

# AGBU

ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION © SEPT. 2017



## Paving the Path to Success

*How women in Armenia and  
the Republic of Artsakh  
are shaping the future*

### **A LIFE OF SERVICE**

FORMER NAVY SECRETARY **PAUL IGNATIUS**  
REFLECTS ON HIS CAREER AND HERITAGE P.30





ESTABLISHED IN 1906

## Central Board of Directors

### President

Berge Setrakian

### Vice Presidents

Sam Simonian

Sinan Sinanian

### Treasurer

Nazareth A. Festekjian

### Assistant Treasurer

Yervant Demirjian

### Secretary

Sarkis Jebejian

### Assistant Secretary

Arda Haratunian

### Honorary Member

His Holiness Karekin II,  
Catholicos of all Armenians

### Members

#### UNITED STATES

Noubar Afeyan

Eric Esraïlian

Ani Manoukian

Lori Muncherian

Levon Nazarian

Yervant Zorian

#### ARMENIA

Armen Sarkissian

Vasken Yacoubian

#### CANADA

Lena Sarkissian

#### FRANCE

Aris Atamian

#### RUSSIA

Ruben Vardanyan

#### SWITZERLAND

Vahe Gabrache

#### UNITED KINGDOM

Arnaud Attamian

Joseph Oughourlian

### Council of Trustees

Sarkis Demirdjian

Richard Manoogian

Vatche Manoukian

Nazar Nazarian

Louise Manoogian Simone

Karnig Yacoubian

### In Memoriam

Boghos Nubar, *Founder*

Alex Manoogian, *Honorary Life President*

# Armenian General Benevolent Union

Հայկական Բարեգործական Ընդհանուր Միություն

## Mission

To preserve and promote the Armenian heritage through worldwide educational, cultural and humanitarian programs

## Annual International Budget

Forty-six million dollars (USD)

## Education

24 primary, secondary, preparatory and Saturday schools; scholarships; alternative educational resources (apps, e-books, AGBU WebTalks & more); American University of Armenia (AUA); AUA Extension—AGBU NKR Program; Armenian Virtual College (AVC); TUMO x AGBU

## Cultural, Humanitarian and Religious

*AGBU News Magazine*; the AGBU Humanitarian Emergency Relief Fund for Syrian Armenians; athletics; camps; choral groups; concerts; dance; films; lectures; library research centers; medical centers; mentorships; music competitions; publications; radio; scouts; summer internships; theater; youth trips to Armenia. **Armenia:** Holy Etchmiadzin; Arapkir, Malatya and Nork Children's Centers and Senior Dining Centers; Hye Geen Women's Centers; Sevan Theological Seminary; Ultrasound Center. **Republic of Artsakh:** Chamber Orchestra

## Districts, Chapters, Centers and Offices

**Argentina:** Buenos Aires, Córdoba; **Armenia:** Yerevan; **Artsakh:** Stepanakert; **Australia:** Melbourne, Sydney; **Austria:** Vienna; **Belgium:** Brussels; **Brazil:** São Paulo; **Bulgaria:** Sofia, Plovdiv, Burgas, Dobrich, Haskovo, Russe, Silistra, Sliven, Yambol; **Canada:** Montréal, Toronto; **Cyprus:** Larnaca, Nicosia; **Egypt:** Alexandria, Heliopolis; **Ethiopia:** Addis Ababa; **France:** Lyon, Marseille, Nice, Paris, St. Chamond-St. Étienne, Valence, Vienne; **Germany:** Hamburg; **Greece:** Athens; **Iran:** Tehran; **Iraq:** Baghdad; **Italy:** Milan; **Lebanon:** Beirut, Zahlé, Amanos, Antelias, Sin el-Fil; **The Netherlands:** Almelo; **South Africa:** Johannesburg; **Spain:** Barcelona; **Switzerland:** Geneva; **Syria:** Aleppo, Damascus, Kamishli, Kessab, Latakia, Yacoubieh; **Uruguay:** Montevideo; **UAE:** Dubai; **United Kingdom:** London; **United States:** Arizona, Boston, Canoga Park, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Fresno, Glendale, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, New York, Orange County, Pasadena, San Diego, San Fernando Valley, Silicon Valley, Washington, D.C.

## Young Professionals

**Argentina:** YP Buenos Aires; **Armenia:** YP Yerevan; **Austria:** YP Austria; **Belgium:** YP Belgium; **Brazil:** YP Brazil; **Bulgaria:** YP Sofia, YP Plovdiv; **Canada:** YP Montréal, YP Toronto; **Denmark:** YP Copenhagen; **France:** YP Lyon Rhône-Alpes, YP Marseille, YP Paris; **Germany:** HAIK (Frankfurt); **Greece:** YP Athens; **Iran:** YP Tehran; **Lebanon:** YP Lebanon; **The Netherlands:** YP Amsterdam; **Russia:** YP Moscow; **Switzerland:** YP Switzerland; **Turkey:** (UTI) Istanbul; **United Kingdom:** YP London; **United States:** YP Arizona, YP Boston, YP Chicago, YP Detroit, YP Houston, YP Los Angeles, YP Greater New York, YP Philadelphia, YP Northern California, YP Washington, D.C.



# Editorial

**T**he evolution of Armenia as an independent nation over the last quarter of a century has prompted much debate about the country's political direction, socio-economic conditions and the impact of continued conflict in the Republic of Artsakh. Largely absent from

the national conversation, however, has been any discussion of the essential role of women in helping shape the future of Armenia and contribute to its economic and social prosperity.

Armenia's traditional patriarchal society is changing. Women today account for more of the population than their male counterparts, are living longer than men, and make up the fastest growing segment of the workforce. These demographic and generational changes are reshaping cultural attitudes and stereotypes that for too long have served as a significant obstacle to female participation in the public sphere.

At the same time, women are attaining greater prominence, gradually advancing to the top ranks in government, business and healthcare, which were once the exclusive domain of men. While they remain vastly underrepresented, especially in politics and senior management positions, there are encouraging signs that the economic and political participation of Armenian women is on the rise.

In this issue of the *AGBU News Magazine*, we explore how the emergence of women in positions of senior leadership is changing society in both the Republics of Ar-

menia and Artsakh. Through the perspectives of a number of formidable women making their mark in their respective fields, we highlight their impact in breaking down barriers, overcoming cultural stereotypes and gender discrimination, while setting examples as positive role models for the next generation of women.

As part of our spotlight on the role of women, we also celebrate the success of the HALO Trust in employing courageous women to help rid Artsakh of deadly land mines. HALO Trust has made hiring local women a priority, including widows and mothers with no other sources of income. By empowering these brave women, HALO Trust is supporting their families and helping them secure the future of their communities by revitalizing land ravaged by war for farmers to once again cultivate and by helping residents to live without fear.

The past few months have also witnessed successful, fair and transparent parliamentary elections in Armenia, new hope in Aleppo, Syria as the process of rebuilding begins after a protracted six-year conflict and a worrisome, deepening divide in Turkey over its president's autocratic rule.

How these developments continue to unfold in the months ahead will have important ramifications for political stability at home and throughout the Middle East.

Lastly, from the Armenian diaspora, we look back on the extraordinary career of an American statesman who returned to his Armenian roots in an exclusive interview with former navy secretary Paul Ignatius. ■



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Setrakian', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Berge Setrakian**  
**President**

# AGBU

ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION  SEPT. 2017



Volume 27/Number 2  
[www.agbu.org](http://www.agbu.org)

## 03 Editorial

## 06 Features

### 06 Women of Artsakh

Challenging convention and changing the world around them

### 14 Making Their Voices Heard

How women leaders are raising the standard in Armenia

### 22 In Pictures: Clearing a Safe Path

How women are helping to make the Republic of Artsakh landmine-free

### 28 A Life of Service

Former navy secretary Paul Ignatius reflects on his storied career and Armenian heritage

### 32 The Seeds of Democratic Reform

Assessing the aftermath of Armenia's parliamentary elections

### 34 Rising from the Rubble

Aleppo's Armenian community turns toward the future

### 36 A Nation Divided

Turkey's referendum gives president sweeping new powers amidst ongoing crackdown on opposition

### 37 Philanthropist and Businessman Vatche Manoukian Joins AGBU Council of Trustees

## 38 Education

### 38 Cultural Currency

Showcasing the Armenian arts to diverse audiences  
*By Michael Sarian*

### 42 AGBU Scholarship Program Supports Hundreds of Students Worldwide

AGBU distributes over \$800,000 in scholarships for the 2016-2017 academic year

## 44 AGBU Donors

### 45 Zareh Demirjian: *The Armenian Hematologist with a Great Love for his Community*

### 46 Shant Mardirossian: *From Relief Programs to Internship Programs*

### 48 William Aznavourian: *The Bedrock of the Armenian Community of Providence*

### 50 Maral Ani Avakian: *A Life of Music*

## 64 AGBU News

### 64 Highlights

### 69 Young Professionals

### 71 Chapters

## 82 Bookstore

*AGBU News Magazine* is published by the Central Board of the Armenian General Benevolent Union: 55 East 59th Street, New York, NY 10022-1112. Tel: 212 319-6383 Fax: 212 319-6507/08. E-Mail: [agbuny@agbu.org](mailto:agbuny@agbu.org). POSTMASTERS: Send address changes to above. Printed in U.S.A.





## **AGBU News Magazine**

### **COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**

Lara Messerlian

### **EDITOR**

Daniel Halton

### **EDITORIAL STAFF**

Randa Akda, Anita Anserian, Alex Basmagian, Hrant Kamalyan, Vahe Kiljian, Jennifer Manoukian, Karen Papazian, Linda Ravul, Olya Yordanyan

### **ART DIRECTOR**

Levi Nicholson/Biohazard Design

---

This publication of the Armenian General Benevolent Union is mailed free of charge to members and donors of the organization. If you are not a regular contributor and wish to continue receiving the *AGBU News Magazine*, please send a minimum contribution of \$25.00 in the envelope enclosed in the issue. The *AGBU News Magazine* is circulated in twenty-eight countries around the world.

---







# Women of Artsakh

*Challenging convention and changing  
the world around them*

By **OLYA YORDANYAN**

**W**ith the outbreak of war in the early 1990s in the Republic of Artsakh, the historically shaped perception of women in traditional Armenian communities—mainly as mothers and homemakers—collapsed for good. Some women took up arms to stand alongside men during the war while others, burdened by economic hardship, took on the responsibility to provide for their families on their own.

In the aftermath of the war, restoration and development created new opportunities for women to advance in their careers. The egalitarian approach to the labor market, inherited from the Soviet Union, significantly benefitted women. According to the Republic of Artsakh's National Statistical Service, by 2015, 28,000 women—roughly 87 percent of working-age females—were employed. Over a 10-year period, the number of female senior executives jumped by 327 percent, amounting to 2,540 people, while the rate of women in senior positions in state and local government; judicial and legislative bodies; private companies; and non-governmental organizations increased by 63 percent, accounting for more than a third

Over the past several years, a growing number of female public figures have not just reached the highest levels in government, business and the arts, but excelled in the process. Their accomplishments are remarkable on their own, but even more so given how difficult it is to make inroads in industries traditionally dominated by men. They have made a positive impact not only in their respective spheres of influence but in doing so redefined what it means to be a successful woman in Artsakh.

Narine Aghabalyan, Armine Aleksanyan and Lira Kocharyan are examples of this emerging class of well-educated and highly-talented women. With their professionalism, poise and perspective, they are changing the way women are perceived in a traditionally patriarchal culture, serving as role models and empowering other women. Devoted and strong-willed, they are confident about the future of Artsakh, not mired in the past nor intimidated by the challenges created by a protracted conflict that continues to threaten the region's stability and growth.

**Narine Aghabalyan**  
Changing the cultural landscape

*“I have always tried to take jobs that I like. And I have never been satisfied with my accomplishments at work. I have always strived to achieve more.”*

of the total number of women in the workforce in the Republic of Artsakh.

Tevan Poghosyan, president of the International Center for Human Development in Yerevan, and former director of the Public Affairs Office of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic in the United States, considers the rise of female employment in the region as a predictable outcome of developments in the republic and around the world. He emphasized that women in Artsakh are active, educated and empowered, with the necessary skills to hold executive positions.

“Artsakh is now responsible for its own security and men are mainly working in defense-related jobs. This creates opportunities for women who are more willing to take office jobs and subsequently are being promoted to executive positions,” Poghosyan says.

Artsakh's vibrant and dynamic cultural life is thriving. Concerts, exhibitions and festivals regularly held in both cities and villages light up life in the republic. Minister of Culture and Youth Affairs Narine Aghabalyan, one of two female members in the government, has spearheaded the development of arts and culture in the region for the past eight years. Humble and straightforward, she does not take credit for the change in the republic's cultural landscape, insisting she is simply building upon the work of her predecessors. She attributes this transformation to the shift in the country's cultural policy on a strategic level, which mirrors the new, forward-looking agenda for long-term sustainable development.

“After the war, cultural policy reflected the needs of recovery and targeted single projects,” Aghabalyan says. “Now we are pursuing a policy aimed at the

sustainable development of culture to create a more lasting impact.” Aghabalyan aims to build and enhance local capacities with the establishment of art schools, particularly in rural areas, and proportional development of arts that have not traditionally been popular. She says this is even more important than major events with renowned Armenian and foreign artists that shine an international spotlight on the Republic of Artsakh. Preserving Artsakh's cultural identity and making it more recognizable in the world are two other top priorities. “Our identity was altered when Artsakh was part of Soviet Azerbaijan. We need to help people return to their roots and traditions by reviving our ethnic music and the arts and by making culture distinct and recognizable.”

In 2012, a decision to move the ministry from Stepanakert to the historic







city of Shushi, a well-known cultural hub in the Caucasus, played a critical role in helping to restore Artsakh's rich cultural identity. "Making Shushi the cultural center was the only way to revive the city," Aghabalyan says with pride. "I can firmly say that Shushi is the cultural capital of Artsakh." The move transformed the city—which until 2012 had visible echoes of the war. Now it is a vibrant and interesting city not only known for its architecture, but also for arts and culture that attracts a lot of visitors.

Aghabalyan points to the Artsakh State Chamber Orchestra, established with the support of AGBU, as an example of the quality and diversity in the republic's cultural life. She hopes to establish a symphonic orchestra, comprised of local musicians.

An experienced and well-known

journalist, Aghabalyan led her own media company before accepting her ministerial position in 2009. Soon she became one of the most reputable female public figures in government, devoting most of her time to work.

"People who are in politics or hold senior positions should be ready to have less personal time," she admits, stressing that her job requires a 24-hour commitment. "Culture is an exceptional field that allows me to combine work and leisure. Almost every day, I attend interesting cultural events not only to enjoy, but also to understand what to do next," she says. A war widow who lost her husband at the age of 23, Aghabalyan is grateful to her family for their support and understanding. She strives to spend every spare minute with her family and enjoy the company of her grandchild.

She credits her success to her ability

*Narine Aghabalyan, minister of culture and youth affairs of the Republic of Artsakh.*

to lead and take initiative to go above and beyond what is expected. "I have never been satisfied with my accomplishments at work. I have always strived to achieve more," she said, calling on younger women to believe in themselves and work hard on self-development and furthering their education.

## **Lira Kocharyan**

### **Creating opportunities for young people**

Lira Kocharyan possesses a unique gift for recognizing talent and nurturing success. While she is usually out of the public eye, Kocharyan is responsible for developing and managing the careers of many child performers and young artists. "Some people have a talent for com-





*Lira Kocharyan, art director and producer of the Voices of Artsakh.*

posing, acting or dancing. I have a talent for recognizing gifted children and transforming them into professional performers,” Kocharyan says. A classical pianist and a self-trained art director and producer, she not only creates opportunities for young singers but, by developing their talent, helps raise the profile of the cultural heritage of Artsakh both locally and abroad.

Kocharyan recruits children and young singers for the Voices of Artsakh ensemble, which she established in 2004. At the time, the idea was considered by many to be too risky and non-sustainable—an unnecessary luxury for a small country trapped in the urgency of post-war recovery. With a firm belief in the transformative power of music, however, Kocharyan began training children and young singers, improving their artistic skills and exposure through international competitions. She admits that her experience at the Stepanakert Music College after Sayat-Nova, first as a music teacher and later as director, was critical in advancing the ensemble. The group relied on benefactors for financial support until it began to receive public funding in 2014. “For professional singers, it is hard to make a living in Artsakh, as the market is very small,” Kocharyan says, stressing the importance of governmental support.

Now the ensemble, with a rotating staff of up to 40 singers ranging in age from as young as four to thirty-one, is popular throughout Artsakh and Armenia. Several of its soloists regularly represent Armenia in popular international song contests, including Junior Eurovision and New Wave, a song competition well known in Russia and neighboring countries. The ensemble gained more fame with Vladimir Arzumanyan’s victory at Junior Eurovision in 2010. Another popular singer, Misha, who performed during the Aurora Prize 2017 Ceremony, was chosen to represent Armenia at this year’s Junior Eurovision.

To date, performers from the region have not been allowed to represent Artsakh in international contests, with organizers fearing a furious reaction from Azerbaijan. Instead, they represent Armenia to avoid confrontation. Unfortunately, Azerbaijan’s protests limit the ensemble’s tours abroad. “Often, concert

organizers in foreign countries do not even advertise our performances to avoid possible repercussions from Azerbaijan.”

The ensemble’s repertoire is a fusion of folk, jazz, rock and popular music often staged in the style of Broadway mu-

***“Women in Artsakh are independent, active and willing to take risks. Sometimes they are even more active than men.”***

sicals that reflects Kocharyan’s artistic vision and taste. Amid training and production, she also assembles folk songs in the local dialect and gives them a second life by mixing old tunes with modern

rhythms. Many not-widely-known local folk songs, she said, might easily disappear in the future if they are not preserved. “There is no research on Artsakh’s sub-culture, especially its musical heritage,” said Kocharyan. “We are trying to revive these ethnic songs and give them a modern touch. Although we know that our work might be criticized, we need our youth to learn about and become interested in their ethnic heritage,” she adds.

A lively and energetic woman, she possesses a strong and determined character, combined with an entrepreneurial spirit and creativity, which helped convince others to believe in the importance of her work and its impact on Artsakh’s youth. Proud of the success of the Voices of Artsakh, Kocharyan admits that her gender has not created many obstacles throughout



**Above:** Misha (Michael Grigoryan) will represent Armenia at this year’s Junior Eurovision.

**Below:** The Voices of Artsakh has a vast repertoire ranging from folk songs to rock music.





her career, but it took her longer to make people believe in her work. “Both my parents held senior managerial positions and they encouraged me to study and focus on my career. Many well-educated and intellectual families did so,” she says. “Women in Artsakh are independent, active and willing to take risks. Sometimes they are even more active than men.”

## Armine Aleksanyan

### Advocate for Artsakh

Consider for a moment what it takes to be a high-ranking diplomat, then add to that the challenge of having to represent a non-recognized state on the international stage, one whose existence is the subject of decades-long conflict and debate. As the Republic of Artsakh’s deputy foreign minister, Armine Aleksanyan has embraced the challenge. She understands the constraints her position entails but at the same time is constantly seeking creative solutions to bypass its limitations.

Recognized by only three non-UN member states—South Ossetia, Abkhazia and Transnistria—the Republic of Artsakh depends heavily on its representatives in seven countries on four continents to make its voice heard. In this context it is all the more important to ensure that the Republic of Artsakh’s po-

sition is duly represented throughout international organizations in which it cannot participate.

At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Aleksanyan oversees the divisions of International Organizations and Humanitarian Co-operation, as well as Media and Public Relations, which includes assisting foreign journalists. Born in Artsakh’s Martouni region, she studied foreign languages at the Artsakh State University and continued her education in the United Kingdom, receiving a master’s of arts in diplomatic studies from the Diplomatic Academy of London at the University of Westminster in 1999. She got her start at the ministry in 2000, and was promoted to her current position in 2014. In her current senior role, she adds an essential female perspective to the decision-making process while at the same time prioritizing the dedication and professionalism of all of the staff at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

*“I am convinced that women nowadays are more empowered to make an impact anywhere they choose to work, be it politics or any other sphere.”*

As a working woman, Aleksanyan admits it can be a challenge to maintain a healthy work-life balance and have

*Armine Aleksanyan, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Artsakh.*

enough time and energy for her family. “Every society has certain stereotypes. There are certain cultural and social expectations of women and men in every society.” Nevertheless, Aleksanyan has never allowed those stereotypes to affect her professionally—she loves her job and has never stopped learning. “I am convinced that women nowadays are more empowered to make an impact anywhere they choose to work, be it in politics or any other sphere.”

Aleksanyan emphasizes the importance of receiving a high-quality education abroad. “Young people striving to develop a career in diplomacy should know how to communicate with foreigners and not be limited to the outlook formed by their upbringing in Artsakh,” Aleksanyan says. Unfortunately, the isolated status of Artsakh

contributes to more and more young people being deprived of the opportunity to acquire an education in the best universities around the world. Aleksanyan is convinced that the unrecognized status of the country should not become a hindrance for its people, preventing them from fully exercising their rights. It is a critical message that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs seeks to convey both at home and abroad: increasing the number of educated citizens able to contribute to a more protected system of human rights and democratic freedoms, will better serve peace and stability in the region.

In the capital of Stepanakert, the renowned statue of a couple adorned in traditional attire entitled *We Are Our Mountains*, proudly overlooks the city, symbolic of Artsakh’s centuries-old history and culture. As its people today strive to preserve their heritage and identity while at the same time seek to transform Artsakh into a modern, independent, and internationally-recognized nation, the work of these exceptional women and many others will leave a lasting legacy and help shape the future of Artsakh. **▲**



*Women and children celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Republic of Artsakh.*



A woman with short brown hair, wearing a white lab coat, stands in a laboratory. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. In the background, there are white cabinets, a window with two panes, and a microscope on the right side. A red level is visible on the left side of the cabinet.

