

Armenian Interests

March 15, 2026

Issue #903

News & Events of the Armenian Community

In This Issue:

- [PAREV-TV interview with Karen Hakobyan and Kiron Atom Tellian](#)
- [Hovnanian Students Shine at the MATHCOUNTS Bergen/Hudson Chapter Competition](#)
- [AGBU President Sam Simonian Visits Communities in Cyprus and Greece on Global Tour](#)
- [Society for Armenian Studies Winter 2025 Graduate Research and Conference Grants Recipients](#)
- [Poetry presented by Mrs. Zarmine Boghosian](#)
- [This week's videos from PAREV-TV](#)
- [Current news from around the world](#)
- [Directory](#)
- [Calendar of Events](#)
- [Advertisers & Supporters](#)
- [Editorial volunteer staff of Armenian Interests](#)
- [Volunteers of ARHNJ](#)

Please send any information related to *Armenian Interests* e-newsletter to:
TalinKupelian@gmail.com

Tigran Hamasyan to Perform at South Orange Performing Arts Center on March 15



“Tigran Hamasyan is an incredible pianist and composer from Armenia. Whether you’re a jazz fan or just love incredible musicianship, he’s really a once-in-a-generation kind of artist. Having him at SOPAC is really special. I’m Armenian so

this is extra special for me,” said Stankus.

SOPAC has also made available a **30% discount code** — **TIGRANRADIO** — for online ticket purchases.

“We are glad to promote an Armenian artist,” said Vartan Abdo, director of ARHNJ. “Our group of 20 Armenians will be at the concert, and we look forward to sharing the experience on our next show.”

Armenian jazz pianist and composer Tigran Hamasyan will perform at the South Orange Performing Arts Center (SOPAC) on **March 15, 2026**. Known for masterfully blending Armenian folk music with jazz, rock, and classical influences, Hamasyan is widely regarded as one of the most innovative pianists of his generation.

In the months leading up to the concert, the Armenian Radio Hour of New Jersey (ARHNJ) has been promoting the event and featuring Hamasyan’s music on its broadcasts.

On Sunday, March 8, ARHNJ aired a short live phone interview with Dan Stankus, programming director at SOPAC.

OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS



Vartan Abdo
Founder & Director



Talin Kupelian
Managing & Layout Editor
Armenian Interests Newsletter



Rafi Krikorian
Website/Email Manager



Haig Kupelian
News in Armenian



Serge Panossian
Chief Technical Engineer



Lori Kupelian
Video Production & Editor



Florence Avakian
News in English



Seta Jebejian—Cultural
Temker yev Tebker



Zarmine Boghosian
Literary Segment



Hagop Dishoyan
Engineer Announcer
Tech Manager & IT



Mihran Maldjian
Engineer Announcer



Nubar Nalbandian
Engineer announcer



Kayla Bajakejian
Engineer announcer



Greg Varjabedian
Engineer announcer



Isabel Vartanian
Engineer announcer

RADIO NEWSLETTER

Alumni Senior Volunteers who are always willing and able to assist:
 Taleen Babayan, Diran Jebejian, Katya Kupelian, Anush Gulian,
 Nora Janikian, Nareg Panossian, Armen Panossian

Headline News



Armenian Interests

PAREV-TV interview with Karen Hakobyan and Kiron Atom Tellian



Pegasus Orchestra under the Baton of Maestro Karen Hakobyan



Kiron Atom Tellian

On March 20th, St. Vartan Cathedral will be hosting a concert titled "Armenian Voices and American Rhapsody," a debut event of under the auspices of Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan. Pegasus Orchestra under the Baton of Maestro Karen Hakobyan and introducing virtuoso pianist Kiron Atom Tellian.

Karen Hakobyan is the founder, artistic director & principal conductor of Pegasus. Pegasus Orchestra is a nonprofit ensemble based in New York founded in 2017 by Karén Hakobyan—pianist, conductor, and composer. Like its mythic namesake, the winged horse of inspiration, Pegasus moves with freedom, creativity, and lift—bringing world-class music to concert halls, underserved communities, and unexpected spaces alike.

The Pegasus Orchestra in its debut at St. Vartan Cathedral. Guest pianist Kiron Atom Tellian will open the program with a selection of Komitas's Armenian Dances. Pianist Kiron Tellian regularly performs with some of the greatest artists worldwide. He now studies with Sergei Babayan at the Juilliard School. Cellist Sergey Antonov joins Hakobyan in Saint-Saëns's Cello Concerto No. 1 and Arutunian's Impromptu, followed by Rachmaninoff's Vocalise and Komitas

arrangements. The concert culminates with Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, played and conducted by Hakobyan. St. Vartan Cathedral.

On March 12, Vartan Abdo, director and Founder of PAREV-TV interviewed Karen Hagopyan and Kiron Atom Tellian. "They are both 24 karat musicians. You could feel their passion for music and composition in their voice and demeanor. What a treasure Armenians enjoy," said Vartan Abdo.

Karen Hakobyan spoke about this history of Pegasus - next year 10th anniversary. He spoke about the March 20th concert venue, St. Vartan Cathedral, as coming back home. Kiron Tellian had prases for Karen, "From the

first moment I met Karen I was immediately struck by how creative and insightful he makes music. It was so impressive to see what can be done with unusual orchestration and unusual ensemble. I find it admirable because that is exactly what I feel, music should be alive and constantly changing, while at the same time remaining completely loyal and committed to the creations of the great masters. It is a pleasure to collaborate in this context. I am excited to open the concert with very special pieces. I will play some of Gomidas's dances for piano. There is something special about this music. I am Armenian. I grew up in Vienna, Austria and yet any time I play these pieces something very special happens," said Kiron Tellian

The unedited interview with Karen Hakobyan and Kiron Atom Tellian may be watched on YouTube.

St. Vartan Cathedral 630 2nd Ave, New York, NY. Tickets: \$40 Ages 12 and under free. Discounted parking for \$16 at 300 E 34 Street, New York, NY 10016

Hovnanian Students Shine at the MATHCOUNTS Bergen/Hudson Chapter Competition



Hovnanian School's Math Enrichment team with their teacher and coach, Talin Kupelian



Right: 1st place winner
Tomas Vosbikian
Left: 2nd place winner
Armen Manoukian

Hovnanian School's Math Enrichment students recently showcased their exceptional mathematical abilities by competing in the prestigious MATHCOUNTS Bergen/Hudson Chapter Competition, putting their problem-solving skills to the test alongside top math students from across the region. This year marked **Hovnanian School's fifth time participating** in the competition.

Leading the way in this highly competitive event was seventh grader Tomas Vosbikian, who earned first place for "Best in School," securing a well-deserved victory through his outstanding mathematical prowess and strategic thinking. Eighth grader Armen Manoukian placed second, demonstrating strong analytical abilities and determination.

To celebrate their achievements, their coach, Talin Kupelian, hosted a fun awards ceremony in their honor, recognizing the

students' hard work and dedication.

The MATHCOUNTS Competition Series is a nationally recognized program that promotes excellence in mathematics among middle school students. The competition challenges participants with complex problems that require creativity, logical reasoning, and perseverance. Hovnanian School's strong performance reflects the dedication of both the students and their teacher and coach, Talin Kupelian.

The success of Tomas and Armen highlights the impact of Hovnanian School's Math Enrichment program, which provides students with opportunities to strengthen their mathematical thinking and build confidence in their problem-solving abilities. Their achievements bring pride to the school and inspire their peers to strive for excellence in mathematics and beyond.



Congratulations to Tomas Vosbikian, Armen Manoukian, and all the Hovnanian School Math Enrichment students who participated in the competition. Their hard work and accomplishments continue to uphold the school's tradition of academic excellence.

AGBU President Sam Simonian Visits Communities in Cyprus and Greece on Global Tour



Conversations focused on the sustained vitality of the Armenian community in Cyprus and the value of closer collaboration between community, church, and state institutions.



AGBU President Sam Simonian, accompanied by his wife Sylva, led an official delegation to Cyprus and Greece from February 19 to 23 as part of his ongoing global tour of Armenian diaspora communities.

The delegation included Vasken Yacoubian, Central Board member and President of AGBU Armenia, and Nazareth Festekjian, Treasurer of AGBU, as well as Chief Financial Officer Mark Gitlen and Middle East Regional Director Arine Ghazarian.

Nicosia and Larnaca Visit

In Cyprus, the delegation met with members of both the former and interim committees of the AGBU Nicosia Chapter, as well as representatives of the broader Armenian community. Discussions centered on assessing current needs, identifying opportunities, and charting a strategic path for AGBU's continued presence and growth in Cyprus. President Simonian also paid a visit to the campus of the Melkonian Educational Institute (MEI), his father's alma mater.

Official meetings included discussions with Vartkes Mahdessian, Member of the House of Representatives of Cyprus; Archbishop Gomidas Ohanian, Prelate of the Armenian Prelature of Cyprus; and H.E. Inna Torgomyan, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to Cyprus.

