

# SIMPLE WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE AS AN ARCHAEOLOGIST

August 5, 2016 Maria Christakou Archaeological Media, Day of Archaeology 2016, Digital Archaeology, Education, Greece, Jobs

Apart from a professional career in archaeology which begins at university, archaeologists should have multiple skills, specialties and field of expertise, expanding their training and making their resume distinguished from others.

One best way to get involved in the field of archaeology is to find out what opportunities for participation are available and can be searched for online in your country and, of course, globally. So, if you are interested in taking the next step, here are my first starting points at your own pace from the comfort of your home.

## **A. Micropasts ([www.crowdsourced.micropasts.org](http://www.crowdsourced.micropasts.org))**

Looking up for something intriguing, I was a lucky one reading an article about Micropasts in the local newspaper and immediately joined the community.



Greek Newspaper / www.tovima.gr

Micropasts is a web platform where academic researchers and volunteer archaeological and historical societies meet and collaborate on new kinds of research about history, archaeology and heritage. All involved in help existing research projects to create open data and build new knowledge via crowd-sourcing applications.

By joining in you can assist existing research projects taking part in creating 3D models (photomasking), transcribing old records such as catalogues and letters and enriching old photographic archives. In other words, by contributing to projects you develop new skills, have an impact on research and produce results that are open and freely usable as stated in the platform.

## Community Leaderboard

Rank	Name	Score
1	<a href="#">Joellen mcGann</a>	20160
2	<a href="#">Denis Antoine</a>	18480
3	<a href="#">Maria Christakou</a>	7642
4	<a href="#">Susan Magyarody</a>	5433
5	<a href="#">Michael George Adams</a>	5133
6	<a href="#">JP OConnor</a>	3850
7	<a href="#">Hugh Fiske</a>	3429
8	<a href="#">MARLA WALCOTT</a>	3165
9	<a href="#">Elaine Dale</a>	3040
10	<a href="#">M. Froso</a>	1482
11	<a href="#">Leland Sorenson</a>	1334
12	<a href="#">Dina Fathalla</a>	1331
13	<a href="#">Jane Fellows</a>	1256
14	<a href="#">Jeff Okazaki</a>	1087
15	<a href="#">Daniel Pett</a>	931

### Micropasts Community Leaderboard

I joined Micropasts in August 2014 and I can not believe today that I am celebrating two whole years full of new gained knowledge! For one thing I am extremely proud of is ranking 3rd in the Community Leaderboard (1301 users so far) having submitted 7.642 tasks. I promise to keep up the good work in 2017 too!

## B. Archaeology and Arts / [www.archaiologia.gr](http://www.archaiologia.gr)

Then, wanting to expand and make use of knowledge in blogging, I gave a try to the [www.archaiologia.gr](http://www.archaiologia.gr) portal, a digital monthly journal about Archaeology and Arts.

Here you can publish an article, a blog about anything that interests community, share photos of archaeological sites and follow researchers and friends of archaeology.

The screenshot shows the profile page for Maria Christakou on the 'archaeology & arts' website. The header includes the site logo, navigation links (Αρχική σελίδα, Ατζέντα, Φωτογραφίες, Αρχείο τευχών, Περισσότερα), a search icon, and a user profile picture. Below the header, the profile information for Maria Christakou is displayed, including her name, title (Historian, PhD Cand., Sociology AUTH, MA Study of Religion, AUTH, BA History and Archaeology AUTH), membership status (Free Member), location (Greece), and interests (History, Archaeology, Theatre, Religion, Sociology). Her email address is maria\_christakou@yahoo.gr. Below the profile information are social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, Email, and LinkedIn. The main content area is divided into two sections: 'Τα αγαπημένα μου' (My favorites) and 'Ο τοίχος μου' (My wall). The 'My favorites' section shows two folders, each with a count of 0. The 'My wall' section shows a post by Maria Christakou with a photo of a sunset over ancient ruins and a text input field for a comment.

My blog profile has 1.407 views and my best post about Bodleian Libraries (University of Oxford) a total of 1671 views.

### C. Archaeology Competitions

Finally, if you are a creative mind, you may show your talent in competitions related to archaeology. For instance, last year I took part in the European Competition "You(r) Archaeology -Portraying the Past, coordinated by IBC- The Institute of Cultural, Natural and Artistic Heritage of the Region of Emilia Romagna with the collaboration of research institutions of 9 other European Countries. Although I did not get a prize for submitting a piece of industrial archaeology, I must admit that it was a great experience.

The screenshot shows a website page with a blue header. On the left is the NEARCH logo. The main navigation bar includes 'Involving', 'Imagining', 'Sharing', 'Innovating', and 'Connecting'. There are also links for 'What Is NEARCH', 'News', 'Partners', 'Search', 'Newsletter', and 'Participate'. Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and LinkedIn are on the right. The main content area features the title 'EUROPEAN COMPETITION : YOU[R] ARCHAEOLOGY' with a sub-heading 'Events' and the date '19/05/2015'. A prominent message states 'NEW DEADLINE: AUGUST 23rd 2015!!!'. Below this, it explains the competition is part of the NEARCH European Project coordinated by IBC - Institute for Cultural and Natural Heritage (Italy). The text describes the competition as 'You(r) Archaeology – portraying the past' - A European competition to express your view. It asks 'What is archaeology? An adventure? A pain in the neck? The appeal of the past, the magic of marvellous sites, the boredom of a dusty museum? Probably all of these together, and still more.' and states that up until August 23rd 2015, all European citizens can answer the question and tell us about their idea of archaeology by entering a drawing, painting, photo or video in the European competition "You(r) Archaeology". There are two images: one of a man with a speech bubble saying 'archeolowhoknows?' and another of a woman with her hands on her head and a speech bubble saying 'aaargh!aeology'.

*"You(r) Archaeology – portraying the past"*

For all of you interested in taking part in a new archaeology photo competition, here's one organised by the Faculty of Archaeology of the Leiden University.

You may follow this link:

<http://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/events/2016/09/archaeology-summer-photo-competition>

but, please, hurry up, because the deadline of photo submission is the 31rd of August!

In conclusion, if you do want to make a difference, what are you waiting for? Search and join as many as you can. Good Luck!

Maria Christakou

PhD Cand. AUTh