*

*entertainment for the aged as well as simple dance routines to the residents and encouraged their active participation.*

*The South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission in 1986, wished to stage a Multicultural Day for the aged and found Alexandra very receptive who, with a minimum of fuss, organised multicultural food and floorshows.*

*A founding and indispensable member of the very popular annual fundraising event "Semaphore Greek Festival" and a long time Social committee member of the Glendi Greek Festival. She is a key member of the Philoptohos of the Greek Orthodox Church "Nativity of Christ" at Port Adelaide, since the late seventies, which supports the local Ethnic Greek schools as well as the local community.*

*Committee member of "Vasilada" – St Basil's Nursing Homes. In this capacity she has organised constant visitations to residents, on days of significance, offering traditional singing, sweets, little sketches, dancing or lending a sympathetic ear.*

*She is Vice President and founding member of The Organisation of Hellenic and Hellene-Cypriot Women of Australia (SA) Inc - OEEGA, and works tirelessly for the promotion of the Greek culture as well as assisting Greek women to participate in the Australian community.*

*Kindest regards  
Helen Haltis  
President*

## Renowned Greek Actress Anna Kalouta Passed Away



Renowned Greek actress Anna Kalouta breathed her last after a health problem. She was 92. She will be laid to rest Tuesday at the Athens First Cemetery. Her death marked the end of an era. Born in Athens in 1918, she graduated the Ionian School. However, it was the theatre that she put her heart and soul to, numbering several appearances in Greek movies. She also took up choreography and direction. She was only four years old when, along with her sister Maria (she died in 2006) landed their first role at the Marika Kotopouli theatre. She had been touring Europe, America, Australia, Africa and New Zealand for 15 years, while she played on almost all important theaters worldwide. Along with her sister, she recorded several albums both in Greece and beyond. Her last role was in a movie by Pantelis Voulgaris entitled "Eleftherios Venizelos." She was a member of the Greek Actors Association. Anna

Kalouta was awarded by the Greek embassies for her tours. She was also awarded by the Greek army for the troops' entertainment during the 1940 war. The Culture Ministry issued an announcement reading: "The Culture Ministry's leadership has to express its most heartfelt sorrow over the death of Anna Kalouta, a leading figure of the Greek theatre, who passed away yesterday [Saturday]. Anna Kalouta lived her entirely life on stage and her name was associated with the theatre. Born in Athens in 1918, she first appeared on stage at the age of 4, and along with her sister Mary they were the prodigies of the interwar period. As a woman living in tough times, she was a symbol of emancipation. Her versatile talent, her energy, her mentality, courtesy, ethos shining even a few hours before dying will be forever etched in memory." LAOS (Popular Orthodox Rally) Giorgos Karatzaferis said: "The death of such a great Greek actress is a great loss not only for the world of theatre but a great loss for our culture."