

Alik Perroti

A Legacy of Vision,
Generosity, and Hope

THE **sower**

Issue 192
Summer 2026

Chairman

Petros Levis

First Vice Chair

Stefanos Panteliadis

Vice Chairs

Frances Manthos

William L. Richter

Secretary

Sophia S. Hartch

Treasurer

Barbara K. Heming

Trustees

David G. Acker

Deborah Androus

Olia Avdis

Joannie C. Danielides

Keith Dronen

Annie Maniati Efstathiou

Thymis Efthymiadis

Antonis Hadjiyannakis

Konstantinos Kravvas

Vicki Kyriakos

Angelo Lampousis

Phoebe Legakis

George Mlonas

Nikolaos Pentzos

Joel S. Post

Christina Kazis Sayare

Peter Schube

William A. Tsacalis

Robert J. Uek

Sharon W. Vaino

Theodora Valentis

Dion Vlachos

Panayiotis Yatagantzidis

Honorary Trustees

Sheila Baird

Peter Bien

Loretta Constantinides

John R. Crunkilton

Kim Dooley

Seth Frank

Dimitri Gondicas

Konstantinos Hadjiyannakis

Annie Levis

John C. Lycouris

Daniel M. Morgan

Elaine K. Nelson

Anastasia Pappas

Gail D. Schoppert

Manita S. Scocimara

Susan Stupin

Robert W. Uek

President

Jeff Lansdale

Contributing Editors

Angelos Angelidis

Nicky Christopoulou

Athina Peristeropoulou

Design

Blind Studio

Printing

Puritan Press Inc

From the President

Dear Friends,

Some people leave behind memories. Others leave behind a future.

AFS benefactress Aliko Perroti left behind both.

It is with profound sadness that we share the news of Aliko's passing. Yet, as we reflect on her life, we find it difficult to speak of her simply in the past tense. She believed that giving young people the opportunity to learn, discover their abilities, and find their purpose could change not only their lives, but also the future of their communities. That belief continues to guide the American Farm School every day.

Perhaps one of the most powerful expressions of Aliko's vision is also one of the most forward-looking: the development of the AFS University of Science and Technology (AFSU), in partnership with Iowa State University. Made possible in significant part through her extraordinary contributions and her belief in the future of education, the University represents more than a new chapter for AFS. It is a continuation of the vision she held so deeply: that education must evolve with the needs of society, equip young people with knowledge and practical skills, and prepare them to lead with purpose.

That future is already being shaped by the students who pass through our classrooms and go on to discover what they can achieve. In this issue, you will meet students celebrating important milestones: from our graduates beginning new chapters to young people representing AFS in international science competitions, Model United Nations, entrepreneurship initiatives, and academic programs abroad. Their achievements reflect not only the education they have received, but also the confidence, curiosity, character, and sense of responsibility that Aliko valued so deeply.

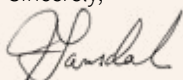
At the same time, AFS continues to expand the opportunities it can offer future generations. You will read about the Model Educational Center for Technicians and Agricultural Machinery "Pavlos Condelis," the Sower House for Culture and Humanities, and new research initiatives and partnerships, all part of the School's continuing commitment to an education that connects knowledge with experience.

Ultimately, however, Aliko's legacy is found in people. It lives in a student receiving a scholarship, a teacher discovering a new way to inspire a classroom, a researcher pursuing solutions to agricultural challenges, and an alumnus carrying the values of AFS into a new generation. One such story is that of Eleni Gkini, a member of the Class of 2017. Her journey reminds us why supporting AFS is, at its heart, an investment in people. From her years as a scholarship student at AFS to Brown University, UCLA's MBA program, and her career as a young professional in biotechnology, Eleni's story shows what can happen when talent meets opportunity, guidance, and belief.

These are the stories I hope you will see as you read these pages: not simply a collection of accomplishments, but a living community moving forward. A community united by a shared belief in the power of education and by a responsibility to honor Aliko's legacy and vision.

