Dear CAU Fans and Friends,

We invite you on a spectacularly unique cruise of both the Aegean and Black Sea, exploring the myth and history that shaped the fabled shores of Greece, Turkey, and Georgia. We’ll follow the footsteps of the ancients aboard the deluxe, 50-guest ship Artemis, which affords all the comfort and style of a private yacht with its spacious cabins and elegant public areas.

Our voyage sails from Athens to the northern Aegean, and on to the Black Sea, the site of numerous cities spawned by ancient Miletus, many of which became early centers of Christianity. We call first at the classically Greek island of Skyros, and sail to Turkey to visit fabled Troy, where Homer documented the Trojan War in his Iliad. In Istanbul, we will consider the role of the Emperor Constantine, and later Justinian, in transforming Byzantium into the resplendent city of Constantinople, with its remarkable early Christian monuments. Justinian also brought about a new synthesis of Greco-Roman and Christian culture in the 6th century, some 300 years before the advent of Islam. His construction of Hagia Sophia from 532 to 537 was the paramount achievement of his building campaigns.

On the shores of the Black Sea we will visit such important early Christian centers as Amasra (ancient Sesamus), and Katuisi, Georgia, with its many churches and the 12th-century Gelati Monastery. Batumi, capital of Georgia’s Adjara region and a recently modernizing commercial and tourism center, boasts a diverse abundance of architecture, including the uniquely red-and-white-striped Orthodox Church of St. Nicholas. The trip will culminate with a visit to the striking 4th-century Sulema Monastery located in the mountains outside of Trabzon.

Accompanying you on this journey of discovery will be CAU faculty leader Scott MacDonald, professor of Philosophy and Christian Studies at Cornell. Scott will enhance your appreciation of the sites we visit through lectures and informal discussions on philosophy, religion, and science in the first century and beyond, with the advent of Christianity. Joining him will be Kirk Freudenberg, Chairman of the Classics Department at Yale University, who will address topics pertaining to classical history and mythology. Together, the two professors will explore the intersection between myth, reality, and the quest for meaning.

We hope you will join us next August aboard Artemis as we trace the ancient world From Jason to Justinian.

Sincerely,

Cathy

Catherine Sutton Penner
Director
Cornell’s Adult University
The spectacular city of Istanbul
ITINERARY

Thursday, August 6, 2015
USA
Fly from the U.S. to Athens, Greece.

Friday, August 7
ATHENS, Greece | PIRAEUS | EMBARK
Arrive in Athens and transfer to Piraeus to board Artemis. We sail this evening. (D)

Saturday, August 8
SKYROS
From Linaria, the island’s main port, drive the short distance to Skyros Town, with its characteristic whitewashed houses built on the side of a rock that rises sharply from the sea. The top of the hill is dominated by a fortress, dating from the Byzantine period. Explore this atmospheric and friendly town and visit the private Faltaits Museum, whose collections include embroidery, costumes, sculpture, and pottery. (B, L, D)

Sunday, August 9
CANakkALE | TROY, Turkey
Artemis enters the narrow Dardanelles, called Hellespont by the ancient Greeks, for it was here that Princess Helle slipped from the back of the flying ram with the Golden Fleece and drowned at sea in Apollonius’ epic Argonautica. Call at Canakkale, our gateway to Troy, where ongoing archaeological excavations have revealed nine different layers of cities superimposed in rings on a massive mound rising above the Plain of Ilium. It was to one of these cities, as legend has it, that the Greeks fought the Trojans, as Homer tells in his Iliad. (B, L, D)

Monday, August 10 & Tuesday, August 11
ISTANBUL | CRUISING THE BOSPHORUS
Tour some of Istanbul’s principal landmarks, including the famed Hagia Sophia, splendidly rebuilt under Justinian I’s patronage. According to Procopius, Justinian stated at its completion, “Solomon, I have outdone thee.” Also see the Blue Mosque, Topkapi Palace, and the Kariye Camii (Chora Church), considered to be one of the most beautiful surviving examples of a Byzantine church. In the 16th century the church was converted into a mosque, and today it stands as a museum, with fine mosaics and frescoes lining its interior. As an alternative to Kariye Camii, visit the wonderful Archaeological Museum. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, August 12
AMASRA
Cruise along the coast of ancient Paphlagonia past landmarks associated with the Argonautic expedition, including the “Mouth of Hell” near Ereghi, ancient Heraclea Pontica. Arrive in Amasra, ancient Sesamus, founded by Milesians in the 6th century B.C. The city later became an important possession of both Byzantium and Genoa. On a tour of this idyllic town, visit the Genoese citadel, which crowns one of the promontories with a formidable constellation of towers, battlements, and gates. (B, L, D)
Thursday, August 13

