

Free Screening of *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*

Friday, September 6, 8pm at Rainey Park in Astoria

Presented by the Hellenic Film Society USA

Astoria, NY – August 19, 2019 – A free screening of the romantic comedy, *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, will be held on Friday, September 6 at 8pm in Rainey Park, Vernon Boulevard/ 34th Avenue, in Astoria, NY. The Oscar-nominated film (Best Original Screenplay), produced by Tom Hanks, was a surprise megahit when it was initially released, earning \$368 million worldwide. The film is being presented by the Hellenic Film Society USA (HFS) in association with Arts, Culture & Fun at NYC Parks.

My Big Fat Greek Wedding tells the story of Toula (Nia Vardalos), a Greek-American woman who falls in love with a non-Greek (Jon Corbett), much to the dismay of her traditional Greek family, headed by her proudly Greek, immigrant father (Michael Constantine). Her struggle to gain her family's acceptance is a tale of love, food, and hilarious cross-cultural clashes.

"We are delighted to show this film under the stars at Rainey Park," says Jimmy DeMetro, president of the Hellenic Film Society. "It's the perfect feel-good film for a fun night out. Greeks and non-Greeks love this movie and for good reason. It's funny and charming and the quirky characters are relatable to all. No matter how many times I see this film, it always makes me laugh."

The film website Rotten Tomatoes says, "*My Big Fat Greek Wedding* is good-hearted, lovable, and delightfully eccentric, with a sharp script...[that] will have all non-Greeks in the audience wishing they could lay claim to some Mediterranean heritage."

Rainey Park, located next to Costco on Vernon Boulevard, is accessible by the Q 104, 103, and 102 buses. Street parking is also available. Audience members are encouraged to bring chairs, blankets, and a picnic basket for the full park experience.

This is the first free outdoor screening ever presented by the Hellenic Film Society, whose mission is to share the richness of Greek films with a wider American audience, to showcase Greek movies, and to preserve the film heritage of Greece. HFS presents the Annual New York Greek Film Expo film festival every spring. In addition, in collaboration with the Museum of the Moving Image in Astoria, HFS presents Always on Sunday, a series of monthly Greek film screenings at the Museum. The series, currently on summer hiatus, resumes Sunday, October 6. In addition, HFS will be presenting a Greek Film Expo in Philadelphia, October 11-13, and in Atlanta, October 25-27.

For further information, please visit <https://hellenicfilmusa.org> and follow on Facebook and Instagram.

About the Hellenic Film Society USA

The Hellenic Film Society USA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization rooted in the belief that Greek cinema can and should be part of the American cultural landscape. The organization promotes feature films, documentaries, and film shorts made by Greek filmmakers and those of Greek descent, as well as films that promote the cultures of Greece and Cyprus.

Press Contact for information or photos: Nancy Nicolelis/718-898-7002/nancy.nicolelis.hfs@gmail.com

###

