

Armenian Interests

April 26, 2026

Issue #909

News & Events of the Armenian Community

In This Issue:

- [Armenian Radio Hour of New Jersey interviewed Dr. Richard Quinlan.](#)
- [Saint Elizabeth University Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education presented 'The Armenian Genocide: A Night of Remembrance'](#)
- [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](#)
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Armenian Radio Hour of New Jersey interviewed Dr. Richard Quinlan, Director of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Saint Elizabeth University and Ashley Toner, Performing Arts Coordinator at AGBU Arts



On Sunday, April 19, the Armenian Radio Hour of New Jersey interviewed Dr. Richard Quinlan, Director of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Saint Elizabeth University in Morristown, New Jersey, and Ashley Toner, Performing Arts Coordinator at AGBU Arts.

Dr. Quinlan discussed “An Evening of Remembrance: Honoring the Victims of the Armenian Genocide,” held on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at Saint Elizabeth University. Now in its 11th year, the annual program is sponsored by the Dadourian Foundation. He expressed optimism about this year’s event, highlighting guest speaker Chris Bohjalian and a performance by the renowned Zulal trio, whose singing he described as “more like a prayer, with

three individuals united in one soul.” Dr. Quinlan also praised the hard work of Mr. Roy Stepanian, who oversees the entire program and with exemplary leadership promotes

Armenian identity and culture in his church and community.



He emphasized the program’s mission: to promote truth and remembrance, and to educate younger generations so they carry forward the responsibility of never forgetting. A key goal, he noted, is to equip educators with the tools to sustain this truth through education.

Ashley Toner spoke passionately about the AGBU Arts “Musical Tapestry in Motion”



program, scheduled for May 8, 2026, at Carnegie Hall. The performance will feature a diverse group of talented artists—recipients of the Armenian General Benevolent Union Arts Scholarship—trained at leading musical institutions worldwide. The program will include performances on violin, flute, piano, duduk, cello, and clarinet, along with dance, recitation, and vocal pieces. A highlight will be Aram Khachaturian’s “Dance of the Rose Maidens,” performed on piano four hands.

These and many other programs are a cause for celebration—especially this year, as the Armenian General Benevolent Union marks its 120th anniversary.

Headline News



Armenian Interests

Saint Elizabeth University Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education presented 'The Armenian Genocide: A Night of Remembrance'



Lynn Dadourian Barsamian, Reverend Father Voskan Hoyhannisyan, Dr. Richard Quinlan, Chris Bohjalian, Roy Stepanian, Vartan Abdo

the world, that we are here and Armenia is alive!

Lynn Dadourian Barsamian, an attorney practicing law in New York and New Jersey and granddaughter of Dadour Dadourian delivered her remarks about 'Personal Family Reflections.

Chris Bohjalian was the keynote speaker. #1 New York Times bestselling author of 26 book whose novels have reached millions of readers around the world, Bohjalian has long used his voice to honor Armenian history, identity, and resilience.

Marjorie Feinstein, Founding Chair, Saint Elizabeth University Communications Department delivered remarks on Memory and Education.

That was followed by a performance by Zulal Trio composed of Teni Apelian, Yeraz Markarian, and Anaïs Tekerian. Teni could not attend and was replaced by world renowned oudist Ara Dinkjian.

On April 22, 2026 Saint Elizabeth University Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education presented 'The Armenian Genocide: A night of Remembrance' at the Annunciation Center:Dolan Performance Hall.

The program began with a lavish dinner from 6:00 -7:00 P.M. Music, during dinner, was provided by Sarita Maldjian, Mihran Maldjian and Jackie Schiller. The atmosphere was friendly, as friends who had not seen each other for some time greeted each other and spent quality time.

The commemoration program ran from 7:00 to 9:30. Richard Quinlan, Ph.D. director of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education delivered his introductory remarks and invited Dr. Laura Wintersto deliver the opening prayer.

Vartan Abdo, director of the Armenian Radio Hour of NJ hosted the program and in his opening remarks said, "For me , tonight is a celebration of Armenian life. What better way to honor the memory of our martyrs than to send a clear message to them, and to

Continued on next page

Saint Elizabeth University
Continued from previous page



Zulal Trio with Ara Dinkjian

light.

Following the program Dr. Richard Quinlann noted, “I was profoundly moved by the turnout and support of the Armenian community. Chris was a powerful and poignant speaker, and the music of the Zulal Trio was extraordinary in its lush beauty. Thank you to everyone who came out to support the program

“For eleven consecutive years this program in honor of Armenian Martyrs of 1915 was made possible through the generosity and farsightedness of the Dadourian Foundation board members. The objective of this program is to inform and equip educators so that they, and we, may carry truth forward through education...presenting such a rich program is an herculean effort

In his blessing and benediction, Reverend Father Voskan Hovhannisyan , pastor of St. Mary Armenian Church of Livingston, said, “We are the children of those who walked through fire, who endured ex-

ile, who survived hardship and unspeakable suffering—and yet chose

life,

faith, and hope. Their survival is not only our inheritance; it is our calling.

But as we remember the past, we cannot ignore the present...we believe that the memory of our martyrs is not a burden—but a

and a special thank you goes to Mr. Roy Stepanian, who oversees and directs this program and tirelessly promotes Armenian identity through his exemplary involvement in his church and community,” said Vartan Abdo.