Thank you for being part of the American Farm School community and for helping us carry this vision forward.

Sincerely,



Jeff Lansdale, Ph.D.

President

AFS University of Science and Technology in partnership with Iowa State University

Iowa State University and the American Farm School have received approval from the Ministry of Education in Greece to establish and operate a University Legal Entity (U.L.E.) under the framework of Law 5094/2024, paving the way for the creation of a new non-state University based in Thessaloniki.

The new institution, AFS University of Science and Technology – University Legal Entity (AFSU-U.L.E.), represents a strategic partnership between the American Farm School and Iowa State University of Science and Technology, which is ranked 4th in the United States, and 7th globally, among the world's leading universities of agriculture and forestry.

The establishment of AFSSU-U.L.E. marks a significant milestone for both Institutions and for higher education in Greece. It will strengthen the internationalization of academic studies while creating new opportunities for education, research, and innovation. The University will leverage the American Farm School's extensive facilities in Thessaloniki, including its state-of-the-art laboratories, Educational Farm, and broad international network of academic and industry partnerships developed over more than a century.

AFSSU-U.L.E. will initially comprise three schools:

- **Perrotis School of Sciences**, offering four-year bachelor's degree programs in Food Science and Biochemistry.
- **Kravvas School of Agriculture and Natural Resources**, offering a four-year bachelor's degree program in Plant Production.
- **Kyriacopoulos Family School of Business and Economics**, offering a four-year bachelor's degree program in Agribusiness.

All programs will be taught exclusively in English, further strengthening the University's international profile and attracting students from Greece and around the world. All degrees will be awarded by Iowa State University, pending approval from the Higher Learning Commission, Iowa State's educational accreditor. The Iowa Board of Regents, which governs the State's public universities, has already approved this partnership.

"Since 1858, Iowa State has been dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, outreach, and global engagement, and today we are proud to extend that legacy to Greece," said President David Cook. "The launch of this new University is a historic moment that creates exciting opportunities for collaboration, innovation, and academic excellence in the fields of agriculture, food, business, and the sciences, and offers students a world-class educational experience."

Dr. Jeff Lansdale, President of the American Farm School and AFSSU-U.L.E., stated: "This achievement brings a shared vision to life and marks the beginning of a new era for the American Farm School. After 122 years of continuous contribution to education and rural development, we are taking perhaps the most significant step in our Institution's history by establishing a University with an international outlook and American academic standards. AFSSU-U.L.E. will serve as a center of excellence in education, research, innovation, and entrepreneurship, preparing the next generation of leaders in the agrifood sector and making a meaningful contribution to the development of Greece and the wider region. ISU's trust and support validate our vision and open new opportunities for our students, our partners, and society as a whole."



Commencement Ceremonies 2026: Celebrating Achievement and Purpose

Graduation ceremonies across the American Farm School community celebrated another year of academic achievement, honoring students from Kindergarten through Perrotis College and Junior College (ISAEK) as they reached important milestones in their educational journeys.

The graduation season began on June 4 with the Perrotis College Commencement Ceremony. President Dr. Jeff Lansdale welcomed graduates and guests, joined by Dean Dr. Kyriaki Zinoviadou and Iowa State University Associate Provost Dr. Ann Marie VanDerZanden. In his keynote address, Dr. Vincent Boudreau, President of The City College of New York, reflected on the shared mission of the two Institutions, emphasizing that education is both a profound responsibility and a powerful force for the common good. He encouraged graduates to

put their knowledge to work with purpose and integrity. Distinguished alumni Emmanouil and Sideris Gavliaroudis also returned to campus to share their experiences and offer words of encouragement to the graduating class.