The delegation also met with Davit Karapetyan, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia (MFA), in the presence of H.E. Inna Torgomyan at the Armenian Embassy in Nicosia.

A dinner in honor of the delegation, hosted by Benon Sevan, former AGBU Central Board Member and AGBU Representative in Cyprus, brought together approximately attendees from across the island's Armenian organizations and institutions.

In his remarks, Simonian described how he grew up believing in the ideals of AGBU — an organization that supports Armenians regardless of background or persuasion and works with whichever Armenian government is in place: “Those principles became part of my foundation early in life. Now, we are thinking about how to revitalize this community — how to create something that will make Armenians here proud,” he added.

In a separate meeting, the Interim Committee of the AGBU Nicosia Chapter presented its vision for revitalizing the chapter amid recent challenges. Priorities included preserving Armenian identity in Cyprus, deepening youth engagement through cultural, professional, and sports programs, and strengthening ties with AGBU's global network. Participants reaffirmed their shared

commitment to institutional stability and a dynamic and productive future for AGBU Cyprus.

To close the delegation's visit, the AGBU Larnaca Chapter — under the chairmanship of Roupen Kalayjian — hosted a farewell lunch and arranged a tour of the AGBU Armenian Cultural Center in Larnaca.

Athens Visit

President Simonian and the delegation continued their tour to Greece with an official visit to Athens, where they met with the local Armenian community and held discussions on strategic plans for the future of AGBU's presence in Greece.

A cocktail reception hosted by AGBU Greece welcomed the delegation, bringing together community members and organizational representatives. The delegation met with the AGBU Greece committee, chaired by Aris Chatzaturian, and held an official meeting with Bishop Khoren Arakelyan, Primate of the Armenian Diocese of Greece. The delegation also visited the AGBU Artaki Kalpakian Elementary School, reaffirming AGBU's commitment to Armenian education and community life in Greece.

President Simonian's global tour will continue in the months ahead.

Society for Armenian Studies Winter 2025 Graduate Research and Conference Grants Recipients



The Society for Armenian Studies announced the recipients of its Winter 2025 Graduate Research and Conference Grants. The four recipients are: Astghik Hakobyan, for her research on “Production, Circulation, and Reception of Spurious (Non-Canonical) Religious Texts among Armenian Communities in the Ottoman and Safavid Worlds (17th–18th Centuries)”; Arthur Ipek, for his research and translation work, “Workshopping Chahan Chahnour’s Komitas, Unbound as Case Study for Western Armenian”; Sahika Karatepe, for travel to the ARF and Project SAVE archives in Massachusetts, to complete her dissertation on “Labor, Gender, Nature and the Politics of Expropriation: Armenian Peasantry in the Bardizag Region of the Ottoman Empire (1790-1924)”; and Orhun Yalçin, for travel to archives in Turkey for his project, “History of Artvin and Kars in the mid-nineteenth century, during the Tanzimat period (1839–1876).”

Each of the winning recipients will

receive a \$1,000 grant awarded by the Society.

SAS President Barlow Der Mugrdechian congratulated all of the awardees. “SAS is pleased to support such promising young scholars achieve their goals. The nature and the depth of their research demonstrates the multi-disciplinary aspect of Armenian

Studies as a field of inquiry,” said Der Mugrdechian. “We encourage other young scholars to join SAS and to share their research.”

Recipients expressed their thoughts on their awards.

“I am profoundly grateful to the Society for Armenian Studies for this grant, which directly supports my doctoral research on non-canonical texts in early modern Armenian communities. The award enables essential archival research, including work at the Bibliothèque nationale de France, and contributes both to the preservation of Armenian written heritage and to new insights into Armenian religious and intellectual history, for which I am sincerely thankful,” said Astghik Hakobyan.

“Receiving a grant from the Society for Armenian Studies is meaningful to me as a junior researcher because it reaffirms the value of translation as a scholarly practice. Through my translation of Shahan Shahnour’s essay on the genius of Komitas, I hope

to bring voices of Armenian literature into wider circulation and to make the model of artistic creation explained in the essay and my annotations accessible to contemporary scholars and creators alike,” stated Arthur Ipek.

“I am honored to have received this grant, which I will use to conduct archival research in Boston, working with the ARF Archive, Project SAVE, and other collections essential to completing my dissertation. My research examines the transformation of the Armenian peasantry in the Bardizag region of the Ottoman Empire between 1790 and 1924, focusing on the intersections of labor regimes, environmental extraction, gender, and imperial violence. I am deeply proud of this support, as it recognizes the importance of my research on Armenian labor, gender, and violence and allows me to bring this project to fruition,” said Sahika Karatepe.

“The Society for Armenian Studies Graduate Research Grant supported the final stage of my doctoral research in Turkey. This stage significantly strengthened the depth of my work on nineteenth-century Armenian provincial life,” stated Orhun Yalçin.

The Society of Armenian Studies is an international body, composed of scholars and students, whose aims are to promote the study of Armenian culture and society, including history, language, literature, and social, political, and economic questions; to facilitate the exchange of scholarly information pertaining to Armenian studies around the world; and to sponsor panels and conferences on Armenian studies.

Poetry presented by Mrs. Zarmine Boghosian

Մեր Գրական Աշխարհի Ծաղկաստանէն
♥♥♥ Through the Orchards of the Armenian
Language & Poetry ☐☐ March 13-14- 2026
Presented by: Zarmine Boghosian



ՄՈՐՄՈՐՈՍ կամ ԱՎԼԱՏԻՉ-ը անգրագէտ մեծ մայրիկին օրացոյցն էր- որ սոխի մը վրայ եօթը փետուր մխրճելով, **եօթը** շաբաթը **եօթը** փետուրներու հաշուարկով կարենար պահպանել մեծ պահքի երկար շրջանը: Բուն Բարեկենդանի Կիրակիին յաջորդող երկուշաբթիէն կը սկսի ՄԵՃ ՊԱՀՔԸ և կը տևէ 48 օր:

Առաջին շաբթուան իւրաքանչիւր օրը ժողովրդական յատուկ անուն մը ունէր - հոս կը բաւականանք միայն անունները նշելով- **Երկուշաբթի՝** Բախլա-Խորան որ ժողովրդա-կան աղաւաղումով Փակ Խորան ըսել է... Պասահան, Երեքշաբթի՝ Կոճոն, Չորեքշաբթի՝ Սեւ Փոստի Օր- (մինչև Հոգեգալուստ գոյգերը չեն կրնար ամուսնանալ), Մկնտօն Հինգշաբթի, Օձի Կիրակի՝ Ուրբաթ (կիները գործ չեն ըներ այդ օր): Իսկ մեր եկեղեցիներէն ներս իւրաքանչիւր Կիրակին կը յիշատակուի այս-պէս՝ **Արտաքսման, Անառակի, Տնտեսի, Դատաւորի, Գալստեան և ապա՝ Ծաղկագարը:**

Չորեքշաբթի՝ **Մարտ 11-ին ՄԻՋԻՆՔ** է (Median Day of Lent), իսկ Մեծ Պահքին 27-րդ օրը- **Շաբաթ՝ Մարտ 14-ին** տօնն է **ՄԱՆՈՒԿ** անուն ունեցողներուն՝ ի յիշատակ Դ. Դարուն Սերաստիոյ մէջ նահատակուած **ՔԱՌԱՍՈՒՆ ՄԱՆՎԱՆՑ**-երիտասարդներուն և անոնց հոգիներուն համար: Կարգ մը եկեղեցիներու մէջ **քառասուն մոմ** կը վառեն կոնքի մը մէջ որ **ԼԻՃ** կը խորհրդանշէ, ուր այդ սուրբերը նետուեցան սառելու համար:



♥♥♥
Անգլիացի ռոմանտիք բանաստեղծ **Ուիլեամ Ուորտզ** Նարկիզի մասին **William Wordsworth**-7 April 1770–23 April 1850

ՆԱՐԿԻԶՆԵՐԸ -

Ինչպէս միայնակ ամպը որ

կը թափառի

Ու կը լողայ բարձր ձորերու և

բլուրներու վրայ,

Յանկարծ տեսայ շարանը,

Հիւրընկալը, ոսկեայ նարկիզներու,

Լճափին, ծառերու տակ,

Թրթռալով և պարելով գեփիւռի ռիթմով:

Շարունակուող՝ ինչպէս

փայլող աստղերը,

Եւ շողշողումովը

յարդգողի ճանապարհին,

Անոնք ամբողջ ճանապարհի եզրին են

Անվերջանալի գիծով հո՛ն էին

Տասը հազարը մէկ նայուացքով տեսայ,

Գլուխները միացած աշխոյժ պարի մէջ:

Անոնց կողքին ալիքները կը պարէին,

Բայց անոնք գերազանցեցին ալիքներուն

Իրենց փայլուն ծիծաղկոտ աչուկներով.