# Making Their Voices Heard

*How women leaders are raising  
the standard in Armenia*

By **OLYA YORDANYAN**





Once considered one of the best health-care systems among all the Soviet republics, in the aftermath of independence Armenia suddenly found itself failing to meet the basic healthcare needs of the majority of its people. During the past decade, however, the introduction of several primary healthcare reforms, including basic healthcare coverage, modern medical equipment and more public health services, has meant that today, the state of healthcare in Armenia is steadily improving. The Armenian government is trying to address the problems with a recent focus on prevention and the better management of chronic diseases. Among the most pressing concerns, the nation still struggles to distribute its resources to rural villages, despite increased help from the Armenian diaspora.

Few people are able to afford healthcare insurance and the cost of a visit to a hospital or medical center can be a significant deterrent, especially for vulnerable elderly women, widows and mothers with many children. At the same time, a traditional cultural mentality meant that few women would openly discuss their care needs and simply preferred not to know the cause of what may have been ailing them.

Over the past decade, however, the extraordinary efforts of several visionary women and the organizations they lead are turning the tide, raising awareness and yielding remarkable results in the battle to improve healthcare outcomes for Armenian women.

### **Dr. Kristina Melikyan** Vitromed Reproductive Health Center

In a nation of less than three million people, reproductive healthcare has critical implications for the population of Armenia. One in six couples experience difficulty conceiving. Equally acute is secondary infertility, when a couple with a child or children struggle to have a second or third child. A well-documented decline in semen quality—linked to smoking, poor diet and a lack of vitamins—has furthermore compounded Armenia's reproductive health burden.

The advent of several technological developments in the field of reproductive healthcare including Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) and the ability to freeze and store eggs for later retrieval is

*Dr. Kristina Melikyan, chief doctor at Vitromed Reproductive Health Center*

helping more and more couples to experience the joy of children that they might otherwise have missed.

Such treatment, however, is difficult to access in Armenia due to the high cost, low level of public awareness and relatively low effectiveness. Fertility specialist Dr. Kristina Melikyan has devoted her career to changing that reality by working at the cutting edge of reproductive health technology while striving to make it more accessible and affordable for the public.

After three years as the Head of the Department of Reproductive Health at the Shengavit Medical Center in Yerevan, Melikyan left in 2011 to open her own clinic, Vitromed, in order to specialize in the treatment of infertility and human reproduction. "It was very hard at first, my husband and I both quit our jobs and we were not sure whether the project would work," she says. "I now know without a doubt that it was the right decision and look forward to continuing to expand our vision to help couples conceive."

Considered a leader in reproductive health in Armenia, Dr. Melikyan and her highly-trained medical staff provide a comprehensive range of services in the treatment of infertility and assisted reproductive technologies, including intrauterine insemination (IAI), in vitro fertilization (IVF), intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) and cryopreservation, as well as egg donor programs. The clinic also provides treatment for gynecological, urological and andrological diseases.

As more and more women are choosing to start a family after first establishing themselves in their careers—increasingly at age 35 and older—Dr. Melikyan strives to raise awareness of the risks associated with conception at a more advanced age. To help offer couples the best chances to conceive a healthy child and prevent birth defects, she is planning to implement a high-quality genetic screening program currently lacking in the country. "This is a very important issue in Armenia," she says. "Genetic screening is advanced in the United States and Europe and increases the chances for women to have healthy children."

With greater public awareness of the risks of having children at an advanced age, women are also increasingly choosing to assert more control over their reproduction by freezing their healthy eggs and preserving their reproductive potential when they want to conceive later in life. Vitromed is one of the few clinics in the country that not only offers such elective fertility preser-



*Medical staff at the Vitromed Reproductive Health Center in Yerevan.*

vation services, but under the expert guidance of Dr. Melikyan and her medical staff, has helped raise the standard and quality of cryopreservation in Armenia.

Although she runs her own private clinic, educating the broader public is at the heart of Dr. Melikyan's practice. She strives to change the traditional mentality that focused solely on women. The inability to conceive in as many as 30% of couples is the result of male infertility. "Previously when we were telling mothers-in-law that we would first test their sons, they were hostile to it. It was very hard to say that a man can be the source of the problem. I have had female patients who have been suffering for years and their partners have not been checked—a clinical analysis of sperm was not done." Dr. Melikyan's staff now always tests male partners

situations with compassionate humanitarian aid and assistance. While its most active period involved administering disaster relief in the aftermath of the devastating 1988 earthquake, the organization's focus has since shifted from providing strictly humanitarian aid to a broad array of development and social projects. The expanded scope of activities includes not just humanitarian aid, disaster management, first aid, population movement and search-and-rescue operations, but increasingly more social and healthcare services, efforts to address youth issues and the dissemination of humanitarian values.

As secretary general, Dr. Anna Yeghiaz-

*"I feel very happy and proud that now people from Russia, Europe and even the United States have become our patients. We have helped raise Armenia's reputation in the field of medicine."*

first as it is easier to identify if they may be the source of potential fertility problems.

With each couple Dr. Melikyan has successfully helped to conceive, her reputation as a leading Armenian expert in the field grows, attracting more patients to her clinic.

"I feel very happy and proud that now people from Russia, Europe and even the United States have become our patients," she says. "We have also raised Armenia's reputation in the field of medicine."

## **Dr. Anna Yeghiazaryan**

**Armenian Red Cross Society**

For nearly a century, the Armenian Red Cross Society (ARCS) has helped ease human suffering, responding to emergency

aryan has spent more than a decade overseeing the organization's activities and leading a large staff in both the headquarters in Yerevan and in branches throughout the country. Each year, the ARCS unites 3,000-3,500 volunteers around its mission. She works closely in a supportive capacity with almost every ministry, where her experience is widely respected. The organization, however, remains entirely independent and is led by The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, universality, independence, unity and voluntary service.

With a Ph.D. in economics and private sector experience working in a financial institution—as well as having taught at a university—Yeghiazaryan brings both

broad knowledge and expertise to the position. "I was attracted to this field because I know I can talk about problems and advance ideas that might be useful in upholding humanitarian values. And people are grateful for our work," she says.

The Armenian Red Cross Society works in all strategic areas, striving to address numerous challenges faced by the state and society. "ARCS supports the Armenian government by providing additional services where state resources are lacking. We are involved in various working groups, governmental commissions and, due to our experience, our voice is heard," she says.

ARCS manages a broad range of social and healthcare programs benefiting the most vulnerable social groups, including the elderly and children living in residential institutions. Over the past five years, the Armenian Red Cross Society has also been actively involved in coordinating several programs to assist Syrian Armenians who fled the Syrian War, providing not only humanitarian aid but also the resources for new arrivals to start businesses and integrate economically and socially.

Under Yeghiazaryan's direction, the Armenian Red Cross Society is now beginning to address women's rights issues, including the impact of violence against women,

*Dr. Anna Yeghiazaryan, secretary general of the Armenian Red Cross Society.*



which for the longest time was rarely if ever acknowledged in Armenian society. Violence against women can have many devastating consequences on women's short-term and long-term health and well-being. Studies have shown that along with the immediate physical and emotional impact, a woman's overall quality of life can be adversely affected over an entire lifetime. The consequences to individual women can, in turn, have ripple effects on society as a whole.

Currently there are very few organiza-

governmental organizations this problem cannot be solved. And we, as an organization that plays a key role with regard to human rights and humanitarian values, have a responsibility to work in this field. We cannot stay on the sidelines," she says.

The Armenian Red Cross now offers guidance to victims of violence against women on where they can access psychological, legal, social and healthcare support services. At the same time the organization is focused on prevention, and is examining

*“Without greater involvement from society and the support of non-governmental organizations [violence against women] cannot be solved... We cannot stay on the sidelines.”*

tions in Armenia with the means and resources to dedicate themselves to the prevention of violence against women. Yeghiazaryan is hoping to change that, insisting that both governmental and non-governmental organizations have a responsibility to fulfill.

“We have a big role and we find the problem is very significant. We started working on violence only recently. It has never been part of our main activities, but this is a very acute problem. Without greater involvement from society and the support of non-

other avenues to advocate for change and improve legislation.

As long as society tolerates violence against women, women in Armenia will be vulnerable. “We have not reached a level of consciousness so that women feel equal,” says Yeghiazaryan. Continually striving to improve and enhance the organization's capacity, she knows the challenge to make all women feel useful and heard. Having their opinions respected will require a greater coordinated effort, but she is confident that Armenia is making strides in the right direction.

**A**s Armenia continues to make gradual progress towards greater democratization, its people are proactively driving a grassroots revolution at the same time, tackling urgent social problems to help improve conditions and opportunities for vulnerable members of society.

At the helm of this burgeoning, organic movement is a growing number of fearless and formidable women guided by John F. Kennedy's famous call to arms: “Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.” Anahit Minassian, Maro Matosian and Marina Adulyan share a belief that lasting social change is a gradual process that starts from the ground up. Success is measured by convincing others to replace narrow-minded attitudes and cultural stereotypes with a willingness to embrace change. Every day, these women challenge gender inequality, prejudice and bigotry—the underlying causes of many social injustices—through their groundbreaking work relating to the protection of victims of domestic violence, helping disabled children and empowering youth.

## **Anahit Minassian**

### **Empowering youth via education**

Anahit Minassian has never wavered in her belief in her own ability to create change for the better. “I witnessed several social problems in Armenia and it became important for me to do something about them,” says Minassian in explaining her avid interest in non-profit work. As Executive Director of KASA Swiss Humanitarian Foundation in Armenia since 2011, she devotes herself to promoting quality youth development and fostering youth engagement. Despite daunting challenges, underfunding, and a general lack of resources, Minassian takes pride in knowing that even by changing one person's perspective through education, she is contributing to meaningful change. “We aim to awaken civic consciousness and make young people understand that they are also responsible for developments in our country,” she says.

With vast expertise in youth work and development, Minassian helped transform KASA's philanthropic philosophy from providing humanitarian aid to empowering various vulnerable groups, including refugees from Syria and families in Armenia's remote regions, to build their own vocational skills in order to make a living on their own. The organization's cultural and







social development centers in Yerevan and Gyumri provide a diverse array of educational programs for children and youth, including social and material assistance to families in need, after-school activities for children and teenagers, and scholarships for students. KASA is also well known for its innovative social integration programs for Syrian Armenians and other displaced people living in Armenia.

Minassian considers education the most powerful tool to nurture young people's civic consciousness and a culture of democracy. "People who volunteer with us for a few years change drastically," she says. "They start understanding the complexity of social change and their role in it."

KASA focuses on e-learning and alternative education projects to enhance young people's soft skills.

In addition to offering numerous training programs, KASA's 12 youth clubs in Yerevan and Gyumri offer a platform for teenagers and young people to engage in direct conversations about social problems. They are encouraged to find possible solutions to particular issues. To date, more than

19,000 young people across the country have attended and benefited from KASA's programs. "We should prompt change through young people and give them an opportunity to do so. They have the power and desire to create change and social transformation," says Minassian.

***"We live in a conservative society and, as women, we have limited tools to work with men. I shouldn't have to be a man to be taken seriously."***

As part of that transformation, Minassian believes that both men and women should be equally involved in determining the future of the country and need empowerment in different forms. "Women certainly need more avenues to participate in decision-making processes. To do so, some of the social norms have to be challenged.

*Anahit Minassian, director of the KASA Foundation in Armenia, is a leading expert on local, national and international youth work and policy.*

We live in a conservative society and as women, we have limited tools to work with men. I shouldn't have to be a man to be taken seriously. At the same time, quality educational programs need to be designed to empower both young women *and* men and prepare them for a healthy dialogue both in private and social life."

As a dynamic, influential female leader and role model, Minassian is helping to change that reality through education. She is confident that increasingly more women can overcome stereotypical attitudes through their professionalism, and contribute to the sustainable development of their nation.

## **Maro Matosian**

**Helping women resist abuse**

The devastating impact of domestic violence is felt in every nation in the world. It

transcends borders, culture, ethnicity, religion, and socio-economic status. According to a global study by the Women's Health Organization, 35 percent of women worldwide have experienced some form of either physical and/or sexual intimate partner or non-partner violence.

In Armenia, the disturbing reality of domestic abuse is only now becoming accepted and openly talked about, having long been a cultural taboo to which the patriarchal society turned a blind eye. That

*“When women come to our center we empower them to take decisions they were banned from making. Societies that value women, their skills and mental abilities, thrive.”*

taboo was broken when a number of non-profit organizations started helping abused women and began using the media to bring the issue to the fore of public consciousness. “It causes so much damage and can ruin a society from within,” says Maro Matosian, founder and executive director of the Women's Support Center (WSC) in Yerevan. “Abused women are usually not capable of taking care of their children and need help themselves to walk out of an abusive relationship.”

Matosian founded the Women's Support Center in 2010, one of the only organizations in Armenia dedicated to the prevention of domestic violence through the protection and empowerment of victims, rehabilitation of family members and education on gender equality and domestic violence and its consequences. The staff diligently works with each victim and their families to provide holistic healing and support, including shelter, healthcare, psychological counseling, and emotional and physical therapy in order to best position them for a brighter future.

“When women come to our center we empower them to take decisions they were banned from making,” Matosian says, referring to the behavior of offenders who put psychological pressure on their partners to limit their independence and break their confidence.

The WSC's success has been nothing short of remarkable. In 2016, it received 1,064 calls to its hotline—up 50 percent from the year before, along with more than 327 walk-ins. More than 80 percent of victims helped by the center reported living free from abuse in a one year follow up,

while 63 percent reported they are employed and have since gained financial independence.

The WSC not only actively assists and empowers victims of domestic violence but also serves as an advocate for the defense of women's rights in Armenia. In a speech delivered to the Armenian International Women's Association in 2016, Matosian remarked that “Today with the majority of the population in Armenia being women we cannot afford to not use

women's potential to advance our country. For this we have to raise our voices and demand that women are treated with respect and break away from stereotypes that demean and belittle women to reinforce sexism and male dominance.”

Armenia, however, still lacks any comprehensive legislation that criminalizes domestic violence or includes provisions to protect victims. The critical gap reinforces the culture of impunity that prevents women from speaking out against abuse. Matosian is convinced that the

adoption of a law targeting domestic violence would have an immediate impact on reducing abuse, enabling institutions to respond more effectively to the needs of battered women and their children, and making women feel more protected at the institutional level. “Currently police do not have many tools to act,” says Matosian, wthough she adds that police and other law enforcement bodies now acknowledge the problem and are more willing to cooperate with the center.

Helping to transform victims of abuse into empowered women in charge of their lives motivates and inspires Matosian to continue working despite the emotional and psychological difficulty of dealing with cases of abuse every day. “Societies that value women, their skills and mental abilities thrive.”

## **Marina Adulyan**

### **Returning abandoned children to families**

In 2014, a heartbreaking social media post changed Marina Adulyan's life forever. Reading the story about a baby boy named Raphael, born without limbs and subsequently abandoned by his family because of his disability, Adulyan knew she had to help. Together with a group of Armenian

*Maro Matosian, executive director of the Women's Support Center in Yerevan.*





*Marina Adulyan, director and co-founder of Bari Mama.*

mothers, they compassionately decided to care for Raphael themselves and return him to his family.

The desire to help one child evolved into Bari Mama (Kind Mother), a grassroots movement of mothers whose mission is to ensure that every child is raised in a family. A year later, Bari Mama developed into a non-profit organization with 15 volunteers and approximately 7,500 supporters worldwide. The organization's first priority is to make sure that no child is ever abandoned and therefore it strives to identify mothers who fall into the high-risk group for known or potential birth defects in children and to subsequently work with them to ensure they are ready for the possible challenges and understand what to expect.

Until recently, abandonment due to in-birth disability was a common occurrence. In 2016, 35 newborn babies were abandoned because of their birth defects. The babies were sent to one of three state-run specialized orphanages, home to 460 children with special needs that make up 5.6 percent of disabled children across the country.

When the joy of the birth vanishes with the news of disability some parents face the what-to-do question, intimidated by a lack of knowledge, prevailing stigma and pressure from in-laws. This is when Bari Mama's volunteers step in. "Within the past three years fewer women have abandoned their children with disabilities," notes Adulyan. "We had a

huge role in this." To date Bari Mama has successfully made sure approximately 85 children have either not been abandoned in the first place or have been returned to and accepted by their families.

When Bari Mama's volunteers and supporters learn that a baby with special needs has been born, they rush to hospitals or orphanages with the goal of simply talking to parents, explaining that it is possible to raise a child with special needs in the family. A recent survey by Human Rights Watch entitled "When Will I Get to Go

events and other activities informing potential parents about the importance of having children in need of their love and affection remain in the family. For orphaned children under Bari Mama's care, until they are placed into families, volunteers organize fun activities and ensure that the children have everything they need for their well-being, including food and clothing. The organization also aims to encourage child adoption in general

***"Within the past three years fewer and fewer women chose to abandon their children with disabilities, thanks in large part to our efforts."***

Home? Abuses and Discrimination against Children in Institutions and Lack of Access to Quality Inclusive Education in Armenia," found that a lack of availability and access to rehabilitation and education services within communities—together with economic hardship—impacts a family's decision to abandon their children. Although orphanages in Armenia are fully equipped to care for disabled children, Adulyan is convinced that these children above all need the love and warmth of their parents to thrive.

To help fulfill its mission, Bari Mama holds public awareness campaigns, charity

and particularly the adoption of children abandoned due to health problems or innate disabilities.

A busy lecturer at Yerevan State University and a mother of two, Adulyan admits that overseeing Bari Mama is both emotionally draining and incredibly rewarding. "I consider myself a mother with many children as I know the problems and dreams of all the disabled children in orphanages," Adulyan says, admitting she becomes attached to every child. She is encouraged to continue expanding Bari Mama knowing it has a real impact on helping to make sure children grow up in their families. ■



# SUBSCRIBE NOW



**Yes**, I want to subscribe to the *AGBU News Magazine* and *The Insider*.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP/POSTAL

COUNTRY

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

VISA

MASTERCARD

AMEX

CARDHOLDER'S NAME

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRY

PLEASE SEND TO

**Armenian General Benevolent Union  
55 East 59th Street, 7th Floor  
New York, NY 10022, USA**

The publications of the Armenian General Benevolent Union are mailed free of charge to members and donors of the organization. If you are not a regular contributor and wish to continue receiving the *AGBU News Magazine*, please send a minimum contribution of \$25.







# Clearing a Safe Path

*How women are helping to make the Republic of Artsakh landmine-free*

Photographs by **ARMINE VANYAN**

**F**or more than two decades, Armenians in the Republic of Artsakh have been haunted by a hidden danger in the soil of the remote countryside and fertile farmlands. The small landlocked territory is home to the highest per capita incidence of landmine accidents in the world. One out of every 100 families has been affected by either death or injury from landmines and unexploded ordnance. The deadly remnants of war with Azerbaijan have claimed the lives of 370 people. One third of the victims have been children.

For families living in rural border villages, the threat of suffering a debilitating injury and death is a harsh reality that is compounded by a limited potential for income as the presence of landmines hinder agricultural and family businesses.

Over the past several years, however, one remarkable organization has helped change that reality. The HALO Trust (HALO) is a UK-based NGO, leading the effort to save lives and rebuild communities threatened by landmines. Currently working in nineteen countries and territories around the world, the HALO Trust is widely respected as a leader in the landmine clearance sector.

Since 2000 HALO has been the sole humanitarian agency in the region safely removing landmines and other unexploded ordnance. It is a particularly challenging environment in which to operate both politically and financially due to the Republic's disputed status. Minefield maps for the most part are not available, making it difficult for survey teams to capture the

extent of landmine contamination. Despite the challenges, however, dedicated staff have to date successfully cleared more than 446 minefields, located and destroyed more than 11,200 landmines and 25,300 cluster munitions and other items of unexploded ordnance. In all, more than 300 square kilometers of land accounting for 90 percent of all the known minefields in the region have been safely cleared.

By revitalizing land ravaged by war, the organization is providing renewed economic opportunity for impoverished communities. As the organization notes on its website, its work has “allowed roads, schools and housing to be built, water pipes to be laid, fields to be cultivated, livestock to be safely grazed and people to go about their daily business without fear.” In so doing, HALO has directly and indirectly improved the lives of more than 125,000 Armenians, providing a critical economic boost to rural Artsakh.

HALO Trust is one of the largest, if not the largest civilian employer in the region, with more than 200 national staff members. The organization prides itself on providing work to those who need it most. Among its workforce, ten percent are women, including widows or daughters of widows without a source of income. The goal is to double that number in the coming year, knowing that by employing these women, HALO is empowering them to support their families and help them secure the future of their communities. “There is no reason for women not to be employed as deminers if they are willing, especially as they make up half of the available population,” says Ash Boddy, HALO's Regional Director of Nagorno Karabakh and Kosovo. “These women have proven themselves to be as motivated, capable, and committed to ridding their country of its mine problem as their male counterparts.”

Working for HALO has been a long-standing dream for Narine, a mother of six children. “I'd always had that wish. But there were no female deminers back then,”

she says. “I love my job, and I am extremely grateful for the donors because they're not just helping our communities, but also providing training and jobs for many local people here.”

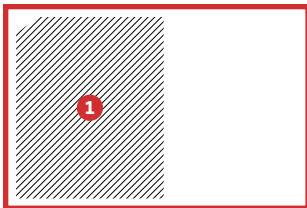
Varditer lives in Stepanakert with her 16-year-old son and eight-year-old daughter. When she discovered HALO was recruiting female deminers, she immediately applied. “We couldn't even think that it is possible for a woman to work in that sphere, but because the salary was better than what we were making in the city, we came to the conclusion that if a man can do it, why can't a woman?”

She can now afford to pay for rent and utilities, as well as take care of her children, but it is the responsibility she finds most rewarding. “I just love using the detectors, especially the Minelab,” she says. “I like the feeling of having to focus and search for signals. I think it's exciting.”

The opportunity to work has also instilled a sense of pride in 24-year-old Varduhi. “I have achieved a lot through this job. I took care of many things, helping my brothers and sisters, and ensuring that our family survived. Now I am free. I go to work and come back on my own. I walk as I please; I go as I please—for myself.”

