

The video documentary, *The Greek Community of Tarpon Springs*, reveals the vibrant traditional culture of the Greek community of Tarpon Springs—which has the highest percentage of residents with Greek heritage in the US. The breadth of the community's rich traditional culture has not previously been captured by videographers from the community. The 55-minute production was created by Kosta Lekkas & Eleni Christopoulos-Lekkas, with the assistance of public television producer/director Christopher Holmes and folklorist Tina Bucuvalas. The documentary features several individuals whose lives are intertwined with such major aspects of local culture as sponge fishing, religious customs, music, and dance. Metropolitan Nikitas, a native son who frequently returns to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral, provides commentary on community history and culture, and community members discuss the significance of local culture in their lives. We will offer panel discussions about the documentary and community culture in conjunction with the film's premiere. Kostas Lekkas, Eleni Christopoulos-Lekkas, and Tina Bucuvalas will be joined by respected choir master/dance instructor John Lulias. The video will premiere at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral's Spanos/Pappas Community Center, 348 N. Pinellas Avenue, on Thursday, March 14 from 7-9pm. The documentary and the premiere/panel discussion are partially supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Florida Humanities Council.