Բանաստեղծը չէր կրնար ուրախ չլլալ

Նման գուարճալի ընկերներու հետ.

Ես որքան նայեցայ, բայց քիչ մտածեցի

Թէ ինչ հարստութիւն բերաւ

ինձի սա տեսարանը.

Յաճախ, երբ կը հանգստանամ

բազմոցիս վրայ

Դատարկ կամ մտախոհ

տրամադրութեամբ,

Անոնք կը փայլին այդ ներքին

աչքիս վրայ

Որն է մենութեան երանութիւնը.

Եւ յետոյ սիրտս կը լեցուի հաճոյքով,

Եւ կը շարունակէ պարել

նարկիզներուն հետ:



ՊԱՏՄՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԴԱՍ ՄԸ- ԶԱՀՐԱՏԷՆ

Չահրատ Ա. - Իշխան մեծագոր

Արքայ հիմնադիր գահրատեան տոհմին

Որ սուրեվ թուրով գահը բարձրացաւ

Զնայած ուրբժին այրիին լացին-

Ու Չահրատ Բ.-յաջորդն արժանի

Իր հօր-անոր պէս քաջարիւնարբու

Տարածեց անունն վեհ նշանին

Երկիրներ անդին-գերեց անթիւ ազգ

Գունդ-գունդ կոյս աղջիկ բերաւ իրեն հետ

Մէկ մէկ անոնց հետ պառկեցաւ որդին

Չահրատ Գ.- Մեծ կոչուած իրաւամբ-

Մեծ որովհետեւ երկու տարուան մէջ

Բովանկ երկիրն էգերուն բաշխեց

Այնպէս որ գերդ գահ **Չահրատ Դ.**-ին

Ազորէ շինուած այժոռ մը մնաց-

Չեմ գիտեր քանի **Չահրատ** այն օրէն

Այդ գահին վրայ նստան ու գացին

Իսկ ես այդ տոհմէն Չահրատը վերջին

Ոչ թագը տեսած-ոչ գահն իմ պապին

Եկեր եմ կ'երթամ այսպէս -որու ինչ



ARMENIAN CULTURAL TOUR OF THE HOLY LAND **JERUSALEM**

AUGUST 27 - SEPTEMBER 5, 2026

TEL AVIV, JAFFA, HAIFA, NAZARETH,
LEBANESE BORDER, ACRE, DEAD SEA,
MASADA, JERICHO, SEA OF GALILEE,
RIVER JORDAN, TEMPLE MOUNT, THE
CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE,
CAPERNAUM, CAESAREA, ARMENIAN
QUARTER, BETHLEHEM, JERUSALEM,
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM, MOUNT

CARMEL

INCLUDES BIBLICAL SITES:

INFO : VARTANABDO@OPTONLINE.NET



We Armenia



WELCOME TO PAREV-TV

We invite you to watch videos produced by PAREV-TV which cover current Armenian life. These videos are unique and serve to inform and educate the Armenian public. You may find our entire collection of videos archived at www.ArmenianRadioNJ.net

Go to our [Parev-TV channel](#) on YouTube to watch all our videos

THANK YOU

To all our supporters of
Armenian Radio Hour of NJ
Armenian Interests E-Newsletter
Parev-TV

Current News from Around the World



Armenian Interests

Pashinyan Says a “Historic Political Revolution” Will Take Place in Armenia on June 7, 2026



Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said that the upcoming parliamentary elections will bring about what he called “Revolution 3.” He made the remarks during a speech at an intra-party campaign rally in the city of Gyumri.

“We carried out a domestic political revolution through elections in 2018. In the 2021 elections, the people led us toward a socio-psychological and mindset revolution. In the June 7, 2026 elections, we will achieve a historic political revolution that will take us—the people of Armenia—beyond a policy of merely getting by and surviving, and place us on the path of a sustainable state

development agenda,” the prime minister said.

Pashinyan also stated that not long after the 2026 parliamentary elections, another political transformation—dubbed “Gyumri 1”—would take place in Gyumri.

“We forget that no revolution has taken place in Gyumri. Gyumri has never had revolutionary authorities, and shortly after the 2026 parliamentary elections there will be ‘Gyumri 1’ in Gyumri,” he said.

The prime minister emphasized that in the June 7 elections, Armenia and its people need more than just a victory; he said the “peace team” must secure an absolute constitutional majority.

“Our benchmark in these elections is 65%. But we have made a very important observation: it is very good when the people give us such trust, but we must never relax our vigilance for even a moment. By ‘us’ I mean not only our party colleagues, but also our

voters and our people. On June 7, 2026, a historic political revolution will take place in the Republic of Armenia. And only one person must make the decision to carry out that revolution—and that person is you,” Pashinyan concluded, urging citizens to go to the polls and defend peace, independence, the state, and the sacrifices of fallen soldiers.

It should be noted that on March 7, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, together with members of the Civil Contract Party, visited the regions of Aragatsotn Province and Shirak Province, where they held numerous meetings with residents of various communities.

During the trip, the prime minister made stops in the cities of Ashtarak and Talin in Aragatsotn Province, as well as in the communities of Maralik, Pempashen, and Artik in Shirak Province, in addition to the city of Gyumri.

Turkish Airlines Starts Flights To Armenia



Turkish Airlines, launched first-ever regular flights to Armenia on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, in a move seen as another step towards the normalization of Turkish-Armenian relations.

Its inaugural flight from Istanbul to

Yerevan was followed by an official welcoming ceremony at the Zvartnots international airport attended by a deputy head of the Armenian government’s Civil Aviation Committee, Stepan Payaslian.

Metsola to Pashinyan: Armenia has become humanitarian corridor, helped evacuate EU citizens amid Iran events



“When Europe looks at Armenia, we see a friend, a comrade, and I hope that when Armenia looks at Europe, you also see a partner and an ally.” European Parliament president Roberta Metsola stated this during a joint statement with Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan Wednesday in Strasbourg, France.

Metsola added as follows: “Under your leadership, dear Prime Minister, there have been many great achievements since our last meeting of the European Political Community in Copenhagen in October. In December, the European Union and Armenia agreed on a new strategic agenda within the framework of the European Union-Armenia partnership. This step will support democratic reforms in our relations, strengthen economic resilience, strengthen the rule of law, and deepen cooperation in the security sector.

We also welcome the fact that an action plan for visa liberalization has been presented. All this contributes to the shared European goal of strengthening our cooperation in various areas, and I am very confident that our parliaments

will continue to play a leading role in bringing your country closer to the EU.

In this spirit, we look forward to continuing our discussions, which will take place next week in the framework of the EU-Armenia Parliamentary Partnership Committee, which we look forward to with great anticipation and equally look forward to participating in the European Political Community meeting, for which I will be in Yerevan.

In the context of the events on Iran in recent days, Armenia has become a crucial humanitarian corridor. I would like to thank you, thank you for helping to evacuate European citizens.”

46 Countries Evacuate Citizens from Iran Via Armenia

The list of countries whose citizens were evacuated from Iran through Armenia between February 28 and March 10 has expanded to 46. Following an earlier announcement, additional countries have been added to the list, including Canada, Greece, Serbia, Finland, and Egypt. Citizens from neighboring countries also used Armenia as a transit route, including Georgia, Iran, and Turkey. From the Americas, the countries whose citizens were evacuated through Armenia include the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Uruguay.

According to the authorities, Armenia provided assistance with visa procedures when necessary to facilitate the transit of these citizens.



We Must Protect the Armenia We Have Built Today, Prime Minister Says



At a regular meeting of the Government of Armenia, chaired by Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, the Prime Minister stated that Armenia has reached a point where the established Republic must now be firmly defended.

“We must protect it very strongly and very firmly in principle, because we have built a country that has a future. That does not mean that there are no unresolved issues in Armenia. There is no country in the world without unresolved problems—it simply does not exist. What is very important is our political positioning: today we must firmly defend the Armenia we

have built, because the Armenia we have created is a good Armenia. It is an Armenia with prospects, a secure Armenia, a safe Armenia, a citizen-centered and human-centered Armenia. It is also an Armenia capable of self-reflection...Armenians should take pride in the country as it exists today...We should be proud of today’s Armenia because we have achieved historic accomplishments—achievements of millennial significance. We have overcome historical cycles that repeated themselves for at least 1,500 years. We have also overcome models of patriotism that were imposed on us by others...Armenia is now confronting its own history, its current reality, and the responsibilities ahead...On this path we will make mistakes, and we will also make revisions. There was once a slogan used by civil society: ‘We are the masters of our country.’ Today that slogan has become reality—we are the masters of our country. That was the greatest goal we could have had, and that goal has now been achieved...the next step is to build a state system that

permanently guarantees the citizens of the Republic of Armenia the ability to remain the true owners of their country...This reality must continue to develop. Today we can do this and we can allow ourselves to do so because we have replaced our survival agenda with a development agenda. Today Armenia is not merely surviving—the Republic of Armenia exists, develops, works, sets agendas, and solves them. Armenia’s international reputation is steadily growing, and its regional standing is also increasing. Today Armenia is capable of shaping its own environment in ways that create greater comfort and stability for itself. This is very important, and we must continue on this path.”