On June 12, the General and Vocational High Schools held their Commencement Ceremony, featuring keynote speaker Athina Dessypri, President of the Bodossaki Foundation. Addressing the graduates, she spoke about the transformative power of knowledge and the importance of service, encouraging students to use their education to make a positive difference in society. The ceremony also marked a historic milestone: the first graduating class made up of students who had begun their educational journey at the American Farm School in its earliest preschool and elementary years. The graduation



season concluded with Junior College (ISAEK), where keynote speaker Marianna Papadopoulou Hatzakou, Member of the Board of MEVGAL, encouraged graduates to persevere through challenges, stay focused on their goals, and embrace every opportunity to learn and grow.

Together, the ceremonies highlighted the American Farm School's enduring commitment to preparing students with the knowledge, character, and practical experience they need to make meaningful contributions to their communities and beyond.



Students Explore Global Challenges through the School's First Model United Nations

The Haseotes Middle School and General High School hosted the American Farm School's first internal Model United Nations (MUN) conference, giving students the opportunity to strengthen their public speaking, critical thinking, negotiation, and leadership skills while exploring some of the world's most pressing challenges.



Over two days, students represented different countries in committees focused on food security, regional conflict, and the protection of children in armed conflicts. With guidance from their teachers, they researched complex international issues, debated possible policy solutions, and experienced firsthand the value of dialogue, collaboration, and compromise. The conference also featured a keynote address by Dora Kokozidou, representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Thessaloniki, who shared insights into the global refugee crisis and the importance of humanitarian action.

By launching its own MUN conference, the American Farm School created a new opportunity for students to engage with international affairs while developing the confidence, empathy, and communication skills they need to become thoughtful and responsible global citizens.

American Farm School Students Win Bronze at European Science Olympiad

A team of students from the American Farm School's General High School won a bronze medal at the European Olympiad of Experimental Science (EOES) in Lund, Sweden, representing Greece in one of Europe's leading science competitions.

After winning the national competition to qualify for the European finals, Haris Souvatzis, Thanos Souldatos, and Niki Tsitroudi took on a series of demanding laboratory challenges in physics, biology, and chemistry. The Olympiad tests more than scientific knowledge, placing equal emphasis on teamwork, critical thinking, and the ability to solve complex problems under pressure.

The achievement reflects the students' dedication and the support and guidance of their teachers, while highlighting the School's commitment to hands-on STEM education that encourages curiosity, collaboration, and scientific excellence. It also adds another successful chapter to the School's long-standing participation in international science competitions.



Students Serve as Judges at UK Young Enterprise Trade Fair

AFS Students took on an unexpected role at this year's Young Enterprise Trade Fair in London, one of the UK's leading student entrepreneurship events. Rather than participating solely as exhibitors, they were invited to serve as judges for the Social Impact Award, evaluating student-run businesses from across the UK based on their contributions to society, local communities, and environmental sustainability.

The opportunity reflected the confidence placed in the students' judgment and their understanding of social entrepreneurship. Alongside their judging responsibilities, the High School Entrepreneurship Team presented its own student company, NEPTON, exchanging ideas with young entrepreneurs from around the world and showcasing the creativity and innovation fostered at AFS.

The visit also included the event's Business Breakfast, where students met business leaders and industry representatives, expanded their professional networks, and gained insight into entrepreneurial leadership.



AFS Graduates Receive Scholarships to Study in the United States

Four American Farm School students earned scholarships to universities in the United States this year, continuing the strong track record of the School's Study USA program, which has supported more than 105 students in pursuing higher education in the U.S. over the past 14 years. Evelina Kasso received a full scholarship to Washington and Lee University, where she plans to study Business Administration and Psychology. Cleo Karozi received a scholarship to Georgetown University, becoming the first American Farm School student to be admitted to the university. Alexandros Tzioras received a full scholarship to Northwestern University, marking another first for the School. In addition, Panagiotis Katsaros, a student at the Vocational High School, earned a scholarship to the University of Richmond.

Through rigorous coursework, mentoring, and college counseling, the American Farm School helps students pursue opportunities beyond Greece, preparing them to succeed at leading universities and make meaningful contributions wherever their paths take them.



