



**HELLENIC LINK–MIDWEST**  
A SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL LINK WITH GREECE  
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΤΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ  
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## **The Next Twenty Years in Greek America**

On Sunday, December 10, 2017, Hellenic Link–Midwest presents Dan Georgakas in the [Hellenic Foundation](#) lecture titled: “*The Next Twenty Years in Greek America.*” This lecture is funded by the [Hellenic Foundation](#), Chicago. The event will take place at 3:00 pm in Room 1610, at the Oakton Community College Des Plaines Campus, 1600 E. Golf Road Des Plaines, IL 60016. Admission will be free.

*Please park in the Faculty/Staff parking lot C and enter through door entrance #37. Please arrive between 2:30-3:00 pm so we can start the lecture promptly at 3:00 pm, as we have the room reserved until 5:00 pm only.*

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Dan Georgakas will discuss how the Greek America that will exist twenty years from now will be significantly different from the Greek America of today, or the Greek America of fifty years ago. The major difference is demographics. Due to the high rate of outmarriage to non-Greeks, the vast majority of Greek Americans in 2037 will be of mixed ethnic heritage. Greek identity will increasingly be more a matter of personal choice rather than family tradition. Competing ethnic heritages will be in play. Georgakas will outline the basic challenges this reality poses for the continued viability of Greek America. How other ethnic groups have dealt with multi-ethnicity, their successes and failures, will be examined as possible guidelines in shaping our own agenda. Although Greek America has never been more prosperous than at present, there are numerous shortcomings in our present thinking regarding the future. Alongside those weaknesses, are numerous positive trends and actions in place that need to be vigorously reinforced. The future is always unpredictable. Doomsday scenarios are easy to imagine, but rational planning can result in a future Greek America that would be as viable as today’s Greek America—however different in its specifics.

*Dan Georgakas* is Director of the Greek American Studies Project at the Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, Queens College (City University of New York). He is editor of the American Hellenic Institute’s policy journal, executive editor of the Journal of Modern Hellenism, and columnist for The National Herald. His most recent book is *My Detroit: Growing Up Greek and American in Motor City*.