Pashinyan concluded by noting that solving the country’s challenges requires an effective system of public administration. “To address these challenges, we need an efficient system of state governance, and we are moving along that path,” the prime minister said.

Bust of French-Armenian WWII hero Missak Manouchian to be installed in Yerevan



The bust of French Resistance fighter and French national hero, Missak Manouchian, will be installed in one of the parks in central Yerevan that bears his name. The Yerevan City

Council approved the decision on March 12.

Missak Manouchian, a French-Armenian poet, led a small group of foreign Resistance fighters, which included many Jews, against the Nazi occupation, carrying out attacks on Nazi forces and acts of sabotage in Nazi-occupied France in 1943. French President Emmanuel Macron said in 2023 that Manouchian “embodies the universal values” of France and “carries a part of our greatness.”

The WWII hero was executed by the Nazis on February 21, 1944, a year after being arrested. Missak Manouchian was pantheonized in France in 2024. Manouchian’s wife Mélinée was also a resistance fighter. Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and French President Emmanuel Macron attended the ceremony in 2024 when Manouchian was interred in the mausoleum housing France’s national heroes.

Armenia embassy in Bern officially opens



Within the framework of the working visit of Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan to Switzerland, the official opening ceremony of the Armenian resident embassy in Bern took place Thursday, in which Ignazio Cassis, Head of the Swiss Federal

Department of Foreign Affairs, also participated.

The national flag of Armenia was raised in front of the embassy, located in the heart of Bern, in the historical part on the UNESCO World Heritage List, the national anthems of Armenia and Switzerland were played, and after the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the opening of the embassy was officially announced.

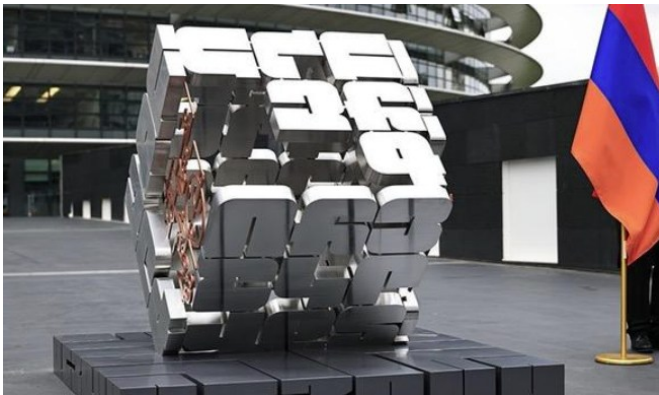
Ararat Mirzoyan and Ignazio Cassis delivered welcoming and congratulatory remarks.

In particular, Mirzoyan stressed that while Armenia's traditional presence in

Geneva has already established a strong political dialogue, the relocation of the bilateral embassy to the Swiss capital is an important step in the development of bilateral relations and symbolizes a joint commitment to continuously strengthen friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

And Cassis emphasized, above all, that the Armenian diplomatic presence in the Swiss capital will enable closer cooperation between their institutions and further strengthen relations between Armenia and Switzerland.

Armenian Alphabet Monument Unveiled Near the European Parliament in Strasbourg



A monument dedicated to the Armenian alphabet has been unveiled in Strasbourg, in the area adjacent to the administrative building of the European Parliament. The ceremony took place in the presence of Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and European Parliament President Roberta Metsola.

Titled "Root Script – The Power of Dialogue," the sculpture was installed by the Republic of Armenia as a gesture of gratitude for the European Parliament's continued and unwavering support. The monument is

composed of letters from the Armenian alphabet.

In her remarks, Roberta Metsola emphasized that dialogue is the cornerstone of democracy, noting that it unites people and moves societies forward.

In his speech, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan noted that the Armenian alphabet was created in the 5th century and remains one of the most important pillars of Armenian identity.



"It is highly symbolic that this sculpture highlights the important connection between Armenian identity and European identity. I believe that speech, knowledge, and text are among the most important and powerful symbols of democracy, because democracy cannot exist without text, without communication, without writing, without speeches, without words, and without laws," the Prime Minister said.

Become a Military Officer, Receive Housing and a High Salary: Defense Minister Suren Papikyan's Message to Young People



In recent years, the Armenian government has made significant efforts to expand the opportunities of the Vazgen Sargsyan Military Academy and encourage more people to choose a military career.

Armenia's Defense Minister Suren Papikyan spoke about these efforts in a video posted on his Facebook page, emphasizing that the goal is to strengthen the army by recruiting competent officers, increasing the

number of personnel, and enhancing both competition and the overall attractiveness of the profession.

"This week, the National Assembly adopted another law that allows graduates of the Vazgen Sargsyan Military Academy to be considered as having passed the required examinations immediately upon graduation and to receive a higher salary, since additional payments will be included," Papikyan said.

According to the minister, officers graduating with excellent academic performance can receive a salary ranging from 620,000 to 750,000 drams starting from the day of their appointment.

"In other words, after four years of education, you can begin earning a significantly higher salary," he said.

Papikyan also noted that, beginning in 2026, newly graduated officers will be provided with housing upon completion of their studies.

"That housing is worth approximately 35 million drams, and it can be purchased either in Yerevan or in other parts of the country," he explained.

"My proposal is simple: become a military officer, receive housing worth 35 million drams, and earn a salary of 620,000 to 750,000 drams. I believe there is no other profession in Armenia today that can offer such an opportunity," the defense minister said.

Singer Simon to represent Armenia at Eurovision 2026

Singer Simon will represent Armenia at the Eurovision Song Contest 2026 with the song "Paloma Rumba." The contest will be held in Vienna, Austria.

The music for the song was written by Lilit Navasardyan. The lyrics of "Paloma Rumba" were co-written by Rosa Linn, David Tsarukyan and Eva Voskanyan.



Collection for Armenia

Help us send a container of humanitarian aid to needy families in Armenia



Deliver items in
OPEN CARDBOARD BOXES

Large Boxes
27 x 16 x 15

NO PLASTIC BAGS
Reusable Bags Accepted



Drop Off Details

St Leon Armenian Church
12-61 Saddle River Rd,
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

Cottage (Left of Church)
Now Open for Drop Off

For Details Contact: Leo Manuelian (201-218-4058)

Full List of Requested Items on Page 2.

For a tax deductible donation towards shipping costs in Armenia,
please write a check to the Knights of Vartan

Sponsored by St Leon Church and Knights & Daughters of Vartan of NJ

REQUESTED NEW ITEMS:

MUST BE IN ORIGINAL PACKAGING/TAGS

New Clothing/Shoes:

- Underwear, Bras, Tights, Socks
- Hats, Scarves, Gloves
- Shoes, Boots, Sneakers, Slippers

Hygiene:

- Soap, Shampoo, Deodorant, Detergent
- Baby/Adult Diapers, Feminine Products
- Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Floss, Mouthwash

Beauty Supplies:

- Nail Clippers, Files, Polish, Combs
- Skin Care Items, Make-up, Perfume

Toys/Games:

- Toys (Without Batteries)
- Board Games, Puzzles, Legos

NEW OR GENTLY USED:

MUST BE WASHED BEFORE DONATING

Clothing:

- Clothing (Adult/Children/Baby)
- Belts, Handbags, Hair Accessories

Items for Sewing/Crafting:

- Yarn, Embroidery Thread, Craft Items
- Knitting and Crochet Needles
- Fabric, Felt, Notions, Buttons
- Thread, Sewing Needles

Art/Stationary:

- Art Supplies
- School & Office Supplies

NO LONGER ACCEPTING

- Suits, Ties, Dress shirts, Dress Pants
- Suitcases
- Home Goods
- Christmas decorations
- Medical Equipment
- Glassware

Support our work by donating online through our links @knightsofvartannj

Sponsored by St Leon Church and Knights & Daughters of Vartan of NJ

Plan Your Spring and Summer Ahead

An unforgettable journey for Armenian youth ages 15-18 that strengthens their bond to Armenia, builds lifelong friendships, and inspires purpose through cultural immersion and community service.



Ziplining



Eco-Clean Up



Aid Distribution



Cooking Classes

Service activities, cultural experiences, sightseeing, and more!

2026 DATES

Spring



Summer 1



Summer 2



BOOK YOUR SPOT!

agbu.org/discover-armenia



AGBU **20**
YEARS

Armenian Radio Hour of NJ

(Sundays 2:00 - 4:00 P.M.)

WSOU 89.5 FM
Sounds Like What You Need Right Now

You're on the go and we're going with you!
WSOU 89.5 FM is here to keep you company
on your commute, in the office, at school, the gym, or wherever.