These courageous women now share a newfound destiny and dignity, providing for their children and family members while helping to restore the livelihood of Artsakh's rural communities. As a result of their persistent efforts, and with the generous support of partners including USAID and private donors from the global Armenian diaspora and others from around the world, the HALO Trust is well on its way to achieving its landmark goal to make the Republic of Artsakh landmine free by 2020. By removing this deadly legacy of the war, the people of Artsakh will be able to safely embark on a new path of economic growth and development.

For more information about the HALO Trust and how you can donate to the campaign to make NKR landmine-free by 2020, visit [www.HALOTrust.org](http://www.HALOTrust.org). ■

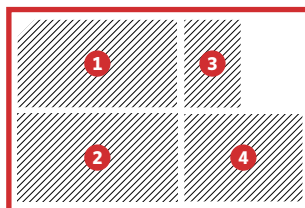


1. A deminer scans the ground with a metal detector.





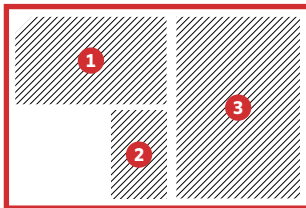




**1.** A deminer in the Republic of Artsakh uncovers a mine. **2.** First aid skills of the personnel are tested during an emergency simulation. **3.** Mine clearing hand tools. **4.** Workers discuss demining operations







1. An uncovered anti-tank mine.
2. A sign warning people not to enter the minefield in the Republic of Artsakh.
3. HALO's female deminers.







Sirun Ohanyan



Alvina Avanyan



Venera Hayrapetyan



Zemfira Sarkisyan



Lusine V. Asryan



Kristine Khachatryan



Varditer Sahakyan



Narine Asatryan



Inga Avanesyan







# A Life of Service

*Former navy secretary Paul Ignatius reflects on his storied career and Armenian heritage*

*Interview by* **DANIEL HALTON**

**A**t 96 years of age, Paul Ignatius is an active great-grandfather whose memory is as outstanding as his stellar career. A commissioned lieutenant in the U.S. Navy in World War II, Ignatius served for eight years in the presidential administrations of John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson, first as assistant secretary of the Army, then as Under Secretary of the Army and Assistant Secretary of Defense, and finally in 1967 as secretary of the Navy. He is the recipient of the Army Distinguished Civilian Service Award, the Navy Distinguished Public Service Award, and the Department of Defense Distinguished Public Service Award.

Born on November 11, 1920, in Glendale, California, Ignatius is the son of Armenian parents who migrated to the United States, Elisa (née Jamgochian) and Hovsep “Joseph” B. Ignatius (original last name—Ignatiosian).

Ignatius received his bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California and his MBA degree from Harvard Business School in Boston, where he founded Harbridge House, Inc., a management consulting and research firm.

Following his government service, Ignatius became president of *The Washington Post* for two years and pres-

ident of the Air Transport Association for 15 years. A trustee of the George C. Marshall Foundation and member of the Federal City Council and the Washington Institute of Foreign Affairs, he has also authored two books: *On Board: My Life in the Navy, Government, and Business* (Naval Institute Press, 2006) and *Now I Know in Part: Stories of My Growing Up* (Armenian Literary Press, 2000), a vivid memoir recounting his Armenian family history, childhood in Glendale, military service and more.

Currently living in Washington, D.C. with his wife Nancy, Ignatius spends his time serving on the boards of charitable organizations that benefit disadvantaged youth and enjoys visiting family in New England. Among his four children, David Ignatius is an associate editor and columnist for *The Washington Post*, as well as a novelist; Adi Ignatius is Chief Editor of the *Harvard Business Review*; Sarah Ignatius is the Executive Director of the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR), while Amy Ignatius is a Carroll County Superior Court Judge in New Hampshire. Together there are nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

**Q** On April 8, 2017, your highly distinguished record of public service was recognized by the Navy with a special ceremony to christen the *USS Paul Ignatius*, the Navy's newest Arleigh Burke class guided-missile destroyer named in

*Former US Secretary of the navy Paul Ignatius in 2017 during a christening ceremony for the future USS Paul Ignatius.*



your honor. What did it mean to you to be recognized in this special manner by the Navy?

**A** I was really surprised and quite overwhelmed when the Secretary of the Navy first told me he would name a destroyer in my honor. But it's hard for me to express the emotions I experienced this April when the ship was christened. My wife, children and many of our friends attended the wonderful two-day celebration. I was thrilled to be honored and I am very grateful because the Navy meant a lot to me during the war. It was a very important period of development, coming of age and accepting responsibility. During the ceremony my wife Nancy broke the bottle of champagne over the bow of the ship so it was a big thrill.

**Q** You served as Assistant Secretary of Defense and Secretary of the Navy during a critical and controversial chapter in American history. Looking back today, what do you remember most?

**A** This was a period where there was a great deal of controversy over the Vietnam War. At home, there was tension in the family as my children and my wife all thought the war was a bad idea. My children wondered how papa could be a good guy but then be involved in the war? They thought the policy of United States at the time was wrong and while I disagreed, I am proud that my children were thinking for themselves. I had colleagues whose family relationships suffered but we survived it.

One experience that I will never forget as Secretary of the Navy, I gave a speech in San Diego and in the audience was a retired Captain of the ship aboard which I served during WWII, a small aircraft carrier, the USS Manila Bay, which came under attack by two planes flown by kamikaze pilots—one plunged through the flight deck and exploded. During my speech, I asked the Captain, Fitzhugh Lee to stand and told the audience what a great man he was, how he had saved our ship through courage and foresight, while the crew put the fires out before they consumed the aviation gas and the ordnance. Well I am sure the last thing he ever imagined was that this young lieutenant he knew would become the Secretary of the Navy one day. It was a great experience for me to acknowledge his leadership and one I particularly treasure.

**Q** In your memoir *Now I Know in Part*, you chronicle your Armenian family history and life against the backdrop of America growing up in Glendale, California. Why was it important to you to explore your Armenian heritage and write about it?

**A** I treasure my Armenian identity and background. I led a typical American life in my youth growing up in an ordinary town, spoke English at home and attended public schools mainly like every other kid on my block. The only other kids in my high school from an Armenian home were my brother and sister. My father though had a foot in both the Armenian community and American business community. He was a person with great talents and well respected in many different circles and as a child I was fortunate to be introduced to my parents' friends including many talented and celebrated Armenians such as William Saroyan and his uncle Aram. So at the same time while I grew up in an American environment, I was baptized in the Armenian church in Los Angeles and I met wonderful Armenian friends of my father and grandfather's extended family and celebrated many warm, festive occasions. Compared to other kids next door, I felt I was fortunate to have this special Armenian heritage and that meant a lot to me.

**Q** You became more interested in your Armenian heritage later in life, why?

**A** When you are younger and growing up, you are more interested in yourself than your parents and what they may have done, and I probably did not want to seem different from my classmates so yes it was only in my later life that I became interested in Armenian affairs. I began reading widely about Armenian history. I also had more leisure to think about these things later in life. Now I look with a different eye on my heritage. I have come to believe that I am a more interesting person, to myself and to others, because of this background.

In addition to writing the memoir, I took a trip of a lifetime with two of my children in 2006 to both the Republic of Armenia and historic Armenia. We visited my family's ancestral home in Kharpert, now Harput in eastern Turkey. It was a wonderful experience of many emotions but also sad, leaving you with a vacant feeling seeing how the churches, missionary college and everything else

was destroyed. One had the feeling of what a wonderful place it must have once been with its soaring mountains and beautiful valleys.

More recently, I was also a headline speaker at the Genocide Centennial Banquet in Washington, D.C. and have expressed my views about the necessity of looking ahead toward an eventual reconciliation that would see the restoration of church property and Armenian monuments.

**Q** You also have a very significant family connection to AGBU?

**A** Yes my grandfather Avedis Jamgochian started the first branch of AGBU in Manchester, England, one year after its founding in Cairo in 1906. My grandfather was born in Agin, near Kharpert, and studied at Euphrates College. He left Agin in 1892 after getting in trouble with the Ottoman authorities for writing poetry espousing freedom and moved to Manchester. He served as the treasurer along with four or five other very prominent members. He left in 1911 though because he never liked the Manchester climate and had visited California the year prior and found it welcoming, so moved to California and settled in Glendale long before there was an Armenian community. Now Glendale has become Yerevan West.

**Q** You have kept quite busy in your retirement serving on the board of several foundations and are also actively involved in a number of charitable non-profit initiatives. Why is it important for you to give back?

**A** First I personally benefited from the wonderful opportunities that exist here for Americans, but secondly in Washington there is great affluence but also a lot of poverty. I was president twice of a group (Washington Tennis and Education Foundation) that successfully helps low-income African Americans stay in high school and continue their education in college. I was also the chairman of the St. Alban's School of Public Service, encouraging young people to consider careers in government. I found that very rewarding working with committed people trying to do good in the world. I believe we all need to be active in a community and contribute to the overall interests of the community. **M**

**Now I Know in Part is currently available at the [AGBUbookstore.com](http://AGBUbookstore.com).**

# AGBU TOGETHER WE CAN SAVE LIVES

ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION

## HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND FOR SYRIAN ARMENIANS

### We need your help now more than ever

to continue to deliver emergency aid in war-torn Syria and to provide relief programs to those who face new hardships as they restart their lives abroad.

**Together we can help save lives  
Please give generously**

*This devastating war has killed close to 500,000 people, uprooted millions of families, and affected over 90,000 Armenians. Ancient cities like Aleppo are in ruins, and thousands of schools, businesses, hospitals, and churches have been destroyed.*

Your donation will be put to work right away to offer **immediate relief to tens of thousands of Syrian Armenians.**

### HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY



#### ONLINE

Donate today at [donate.agbu.org](http://donate.agbu.org)



#### PHONE

1-855-AID-AGBU  
(1-855-243-2428)

Mon - Fri  
9am - 5pm EST



#### MAIL

AGBU  
55 East 59<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10022

Check payable to AGBU



#### WIRE TRANSFER

Email  
[agbuny@agbu.org](mailto:agbuny@agbu.org)  
for instructions

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

#### IN SYRIA



**\$45** provides clean drinking water to a family for 1 month



**\$1,500** covers 5 families' electricity bill for 1 year



**\$120** feeds 1 family of 4 for 1 month



**\$2,500** provides stipends to widows & orphans of war



**\$600** provides milk to 2 children for 6 months



**\$4,000+** funds an emergency heart operation

#### IN ARMENIA



**\$5,000** helps cover the cost of tuition for 4 Syrian Armenians enrolled at university

### YOUR IMPACT TO DATE



Emergency aid provided to **nearly 5,000 people** on regular basis



Financial support covers **exorbitant electricity fees**



**40,000+** food baskets distributed to Syrian Armenian families in need



AGBU schools remain open and full scholarships are offered to any Armenian student



AGBU schools and centers coordinate distribution of food, clean drinking water, butane gas, generators, blankets, medicine and winter supplies



Financial relief to widows and orphans of war



The elderly, sick and wounded receive home deliveries



Significant funds were allocated to rebuild homes damaged in the Nor Kyugh district of Aleppo





# The Seeds of Democratic Reform

*Assessing the aftermath of Armenia's parliamentary elections*

**F**ive months after President Serzh Sargsyan's ruling Republican Party won a majority of seats in Armenia's parliamentary elections, what has changed for the state of Armenian democracy and what are the implications for the transition of power in 2018? While it may be too early still to reach any definitive conclusions, there are solid grounds for optimism.

April's elections may not have elicited great public interest, but the result was no less extraordinary, not so much for what transpired as for what did not. For the first time in recent memory, the opposition did not contest the results nor call for public protests. Instead, the unprecedented elections—the first under a new constitution which will see Parliament, and not voters, elect the next president in 2018—unfolded in a remarkably calm and uneventful manner. A substantial total of 1.58 million eligible voters cast their ballots, 61 percent of the electorate, to elect a Parliament that replaces the president as Armenia's highest political authority.

While not without some controversy, including a few reports of political pressure on public servants in schools and hospitals and other irregularities, the vote was widely hailed as reflecting the will of the Armenian people. For a nation whose previous recent elections have been highly contested and marred by allegations of fraud, vote buying and voter intimidation, April's results were considered the most credible in recent history, marking a significant step on a new more progressive path for Armenia.

In its final report released July 10, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights concluded that fundamental freedoms were generally respected and candidates were able to campaign without restrictions. OSCE observers stressed that overall the election was well organized while the basic rights and freedoms of citizens were protected. In addition, the report praised the recent legal reforms, improved accuracy of

voter lists and the application of new technology to prevent fraud, including the installation of 1,500 live-streaming webcams in polling stations and electronic voter authentication devices with fingerprint recognition software paid for by the European Union and the United States.

The Head of the Delegation from the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Liliane Maury Pasquier, similarly lauded Armenia's electoral progress. "There is little doubt that, since the last time the citizens of Armenia voted, efforts have been made, including through logistical improvements, to raise the quality of the electoral process. The authorities should be praised for working to inform the electorate of this new, quite complex, electoral legislation," she stated.

The parliamentary elections witnessed unprecedented levels of support and coordination from international monitoring groups, local civic activists and diaspora Armenians including celebrities such as Serj Tankian, Atom Egoyan and Arsinée

*The electoral result facilitates a continued political role for current President Serzh Sargsyan after his term expires in 2018.*

Khanjian—all of whom helped ensure a smooth voting process in more than 2,000 polling stations. The large number of both international and local observers, along with the better than expected voter turnout, was a positive reflection that Armenian society is beginning to take greater responsibility of the political process and view elections as a means of achieving change in Armenia as opposed to a closed political contest far removed from the lives of ordinary Armenian citizens.

As a result of recent landmark electoral reforms, the make-up of the new Armenian parliament is also more representative, consisting of four parties. The ruling Republican Party, with 58 deputies, Bloc Tsarukyan with 31 MPs, Bloc Yelk with nine members and Dashnaktsutyun with five deputies. As mandated under Armenia's new electoral criteria, Armenia's Kurdish, Yezidi, Assyrian and Russian national minority communities are also represented in the new Parliament with three members among the Republican Party and one with the Bloc Tsarukyan.

### **2018 and beyond?**

As Armenia transitions from a presidential to a parliamentary political system, the mandate of the president has been substantially reduced. The next president will now be chosen by parliament for a seven-year term with no possibility of re-election. However, the victory of the Republican Party—at the helm of government since 1999—guarantees its hold on power in the coming years.

The electoral result also facilitates a continued political role for current President Serzh Sargsyan after his term expires in 2018. Many critics have already widely interpreted the political reforms as an attempt by President Sargsyan to avoid relinquishing executive power. Despite repeated denials, the 63-year-old Armenian leader has refused to shed light on his political future, insisting that there is a lot of time left before his mandate runs out in April 2018. In a recent interview Sargsyan stated that “Armenia no longer has a person-centered government, and I think our people deserve credit for that.” At the same time he did not rule out the possibility of a new role in government either as prime minister or chairman of the party. And with his party's electoral success, he

has the option of avoiding an early political retirement. The power struggle within the party will now become the main focus of attention, shaping the trajectory of the country's leadership and development for the next five years.

The intrigue surrounding President Serzh Sargsyan's political future has overshadowed other implications of April's parliamentary elections and the ongoing transition from a presidential to a parliamentary model. Of particular note is the future of Armenia's international allegiances. To what extent will the parliament, with its much greater role in formulating the country's foreign policy, remain committed to Armenia's strategic alli-

also be influenced by the current economic situation. A rapid rise in the cost of food compounded by low salaries and fixed pensions is a recipe for social unrest and could spark another cycle of intense protests and a violent police crackdown.

While the political model may have successfully changed, until the people wielding power in Parliament are replaced, the prospects of real democratic change and increased public influence on policymaking will be limited. “The peaceful transition of power from one party to another is the cornerstone of democracy and pluralism, but the past 25 years is a very small amount of time in the lifespan of historical

*‘April’s election results were considered the most credible in recent history, marking a significant step on a new more progressive path for Armenia.’*

ance with Russia? Or will the success of the parliamentary elections continue to create new opportunities for greater cooperation with Europe, including the newly negotiated Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement?

Despite the potential for greater democratization set forth by April's parliamentary elections, more steps are needed to completely remove long-standing doubts about the reliability and integrity of Armenia's electoral process. The consolidation of Armenia's democratic amendments could

change,” remarked Director of the Caucasus Institute Alexander Iskandaryan. “It may take decades before Armenia can truly establish that political culture.”

Democratic change cannot be achieved by electoral reforms and party-building alone. It will require everyday changes not only from politicians but all levels of Armenian society. A more effective approach would be to also focus on the underlying conditions that allow democracies to flourish—greater access to education, improved healthcare and economic growth. Over the next five years, the new parliament will be challenged to deliver results. Armenians and the opposition party they elected must continue to hold the government accountable. **■**

*For the first time in recent memory, the opposition did not cry foul, question the results or call for public protests.*





# Rising from the Rubble

*Aleppo's Armenian community turns toward the future*

By **DANIEL HALTON**

**A**fter six years of war, bombings and bloodshed, Aleppo has returned to a state of relative peace. Entire neighborhoods reduced to rubble—heaps of twisted metal and broken concrete—are slowly rising from the ashes. And a spirit of hopefulness has replaced despair as Syrians in Aleppo, commonly known as the Jewel of Syria, transition from survival mode to rebuilding and rehabilitation.

While tension and uncertainty remain, throughout Aleppo and other cities home to large Armenian communities, including Damascus, Homs, Latakia, Kessab and Kamishli, a sense of stability and calm is being experienced for the first time since the conflict began in 2011. Among the tens of thousands of Syrian Armenians internally displaced or forced to flee the country altogether, a very small number are gradually returning to their homes, many damaged or looted in their absence.

The devastated city is still faced with a dire humanitarian crisis and many residents live day-to-day, scraping by on charitable donations and salaries worth a fraction of their pre-war value. The guns may be silent



*According to estimates from the United Nations, International Monetary Fund and World Bank, Syria will need \$200 billion to reach its pre-war GDP.*

but humanitarian aid is still badly needed at least for the next six months, estimates AGBU Syria chairman Nerses Nersoyan. “Our community is still suffering in every respect,” he says. “As the last six years of war resulted in widespread poverty and unemployment, along with the destruction of homes and pain of families who lost loved ones or were wounded amidst the shelling.”

Parallel to the humanitarian aid, AGBU

and other international, governmental and local organizations are beginning to plan for the post-conflict phase, prioritizing reconstruction and rehabilitation. Together with the Syrian Armenian Committee for Urgent Relief and Rehabilitation and other partners, AGBU has helped more than 500 residents repair damage to their homes while providing life-saving medical assistance, financial aid, food, electricity, heating and basic necessities to 1,200 Syrian-Armenian families.

As part of its efforts to revitalize the community, AGBU is now providing medium-term loans to help those in need





re-start their small businesses or rebuild their shops that were damaged in order to help members of the community support their families once again.

Aleppo's stores and walls are not all that need rehabilitation. One of the most important concerns for AGBU is the much more difficult to assess long-term psychological scars the war has left on the members of the community, especially children who witnessed the brutality of war or suffered injuries themselves. In preparation for the fall return to classes at the AGBU Lazar Najarian-Calouste Gulbenkian School, the organization has hired a full-

time psychologist as a teacher who will devote herself to helping students emotionally process and cope with the aftermath of the conflict. In order to help Armenian children regain a sense of normalcy they last experienced six years ago before the war, AGBU Syria is furthermore planning to launch several cultural and sporting activities in the coming months, including a one-week camp for 250 AGBU-AYA boy scouts and high school students in Kessab.

"We sincerely hope Armenian communities in the diaspora will heed the call for continued assistance," urged Nersoyan in

an appeal to Armenians around the globe, "to help AGBU Syria succeed in accomplishing these projects that will ensure a healthy and productive Armenian community in Syria thrives once again after so many years of suffering."

As Aleppo's Armenian community re-emerges from the shadows of war to rebuild, let there be no doubt the same entrepreneurial mentality passed down over centuries, that once transformed Aleppo into the economic engine of a nation, and over the past six years helped a community survive with very little support, will never be extinguished. **A**





# A Nation Divided

*Turkey's referendum gives president sweeping new powers amidst ongoing crackdown on opposition*

Once upheld as a model of secular democracy in the Islamic world, Turkey today bears little resemblance to its former state. Under the increasingly autocratic rule of its president, mass detentions, persecution of minorities and the suspension of civil rights continue unabated more than a year after a failed coup led to a far-reaching crackdown on political opposition and ongoing state of emergency. Any remaining hope that Turkey would eventually return to the path of democracy disappeared following April's controversial referendum authorizing sweeping new executive powers at the expense of the parliament. The result is that the nation is more divided than ever while the economy continues to suffer the impact of diminished foreign investment and tourism.

Over the past twelve months, the government has detained without formal indictments 50,000 people suspected of ties to the failed coup and has fired or suspended more than three times as many civil service and private sector employees. Among those imprisoned in the purge are hundreds of judges, journalists and even senior opposition lawmakers,

such as the leader of the pro-Kurdish People's Democratic Party (HDP) who was accused of having ties to terrorist organizations. Since then other members of the party have been repeatedly harassed, including outspoken human rights defender Turkish Armenian MP Garo Paylan, temporarily banned from the National Assembly earlier this year.

April's controversial referendum was widely seen as another attempt on behalf of the president to erode the powers of the opposition while solidifying his hold on power. The narrow victory transformed Turkey from a parliamentary democracy into a presidential system. Among several vastly expanded powers, the president will appoint ministers, prepare the budget, select the majority of senior judges and enact certain laws by decree. Further limiting checks and balances provided by a separation of powers, under the constitutional change the president will also assume the role of both head of the executive and head of state, while the position of the prime minister will be replaced by one or more vice presidents.

"This Parliament has been rendered obsolete and its authority removed," said

**Left:** Republican People's Party (CHP) leader Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu greets his supporters as he walks during the Justice March on July 6. **Right:** Supporters of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan celebrate in Istanbul.

Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu, chair of the opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) who led a major protest march in July that brought together 1.5 million people in a final rally.