Armenian Radio Hour of NJ

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

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Poetry presented by Mrs. Zarmine Boghosian

Մեր Գրական Աշխարհի Ծաղկաստանէն

♥♥♥ **Through the Orchards of the Armenian Language & Poetry** ♥♥♥

April, 24-25 -2026

Presented by: **Zarminé Boghosian**

Յ Ա Բ Գ Ճ



ԿՈՄԻՏԱՍ

Ինչպէս սիրածից, Յովհաննէս Շիրազ
 Թուում է իմ Արագածի հեռաւոր քո երգից ես չեմ կշտանում,
 Թուում է դեռ պանդուխտ եմ ես հովերն են գալիս,-
 Բուրում է փոշոտ ճամփէքիս ձիւնաշող, ու երգդ ինձ ծիրանի մի ծառ,
 Բլուրին վանքն է աղօթում, դռանը՝ ծեր փշատենին,
 Ու ձորում, ճերմակ յօնքերով մատաղի մի գառ,
 Ախ, ինչքան անուշիկ ես դու, ջաղացն է ննջում գետափին:
 Երբ անուշ հորովելն իմ հօր երբ կ'երգես դառնանուշ երգեր,
 Երգիդ մեջ կարօտներ ու կանչ, ձգում ես Արագի նման,
 Թուում է քո սիրտն է միակ գարնան ձիւն ու բացուած վերքեր,
 Դու տեսար՝ անմոռանալին՝ քնարը մեր հին հայկական:
 Եւ միտքդ գերեզման իջաւ ահաւոր կոտորածն հայոց,
 Գարուն էր ու ձիւն էր արել՝ ու լռեց քո սրտից առաջ,
 Քո աճիւնն հազիւ տուն բերինք, հայոցը դարձել վայոց,
 Դու մեր հին վշտերի մորմոք, եղեռնից այն հայահառաջ:
 Կոմիտաս, թէ մթին հեռուում մեր սիրոյ ծիրանի դու ծով,
 Դու նորից Մասիս կը մնաս հալուի էլ Մասիսն իմ անհետ,
 Աշխարհի ծովերը մտած մեր երգի նուրբ շնչոցով,
 դու հայոց մայր մրմունջի գետ:



ԱՆԵԶՐԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՅՐԵՆԻՔ

Համօ Սահեան

Ամէն առաւօտ յուշերս նորից

Ինձ տանում են այն գմբուխտէ հեռուն,
Ուր իմ մանկութեան ոտնատեղերից
Անձրեւաջուր է խմում եղջերուն:

Ինձ այն ծաղկաբոյր լեռներն են տանում
Այն բարձունքներն են ինձ տանում կրկին,
Ուր մարդն ամպերին վերից է նայում,
Վերից է նայում արծուի ճախրանքին:

Եւ այն տնակն են տանում ինձ դարձեալ,
Որոտանի մօր, բարդու շուաքում,
Որտեղ հանգչում է մի համեստ անցեալ,
Եւ մի փառաւոր գալիք է ծաղկում:
Այն նուիրական տնակն են տանում,
Որ յետոյ այսքան, այսքան մեծացաւ,
Ինձ համար աշխարհ դարձաւ աշխարհում,
Եւ անեզրական հայրենիք դարձաւ:



ՔՈՒ ՅԻՇԱՏԱԿԴ ԱՅՍ ԳԻՇԵՐ

Վահան Թէքէեան

Քու յիշատակդ, այս գիշեր,
Կարծես մեկնած էր սրբոտէս, գիս լալու չափ կը յուզէ.
Ետ կը դառնայ, իր հին տեղն ու եւ գաղտնաբար այս գիշեր
Կը սեղմուի գրկիս մեջ, հին գգուանքը կ'ուզէ,
կը բարձրանայ կուրծքս ի վեր...:

Քու պատկերըդ աչքիս մեջ և քու ձայնըդ՝ ականջիս,
Կը թրթռնան այս գիշեր, երակներուս մեջ կարծես
Քաղցրահոս շունչդ է լեցուած, որ կը զգիս, կ'օրբէ
գիս,
Մինչ երեսէս ալ կ'անցնին կարծես մատներըդ
անտես...:

Ետ կը դառնան մի առ մի
մեր հին ժամերն անկորուստ,
Կարաւանին հետ աստեղոց
անոնք կուգան վերըստին.
Հոգիս փարախն է բացուող
ընդդէմ իր քաղցր հօտին...:

Յիշատակովդ, այս գիշեր,
կ'զգամ այնչափ գիս հարուստ,
Այնչափ բարի, երջանիկ...
որ գրթութեամբ մը անհուն՝
Կը մըտածեմ զայն բաժնել

երկրի բոլոր խեղճերուն...:

ARMENIAN CULTURAL TOUR OF THE HOLY LAND JERUSALEM

AUGUST 27 - SEPTEMBER 5, 2026

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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

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We Armenia



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Current News from Around the World



Armenian Interests

May 15, 2026 - A forum saluting Armenian at the United Nations

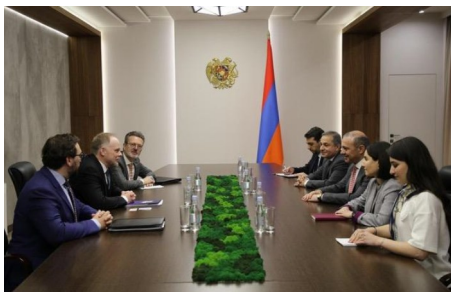
Secretary of Armenia's Security Council, Armen Grigoryan, met with former President of Turkey Abdullah Gül in Greece, he said in a social media post.

