Hiram Crespo Founder of the International Society of the Friends of Epicurus Author of "Tending the Epicurean Garden"

Greetings.

From my corner of the world, I'd like to say congratulations to the Friends of Epicurean Philosophy in Athens on their 10th anniversary. Here in the Americas, we are seeing a slow, but organic growth in interest in Epicurean philosophy. Content is being published in new media, including the Epicurean Radio webpage on which audio files have been uploaded, and I was recently asked to write a 5,000 word essay on Epicurean philosophy for an upcoming book titled "How to Live a Good Life" (Vintage Books, 2019), which will include chapters on various philosophies and religions practiced in the world today. The fact that I was asked to make this literary contribution, and that I am probably the only contributor to this book who is not a member of clergy or an academic philosopher, says something about the increased visibility that we are enjoying these days. In the past, Epicurean wisdom was easily brushed aside, ignored or willfully misrepresented in academia and outside of it, but thanks to the work we are doing, as well as the work of intellectuals like Michel Onfray in the French-speaking world, that is slowly changing. We are not a silent philosophy entombed and relegated to the study of history. It is important that we talk back when people criticize the values that we cherish, and that we educate people about what Epicurean teachings have to say about important issues pertaining to the modern world. So I'm grateful for the work that you are doing there, and I will continue to work for the expansion of Epicurean philosophy here. Peace and Safety to you all,