USDA Senior Official Visits Campus to Explore Strategic Research Partnerships

Dr. Nick Manoukis, Director of the European Biological Control Laboratory (EBCL), part of the USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) based in France, visited campus this summer. EBCL also operates a specialized satellite facility at Perrotis College under the leadership of Dr. Alexandra Chaskopoulou.

During his visit, Dr. Manoukis met with AFS leadership to discuss the School's strategic vision, research infrastructure, and plans for a new Biological Insect Control Center. Discussions also focused on ongoing research initiatives and the vision for AFSU, which aims to set a new standard for agricultural innovation and higher education in Greece and the wider region.

Impressed by the School's integration of education, research, and hands-on application, Dr. Manoukis noted that the USDA-ARS sees "significant potential for collaboration" with AFS in areas including biological pest control and applied research.





Remembering Alik Perroti

A Legacy of Vision,
Generosity, and Hope



The American Farm School and Perrotis College community mourns the loss of a remarkable friend, benefactress, and Honorary Trustee, Aliki Perroti, while also celebrating a life whose generosity, vision, and abiding faith in the power of education will continue to shape generations to come.

For Aliki Perroti, philanthropy was never simply about giving. It was about believing in people, investing in their potential, and helping create the conditions in which they could thrive. Her extraordinary partnership with the American Farm School transformed the institution as it entered its second century and helped open an entirely new chapter in its history.

Her vision was rooted in a simple but powerful conviction: education should equip young people not only with knowledge, but with practical skills, and a spirit of generosity. These were values she held deeply and saw embodied in the mission of the American Farm School.

“The American Farm School cultivates the best of those values in which I believe: education, practical skills, entrepreneurship, and a commitment to community.”

That belief became a legacy of extraordinary scale.

In 1995, Mrs. Perroti made a transformative gift in memory of her late husband, Dimitris. That gift led to the founding of Dimitris Perrotis College, honoring his memory while providing the catalyst for the American Farm School’s historic entry into higher education. What began with one extraordinary act of generosity became a remarkable partnership that would continue to grow for decades.

Mrs. Perroti’s philanthropy helped make possible a constellation of facilities bearing the Perrotis family name, each one contributing to the intellectual and human life of the campus. The Dimitris & Aliki Perrotis Library, established in 2001, created a vital center for learning and discovery. The Aliki Perroti Student Residence, completed in 2009, strengthened the sense of community and belonging that is so central to the student experience. The Aliki Perroti Research Laboratories, established in 2012, and the Aliki Perroti Education-

al Center, established in 2017, significantly expanded the College’s capacity for teaching, discovery, and innovation. Together, these gifts did far more than add buildings to a campus. They created places where ideas could flourish, where students and faculty could work side by side, where research could address real-world challenges, and where young people could discover their own capacity to contribute.

At the heart of Mrs. Perroti’s giving was an especially profound commitment to students. The Perrotis College Endowment, established through her foresight and student-centered philanthropy, provides enduring support for scholarships for promising and deserving students, as well as special programs. Through this endowment, her generosity will continue to reach students far into the future: opening doors, expanding possibilities, and changing lives.

Perhaps the most profound expression of Aliki Perroti’s enduring legacy is the future she has helped make possible. Perrotis College is now poised to evolve into the AFS University of Science and Technology, a non-state university that will carry the educational mission of the American Farm School into a new era. This historic transformation builds upon decades of investment in people, programs, research, facilities, and opportunity. The university that emerges will stand as a lasting testament to her vision: an Institution dedicated to science, innovation, practical learning, entrepreneurship, and service to society. In that sense, Aliki Perroti did not simply help build Perrotis College; she helped lay the foundation for its future. The AFS University of Science and Technology will be among the most enduring expressions of her faith in education and in the generations of young people who will embrace it to shape a better future.

The American Farm School and Perrotis College stand stronger because of Aliki Perroti. Her legacy is written into the life of the campus and into the lives of the people who pass through it. As the School looks toward its future, it does so carrying forward the vision that Mrs. Perroti championed so passionately: education grounded in practical skills, entrepreneurship, community, and hope.