SAMSUN | AMASYA

Drive to Amasya, which, legend has it, was founded by the Amazon queen Amasis. Ascend to the cliff-top fortress for panoramic views and probe the rock tombs of the Pontic kings. Also visit the 15th-century Sultan Bayazit Mosque. Visit the Archaeological Museum in Samsun before returning to the ship. (B, L, D)

Friday, August 14

GIRESUN

This quaint port dates back to the late 6th century B.C., when it was founded by Greek colonists from Sinope. Historic records reveal that the city was dominated by the Miletians, Persians, Romans, Byzantines, and peoples of the Empire of Trebizond. Visit nearby Giresun Island, which, according to legend, was inhabited by the Amazons, who had dedicated a temple to the war god Ares here and considered it sacred. (B, L, D)

Saturday, August 15

POTI | KUTAISI, Georgia

Call at Poti in ancient Colchis, the land of the Golden Fleece, as the Argonauts did over 3,300 years ago. Travel upland to Kutaisi, Georgia’s second largest city and one-time seat of Georgian monarchs. A tour of this culturally rich and historic city features its many churches and palaces, including the Church of King Bagrat, built in 1003. A palace-citadel near the church dates back to the 6th century, but only ruins and parts of the medieval walls are visible today. Also see the 12th-century Gelati Monastery, founded in 1106 as a center for Christian culture and learning. (B, L, D)

Sunday, August 16

BATUMI

From Batumi, the capital of Georgia’s Adjara region, we visit the nearby Gonio-Apsaros fortress, the oldest fortress in Georgia and one of the finest surviving examples of Roman-Byzantine military architecture. Built by the Romans in the first century A.D., it was occupied by the Byzantines in the 6th century and by the Ottomans in the 16th century. It is also held to be the burial place of the Apostle Matthew. Next tour the Batumi Museum of Archaeology, showcasing finds from excavations throughout Adjara and Batumi from the Bronze Age to Medieval times. Also see the main sights of the city, including the Orthodox Church of St. Nicholas, the Synagogue, and Freedom Square. (B, L, D)

Monday, August 17

TRABZON, Turkey

Ancient Trapezus, one of antiquity’s greatest cities and commercial centers, was founded by Greek colonists during the early part of the first millennium B.C. It continued to prosper under the Romans and Byzantines. Travel to the Sumela Monastery, founded in the 4th century and set high in the mountains. Back in Trabzon, visit the 13th-century church of Hagia Sophia. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, August 18

TRABZON | DESEMBARK | USA

Transfer to the airport in Trabzon for flights home via Istanbul. (B)
**ARTEMIS**

*Artemis* is a small cruise ship whose size and design makes it the perfect vessel for our educational voyage. Built in 2007, this 50-guest yacht allows us to call at out-of-the-way destinations and dock at small harbors, avoiding the crowds and congestion of larger ports that cater to mega ships.

All 26 spacious cabins enjoy an ocean view, and the majority feature private balconies with floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors. All have a private bathroom with shower, flat-screen TV, telephone, safe, mini-refrigerator, and climate control. The ample public areas include an elegant dining room that serves all guests in a single open seating, a welcoming lounge and bar affording opportunities for convivial conversation as well as lectures, and a furnished Sun Deck ideal for relaxed observation of the passing shoreline.

*Artemis* meets the very latest standards for safety and is equipped with state-of-the-art communications and navigation systems. With a crew-to-passenger ratio of nearly one-to-two, guests are assured the highest standards of professionalism and attentive, personalized service.

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**Cruise & Land Rates**

**Per Person, Double Occupancy**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>RATES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Main Deck: Cabins with two round, fixed portholes; near the stairs. 150 - 163 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$9,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Main Deck: Cabins with two round, fixed portholes; near the stairs. 150 - 163 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$10,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Upper Deck: Cabins have small private balcony with table &amp; chairs; near the stairs. 150 - 163 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$11,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Upper Deck: Cabins have small private balcony with table &amp; chairs; near the stairs. 150 - 163 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$12,040</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Upper Deck: Cabins have small private balcony with table &amp; chairs. 150 - 163 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$12,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Lower Deck: Single cabins with round, fixed portholes. 120 - 135 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$12,840</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Single Rate (Per Person)**