Listen to us on



DIRECTORY

The following are addresses where Armenian gatherings are frequently held
This is NOT a list of Armenian organizations or churches
We will be glad to list additional addresses

AGBU

55 East 59th Street
New York, NY 10022
212-319-6383
Email: agbuny@agbu.org
www.agbu.org

Diocese of the Armenian Church

630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016
212-686-0710

Prelacy of the Armenian Church

138 East 39th Street,
New York, NY 10016
212-689-7810

Saint Illuminator Armenian Cathedral

221 East 27th. Street,
New York, NY 10016
212-689-5880

Armenian Presbyterian Church

140 Forest Avenue,
Paramus, NJ 07652
201-265-8585

St. Leon Armenian Church

12-61 Saddle River Rd
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
201-791-2862

Sts Vartanantz Armenian Church

461 Bergen Boulevard
Ridgefield, NJ 07657
201-943-2950

St Stepanos Armenian Apostolic Church

1184 Ocean Avenue
Elberon, New Jersey 07740
Phone 732-229-3661 Fax 732-229-3857

Holy Cross Armenian Church

318 27th Street,
Union City, NJ 07087
201-864-2480

Hovnanian School

817 River Road
New Milford, NJ 07646
201-967-5940
www.hovnanianschools.org

Sacred Heart Armenian Catholic Church

155 Long Hill Road
Little Falls, NJ 07424
Tel: 973-890-0447

St. Thomas Armenian Church

Route 9W-E Clinton Avenue
Tenafly, NJ 07670
201-567-5446

St. Mary Armenian Church

200 W. Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Livingston, NJ 07039
973-533-9794

St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church

38-65 234 Street
Douglaston, NY 11363
718-224-2275

Ararat Youth and Conference Center

6944 S.R. 32
Greenville, NY 12083
212-686-0710, x120
www.araratcener.org

St. Nersess Armenian Seminary

486 Bedford Road
Armonk, NY 10504
914-273-0200
info@stnersess.edu www.stnersess.edu

Armenian Network of America-NY Region

P.O. Box 205
Bible School Park, NY 13737
(617) 688-2741
newyorkregion@armnet.org www.armnet.org

Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs

209-15 Horace Harding Expressway
Bayside, New York 11364
718-225-0235
www.holy-martyrs.org

Armenian Evangelical Church of New York

152 E 34th St.
New York, NY 10016
Tel: (212) 685-3177

St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral

630 2nd Ave
New York, NY 10016
(212) 686-0710

St. Gregory the Enlightener Armenian Church

1131 North Street
White Plains, NY 10605
Tel. (914) 428-2595

Tekayan Cultural Association-Greater NY

560 Sylvan Avenue
Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632
Email: tekeyannjny@gmail.com

Calendar of Events



Armenian Interests

To be included in our Calendar of Events,
please provide us with your non-profit organization's event, date and
location along with a contact name and telephone number

Please e-mail your submissions to:

Talin Kupelian - TalinKupelian@gmail.com

or

Vartan Abdo - VartanAbdo@optonline.net

We reserve the right to accept or reject submissions
not in accordance with our service

We also reserve the right to edit and modify all copies submitted

*****Armenian Interests & Armenian Radio Policy*****

Due to the heavy volume of flyers/announcements we receive weekly, our policy is:

- ◆ Flyers will be posted NO EARLIER than 3 months prior to event date
- ◆ Announcements on the radio program will be made NO EARLIER than 3 months prior to event date
- ◆ Prior to the 3 month limit, your event will be listed in the "Save the Date" section of our events page with a link to your website/email for 6 months (9 months total)
- ◆ The only exception to this policy are cruises and travel (we will post those in our "Save the Date" section up to 12 months in advance, with flyers posted 6 months prior to departure & announcements made 6 months prior to departure)

The Armenian Radio and Armenian Interests newsletter mission is to promote Armenian cultural/educational/social functions run by non-profit organizations

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ [March 15, 2026 - 41st Annual Musical Armenia Concert at Carnegie Hall](#)
- ◆ [March 15, 2026 - Tigran Hamasyan in concert at South Orange Performing Arts Center](#)
- ◆ [March 15, 2026 - The 13th Annual Socially Relevent Film Festival](#)
- ◆ [March 20, 2026 - AGBU Arts presents Bodies of Dissent: Performance Art in Armenia \(1970s – 1990\)](#)
- ◆ [March 20, 2026 - Hovnanian School Lenten Dinner](#)
- ◆ [March 20, 2026 - St. Vartan Cathedral Cultural Committee concert](#)
- ◆ [March 20, 2026 - AIWA presents a panel to discuss *Her Rights, Her Future: Advancing Access to Justice*](#)
- ◆ [March 20, 2026 - Join AIWA for an evening of connection, inspiration, and powerful conversation](#)
- ◆ [March 21, 2026 - The Women’s Guild of Holy Cross Church of Union City Lenten luncheon](#)
- ◆ [March 22, 2026 - Carriage House Concerts presents Roots](#)
- ◆ [March 25, 2026 - Hovnanian School Info Session - Discover what makes Hovnanian School sus a special to learn and grow](#)
- ◆ [March 27, 2026 - AESA 15th annual mentoring forum](#)
- ◆ [March 29, 2026 - St. Thomas Armenian Church Palm Sunday banquet](#)
- ◆ [April 11, 2026 - Armenian Relief Society anniversary gala dinner](#)
- ◆ [April 19, 2026 - St. Gregory the Enlightener Church annual "Lionel Galstaun Memorial Concert"](#)
- ◆ [April 19, 2026 - The Cultural Committee of St. Thomas Armenian Church presents “Ojakh, On the Other Side of the Silence.”](#)
- ◆ [April 22, 2026 - Program honoring the legacy of the Armenian Genocide](#) [Registration link](#)
- ◆ [April 23, 2026 - Speaking Truth to Power with Garo Paylan](#)
- ◆ [May 2, 2026 - A night of storytelling at the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs](#)
- ◆ [May 8, 2026 - AGBU Arts presents Musical Tapestry in Motion: A Celebration of Music, Dance & Poetry](#)
- ◆ [May 16-17, 2026 - St. Mary Armenian Church centennial celebration](#)
- ◆ [June 6, 2026 - Holy Martyrs Armenian Day School annual dinner dance gala](#)
- ◆ [June 14 - July 25, 2026 - AGBU Global Leadership Program in Yerevan](#)
- ◆ [August 27-September 7, 2026 - Trip to Jerusalem](#)

Please send any information related to
Armenian Interests
e-newsletter to:

TalinKupelian@gmail.com

THE 41ST ANNUAL
MUSICAL | ARMENIA

PRESENTED BY THE EASTERN PRELACY OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH



SEIRAN TOZLIAN

PIANO



ANGELINA TOZLYAN

VIOLIN

Armenian Radio Hour of NJ

(Sundays 2:00 - 4:00 P.M.)

WSOU 89.5 FM
Sounds Like What You Need Right Now

You're on the go and we're going with you!
WSOU 89.5 FM is here to keep you company
on your commute, in the office, at school, the gym, or wherever.

Listen to us on



Tigran Hamasyan is an Armenian jazz pianist and composer known for masterfully blending Armenian folk music with jazz, rock, and classical influences. A virtuosic performer and celebrated innovator, he has won major competitions and international acclaim for his powerful, evocative sound.

TIGRAN HAMASYAN MANIFESTE



MAR 15 · 7:30PM

RESERVE TICKETS TODAY!

SOPACnow.org

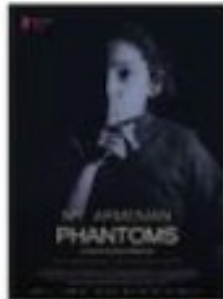


SOPAC
SOUTH ORANGE
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



2026 SOCIALLY RELEVANT FILM FESTIVAL NY

Armenian Films



My Armenian Phantoms | NEW YORK PREMIERE DOCUMENTARY FEATURE | SUNDAY MARCH 15, 5:30pm CINEMA VILLAGE

Tamara Stepanyan | Armenia/France | 2025 | 75 min

An evocative journey through the forgotten world of Armenian cinema. Sparked by conversations with her late father, renowned Armenian actor Vigen Stepanyan, Tamara Stepanyan creates this beautiful documentary that captures not just Soviet Armenian cinema, but the enduring soul of Armenian storytelling. *My Armenian Phantom* is Armenia's official submission for Best International Feature Film at the 2026 Academy Awards. The film, which premiered at the 2025 Berlin International Film Festival, is a personal tribute to her late father, actor Vigen Stepanyan.



Silence | WORLD PREMIERE | DOCUMENTARY SHORT SUNDAY MARCH 15, 4:00pm CINEMA VILLAGE

Narek Shahverdyan | ARMENIA | 2025 | 15 mins

A film about a man who despite the many wonderful moments and innocent pleasures he has during the day (prayer, liturgy, lessons, singing, reading, painting), is in search of a heavenly homeland. No one and nothing can fill the emptiness and longing he feels.



