

Armenian Interests

October 19, 2025

Issue #882

News & Events of the Armenian Community

In This Issue:

- [North American Primates Issue Joint Statement on Clergy Arrests in Armenia](#)
- [A M A A Dedicates Renovated Camp Hankavan Complex in Armenia](#)
- [Medicare 101 with Dickran Kabarajian discussed on Parev-TV](#)
- [Radio pizza outing complete a solid year](#)
- [The Kennedy Center An Evening of Beethoven Emmanuel Tjeknavorian conductor](#)
- [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](#)

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'Meet the Cartozians' cast members interviewed by Parev-TV



On Friday, October 17, Parev-TV had an interview with Raffi Barsoumian and Tamara Sevunts actors of "Meet the Cartozians". The off-Broadway play opens this Fall.

"Meet the Cartozian" written by Talene Monahan and directed by David Cromer follows two different generations of Armenian-

Americans, one in the 1920s and another a century later, and their struggles with identity and legacy. The play is based on a 1925 court case, when an Armenian Tateos Cardozian had to prove that he is white, to become a citizen of this country. Naturalization laws at the time limited American citizenship to people who were either white or black.

The play has majority -Armenian cast and crew. Andrea Martin - Tony winner for her role in Pippin - plays one of the lead roles in the play.

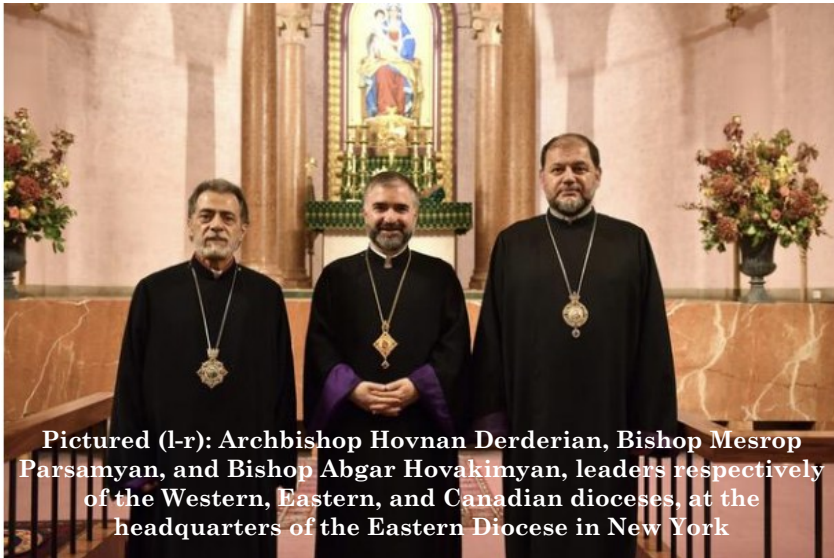
The play is being performed at the Pershing Square Signature Center, with an official opening on November 17.

Headline News



Armenian Interests

North American Primates Issue Joint Statement on Clergy Arrests in Armenia



Pictured (l-r): Archbishop Hovnan Derderian, Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan, and Bishop Abgar Hovakimyan, leaders respectively of the Western, Eastern, and Canadian dioceses, at the headquarters of the Eastern Diocese in New York

The Diocesan Primates of the Eastern and Western United States and Canada, meeting this week in New York, issued a joint statement on the recent arrests of clergymen in Armenia. Read it below, in English and Armenian.

STATEMENT OF THE NORTH AMERICAN PRIMATES OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

October 15, 2025 | New York City

We, the Primates of the Armenian Church in North America — **Archbishop Hovnan Derderian** of the Western Diocese, **Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan** of the Eastern Diocese, and **Bishop Abgar Hovakimyan** of the Canadian Diocese — express our profound concern regarding the recent

arrests of clergy in Armenia, including **Bishop Mkrtych Proshyan**, Primate of the Aragatsotn Diocese, along with several priests and staff members of the diocesan administration.

The clergy who have been detained are known for their devotion, humility, and service to their people and the Gospel. Such treatment threatens the moral and spiritual fabric of our nation and undermines the sacred role of the Church in Armenian life.

We call upon the authorities of the Republic of Armenia to ensure justice, transparency, and due process, and to respect the historic independence and sacred mission of the Armenian Church.

At this difficult moment, we stand united with **His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians**, with our clergy, and with all faithful in Armenia and throughout the diaspora. We urge our communities to join in prayer for wisdom, peace, and the restoration of trust and harmony in our homeland.

Archbishop Hovnan Derderian

Primate of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan

Primate of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

Bishop Abgar Hovakimyan

Primate of the Armenian Diocese of Canada

AMAA Dedicates Renovated Camp Hankavan Complex in Armenia



Camp Hankavan/Shoghig

Yerevan, Armenia – The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) held the Dedication Worship Service for its newly renovated Camp Hankavan Complex on Sunday, September 28, 2025, at the Camp's Auditorium. The ceremony gathered benefactors, AMAA leaders from the U.S., including CEO/Executive Director Serge D. Buchakjian and Board President Gary Phillips, Esq., and Evangelical Church of Armenia members from Yerevan and other towns in Armenia.



AMAA CEO/Executive Director Serge D. Buchakjian delivers his message during the Program

Originally acquired in 2003, Camp Sheen Shoghig in Hankavan has long provided a place of recreation, learning, and spiritual growth for children and youth across Armenia. The renovated complex will continue this mission with renewed purpose for generations to come.

The Worship Service featured hymns, Scripture readings, and prayers led by ECA Senior Pastor Rev. Avetik Khachatryan, ECA Council President Rev. Vardan Apinyan, and President

of the Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in Eurasia, Rev. Dr. René Léonian.

Rev. Krikor Youmshajekian, President of the Armenian Missionary Association of Australia, delivered the message titled “Set Apart for God” based on Joshua 3:5, reminding attendees that the Camp’s mission belongs to God and must remain centered on Christ. “Camps come and go, buildings decay, and programs change, but God’s work endures through faithful and devoted hearts,” he said.