Grigoryan noted that the meeting took place on the sidelines of the Delphi Economic Forum.

“During the meeting, we exchanged views on issues of mutual interest,” Grigoryan said, sharing a photo from the meeting.



Armenian official, NATO envoy discuss prospects for strengthening ties



Secretary of the Security Council of Armenia, Armen Grigoryan, met on Monday in Yerevan with Kevin

Hamilton, the NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for the Caucasus and Central Asia.

According to a readout from the Security Council Office, Grigoryan congratulated the Special Representative on “assuming the responsible position,” wishing him effective work and new successes.

Secretary Grigoryan and Special Representative Hamilton discussed the “current agenda of Armenia–NATO

relations and prospects for their development.”

“Grigoryan emphasized the positive dynamics in strengthening Armenia–NATO bilateral relations. In turn, Kevin Hamilton highlighted the cooperation that has developed as a result of Armenia's involvement in NATO peacekeeping missions. During the meeting, the sides also exchanged views on issues related to regional and international security,” according to the readout.

Armenian Radio Hour of NJ

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Pashinyan: Armenia Has Peace Today Thanks to a Balanced Foreign Policy



Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan stated that peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan began when Armenia adopted a balanced and balancing foreign policy approach.

He made the remarks while presenting the election program of the ruling Civil Contract party.

According to the prime minister, this strategy has proven effective in stabilizing Armenia's external environment by preventing or offsetting imbalances in foreign relations.

"A balanced and balancing foreign policy has demonstrated its effectiveness by allowing us to stabilize Armenia's external environment. Its core objective is to prevent asymmetries in foreign relations or to provide tools to counterbalance them," he said.

Pashinyan emphasized that regionalization plays a central role in this policy, aiming to make it both possible and sustainable for Armenia to operate within its immediate region without excessive reliance on external support. In this context, he

highlighted the importance of strengthening relations with neighboring countries, including Georgia, Iran, Turkey, and Azerbaijan.

He noted that the full unblocking of regional transport infrastructure—including the implementation of the TRIPP project and the reopening of the Gyumri–Kars railway—would further reinforce peace and cooperation, transforming the region into a key hub of East–West and North–South connectivity, described as a "Crossroads of Peace."

The prime minister also underscored the importance of developing the "3+3" regional format, noting that Russia's involvement makes it significant for the constructive transformation of Armenia–Russia relations.

He added that Armenia has adopted a broader "Regionalization-2" concept, expanding engagement to Central Asia, the Middle East, and India. In recent years, Armenia has established diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, and this direction is expected to gain further momentum between 2026 and 2031.

Pashinyan highlighted that Armenia has developed strategic partnerships or dialogue frameworks with countries including the United States, Georgia, the Netherlands, China, the United Kingdom, Kazakhstan, Germany, Luxembourg, and the European Union, while relations with Russia are undergoing a phase of constructive transformation.

Reflecting on past diplomatic practices, the prime minister said Armenia had long relied on third-party intermediaries to communicate with Turkey and Azerbaijan, which often led to distortions.

"When communication takes place through a third party, you can never be certain that your message is delivered accurately or that the response you receive is precise," he said.

According to Pashinyan, this reliance on intermediaries was one of the key reasons peace was not achieved earlier in the region.

He explained that Armenia has since shifted toward direct communication with Turkey and Azerbaijan, while still allowing for third-party involvement when necessary.

"If we have issues to discuss with Turkey and Azerbaijan—and we clearly do—why should we not speak directly? This is the only guarantee that our message is delivered correctly and that we receive an accurate response," he said.

Pashinyan acknowledged criticism from opposition figures accusing the government of being pro-Turkish or pro-Azerbaijani but argued that these claims stem from a misunderstanding of the new approach.

"It is precisely this change in our approach that has allowed us to achieve peace," he concluded.

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Armenia to Rank Among the World's Top 5 Countries by GPU Capacity, Says Rev Lebedian at AI Conf Armenia 2026



Yerevan State University hosted one of the country's most significant technology events of the year, AI Conf Armenia 2026, bringing together leading experts, scientists, and approximately 2,600 registered participants. The conference served as a strategic platform aimed at positioning Armenia among global leaders in artificial intelligence while showcasing the country's expanding computational capabilities.

The keynote speaker, Rev Lebedian Vice-president of NVIDIA, described the evolution of artificial intelligence as entering a new phase in which the "rules of the game" are not yet fully defined—creating relatively equal starting conditions for both small and large countries.

"Today, no one in the world fully knows how to use AI, which creates equal opportunities for countries like Armenia and the United States," Lebedian said. "We are becoming a country rich in AI capabilities, but it depends on us whether we take advantage of this opportunity. We have the chance to move faster than others."

Lebedian emphasized that once the announced 50,000 GPUs are deployed by the end of the year, Armenia could rank among the top five countries globally in terms of GPU capacity, surpassing even major European nations. He noted that this is not merely a technical milestone, but a

strategic opportunity that could significantly reshape Armenia's position in the global technology landscape.

He also announced that the first phase—6,000 GPUs—will become accessible to researchers within the next month.

