

## Meet Magda!



*Greetings from*  
**ASTORIA, QUEENS!**

Hi Musical Explorers,

My name is Magda Giannikou, and I was born in the coastal area of Voula, near Athens, Greece. I would swim every day and spend hours and hours playing the piano and singing! The beauty and vastness of the Greek seas always have been a big part of my life and greatly influenced my music. I look forward to singing, clapping, and dancing with you on some of my favorite songs!

Me polli agape (with lots of love)!

Magda

Musical Explorers  
c/o Carnegie Hall  
881 Seventh Avenue  
New York, NY 10019



Magda

## We asked Magda ...

### What was your first experience with music?

I used to listen to my mother play piano, and I would watch her hands as she played. It made me want to play too, and I started playing when I was five years old.

### What is your favorite story from childhood?

The most magical memory of my childhood is the first time I swam at night in the waters of the Greek island of Chios. I was around eight years old, and a group of 20 or so friends jumped in the water under a full moon. It was a dream.

### Tell us about the food in Greece.

Some signature foods are a salad called choriatiiki, which means "from a village," and moussaka, which is a combination of potatoes, eggplant, ground meat, tomato, and feta cheese baked in the oven. My favorite Greek food is mayiritsa, a lemon soup we eat on Easter. When I visit home, my mother prepares it regardless of the season!



Moussaka



Acropolis



Voula, Greece



Arriving at  
Astoria, Queens