Since the referendum result, President Erdoğan has shown no sign of letting up, recently dismissing 7,000 more police, civil servants and academics for suspected links to the Muslim cleric it blames for the attempted coup. "Nobody who betrays this nation can remain unpunished," Erdoğan declared, promising to restore the death penalty if a vote passes in Parliament. If enacted, the law would jeopardize Turkey's bid to join the European Union, but it may already be too late. In late July authorities arrested six human rights activists, including two top officials of Amnesty International in Turkey.

With a government by decree and a referendum victory that disables parliamentary opposition, the president is now able to pursue his political agenda unchallenged.

In the absence of the rule of law, a strict separation of powers and an independent judiciary, citizens are becoming increasingly polarized amidst a state of fear and instability. As the president continues to consolidate his power, very little is left of democracy in Turkey. **A**

# Philanthropist and Businessman Vatche Manoukian Joins AGBU Council of Trustees

**D**uring the Central Board of Directors meeting on July 22, 2017, prominent philanthropist and businessman, Vatche Manoukian, was unanimously elected to the AGBU Council of Trustees. A longtime supporter of AGBU, Manoukian has demonstrated outstanding leadership through the years in sponsoring major philanthropic projects and pioneering initiatives in the Armenian diaspora and Armenia.

Born in Beirut, Lebanon, Manoukian pursued his education in Cyprus and England. His knowledge of Middle Eastern and Armenian values, culture and traditions and his deep understanding of European corporate practices helped him launch a wide array of successful businesses in real estate operations, banking, soft drink bottling, pharmaceutical, biotechnology, renewable energy and leisure industries in several countries.

Manoukian inherited a genuine interest in philanthropy from his family, which established a strong tradition of charitable initiatives globally. Manoukian's philanthropic projects primarily focus on education, medical research, promotion of cultural initiatives and environmental issues in addition to a special focus on the promotion of the Armenian Church and Armenian causes in general. His scholarship funds have enabled several thousand talented students lacking the financial means to further their education in graduate programs at American, British and Lebanese universities.

With the goal of exposing non-Armenians to Armenia's rich religious and cultural heritage, Manoukian was the sole sponsor of the highly acclaimed Rome-Armenia exhibition at the Vatican's Sistine Chapel, held under the auspices of the late Holinesses Pope John Paul II and Catholicos Karekin I, and of the Treasures of the Ark exhibition held at the British Library to celebrate Armenian Christianity's 1,700th anniversary. Longtime benefactors

of the Armenian Church, Manoukian and his wife Tamar furthermore sponsored the renovation of St. Yeghishe Armenian Church of London, consecrated by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, in 2001. The construction of the Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Library (Matenadaran) in Holy Etchmiadzin, completed in 2012, is one of Manoukian's most significant contributions in Armenia. The library, an academic hub for clergy, scholars and students from around the world, is home to 80,000 books and 3,000 manuscripts.



Vatche Manoukian

Sharing AGBU's mission to advance the quality of education in the diaspora, in 2009 Manoukian and his wife made a landmark donation of \$11 million to the AGBU Vatche and Tamar Manoukian High School and Performing Arts Center in Pasadena, California. In recognition of his generous longtime support, AGBU President Berge Setrakian presented Manoukian with the AGBU Gold Medal in 2012. An honorary citizen of Armenia, Manoukian is also the recipient of several national awards, including the Insignia of the Prince of Cilicia (1985), the Order of St. Gregory the Illuminator (1996) and

the Knight of Holy Etchmiadzin Pontifical Medal (2012).

Manoukian's generosity extends well beyond Armenian causes. In 2016, together with his wife Tamar, he donated \$30 million to the Division of Digestive Diseases of the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). The Division of Digestive Diseases building has since been renamed in their honor, to become the Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Medical Building.

Manoukian supported his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to fulfill his vision for Dumfries House in Scotland and its surrounding area by funding three buildings—Tamar Manoukian Outdoor Centre, Tamar Manoukian Sports Centre and Tamar Manoukian New Cumnock Swimming Pool—to help promote a healthy lifestyle for young people living in disadvantaged areas. He funded the building of the Manoukian Music Centre at Westminster School in London—renowned for the quality of its young talents—and has supported the Prince Albert II Foundation in Monaco in its efforts to protect the environment as well as the Elton John AIDS Foundation.

At the same time, Manoukian has been supporting many children's charities throughout the world. He is a major donor to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Mission Enfance, Action Innocence, and UNICEF, where he has also sponsored their Kids Power program in Philadelphia.

More recently, touched by the plight of Syrian refugees fleeing the war in their homeland, Manoukian actively supported efforts to assist young Syrian refugees in establishing themselves abroad.

Devoting his time and resources to humanitarian, social and Armenian causes is a way for him to pay tribute and honor the memory of his ancestors who found refuge in the Middle East during and in the aftermath of the Armenian Genocide. ■





## Cultural Currency

*Showcasing the Armenian arts to diverse audiences*

By **MICHAEL SARIAN**

**N**urturing Armenian culture and arts has been at the core of the AGBU mission since its establishment. With the inception of the Performing Arts Department (PAD) in 2012, AGBU reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Armenian performing arts. Through its varied programming, PAD has strived to showcase the Armenian artistic tradition to its own people as well as to those who otherwise may not have the opportunity to see, watch and listen to Armenian arts in action. It simultaneously provides support to AGBU chapters and districts around the world on performing arts projects.

The 2016-2017 PAD season of events has taken this objective to heart. In October, the winners of the biennial **AGBU Sayat Nova International Composition Competition** were announced. Designed to acquaint a general audience with Armenian music, literature and history, the competition founded in 2006 with Gala Concerts in Paris and New York City, asks composers of all heritages to submit compositions for an ensemble of Armenian folk and Western classical instruments, and integrate verses of Armenian poetry into their works. For this edition of the competition, composers were asked to submit compositions for a



chamber ensemble consisting of a string quartet, shvi, and a tenor, and incorporate the work of the tenth-century Armenian monk, poet and philosopher Grigor Narekatsi, who was named a Doctor of the Church by Pope Francis in 2015. Over the years, submissions have arrived from Argentina, Ghana, Hong Kong, Korea, Mexico, and Russia, in addition to Armenia, the United States. In 2016, Dzovinar Mikirditsian of Lebanon and France was awarded first prize and Special Prize of the Armenian National Philharmonic Orchestra for her piece “Iyerk;” Alexandr Iradyan of Armenia received second prize and the Special Carnegie Hall Prize for his piece “Frames;” and Joshua Márquez of the Philippines and the United States earned third prize for his piece “Awake.” Through a new collaboration between PAD and the Composer’s Union of Armenia, the three winning works will be published by the Union’s ArMusic Publishing House. The competition also gave a special mention to the Korean American composer, Dohi Moon, for her piece “A Midwinter Night’s Dream.”

“As a Filipino-American composer, the timbre of traditional Filipino instruments always plays a role in my compositional

*Above: Hundreds of guests gathered at the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall for the eighth annual AGBU New York Special Events Committee (NYSEC) Performing Artists in Concert in 2015. Below: Dzovinar Mikirditsian receives first prize at the AGBU Sayat Nova International Composition Competition in 2016, in Paris.*







# STAY CONNECTED

Don't miss out on all the exciting things happening at AGBU!

Sign up today at:  
[www.agbu.org/contact](http://www.agbu.org/contact)

- Read *AGBU in Action*, our monthly e-newsletter
- Stay up to date on AGBU program news and special initiatives
- Receive invitations to events in your area
- Learn how you can make an impact in your local community and across the globe



## AGBU PERFORMING ARTS

Showcasing Armenian culture to the global artistic community through educational and performance opportunities worldwide.

To learn more, please visit [AGBUPerformingArts.org](http://AGBUPerformingArts.org) and stay connected at [Facebook.com/AGBUPerformingArts](https://Facebook.com/AGBUPerformingArts).

ARMENIAN FILMMAKERS

ՀԳԸՄ  
AGBU

process and I tried to do the same with Armenian culture without objectifying it. Immersing yourself in another culture is incredibly rewarding, so long as you understand your perspective and always approach such important matters with the upmost reverence,” said Márquez.

Iradyan’s piece will premiere on November 3 at the **AGBU NYSEC Performing Artists in Concert** series at Carnegie Hall. Since 2008, the concert series has been a flagship event of the **AGBU New York Special Events Committee (NYSEC)**, a dynamic group of volunteers that shares a commitment to organizing special events geared to Armenians in the Greater New York area.

It unites Armenian musicians from around the world who have received AGBU Performing Arts Scholarships or Fellowships and are studying at world-renowned institutions, such as the Juilliard School, London’s Royal Academy of Music, and the Shanghai Music Conservatory, among others. These concerts give young artists, at the start of their careers, a major boost by performing on a world-class stage and becoming acquainted with New York’s demanding audience.

Building on the mission of the department, PAD held its second annual **Armenians in Film at Lincoln Center: 6 Short Films** at the Film Society of Lincoln Center last November. The screening featured films by Viktoria Aleksanyan, Vatche Boulghourjian, Ophelia Harutyunyan, Anna Maria Mouradian, Jesse Soursourian and Martiros Vartanov, providing them with the chance to establish connections and future collaborations; receive invaluable feedback on their work with a post-screening question-and-answer session; and giving the New York artistic community a glimpse into their achievements. Individually, these filmmakers have had their works screened at prestigious festivals, such as the Cannes Film Festival, Sundance Film Festival, Sunset Film Festival and Toronto International Film Festival. Plans are underway to bring the event to Chicago and Los Angeles in the near future.

Through its programs, PAD also seeks to bring attention to Armenia-based artists and, to this end, worked with AGBU chapters in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Paris in April to organize a tour for the ethno-jazz group **Miqayel Voskanyan & Friends**. On April 5, the group—led by tar player and singer Miqayel Voskanyan—performed at DROM, a popular world music venue in New York City, with special guest Sevana Tchakerian of the Paris based group *Collectif Medz Bazar*. The concert drew hundreds of attendees, among them non-Armenian jazz aficionados, and garnered praise from the online newspaper *New York Music Daily*: “Armenia is small, about the same size as Jamaica. Like reggae, Armenian music has a vast, global influence: Voskanyan’s compositions reflect that scope.”

This same goal of bringing Armenian music to the attention

of mainstream audiences also led to a collaboration in May with Carnegie Hall’s Weill Institute of Music to include Armenia in its **Musical Explorers Program**. PAD identified and initiated this collaboration to bring a new form of exposure to Armenian artistic culture.

The program is designed to connect New York City public school students grades K-2 to the city’s rich and diverse musical community as they build fundamental music skills through listening, singing, and moving to songs from all over the world. This year, they learned about Armenian folk music, bluegrass, Chinese traditional music, Sudanese celebration songs, calypso, and hip-hop. For five days, the Zula A Capella Trio—with guest instrumentalists Ara Dinkjian and Martin Haroutunian—led workshops with students and teachers, and introduced them to traditional Armenian songs and dances, which they performed along with the artists during 10 interactive sold-out concerts at Carnegie Hall’s Zankel Hall.

“At one moment during the concert, the MC asked Dinkjian to play his oud together with the steelpan of the calypso musician to the beats of the hip-hop DJ, displaying how diversity can be unified in one piece of music. This concept aligns perfectly with the mission of AGBU: to be an integral part of the cultural landscape of the surrounding communities. Hearing hundreds of children from the five boroughs sing Armenian folk songs is a touching symbol of unity in this immensely multicultural city,” said AGBU PAD director Hayk Arsenyan.

PAD brings the academic year of events to a close with its annual **AGBU Musical Armenia Program (MAP)**, which takes place in Yerevan during the last three weeks of July. Since 2012, MAP has invited music lovers and musicians of all

heritages, levels, and nationalities to come together and explore Armenia’s musical traditions. Participants take one-on-one lessons with renowned musicians in Armenia, and attend lectures by musicologists on genres ranging from folk to contemporary, liturgical to jazz and classical to blues.

MAP has attracted musicians from around the globe, upholding PAD’s mission to educate audiences of different backgrounds. In 2016, accomplished violinist and composer Dinesh Subasinghe of Sri Lanka attended MAP and his love for Armenian music grew deeper. “If you want to learn the music, you have to learn about the culture and history of the country. I was lucky to have exceptional teachers who cared about us. I really loved this program, as Armenia has something deeply touching in soul.”

The common thread in all the AGBU Performing Arts Department programs is a commitment to showcase the riches of Armenian culture in all its forms and ensuring that not only Armenians have access to an exceptional artistic tradition that dates back centuries and will continue well into the future. **A**



**Above:** *Miqayel Voskanyan & Friends performs at DROM in New York City in April. Below:* *The Zula A Capella Trio participates in Weill Institute of Music’s Musical Explorers Program at Carnegie Hall’s Zankel Hall in May.*







*Clarinetist Narek Arutyunian is a master's student at the Manhattan School of Music and a recipient of an AGBU Performing Arts Scholarship.*

## AGBU Scholarship Program Supports Hundreds of Students Worldwide

*AGBU distributes over \$800,000 in scholarships for the 2016–2017 academic year*

By **JENNIFER MANOUKIAN**

In the 2016–2017 academic year, AGBU awarded over \$800,000 in scholarships to students in 28 countries. For almost a century, the AGBU Scholarship Program has helped further the educational pursuits of tens of thousands of promising young Armenian students enrolled at some of the world's top-ranked universities.

### **AGBU US Graduate Scholarships**

For the 2016–2017 academic year, 72 students enrolled in professional, master's and doctoral degree programs in the United States were awarded nearly \$265,000 in the form of US Graduate Scholarships. The recipients represented a variety of fields, including law, architecture and

medicine. Many hope to use their education to benefit Armenia and Armenians.



**Lara Markarian**, a first-year law student at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law, graduated from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service in 2013 where she was encouraged to examine how laws can be improved to address complex issues, such as the Armenian Genocide. "Now, by getting my law degree at Berkeley, I hope to gather the tools I need to further achieve my goal of helping the Armenian community as well as other groups who seek justice in the face of international conflict, war, genocide, and displacement," said Markarian.



**Karen Berberyan**, a master's student in architectural design at Columbia University, has already begun to apply his education to benefit his native Armenia. Before coming to the United States, Berberyan worked at the Yerevan office of the London-based Tim Flynn Architects, during which time he was part of a team that brought sustainable architecture and design to the towns of Dilijan and Tatev. "It is my firm aim to become a high-level professional and a leader in my field, to manage important local and international projects, and to transform the culture of architecture in Armenia into a modern and progressive environment. I aim to make serious contributions to the development of a more attractive, sustainable, livable, and modern environment for Armenia," said Berberyan.



From the architectural to the medical, **Hayk Barseghyan**—a doctoral student in the Human Genetics Department at the University of California, Los Angeles—decided to work towards his doctorate before going to medical school because he saw that many well-known disorders had little or no treatment available and was inspired to provide personalized treatment based on genotype. A disease he hopes to investigate is one that afflicts Armenians in particular: "I plan to work closely with the Armenian Human Genome Project to map the Armenian genome to potentially identify alleles segregating with diseases more common to Armenians, such as Familial Mediterranean Fever (FMF)," said Barseghyan.

### AGBU International Scholarships

AGBU awarded over \$380,000 to 230 students in the form of AGBU International Scholarships to those studying outside the United States. Like AGBU US Graduate Scholarship recipients, many recipients of the AGBU International Scholarships felt more connected to their roots with this opportunity.



**Gohar Grigoryan** is a doctoral student in the Department of Medieval Art History at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland. There she carries out research on Cilician Armenian art in the context of intercultural exchange in the medieval Mediterranean. "During my undergraduate studies, I discovered for myself the symbolic and cosmopolitan nature of medieval Armenian culture, which inspired me to pursue this field in my doctoral work," said Grigoryan.



**Antonios Tashejian** also has a love for history. A second-year student at the Sorbonne in Paris, Antonios—originally from Lebanon—studies all periods in history as well as German and Persian. "After my bachelor's degree, I plan on pursuing a postgraduate degree in politics and Middle Eastern history, or genocide studies. I have always been passionate about these subjects and I thank AGBU for helping me to become the historian, political scientist and polyglot I want to be," says Tashejian.



Also in Europe, **Victor Tarjan** is studying at the University of Maastricht in the Netherlands for his bachelor of science in International Business Administration in Emerging Markets. After participating in the AGBU Discover Armenia program in 2014, donating mattresses and blankets to an orphanage in rural Armenia, Victor continued to ask himself how he could do more for the country: "I believe that my program in emerging markets will provide me with the tools that could help me make a long lasting impact in emerging markets, such as Armenia, by helping stimulate the economy through viable business opportunities," said Tarjan.

### AGBU Performing Arts Scholarships

For the 2016–2017 academic year, a total of \$113,000 was awarded to 41 recipients of the AGBU Performing Arts Scholarship. The recipients are musicians and artists of all types from Armenia and throughout the diaspora.



**Narek Arutyunian**, a clarinetist, is a first-year master's student at the Manhattan School of Music. Inspired to play the clarinet by his father, an Armenian folk clarinetist, Arutyunian has big aspirations for the future: "I am hoping to become a distinguished clarinet professor and teach the next generation of clarinet players."



Also originally from Armenia, **Hasmik Vardanyan** is a cellist working toward her artist diploma at the University of Houston's Moore's School of Music. As a student new to the United States, she is thankful for her AGBU scholarship, which has allowed her to immerse herself in her program: "I'm in this program to discover new ways of musical interpretation, to find new ideas and new feelings. A musician must be an artist, painter, philosopher and psychologist. The more I see, the more I live, the more I travel, the more I read, the more it will all have an effect on my understanding of life and it will definitely impact my personality as a musician."

Financed through endowment funds established by AGBU donors since the 1920s, the AGBU Scholarship Program has proudly contributed to the academic achievements of gifted young Armenians, offering financial assistance to full-time students of Armenian descent from close to 40 countries across six continents. Today, through added specialized initiatives, the AGBU Scholarship Program offers financial assistance to a broader range of Armenian students across the globe.

AGBU accepts applications for five categories of scholarships: Heritage Scholar Grants for high-achieving high school seniors at the three AGBU high schools in the United States; US Graduate Scholarships for students in professional, master's and doctoral programs in the United States; International Scholarships for students studying outside the United States with special funds for the United Kingdom, France and Syria; Performing Arts Scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students in music, drama and film; and Religious Studies Fellowships for graduate students pursuing theology and youth ministry. **■**



# AGBU Donors

## Donors Show Outstanding Support by Contributing \$21,615,000 to AGBU Central Board Programs in 2016

**W**e are grateful for the continued generosity of those who believe in our mission. The collaborative efforts of our communities around the globe, the commitment of our donors and the dedication of our volunteers and staff enable AGBU to enrich the lives of hundreds of thousands of Armenians.

The below contributions were made to the AGBU Central Office in New York in support of our various worldwide cultural, educational, humanitarian, religious and youth initiatives.

This report does not include contributions made directly to various local chapters around the world.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to the many individuals and families for their generosity and thoughtfulness in designating memorial gifts or special occasion contributions for the programs of the AGBU.

