



ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ ΝΙΑΡΧΟΣ
STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION

Distinguished guests, dear friends, dear Karl, dear Dr. Pulido,

It is a great feeling to be here this evening....and a lot of 'thank yous' for me to say on behalf of all of us at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF). Where do I start from.....

First of all, thank you to Karl Wellner and to Dr. Pulido and to all the NYSPCC family for honoring us this evening—more later.

Thank you to the City of New York, to Tony Marx and the Board of the NYPL for giving us the opportunity to contribute towards the major renovation of this library, and of course for the honor of having our name connected with the extraordinary mission of the NYPL at large. The Mid-Manhattan Library was founded in 1971, moved to this building in 1980, and 40 years later it is now called the SNFL. I think you all agree with me it is a real jewel, not only in relation to how it looks but more importantly in relation to what it offers to the people of New York and not only; I have always loved how Eric Klinenberg, the author and public sociologist, in his book about libraries describes them as “palaces for the people.” We are very happy the NYSPCC has chosen this venue for their event this evening—thank you!

Back to our hosts for this evening: the NYSPCC was founded back in 1875, so it has been around for a long time indeed! Their mission to support children, to prevent abuse and to respond to the needs of abused and neglected children, to educate, to help treat and help heal, provides a real, and of utmost importance, service to our humanity at large. Thank you for all you have been doing and continue to do!

We at SNF are celebrating our 25 years of grantmaking around the globe; we have a very wide scope indeed but helping the most vulnerable, children, and the elderly, has always been at the forefront of what we do, so we are very glad we connected with the NYSPCC. Thank you, Karl, for bringing our organizations together for a common cause, more than 10 years ago; supporting the Safe Touches Program and then collaborating with the NYSPCC to take the program to Greece via our grantee there, ELIZA, brings home the notion of 'connecting the dots' to do good, brings home the importance and the effectiveness of such productive collaborations beyond physical borders, to deal with issues that are affecting children all around the globe. So thank you for presenting and fostering such a collaboration.

As we are all trying to recover from this devastating global pandemic, COVID, I believe that we have all realized that there is a lot we, as a collective human global society, have to do to improve. And the ongoing need of the most vulnerable at large will remain at the forefront of what each of us can do to make this a better world for all. And to the NYSPCC family, thank you again for all you do in trying to make child abuse as preventable as possible.

Thank you, stay healthy, stay strong, and lets all help one another stay human.