Imagined Landscapes | NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE DOCUMENTARY SHORT | SUNDAY MARCH 15, 4:00pm CINEMA VILLAGE

Eleanor Ekserdjian | ARMENIA/UK | 2024 | 8 mins

The film explores cultural memory through the landscape and examines our shifting ideas of homeland from the perspective of someone who grew up in the UK curious about her Armenian family.



The Last Wish | NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE | NARRATIVE FEATURE Rax Rinnekangas | Finland Spain | 2024 | 97 mins | WEDNESDAY MARCH 11, 8:00PM LENFEST CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Ángel Flores, a Spanish actor, returns to Spain to fulfill the dying wish of his theatre master to travel to a remote monastery in the mountains of Northern Spain to read Dostoyevsky's novel *The Brothers Karamazov*, three times, then to come to his graveside in the monastery cemetery every night to tell him about the progress made reading the novel. Languages: Spanish and Western Armenian, with English subtitles.

Q&A with Eric Flores and Nora Armani who play the lead roles in the film.
OPENING NIGHT FILM—LENFEST CENTER for the ARTS

*\$15 online, \$20 at the door. Seniors \$10 with code: SR70SEN
Armenian discount code: SR26ARM*



tickets: www.ratedsrfilms.org

AGBU
ARTS



MARCH 20, 2026 / 1:00-2:30 PM
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Virtual Lecture

Bodies of Dissent: Performance Art in Armenia (1970s–1990)



Presenter Dr. Choghakate Kazarian

Join us for a curated screening of landmark Armenian performance art from the 1970s-1990s featuring works drawn from newly uncovered archives presented by Dr. Choghakate Kazarian, art historian and independent curator of modern and contemporary art.

Presented in conjunction with *Topographies of Dissent: Armenian Art from the Dodge Collection*.

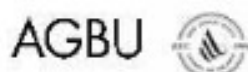


IMAGE *Hail to the Union of Artists from the Netherworld or The Official Art Has Died*, 1988, collective performance



Zimmerli Art Museum | Rutgers


71 Hamilton St / New Brunswick, NJ 08901
For more information about the program,
free parking, and accessibility, please visit:
zimmerli.rutgers.edu/events








Friends of
Hovnanian School

Annual Lenten Dinner

 Friday, March 20, 2026


 7:00


 Hovnanian School
817 River Rd, New Milford, NJ

 \$70 per adult
\$30 for HS students and
children under 12

Please RSVP by March 12th and your
payment will be your reservation.

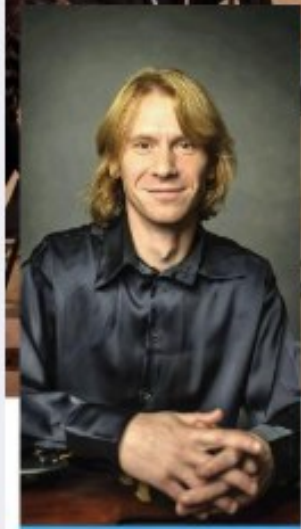
*Come and join us for a colossal
buffet of our delicious Lenten foods.
Special kids menu available! Opening
prayer will begin promptly at 7PM.*

 Tamar Haroutunian ZTH0824@aol.com
Ani Mazbanian amazbanian@yahoo.com

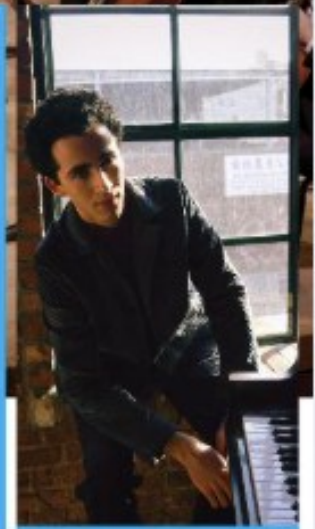
 Tamar Haroutunian 201-669-7226



UNDER THE AUSPICES OF HIS GRACE **BISHOP MESROP PARSAMYAN**, PRIMATE
PRESENTED BY THE CULTURAL COMMITTEE OF ST. VARTAN CATHEDRAL



ARMENIAN Voices AMERICAN Rhapsody



7PM **FRIDAY**
MARCH 20

ST. VARTAN CATHEDRAL NEW YORK CITY

Artistic Director and Principal Conductor **KARÉN HAKOBYAN** leads **PEGASUS: THE ORCHESTRA** in its debut at St. Vartan Cathedral in a vibrant program bridging Armenian heritage, classical masterworks, and American innovation.

Guest pianist **KIRON ATOM TELLIAN** opens with a selection of Komitas's Armenian Dances, while cellist **SERGEY ANTONOV** joins Hakobyan in Saint-Saëns's Cello Concerto No. 1 and Arutunian's Impromptu, followed by Rachmaninoff's Vocalise and Komitas arrangements. The concert culminates with Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, played and conducted by Hakobyan.



TICKETS: \$40
AGES 12 & UNDER FREE
DISCOUNTED PARKING
FOR \$16 AT
300 EAST 34 STREET,
NEW YORK, NY 10016

FOR INFORMATION
201.747.3880

ST. VARTAN  CATHEDRAL
CULTURAL COMMITTEE

Pegasus
the Orchestra
KARÉN HAKOBYAN, Artistic Director

HER RIGHTS, HER FUTURE

Advancing Access
to Justice

March 20, 2026 | 10:30am-12:00pm EST
UN Headquarters, NY, USA,
Church Center 10th Floor

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

AIWA
ARMENIAN INDIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION





AIWA GNY AFFILIATE INVITES YOU TO

AN EVENING OF VOICE & VISION

Connect & Collaborate | Gain Insights | Mix & Mingle

MARCH 20, 2026 | 7:00 PM EST

The Horizon Building
415 East 37th Street, 44th Fl/Rooftop
New York, NY 10016

Admission: \$100



HELP US

**Forward this newsletter
to your friends...
Help us enlarge the circle
of our readers...**

**To subscribe go to:
www.ArmenianRadioNJ.net**

Armenian Radio Hour of NJ

Sundays 2:00 - 4:00 P.M. WSOU 89.5 F.M.



LENTEN LUNCHEON

Hosted by

Holy Cross Armenian Church Women's Guild

Saturday March 21, 2026 at 12:00 pm

The Church Annex

318 27th Street (Btwn New York & Palisade Aves), Union City, NJ

\$40 per person

Limited Seating – Payment accepted at Door (Check/Cash)

Kindly RSVP to Diana Leone at 201-941-4108 (landline)



CARRIAGE HOUSE CONCERTS PRESENTS ROOTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026 5 PM

ARMENIAN FOLK SONGS
BY KOMITAS
SCANDINAVIAN COMPILATION
WOOD WORKS
DVOŘAK QUARTET
NO. 12, OP. 96,
'AMERICAN'

Kobi Malkin, violin
Siwoo Kim, violin
Tanner Menees, viola
Ani Kalayjian, cello

The Chapel at Presbyterian Church
at Tenafly
55 Magnolia Ave, Tenafly, NJ



TICKETS
General admission: \$30
Children under 18: FREE



HOVNANIAN SCHOOL



INFO SESSION

MARCH 25TH

DISCOVER WHAT MAKES HOVNANIAN SCHOOL SUCH A SPECIAL PLACE
TO LEARN AND GROW!

STRONG ACADEMICS
NURTURING COMMUNITY
VIBRANT STUDENT LIFE
BUS SERVICES FROM NYC

Time: 7pm-8:30pm
Where: Event Space at
80 Riverside Blvd
New York, NY 10069

Refreshments will be served! Come and meet the Admin Team!