*Due to limited space, only individual gifts of \$1,000, or those of at least two donors have been included. To see a full list of donors, please visit [agbu.org](http://agbu.org).*

Mr. and Mrs. Vatche Manoukian, PA	<b>\$7,195,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Elie Akilian, TX	<b>\$ 50,000</b>
Anonymous (1), CA	<b>2,075,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Vahan Kololian, Canada	<b>50,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Karnig Yacoubian, Switzerland	<b>1,280,000</b>	John Kazanjian Family Foundation, NJ	<b>49,048</b>
George Andrew Krikorian Estate, MI	<b>1,194,735</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Toros Mangassarian, NY	<b>40,100</b>
Vahe Karapetian, CA	<b>1,080,000</b>	Family and Friends of Garo Djeghelian, Lebanon	<b>40,000</b>
Mrs. Louise Manoogian Simone, NY	<b>700,000</b>	Judge Y. Gladys Barsamian Estate, MI	<b>35,808</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Toufayan, NJ	<b>610,200</b>	Dr. and Mrs. Yervant Zorian, CA	<b>35,250</b>
Shnork Gregory Kasparian Estate, IL	<b>573,868</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Raffi Festekjian, MA	<b>33,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Berge Setrakian, NJ	<b>450,000</b>	Mrs. Vart Rose Avakian, CA	<b>30,000</b>
Ms. Joan A. Payden, CA	<b>400,000</b>	Barbara Apisson Testamentary Trust, CT	<b>30,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis Bedevian, NJ	<b>351,250</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sarkissian, Lebanon	<b>30,000</b>
Grace Paregian Estate, CA	<b>338,966</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Vahe Gabrache, Switzerland	<b>27,100</b>
Isabel Toomajian Trust, MA	<b>303,987</b>	Mrs. Nadya Y. Vaporciyan, MI	<b>25,974</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Moses Ouzounian, TX	<b>298,170</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Levon Nazarian, NJ	<b>25,300</b>
Lillian Dorian Estate, NJ	<b>250,000</b>	Akian Foundation, CA	<b>25,000</b>
Mr. Yervant S. Demirjian, CA	<b>220,000</b>	Anonymous "HK", CA	<b>25,000</b>
Levon and Claudia Nazarian Family Foundation, Inc., NJ	<b>189,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Haig Didizian, Greece	<b>25,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Sinan Sinanian, CA	<b>170,000</b>	United Armenian Charities, Inc.—Dadourian Foundation, NY	<b>25,000</b>
Messrs. Sarkis, Avedis and Hagop Demirdjian, Lebanon	<b>150,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Kourken Sarkissian, Canada	<b>23,142</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Sam Simonian, TX	<b>150,000</b>	David S. Sohigian Foundation, CA	<b>23,135</b>
TF Educational Foundation, CA	<b>115,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Vartan Toroussian, Canada	<b>22,900</b>
Mr. Cesar Alierta, Spain	<b>111,312</b>	Mrs. Carol B. Aslanian, NY	<b>21,750</b>
Mr. Nigol Koulajian, NY	<b>102,500</b>	Anonymous "KC", NJ	<b>21,068</b>
Alex & Marie Manoogian Foundation, MI	<b>100,000</b>	Cherchian Family Foundation, Inc., WI	<b>20,000</b>
Flora Mirzaian Trust, CA	<b>100,000</b>	Mr. Jorge E. Vartparonian, Argentina	<b>20,000</b>
Ms. Therese Ohanian, NJ	<b>100,000</b>	Bakalian Family Foundation, NC	<b>16,460</b>
Annette Anaide Tcholakian Estate, NV	<b>97,731</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Haratunian, NY	<b>16,350</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Vardanyan, Russia	<b>96,150</b>	Boris Melcomian Estate, CA	<b>16,345</b>
Elizabeth M. Toomajian Trust, MA	<b>92,466</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Oughourlian, United Kingdom	<b>16,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis Jebejian, NJ	<b>82,550</b>	UGAB District Committee of France, France	<b>15,931</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Nazareth Festekjian, NJ	<b>74,500</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Adam Kablanian, CA	<b>15,000</b>
Rose D. Tashjian Estate, NJ	<b>67,410</b>	Zoryan Institute, MA	<b>15,000</b>
AGBU Young Professionals of Greater New York, NY	<b>43,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Osep Sarafian, MI	<b>14,856</b>
AGBU Young Professionals of Northern California, CA	<b>12,224</b>	Dr. Barkev Banian, VA	<b>14,548</b>
AGBU Young Professionals of Toronto, Canada	<b>3,097</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Raffi Arslanian, Belgium	<b>14,542</b>
AGBU Young Professionals of Boston, MA	<b>2,367</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Krikor Istanboulli, Italy	<b>14,500</b>
AGBU Young Professionals of Switzerland, Switzerland	<b>446</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Ago Demirdjian, United Kingdom	<b>14,279</b>
Leon & Victoria Shaldjian Foundation, NJ	<b>59,155</b>	Lydian International Ltd, CO	<b>14,275</b>
		Boghossian SA, Switzerland	<b>14,182</b>

AGBU Sydney Chapter, Australia	<b>\$ 13,500</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Hampar Chakardjian, Switzerland	<b>\$ 10,000</b>
AGBU Lazar Najarian-Calouste Gulbenkian Alumni Association, CA	<b>13,000</b>	Mr. Vanik Dabaghian, CA	<b>10,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Hagop A. Manouelian, CA	<b>12,500</b>	Fondation Hagop D. Topalian, Switzerland	<b>10,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Ajamian, CA	<b>12,177</b>	The Donchian, Hajeian and Chirkinian Families, NY	<b>10,000</b>
AGBU Toronto Chapter, Canada	<b>11,014</b>	Ms. Carole R. Jensen, AR	<b>10,000</b>
Dr. and Mrs. Berdj Kiladjian, MA	<b>11,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Vahe Karapetian, CA	<b>10,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Vazrik Makarian, NV	<b>11,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Kirk S. Kazazian, NY	<b>10,000</b>
Nazarian Family Foundation, Inc., NJ	<b>11,000</b>	Dr. and Mrs. Paul T. Khoury, NY	<b>10,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Anserian, NJ	<b>10,620</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Ari L. Libarikian, NY	<b>10,000</b>
Dr. and Mrs. Noubar Afeyan, MA	<b>10,500</b>	M. Masri Foundation, Jordan	<b>10,000</b>
Mr. Arden Dervishian, Canada	<b>10,375</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Shant Mardirossian, NY	<b>10,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Nurhan Manukian, FL	<b>10,226</b>	Estate of Samuel Mardian, Jr., AZ	<b>10,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Berdj Tanielian, Canada	<b>10,204</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Andres Sarian, Canada	<b>10,000</b>
Mr. Agop Agopian, CA	<b>10,000</b>	Mr. Don Sarkisian, CA	<b>10,000</b>
Mrs. Margaret Ajemian Ahnert, FL	<b>10,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Seredian, CA	<b>10,000</b>
Mr. Michael Amirkhanian, NY	<b>10,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Beno Shirvanian, CA	<b>10,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Boghossian, Switzerland	<b>10,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Chant Tobi, Canada	<b>10,000</b>

## ZAREH DEMIRJIAN

# The Armenian Hematologist with a Great Love for his Community

**A** gifted doctor and a man of great integrity, Dr. Zareh N. Demirjian was passionately dedicated to his family, Armenian causes and medicine. Well known in the medical community and beyond for his expertise in hematology and the study of bleeding and clotting disorders, Zareh spent more than four decades treating patients at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and was a senior hematologist there at the time of his death, in December 2012.

Zareh's genuine willingness to help people, his analytical mind and ability to tinker were uniquely combined in his teaching and clinical work at MGH. "His colleagues described him as a competent, trustworthy and compassionate doctor, who was enormously devoted to his patients," said his wife Margo (née Balukjian) Demirjian. A keen problem solver, Zareh also loved fixing things, especially repairing old watches and devoted many hours to this hobby.

Born in Beirut, Lebanon, to Nazareth and Meline (née Khachadurian) Demirjian, Zareh grew up surrounded by the vibrant life of the local Armenian community. After graduating from the American University of Beirut with a medical degree, he moved to the United States for his clinical residency and subsequently became the first graduate of a foreign medical school to be offered a staff position at MGH in 1971. It was at the MGH that he met his future wife Margo, whom he married in June 1972.

Passionate about upholding Armenian cultural heritage alive, Zareh demonstrated true leadership in the community of New England through his involvement in several organizations. Inheriting this passion from his mother, a

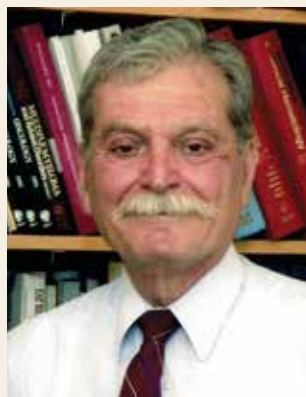
dynamic woman who enjoyed working on Armenian causes, he initiated and supported many projects throughout his life. It was no surprise that in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Gyumri in 1988 Zareh spearheaded efforts to treat a few severely injured children from Armenia.

From early on, Zareh continued his parents' commitment to AGBU and its mission. He started the AGBU Boston Youth Chapter in 1927, served as the chairman of AGBU Boston for many years and was on the AGBU Central Education Committee in the late 1980s and early 1990s. An ardent supporter of the Armenian press, he was the chairman of *The Armenian Mirror Spectator's* 50th Anniversary Committee. Zareh's love for his mother tongue was contagious and inspired his wife Margo and children—Dr. Aram Demirjian and Talinn Demirjian—to acquire fluency in Western Armenian. "He wanted his household to be a traditional Armenian household. We spoke Armenian at home," Margo said.

In his lifetime, Zareh sought neither spotlight nor acknowledgment for his devotion and unwavering service to his community.

Nevertheless, Zareh's contribution was recognized in 2006 with the St. Sahag-St. Mesrob Medal, bestowed upon him by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians.

In 2000, honoring the memory of his parents, Zareh and Margo established the Nazareth and Meline Demirjian Memorial Endowment to support the AGBU Senior Dining Centers in Armenia. Continuing this tradition, Margo, Aram and Talinn are contributing to a number of AGBU projects worldwide through the Zareh N. Demirjian Memorial Endowment. **■**





## AGBU Donors

Mr. and Mrs. Zareh Tutunjian, United Arab Emirates	<b>\$ 10,000</b>	AGBU Fresno Chapter, CA	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
Ms. Esther M. Wilson, CA	<b>10,000</b>	Mr. Arto Artinian, Thailand	<b>5,000</b>
Winifred M & George P Pitkin Foundation Inc, NJ	<b>10,000</b>	Dr. and Mrs. George A. Bannayan, TX	<b>5,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Aram Yacoubian, Canada	<b>10,000</b>	Garabed & Aghavni Kouzoujian Benevolent Foundation, NY	<b>5,000</b>
Mr. Victor V. Zarougian and Ms. Judith A. Saryan, MA	<b>10,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Grigorian, CA	<b>5,000</b>
Haig & Sunya B. Ksayian Foundation, NJ	<b>9,799</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Shahen Hairapetian, CA	<b>5,000</b>
Yervant & Rose Levonian Educational Fund, NJ	<b>9,564</b>	Mr. Hagop J. Halladjian, ME	<b>5,000</b>
AGBU Vatche and Tamar Manoukian High School, CA	<b>7,962</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Armen Hampar, CA	<b>5,000</b>
Mr. Richard Shemesian, United Kingdom	<b>7,500</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Paul Karakashian, CA	<b>5,000</b>
The Family of Noubar & Anita Jessourian, NJ	<b>7,000</b>	Dr. Leo A. Keoshian, CA	<b>5,000</b>
Leon S. Peters Foundation, CA	<b>7,000</b>	Kinney Memorial Foundation, CA	<b>5,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Basralian, NJ	<b>6,500</b>	Knights of Vartan Daron Lodge, CA	<b>5,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Shant Manoukian, NY	<b>6,200</b>	Ms. Ann Marie Kohlligian, CA	<b>5,000</b>
Dr. John H. Doumanian, IL	<b>6,000</b>	Mr. Kaspar Kuyumgyan, Japan	<b>5,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Arek Khachaturian, MI	<b>6,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Istvan Lippai, Hungary	<b>5,000</b>
Cultural Society of Armenians from Istanbul, MI	<b>5,621</b>	Mr. Tro Manoukian, United Kingdom	<b>5,000</b>
Mrs. Marguerite B. Demirjian, MA	<b>5,500</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Krikor Masrehjian, United Arab Emirates	<b>5,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Hagop Kouyoumdjian, NJ	<b>5,500</b>	Schaefer Family Foundation, NY	<b>5,000</b>
Dr. and Mrs. Matthew Mashikian, CT	<b>5,500</b>	Dr. and Mrs. Arthur D. Yaghjian, MA	<b>5,000</b>
ICare!Can Campaign, NY	<b>5,474</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Yotnegparian, CA	<b>5,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Avedis Baghsarian, NY	<b>5,300</b>	Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation, NJ	<b>4,496</b>
Dr. and Mrs. Heratch O. Doumanian, IL	<b>5,250</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Stepanian, CT	<b>4,369</b>
GE Foundation, CT	<b>5,176</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Nabil Azzouz, France	<b>4,363</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Haratunian, NY	<b>5,100</b>	Dr. Rose Marie Berberian, MI	<b>4,192</b>
Anonymous "VP", CT	<b>5,001</b>	Mrs. Margaret Dedeian-Smith, MD	<b>4,000</b>
AGBU California Melkonian Alumni, CA	<b>5,000</b>	Miss Nelly Simonian, NY	<b>4,000</b>

### SHANT MARDIROSSIAN

## From Relief Programs to Internship Programs

**S**hant Mardirossian's work and philanthropy revolve around the advancement of Armenians—both celebrating the past achievements and fostering future progress.

As the chairman of the Near East Foundation, from 2002 to its centenary in 2015, he was at the helm of the organization that rushed to the aid of the Armenian people in the aftermath of the Armenian Genocide, rescuing more than 132,000 orphaned children and supplying them with food, clothing and shelter. Known then as the Near East Relief, this organization also took on the colossal task of raising these orphans to be self-sufficient adults by teaching them trades and crafts to support themselves once they aged out of the orphanages. Boys were apprenticed to blacksmiths, electricians, mechanics and farmers, among others, while girls were taught carpet-weaving, pottery, embroidery and other crafts that conformed to the gender roles of the time.

Shant—born in Beirut and raised in New York—stands between his work with the Near East Foundation and his giving

to AGBU. His grandmother, Mary Libarian, was orphaned as a young girl on a march from her home in Aintab and survived thanks to the efforts of an American Protestant orphanage, like so many others that came under the umbrella of the Near East Relief. The orphanage, supported by millions of Americans who donated

to the organization as part of a massive fundraising campaign across the country, nurtured her mind and taught her how to read and write.

This legacy of empowerment continues today through Shant's daughter, Alexandra. A recent graduate of George Washington University, Alexandra participated in the AGBU New York Summer Internship Program (NYSIP) in 2016, which, since its founding in 1987, has equipped hundreds of college-age Armenians from around the world with the skills they need to succeed in their

careers. The program gives students access to a range of workshops, networking events and cultural activities along with competitive internships, exposing them to the rhythms of life after graduations. Alexandra, with her major in international affairs and psychology, interned at a consulting firm, which led to a



Mr. and Mrs. Hovan Tchaglassian, Canada	<b>\$ 3,995</b>	Elsie E. Boyajian Trust, CO	<b>\$ 2,705</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Andre Nazarian, Canada	<b>3,898</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Berge Papazian, Canada	<b>2,678</b>
UGAB Buenos Aires Chapter, Argentina	<b>3,840</b>	Mr. Donald C. Garabedian, CA	<b>2,650</b>
Ms. Isabelle Basmajian, Canada	<b>3,802</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Mark V. Asdourian, CA	<b>2,600</b>
AGBU Sofia Chapter, Bulgaria	<b>3,800</b>	Ms. Isgouhi Kassakhian, CA	<b>2,600</b>
Mr. Berj Sevazlian, Canada	<b>3,687</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Kevork G. Toroyan, CT	<b>2,600</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis Kassardjian, CA	<b>3,600</b>	Dr. and Mrs. Gerald R. Williams, Jr., PA	<b>2,600</b>
Ms. Talinn Demirjian, MA	<b>3,500</b>	Anonymous "RB", VA	<b>2,500</b>
Rev. Fr. Carnig A. Hallajian, NJ	<b>3,500</b>	Mrs. Sandra D. Norian, NJ	<b>2,500</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Harpootian, RI	<b>3,500</b>	Dr. and Mrs. Ara S. Patapoutian, MA	<b>2,500</b>
State Street Foundation, Inc., NJ	<b>3,500</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Gary Phillips, CA	<b>2,500</b>
Mr. Michael Aram, NY	<b>3,330</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ramian, CA	<b>2,500</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Raffi Bachian, Lebanon	<b>3,269</b>	Dr. Ann Bakamjian Reagan, CO	<b>2,500</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Khoren Bandazian, II, NJ	<b>3,250</b>	Mr. Alex Saharian, IN	<b>2,500</b>
Ms. Carol C. Amirian and Mr. Joseph Halajian, NJ	<b>3,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Vasken Setrakian, NJ	<b>2,500</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Babikian, NJ	<b>3,000</b>	St. Mark's Armenian Catholic Church, PA	<b>2,472</b>
Ms. Pamela Barsam Brown and Mr. Stanley Brown, CO	<b>3,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis Gurunian, NJ	<b>2,450</b>
Dr. and Mrs. Eric Esraillian, CA	<b>3,000</b>	Garabet, Pergruhi and Nadya Hamparian Fund, Canada	<b>2,417</b>
Mr. and Mrs. John Ipjian, CA	<b>3,000</b>	AGBU San Fernando Valley Chapter and Scouts Committee, CA	<b>2,390</b>
Mr. Papken V. Janjigian, RI	<b>3,000</b>	Mr. Maher N. Kilajian, MD	<b>2,300</b>
Mrs. Siranouche Krikorian, CA	<b>3,000</b>	Ms. Marie Karakanian, CA	<b>2,200</b>
Mr. Christopher W. Kurkjian, NY	<b>3,000</b>	Mr. Armen Verdian, France	<b>2,182</b>
Mr. Tigran Z. Marcarian, CA	<b>3,000</b>	AGBU San Fernando Ladies Committee, CA	<b>2,100</b>
Oppenheimer Funds, USA	<b>3,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Armen Bechakjian, Canada	<b>2,090</b>
Ms. Karoun Terterian, CA	<b>3,000</b>	Dr. Araxie Altounian, Canada	<b>2,068</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Hagop A. Beledanian, NJ	<b>2,800</b>	Dr. and Mrs. Raymond Alexanian, TX	<b>2,000</b>

much-coveted full-time position in her field of management consulting at PricewaterhouseCoopers upon graduation. "I was so impressed by the experience Alexandra had and the opportunities she was afforded, but I know that not everyone has the same chance to take part in NYSIP. I hope that my donation can help students who have the intelligence and ambition, but may not have the financial means to participate in this transformative program," said Shant.

It was only once Alexandra, 21, and her twin siblings Christopher and Caroline, 15, were born that Shant felt the need to reacquaint himself with the Armenian community. "My mother was a graduate of the AGBU Lazar Najarian-Calouste Gulbenkian School in Aleppo and always spoke fondly of the education she received, but I was not engaged in AGBU or Armenian community life growing up. I came to see its importance in my mid-30s and wanted my kids to learn about their culture and history," he says.

Shant, who has been involved with the Near East Foundation since 2002, quickly made up for lost time in his work with the foundation's projects in Armenia. In 2004, it launched a small project focused on workshops and training for community leaders to help street children in Armenia and in 2007 expanded to economic development in rural areas to help villagers start small businesses. "Survivors of domestic violence have been a particular focus of our program since 2013, through a grant from the Open Society Foundation. We partnered with the Women's Support Center, funded through the Tufenkian Foundation, to provide training for these women to become financially independent, giving them the ability to leave their abusive environments. We're now looking to

expand our work with socially vulnerable groups in Armenia, such as the Syrian Armenian population living in the country."

In his work, Shant has also strived to highlight the history of the Near East Relief, which, despite having had such a profound impact on the lives of hundreds of thousands of Armenians, has been largely forgotten by Armenians and non-Armenians alike. To this end, he served as the executive producer of the 2017 documentary *They Shall Not Perish: The Story of Near East Relief*, which details an unprecedented act of humanitarianism that resulted in a 15-year campaign to come to the aid of Armenian orphans and refugees: "The film tells the story from an American perspective and shows how the United States reacted and responded to the Armenian Genocide. It was such an overwhelming, powerful illustration of American values and an essential tool to teach audiences young and old about the roots of citizen philanthropy in the United States."

Shant sees empowerment as the thread that links the objectives of the Near East Relief a century ago with the AGBU New York Summer Internship Program today and has high hopes for the program's capacity to build a bright future for young Armenians. "AGBU has been at the center of supporting the new generation in the diaspora from an educational and professional standpoint, echoing the work of the Near East Relief just after the genocide. In my mind, NYSIP builds on previous generations and take them to another level, affording young Armenians opportunities to rise even higher." ■



## AGBU Donors

Mr. Haig Apovian, Brazil	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Yervant Tcheurekdjian, Lebanon	<b>\$ 2,000</b>
Ms. Susan Artinian, MI	<b>2,000</b>	Dr. and Mrs. Jacques Tohme, NJ	<b>2,000</b>
Ms. Liberty Baronian, IL	<b>2,000</b>	Mrs. Silva Zadourian, NJ	<b>2,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Blizard, CO	<b>2,000</b>	Mr. M. Michael Ansour, NY	<b>1,970</b>
Mr. Leon Chahinian, CA	<b>2,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Vatche Bechakjian, Canada	<b>1,900</b>
Mr. Agop Ispentchian and Family, NY	<b>2,000</b>	Ms. Sophia Jesswein, Canada	<b>1,850</b>
Dr. and Mrs. Avedis Khachadurian, NJ	<b>2,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Garen Musaelian, NY	<b>1,775</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Hrag Melidonian, CA	<b>2,000</b>	Google Matching Gift Program, NJ	<b>1,766</b>
MUFG Union Bank, NA, TX	<b>2,000</b>	Mr. and Mrs. George A. Marootian, NJ	<b>1,700</b>
Mrs. Sonia Ajamian Pindler, CA	<b>2,000</b>	Mr. Eric Dadian, France	<b>1,699</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel D. Sahakian, PA	<b>2,000</b>	Mrs. Nadia Gortzounian, France	<b>1,681</b>

### WILLIAM AZNAVOURIAN

## The Bedrock of the Armenian Community of Providence

In his later years, William Aznavourian spent his time visiting shelters in Providence, Rhode Island, stocking up on food entirely on his own and donating it in the name of the church. This selflessness and generosity were qualities that defined William—known to his friends and family as Bill—and led him to become the bedrock of the Armenian community of Providence.

Bill was a native of Providence, born in 1931 to Vahram and Beatrice (née Shishmanian) Aznavourian, who had arrived from Constantinople only ten years earlier. Bill and his older brother, Garo, had an all-American childhood, in boy scout troops and on football and soccer teams all throughout school, but they were also instilled with an undying devotion to their Armenian heritage. The focal point of their community life was the local Saints Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church, which Bill attended faithfully all throughout his life.

Bill did not leave his hometown after high school. He stayed in Providence to attend the prestigious Brown University, majoring in chemical engineering and graduating in 1953. He moved away from Providence for the first time after college when he was conscripted into the army after graduation. He was stationed in Aberdeen, Maryland at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds and, much to the relief of his family, never saw combat. Instead, he put his chemical engineering degree to use by working with a team of chemists to improve the gas mask for the military.

Upon his honorable discharge, he moved to Utica, New York to work at General Electric before returning to Providence to care for his mother after his father passed away in 1962. Devoted to his family above all else, his nieces, Karen Cannuscio and Kristine Danelz, and his nephew, Mark Aznavourian, knew him to be a typical fun-loving uncle, but always with his characteristic kindness: “Uncle Bill and I had a long-running obsession with Devil Dogs, the cake-like desserts filled with cream. Once Uncle Bill learned I liked them, they were added to the big bag of chocolate bars he would bring on his visits to our house in Connecticut. Even

as I grew up and went off to college, in an area that had no Devil Dogs, he would send them to me in a small care package. There was no note, but I knew who they were from,” said Kristine. After his brother died in 1992, Bill became even closer to his nieces and nephew with frequent telephone calls to check in.

After he retired at the age of 54, Bill turned his attention almost exclusively to the Armenian community, serving as the head of the Parish Council at his childhood church, as a high-ranking member of the Knights of Vartan and as the chair of the AGBU Providence chapter, which reaped the benefits of his longstanding commitment. In 2011, AGBU honored Bill for his 45 years of dedication and bestowed on him the status of AGBU

Honorary Member. Until his death, Bill would send handwritten fundraising appeals to each member of the AGBU Providence chapter to support the organization’s programs near and far. “Bill was an extremely kindhearted and generous man, whose often unsolicited and unrecognized support of AGBU was extraordinary. He carried the respect and love of so many of us. From a personal standpoint, he was very encouraging and supportive of our goals and vision for the New England District,” said AGBU New England District chair Ara J. Balikian.