Typical Cabin

Lounge
Included

- 11-night cruise aboard the 50-guest private yacht **Artemis**
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard ship
- All meals aboard ship
- Wine, beer, and soft drinks with lunch and dinner aboard ship
- Complete program of tours and excursions
- Enrichment program of lectures and discussions by expert study leaders
- Professional Travel Dynamics International tour staff
- Comprehensive pre-departure materials
- Baggage handling and airport transfers abroad on the designated program arrival and departure dates
- Gratuities to porters, guides, shipboard personnel, and drivers
- Port charges and taxes

Not Included

- Airfare
- Visa and passport fees (if applicable)
- Trip cancellation and baggage insurance
- Meals and beverages other than those specified above
- Personal expenses (such as laundry, telephone, Internet, etc.)

Air Reservations

Airfare is not included in the Cruise and Land Rates. To make your air reservations, please contact your preferred airline, travel agent, or the Travel Dynamics International air desk toll-free at 1-877-711-9896 Monday – Friday from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (EST).

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE:** A deposit of $1,500 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour. For your convenience, you may charge your deposit to your American Express, Visa, or MasterCard. Final payment is due April 21, 2015. Final payment by check is preferred, but payment by credit card is also accepted.

**CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS:** Cancellations through April 21, 2015 will be refunded, but are subject to a $500 per person fee. Cancellations received after April 21, 2015 to June 8, 2015 (107-59 days prior to departure) will be assessed a penalty equal to 50% of the total program cost per person plus a $500 per person fee. Cancellations after June 8, 2015 are 100% non-refundable.

**INSURANCE:** We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

**ITINERARY:** The itinerary, accommodations, and arrangements are subject to change at the discretion of Travel Dynamics International Ltd.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Please read carefully the following terms and conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the passenger and Travel Dynamics International Ltd. and the tour’s sponsoring organization. The passenger is also advised to review his/her separate ticket passage contract with the vessel’s owner/operator, which will constitute the sole, legally enforceable terms of carriage for this cruise and is available on request from Travel Dynamics International Ltd. Travel Dynamics International Ltd. and the tour’s sponsoring organization act solely as agents for the passenger with respect to all transportation, hotel and other tour arrangements. In that capacity, we exercise all reasonable care possible to ensure the passenger’s safety and satisfaction, but, we neither assume nor bear any responsibility or liability for any injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity arising in connection with the services of any ship, airplane, train, automobile, motor coach, carriage or other conveyance, or the actions of any third-party, involved in carrying the passenger or in affecting these tours. We are not responsible for damages, additional expenses, or any other losses due to cancellation, delay or other changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, acts of God or other causes beyond our control. All such losses must be borne by the passenger, and tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. In the event of cancellation, delay or rescheduling mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as we are able to recover on the passenger’s behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the passenger beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour itinerary and to substitute hotels, ships, or lecturers if this is required. We reserve the right to cancel, delay, or reschedule any tour prior to departure, and, so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall be entitled to a full refund of all monies paid to that point if he/she so desires. No refund shall be made for any unused portion of any tour. By forwarding their deposit(s), the passenger certifies that he/she and/or their dependents, minors or others covered thereby do not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that could create a hazard for them or other passengers. We reserve the right to decline to accept or to decline to retain any person as a member of any tour should such person’s health condition or actions adversely affect or threaten the welfare or safety of other passengers or impede the tour. Baggage or valuables brought on the tour shall be transported, handled or stored at the passenger’s risk entirely, and, we shall bear no liability or responsibility for any damage or loss thereto. Passenger tickets are non-transferable and are not subject to alteration by the passenger. No suit shall be maintainable against the carrier, or vessel, for any losses, accidents, damages to person, property, personal injury (including death or other types of bodily injury) of the passengers, unless written notice of the claim, with full particulars, is delivered to the carrier or its agents at its office at the port of sailing or at the port of termination within six months from the day when such incident occurred. In no event shall any such suit or any claim against the carrier or vessel for any losses, accidents, damages to person, property, personal injury (including death or other types of bodily injury) of the passenger occur, notwithstanding any provision of law of any state or country to the contrary. Resolution of any disputes arising hereunder shall be brought within the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, pursuant to the applicable general maritime law, and applying the applicable general maritime law and Federal maritime statutes.

**SHIP’S REGISTRY:** Malta

CST #204 3599-40 TDI
WITH CORNELL LECTURER
SCOTT MACDONALD

For further information or reservations, please contact CAU at 607-255-6260 (Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, EST).
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