**My role model: Demetrius Vikelas**

When we think of IOC presidents, we often think about the well-known figures like Baron de Coubertin, Juan Samaranch and Thomas Batch. These highly admired people have brought various contributions to world unity and togetherness, powering the motor of equality and the Olympic Games. They have done multiple deeds to make this world a better place. However, there is a less know IOC director that changed the whole course of humanity.

Most people argue that Baron Pierre de Coubertin was the founder of the modern Olympics. However, this utterly wrong. The one that actually revived the Olympic Games was a Greek man called Demetrius Vikelas. You might’ve not heard a lot about him because he gave the spot to de Coubertin after only two years as president. But he indeed founded the Games. His goals was to promote world peace and equality via an international sporting event. Hence, on June 23 1894, the IOC (International Olympic Committee) was established.

At that stage, the International Olympic Committee only had 7 members. The Games were also small at that time with less than 300 athletes(all male), 9 sports and 14 nations. Now, it has grown to be one of the most viewed sporting events in the world totalling 10 714 athletes of both genders, 32 events and over 200 teams. The IOC has grown with the Olympics with a sum of 105 active members. Now, the world is equal with the number of female athletes equalling that of the male ones. Nations from all over the world are allowed to compete as long as they haven’t attacked another country. Discrimination is now long gone thanks to the one and only Demetrius Vikelas, the one Greek man that revolutionized world-togetherness and truly made planet Earth superior than ever before.