



HISTORY – AIM – ACTION

The Lyceum of Hellenic Women of Patras was first founded in 1913 as one of the first annexes of the central Lyceum of Athens. It was inactivated in 1919 because of a big fire and reestablished in 1976.

Its first appearance in the cultural activities of Patras was in 1977 in the Municipal Theatre «APOLLON» with the participation of the dancing team of the Lyceum of Hellenic Women of Athens.

Since then, there have been a lot of events not only in Greece but also abroad. Significant performances in the Roman Conservatory of Patras, as well as in the Conference Center of the University of Patras with reputable and acclaimed artists such as the unforgettable DOMNA SAMIOU, CHRONIS AIDONIDIS, PETROS GAITANOS, PETROLOUKAS CHALKIAS, AGATHONAS IAKOVIDIS, the band 'TAKIM' and LAMBROS LIAVAS.

It also participated in events in the rest of Greece as in DELPHI (in a world medical Conference) in Athens (Great Britain Hotel), the OLYMPIC GAMES 2004 , television appearances on ERT) in KALAMATA (celebrations for the 100 years since the foundation of the Lyceum of Hellenic Women of Athens), in NAOUSA, VEROIA , TRIPOLI, PIRGOS, etc.

Abroad the first appearance of the dance Section takes place in 1981 in the village "KALIMERA" of APULIA (SOUTH ITALY) and was the first Greek band to visit the villages of South Italy. Since then, there will be appearances in other Greek-speaking villages as well as in major Italian Cities such as NAPLES, LECCE, PETAPONDE, BARI, UDINE, RIMINI.

At the international festival in BRUNSUM of the Netherlands it appears in 1988 and is awarded the first prize of artistic performance among 30 countries from all over the world and one year later it wins the second prize for dancing at the French CHAMBERRY International Festival.

In the following years the dance sections of the Lyceum of Hellenic Women of Patras, travel to Tunisia, Spain, Turkey, Bulgaria, Bosnia-Herzegovina each time praising the traditional style for the authenticity of the costumes and the ethics of the members of the dance section.

In 2016, the Lyceum of Hellenic Women of Patras celebrated the 40th anniversary of its re-creation with three-day celebrations, with the participation of 10 annexes of Greek Lyceums from all over the world.

Over the course of the 40 years, the main concern of the Lyceum of Hellenic Women of Patras was the creation of a remarkable Cloakroom of Greek Costumes and their promotion to the general public through a variety of activities such as school visits, events dedicated to the headbands, demonstration of Catwalk with Greek Costumes.

The Cloakroom of the Lyceum of Hellenic Women of Patras includes a large number of complete original Costumes, women's , men's and children's clothes from almost all parts of Greece as well as Jewellery that meet the needs of dressing up and decorating the costumes.

This collection was also the model for the creation the exact copies with absolute precision both in the construction and the quality of the materials for the needs of the dance groups of the Lyceum of Hellenic Women of Patras.

So nowadays the Cloakroom is inseparably tied to the action of the Lyceum and its pieces are always used in all the events according to the regulations of the Lyceum of Hellenic Women to always use authentic Costumes or exact copies.

Today also work :

- a fine arts department mainly for children
- a department of folk fairy tales
- a library department with books from 1930 to nowadays with a wide variety of themes such us History, Cultural Literature, Geography and Poetry.

Finally, we have to mention that the Lyceum of Hellenic Women of Patras has 240 active members, about 100 small pupils, 120 teenagers and adults with dancing taught by the renowned dance teacher Dimitris Elias, a dynamic board of directors and above all it enjoys love and appreciation of the entire people of Patras.