The dedication ceremony, led by Rev. Dr. Haroutune Selimian, President of the Armenian Evangelical Community of Syria, formally set apart the Camp “for the worship and service of Almighty God,” followed by the united response of the congregation: “We dedicate this land to God for His glory and service.”

Following the Service, officials including Minister of Economy Gevorg Papoyan, Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Arsen Torosyan, High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs Zareh Sinanyan, and Chief Advisor to the Prime Minister Lilit Makunts joined for the ribbon-cutting ceremony and a special program.

AMAA Representative in Armenia Aren Deyirmenjian expressed gratitude to all benefactors, noting that the renewed complex stands as a testament to AMAA’s enduring mission of strengthening faith, education, and service in Armenia.



AMAA Leadership at Camp Hankavan/Shoghig

Reflecting on the re-opening of the Camp Hankavan Complex, AMAA Board President Gary Phillips shared that “the camp is a place where children and young people encounter Christ, form lasting friendships, and begin lifelong journeys of faith and service,” and added that the renewal of Camp Hankavan reaffirms AMAA’s mission “to build lives upon the foundation of Christ — nurturing hearts, shaping character, and preparing new generations to live out their faith in Armenia and beyond.”

In his remarks, AMAA CEO/Executive Director Serge D. Buchakjian emphasized AMAA’s deep commitment to the Homeland, saying: “Wherever we live, our hearts are directed toward Armenia. Here, we feel the deepest responsibility to strengthen our people’s future and provide new opportunities for the next generations.”

The event concluded with expressions of appreciation from Armenian government representatives, honoring AMAA’s lasting impact on the life of the Armenian people.

Medicare 101 with Dickran Kabarajian discussed on Parev-TV

Parev TV had a zoom interview with Dickran Kabarajian, Founder and CEO of Kabco Benefits Group, about Medicare 101.

With over 30 years of experience as an insurance broker and as a financial advisor Dickran discussed 'open enrollment season' and what is new in Medicare.

The unedited version of the interview is on YouTube.



Radio pizza outing complete a solid year October and November hosted by Jamgotchian and Kabarajian respectively

The tradition of monthly pizza outing is about to complete a solid year.

This coming Sunday, October 19, Mr. Harout Jamgotchian will be hosting the volunteers. November 9th outing will be hosted by

Mr. & Mrs. Dickran and Liza Kabarajian.

These outings have served to connect the volunteers to the community and created bonds between fellow Armenians. Nothing can replace a

relaxed atmosphere of a friendly gathering to boost the moral of community volunteers.

To wrap up the year, the December outing promises to be a special one.



The Kennedy Center An Evening of Beethoven Emmanuel Tjeknavorian conductor

Program

Emmanuel Tjeknavorian,
conductor; Isabelle Faust, violin*

Ludwig van Beethoven: Egmont –
Overture, Violin Concerto, Symphony
No. 7



Emmanuel Tjeknavorian conducted, part one, of an all-Beethoven program-October 16 - 19, 2025 - brimming with lyricism and energy. Following his “thrilling” National Symphony orchestra (NSO) performance of Sibelius’ Violin Concerto in 2019 (Washington Classical Review), the young Music Director of the Milan Symphony Orchestra returned to make his U.S. conducting debut with the NSO.

The evening opened with Beethoven’s Overture to Egmont, depicting a hero’s righteous rebellion. Acclaimed violinist Isabelle Faust, whose “sound electrifies” (The New York Times), made her much-anticipated NSO debut in Beethoven’s Violin Concerto. Beethoven’s joyous Symphony No. 7, a work Wagner famously called “the apotheosis of the dance,” created an



Emmanuel with his aunt Ida Tjeknavorian and Shoghag Vicki Hovanessian, Cultural Advisor of the Embassy of Armenia

electrifying finale.

Originally scheduled conductor Christoph Eschenbach must regrettably withdrew from leading these performances with the National



Symphony Orchestra due to illness. He looks forward to returning to Washington, D.C., in a future NSO season.

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Poetry presented by Mrs. Zarmine Boghosian

Մեր Գրական Աշխարհի Ծաղկաստանէն

♥♥♥ Through the Orchards of the Armenian Language & Poetry ♥♥♥ Oct.-18-19-2025

Presented by: Zarmine Boghosian

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ՀՈԿՏԵՄԲԵՐ՝ ՀԱՅ ՄՇԱԿՈՅԹԻ ԱՄԻՍ

Գրենք, խօսինք, կարդանք ՀԱՅԵՐԷՆ՝:



Հոկտեմբերի երրորդ շաբաթն ենք- յիշենք ԻՆՏԻՄ
գրչանունով ծանօթ Տիրան Զրաքեանի սա խօսքերը- «ՀԱՅ
տառերուն մէջ ազգին իմաստն է, որ կը խտանայ, ահա թէ
ինչո՛ւ, նոյն իսկ առանց քննադատութեան ու խոր-
հրդածութեան կը սիրենք մեր այբուբենը, մեր
ճշմարտախօս, մեր հարազատ, մեր իրօք սեփական
այբուբենը»:



ՀԱՅԵՐԷՆ

Փանոս Ըերանեան

Երբ հայերէն կը լսեմ
Ինծի այնպէս կը թուի
Թէ մէկը գիտ կը կանչէ
Ճանապարհս դեռ կ'իստատ
հորիզոններ կը կտրեմ
իմ տան շէմին կը հասնիմ
Ամբողջ աշխարհ մթազնի
մեր տնակի նշոյլին
Երբ հայերէն կը կարդամ
Ինծի այնպէս կը թուի
Թէ երկինքի սուրբերէն
ամենասուրբ
Մաշտոցին հետ կը խօսիմ

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ԲԱՐՁՐԱԶՈՒՄ



Վահան Թեքեան

Եթէ կրնաս՝ բարձրացի՛ր, բայց գիտե՛ս ո՞ր,
մինչեւ ո՛ր,

Եւ քեզի հետ ուրիշներն՝
Եթէ կրնաս՝ բարձրացո՛ւր,
Բայց մինչեւ ու՞ր, մինչեւ ո՞ր...
Հաւատալով թէ կրնաս՝
օ՛ն բարձրացի՛ր, քա՛ջ տըղաս,
Կարենայի՛ր դուն եթէ
բարձրացնել քեզի հետ
Միրում քանի մը հոգի մինչեւ
զագագ ճարձակ,
Մինչեւ սէ՛րը քեզի հետ...

