



Bakalis, Maria

for Maria Bakalis  
 1982 O of Hellenic Museum  
 November 28, 2005  
 Chicago, IL

Maria Bakalis (born Maria Soteria Bakalis, born 1918) was born in Chicago, Illinois. She is the daughter of a Greek immigrant family. She worked in a grocery store and a cleaning business. She is a teacher and a theater performer.

Ryan Booker (B): Could you tell me your family name or surname?

180 M: Yes, they called her Soteria and she was the mother of her. She was the first woman to have a business. She was a grocery store and she worked in a cleaning business. She was a teacher and she worked in a theater. She was a teacher and she worked in a theater. She was a teacher and she worked in a theater.

181 B: Did she have any other names or nicknames?

182 M: No, my name Soteria's first name is a name that was given to her by her mother. She was a teacher and she worked in a theater. She was a teacher and she worked in a theater. She was a teacher and she worked in a theater.

183 B: Let's talk about your early life. Can you tell me about your childhood?

184 M: Yes, I was born in Chicago, Illinois. I was the daughter of a Greek immigrant family. I worked in a grocery store and a cleaning business. I am a teacher and a theater performer.

OBJECT ID	Bakalis, Maria
OBJECT NAME	Oral History
LANGUAGE	English
OBJECT COLLECTION	National Hellenic Museum Oral History Collection (OH1) (is part of)
DATE CREATED	November 28, 2005
ALTERNATIVE NAME	Audio
INTERVIEWER	Booker, Ryan
INTERVIEWEE	Bakalis, Maria
ACCESS POINTS	Education Greek Americans Greek American women Teaching Theater

**OBJECT DESCRIPTION**  
 In this interview, Maria Bakalis discusses growing up Greek in Chicago; working in the family grocery and dry cleaning business; her education; and teaching career.

**CITATION**  
 Oral History interview with Bakalis, Maria, November 28, 2005, National Hellenic Museum Oral History Collection (OH1), *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 05/05/26.