During his presentation, Lebedian outlined the artificial intelligence ecosystem as a "five-layer cake," with each layer playing a critical role:

- Energy, forming the foundation of AI,
- Chips, which convert energy into computational intelligence,
- Infrastructure, including data centers that generate "tokens,"
- Models, such as GPT and Claude,
- Applications, where AI is used to solve real-world problems across sectors like science, agriculture, and business.



According to Lebedian, Armenia is already participating across all five layers of this ecosystem—marking only the beginning of its development.

The broader significance of this transformation is underscored by a series of developments: a country of just three million people gaining access to over 110,000 GPUs, a \$25 million investment in computational resources made available to students, researchers, and startups, and the gathering of global technology leaders at Yerevan State University to focus not on what might happen, but on how to harness these opportunities.

Together, these developments signal a technological transformation whose

scale and speed are increasingly defining Armenia's potential role in the AI era. In this context, Yerevan State University is emerging as a key platform—where technology is transformed into knowledge, infrastructure into results, and opportunity into reality.



National Assembly Speaker Alen Simonyan Visits Armenian Patriarchate of Constantinople, Meets with Community and Media Representatives



Speaker of the National Assembly of Armenia Alen Simonyan visited the Armenian Patriarchate of Constantinople on April 18, where he met with His Beatitude Sahak II Mashalian to discuss a wide range of issues of mutual interest.

According to a statement from the Patriarchate, Patriarch Mashalian expressed concern over what he described as “unproductive tensions” between the Armenian Church and state authorities over the past year. He voiced hope that these issues would soon be resolved, leading to renewed harmony and cooperation between the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin and the Government of Armenia.



Patriarch Mashalian also emphasized the importance of ensuring the steady development of relations between Turkey and Armenia, highlighting the need to establish and strengthen diplomatic ties in the future.

During the visit, Alen Simonyan, accompanied by the Patriarch, visited the Surp Asdvadzadzin Church and toured the Patriarchate complex.

Following the visit, Simonyan met with representatives of Armenian media outlets operating in Istanbul, including Jamanak, Marmara, Agos, Loys Media, Paros magazine, and TET Ajanda.



During the meeting, the Speaker provided updates on Armenia’s domestic political developments and



foreign policy priorities, while also responding to questions from journalists.

French President Emmanuel Macron to Pay State Visit to Armenia on May 5



French President Emmanuel Macron will pay a state visit to Armenia on May 5.

Ahead of the visit, Armenian Deputy Prime Minister Tigran Khachatryan met with France’s Ambassador to Armenia, Olivier Decottignies, on April 21.

The deputy prime minister emphasized the importance of both the European Political Community summit on May 4 and President Macron’s subsequent visit to Armenia.

Discussions also covered a range of bilateral agenda items, including

cooperation in water supply and drainage systems, French involvement in the construction of the Sisian–Kajaran section of the North–South transport corridor, educational collaboration, and other strategic initiatives.

Both sides highlighted the importance of constructive cooperation in effectively addressing agreed priorities and continuing to expand bilateral relations.

AI-generated content to fuel new wave of disinformation in Armenia, warns Pashinyan's press secretary



AI-generated content is changing the landscape of disinformation in Armenia, with narratives increasingly mixing real facts and artificial intelligence-created audio and video, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan's press secretary, Nazeli Baghdasaryan, warned Wednesday, April 22.

Baghdasaryan, speaking at an awareness-raising event on tackling fake news organized by the Public Relations and Information Center, noted that the nature of

disinformation campaigns has changed significantly in recent times.

"Whereas in the past, false news was largely absurd, now narratives are partially based on real facts and make extensive use of artificial intelligence," she said.

The Prime Minister's press secretary added that these trends provide a basis for predicting new waves of disinformation.

She warned that fake news distributors could utilize AI to stage false "leaks" of fake documents presented as real.

"This is why we are not only forecasting but also anticipating that in the coming period, there may be 'leaks' of documents generated by artificial intelligence, as well as actions that appear real. This particularly concerns AI-generated audio and video content, which will closely resemble real

images," Baghdasaryan emphasized.

She added that legislative changes have already been implemented to respond to these challenges.

"This is also the purpose of the recent legislative amendments adopted in the National Assembly, which require labeling AI-generated materials during the pre-election period, allowing for their proper distinction," she said.

According to her, international experience has also played an important role in addressing this issue.

"The experience of different countries has helped us, and we have been able to create certain preventive measures, which we hope will be effective," concluded Nazeli Baghdasaryan.

Niagara Falls to illuminate Red, Blue, Orange on April 24

On April 24, Niagara Falls is scheduled to be illuminated in red, blue, and orange to commemorate the Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day. This special illumination, which represents the colors of the Armenian flag, honors the memory of the 1.5 million lives lost starting in 1915.

The illumination will take place from 10:15 -10:30 P.M. on Friday, April 24. It will be viewable from Niagara Fall State Park, NY or Niagara Parks, Ontario.

EarthCam
Niagara Falls: <https://www.earthcam.com/canada/niagarafalls/>



New Exhibition at Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute Showcases Early Survivor Testimonies



A new temporary exhibition titled “Documenting the Crime: The First Records of the Armenian Genocide by Survivors” has opened at the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute, marking the 111th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

The opening ceremony, held on April 23 in the museum’s temporary exhibitions hall, was attended by several high-ranking diplomats, including Russian Ambassador Sergey Kopyrkin, Syrian Ambassador Nora Arissian, Canadian Ambassador Andrew Turner, Cypriot Ambassador Michael Mavros, and Apostolic Nuncio to the Holy See Ante Jozic, among others.

