

GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY, INC. METROPOLIS PRESIDENT REPORT 2024 - 2026



Metropolis of San Francisco

Jeannie Ranglas, President

2026 National Philoptochos Convention, Cleveland, Ohio

June 29 – July 2, 2026

Your Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America,
Your Grace Bishop Athenagoras of Nazianzos,
National President Debbie George,
Philoptochos Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I am honored to greet you on behalf of the Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos Board as we gather for the 2026 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention.

May we draw strength from the timeless teachings of our faith and the boundless reservoirs of love that dwell within our hearts. Our endeavors serve as a beacon of faith, hope, and love, illuminating the path toward a brighter, more compassionate world for all as we serve those in need.

Your Eminence, we are truly grateful for your continued blessing and spiritual guidance through our many endeavors to make a difference in the lives of others.

Kids 'n' Cancer and Camp Agape Ministry

For more than 40 years, Camp Agape has been a signature ministry of the Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos Society, dedicated to supporting children battling cancer and their families. This beloved ministry provides a compassionate and nurturing environment that reflects Christ's unconditional love while creating opportunities for meaningful friendships, joyful experiences, and treasured memories.

Each summer, the Metropolis Philoptochos hosts four Camp Agape programs throughout the Metropolis, serving families in San Diego, California; Dunlap, California (St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center); Northern Arizona; and Portland, Oregon. Each camp was embraced with heartfelt enthusiasm by our cancer warriors and their families, creating an atmosphere filled with joy, connection, and hope.

Our annual Agape – Celebration of Love Reception continues to be the cornerstone fundraiser supporting Camp Agape and our Kids 'n' Cancer Ministry. On April 27, 2025, more than 270 guests gathered at the Newport Beach Country Club and helped raise over \$400,000. Building on that success, our April 19, 2026, reception welcomed another tremendous outpouring of support and raised more than \$460,000 for this life-changing ministry.

Our commitment to Camp Agape families extends well beyond the summer months. Each January, our Arizona chapters host a Camp Agape Reunion where families gather for fellowship, support, and fun. In December, the Anthousa Philoptochos Chapter of Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church in San Diego partners with the Metropolis Philoptochos to host a Christmas celebration

for Camp Agape families. Through these gatherings and ongoing support, we continue to surround our families with love throughout the year.

Bishop Anthony Philoptochos Student Aid Endowment Fund

The Bishop Anthony Philoptochos Student Aid Endowment Fund (BAPSAEF) was established more than 40 years ago to provide financial assistance to seminarians and students from the Metropolis of San Francisco attending Hellenic College Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (HCHC) in Brookline, Massachusetts.

Light the Path events serve as the primary fundraising effort supporting this important mission. On November 17, 2024, Light the Path raised more than \$162,000 in support of our students and seminarians. At that time, we were pleased to report that 38 students from our Metropolis were enrolled at HCHC, including seven graduates who completed their studies in May 2025.

In November 2025, Light the Path raised more than \$167,000. The 2025–2026 academic year included 52 seminarians and students from our Metropolis who were enrolled at HCHC. There were 15 students who graduated in May 2026. Through the generosity of our faithful supporters, we continue to invest in the future leaders of our Church by helping provide access to theological education and spiritual formation. In addition, the Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos contributed \$180,000 to Hellenic College Holy Cross to help reduce the financial burden of tuition and educational expenses for our seminarians and students. This ongoing commitment reflects our dedication to supporting those who are preparing to serve the Church and its faithful. Members of the Metropolis Philoptochos Board were honored to attend the HCHC commencement ceremonies and celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates.

Metropolis of San Francisco Folk Dance and Choral Festival (FDF)

The 48th Annual Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco Folk Dance and Choral Festival (FDF) was held February 13–16, 2025, in Anaheim, California. Through the Diakonia Project, the Metropolis Philoptochos partnered with FDF families in a meaningful service initiative. Participants assembled backpacks filled with school supplies, personal necessities, and gift cards for students affected by the devastating Los Angeles fires.

The 49th Annual FDF was held February 12–15, 2026, in Phoenix, Arizona. Through a partnership between the FDF Team and the Metropolis Philoptochos, FDF families and Philoptochos members worked side-by-side to package 35,000 meals for St. Mary's Food Bank. This impactful project not only served those experiencing food insecurity but also provided an opportunity for our young people to experience the joy of serving others.

During FDF, we were honored to present a \$5,000 donation to the Archdiocesan Youth Summer Camp Scholarship Fund in honor of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros. We also continued our tradition of hosting the Clergy Family Brunch following Sunday's Divine Liturgy.

Young Adult League (YAL) Conference

The Metropolis Philoptochos partnered with the Young Adult League (YAL) during its annual conference in Seattle, Washington, over Labor Day Weekend 2025. Together with The Outreach Program, young adults and Philoptochos members participated in a Diakonia Project to package

20,000 meals for the Seattle Food Bank. This collaborative effort provided critical support to families facing food insecurity while fostering a spirit of compassion, unity, and service among participants. This collaboration will continue over Labor Day Weekend 2026 at the Metropolis YAL Conference being held in San Francisco, CA. We are grateful for the opportunity to engage the next generation in meaningful acts of philanthropy and Christian service.