Կարելին այդ է միայն, անըրջակա՛ն կարելին,
Բարեկամնե՛ր՝ որ մէկտեղ կ' ուզեն,

կը զգան, կը խորհին

Անկարելին, կարելին...

Միմիայն ա՛յս, մընացեալն ամբողջ
պատրանք է, հոգի՛ս,
Միմիայն ա՛յս, ու անոր գուցէ
երբե՛ք չըհասնիս,

Անոր իղձո՛վը մեռնիս...:

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ՀԱՅՆՐԻՄ ՀԻԲՇՄԱՆ – գերմանացի
լեզուաբան, հայագէտ, իրանագէտ- Ո՛վ հայոց
լեզու, ամենից գեղեցիկն ես դու:

Զ Ա Բ Գ Ը

ԿԱՐՈՏ ՀԱՅԵՐԷՆԻ Ծաւարշ Նարդունի

Այս առաւօտ աւելի քան երբեք կարօտն ունիմ
հայերէն խօսելու: Կ' ուզեմ հայերէն խօսիլ բաց
աչքով: Հա՛յ մը, հայ մա՛րդ մը կը փնտռեմ, խօսելու
հետը:

Ո՛վ իմ անուշ հայերէնս, գիտացի՛ր ու
քաղաքացի՛ր լեզու, բանուորին ու թագաւորին
բերնին յարմար, երիտասարդ ու հուժկու, ապրա՛ծ
մնաս:

Ո՛վ իմ հմայիչ հայերէնս, աղօթքի մը պէս
միսիթարիչ, դեղի մը պէս օգտակար, եթէ մոռցայ մէկ
վանկը. թող ա՛յ չդառնայ լեզուս մեղաւոր բերնիս
մէջ:



ՊԱՏԳԱՄ՝

Սուրբ Էջմիածնի լոյս բարձունքներից
ՎԱԶԳԷՆ Ա. Կաթողիկոս Ամենայն Հայոց
Հայորդիներին բերում եմ այսօր

Սուրբ Լեոն Արարատ,
Մեր ազգի հոգու պատկեր, երազանք՝
Քառասուն դէմքով, քառասուն գոյնով,
Քառասուն կանչով:
Եւ թող քառասուն Արարատներն այս
Խօսեն, բարբառեն քառասուն լեզուով
Հեռաւոր պանդուխտ մեր զաւակներին
Ու դառնան ամենքի, ամենքի համար՝
Հրաւեր հայրենեաց, Կո՛չ արդարութեան

Եւ ստուգութիւն գալիք յաղթութեանց:



AGBU GLOBAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Welcoming all sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate students enrolled in universities for new professional opportunities and placements in stimulating work environments!

The AGBU Global Leadership Program (FKA Summer Internship Program) has been devoted to empowering young Armenians to achieve professional success by providing meaningful and purpose-driven professional opportunities and social engagement events. Expect to meet with industry professionals from leading organizations who will help you kickstart your career. The program also entails daily afterwork social and cultural activities to get to know the city and each other.

Find out more [here](https://www.agbu.org/global-leadership-program) and submit your application through our online portal at www.agbu.org/global-leadership-program.

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity, and apply by our first application deadline of October 20, 2025, to get a chance to be part of a once in a lifetime experience!

A promotional poster for the AGBU Global Leadership Program Summer 2026. The top left features the text 'AGBU GLOBAL LEADERSHIP' in blue. The top right has 'summer 2026' in white on a red background. The center shows a group of four young adults (three women and one man) smiling and talking around a table. A large, stylized red globe is on the right. The bottom half has the text 'Fuel Your Goals Empower Your Community' in large blue letters, followed by 'FOR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AGED 19-26'. At the very bottom, three locations are listed: 'Boston JUN 7 - AUG 1', 'New York JUN 14 - AUG 8', and 'Yerevan JUN 14 - JUL 25', separated by vertical lines.

AGBU GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

summer 2026

**Fuel Your Goals
Empower Your Community**

FOR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AGED 19-26

Boston
JUN 7 - AUG 1

New York
JUN 14 - AUG 8

Yerevan
JUN 14 - JUL 25

We Armenia



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Current News from Around the World



Armenian Interests

Hakobjan Mashalyan, father of the Armenian Patriarch of Istanbul Sahak Mashalyan died at the age of 93 on October 16

The President of Turkey Recep Erdogan expressed his condolences to the Armenian Patriarch of Istanbul Sahak Mashalyan on the death of his father Hakobjan Mashalyan.

Erdogan expressed his condolences to Mashalyan in a phone call.

Hakobjan Mashalyan died at the age of 93.



Criminal Proceedings Launched Against Aragatsotn Diocese Clergy for Coercion and Large-Scale Embezzlement



The Investigative Committee of Armenia has uncovered incidents involving coercion to participate in gatherings and the large-scale misappropriation of entrusted property. Within the framework of a criminal case launched by the Yerevan Investigation Department's Division for Serious Crimes, more than twenty searches were conducted.

As a result, documents significant to the case were seized, along with electronic data carriers, large sums of money, gold and silver jewelry, numerous fuel vouchers issued under various commercial organizations, and other items.

