

## **HELLENIC LINK-MIDWEST**

A SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL LINK WITH GREECE ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΤΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ

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## Myths, Monuments, and Early Greek History: Excavations at the Mycenaean Capital of Iklaina

On Sunday, November 11, 2018, Hellenic Link-Midwest, presents Professor Michael Cosmopoulos in a presentation titled "Myths, Monuments, and Early Greek History: Excavations at The Mycenaean Capital of Iklaina". The event will be held at 3:00 pm at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 10249 West Irving Park Road at Schiller Park (southeast corner of Irving Park Road and Mannheim Road). Admission is free for HLM members and \$5 for non-members.

The systematic excavations at the site of Iklaina, in the region of Pylos, have brought to light a major capital city of the Late Bronze Age, a period also known as Mycenaean and famous for such mythical sagas as the Trojan War (ca. 1600-1200 BC). Massive "Cyclopean" structures, monumental buildings decorated with beautiful wall paintings, advanced urban infrastructures, and the earliest known records of state bureaucracy in Greece provide new insights as to how states and governments were born in the western world. Because Iklaina is also mentioned in Homer's "Iliad", the excavations also allow a better understanding of the processes that led to the creation of the Homeric epics. In this illustrated lecture, Professor Cosmopoulos will present the exciting archaeological discoveries at Iklaina and discuss their significance for Greek history.

Michael Basil Cosmopoulos is Professor of Greek History and Archaeology and holder of the Endowed Professorship in Greek Studies at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. He is an anthropologically trained classicist and archaeologist, specializing in the political and cultural history of ancient Greece, with special focus on: state formation; secret cults; and social memory. He has excavated many sites in Greece and Ukraine and currently directs the excavations of the Athens Archaeological Society at Iklaina, in Pylos. He is an elected Fellow of the Academy of Science St. Louis, of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, and of the Royal Society of Canada. A National Geographic Society Explorer, he is also the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award of the Archaeological Institute of America.

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