That is a legacy worthy of celebration. And it is a legacy that will endure.



AFS Strengthens Its U.S. Community Through California Gatherings

This past spring, two gatherings in California brought the American Farm School closer to its U.S. community. In San Francisco and Los Angeles, alumni shared stories that illustrated the lasting impact of an AFS education and what becomes possible when rigorous academics, hands-on learning, and opportunity come together.

In San Francisco, Consul General of Greece Grigorios Tassiopoulos welcomed School leaders and guests, while His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco offered a blessing. President Dr. Jeff Lansdale shared the School's vision, and Board Vice Chair and AFSU Governing Board Chair William L. Richter presented plans for the AFS University of Science and Technology, developed in partnership with Iowa State University.



The impact of an AFS education was brought to life through the story of alumnus Thanos Synttrivanis (Class of 2021). After graduating from Pomona College, he is now conducting advanced research in cancer cells. He credited AFS with giving him the academic foundation and confidence to pursue his path in research.

In Los Angeles, Consul General of Greece Christina Valassopoulou hosted a gathering at her residence. Featured speaker Eleni Gkini (Class of 2017) reflected on the scholarship that changed the course of her life. Eleni spoke about the practical education, formative experiences, and lasting friendships she gained at AFS, and the opportunities that donor support made possible.

The evening also brought together generations of the AFS community. Longtime donor and Caltech Professor Emeritus Dr. George Gavalas spoke about his commitment to the School, while alumnus Demetri Vlachos '54 represented its enduring legacy. Alumnus Christos Minoudis '84 and Trustees Dion Vlachos and Peter Schube also joined the gathering.

Together, the two events did more than introduce AFS to new friends. They brought the School's mission to life through the stories of people whose lives have been shaped by an AFS education, while strengthening the relationships that will help extend those opportunities to future generations of students.



Alum Spotlight: Eleni Gkini (Class of 2017)

Eleni Gkini shines from a mile away.

An AFS graduate from the Class of 2017, Eleni went on to earn a B.Sc. in Neuroscience from Brown University and an MBA from UCLA Anderson. In between her degrees she worked with biotech startups on treatments for neurodegenerative diseases and precision psychiatry and only a few weeks ago, she started working at Genentech, a biotechnology corporation based in San Francisco, as a member of the Finance Rotational Development Program.

Her journey is impressive by any measure. But numbers, degrees, and accolades only tell a small part of her story. And they are certainly not what make Eleni stand out. What truly distinguishes her is the way she moves through life: with curiosity, confidence, warmth, and an unmistakable sense of purpose. She carries with her a willingness to embrace opportunities, to keep learning, to connect deeply with the people around her, and to imagine possibilities beyond what may seem immediately possible.

In many ways, Eleni is the mission of the School in full display.

AFS graduates are not simply students who pass through our classrooms. They are young people who carry the values of the School with them long after graduation. They take what they have learned – intellectually, personally, and from the community they have been part of – and bring it into universities, workplaces, communities, and the wider world. Each graduate becomes, in their own way, part of the continuing story of AFS.

And this story was best told by Eleni herself at the AFS Reception hosted by the Consul General of Greece to Los Angeles in March 2026:

“I would like to share a few words about the transformative experience I had at AFS. I come from a rather small town, where people rarely leave. My parents are working class and they were impacted by the financial crisis. Though they’ve always been supportive, they could not afford to send me to a school that would allow me to go abroad. We didn’t have a car at the time, and the fact that I received a scholarship was a gift. I don’t think I’m exaggerating when I say that getting that scholarship is why I’m here today.

Beyond the opportunities it created later on, AFS also shaped who I am. First and foremost, the practical training component did not only teach me practical skills, but also the value of being patient and hard-working. I will never forget my time tending to the newborn calves or carefully planting spinach, and the life lessons I gleaned from those experiences. Secondly, the Biology and Chemistry labs sparked my early interest in research and innovation. I also joined numerous clubs: the entrepreneurship club, theater, book club and community service to name a few. That allowed me to explore my interests and develop leadership skills. Moreover, the guidance of my teachers and mentors taught me how to set clear goals and work hard to achieve them. Every time I go back to Greece, I make sure to get dinner and catch up with them. Last but not least, I met wonderful people with whom I am still friends and continue to rely on.