On October 15, law enforcement officers carried out searches at the residences of six clergymen of the Aragatsotn Diocese, including the diocesan leader, Bishop Mkrtich Proshyan, who was subsequently taken into custody.

According to the Investigative Committee, the clergy were detained as part of the criminal proceedings concerning the misuse of authority or



influence to coerce or prevent individuals from attending gatherings. Following the investigation, Bishop Mkrtich Proshyan was arrested for two months, while the diocesan chancellor was detained for one month.

Trump envoy reaffirms U.S. support for Armenian-Azerbaijani peace agenda



Armenia's Ambassador to the United States, Narek Mkrtchyan, met with U.S. Special Presidential Envoy Steve Witkoff

Armenia's Ambassador to the United States, Narek Mkrtchyan, met with U.S. Special Presidential Envoy Steve Witkoff at the Holocaust Museum, within the framework of an event dedicated to the Sharm El Sheikh Summit for Peace and in commemoration of the second anniversary of the October 7 Hamas attacks against Israel.

The Armenian Embassy said that Ambassador Mkrtchyan and Mr. Witkoff discussed "the progress of the August 8 agreements and regional developments."

Armenia and Azerbaijan signed a U.S.-brokered joint declaration and initialed a peace treaty on August 8 in Washington. Bilateral Armenia-U.S. cooperation deals were also signed.

Steve Witkoff reaffirmed the "consistent support of the United States for the peace agenda," the embassy said in a statement.

Ambassador Mkrtchyan expressed his gratitude to Mr. Witkoff for his efforts to promote peace and stability in the region.

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan Attends Signing of Gaza Ceasefire Agreement in Egypt



Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, U.S. President Donald Trump, and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan signed an agreement in Sharm el-Sheikh on October 13, officially confirming the final ceasefire in the Gaza Strip.

"It took three thousand years to reach this day — can you imagine? — and this agreement will hold," President Trump emphasized after signing the document.

At the invitation of U.S. President Donald Trump and Egyptian



President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan participated in the Middle East Peace Summit in Sharm el-Sheikh.

The participants were welcomed by President el-Sisi, followed by opening remarks from President Trump. The leaders of the attending countries then took part in a joint photo session.

Following the signing ceremony, the Presidents of the United States and Egypt delivered statements.

Prime Minister Pashinyan also held



a brief conversation with President Trump, which he later shared on Facebook along with accompanying photos.

During the Peace Summit, the White House leader addressed both the Armenian Prime Minister and the Azerbaijani President, recalling that under his mediation the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict had been settled.

Visit to the “Lily” Preschool and Child Development Center in Vardenis



Yerevan, Armenia – During their visit to Armenia, AMAA’s leadership, headed by AMAA Board President, Gary Phillips, Esq., and AMAA CEO/Executive Director, Serge D. Buchakjian, visited the newly opened “Lily” Child Development Center in Vardenis on Saturday, September 26, 2025.

The delegation expressed great admiration for the Center’s thoughtful design and attention to detail. From the



furniture to the learning materials, every element was carefully chosen to support children’s development, comfort, and joy. One visitor noted the richness and value of the educational resources available for the specialists.

A touching moment occurred when guests noticed that many children were reluctant to leave even after their parents arrived, a clear sign of the warm,

engaging atmosphere created by the dedicated staff. One delegation member quietly asked, “Where would these children be if this center didn’t exist?”

The AMAA Vardenis Kindergarten and Day Center are envisioned as inclusive, community-centered spaces providing high-quality early education and support. Drawing on the best international practices and adapted to local cultural and social contexts, the facilities aim to meet the diverse needs of the region’s children and families. The Kindergarten serves children aged 3 to 6, while the Day Center supports school-aged children (6 to 14) and their families from the surrounding community.

Reopening of the “Shogh” Community-Based Day Center at Avedisian School



The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) proudly announces the reopening of its “Shogh” Community-Based Day Center, now located at the Khoren and Shooshanig Avedisian School in Yerevan’s Malatia-Sebastia district.

After 13 years of dedicated service in the Nor Nork 7th District, the Center has been relocated to ensure its long-term sustainability following the return of the previously occupied state-owned premises.

Established in 2012, the “Shogh” Center has provided vital support to hundreds of school-aged children, offering a safe and nurturing environment where they can learn, grow, and thrive. Over the years, it

has worked closely with local authorities, schools, child protection agencies, and families to deliver comprehensive services tailored to the needs of vulnerable children.

The official reopening ceremony at the Avedisian School held on Monday, September 29, 2025, marked a new chapter for the Center, offering expanded opportunities and improved facilities. The event was attended by the Center’s major benefactors, Hratch and Helga Sarkis, as well as AMAA’s Board President Gary Phillips, Esq., and CEO/Executive Director Serge D. Buchakjian, and staff from both AMAA-Armenia Branch and the Avedisian School.

Now operating on the Avedisian School campus, the “Shogh” Day Center will continue to serve children and families from both the Avedisian School and the wider community. Programs include psychosocial support, art therapy, personal development initiatives, parenting workshops, and recreational activities.

Currently, AMAA has five “Shogh” Day Centers in Armenia, located in Yerevan, Berd, Gyumri, Stepanavan, and Vanadzor.



The “Shogh” Day Centers are educational after-school programs that serve nearly 350 children, ages 6–12, from socially underserved families.

The centers offer: Tutoring, Group or One on One Social, Psychological or Psychotherapy Sessions, Personal Development Programs, Recreational Summer Camps, Excursions and Cultural Events, Fine Art Classes, Parental Skills Sessions, Daily Hot Meals, Safety during parents’ working hours, Positive cultural and educational environment and Christian Education. They also provide for children’s safety during parents’ working hours preventing children’s involvement in dangerous situations, associated with accidents or violence.