When he was not fundraising for AGBU, spending time with friends at his weekly backgammon nights or performing random acts of kindness, Bill liked to commune with nature. “He would often drive up to his cabin in Maine to hike. He loved being outdoors, even back home in Providence. He would always lovingly tend to his vegetable garden in his backyard, talking to all his plants as he watered them,” said his nephew Mark, a screenwriter who has written a character based on his uncle with many of his endearing idiosyncrasies.

When Bill passed away in November 2016, he left \$50,000 to AGBU to continue the programs that he had given so much of his life to supporting. “Bill was generous to everyone around him, except for himself. It is only fitting that his generosity would continue on into the future.” **■**



Dr. and Mrs. Philip Balikian, CA	<b>\$ 1,612</b>	Dr. and Mrs. Tavit O. Najarian, NJ	<b>\$ 1,100</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Agop Ozdere, CA	<b>1,600</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Harry Parsekian, MA	<b>1,100</b>
AGBU Asbeds, CA	<b>1,500</b>	Mrs. Mary L. Janigan and Mr. Tom Kierans, Canada	<b>1,053</b>
Armenian Church of Rochester, NY	<b>1,500</b>	Ms. Lianka Harper, WA	<b>1,050</b>
Ambassador Richard W. Bogosian, MD	<b>1,500</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Torosian, NJ	<b>1,050</b>
Ms. Lucille Carmody, RI	<b>1,500</b>	Mr. Mher Vartanian, AK	<b>1,050</b>
Dr. and Mrs. David Chalikian, GA	<b>1,500</b>	Mr. Daniel Adomian, NY	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. Yervant Chekijian, MA	<b>1,500</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Aram Adourian, MA	<b>1,000</b>
Dr. Michel Costes and Mrs. Alice Emirzayan Costes, NY	<b>1,500</b>	AGBU Providence Chapter, RI	<b>1,000</b>
Dr. and Mrs. Chris D. Donikyan, NY	<b>1,500</b>	Mr. Donald Aharonian, MA	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. John Ehamjian, AZ	<b>1,500</b>	Mrs. Cecilia Ajemian, NY	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Saro Hartounian, NJ	<b>1,500</b>	Miss Adrienne Alexanian, NY	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Jack P. Margossian, NJ	<b>1,500</b>	Dr. Svetlana Amirkhanian, NJ	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. Edward T. Minor, MA	<b>1,500</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Mehrdad Amirsaleh, NJ	<b>1,000</b>
Dr. Laszlo Osvath, NY	<b>1,500</b>	Mr. Aram Ampagoumian, CT	<b>1,000</b>
Ms. Candace L. Quinn, CT	<b>1,500</b>	Anonymous "MM", UT	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. Steven H. Stepanian, CA	<b>1,500</b>	Ms. Helen Anoushian, NY	<b>1,000</b>
Mrs. Ethel Terzian, PA	<b>1,500</b>	Dr. and Mrs. Francois S. Antounian, CA	<b>1,000</b>
The Economist Newspaper, NA, Incorporated, NY	<b>1,500</b>	Drs. Vartkess Ara and Alice B. Apkarian, CA	<b>1,000</b>
The Satenik & Adom Ourian Educational Foundation, NY	<b>1,500</b>	Armenian Missionary Association of America, NJ	<b>1,000</b>
The Willametta K. Day Foundation, CA	<b>1,500</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis E. Artinian, MA	<b>1,000</b>
Mrs. Hasmik Vardanyan, MA	<b>1,500</b>	Mr. Anto Atayan, Lebanon	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Vasken Yacoubian, Armenia	<b>1,500</b>	Mr. Aram Babikian, Lebanon	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. Bruno Knadjian, France	<b>1,418</b>	Prof. and Mrs. Rostom Bablanian, FL	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. Philippe Panossian, France	<b>1,418</b>	Drs. Rashid and Rola Baddoura, NJ	<b>1,000</b>
Ms. Sara Anjargolian, CA	<b>1,400</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Ara Bagdasarian, OH	<b>1,000</b>
Attendants of Glendale Adult Day Health Care Center, CA	<b>1,400</b>	Dr. and Mrs. Robert A. Bagramian, MI	<b>1,000</b>
Mrs. Shakeh Basmajian and Family, Canada	<b>1,385</b>	Mrs. Lara Baloyan, CA	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. Herve Samour Cachian, France	<b>1,363</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Eric Baroyan, NY	<b>1,000</b>
Dr. Barry A. Halejian, NJ	<b>1,350</b>	Mr. Peter Basmajian, Hong Kong	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. Tigran Avagyan, Ukraine	<b>1,322</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Varouj Bedikian, CA	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. Artiom Karadzhyan, Ukraine	<b>1,322</b>	Mrs. Mary Bedoian, MA	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. Gor Abgaryan, Ukraine	<b>1,307</b>	Dr. Carmen Mansourian Bergman and Dr. Sten W. Bergman, NJ	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. Philippe V. Atamian, Belgium	<b>1,307</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Varoujan Boghossian, CA	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Varujan N. Babikian, CA	<b>1,307</b>	Mrs. Lusi Caparyan, NJ	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. Tigran Kibarian, Italy	<b>1,307</b>	Dr. Sarkis J. Chobanian, TN	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Stephane Petrossian, France	<b>1,307</b>	Mrs. Irene M. Churukian, NY	<b>1,000</b>
The Akkelian Family, Canada	<b>1,300</b>	Dr. and Mrs. Armen D. Der Kiureghian, CA	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Vahe Balouzian, NY	<b>1,300</b>	Mr. Berg Djelderian, MI	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. Dana Giuntini, ME	<b>1,300</b>	Ms. Suzanne M. Eveillard, NY	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Vahe V. Kiljian, NJ	<b>1,300</b>	Ms. Clementina S. Flaherty, NY	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Aram V. Tatusian, CA	<b>1,300</b>	Mr. Rafic Ghoogassian, CA	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Ms. Anton Sahazizian, NJ	<b>1,269</b>	Mr. Robert S. Gregory, NJ	<b>1,000</b>
Ms. Caroline Partamian, CA	<b>1,202</b>	Dr. Hagop Gulekjian, NJ	<b>1,000</b>
AGBU Alex & Marie Manoogian School Students, MI	<b>1,200</b>	Mr. Ohannes Guven, Canada	<b>1,000</b>
Dr. and Mrs. Jirayr Balikian, MA	<b>1,200</b>	Mrs. Betty Ann Hagopian, CA	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Khoren Nalbandian, NJ	<b>1,200</b>	Mr. Gary W. Hampar, CA	<b>1,000</b>
Ms. Hasmig Parseghian, CA	<b>1,200</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Herdemian, NY	<b>1,000</b>
Mrs. Rosemary Y. Dean, VA	<b>1,155</b>	Drs. Armen and Gayane Hovakimian, NY	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Rafi H. Balouzian, CA	<b>1,150</b>	Ms. Mary A. Hovnanian, FL	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Karekin B. Movsesian, NJ	<b>1,150</b>	Ms. Marlene Imirzian, AZ	<b>1,000</b>
Koren & Alice Odian Kasparian Fund - AMAA, NJ	<b>1,120</b>	J.D. Avakian Family Foundation, USA	<b>1,000</b>
Dr. and Mrs. Hagop Bedikian and Family, TX	<b>1,100</b>	Ms. Diane Jaffee, NY	<b>1,000</b>
Mrs. Alice Hiser, OR	<b>1,100</b>	Ms. Sona Kalfaian-Ahlijian, RI	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Varoojan Iskenderian, Australia	<b>1,100</b>	Prof. and Mrs. John G. Kassakian, MA	<b>1,000</b>
Mrs. Sandra Shahinian Leitner, NJ	<b>1,100</b>	Mr. Serge Kassardjian, NY	<b>1,000</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Gary S. Mesdjian, CA	<b>1,100</b>	Mr. and Mrs. John H. Kedeshian, CA	<b>1,000</b>



## AGBU Donors

Mr. Gemin Keshishian, CA	\$ 1,000	Mr. Chant Manoukian, AZ	\$ 1,000
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Khachigian, CA	1,000	Mr. Jack Marcarian, CA	1,000
Mr. Paul Khalarian, MA	1,000	Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Margosian, IL	1,000
Mr. Shahe A. Khatchadourian, Lebanon	1,000	Mr. and Mrs. James DerHagopian, NY	1,000
Ms. Agnes Killabian, FL	1,000	Mrs. Seyla Martayan Lan, NY	1,000
Mr. and Mrs. Boghos M. Kirazian, TX	1,000	Mr. Artin Massihi, CA	1,000
Knights of Vartan Charitable Fund, MI	1,000	Ms. Miriam McFadden, UT	1,000
Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Koomey, TX	1,000	Ms. Liza Melconian, CA	1,000
The Koomjohn Family, IL	1,000	Ms. Madeline Melkonian, NY	1,000
Mr. Richard T. Krikorian, FL	1,000	Dr. Anoush Miridjanian, NY	1,000
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Boyajian Lacy, NY	1,000	Dr. Arshag Mooradian, FL	1,000
Ms. Judith Larsen, FL	1,000	Mr. R. Mihran Mooradian, NY	1,000
Mr. and Ms. Douglas Lewis, IL	1,000	Mr. and Mrs. Anthony K. Moroyan, CA	1,000
Los Angeles United Investment Company, CA	1,000	Mr. and Mrs. Michael Mouradian, MI	1,000
Lucy Shahenian Estate, TX	1,000	Mr. and Mrs. Avedis Movsesian, NJ	1,000
LyonRoss Capital Management LLC, NY	1,000	Dr. and Mrs. Arsham Naalbandian, LA	1,000
Mr. James Manoogian, CA	1,000	Mrs. Anna M. Nalbandian, CA	1,000

### MARAL ANI AVAKIAN

## A Life of Music

**B**y the time Maral Ani Avakian was nine years old, she could play Aram Khachaturian's ballet suite "Gayane" by ear. Recognized very early in life as a talented musician, music would come to play a fundamental role in her life, which was prematurely cut short in 2006. Her love for music continued after her passing through an AGBU scholarship fund established in her name to help Armenian students of music reach their potential.

Maral was raised in a household filled with music. After graduating from the AGBU Tarouhi Hagopian School for Girls in Lebanon and the AGBU Melkonian Educational Institute in Cyprus, Maral's mother, Vartouhi Sarkissian, was a student at the Lebanese National Higher Conservatory of Music in Beirut where she focused on singing. After moving to the United States, she instilled her own love of music in her daughters, first in Maral—born in Detroit in 1957—and then in her twin daughters, Gareen and Loreen, born five years later.

Maral started piano lessons at the age of four at the prestigious Detroit Institute of Music Education, taking to the instrument almost immediately and quickly excelling in her craft. As a child, she often volunteered to perform at Armenian community functions, dazzled her parents and classmates with her talent and received numerous awards and accolades for her musical abilities.

Her interest in music followed her to California, where she moved with her family in 1971, and blossomed alongside a profound interest in her Armenian heritage. Maral won a full scholarship to the University of Southern California (USC),

but decided to major in business and psychology, continuing to study the piano with private lessons.

Her beauty led her to dabble in modeling after graduating from USC, but her eye for business and her drive for risk-taking ultimately drew her to a career in real estate in California and Arizona—all with the idea that she would one day save enough money to leave real estate and focus exclusively on her music. She had the determination to continue her music on the

side, composing for television and film and always looking for an opportunity to improve her performance skills, style and technique.

A turning point in her life came in 2004 when Maral made her first trip to Armenia and fell in love with the country. She was struck and saddened by the gloominess and poverty that pervaded the country, even more than a decade after independence from Soviet rule, and was drawn to Armenian artists in particular and felt a connection to the national pain they expressed in their art. She returned with many beautiful paintings that she treasured until her untimely death at the age of 48.

In an effort to pay tribute to her daughter's love of music and her devotion to Armenia, Vartouhi founded the AGBU Maral Ani Avakian Memorial Endowment to support music students, in particular those studying in Armenia. "Maral was a vibrant, outgoing young woman who endeared herself to everyone she met. With this endowment, I want to help support students who are capable and talented like she was, so that she will remain bright in the hearts and minds of more than just those who loved her in life," said Vartouhi. In this way, Maral's memory will live on in the musical notes of AGBU scholarship recipients for generations to come. **■**



Mr. Hovanes T. Nigohosian, TX	\$	1,000
Mrs. Marilyn Norehad, IL		1,000
Mr. and Mrs. H. Kenneth Norian, CA		1,000
Mrs. Barbara Oskanian, Lebanon		1,000
Dr. Vicken Pamoukian, NY		1,000
Mr. Larry A. Peters, NY		1,000
Dr. Gina A. Posluszny, OH		1,000
Mr. Ara K. Pridjian, IL		1,000
Ralph Vartigian Estate, NY		1,000
Mrs. Ellen Sarkisian, MA		1,000
Mr. and Mrs. John Shahabian, CA		1,000
Mr. and Mrs. Guy A. Simonian, CT		1,000
Dr. and Mrs. Simon K. Simonian, CA		1,000
Dr. Maxine Snyder, CA		1,000
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald A. Sognalian, CA		1,000
Dr. Daniel Stambouljian, Argentina		1,000
Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis V. Tatusian, CA		1,000
Ms. Ann-Marie Tcholakian, TX		1,000
The Eugene and Estelle Ferkauf Foundation, Joshua A. Kleinberg, NY		1,000
Ms. Marie Thomassian and Ms. Jeannine Thomassian-Tomaselli, MA		1,000
Mr. Garo R. Toomajanian, MA		1,000
Mrs. Sandra K. Toorinjian, HI		1,000
Ms. Elyse Topalian, NY		1,000
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Trimmer, NC		1,000
United States Drug Testing Laboratories, INC., IL		1,000
Vahe Boyajian Trust, CO		1,000
Ms. Anita Vogel, CA		1,000
Wolters Kluwer, MN		1,000
Mrs. Varvaria Yemenidjian, Italy		1,000
Dr. Ross H. Zoll and Mrs. Natalie Bandeian-Zoll, VA		1,000

## \$501-\$999

St. Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church of Washington, DC **985**; Anonymous "WK", NV **900**; Mr. and Mrs. William Berberian, IN **900**; Mr. Stephen Berenson, NY **900**; Johnson & Johnson, NJ **900**; Mr. and Mrs. Gregory S. Yazujiyan, PA **900**; Dr. and Mrs. Mark Badach, NJ **850**; Chevron, NJ **850**; Dr. Mhair Orchanian, CA **850**; Dr. Vicki L. Ashton and Mr. Nate Wakely, ME **800**; Mr. Richard G. Balian, TN **800**; Mr. Daron Minasyan, NJ **800**; Mr. and Mrs. Harold A. Sakayan, MD **800**; Mr. and Mrs. Armen Shahinian, NJ **800**; Ms. Hasmik Kurdian, Canada **787**; Mr. Patrick Malakian, France **784**; Mr. and Mrs. Vasken G. Altounian, Canada **769**; Mr. and Mrs. Souren Agemian, Canada **752**; Mr. Shavarsh Menjolian, Canada **752**; Dr. and Mrs. Minas R. Apelian, PA **750**; Mrs. Ani Emrikian, IL **750**; Dr. and Mrs. Roger J. Hajjar, NJ **750**; Mrs. Vera Hartunian, CT **750**; Mr. Edward J. Nalbantian, United Kingdom **750**; Mr. and Mrs. Diran V. Tashian, FL **750**; Mr. Berge Tatian, MA **750**; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas S. White, NY **750**; Mr. Levon Minnetyan, MA **720**; Mr. and Mrs. Souren Agemian, Canada **710**; Ms. Vanessa Ketchedjian, France **709**; Mr. Jack Kassabian, Canada **702**; American Express, NJ **700**; Mr. and Mrs. Jim W. Avakian, NV **700**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Hajjar, NJ **700**; Mr. and Mrs. Dikran Minassian, NY **700**; Ms. Sarah A. Partin, NJ **700**; Mrs. Knar Basmadjian, Canada **678**; Mrs. Arpine Aleksanyan, CA **675**; Mrs. Arline Medazoumian, United Kingdom **661**; Mr. and Mrs. Karen Navoyan, Germany **654**; Mr. John Dahlberg and Ms. Christina Yaghoubian Hillman, CA **650**; Mr. and Mrs. Khajag H. Tchakerian, PA **650**; Mr. Greg Mikaelian, CA **630**; Amazon Smile, USA **626**; Family and Friends of Alicia Cristina Sarafian, Argentina **620**; Microsoft Matching Gifts Program, NJ **610**; St. Sarkis Armenian Church, TX **610**; Ms. Vartouhi Basmadjian, CA **600**; Mr. and Mrs. H. Chakmakjian, NY **600**; The

Damlamian Family, VA **600**; Mr. and Mrs. Stewart R. Duckman, PA **600**; Mr. and Mrs. Garo Garabedian, NJ **600**; Mr. Nubar Hachigian, CA **600**; Dr. and Mrs. Eric Y. Janigian, CA **600**; Mr. Arsen Petrosyan, VA **600**; Mr. and Mrs. Haig Shamlan, OR **600**; Mr. Toros Shamlan, Jr., NY **600**; Mr. Rene F. Topalian, CA **600**; Mr. Michael Domanian, The Netherlands **548**; Mrs. Nora Ohanjanians, Canada **545**; Viken Gazarian, France **545**; Mr. Raul Aristakessian, Brazil **523**; Ms. Katia Petrossian, Switzerland **523**; Dr. Davit Kocharyan, Canada **520**; Dr. John and Mrs. Sossi Manoukian, Canada **510**; Mr. Andranik Arzumian, CA **508**

## \$500

Dr. Ervand Abrahamian, NY **500**; Mr. Paul Adimando, NY **500**; AGBU San Fernando Valley Veterans Committee, CA **500**; Mr. Harold Aghjian, WI **500**; Mr. and Mrs. David Ajemian, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Howard P. Atesian, MI **500**; Dr. and Mrs. Archie B. Attarian, MI **500**; Mr. Aram Babikian, NY **500**; Mr. Vahe Balabanian, Canada **500**; Mr. David Balekdjian, MA **500**; Mr. Raffi Balian, VA **500**; Mrs. Arsinoe S. Baron, CA **500**; Mr. Charles T. Barooshian, CA **500**; Ms. Lily Barry, CA **500**; Dr. Ernest M. Barsamian and Mrs. Sonig Kradjian, FL **500**; Mr. Armen Basmadjian, NY **500**; Mr. Robert Basmajian, NY **500**; Mr. Shahe Basmajian, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Haroutune Bedelian, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Viken B. Bedrossian, CA **500**; Mr. Ara Bicakci, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Bilezikian, MA **500**; Mrs. Sheny Bobelian, NY **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Paul S. Boorujy, NJ **500**; Mr. Hagop Boyadjian, NY **500**; Ms. Mariam Z. Boyajian, RI **500**; Mr. Robert Cafasso, NJ **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Chakarian, CA **500**; Ms. Tania Chamlian, NY **500**; Ms. Jennifer Chang, CA **500**; Mr. Ray Chiljan, CA **500**; Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdachian, CA **500**; Mr. Neil Edwards, Canada **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Samir D. Ekmekji, CA **500**; Dr. Anahid Ordjanian Wilson, NY **500**; Ms. Nazelie E. Elmassian, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Garbis Essaian, CA **500**; Dr. and Mrs. Shahe V. Fereshetian, MA **500**; Dr. Nurhan Findikyan, NY **500**; Ms. Penelope D. Foley, CA **500**; Mr. Mario J. Gabelli, NY **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Mark Gabrellian, NY **500**; Mrs. Helen M. Geogorian, CT **500**; Mr. Ronald Glazer, NY **500**; The Goshgarian Family, MI **500**; Jack C. Goushian, Esq., PA **500**; Mr. Kapriyel Govjian, CA **500**; Mr. Victor A. Grigorian, CA **500**; Mr. Vahan A. Gurekian, MA **500**; The Honorable Nina Hachigian and Mr. Thomas Joseph Deegan-Day, CA **500**; The Shirikjian, Haddadian and Wartan Families, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Haig M. Hagopian, VA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Artoun Hamalian, NJ **500**; Ms. Janet Houser and Mr. Anthony Houser, MA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Herman S. Hovagimyan, CA **500**; Mr. Jeffrey Hovhanesian, MA **500**; Mrs. Joan Ilves, NH **500**; Mr. Diron Jebejian, NY **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Karekin G. Kapreljian, AZ **500**; Mr. Robert Kapreljian, IL **500**; Mr. Edward Karakaian, NY **500**; Dr. Hratch Kasparian, NJ **500**; Mr. Nerses A. Kazarian, NJ **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Keating, NY **500**; Mrs. Edna Keleshian, CT **500**; Mr. Richard V. Keteyian, MI **500**; Mrs. Dalita Khatchadourian, NJ **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Garo Kholamian, IL **500**; The Kiatibian Family, France **500**; Dr. and Mrs. Alfred Kiriakos, France **500**; Mr. Norman Koshkarian, OR **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Vahe Kradjian, CA **500**; Mrs. Alice Madanyan, IL **500**; Dr. and Mrs. Salem Magarian, CA **500**; Mr. Gregg N. Mahdessian, VA **500**; Mr. Robert Maksudian, NY **500**; Gen. Gevork Mandzhikyan, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Levon Margosian, NY **500**; Ms. Linda J. Margossian, CA **500**; Ms. Sona Markarian, CA **500**; Dr. Hagop S. Mashikian, FL **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Jack N. Matosian, IL **500**; Dr. and Mrs. Haroutune Mekhjian, NJ **500**; Ms. Yolanda Melik-Hovsepian, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Markar Melkonian, CA **500**; Mr. Harmik Minassian, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Moore, NJ **500**; Mr. Robert Moore, CA **500**; Mr. Bogos Mortchikian, MI **500**; Ms. Catherine Mosgofian, MA **500**; Ms. Ellen Mugar, ME **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Muncherian, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. K. George Najarian, MA **500**; Mrs. Mary Nalbandian, MI **500**; Normandy Real Estate Partners, NJ **500**; Ms. Sita Ohanessian, MN **500**; Dr. Edward Paloyan, IL **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph



## AGBU Donors

Papas, NJ **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Parsegian, MA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Viken Peltekian, WI **500**; Mrs. Joanne A. Peterson, MA **500**; Mrs. Jane Pyne, ME **500**; Qualcomm Matching Gift Program, NJ **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Rensel, NJ **500**; Mr. David I. Robbins, NY **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Roberto Rodriguez, PA **500**; Ms. Lynne Gertmenian Rumery, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Vartivar Sagherian, MI **500**; Ms. Barbara M. Sahagan, CT **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis Sakiz, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Alex Sanders, NY **500**; Miss Annie Sarkissian, CA **500**; Mr. Berge Sarkissian, MA **500**; Dr. Anne A. Shirinian Orlando, NJ **500**; Dr. Michael H. Simonian and Mrs. Satenick Moradkhanian, CA **500**; Ms. Alin Simonyan, NJ **500**; Mr. Amir Soltanianzadeh, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara Soukiassian, Canada **500**; Mr. John Soursourian, MA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Victor G. Stepanian, CA **500**; Ms. Ina Stern, NY **500**; Mr. Dicron Tafalian, Jr., TX **500**; Dr. Andrew John Tashjian, NJ **500**; Mr. Christian Tashjian, NY **500**; Mr. David Tateosian, CA **500**; Ms. Maida Tchaprastian, CA **500**; The Boeing Company, IL **500**; Mr. E. Richard Thomas, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Leon Tokatlian, NH **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Sebouh Tomacan, CA **500**; Mr. Leo R. Toomajian, Jr., SC **500**; Mrs. Alice D. Topjian, CA **500**; Mr. and Mrs. John E. Traina, PA **500**; Mrs. Maria I. Tufenkdjian, FL **500**; Mr. James F. Tufenkian, NY **500**; UBS Matching Gift Program, NJ **500**; Ms. Lisa Vetro, NY **500**; Dr. Ronald A. Weller, PA **500**; Dr. Cynthia Soghikian Wolfe, WA **500**; Mr. William A. Yasoian, CA **500**; Ms. Sylvia Yegavian, Canada **500**; Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Yerezian, CA **500**; Mr. Anton Yergat, CA **500**

### \$251-\$499

Ms. Nairy N. Gunjian, Canada **470**; Mrs. Ani Kudaverdian, Canada **451**; Mrs. Lynn D. King, NY **450**; Mr. and Mrs. Alex Markarian, NJ **450**; Mr. Ralph Matewosian, CA **450**; Mr. Souren Agemian, Canada **430**; Ms. Karen A. Papazian, NY **430**; Mr. Arthur Bayramyan, CA **425**; Ms. Joan Bardez, CA **400**; Mr. and Mrs. Vahan Barseghian, CA **400**; Mr. Sol Chooljian, CA **400**; Mr. George Dakermanji, MD **400**; Mr. Hermon Hagopian, CA **400**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hogle, FL **400**; Prof. Carol M. Koroghlian, WI **400**; Mrs. V. Sonig Kradjian, MA **400**; Mr. Aram Minassian, Switzerland **400**; Ms. Armine Afeyan, MA **392**; Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Alonso, NY **375**; Anonymous "NB", MA **375**; Mr. Walter Asatoorian, Canada **375**; Mr. Hagop Boyadjian, NJ **375**; Mr. and Mrs. Haig Madjarian, Canada **375**; Mr. Haroutioun Ohannessian, Canada **375**; Mr. Georgik Shahbazi, Canada **375**; Dr. Lena Terjanian, Canada **375**; Mr. Albert Yeghikian, Canada **375**; Mr. Rafik Zeinalian, Canada **375**; Mr. Andreas Ohanessian, CA **365**; Mr. Sako Badalian, CA **364**; Mr. Yervant Donigian, CA **360**; Mr. and Mrs. John R. Jasperse, MA **360**; Mrs. Anoush Haroutunian Mueller, WA **360**; Dr. Elisabeth Ondrak-Zohrab, Austria **360**; Mr. and Mrs. Vahan Benglian, Canada **358**; Dr. and Mrs. Raymond Kevork, Canada **351**; Dr. Ronald A. Arakelian, CA **350**; Mr. Peter Chobanian, WI **350**; Mr. and Mrs. Levon Chopourian, CA **350**; Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Cooper, Canada **350**; Ms. Lerna Ekmekcioglu, NJ **350**; Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Goshtigian, CA **350**; Dr. and Mrs. Raffy A. Hovanessian, NJ **350**; Mr. Paul H. Kayaian and Mrs. Karen Carpenter, NY **350**; Mr. Nazaret Koroglu, NY **350**; Mr. Richard E. Leach, MA **350**; Mr. and Mrs. Antranik Manoukian, CA **350**; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur S. Mardigian, MI **350**; Dr. and Mrs. Khatchadour B. Palandjian, PA **350**; Mr. Vahe Sahakian, RI **350**; Mr. and Mrs. Raffi T. Setrakian, NJ **350**; Mr. and Mrs. Edward T. Simonian, CA **350**; Mr. Richard G. Tashjian, NY **350**; Mr. and Mrs. Zohrab M. Tcholakian, TX **350**; Dr. and Mrs. Roben Torosyan, MA **350**; Ms. Anna Ayrapetyan, United Kingdom **320**; Prof. Kerop Janoyan, NY **310**; Mr. and Mrs. Artine Toumayan, CA **310**; Mrs. Debra Bogosian, NY **309**; Sylvia Balabanian, Canada **307**; ACAB (Asociación Cultural Armenia de Barcelona), Spain **304**; Anonymous **302**; Mr. and Mrs. Hampar Davidian, Canada **301**; Dr. Janis Ahmadian-Baer and Mr. Richard Baer, CA **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Leon Alexander, CA **300**; Apple Inc., USA **300**; Mr. Gregory Arutunian, MI **300**; Dr. and Mrs. Richard Babaian, TX **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Antranik Babikian and Ms. Talin

Babikian, NJ **300**; Drs. Bagdig Baghdassarian and Ani Chouldjian-Baghdassarian, NY **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara J. Balikian, MA **300**; Mr. Vicken Bedian, NJ **300**; Ms. Barbara Boyajian, NJ **300**; Ms. Helen Chakmakian, MI **300**; Ms. Anita Darmanian, NJ **300**; Misses Isabelle and Giselle Davidian, Canada **300**; Ms. Dianne Der Bogosian, VA **300**; Mrs. Roswita Fragomeni, NY **300**; Ms. Kathy Goolian, MI **300**; Mr. Arshavir Grigoryan, CA **300**; Mr. Peter Grubstein, CA **300**; Mr. Harry Hagopian, PA **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Aramais Haroutunian, CA **300**; Ms. Arpy Hatzikian, CA **300**; Mr. Russell E. Hoogasian, MA **300**; Mr. Hagop Hovaguimian, OR **300**; Mr. and Mrs. William T. Johnson, SC **300**; JP Morgan Chase Foundation, MA **300**; Mr. Guillermo E. Juarez, CA **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Kalashian, CA **300**; Ms. Isabelle Kamishlian, GA **300**; Mrs. Maggy G. Khatcherian, MA **300**; Mrs. Rosemarie N. Kilajian, Canada **300**; Mr. Sarkis V. Kish, Sr., TN **300**; Ms. Susan Y. Klein, NJ **300**; Mr. Artem Konstandian, Russia **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara Kurkciyan, CA **300**; Miss Alberta Magzarian, MD **300**; Mr. Matthew Marcarian, Australia **300**; Dr. Richard E. Mikaelian, NY **300**; Mr. Asao Mikawa, NY **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Garo Minassian, NJ **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Hratch Minassian, MA **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Vatche Minassian, NY **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Steven R. Nargizian, NJ **300**; Mr. Paul S. Nazarian, MI **300**; The Palvetzian Family, Canada **300**; Miss Doris Paroonagian, FL **300**; Dr. and Mrs. Jack M. Saroyan, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ovian, CA **300**; Mrs. Nelly Semerdjian, Lebanon **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Aram Setrakian, PA **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Sergey Sirounian, NY **300**; Mr. Krekor Tchakian, CA **300**; Mr. and Mrs. Haroot Tokatlian and Family, NH **300**; Mr. Vartan Torosian, CA **300**; Ms. Carol I. Vartanian, FL **300**; Dr. and Mrs. Ara K. Yeretsian, IN **300**; Mrs. Dalita M. Zarasian, AZ **300**; Mrs. Silvia Alexanian, Canada **292**; Mr. and Mrs. Keith L. Griffin, CA **280**; Dr. and Mrs. Dave Lalama, NY **280**; Ms. Silva Basmajian, Canada **276**; Macy's, Inc., OH **275**; Mr. and Mrs. Adom Knadjian, Canada **273**; Ms. Marguerite Shaque Tarjan, NY **265**; Ms. Evelyne Baghdassarian, France **264**; Mrs. Anita Lebiar, Lebanon **264**; Harry S. Cherken, Jr., Esq., PA **263**; Laura Boyadjian, France **262**; Ms. Chloe Manzi, France **262**; Mr. Peter Sabounjian, CA **260**; Ms. Renita M. Esayan, PA **252**

### \$250

Dr. Herand Abcarian, IL **250**; Mr. Ken Afarian, NJ **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Rafik Aghabegian, TX **250**; Mr. Vahram Alexanian, NY **250**; The Ambartsumian Family, United Kingdom **250**; Mr. John P. Amershadian, NY **250**; Mr. Richard Amiraian, NY **250**; Mr. George Andonyan, VA **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis Andonian, CA **250**; Mr. Sevag Arakelian, NJ **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara Araz, NJ **250**; Dr. Silva Arslanian, PA **250**; Mr. Leo C. Asadoorian, MA **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Aslanian, CA **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Rod S. Atamian, NV **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Nishan Atinizian, MA **250**; Mrs. Curina H. Atwood, MI **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Avedikian, NY **250**; Mr. Berge Paul Avesian, Sr., MI **250**; Mr. Vartan Babayan, CA **250**; Mr. Greg Balekjian, OR **250**; Mr. Khachdoor Banadar, CA **250**; Mr. George Bejian, NY **250**; Blackrock, USA **250**; Mr. Simon Bogigian, NY **250**; Mr. Chris Bohjalian, VT **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bonomo, CT **250**; Mrs. Queenie Chakerian, CA **250**; Ms. Susan Dadian, NY **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Dadourian, NY **250**; Mr. Dikran Dagavarian, NH **250**; Ms. Linda Dardarian, CA **250**; Mr. Mark Dermanouelian, RI **250**; Mr. Robert Djergaian, AZ **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Vahakn Dovletian, NJ **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Dick Eden, NY **250**; Ms. Nadiya Ermarkaryan, NY **250**; Mr. Brian Finlay, NY **250**; FM Global Foundation, RI **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael Garcia, NJ **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Gertmenian, CA **250**; Mr. George J. Goolkasian, TX **250**; Mr. Stephen Gurahian, NY **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Mihran Hoplamazian, MI **250**; Mr. and Mrs. William R. House, KY **250**; Mr. Charles Ingber, NY **250**; Mrs. Amy T. Jenkins, OH **250**; Dr. and Mrs. Hrayr A. Kabakian, CA **250**; Mr. George Kachigian and Ms. Alice Kachigian, OR **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kachikian, NJ **250**; Ms. Mildred Kandanian, NY **250**; Mr. Dickran Kaprielian, NJ **250**; Dr. and Mrs.

Kirkor V. Karachorlu, IL **250**; Dr. and Mrs. Michael Kashgarian, CT **250**; Mr. L. Robert Kaswell, NY **250**; Ms. Grace Kazarian, CA **250**; Mrs. Alice Kessedjian, CA **250**; Ms. Karen V. Keusayan, CA **250**; Dr. and Mrs. Thaddeus Khachatourian, AZ **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Khatchadourian, NY **250**; Mr. Steve Khroyan, CA **250**; Ms. Christina Kiljian, NY **250**; Mr. Simon S. Kramedjian, OR **250**; Ms. Nancy Kricorian, NY **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Seth Lee, MD **250**; Mr. Nasser A. Malik, NY **250**; Mr. Douglas Mateyaschuk, NY **250**; Mr. Matig Mavissakalian, OH **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Medzorian, MA **250**; Dr. and Mrs. Garo Megerian, PA **250**; Ms. Astrid Meghrigian, CA **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Tiber Meguerian, FL **250**; Ms. Ani Mehrabian, CA **250**; Mr. George Mikitarian, FL **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Moe, CA **250**; Ms. Michelle Tusan, NV **250**; Ms. Carolyn Mugar, MA **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Natcharian, CT **250**; Nordstrom, WA **250**; Mrs. Arsine Nossardi, CA **250**; Ms. Makrouhi A. Oxian, IN **250**; Mr. Samuel L. and Virginia C Panossian, CA **250**; Mr. Albert Papazian, MD **250**; Mr. Agop Jack Parnoutsoukian, CA **250**; Ms. Jollee Patterson, OR **250**; Mr. John Paul Perzigian, CA **250**; Ms. Margaret Petrosoff, MI **250**; Ms. Alice E. Piligian, MA **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Stephen G. Piligian, MA **250**; Pinnacle Realty of New York LLC, NY **250**; Mrs. Adrienne Najarian Rabkin, MA **250**; Mr. George Rassam, CA **250**; Mr. and Mrs. George Saraydarian, NJ **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Vahan Sarkisian, NH **250**; Mr. Berg Sevelyun, NY **250**; Dr. and Mrs. Paul Shahinian, NJ **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Elie Shami, NY **250**; Mr. Raffi Shirinyan, CA **250**; Dr. Greg Simsarian, CA **250**; Mrs. Sita Kurkjian Smith, MD **250**; Dr. and Mrs. Aram G. Sogomonian, MA **250**; Mr. Vatche Soualian, TX **250**; Mr. Harry Soukiassian, CA **250**; Mr. Aram Stepanian, CA **250**; Mrs. Natalie Tarkanian-Bailey, CA **250**; The Jerrehian Foundation, PA **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis Torosian, CA **250**; Ms. Karen Tourian, CO **250**; Mr. and Mrs. George Vartanian, CT **250**; Mr. Stepan A. Vartanian, CA **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Tom Webb, NC **250**; Mr. James Wilson, SC **250**; Ms. Ani Yessaillian, MA **250**; Mr. Robert Yeterian, CT **250**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara Zadourian, NJ **250**; Dr. Amy Zimet, NY **250**; Ms. Gale Zorian, PA **250**

## **\$101–\$249**

Mr. and Mrs. Kevork Meterissian, Canada **230**; Mr. Apkar G. Omartian, FL **225**; Mr. Hagop Altounian, Canada **218**; Ms. Aida Knadjian, Canada **218**; Mr. and Mrs. Barry Khojajian, Canada **217**; Ms. Sandra Afeyan, Canada **213**; Ms. Alexia T. Kazandjian, France **213**; Mr. Ara Dostourian, GA **210**; Ms. Susan Adams, NY **200**; Dr. Edward Araz Adourian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Iain Aitken, NY **200**; Anonymous "SB", CO **200**; Mr. Richard Apalakian, MA **200**; Ms. Asli Apkan, CA **200**; Mr. Ara Arakelian, MA **200**; Mr. Archie Arpiarian, MA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Arsenian, MA **200**; Dr. and Mrs. Armen Arslanian, MA **200**; Mr. Asadoor O. Astorian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Jean Avakian, CA **200**; Mr. Raymond V. Avedian, CA **200**; Dr. and Mrs. Vatche Ayyazian, OH **200**; Mr. Arthur Aznavorian, MA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Vazgen Babayan, CA **200**; Mr. Vazgen Badalyan, United Kingdom **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Bagdasarian, CT **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Bagdasarian, MA **200**; Ms. Irene Baghoomians, Australia **200**; Mrs. Jeanette Baker, CA **200**; Mr. Garo Bakerjian, MI **200**; Mr. George Balafoutis, IL **200**; Dr. Richard Balikian, CA **200**; Mr. Yenovk Balikian, CA **200**; Bank of America, NC **200**; Mrs. Lori J. Barbour, VA **200**; Mrs. Arpi Barsam, CA **200**; Dr. and Mrs. Garo Basmadjian, OK **200**; Ms. Zabel Benenyan, CA **200**; Ms. Martha A. Boudakian and Mr. Vincent Lima, NY **200**; Dr. and Mrs. Max M. Boudakian, NY **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Hagop Bouldoukian, NJ **200**; Ms. Carolyn J. Bozkurtian, MA **200**; Dr. Paula P. Brownlee, VA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Berge Bulbulian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Carlson, ME **200**; Mr. and Ms. James L. Carruthers, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Casali, NJ **200**; Ms. Lara K. Chahinian, CA **200**; Dr. Zaven Chakmakjian, TX **200**; Mr. John Charkoudian, NC **200**; Mr. Gevorg Chobanyan, NJ **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Drew Cook, NC **200**; Mr. Lawrence D. Cretan and Mrs. Mary Claire Jacobson, CA

**200**; Mr. and Mrs. Gregory D. Dadourian, NY **200**; Ms. Mary Dadoyan, NJ **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Sahag Dakesian, MA **200**; Mr. Aram R. Daronatsy, IL **200**; Mr. Raymond Davidian, MA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Deloian, VA **200**; Mr. Vahe H. Derounian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael H. Dersookian, MD **200**; Mr. Hagop Dickranian, CA **200**; Ms. Donna Dorian, NY **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Douglas, Jr., Bermuda **200**; Dragon Philanthropic Fund, OH **200**; Mr. Philip Eckian, TX **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Hrachia Ellyin, CA **200**; The Fajardo Family, NJ **200**; Mrs. Arpine Fereshetian, MA **200**; Mr. Armen G. Fisher, NY **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Kent C. Geil, TX **200**; Ms. Maria Gesualdi, NJ **200**; Mr. Vartan Geudelekian, NY **200**; Ms. Diana Maxtone Graham, NY **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Vicente Granillo, Jr., AZ **200**; Dr. and Mrs. Sombat Grigorian, MD **200**; Ms. Eugenie Guezian, CA **200**; Mr. Pascal Guzel, OR **200**; Mr. Harry L. Guzelimian, CA **200**; Mr. Artin Hamamciyan, CA **200**; Mr. Alec Harootunian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Hartunian, CT **200**; Mr. Robert M. Hodakowski and Ms. Susan Angelastro, MA **200**; Mrs. Rita Holobogian, NY **200**; Ms. Ani Hovanessian, NJ **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Leon Z. Hovsepian, NJ **200**; Mrs. Anita Hovsepian, PA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ishkanian, NJ **200**; Miss Elisabeth Istanbuli and Mr. Benedict Hammer, Switzerland **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Magardici Jamgocian, NY **200**; Mr. Richard Janigian, CA **200**; Mr. Edvard Jeamgocian, NY **200**; John Hancock Insurance Company, NY **200**; Mr. Paul Jorjorian, CA **200**; Mrs. Anahid M. Juozaitis, NJ **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Edward P. Kaiserian, PA **200**; Dr. and Mrs. Berj T. Kalamkarian, CA **200**; Mr. Khajak Kalbakian, CA **200**; Dr. Vicken V. Kalbian, VA **200**; Mr. Jack Kalpakian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Brian Kamajian, IL **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kazanjian, MA **200**; Ms. Juliet Kazanjian, NJ **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Keosayian, NJ **200**; Dr. Aline Ketefian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth M. Keverian, MA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kharabian, Canada **200**; Mrs. Houry Kharabian, Canada **200**; Mr. Jack Khorozian, NJ **200**; Mr. Dennis W. Kizerian, AZ **200**; Mr. Armen L. Kludjian, CA **200**; Mrs. Nayiri Kodojian, CA **200**; Ms. Veronica Koochagian-Conway, NY **200**; Mrs. Jacklin Kotikian, MA **200**; Dr. Berjouhi Koukeyan, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. J. Koutoujian, CA **200**; Mr. Ralph Kulajian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Russell Kushigian, IN **200**; Mr. Alain Kuyumjian, NY **200**; Mrs. Margaret Layshock, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. George Loshkajian, NJ **200**; Mr. Jim Madenjian, CA **200**; Mr. Perry A. Maljian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Olvi Mangasarian, WI **200**; Dr. and Mrs. James Mardian and Family, AZ **200**; Mr. Charles S. Masoomian, WA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Maxian, PA **200**; Mr. Razmik Melikian, Canada **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Larry Klein, CA **200**; Mr. Vahe Malekian, CA **200**; Mr. Mardi R. Merjian, NJ **200**; Judge Pietro Merletti, Italy **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Michaelian, NJ **200**; Ms. Karine Marcarian Michaelian, CA **200**; Ms. Miriam Miller, NJ **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Hrand M. Minassian, TX **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Varouj Minassian, MA **200**; Mr. John Moumdjian, MA **200**; Ms. Nora Najarian, NY **200**; Dr. John Nazarian, RI **200**; Mrs. Artemis Nazerian, NY **200**; Mr. Ken J. Nersesian, NY **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Elman Noroian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Chris Ohanian, MD **200**; Ms. Natalia Orfanos, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. George K. Papalian, CT **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Papas, CT **200**; Ms. Dianne Parke, IL **200**; Mr. Arthur Parlakian, CA **200**; Mr. Ara R. Parseghian, IN **200**; Ms. Joanne Pawlowski, NJ **200**; Mrs. Florence Ravidou, NY **200**; Mr. Roman Saakian, WA **200**; Mrs. Pearl P. Safarian, CO **200**; Mrs. Mary Ann Saraydarian, NJ **200**; Dr. Lisa S. Saraydarian and Family, NJ **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Saraydarian, NJ **200**; Mr. Noray Sarkisian, FL **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sarquis, CA **200**; Mrs. Shakeh Sassoon, NJ **200**; Mrs. Lisa A. Sebesta, MA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Semerjian, IL **200**; Mr. Raymond Seraydarian, CA **200**; Mrs. Shirley and Ms. Sara Setian, MA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Krikor Shirikjian, CA **200**; Mr. Hrand Simonian, CA **200**; Mrs. Genya Simonian, CA **200**; Mr. Artin Sirapyan, NY **200**; Mrs. Adrienne Sirinian, NJ **200**; Mrs. Flo Thomasian Speck, CA **200**; Mr. Martin S. Tarlaian, MA **200**; Mr. Leon Tateossian, CA **200**; Dr. Wendy Tayian, CA **200**; The Tcheurekdjian De Franco Family, OH **200**; Mr. and Mrs. John Tegrarian, FL **200**; Dr. and Mrs. Garo