The event was opened by Acting Director of the Museum-Institute, Hrachya Tashchyan, who emphasized the importance of the exhibition’s theme.

“This exhibition is dedicated to the Armenian documentarians of the Genocide—intellectuals, clergy, military figures, and political and public leaders—many of whom experienced exile and were eyewitnesses to the atrocities,” Tashchyan said. “We aimed to present the invaluable work carried out a century ago to document and record information about the Armenian Genocide, to present it to the international community, and to pass it on to future generations.”

He also expressed gratitude to Seda Parsamyan, responsible for organizing the museum exhibitions, as well as to



Many of those involved in collecting evidence were survivors of the Genocide who, despite their personal tragedies, took on the responsibility of preserving testimonies and records. These materials reflect the resilience of the Armenian people during a critical moment in their history, serving as tools of resistance, preservation of memory, and transmission of truth.

Futuris Architect Company for the architectural design and MRN Company for bringing the concept to life.

Following the opening remarks, attendees toured the exhibition halls and explored the display, which will remain open until April 2027.

The exhibition presents the documentation efforts carried out during the years of the Armenian Genocide (1915–1923) by Armenian individuals and religious, social, and political organizations, highlighting key centers of archival and documentation work.

The exhibition features early memoirs, diaries, photographic and documentary materials, and other primary sources that later formed the foundation for scholarly research on the Armenian Genocide.



Armenia boosts air connectivity with new routes, including Yerevan–London flight



Armenia’s civil aviation sector is expanding, with growing passenger traffic, new international routes, and plans to further develop air connectivity and airport infrastructure.

Davit Khudatyan, the Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, said at a Cabinet meeting that civil aviation experts continue to work on improving the quality of aviation in Armenia.

“Civil aviation specialists are doing their utmost to improve the quality of aviation in Armenia. In this regard, we have made significant progress, and the numbers also speak for themselves,” he said.

According to his data, in 2025, flights

from Armenia were operated to around 70 destinations through 48 airlines.

“Last year, 48 airlines operated flights from Armenia to around 70 destinations, and passenger traffic increased to about 5.7 million,” Khudatyan noted.

He also highlighted the trend of adding new destinations.

“Last year, we launched flights to about 10 new destinations, and this year we also have agreements for new routes to both European and other countries,” the minister said.

Khudatyan added that the “long-awaited” Yerevan–London–Yerevan flight will soon be launched.

He also reported progress in launching direct flights to Kazakhstan.

“We have been working for a long time with our Kazakh partners to establish direct flights to Kazakhstan. More than one airline has already announced this, and there are clear dates and ticket sales,” Khudatyan said.

In addition, according to the minister, new flights to several European

destinations are planned.

“A new flight to Brussels will be launched soon, which will be the second or third airline operating on this route. New flights will also be launched to the Netherlands,” he noted.

The minister also emphasized the importance of expanding the potential of Gyumri’s Shirak Airport.

“We are discussing the possibility of making greater use of the potential of Shirak Airport. After the opening of the North–South road, in some cases, it is faster to reach Gyumri Airport than Zvartnots Airport in Yerevan,” Khudatyan said.

He added that negotiations are already underway regarding new routes.

“We are discussing with other airlines the possibility of launching new flights from Gyumri, in addition to Larnaca, Cyprus and Russian destinations,” the minister concluded.

Armenia’s biometric passport system development nearing completion, Pashinyan says



The Armenian government is completing preparations for the introduction of a biometric passport system, according to Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan.

“In the coming days, we will present information about our new biometric passports, including the design and appearance we envision, and this is very important news,” he said in a video broadcast on social media while presenting the Civil Contract party’s program for the upcoming elections.

“The next important development is that, from the moment biometric passports are introduced or within one to three months after that, citizens

holding biometric passports will have no contact with border guards when passing through Zvartnots Airport or our border checkpoints. They will scan their passports on devices, a green light will turn on, and they will pass through. This is a technology already used in developed countries, and by the first half of 2027 at the latest, we will have these systems at our border crossing points and at Zvartnots Airport,” the Prime Minister explained.

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

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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

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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



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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

- ◆ [April 25, 2026 - Concert commemorating the Armenian Genocide at St. Leon Armenian Church](#)
- ◆ [April 26, 2026 - Armenian Genocide remembrance at Times Square](#)
- ◆ [April 29, 2026 - Online lecture evening organized by Diocese of the Armenian Church of Australia and New Zealand](#)
- ◆ [May 1, 2026 - St. Thomas Cultural Committee Presents Spring Mixer](#)
- ◆ [May 1-5, 2026 - AGBU presents lecture series to identify & recover Armenian art looted during the Genocide](#)
- ◆ [May 1-17, 2026 - AGBU Arts: La MaMa presents The Censorship of Dreams](#)
- ◆ [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 8, 2026 - A panel discussion about the TRIPP project at Fairleigh Dickinson University organized by the ARF Dro New Jersey Chapter](#)
- ◆ [May 15, 2026 - A forum saluting Armenian at the United Nations](#)
- ◆ [May 16-17, 2026 - St. Mary Armenian Church centennial celebration](#)
- ◆ [June 1, 2026 - St. Mary Armenian Church annual golf outing](#)
- ◆ [June 5 - St. Thomas Cultural Committee Presents Sip & Paint](#)
- ◆ [June 6, 2026 - Holy Martyrs Armenian Day School annual dinner dance gala](#)
- ◆ [July 13-31, 2026 - NAASR summer Armenian studies program](#)
- ◆ [June 14 - July 25, 2026 - AGBU Global Leadership Program in Yerevan](#)
- ◆ [August 27-September 7, 2026 - Trip to Jerusalem](#)