Tehran Unveils Saint Mary Metro Station with Rare Tribute to Armenian Christian Heritage



The Tehran Municipality has revealed the interior of the soon-to-open Maryam-e Moghaddas (Saint Mary) metro station, featuring a striking bas-relief of an Armenian church, a rare public acknowledgment of Iran's Christian heritage. The station is near Saint Sarkis Cathedral, a key Armenian Apostolic church in the capital. The bas-relief, captured in photographs by Shayan Mehrabi for the Tehran Picture Agency, showcases

the cathedral's iconic conical domes and cross-topped towers. A large green geometric rosette accompanies the design, blending Islamic ornamental motifs with Armenian ecclesiastical elements, symbolizing cultural coexistence. Managed by the Tehran Municipality's Urban Art and Beautification Organization, this project marks the first artistic representation of an Armenian religious structure in Tehran's metro

network. City officials say the artwork reflects a broader initiative to celebrate Tehran's multi-faith identity through public spaces. The Maryam-e Moghaddas station, still under construction, is in its final stages and expected to open later this autumn. Once operational, it will serve as the 25th station connecting central Tehran's cultural and residential districts.

Armenia does not accept Azerbaijan's precondition to change its Constitution, says FM



Armenia does not accept Azerbaijan's precondition to change its constitution for the final signing of the peace treaty, FM Ararat Mirzoyan said on October 14.

He made the remarks during a joint press conference with OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Finland's FM Elina Valtonen.

"I find it necessary to state that, just as before, even now, such a matter does not exist in our discussions as part of a mutually agreed agenda. The issue of constitutional amendments or adopting a new Constitution is exclusively a domestic matter and one to be decided by our people. Armenia has never undertaken, and will not undertake, any obligation before any party to change its Constitution. Azerbaijan

continues to view this as a precondition for signing the treaty, we do not accept this precondition," FM Mirzoyan said, reminding that both countries have already initiated the dissolution of the OSCE Minsk Group for signing the peace agreement.

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan's administration has signaled a need for a constitutional referendum amid the new realities but has said that the process has nothing to do with Azerbaijan's demands.

Armenian Radio Hour of NJ

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

Queen Mathilde of Belgium in Yerevan



President of Armenia Vahagn Khachaturyan received Queen Mathilde of Belgium, who arrived in Armenia as an advocate for the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The President welcomed Her Majesty's visit and commended her leadership in promoting the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

"It is a great honor for us to host you. The purpose of your visit — the promotion of the UN Sustainable Development Goals — will undoubtedly be highly beneficial for the Republic of Armenia, helping us to fully meet the commitments undertaken for 2030. We highly value your leadership in this field and your dedication to addressing such important issues that concern humanity," the Armenian President said, according to a readout by his office.

Queen Mathilde of Belgium expressed her gratitude for the warm reception, noting that she was impressed by



Armenia and pleased to visit the country in support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals

During the meeting, the programs being implemented within the framework of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the steps being taken to advance them were discussed. The parties emphasized the importance of education as a cornerstone for addressing global humanitarian challenges and ensuring the sustainable development of societies.

During the conversation, Armenia-Belgium bilateral relations were discussed. The importance of expanding cooperation in the high-tech sector of the economy, promoting innovative solutions, and implementing joint initiatives was highlighted. President Khachaturyan emphasized that the partnership between Armenia and Belgium, built on mutual trust, has the potential to reach a new level—particularly in the fields of science, education, and digital technologies.



The Armenian President and Queen Mathilde of Belgium exchanged views on the upcoming COP-17 Biodiversity Conference and the European Political Community Summit, both set to take place in Armenia in 2026. In this context, it was noted that Armenia approaches international environmental initiatives with great responsibility and strives to be an active participant in global efforts aimed at addressing environmental challenges. The importance of uniting humanity in the protection of biodiversity and ensuring environmental sustainability was emphasized.

The conversation also highlighted the importance of efforts aimed at establishing peace in the region. Both sides underlined that peace and cooperation are core values in international relations, and their reinforcement is a fundamental prerequisite for the progress of nations and peoples.

Pashinyan and Aliyev met in Egypt during the peace summit

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev met during the Sharm el-Sheikh international peace summit in the Egyptian resort town.

A video from the meeting shows Pakistani PM Shehbaz Sharif joining

the conversation. He said he was happy to see the Armenian and Azerbaijani leaders talk.



Turkish-Armenian community supports normalization with Armenia, says Sahak II



By Araks Kasyan

The Armenian community in Türkiye hopes for swift normalization of Armenian-Turkish relations, Archbishop Sahak II Mashalian, the Armenian Patriarch of Constantinople (Istanbul) told Armenpress in Istanbul.

The Armenian and Turkish governments have been engaged in negotiations aimed at normalizing relations, establishing diplomatic ties, and opening the land border, which has been closed by Türkiye since the early 1990s.

“Our community supports the process of normalizing Armenian-Turkish relations. We want these relations to become closer. This should also ease the burden placed on our shoulders. Over the past 100 years, Armenian-Turkish relations have been so strained that here, the word ‘Armenian’ is practically considered an insult. And in Armenia, the word ‘Turk’ has the same connotation. Therefore, if these relations improve, the heaviest burden will be lifted from our shoulders. We need to be able to breathe in a more friendly atmosphere,” Sahak II said.

He emphasized that they closely follow the official meetings between Armenian and Turkish authorities, adding, “We receive good news from these meetings.” He highlighted the plans for building roads between the two countries, restoring the historic Ani Bridge on the border, and the Turkish Airlines entry to the

Armenian market.

“All of this is underway. We, as short-lived beings, want to see things happen quickly — but the lives of nations and states are long, and progress is slower. When we look at Armenian-Turkish relations, we have many reasons to be optimistic,” he said.

Speaking about the Turkish government’s stance toward the Armenian community, the Patriarch noted a significantly positive attitude by the current authorities.