AFS was a magical place for me that set the course for the rest of my life and equipped me with the tools to make my goals and dreams a reality. I stand here today as proof of what AFS can make possible. I hope that through the generosity and support of donors, many more students with backgrounds like mine will have the chance to attend AFS and go on to achieve things they never thought possible.”



Model Educational Center Honoring Pavlos Condellis Opens on Campus

The American Farm School expanded its technical training facilities with the opening of the Model Educational Center for Technicians and Agricultural Machinery “Pavlos Condellis”. The new facility was made possible through a generous gift from Ariane Condellis in memory of her late husband, Pavlos, a pioneer in the modernization of Greek agriculture.

The dedication brought together AFS leadership, government officials, industry leaders, and students. The Minister of Agricultural Development and Food joined Mrs. Condellis and AFS President Dr. Jeff Lansdale for the ceremonial ribbon-cutting, describing the facility as a landmark investment in Greece’s primary sector and a “jewel” for practical learning. Speaking about the laboratory’s broader significance, Dr. Lansdale emphasized the School’s commitment to advancing agricultural innovation while changing perceptions of technical education.

“My husband believed deeply in the power of agricultural education,” Mrs. Condellis said. “He always noted that the most innovative, forward-thinking farmers he met were American Farm School graduates. This Center honors his legacy by equipping the next generation with the tools they need for the future.”

In the new facility, students pursuing technical certifications in machinery maintenance and repair train in real-world conditions, working with modern equipment and advanced diagnostic tools. Top-achieving student Daniel Michalopoulos noted that access to this technology gives graduates valuable practical experience and prepares them for in-demand careers in mechanical services, agricultural dealerships, and agribusiness.

Made possible through philanthropic support and industry-funded scholarships, the new Center builds on AFS’s more than 120-year commitment to keeping practical education at the forefront of technological and industry developments.



A New Home for Culture and Creative Voices

On Palm Sunday, April 5, the American Farm School inaugurated “The Sower House: Culture and Humanities”, a space dedicated to the memory, creativity, and the cultural life of the School. Trustees, donors, educators, artists, students, and friends gathered to celebrate a project that expands what it means to learn with the head, hands, and heart.

The Sower House brings together the work and ideas of 23 people whose connection to AFS has left a lasting creative mark on literature and the arts in Greece and beyond. At its heart is the personal archive donated by author and former AFS Vice President for Academic Affairs Tasos Apostolidis. Spanning the years from 1972 to the present, the collection includes correspondence, audiovisual materials, and 66 books in multiple editions and translations. The archive is now being catalogued and will soon be available through an online platform, making it accessible to students, educators, researchers, and readers well beyond Thessaloniki.

Dr. Jeff Lansdale thanked Tasos Apostolidis and the School team who brought the project to life, describing the opening as the planting of another educational seed. Ceramic artist and donor Christine Willis reflected on the cultural influence Mr. Apostolidis brought to campus and the students he inspired. Perhaps the clearest expression of the House’s purpose came from student Panayiotis Stamatis, who recently won first place in a national student competition for historical narrative writing. “Expression does not require perfection, but honesty and perseverance,” he said. His words captured the promise of the new space: to preserve important voices, bring ideas into conversation, and give young people the freedom to discover and develop their own.

By safeguarding this cultural legacy and making it accessible to new audiences, The Sower House ensures that creativity remains not only part of AFS’s history, but an important part of its future. We thank the Levis family, the Lansdale family, and Manita Scocimara for their support.



Greek Summer 2026: Learning, Serving, and Exploring Greece

For more than five decades, Greek Summer has invited young people from the U.S. and other countries to experience farm work, cultural discovery, community service, and travel.

