

# The ACES Club Our Monthly Newsletter: March 2024

# **President's Report**

Dear friends and subscribers,

Welcome to the first edition of the ACES newsletter for 2024 and may you all have a great year!

I would like to begin this newsletter with some very exciting news. It is with great pleasure that I announce that Mr Andrew Kern (current President of the CiRCE



Institute) in America will be touring Australia at the end of May and early June. Andrew and the CiRCE Institute have always fully supported ACES, especially in the area of professional development. They have organised two successful online conferences (in 2022 and 2023). During this tour, Andrew along with Mrs Katerina Hamilton (also from CiRCE) will give public talks, offer professional development sessions and interact with many influential Australians. His tour includes visits to Toowoomba (Friday 31st May), Brisbane (Saturday 1st June-Monday 3rd June), Melbourne (4th to 5th June), and Sydney (6th to the 7th June). More details regarding venues where Andrew will speak will become available in the April newsletter. Andrew Kern will share his passion for classical education and help to guide us as our movement continues to grow. His insight, advice and wisdom are invaluable and we are deeply indebted to Andrew and the CiRCE leadership team. In particular, I would like to thank Mr John Smyth (committee member of ACES) from Melbourne who is coordinating this tour. If anyone wishes to offer any assistance to ACES regarding the Andrew Kern tour, then please send an email to John Smyth: <u>jtsmyth@gmail.com</u>. I kindly urge each one of you to mention to your friends, family, work mates, and others you know, the tour dates and encourage as many people as possible to listen to Andrew during the public events.

Secondly, ACES will continue to offer professional development online sessions this year to all interested persons. We will continue to work alongside with Mrs Adrienne Freas and her team at *Beautiful Teaching*. Adrienne has offered excellent training for Australians during the last two years. Some of her sessions are available on our website. These sessions will focus on pedagogical practices that can be used both in the classroom and home environment. Please continue to check our website to be informed with further updates (<u>http://www.classicaleducation.org.au/</u>).

Finally, we are hoping to continue developing a classical Christian curriculum that can be adapted for use in all Australian schools. We held our first online meeting last year and are planning to work in earnest during the upcoming months. If anyone interested in classical curriculum development or would like to be involved in any capacity, feel free to get in touch: <u>contact@classicaleducation.org.au</u>.

Yours sincerely,

Kon Bouzikos President of ACES



Articles of Interest

# IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME! ACES IN THE MEDIA

Since the beginning of the year, a number of Greek media outlets have published articles on ACES and the Australian classical education movement or else hosted radio interviews. The 3XY *Radio Hellas* discussion with ACES's President, Kon Bouzikos, can be found <u>here</u>. Below are copies of articles from  $N \epsilon \sigma \kappa \delta \sigma \mu \sigma \varsigma$  and  $T \alpha N \epsilon \alpha$  (right click to open larger versions of the images).





#### ACES NOW HAS A "GO FUND ME"



The Australian Classical Education Society is run entirely by volunteer committee members; however, we have a number of costs that unfortunately continue to grow. These include website hosting and maintenance, our

email newsletter and delivery service, incorporated association fees, and so on. To help fulfil our ambitions this year of developing a classical education curriculum and certain other goals. ACES have started a GoFundMe to raise some funds. Any support would be greatly appreciated and, where possible, promote our fundraising campaign. Rest assured, your generosity will not be wasted. The site for our GoFundMe can be found <u>here</u>.



## TRUE EDUCATION IS CLASSICAL EDUCATION - ANDREW KERN & THE CIRCE INSTITUTE

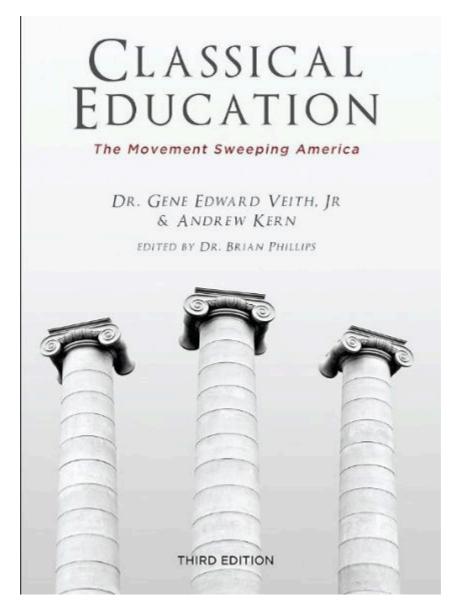
Co-author of *Classical Education: The Movement Sweeping America* and founder of the CiRCE institute, Andrew Kern joins John Heers to talk about the history of education, especially in America and maybe where it all went off the rails (hint: it happened before the colonies got their independent streak). They also explore what a return to classical education could look like and what it would mean for future generations.

### RECOMMENDED VIEWING

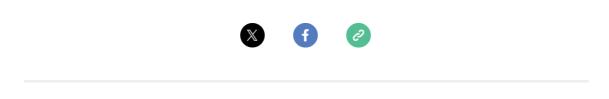
#### Who Killed Homer?

Have we killed Homer for good? Stephen Blackwood and historian-farmer Victor Davis Hanson examine the state of the contemporary West by returning to its ancient Greek origins. They explore the richness of its first principles, including self-critique, the elevation of rational understanding, the democratisation of learning, and the unification of thought and action. They also bring to light our current cultural crisis: the uncritical rejection of the inherited past, an intellectualism divorced from reality, and a surrender to relativism at the cost of true self-reflection. They close by reflecting on the lateness of the hour, and offer a vital call to seek and speak truth, to ignite the fire of independence of mind, and to remember that while we may know more than those who came before, they are, as T.S. Eliot said, that which we know. Watch the video here.

**Books of Interest** 



*Classical Education: The Movement Sweeping America* (Third Edition) examines the decline of American education and offers a solution. It is not more spending or a new and innovative program. Rather the solution, according to authors Gene Edward Veith Jr. and Andrew Kern, is classical education. Whether you are a parent anxious about your child's education, a family considering homeschooling, or a young person contemplating a career as a teacher, this book will help you think through what a true education involves. The book can be purchased <u>here</u>.



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