RSVP to enrollment@hovnianschools.org by March 20th





15th Annual

Mentoring Forum



Friday March 27, 2026, 6-10 PM
Diocesan Center Kavookjian Hall
630 2nd Ave, New York, NY 10016

- Free Admission
- Snacks and Beverages
- Chance to win Gift Cards



Network



Learn



Advance

Connecting and Empowering Armenian Students and Professionals

The program will include a short panel on networking
for employment followed by breakouts

Fields*

Architecture
Art / Music
Automotive
Biology
Business
Chemistry
CompSci/IT/Cyber
Construction/Trades
Dentistry
Economics

Education
Engineering
Entertainment
Fashion
Finance
Global Outreach
Health Care
Humanitarian
Interior Design
Jewelry
Law
Law Enforcement

Marketing
Mathematics
Medicine
Physics
Politics
Psychology
Real Estate
Sciences
Writing / Journalism
+ More

** If someone from your field of interest is not available, we will make every effort to connect you*

Register at ArmenianMentors.org

and Submit Your Panel Questions



Questions / Follow Up : info@armenianmentors.org

Hovhannes Mardrossian, AESA NE - Dr. Larry Najarian, AAHPO



ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH
V. REV. FR. PAPKEN DZ. V. ANOUSHIAN, ESQ., PASTOR

Palm Sunday

61ST ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

Sunday, March 29, 2026 - 1:00

HIS GRACE BISHOP MESROP PARSAMYAN, PRIMATE
Will Celebrate the Holy Divine Liturgy & Preside Over the Banquet

GREGORY AND MARY ANN SARAYDARIAN

Banquet Honorary Chairs and Sponsors in memory of:
MARTYRED ARMENIAN SOLDIERS DURING THE ARTSAKH WAR IN 2020

RAFFI JAMGOTCHIAN AND RAFFI MINASSIAN

Will Be Presented with the St. Thomas Armenian Church Award

ACYOA DAY

ADULTS \$60.00 | CHILDREN 11 & under \$30.00 | Under 3 FREE
PRE-PAY EARLY TO RESERVE SEATS; MAIL CHECK TO CHURCH PO BOX - ADDRESS
BELOW OR PAY ONLINE WITH CREDIT CARD BY SCANNING QR CODE WITH YOUR
MOBILE PHONE! OR CHURCH WEBSITE: WWW.STTHOMASARMENIANCHURCH.COM.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT REPS BELOW:

TALAR SARAFIAN (201) 240-8541 talar@sarafian1.com
SYLVA TOROSIAN (201) 755-5699 st8756@aol.com
NADYA GARIPIAN (201) 370-0358 nadyagaripian@gmail.com
CHURCH OFFICE ((201) 567-5446 stthomasarmenianchurch@yahoo.com

St. Thomas Armenian Church
Cor. of Rt. 9W & E. Clinton Ave., PO Box 53
174 Essex Drive, Tenafly, NJ 07670
Tel. (201) 567-5446 Fax (201) 567-5420
www.stthomasarmenianchurch.com



Armenian Relief Society
NJ Shakeh Chapter



111

Anniversary
Gala Dinner

Saturday, April 11, 2026
7:00 PM

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT BY
HAROUT BEDROSSIAN & BAND

The Graycliff
122 Moonachie Ave.
Moonachie, NJ



Cash Bar
Adults- \$150
Ages 12 & under- \$75

For reservations, contact;
Maral (201)289-6486
Aida (201) 835-0869
Sevana (818)288-0655

Zelle: arsnjshakeh@gmail.com
Checks payable to: ARS Shakeh Chapter

ST. GREGORY CULTURAL COMMITTEE PRESENTS

23rd Annual Lionel Galstaun Memorial Concert

SUNDAY
APRIL 19, 2026



DIRECT FROM CARNEGIE HALL TO ST. GREGORY CHURCH

Angelina Tozlyan, violinist

Seiran Tozlian, pianist

Complimentary Luncheon following Church Service

Performance in the Sanctuary 1:30pm

RSVP 4/12 at stgregoryculturalcommittee@gmail.com or call at 914 428 2595

JOIN US TO SUPPORT OUR YOUNG ARMENIAN ARTISTS!

1131 North Street, White Plains, NY 10605



Keren Production
 The Cultural Committee of
 St. Thomas Armenian Church Presents



OJAKH

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SILENCE

Sunday, April 19, at 2 pm

A film by Diana Mkrtchyan

Inspired by the journey of the Turkish photographer Erhan Arik

A 95 minute film in Armenian, French, Turkish and English subtitles.

DIRECTOR DIANA MKRTCHYAN WILL JOIN SCREENING EVENT VIA ZOOM



Admission is Free! Refreshments to follow.

For More Information Contact:

Talar Sarafian at (201) 240-8541 or talar@sarafian1.com

Diana Bourghol at (201) 805-6721 or pdbourghol@yahoo.com

Erhan Arik, a Turkish photographer, grew up in a house where Armenians once lived, driven out by the massacres in 1915. He had never been interested in this episode of history. In a dream, a voice asks him: "Why did you turn that room into a barn, where my wife used to make bread?" He wakes up with a jolt. The voice continues to haunt him. He then decides to set out to meet Armenians. This film tells the story of this journey. On the other side of the border, on the other side of the silence...

St. Thomas Armenian Church

174 Essex Drive · Tenafly NJ · 07670 · Tel: (201) 567-5446 · Fax (201) 567-5420

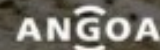
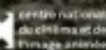
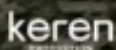
Keren Production: Samuel Moutel, Max Leneveu and Blandine Besnard - Image: Sargis Kharazian

Armenian shooting: Norayr Hovhannisyan - Sound: Harutiun Mengasaryan et Lilith Gulyan

Editing: Diana Mkrtchyan, assisted by Christophe Perray and Olivier Talouarn

Sound editing and mixing: Isaac Azoulay - Color grading: Julien Homo-Bavent

Photographs: Erhan Arik - Original score: Pierre David



ARMENIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY



Date
Thursday
April 23, 2026
Time
6:30-8:30 p.m.

Join us for this free in-person event:
Brookdale Community College
Lincroft Campus

Garo Paylan is a former member of the Turkish Parliament, human rights advocate, and Visiting Scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, as well as a 2025 Yale World Fellow. In this talk, he reflects on his personal journey growing up Armenian in Turkey, his path into public life and Parliament, and his advocacy for the recognition of the Armenian Genocide and justice. One of the leading Armenian voices promoting reconciliation between Armenia, Turkey, and Azerbaijan, Paylan draws on lived experience to explore memory, identity, and moral courage, including his historic role in introducing the first bill on Armenian Genocide recognition in the Turkish Parliament.

SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER

GARO PAYLAN



Refreshments will be provided.

Attendees MUST register.
More details will be provided
after you register.

Register by
scanning the QR
code or visiting
change.org



In Memory of Arsene B. Haroutunian

Program to Honor Legacy of the Armenian Genocide

Wednesday, April 22, 2026 @ 6:00PM-8:30PM

Dolan Auditorium-Annunciation Center

Saint Elizabeth University Campus

2 Convent Road, Morristown



An evening of traditional food, music and discussion **will honor** those lost in the Armenian Genocide. Starting in 1915 one and a half million Armenians were murdered.

The program will honor the breath and beauty of Armenian culture while remembering the legacy of the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide.



- ❖ Doors open at 6 PM for a traditional Armenian dinner with music from the Maldjian Family
- ❖ Program to begin at 7 PM and feature author Chris Bohjalian and music from the Zulal Trio
- ❖ Hosted by Vartan Abdo of "The Armenian Radio Hour of New Jersey" on WSOU

Sponsored by *The Dadourian Foundation*
and the *Saint Elizabeth University Center*
for Holocaust and Genocide Education