At the American Farm School campus, this year's participants took a more active role in the life of the Educational Farm than in previous years. Alongside Greek language lessons and workshops in yogurt making, winemaking, and aromatic plants, they weeded, harvested, cut and sorted herbs, landscaped, and took on a range of other agricultural tasks. Working outdoors in the summer heat gave them a firsthand understanding of the effort behind food production and brought the School's learn-by-doing philosophy to life.

In the village of Oinoussa, participants took on a different role, moving from learners to leaders. As part of the program's community service component, they planned educational and recreational activities for local elementary school children. The experience created joyful moments for the children while challenging the visiting students to communicate across differences, take responsibility for others, and give back to a community that had welcomed them.

The program's signature Mount Olympus trek challenged participants to push through fatigue and support one another along

the way. Their journey then continued across Greece, with visits to the Royal Tombs at Vergina, the cliffside monasteries of Meteora, the battlefield at Thermopylae, and the ancient sanctuary at Delphi. They explored Athens and the Acropolis, experienced the ancient theater of Epidaurus and the streets of Nafplio, traveled to Palairos, and ended with a day cruise around Lefkada. Each destination added another dimension to their understanding of Greece: its history, landscapes, traditions, and contemporary life.

What makes Greek Summer so enduring is the way these experiences build on one another. Farm work gives cultural immersion a tangible dimension. Community service turns travel into connection. And shared challenges create friendships that often last long after the return flight.

As the 2026 participants departed Thessaloniki, they carried home more than photographs and memories of the places they had visited. They left with greater confidence, a deeper and more personal connection to Greece, and a place within the nearly 2,000-member Greek Summer alumni community across the United States and beyond.

For information on Greek Summer 2027, visit www.afsgreeksummer.com.



Investing in Teachers, Expanding Student Opportunity

An investment in one teacher can reach hundreds of students. That idea was at the heart of a multi-day professional development program led by American education specialist Dr. Andrew “Drew” Baker.

Supported by AFS Trustee Deborah Androus, who inspired the School’s Arcadia program for students with learning difficulties, the training brought together educators from across AFS, from the Elementary and Middle Schools to the High Schools and Perrotis College. Through seminars, workshops, and meetings tailored to each division, Dr. Baker explored contemporary teaching methods, educational technology, and practical ways to foster critical thinking and creativity. A cross-division session, “Better Conversations,” focused on the human side of teaching; listening, communicating clearly, and building relationships that help students feel supported and engaged.

For AFS, investing in professional development means investing directly in student success. By giving educators opportunities to learn, collaborate, and bring new ideas into the classroom, the School strengthens learning across the entire community.



Save the date!



INVITATION

FARM SCHOOL TO TABLE

BENEFIT EVENT

A culinary experience
by Chef Maria Loi

Host of “The Life of Loi” on PBS
Joined by her Renowned Chef Friends

OCTOBER

23

7:00 PM



NEW YORK ATHLETIC CLUB
180 Central Park South, NYC

Cocktail Attire

Tickets:
afs.edu.gr/en/event/nycevent2026/

Stay in touch!

If you want to receive news about the American Farm School & Perrotis College send us an email at sower@afs.edu.gr and we will add you to our electronic newsletter contact list.

American Farm School & Perrotis College

Marinou Antipa 54,
Post Office Box 60097
GR-57001 Thessaloniki, Greece
Tel +30-2310-492-700
info@afs.edu.gr

1325 Avenue of the Americas, 28th Floor,
New York, NY 10019
Tel +1-212-463-8434
usoffice@amerfarm.org

Get social!

- AmericanFarmSchoolThessaloniki / Perrotiscollege
- americanfarmschool / perrotiscollege
- American Farm School / Perrotis College
- American Farm School / Perrotis College

www.afs.edu.gr

NOTE: If you are not receiving our invitations/save the dates via email, please contact us at info@afs.edu.gr

**Believe
Care
Excel
Transform
Create**

 **like
Alike**