“Under the current leadership, we have regained ownership of our properties, we enjoy freedoms, and today we are able to renovate our institutions and churches. There was a time when we needed permission just to hammer a nail. Now, everything is much easier. The president [Erdogan] and ministers visit us, we are invited to various events, and we have a place in official state ceremonies,” said Sahak II Mashalian, stressing that the community’s voice is now more heard than before.

However, he acknowledged that there are still serious challenges, particularly the demographic crisis facing the Armenian community in Türkiye. According to him, there are three deaths per newborn in the community.

“If today we are 35,000–40,000, in 25 years we will be down to 10,000–15,000. Our community’s institutions were built for 125,000 people. We have 50 churches in this city — 33 Apostolic, 12 Catholic, and 4 Protestant. But we can no longer fill them. Once, we had 50 Armenian schools; now only 17 remain,” the Patriarch said.

He pointed out that a similar decline is visible in once Armenian-populated neighborhoods of Istanbul. For example, in the Kumkapı district — home to the Patriarchate and the Cathedral of the Holy Mother of God — around 40,000 Armenians lived a

century ago.

“Today, fewer than 40 Armenians live in Kumkapı. So, in this city of nearly 20 million people, the demographic issue has become one of our biggest challenges. Added to this is the emigration trend among young people,” said Sahak II.

Addressing the preservation of the Armenian language within the community, Patriarch Sahak II Mashalian expressed concern that maintaining the mother tongue is becoming increasingly difficult, both in Türkiye and across other diaspora communities.

“Even though many families send their children to Armenian schools, the language is rarely used outside of school. Losing the language leads to cultural assimilation, because everything about a culture is preserved within its language. If you don’t know the language, you can’t fully engage with the culture. These are the conditions in which we are trying to survive,” he said.

According to him, around 3,000 students are enrolled in the community’s Armenian schools across Istanbul.

“The schools are doing a good job. They help students stay connected and side by side. Through them, we pass down our literary, linguistic, and cultural heritage. With the resources we have, we are one of the most vibrant communities in the diaspora. Our prayer is that what we have preserved for over 600 years around the Church, we can continue to preserve in the same way,” emphasized Patriarch Sahak II Mashalian.

Confirmed reserves at Amulsar mine amount to 73 tons of gold and 294 tons of silver



Armenian Minister of Economy Gevorg Papoyan visited the Amulsar mine on October 10 to review the mining program of Lydian Armenia, the Ministry of Economy said. The visit was also attended by Vayots Dzor

Governor Vahagn Arsenyan, Deputy Minister Edgar Zakaryan, and Government representative in Lydian Armenia Gnel Sanosyan.

Total investments in the project will reach 750 million US dollars, of which

250 million are envisaged for completing construction and launching the operation of the mine. Minister Papoyan highlighted that the Amulsar project is one of Armenia's largest

investment initiatives, contributing to industrial development, job creation, and tax revenues.

The mine's confirmed reserves amount to 73 tons of gold and 294 tons of silver. The final product will be dore - an alloy of gold and silver. Over 1,000 jobs are expected to be created during the operation phase, while annual taxes and royalties are projected to exceed 120 million US dollars. The company will also allocate 7 million US dollars annually to the nearby Vayk, Sisian, and Jermuk communities.

As of October 1, 1890 employees were involved in the Amulsar project.

Armenian Radio Hour of NJ

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

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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

- ◆ [October 18, 2025 - St. Gregory Cultural Committee presents Jazz Up With Astghik Martirosyan & Ensemble](#)
- ◆ [October 19, 2025 - Cultural Committee of St. Thomas presents acclaimed photographer Hrair Hawk Khatcherian with the NJ launch of his new book “AGHTAMAR” The Armenian Architectural Masterpiece](#)
- ◆ [October 23, 2025 - AMAA Armenia presentation](#)
- ◆ [October 25, 2025 - Join the American University of Armenia \(AUA\) for its first major gala fundraiser in New York City](#)
- ◆ [October 26, 2025 - St. Thomas Church fall food festival](#)
- ◆ [October 26, 2025 - AESA 12th annual banquet](#)
- ◆ [November 1, 2025 - Homenetmen of NJ 50th anniversary gala](#)
- ◆ [November 8, 2025 - AAHPO's 7th annual 5K run](#)
- ◆ [November 8, 2025 - Shushi Dance Ensemble dinner dance](#)
- ◆ [November 13-16, 2025 - Celebrations in honor of the 30th anniversary of the enthronement of His Holiness Catholicos Aram I](#)
- ◆ [December 3, 2025 - CHHANGE Fall Testimonial Dinner & Tribute Journal](#)
- ◆ [December 7, 2025 - A photographic pilgrimage by architect Ronald Altoon - Monasteries and Churches of Armenia](#)
- ◆ [December 13, 2025 - Hamazkayin Levon Shant Theater play “The Little Big Wars of Couples”](#)
- ◆ [December 19, 2025 - St. Vartan Cathedral Christmas Concert](#)

SAVE THE DATE FOR FUTURE EVENTS

- ◆ [January 10-17, 2026 - Armenian Heritage Cruise](#)

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[**www.ArmenianRadioNJ.net**](http://www.ArmenianRadioNJ.net)



ST. GREGORY CULTURAL COMMITTEE
PRESENTS

JAZZ UP WITH

Astghik Martirosyan & Ensemble

TUTAK HALL

Sat. Oct.

