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www.pancretan.org

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Dear Members,

The vision statements of the Pancretan Association of America, as outlined in the Constitution & Bylaws of the Association, are the foundation of the Culture & Education Committee. Specifically:

- To promote and develop social ethnic and cultural relationships and mutuality among all Cretans and their descendants residing in the United States and Canada.
- To promote and develop education through scholarships and otherwise; to raise voluntary contribution and funds and to distribute such funds to legally recognized philanthropic institutions and educational, charitable, or cultural purposes.
- To promote throughout the world, and especially in the United States of America, a better and more comprehensive understanding of Crete and its history and culture.

Our committee is constantly searching for new ways to bring our culture closer to our members, their families and friends all over USA and Canada. As such, it is our pleasure to inform you of the upcoming cultural endeavor. The PAA Culture & Education Committee has decided **to provide financial assistance up to \$100.00 to each youth dancer who performs at the 46th National PAA Convention in Springfield, Massachusetts, and also meets the requirements set forth by the committee.** Dancers must perform a minimum of one performance at the convention, be current in their membership, and behave appropriately. Younger dancers, who do not meet the minimum age requirement of the PYA (less than 15 years old) will also be eligible for partial financial assistance, so long as their parents are active members of the association.

Youth members attending the convention without their local dance group will have the opportunity to perform with the PAA/PYA mix & match group! Members whose dance group is attending are welcome to perform in the mix & match group as well as with their local group.

We are optimistic that by alleviating the financial burden of our youth dancers, national participation will increase and members will be inspired to continue future membership. In addition, **we strongly encourage all chapters to financially assist their youth members to attend this convention, as well as other national events.** Our hope is that by participating in the PAA's cultural activities, our members will take pride in being a part of the PAA & PYA and continue foster social and cultural relationships amongst all Cretan-Americans.

The hosting chapters have been working tirelessly to plan a memorable weekend filled with friends, fun, and most importantly, Cretan culture, and we are very excited to support them. There will be several exciting cultural opportunities at this convention. For a complete schedule of events, or to register, visit www.minoscrete.com.

Please contact Culture & Education Chairman, Aleko Marmatakis (alekomarmatakis@yahoo.com) with any questions or concerns. We hope to see you soon!

Respectfully,

PAA Culture & Education Committee

April 23, 2019