Metropolis Gala

The Metropolis Gala, held on October 11, 2025, celebrated the vibrant ministries of the Metropolis of San Francisco and honored Nikiforos and Georgia Valaskantjis as recipients of the 2025 Theofanis Economidis Award. The Metropolis Philoptochos was proud to actively participate in this special celebration as a sponsor, with additional support by Philoptochos members through Gala Committee participation, and event implementation support.

National Philoptochos Children's Medical Fund Luncheon

The Metropolis Philoptochos was honored to contribute \$5,000 to the National Philoptochos Children's Medical Fund Luncheon, hosted by the Metropolis of Atlanta on September 27, 2025. It was especially encouraging to see so many faithful supporters from our Metropolis in attendance. Looking ahead, we are excited that the Metropolis of San Francisco will host the 2027 Children's Medical Fund Luncheon on September 25, 2027, in Huntington Beach, California. We look forward to welcoming Philoptochos sisters from across the country to this important event.

Metropolis Board Leadership

In January 2026, members of the Metropolis Philoptochos Board gathered at Annunciation Cathedral in San Francisco for our annual Board meeting. His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos administered the Oath of Office, Board elections were held, ministry initiatives were reviewed, and important organizational matters were discussed that will guide our work in the years ahead.

Fall Spiritual Conference

The Fall Spiritual Conference, themed "Gather • Reflect • Renew," was held October 26–28, 2025, at St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center in Dunlap, California. Philoptochos sisters were inspired by exceptional speakers, meaningful discussions, and the fellowship of women united in their commitment to Philoptochos. The conference also offered a deeply spiritual experience through participation in Vespers services at the Monastery of the Theotokos the Life-Giving Spring. The conference provided an opportunity for attendees to strengthen their faith, renew their commitment to service, and deepen their relationships with one another.

Ecumenical Patriarchate

In December 2025, the Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos reaffirmed its longstanding commitment to the Ecumenical Patriarchate through a \$5,000 donation in honor of the Lord's Nativity, supporting the vital ministries of our Mother Church. Over the past two years, the Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos has contributed \$20,000 to the Ecumenical Patriarchate reflecting our unwavering dedication to the spiritual leadership of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and its mission to strengthen the unity of the Orthodox Church, support its philanthropic efforts, and serve the faithful throughout the world.

Social Services

The Social Services Ministry remains at the heart of our Philoptochos mission. Through acts of kindness, compassion, and generosity, we assist individuals and families facing hardship both within our local communities and throughout the Metropolis. Whether responding to emergencies, providing financial assistance, or offering spiritual encouragement, our goal is always to preserve dignity while bringing hope to those in need. We remain committed to extending Christ's love through meaningful acts of service that truly touch hearts and change lives.

Fire Relief Efforts – Los Angeles

Following the devastating Los Angeles-area fires in January 2025, the Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos joined emergency response efforts coordinated through local Greek Orthodox communities. Chapters throughout the Metropolis provided donations, supplies, and financial support to assist affected families. To further support recovery efforts, the Metropolis Philoptochos presented His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros with a letter announcing a \$10,000 donation in his honor for fire relief. We remain steadfast in our commitment to partnering with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America to provide compassionate assistance to those affected by these devastating events.

Fire Relief Efforts – Greece

The Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos also contributed to the Greek Fire Relief Fund to assist communities in the Attica region of Greece impacted by devastating wildfires. Through this support, we extend our prayers and practical assistance to our brothers and sisters abroad during times of crisis.

Believe Walk

The Metropolis Philoptochos proudly supported and participated in the Stater Bros. Believe Walk on October 5, 2025, demonstrating our commitment to supporting cancer awareness, research, and patient services throughout Southern California. We are especially grateful to Stater Bros., a valued supporter of our Kids 'n' Cancer and Camp Agape Ministry, for their continued partnership and dedication to helping children and families facing cancer. Through proceeds from the Believe Walk, Stater Bros. has contributed \$30,000 each year in 2024, 2025, and 2026.

Greek Heritage Night with the Los Angeles Kings

For the past two years, the Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos partnered with the Honorable Christina Valassopoulou, Consul General of Greece in Los Angeles, for Greek Heritage Night with the Los Angeles Kings on March 25, 2025, and March 28, 2026. More than 500 attendees gathered each year to celebrate Greek culture, fellowship, and community spirit while enjoying an exciting evening of hockey. Highlights included youth Greek dancers performing "Zorba the Greek" on the ice during halftime festivities. The event also benefited the Kids 'n' Cancer Ministry, making it both a celebration of Hellenic heritage and a meaningful opportunity to support children and families in need.

National Oratorical Festival

The Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos proudly supports the National Oratorical Festival and its mission of nurturing the faith, leadership, and public speaking skills of our Orthodox youth.

We were honored that the Metropolis of San Francisco hosted the 2026 National Oratorical Festival at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Northridge, California.

It is an honor to serve the Philoptochos of our beloved Metropolis of San Francisco. I am profoundly grateful to represent the thousands of women from our Philoptochos Chapters across our seven-state region. Your support, love, and, most of all, your prayers are a blessing as we continue our good works in Christ.

With Love in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeannie Ranglas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeannie" being more prominent than the last name "Ranglas".

Jeannie Ranglas, President
Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos