



EUROPEAN  
FESTIVAL  
ANCIENT  
GREECE

High Educational Cultural Experience

“ΑΓΩΝ”

October & March

Olympia | Athens | Argos | Epidaurus

March & April

Athens | Delphi | Corinth | Nemea

# ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK



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## Project Title **AGON**

### Scientific and Academic Coordination

The project is coordinated by:

**Professor Emanuele Isidori - University of Rome "Foro Italico"**

Full Professor of General and Social Pedagogy, with extensive research in sport pedagogy, ethics, and human development, and institutional roles at national and international level in sport sciences and ethical studies.

&

**Professor Maristella Trombetta - University of Bari "Aldo Moro"**

Department of Humanities Research and Innovation. Teaching History of Aesthetics and History of Art Criticism. Researcher and lecturer in Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art, with expertise in the history of art criticism and extensive experience in international cultural and academic projects.

With the contribution of:

**Professor Teresa Vespucci - Former Professor of Philosophy and History at Lyceum Archimede Acireale (CT).** Specialist in gender equality education and scholar of ancient thought and myth through philosophical and gender studies perspectives.

### Artistic Direction

**Emmanouil Kannavos - Artistic Director**

Actor and artistic director with solid experience in theatre/performative production and cultural projects.

### Project Management

**Valentino Berton - Cultural Entrepreneur**

The project is coordinated by Valentino Berton, a professional experienced in the design and management of international cultural and educational initiatives.

### Project Team

The operational team brings together multidisciplinary expertise:

**Francesca Di Sevo** – Psychologist and Event Organizer

**Clara Tacinelli** – Visual Artist

**Rocco Girardi** – Video and Digital Content Producer

**Maria Rita Talento** – Archaeologist

**Marco Cuomo** – Hospitality Expert

### Institutional Collaboration, Patronage and Support

The project is made possible through the collaboration and support of public and private institutions, cultural organizations, and local authorities committed to promoting education, sports culture, and the enhancement of cultural heritage.



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# EUROPEAN FESTIVAL ANCIENT GREECE

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*"Acquiring the memory of the past to orient yourself in the present and plan for the future.  
Retracing in the footsteps of those who preceded us is essential"*

## **PATHWAY OVERVIEW**

**"AGON"** is an international cultural and educational project designed for members, enthusiasts, and European secondary school students enrolled in language, classical, humanities, arts, science, dance, music, sports, and technical education programmes.

Held annually in Greece during October and March–April, the festival brings together schools and groups from across Europe in a comprehensive programme of cultural, educational, and artistic activities.

Lasting five or six days, the programme offers a historical, artistic, and cultural journey dedicated to the exploration of ancient Greek civilization. Through an interdisciplinary approach, it fosters the development of transferable skills, historical and cultural awareness, and personal growth, while encouraging an integrated understanding of both the tangible and intangible heritage of ancient Greece.

Through the logos (λόγος), storytelling, and the enduring legacy of the classical tradition, the project seeks to recreate the cultural network that once connected the cities of Olympia, Delphi, Corinth, Nemea, Argos, and Athens—ancient centres of athletic, artistic, and religious festivals. In doing so, it highlights their historical and symbolic significance while promoting the educational and civic values embodied by the ancient agōn: participation, dialogue, friendship, fairness, solidarity, mutual respect, peace, and equality. These principles are explored through lectures, artistic performances, workshops, seminars, and opportunities for dialogue hosted at major archaeological sites and ancient places of worship.

The initiative offers an immersive educational experience that combines research, learning, and the enhancement of cultural heritage. Visits to the principal sites of ancient Greek civilization enable participants to deepen their understanding of the historical, philosophical, artistic, and political foundations that have shaped Western thought.

The programme also encourages encounters and dialogue among students, teachers, scholars, cultural guides, artists, musicians, and professionals from diverse European backgrounds, promoting intercultural exchange, European citizenship, and the development of relationships based on mutual understanding, collaboration, and shared experiences.

Ultimately, the event, invites participants to rediscover the cultural roots of Europe, presenting the heritage of ancient Greece as an opportunity for education, reflection, and personal growth. In doing so, it contributes to the development of informed, responsible citizens committed to the values of dialogue, cooperation, and mutual understanding.



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## OBJECTIVES

### General Aims

- To strengthen the identity of the school community through encounters, exchange, and interaction with others.
- To provide useful tools for future guidance in the planning and management of cultural events.
- To ensure students' participation in the social and cultural life of their school.
- To encourage students to gain a better understanding of their talents and abilities.

## EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

- To promote ethical values such as person-centredness, integration, responsibility, inclusion, quality, and active participation.
- To develop behaviours based on the appreciation of diversity, cooperation, and solidarity.
- To create meaningful and motivating learning experiences and opportunities for experimentation.
- To foster the ability to interact in democratic ways and contexts.
- To act in a responsible and aware manner.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To develop cognitive processes: understanding, application, synthesis, analysis, and evaluation.
- To encourage creativity and problem-solving skills.
- To train students to work effectively in groups, with clear identification and distribution of tasks and responsibilities.

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

### Day 1 – Welcome and Opening Festival Ceremony

- Welcome and registration of participants.
- Presentation of Agòn – Festival of Knowledge and the Arts.
- Overview of the educational programme and scheduled activities.
- Introductory meeting, ice-breaking activities, and group-building session.

### Day 2 – Along the Path of Zeus: The Athletic Agon (Olympia)

- Guided visit to the Archaeological Site and Museum of Olympia.
- Readings and performances inspired by the sources of the Classical tradition.
- Keynote lecture: Always Strive to Be the Best: The Agonistic Ideal in Ancient Greek Culture.
- Artistic workshops and experiential learning activities.
- Agora and Symposium: discussion, reflection, and sharing of the day's experiences.



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## **Day 3 – Along the Path of Apollo: The Musical Agon (Delphi)**

- Guided tour of the Sanctuary of Apollo and the Archaeological Museum of Delphi.
- Readings and performances dedicated to Greek music, poetry, and philosophy.
- Keynote Lecture: The Body and the Self: A Philosophy of Identity in Ancient Greek Culture.
- Artistic and interdisciplinary workshops.
- Agora and Symposium: discussion, reflection, and sharing of the day's experiences.

## **Day 4 – Along the Path of Hera and Poseidon: The Poetic Agon (Corinth, Nemea, and Argos)**

- Guided tours of the archaeological sites of Corinth, Nemea, and Argos.
- Dramatic readings and activities exploring poetry and myth.
- Keynote Lecture: The Power of Bodies, Power over Bodies: The Cult of the Body in Contemporary Society.
- Artistic workshops and performance-based activities.
- Agora and Symposium: discussion, reflection, and sharing of the day's experiences.

## **Day 5 – Along the Path of Athena: The Theatrical Agon (Athens)**

- Guided tour of the city's principal archaeological sites and monuments.
- Theatrical readings and performances inspired by the great authors of Classical Antiquity.
- Interdisciplinary artistic workshops.
- Final presentation of the activities and sharing of participants' creative work.

## **Day 6 – Greetings and Closing of the Festival**

- Final evaluation of the educational programme.
- Awarding of certificates of participation.

## **CERTIFICATIONS AND INTERNSHIP CREDITS**

The project is recognised as a professional development programme for teachers and allows the accreditation of training hours for the purposes of professional updating and development.

At the end of the programme, a certificate of participation will be issued.

The practical/theoretical internship recognises 32 hours of FSL ("School-Work Training"), leading to the profile of "Digital Heritage Communicator".



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Website



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*"The European Festival of Ancient Greece offers a unique educational and cultural experience where history, art, philosophy, archaeology, sport, and intercultural dialogue come together. Through experiential learning, artistic expression, and meaningful human encounters, participants are encouraged to deepen their understanding of the roots of European civilization while developing the skills, values, and awareness needed to become active and responsible citizens of the future".*

*The programme outlined above is intended as a general guide and is not exhaustive. It may be subject to changes, adjustments, and additions according to organizational requirements and specific circumstances.*