SAVE THE DATE FOR FUTURE EVENTS

- ◆ [April 10, 2027 - Hovnanian School's 50th anniversary gala](#)

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In Motion, In Memory, In Defiance: An ArmFolk Performance for April 24

Featuring artists from the Hratch and Suzanne Toufayan
Youth Center at the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin



Date & Time

April 25

7:00 PM

Wine Reception

7:45 PM

Performance

Location

**St. Leon
Armenian Church**

12-61 Saddle River Road

Fair Lawn, NJ

Tickets

\$30 Adults

\$15 Students



bit.ly/ArmfolkNJ



International
Arts Fund



St. Leon Armenian Church

Մայրոց 'Սուրբ Լեւոնի' Հայոց Եկեղեցի
Fair Lawn, New Jersey



aline@edrcorp.net | (917) 716-3827

**NEW YORK CITY
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE COMMEMORATION**



**SUNDAY
APRIL 26, 2026
1:30PM
TIMES SQUARE
7TH AVE & 46TH STREET**



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

TalinKupelian@gmail.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS

**SATURDAY
APRIL 11 - 12PM**

ARMENIAN FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

**309 MAIN STREET
FORT LEE, NJ**

**SATURDAY
APRIL 18 - 4PM**

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE COMMEMORATION

**HUFF POND - MEMORIAL DRIVE
(THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE MEMORIAL)
MONTVALE, NJ**

**SATURDAY
APRIL 25 - 7PM**

ARMPOLK GROUP CULTURAL PERFORMANCE

**ST LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH
FAIR LAWN, NJ**

**MONDAY
APRIL 27 - 12PM**

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE COMMEMORATION

**BERGEN COUNTY COURTHOUSE GREEN
10 MAIN STREET, HACKENSACK, NJ**

FREE BUS TRANSPORTATION TO/FROM TIMES SQUARE

**ST LEON - FAIR LAWN, NJ
201-791-2862**

**ST SARKIS - DOUGLSTON, NY
718-224-2275**

**ST VARTANANTZ - RIDGEFIELD, NJ
201-943-2950**

**HOLY MARTYRS - BAYSIDE, NY
718-225-0235**

NJ: VAHAK - 201-248-9235

NY: KARNIKM58@GMAIL.COM



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ARMENIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF AMERICA (ANCA) | ARMENIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA

ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (AMAA) | TEKEYAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION (TCA)

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ARMENIAN UNIVERSITY CLUBS AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

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ONLINE LECTURE EVENING

Organised by the
Diocese of the Armenian Church of Australia and New Zealand

Topic:
**THE MYSTERY OF THE RESURRECTION
IN THE DOCTRINE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL**

Presenter:
HIS BEATITUDE ARCHBISHOP SAHAK MASHALIAN
Patriarch of Constantinople

WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL 2026 at 7.00 PM AEST

For the Zoom Link contact Mr Nishan Basmajian
diocese@armenian.com.au



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Կազմակերպութեամբ

Աւստրալիոյ եւ Նոր Զելանտայի Հայոց Առաջնորդարանին

Նիւթ՝

«ՅԱՐՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԽՈՐՀՈՒՐԴԸ ՊՕԴՈՍ ԱՌԱՔԵԱԼԻ
ՎԱՐԳԱՊԵՏՈՒԹԵԱՆ ՄԷՉ»

Չեկուցաբեր՝

ԱՄԵՆԱՊԱՏԻՒՄ ՏԷՐ ՍԱՀԱԿ ԱՐՔԵՊԻՍԿՈՊՈՍ ՄԱՇԱԼԵԱՆ

Պատրիարք Կոստանդնուպոլսոյ Հայոց

Տեղի Կ'ունենայ

ԶՈՐԵՔՇԱԲԹԻ, 29 ԱՊՐԻԼ 2026-Ի

Երեկոյեան ժամը 7.00-ին, Սիտնիի Ժամանակացոյցով

Չում Յղումը ստանալու համար դիմել
Պրն Նշան Պասմանեանի diocese@armenian.com.au

Spring MIXER

FEATURING
DJ SHANT



Friday, May 1st, 2026 at 7:30pm.

Come mingle and dance with old friends
and make some new ones!

Cocktail Party • Cash Bar • Grazing Table
Coffee & Dessert Included

Donation \$50pp.

Reservations required by April 27th.

Jane Torigian
914-980-3611
jtorigian@yahoo.com

Aline Jamgotchian
201-694-5588
aline@jamgotchian.us

St. Thomas Armenian Church
174 Essex Dr. • Tenafly, NJ 07670

Lecture series

NAZI LOOTED ART RECOVERY AS A MODEL FOR RECOVERY OF AGLA: ARMENIAN GENOCIDE LOOTED ART

SPEAKERS: DR. TANER AKÇAM AND MICHAEL BAZYLER



Gustav Klimt, *Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I*



Toros Roslin, Canon tables from the *Zeyt'un Gospels*

This lecture series will explore efforts to identify and recover Armenian art looted during the Armenian Genocide, drawing parallels with Nazi-looted art and restitution of colonial-era art.

