



OBJECT ID	F2016.71
OBJECT NAME	Poster, Political
DATE CREATED	1983
MEASUREMENTS	60.48248 cm. H x 45.24248 cm. L, Item (Overall)
MATERIAL	Paper

#### OBJECT DESCRIPTION

Political poster on paper. Background is white with a large red stripe through the middle. In red and black text reads "Time for a change...The Choice is... Democrat Archie Mavromatis For the Assembly Please Vote - Primary Day - Sept. 15 Tuesday...Polls open 6am to 9pm". On the left hand side is a large black and white photo of Archie Mavromatis.

#### ORIGIN

He was born on April 16th 1949 to Louis and Nedi Mavromatis, who migrated to this country from their homeland Cyprus.

Archie attended the Hellenic College, Holy Cross Seminary in Brookline, Massachusetts where he studied Theology. After graduating from Hellenic College, his love for politics, a passion he acquired from his father, lead him towards a new direction in life. He attended Queens College, CUNY, where he got his Master of Arts Degree in Urban Studies. His affiliation with the church however, continued after college working closely with the Archdiocese. In addition, he helped in coordinating Patriarchal trips to the United States beginning in 1987, and most recently helped coordinate the infamous trip to Cuba on January 22-25 2004, which made it possible for Patriarch Bartholomew of the Eastern Orthodox faith to perform the historic and most memorable Consecration of the first church to open in Cuba in over 40 years. Today this new Byzantine Cathedral in Old Havana stands, not only with doors open to

the faithful, but rather to the multitudes that will open their hearts and embrace the Eastern Orthodox Faith in Cuba.

In 1983 Archie was elected District Leader for the 34th Assembly District which was the lower Jackson Heights area, and went on to serve the Liberty Regular Democratic Club for eight years. In addition to the countless political fundraisers he coordinated, and his active duty to the Greek Orthodox Church, he was a tireless and tenacious activist for Greek and Cypriot American political causes. He fought strong for every cause in which he enlisted and the causes for which he fought were good and righteous. His dedication to service prompted him to becoming a prominent member of the Greek Orthodox Church, and a powerful voice in the Greek- American community.

In May of 2003, Archie retired as Deputy and Director of Operations for NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development and started a Public Relations Company called Tactical Strategies Group. He resurrected HAPAC, the Hellenic American Political Action Committee, a political force, which was created by longtime friend George Douris in 1974. Since the passing of its founder Douris in 1995, Archie's schoolmate friend and President of the Red Apple Group, John Catsimatidis, maintained HAPAC and later transferred it to Archie, who became HAPAC's new Executive Director. We held a kick-off meeting at the Columbus Club in Manhattan on February 2003, with honorary guest and supporter Speaker Gifford Miller. The new Board consisted of civic, political, labor and business leaders who wholeheartedly supported HAPAC's rebirth. During HAPAC's initial kick off meeting, I remember Archie addressing the board, by stating "It is indeed a pleasure to be here on this historic occasion, when such a group of distinguished leaders have come together to resurrect the dream for the Hellenic community" he continued, "our intent is to be inclusive and from this small and impressive group reach out and invite many more to become involved" this was my good friend's dream. In addition, Archie also organized a Speakers Series Program for HAPAC in which prominent individuals from business to government would be invited to organized events in order speak to the general public.

Archie continued organizing fundraisers, through HAPAC, and held many political events for numerous elected officials in the community. Believing strongly in the future of our Greek-American youth, he helped organize HYPE, Hellenic Youth in Professional Endeavors, a community based strategy program, that would empower the youth to realize their ambitions and full potential by placing a network of public officials, educators, business and community leaders, and the media, around them at the early stages of their careers. He strongly believed that we must support our youth and help promote them, so that they will continue the great work of preserving our Christian Orthodox Religion and Hellenic Culture, Heritage and Language.

On February 26, 2004, the St. John's Greek Language and Literature Program and the Greek Club hosted a lecture on Campus. Archie was one of the speakers who addressed the students and spoke about the benefits and advantages of having an organization such as HAPAC. He spoke to the student body about his personal experiences organizing the Patriarchal trip to Cuba. He was so proud to have been apart of this mission and felt privileged that he was asked to help organize it. During this lecture, Hype was also introduced to the student body, focusing on the opportunities which students could count upon for future career planning, offering internships, scholarships and grants, in an effort to promote Hellenism through the youth.

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#### CITATION

Poster, Political, 1983, *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://hellenic.whirlihost.com/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 05/07/24.

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