



#mood

Closed until further notice. End of applications

Cyprus Times



All News



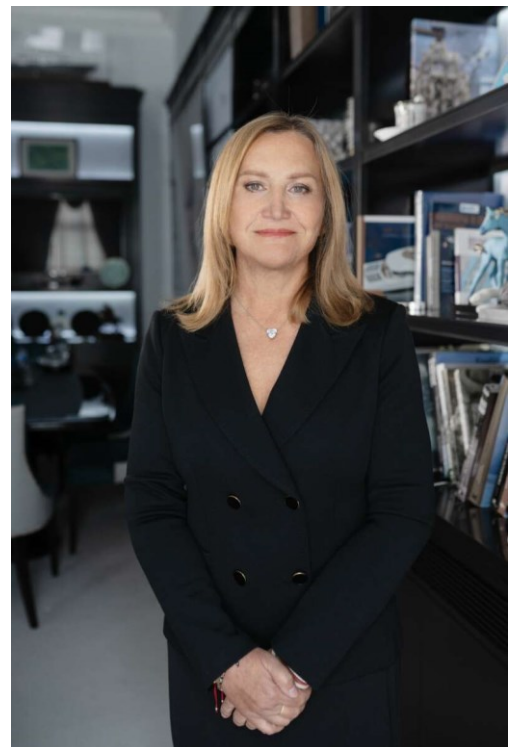
f

x

📧

+

Elena Baturina's BE OPEN Foundation launches educational initiative in Cyprus for the revitalization of traditional crafts



Listen to CyprusTimes

Sponsored by **exness**

On 22-23 April, **BE OPEN** and CVAR will hold six educational sessions for Nicosia students, each consisting of a lecture on craft-related entrepreneurship and a master-class on traditional Cypriot weaving.

The lecture will be based on the experience of Andreani Panayide, a young woman of Cypriot origin, who will share her journey from trying to explore her cultural heritage to founding her fashion label Folkmona, which markets accessories and clothing internationally. The master classes will be held by Elli Filokyprou, a weaver with over 20 years of experience, who runs her weaving workshop in the village of Gourri.

The courses entitled Cyprus Handcrafted Heritage – Classes with BE OPEN and CVAR have won encouragement from Dr. Philippa Karsera, First Lady of Cyprus: "We welcome all initiatives aimed at teaching the children of Cyprus about their culture and history, broadening their horizons and offering nurturing space for self-development. The format of the educational initiative developed by the BE OPEN Foundation is particularly exciting as it unites theory and practice, past and present, historical context and its contemporary application. We hope that this project will not only help transfer knowledge to children, but will inspire a genuine interest in our country's craft heritage."

Dr. Athina Michailidou, Minister of Education, Sports and Youth of the Republic of Cyprus, graciously expressed her support: "Cyprus' rich artistic and craft history inspires international institutions, such as the BE OPEN Foundation, to launch educational projects dedicated to traditional craftsmanship. This work highlights not only the intrinsic value of this particular craft, but the connection between our past and our future – in other words, between the hand-made tradition of fabric weaving and how it translates into contemporary fashion."

Elena Baturina, Founder of BE OPEN explained the charitable goals of the project: "We are very grateful for the support and appreciation that our educational initiative has received from the authorities and educational institutions of Cyprus. At BE OPEN we are always committed to training the "creative muscle" in the younger generations because we believe it is one of the most important cognitive skills. Helping them expand their knowledge and develop their creativity based on Cyprus' amazing handmade heritage is a great opportunity to inspire love, respect and appreciation for their history, culture and the range of their own expression."

BE OPEN continues to engage the creative youth of Cyprus in educational and artistic projects. Last June, the foundation held an art exhibition in Cyprus as part of [BE OPEN Regional Art](#) and offered some more programs that the youth of Cyprus could benefit from.