18

7pm

Tickets

- \$40 with reservation
- \$50 at the door
- \$20 (20 years & under)
- \$300 for a table for eight

Drinks and Mezze will be served

For reservations call **212-873-0708** or email stgregoryculturalcommittee@gmail.com

1131 North St, White Plains, NY 10605

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH

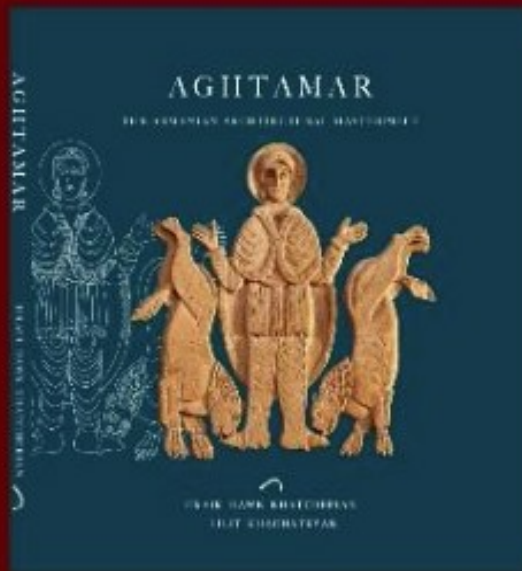
Cultural Committee Presents Acclaimed
Photographer

HRAIR HAWK KHATCHERIAN

Book Launch

AGHTAMAR

Sunday, October 19th at 2 pm



"This book is the fruit of 34 trips spanning 27 years of research & photography. Photography by Hrair Hawk Khatcherian (Canada) & Illustrations of the Bas Reliefs by Lilit Khachatryan (Armenia). Published in January 2025."

Presentation followed by Q & A, book signing and a wine & cheese reception.

Admission is free and open to all. Books will be available for purchase.

For more info, please contact: Talar Sarafian at 201-240-8541,
talar@sarafian1.com or Diana Bourghol at 201-805-6721,
pdbourghol@yahoo.com.

Corner of Rt. 9W & E. Clinton Ave. , 174 Essex Dr., Tenafly NJ 07670 (201) 567-5446

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SPECIAL AMAA ARMENIA PRESENTATION IN NJ



Thursday, October 23, 2025
7-9PM



Armenian Presbyterian Church
140 Forest Ave, Paramus, NJ 07652

- ☉ Special Presentation & Q&A
- ☉ Appetizers & Refreshments to follow

REGISTER TO ATTEND

☎ 201.265.2607 ext. 124

🌐 amaa.org/events

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Saturday, October 25, 2025

5:00 p.m. | Cocktail Reception

6:30 p.m. | Dinner & Program

The Yale Club

50 Vanderbilt Avenue

New York, NY 10017

Please RSVP by October 3, 2025

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Armenian Engineers and Scientists Association-Northeast Branch

12TH ANNUAL BANQUET

26 *Sunday*
October, 2025

Portabello's

175 Ramapo Valley Rd
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● \$175 per Person

● \$50 Students

✦ 6pm Cocktails

✦ 7pm Banquet



Celebrating our Honoree:

Dr. Bruce Boghosian

President

American University of Armenia



RSVP by October 19th
Email Raffi Jamgotchian
president@aesa-ne.org

Mail Checks to:
AESANE
PO BOX 252
Tappan, NY 10983

Homenetmen of New Jersey 50th Anniversary Gala



AN EVENING WITH JOSEPH KRIKORIAN & BAND

Saturday, November 1st, 2025 at 7pm

HILTON HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

Sky Ballroom

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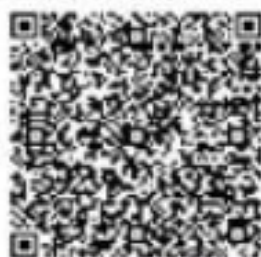
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HILDA TAVITIAN: 201-538-2480

LENA DISHOYAN: 862-207-2221

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(1995-2025)



IN HONOR OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENTHRONEMENT OF HIS HOLINESS CATHOLICOS ARAM I

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

CONCERT AT CARNEGIE HALL, FEATURING ISABEL BAYRAKDARIAN (NEW YORK CITY)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

CULTURAL EVENT AT SAINTS VARTANANTZ CHURCH HALL (RIDGEFIELD, NEW JERSEY)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

MEETING WITH YOUNG PROFESSIONALS AT ST. ILLUMINATOR'S CATHEDRAL (MANHATTAN)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

PONTIFICAL BADARAK/DIVINE LITURGY AT ST. SARKIS CHURCH (DOUGLASTON, NEW YORK)
BANQUET AT GARDEN CITY HOTEL (GARDEN CITY, NEW YORK)



CULTURAL EVENT IN HONOR OF
THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENTHRONEMENT OF
HIS HOLINESS ARAM I



Keynote Speakers:

Very Rev. Father Hrant Tahanian
Very Rev. Father Boghos Tinkjian

Artistic Program:

Hamazkayin Nayiri Dance Group
Hamazkayin Arekag Choir
Ara Dinkjian (oud)
Melissa Gohar Atoyan (violin) and Margarita Fermadjian (piano)

Friday, November 14, 7:00 pm
Saints Vartanantz Church Large Hall
461 Bergen Boulevard, Ridgefield, New Jersey

Free Admission



30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENTHRONEMENT OF HH. CATHOLICOS ARAM I

ISABEL BAYRAKDARIAN AND FRIENDS

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ISABEL BAYRAKDARIAN, SOPRANO

ELLIE CHOATE, HARP

JILL FELBER, FLUTE

MHER MNATSAKANYAN, DUDUK

NOVEMBER 13, 2025, 8:00 PM
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Invites you to



Conversation with the Catholicos

A DIALOGUE BETWEEN

H. H. ARAM I

AND YOUNG ADULTS OF THE
ARMENIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY



ON THE OCCASION OF THE
30TH ANNIVERSARY OF
HIS ENTHRONEMENT TO THE
HOLY SEE OF CILICIA



Q&A Session Followed by Fellowship Hour

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025 | 11:00 A.M.