A Night of Storytelling at The

Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs

Saturday, May 2nd • 7:30PM • Church Auditorium

• • • • •
Five performers share
their true, personal
Armenian stories!
• • • • •

Anoush

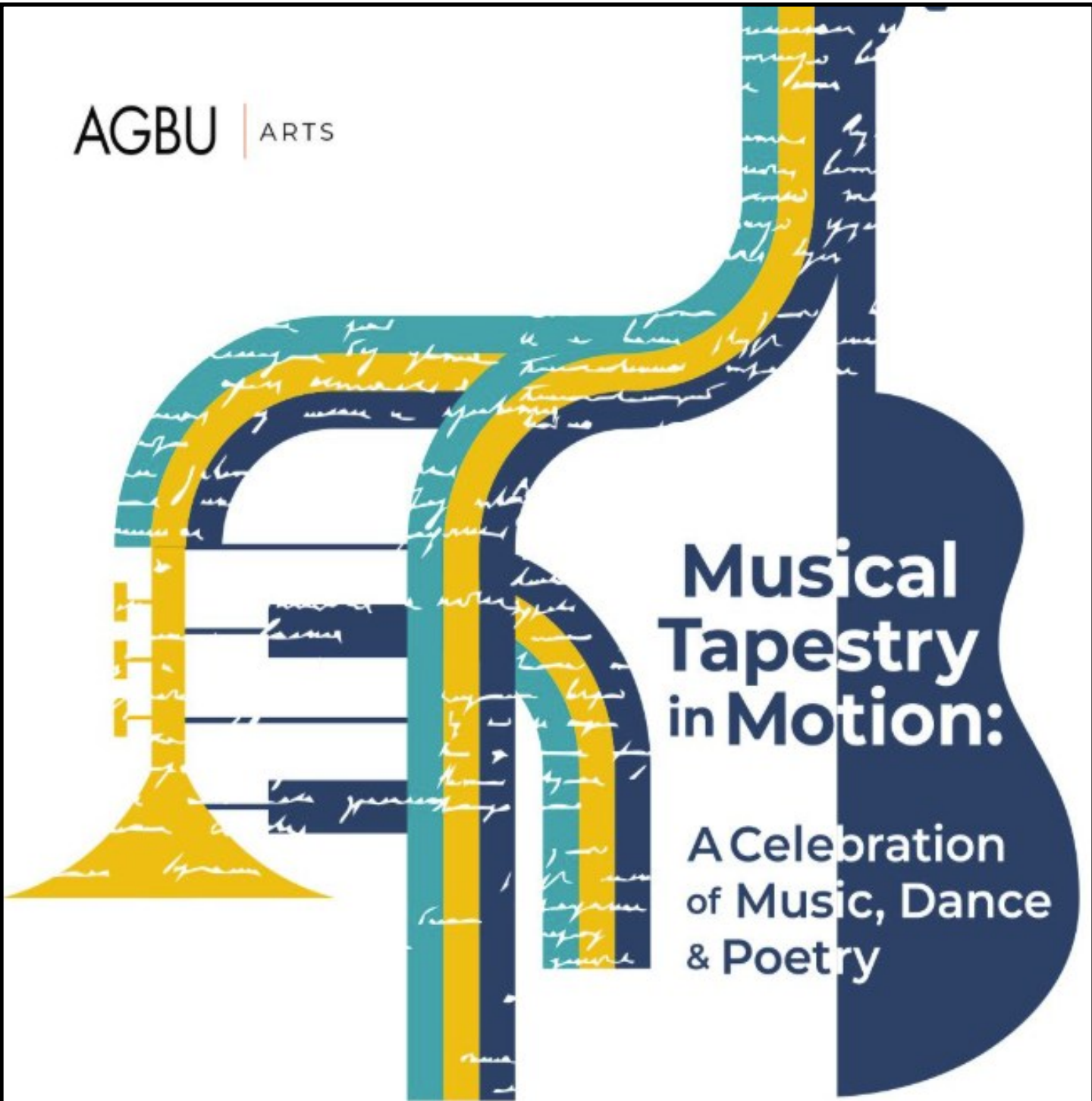


Hosted by
The
Armenian
Power Hour

Aida



AGBU | ARTS



Musical Tapestry in Motion:

A Celebration
of Music, Dance
& Poetry

CARNEGIE HALL
154 West 57th Street, NYC

FRIDAY
05 . 08 . 2026 | 7:30 PM

AGBU 120
YEARS

SAVE THE DATE



MAY 16TH - 17TH

DETAILS TO FOLLOW

ՄՐԲՈՅ ԵՆԱՀԱՏԱԿԱՅ ԱՄԷԼԻՐԵԱՅ ԿԱՐԺԱՐԱԿԻ ԲԱՐԵԿԱՄԵՐՈՒ ՑԱՆՁՆԱԽՈՒՄԲ
FRIENDS OF HOLY MARTYRS ARMENIAN DAY SCHOOL

Gala

ANNUAL

Dinner Dance

North Hills Country Club

200 LIE NORTH SERVICE ROAD MANHASSET NY 11030

ENTERTAINMENT BY

MAYIS YESAYAN

FROM FRANCE

DJ HARRY * SHANT SIMONIAN

JUNE 6, 2026

COCKTAILS 7:30PM

DINNER 9:00PM

OPEN BAR

BLACK TIE OPTIONAL

DONATION \$200

FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS PLEASE CALL

SCHOOL OFFICE (718) 225-4826

• NEG DAR ARUKIAN (718) 423-4813

MAILBOX@HMADS.ORG

AGBU GLOBAL
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

AGBU 120
YEARS



Fuel Your Goals Empower Your Community

FOR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AGED 19-26



Yerevan June 14 to July 25

ARMENIAN CULTURAL TOUR OF THE HOLY LAND **JERUSALEM**

AUGUST 27 - SEPTEMBER 5, 2026

TEL AVIV, JAFFA, HAIFA, NAZARETH,
LEBANESE BORDER, ACRE, DEAD SEA,
MASADA, JERICHO, SEA OF GALILEE,
RIVER JORDAN, TEMPLE MOUNT, THE
CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE,
CAPERNAUM, CAESAREA, ARMENIAN
QUARTER, BETHLEHEM, JERUSALEM,
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM, MOUNT

CARMEL

INCLUDES BIBLICAL SITES:

INFO : VARTANABDO@OPTONLINE.NET



Advertisers

Advertise your business in our newsletter

Consultations and requests to showcase personal advertisements can be handled through contacting Talin Kupelian

All advertisements from sponsors are appreciated as they help us move forward

Please email your business card (2"x3.5") in JPG format to TalinKupelian@gmail.com



Math Center of South Orange

59 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, NJ 07079

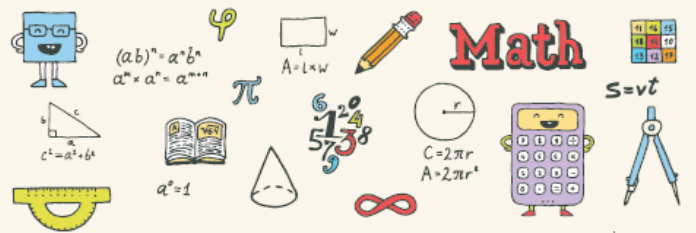
Prof. Vartan Abdo

Algebra - Geometry - PreCalculus - Calculus ++

One-on-One, Small Groups, & Zoom Tutoring Sessions

High-school & College Level

Phone: (973) - 763 - 4447 Email: MathCenter@optonline.net



Math Tutoring by Talin K

TalinKupelian@gmail.com 201.873.6226

DIRAN JEBEJIAN
PHOTOGRAPHY

T: 201.370.1444 E: DIRAN@JEBEJIAN.COM
JEBEJIANIMAGES.COM

Toros Kapoian, MD
Nephrology

1 Diamond Hill Road, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922
T 908.277.8649 F 908.277.8808

6 Brighton Road, Clifton, NJ 07012
T 973.433.9384 Ext. 6 F 908.277.8808

summithealth.com



K A B C O
BENEFITS GROUP LTD

DICKRAN KABARAJIAN | CLU

V 631 424 0627 F 877 389 4025

DKABARAJIAN@KABCOBENEFITS.COM

Your Home for Insurance Solutions, Individual & Group Health
Medicare, Life, Disability, Long Term Care, Business & Home Ins.
www.kabcobenefits.com



ColumbiaDoctors

Ani Nalbandian, MD, MS

Assistant Professor of Medicine

Cardiology, Cardiac Intensive Care & Cardiac Amyloidosis

Milstein Family Heart Center

173 Ft. Washington Ave, 4th Floor, Suite 606

New York, NY 10032

212-305-3702 212-342-5584 Fax

www.columbiacardiology.org

NewYork-Presbyterian
Columbia University Medical Center

Advertisement Section

Consultations and requests to showcase personal advertisements can be handled through Talin Kupelian. All advertisements from Sponsors are appreciated as they help us move forward. **Email:** TalinKupelian@gmail.com

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Armenian Interests
Editorial Board**



Vartan Abdo
Director



Talin Kupelian
*Managing Editor
Design & Layout*



Rafi Krikorian
*Email Distribution
Website Manager*

We are on
Facebook, Twitter & iHeart
We are wherever you are
Armenian Radio Hour NJ

Interested in receiving a copy of
ARMENIAN INTERESTS?
Simply go to
www.Armenianradionj.net
and click the
subscribe button

Listen to the
Armenian Radio Hour NJ
Every Sunday on
WSOU 89.5FM
2:00-4:00PM

Armenian Interests e-newsletter serves all Armenian non-profit organizations and churches. We gladly post all flyers and press releases submitted by officers of the organization. Information makes us all a better and healthier community.

We request that the information be sent to us two weeks in advance, so that we can serve the community better.
(Please read our policy in the [Calendar of Events](#) section)

Please email all submissions to:
TalinKupelian@gmail.com

Thank you!

This newsletter was prepared with the highest attention to accuracy and detail
We apologize for any unintentional omission or accidental misprint

We thank all our readers for their continuous support and contribution to *Armenian Interests*

OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS

RADIO NEWSLETTER



Vartan Abdo
Founder & Director



Talin Kupelian
Managing & Layout Editor
Armenian Interests Newsletter



Rafi Krikorian
Website/Email Manager



Haig Kupelian
News in Armenian



Serge Panossian
Chief Technical Engineer



Lori Kupelian
Video Production & Editor



Florence Avakian
News in English



Seta Jebejian - Cultural
Temker yev Tebker



Zarmine Boghosian
Literary Segment



Hagop Dishoyan
Engineer Announcer
Tech Manager & IT



Mihran Maldjian
Engineer Announcer



Nubar Nalbandian
Engineer announcer



Kayla Bajakejian
Engineer announcer



Greg Varjabedian
Engineer announcer



Isabel Vartanian
Engineer announcer

*Alumni Senior Volunteers who are always willing and able to assist:
Taleen Babayan, Diran Jebejian, Katya Kupelian, Anush Gulian,
Nora Janikian, Nareg Panossian, Armen Panossian*