- **Friday, May 1, 2026, at 6:30 PM (ET)**
 - The Graduate Center, City University of New York
- **Monday, May 4, 2026, at 7:30 PM (ET)**
 - St. Leon Armenian Church
- **Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 7:30 PM (ET)**
 - NAASR



Sponsor(s): Armenian Genocide Research Program (AGRP) of the Promise Armenian Institute at UCLA, Armenian Bar Association, Middle East and Middle Eastern American Center (MEMEAC) at the CUNY Graduate Center, National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR) / Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation Lecture Series on Contemporary Armenian Issues, NYC Times Square Armenian Genocide Committee, St. Leon Armenian Church

LEARN MORE & RSVP AT bit.ly/AGRP-05-2026

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



LA MAMA PRESENTS

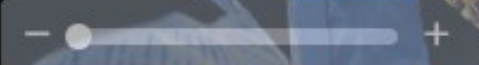
THE CENSORSHIP OF DREAMS

Written by Nora Sørensen Casey
Directed by Arthur Makaryan

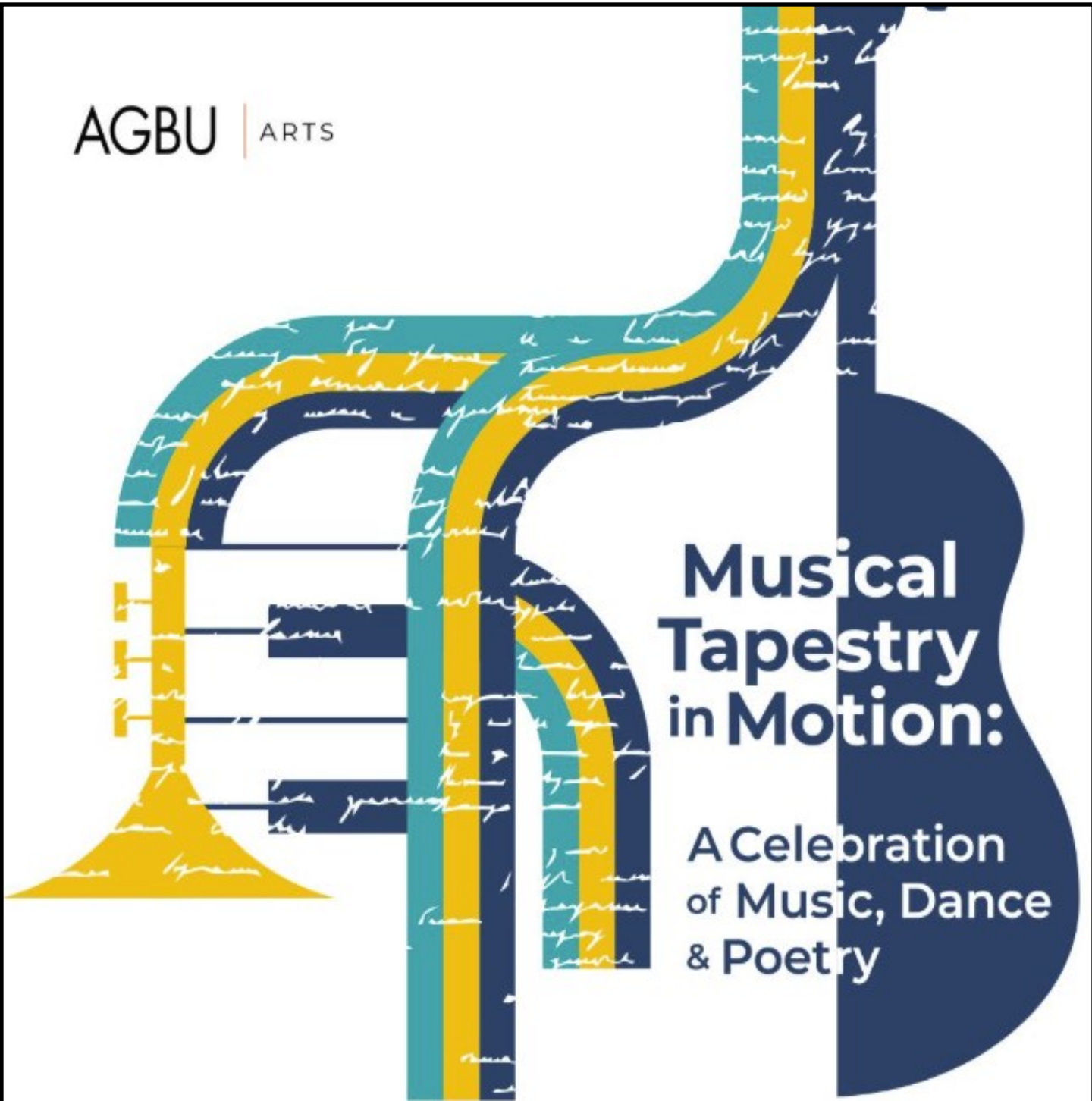
MAY 1-17, 2026
Tickets at lamama.org

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MAKAR

AGBU
ARTS



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

FRIDAY
MAY 8, 2026

FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY,
ROBISON HALL
1000 RIVER RD, TEANECK, NJ
7:30 PM



ARF NJ "DRO" PRESENTS

TRIPP

GUARANTOR OF PEACE OR
PATH TO DEPENDENCY?