ST. ILLUMINATOR'S ARMENIAN CATHEDRAL
221 East 27th Street | NYC

Registration Required





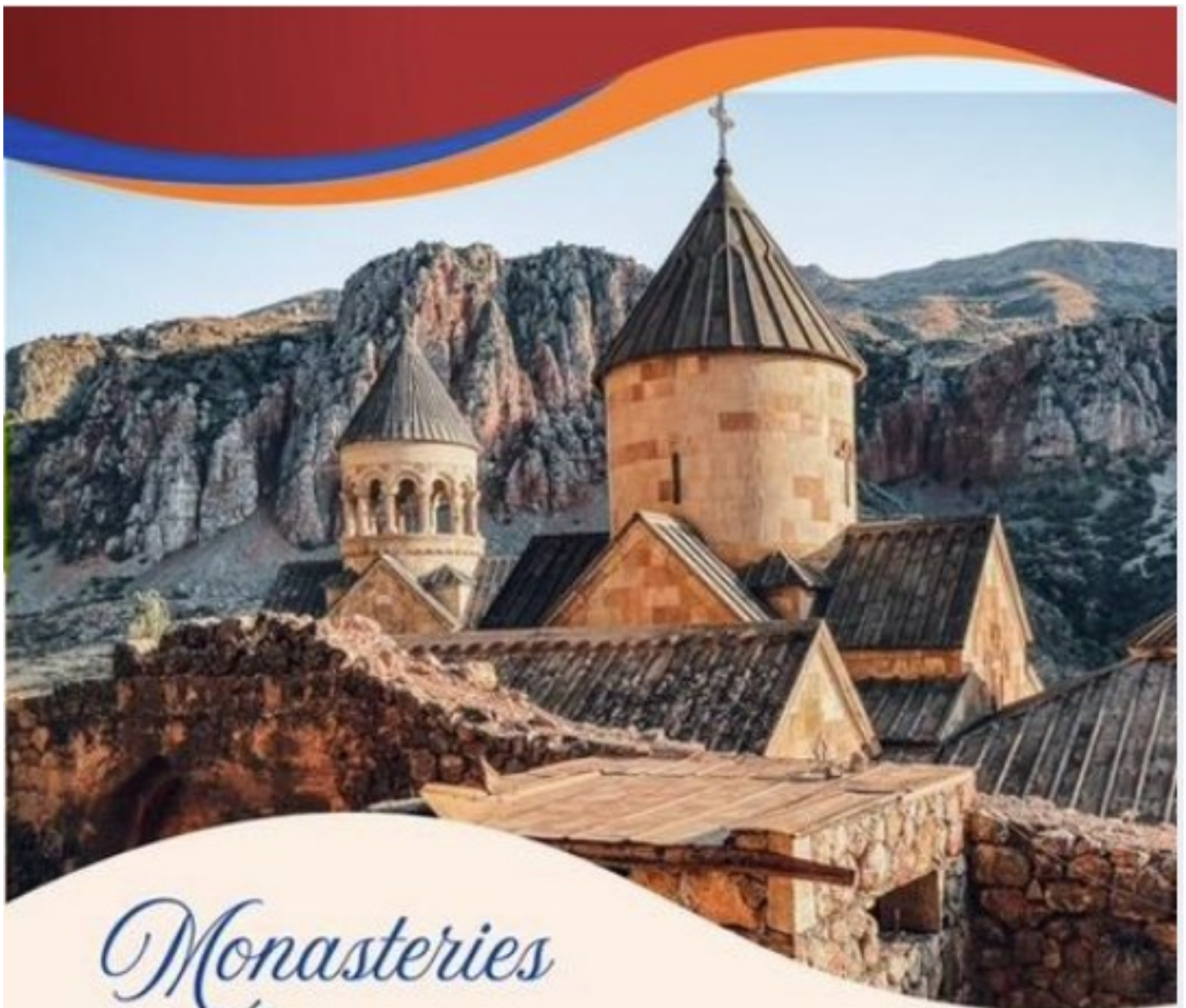
2025 Fall Testimonial Dinner & Tribute Journal

Wednesday
Dec.
03

Honoring

Brookdale Community College
Linda Milstein, EdD
McOmber McOmber & Luber

Brookdale Community College
Student Life Center



Monasteries & Churches of Armenia

A Photographic Pilgrimage by
Architect Ronald Altoon, FAIA

**Sunday
December 7th
at 12:30pm**





HAMAZKAYIN
NEW JERSEY CHAPTER'S
"LEVON SHANT" THEATER



Featuring the Play

"The Little Big Wars Of Couples"

DIRECTED BY
VARTAN GARNIKI OGANESIAN

A joyful evening around dinner tables

Saturday, December 13, 2025 - 7:30 PM - Sts. Vartanantz Church,
Large Hall

461 Bergen Blvd., Ridgefield, NJ

For tickets, please contact Tamar Chapanian - 201-450-3723
Venmo: Hamazkayinnj@gmail.com

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Կը ներկայացնէ

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Տեղի կ'ունենայ Շաբաթ, 13 Դեկտեմբեր 2025-ի երեկոյեան ժամը 7:30-ին,
Սբ. Վարդանանց Եկեղեցի - Large Hall
461 Bergen Blvd., Ridgefield, NJ

Տոմսերու համար դիմել Թամար Զափանեանին - 201-450-3723
Venmo: Hamazkayinnj@gmail.com

ԱՆՁԻ ՍՈՒՏԵՔԻ ՆՈՒԵՐ՝ \$75

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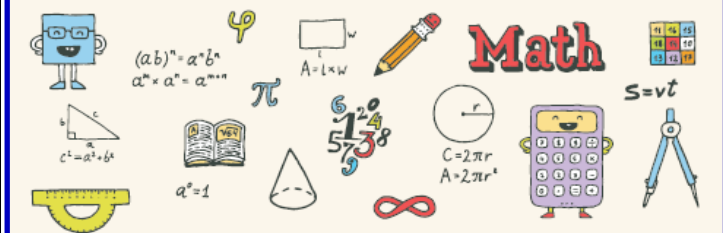
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We request that the information be sent to us two weeks in advance, so that we can serve the community better.
(Please read our policy in the [Calendar of Events](#) section)

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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