• MICHAEL RUBIN



Michael Rubin is an American historian, foreign policy analyst, government adviser, and military lecturer. He holds the position of a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI). He previously worked as an official at the Pentagon, where he dealt with issues relating to the Middle East.

Hrair Balian has practiced conflict resolution for the past 35 years in the Middle East, Africa, Balkans, Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. He has served in leadership positions with the UN, OSCE and NGOs, including The Carter Center (Director, Conflict Resolution, 2008-2022).



• HRAIR BALIAN



Gev Iskajyan currently serves as the National Grassroots Director of the ANCA. He spent 2 years in Stepanakert as the Executive Director of the ANC of Artsakh from 2021-2023. Iskajyan has written about the South Caucasus and U.S. politics in Time Magazine, Newsweek, and the Huffington Post.

• GEV ISKAJYAN

If you have any questions,
please contact us at
arfdro@gmail.com



**DRAFT as of 4/24/2026
SAVE THE DATE**

*Announcing a forum saluting **
**Armenians at the
United Nations***



“As the UN marked 80 years in 2025, how are Armenians involved with the UN today?” In addition to the Armenian Mission (since 1991), many talented Armenians are scattered throughout the UN today—its secretariat, agencies, NGOs. This interactive forum brings together several Armenian experts to meet one another and speak of their work at the UN.

Direct any questions to: Takoosh@aol.com



May 15, 2026, Friday at 5:30-7 pm

Fordham University, 113 West 60 St., room 1022 (floor 10)
All are welcome. Refreshments are served.

Welcome: **Bryan Ardouny, JD,**
Executive Director, Armenian Assembly of America

Roundtable panelists (so far):

**Houry Geudelekian, Ani Kalayjian, Emma Arakelyan,
Souren A. Israelyan, Anahid Urgulyan, Arpine Korekyan,
Talin Daghljian, Harold Takooshian,...**



SAVE THE DATE



MAY 16TH - 17TH

DETAILS TO FOLLOW

St. Mary Armenian Church Annual Golf Event 2026

FUN DAY
FOR ALL
REGISTER →



**Rock Spring Golf Club
90 Rock Spring Rd
West Orange, NJ 07052**

Monday June 1, 2026

Rain or Shine

**Check-in at 10:30 am, Practice Range,
Putting Contest and Lunch**

10:45 am to 11:45 am

Shotgun Start at 12 pm

Reception/Dinner/Awards/Raffle to follow

Scan the QR to sign up now



or [click for brochure](#)

St Thomas Cultural Committee
presents



Sip & Paint

Friday, June 5th, 2026 at 7:30pm

with Artistic Instructor
MHER KHACHATRYAN "The Smoke Artist"

Sip, Mingle & Create!

Couples, Singles, Friends...All Welcome! | Donation \$60 pp.
Includes All Materials. | Appetizers & Desserts Provided. | BYOB.
Reservations required by June 1st. | Groups of 4 or 8 Encouraged.

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL:

Jacklyn Baltaian 917-748-3723 baltaian@gmail.com

Jane Torigian 914-980-3611 jtorigian@yahoo.com

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH
174 Essex Drive · Tenafly NJ · 07670 ·

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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



JOIN US THIS SUMMER

**NEXTGEN
ARMENIAN STUDIES
PROGRAM**

VARTAN GREGORIAN BUILDING, BELMONT, MA

JULY 13 - 31, 2026

FOR STUDENTS
GRADES 10-12



BUILD SOMETHING REAL. LEAVE WITH SKILLS THAT MATTER.

NOT A LECTURE SERIES. NOT A CAMP.

The **NextGen Armenian Studies Program** is an innovative new immersive experience where high school students come together for three weeks of rigorous, project-driven study guided by world-class faculty from Harvard, MIT, Columbia, and beyond.

BUILD CONNECTIONS AND SKILLS THAT LAST, INCLUDING:

- ◆ AI literacy
- ◆ Digital content creation
- ◆ Persuasive writing
- ◆ Social media strategy
- ◆ Critical thinking
- ◆ Public speaking

WEEK 1 CIVILIZATION & CULTURE

From ancient origins to medieval manuscripts and epic poetry, students explore the long sweep of Armenian history through primary sources, archival workshops, and site visits.

WEEK 2 DIASPORA & IDENTITY

Students trace how Armenians survived and stayed connected across empires and continents — examining communities under Ottoman, Persian, and Russian rule and visiting the offices of the century-old Armenian press.

WEEK 3 JUSTICE & THE PRESENT

Students engage directly with genocide testimony, the loss of Artsakh, and the science of denial — then present their own social media campaigns to a live audience.



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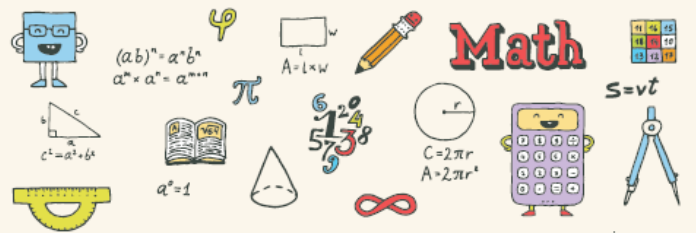
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Armenian Interests e-newsletter serves all Armenian non-profit organizations and churches. We gladly post all flyers and press releases submitted by officers of the organization. Information makes us all a better and healthier community.

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:
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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*

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