## AGBU Donors

Tertzakian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Sebouh L. Terzian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Panos Titizian, CA **200**; Trimaco, LLC, NC **200**; Mr. Samuel Unjian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vartanian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Varouj Vehian, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Yervant Vehouni, CA **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Miguel Villalba, NY **200**; Mrs. Nayda Voskerijian, NY **200**; Ms. Vanessa Windham, TX **200**; Ms. Laura M. Woodbury, FL **200**; Mr. Richard Yarmain, MI **200**; Mr. and Mrs. Andre Yavrouian, CA **200**; Mrs. Sona Yavruian, MI **200**; Dr. Mishac K. Yegian, MA **200**; Drs. Leon S. and Marie Louise Yengoyan, CA **200**; Mr. Garo Pilobosian, United Kingdom **198**; Mr. Sahak Artazyan, Germany **196**; Ms. Anna Arutiunian, Russia **196**; Ms. Marine Azaryan, The Netherlands **196**; Mr. Garen Cezvecian, The Netherlands **196**; Miss Christine Kalindjian, Lebanon **196**; Mr. Alexander A. Kazanjian, United Kingdom **196**; Mr. Haik Khanamiryan, The Netherlands **196**; Ms. Tatevik Revazian, Denmark **196**; Ms. Elizabeth Torosyan, United Kingdom **196**; Mr. and Mrs. Levon Afeyan, Canada **190**; Dr. and Mrs. Sarkis Meterissian, Canada **190**; Ms. Ani Kokorian, Canada **188**; Ms. Christina Lalama, NY **180**; Dr. Levon Capan, NJ **175**; Mr. Ara L. Yardum, NY **175**; Mr. Hratch Manoukian, CA **171**; Mr. Oksen E. Babakhanian, CA **160**; Mr. John W. Walker, III, TX **160**; Mr. Avedis Gizirian, Canada **154**; Mr. Edward Aghjayan, CA **150**; Mr. Arden Agopyan, Turkey **150**; Mr. Vito Ancona, AZ **150**; Ms. Suzanne K. Apelian, CA **150**; Mr. Robert Arachelian, CA **150**; Dr. and Mrs. Gary K. Artinian, IL **150**; Ms. Sylvia L. Ashton, WI **150**; Mr. David Avakian, NY **150**; Mr. Albert Ayzazyan, NY **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Armen G. Basmajian, NJ **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Basmajian, NY **150**; Mr. George Bogosian, CA **150**; Mr. Harry Boranian, WI **150**; Mr. and Mrs. John Bostonian, Jr., NJ **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Karabet Caparyan, NJ **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Kaloust Christianian, CO **150**; Dr. Earlene Craver, CA **150**; Ms. Suzanne Dekermenjian, Canada **150**; Ms. Juliet Der Avanesian, CA **150**; Mr. Edward Der Kazarian, MA **150**; Mrs. Anahid Der Parseghian, CA **150**; Mrs. Sarah K. Dergazarian, MI **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dervishian, NJ **150**; Dr. and Mrs. Charles Garabedian, MA **150**; Ms. Sophie Garvanian, NM **150**; Mr. Kaspar H. Gazarian, CA **150**; Mrs. Armine Giorgetti, NY **150**; Mr. Edward Godoshian, CA **150**; Mr. Vanig Godoshian, MI **150**; Mr. Antibas Gumushian, FL **150**; Mr. Berj Haroutunian, NY **150**; Mr. Ben B. Hartunian, CA **150**; Dr. and Mrs. Henry Hasserjian, CA **150**; Dr. and Mrs. Dikran Horoupian, CA **150**; Ms. Jean Housepian, CO **150**; Mrs. Caroline Golden Ilberman, NY **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Hrant Jamgochian, MD **150**; Mrs. and Mr. Silva Kardjian, CA **150**; Ms. Jill Kavoukian and Mr. Steven Siena, NY **150**; Mr. Harry Kayarian, FL **150**; Ms. Sonia A. Kazanjian, WA **150**; Mr. Yeghig L. Keshishian, CA **150**; Mrs. Kathy Khatoonian, CA **150**; Mr. Konstantinos Kiamos, NY **150**; Ms. Araxie Kilejian, NY **150**; Mr. Steven M. Krempa, NY **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Liapes, NJ **150**; Mr. Victor Manian, WI **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mardirosian, Jr., OK **150**; Misses Gladys and Anna Medzorian, MA **150**; Mr. George Melkonian, CA **150**; Mrs. Lucille Merjianian, CT **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Khatchadour Messerian, NJ **150**; Ms. Louise Metaxas, CA **150**; Mr. Haroutioun Mikaelian, IL **150**; Mrs. Silvie Mirek, NJ **150**; Mr. Ardashes Nahabedian, RI **150**; Mrs. Armenuhi Nalbandian, CA **150**; Mr. Gary L. Nalbandian, PA **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Greg Nersissian, FL **150**; Mrs. Alice Noreyan, Canada **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Mardiros Petrossian, MA **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Asbed H. Pogarian, CA **150**; Mrs. Helene Kouzoujian Rimer, MI **150**; Dr. Michael A. Sagatelian, SC **150**; Dr. Armen Serebrakian, CA **150**; Mr. Vigen Simchian, MD **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Agop Sirinyan, Canada **150**; Mr. Edward Sornigian, CA **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Armen Stephanian, TX **150**; Ms. Anny Surmenian, CA **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Haig D. Tarpinian, FL **150**; Mr. Toros Tarpinyan, NJ **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Charles N. Tartanian, MD **150**; Mr. Alek Toomians, CA **150**; Dr. Ara Y. Tourian, NC **150**; Mr. Charles Touroyan, MA **150**; Mr. Ralph Vartabedian and Mrs. Jeanne Wright, CA **150**; Mr. Marc Yagjian, TX **150**; Mr. and Mrs. Levon Yazejian, Canada **150**; Mr. Jack Zakarian, CA **150**; Mrs. Valentine Aprahamian, Canada **149**; Mr. and Mrs. Hayik Tikiryian, Canada

**149**; Mrs. Suzy Bazarian, Canada **146**; Mr. and Mrs. Brian Cooper, Canada **146**; Mr. and Mrs. Bedros Kokorian, Canada **146**; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Nigoghossian, Canada **146**; Mr. and Mrs. Raffi Tufenkjian, Canada **145**; Mr. Noel John Lucas, United Kingdom **142**; Mr. Kerop Kouyoumdjian, Canada **141**; Mr. Serjik Anbarchian, Canada **140**; Mr. Peter Bahoudian, Canada **140**; Mr. Raffi Hagopian, CA **140**; Mr. Raffi Kouyoumdjian, Canada **140**; Mr. Patrick Mahoney and Ms. Diana Woodhead, Canada **140**; Mr. and Mrs. James Ryan, FL **140**; Mr. Randall Schwartz and Ms. Andrea Randolph, Canada **140**; The Zoraian Family, NJ **140**; Ms. Lila Kasparian, United Kingdom **132**; Mr. Alexander Djanoeff, NY **131**; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ashjian, CO **125**; Mrs. Deborah Bozbeckian Raptopoulos, MA **125**; Mr. and Mrs. Karnig Ekizian, TX **125**; Mrs. Alidz Juljulian, CA **125**; Mr. and Mrs. Sam Lovalenti, OH **125**; Ms. Anie Mikaelian, CA **125**; Mr. and Mrs. Gary Tavitian, MA **125**; Mr. and Mrs. Mark R. Yessian, MA **125**; Mr. and Mrs. Peter Melichar, Canada **111**; Mr. Levon Avanesyan, NJ **110**; Mr. Ara Davidian, CA **110**; Mrs. Cynthia D. Johnson, IL **110**; Prof. Ann Lousin, IL **110**; Mrs. Sossy Mahdasian, MA **110**; Mr. and Mrs. John F. Mehlhope, MI **110**; Mrs. Mary Melikian, NY **110**; Mr. Charles Nahabedian, MD **110**; Mr. Hagop Panossian, CA **110**; Mr. Simon Stepanyan, CA **110**; Mr. and Mrs. Vartkes Yaghledjian, Canada **107**; Merck Partnership For Giving, NJ **104**; Mr. Mark Selverian, PA **104**; Mr. Nicholas Goodhue, WI **101**; Judge and Mrs. Albert T. Harutunian, III, CA **101**

### \$100

Mr. Ara P. Abrahamian, MD **100**; Mr. Diran Adjoyan, MA **100**; Dr. Salpi Adrouny, GA **100**; Mr. Aram Agajanian, NY **100**; Mr. Martin Agegian, CA **100**; The Aghababian Family, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Aginian, MI **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Kevork Aglaganian, VA **100**; Mr. Aharon G. Aharonian, MA **100**; Major Carnig Ajamian, Jr., NY **100**; Mr. Raymond P. Ajemian, MA **100**; The Akian Family, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Yuriy Akopov, NY **100**; Mrs. Goar Akopyan, TX **100**; Mrs. Cindy Ann Alajian, CA **100**; Dr. Varoosh Alaverdian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Albanese, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael Alekian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Daniel A. Alexanian, WA **100**; Ms. Judy C. Alexanian, VA **100**; Mr. Arsen Alikian, CA **100**; Mr. Edward Amirian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Mardiros Anastasian, NY **100**; Mr. Gary Andonian, CA **100**; The Andresian Family, CA **100**; Anonymous "GA", MA **100**; Anonymous "M/M GA", NY **100**; Anonymous "MB", IL **100**; Anonymous "SB", NJ **100**; Anonymous "WK", TX **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Karl D. Anoushian and Family, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Mark Antreasian, IN **100**; Mr. Leon Arabian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Oswaldo Arana, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Garin Ardash, PA **100**; Mr. Vladimir Areshyan, Luxembourg **100**; Mr. Christian L. Arevian, NC **100**; Mr. Alan Arifian, NY **100**; Ms. Margaret K. Armenian, MA **100**; Armenian Renaissance Association, MI **100**; Ms. Karen Saraydarian and Mr. Ara Arslanian, NJ **100**; Mrs. Artemis Arslanian, NJ **100**; Dr. Michael J. Arslanian, CA **100**; Mr. Stephen Artinian, NY **100**; Mr. Albert Arustamov, CA **100**; Mr. Leon Arutyunyan and Family, CA **100**; Mr. Hagop Arzoumanian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Armand Asadourian, NY **100**; Ms. Susan Asarian-Nickerson, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara Asatryan, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ashbahian, NJ **100**; Ms. Lucy Ashekian and Messrs. Zachary and Nathan Newman, PA **100**; Mr. Sol Askijian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Aslanian, CA **100**; Mr. Vladimir Asriyan, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Assoian, NJ **100**; Mr. N. Arthur Astor, CA **100**; Ms. Alice Atamian, MA **100**; Mrs. Zarohee Attinello, CA **100**; Mrs. Arlene Avakian, FL **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Avak Avakian, MA **100**; Ms. Ann Avedisian, RI **100**; Mr. Berge Avedisian, NY **100**; The Avetikyan Family, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Gene Aydinian, TX **100**; Mr. John R. Aydinian, TX **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Vahram Aynilian, NJ **100**; Mr. Ken Ayrassian, RI **100**; Mr. Kenneth Ayzazyan, MA **100**; Ms. Alice Aznavourian, PA **100**; Ms. Alice Aznoian, MA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Bahije Azzouni, CA **100**; Mr. William L. Babaian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Vartan Babakhanian, TX **100**; Mrs.

Pauline Babakian, NY **100**; Mr. William Babakian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara Babayan, CA **100**; Dr. and Mrs. Viken Babikian, MA **100**; Ms. Anna Baghdasaryan and Family, NJ **100**; Mr. Hamlet Bahramian, CA **100**; Mr. Berg S. Bak, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Missak S. Balian, CA **100**; Mrs. and Mr. Zivart Balikjian, NJ **100**; Mr. Rafael Balukian, Brazil **100**; Mr. Gregory Balukjian, NY **100**; Mr. Christopher Bandazian, NH **100**; Mrs. Marian Barba, NY **100**; Mr. Alen Bardizbanyan, Sweden **100**; Mr. Harry Barian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael L. Barr, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barsam, CA **100**; The Barseghian Family, France **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara E. Basherian, MI **100**; Mr. Alex Basmagian, NY **100**; Ms. Gloria Baykian, MI **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bazigian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Arman Bedonian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Varoujan Bedoyan, CA **100**; Dr. Levon Bedrosian, NY **100**; Mrs. Mariam Z. Bedrosian-Valencia, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Libarid A. Bedrossian, CA **100**; Dr. and Mrs. Paul Bedrossian, CA **100**; Ms. Trinda L. Bedrossian, CA **100**; Mrs. Angela Benian, MI **100**; Mr. Sarkis Berberian, RI **100**; Mr. Sterling Berberian, NC **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Beylerian, NJ **100**; Mrs. Margaret J. Bezan, FL **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Bezzerides, OR **100**; Mr. Peter Bilazarian, NJ **100**; Drs. John P. and Sophie Bilezikian, NY **100**; Mrs. Joyce Boghosian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bogossian, PA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Daron Bolat, TX **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Hagop A. Bolian, CA **100**; Ms. Margo Boodakian, CO **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael A. Botwin, NY **100**; Mr. Artine Bouladian, MI **100**; Mr. Edward Boyadjian, NY **100**; Dr. and Mrs. K. George Boyadjian, NY **100**; Mr. Edward Boyajian, MA **100**; Mr. and Dr. John Boyajian, CA **100**; Ms. Margaret Boyajian, ME **100**; Mr. Vrage Boyajian, NJ **100**; Mr. Jonathan Bozbeckian, MA **100**; Mr. Nicholas Cabraloff, CA **100**; Dr. and Mrs. Carnegie S. Calian, PA **100**; Mr. Raffi Calikyan, RI **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Varujan Caliskan, IL **100**; Mr. Imran Carim, IL **100**; Mr. Conrad K. Casarjian, MA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. George W. Cassata, CA **100**; Mrs. Arsakui Cetin, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael A. Chakerian, CA **100**; Mr. Artashes Chakhoyan, Russia **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Sevan Chakiryan, NY **100**; Ms. Mary Elizabeth Chalikyan, CA **100**; Mr. Harut H. Chantikyan, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Chavdarian, MI **100**; Ms. Dalila Chavoushian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Berj Chekijian, MA **100**; Mrs. Nevrig Chelinger, CA **100**; Mr. Hagop Chemedikian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Chitjian, CA **100**; Dr. Michael C. Chobanian, NH **100**; Dr. Carolyn J. Chooljian, CA **100**; Mr. Richard E. Chorbajian, NJ **100**; Mrs. Maria Chrissian, CA **100**; Mrs. Ann E. Churukian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Manuk O. Cirkinyan, CA **100**; Ms. Julia A. Coloian, RI **100**; Ms. Spring Condoyan, NY **100**; Ms. Marie A. Connolly, NY **100**; Mr. Edward Constantian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas E. Cyprus, NY **100**; Ms. Lousi Dakessian, TX **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Martin A. Dalakian, NJ **100**; Mr. Dickran H. Dardarian, CA **100**; Mr. Z. Ken Darian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Aram H. Darmanian, CA **100**; Dr. Harry E. Davitian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Garbis Davoyan, CA **100**; The De Lefevre Family, MA **100**; Mrs. Cindy De Rothschild, FL **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Haroutiun Dedeyan, CA **100**; Mr. Nuran Degirmen, CA **100**; Ms. Roseanne Deirmen, MI **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf E. Delgado, CA **100**; Misses Eleanor and Elaine Demarjian, RI **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Vartan Demirciyan, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Zareh Demirdjian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. George Demirjian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Vasken Demirjian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm S. Demurjian, NJ **100**; Ms. Arlene Hovanessian G. Denison, CA **100**; Miss Zaroohi Der Mugrdchian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Derderian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Luther Derian, CA **100**; Mr. Vahe Derian, IL **100**; Mr. Jack Derovanesian, FL **100**; Mr. Cometas Dilanjian, IL **100**; Miss Eliz Dohanian, MA **100**; Ms. Isabelle Z. Dokouzian, CA **100**; Mr. Zaven Dolik, MI **100**; Ms. Sossy Dombourian, CA **100**; Mrs. Dench Dominik, NY **100**; Mrs. Salpy Donelian, NJ **100**; Mrs. Greta Doumanian-Harley, IL **100**; Mrs. Sylvia S. Dulgarian, RI **100**; Mrs. Edma Dumanian, CA **100**; Mr. Derek Dunn-Rankin and Ms. Katherine Martin, CA **100**; Mr. Bill Eaton, CA **100**; Ms. Alison E. Edwards, MA **100**; Ms. Marjorie Egarian, NJ **100**; Ms. Araxy Ekhsigian, CA **100**; Mr. Rod Eldibs, NY

**100**; Mr. Levon Enfiadjian, CA **100**; Ms. Elaine S. Enger, NJ **100**; Ms. Sosi Ermarkaryan, NY **100**; Mrs. Charlotte C. Ermoian, NJ **100**; Mrs. Madeline Eskigian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis Esmerian, IN **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Anthony V. Esposito, CT **100**; Mrs. Silva Eurdekian, NY **100**; Ambassador and Mrs. John M. Evans, DC **100**; Dr. and Mrs. John Farsakian, CA **100**; Ms. Silva Ferman, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. James P. Flynn, Jr., NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. John E. Franks, FL **100**; Mr. Peter Gadigian, RI **100**; Mrs. Marina Gaikazian, MI **100**; Mrs. Alice E. Garabedian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Aram Garabedian, CA **100**; Mr. Haige J. Garabedian, CT **100**; Ms. Jeanette Garabedian, CT **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Shahe Garabedian, CA **100**; Mrs. Karolin Garakanian, C.P.A., CA **100**; Ms. Estefany C. Garay, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Haroutioun Garboushian, Canada **100**; Mr. Ara Gebechian, CA **100**; Mr. Jack Geozian, CA **100**; Mr. Joseph Geraci, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Hagop Ghajanian, RI **100**; Mr. Armik Gharakhanian Konaraki, Sweden **100**; Mr. and Mrs. William Gharibian, TN **100**; Mr. and Mrs. William G. Gilmartin, NY **100**; Dr. and Mrs. John G. Giragos, NC **100**; Mr. Mark Gitlen, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Kevin C. Glynn, NY **100**; Ms. Peggy Goshgarian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Varoujan H. Gostanian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Armen B. Gourdkian, CA **100**; Mr. Sooren H. Gozmanian, MI **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Bill R. Grady, WI **100**; Mrs. Annie Graham, TX **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Grauso, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Hirant Gulian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Gurdjian, FL **100**; Mr. Abram Guyumdzhyany, CA **100**; Mr. Yetvart Hacatoryan, CA **100**; Miss Alice Hacherian, OH **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Greg Hachigian, CA **100**; Mrs. Sonia Hachigian, NY **100**; Ms. Ellen Hadidian, WI **100**; Mrs. Roobina Mailian, MI **100**; Mr. Robert W. Hagopian, MA **100**; Mr. Barouyr Hairabedian, NY **100**; Mr. Jon Hairabedian, NY **100**; Mrs. Armine Hakobyan, PA **100**; Ms. Carol Halebian, NY **100**; Dr. Deran Hanesian, NJ **100**; Mr. Souren Hanesian, VA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harootyan, VA **100**; Mrs. Markrid Haroutiounian, MA **100**; Ms. Arpi Haroutunian, NJ **100**; Mr. Vano Haroutunian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Harris, OH **100**; Ms. Annette Hartunian, CA **100**; Mr. Ralph Hashoian, MI **100**; Mrs. Susan Havatian and Mr. Georges J. Halabi, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. George Hayek, CA **100**; Mr. John Hayrapetian, CA **100**; Mr. Sarkis Hayrapetian, CA **100**; Mr. John D. Haytaian, NJ **100**; Mrs. Gladys Hedison, RI **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Aram Henesian, CA **100**; Mr. Jack G. Henesian, CA **100**; Ms. Charlotte A. Hennessy, CA **100**; Mrs. Marcelle Boghossian Hermiz, IL **100**; Ms. Vivianne Hernandez, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. David A. Hill, CA **100**; Ms. Mary Jane Hindlian Flower, MA **100**; Mr. Varney Hintlian, FL **100**; Mr. Leon M. Hojegian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Walt Holleran, CA **100**; Mr. Nikolay Hovhannissyan, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Albert M. Hovnanian, NY **100**; Mr. Daren S. Hovsepian, FL **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Igielski, WA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Imirzian, MI **100**; Mr. Lee Izmerian, AR **100**; Mr. Jerry Jabagchourian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Edward D. Jamie, Jr., NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Bruce J. Janigian, CA **100**; Dr. and Mrs. Robert H. Janigian, Jr., RI **100**; Mr. Thomas Jeknavorian, CT **100**; Miss Ann Jevizian, MI **100**; Dr. Aram Jigarjian, CA **100**; Ms. Jane Nash Jones, MS **100**; Mrs. Carol Anne Josel, PA **100**; Mr. William Aram Kachadorian, MD **100**; Mr. Albert V. Kachadurian, NJ **100**; Mr. John J. Kaladjian, CA **100**; Mr. Michael Kalafian, VA **100**; Mr. Harry A. Kalajian, Jr., MA **100**; Mr. Harout Kalamkarian, CA **100**; Yeretznin Anahid Kalayjian, MD **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Gerald M. Kalayjian, NY **100**; Mr. John Kalfayan, CA **100**; Mr. Tom Kaljian, CA **100**; Mr. Rodney Kaloostian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry D. Kaloustian, MA **100**; Ms. Susan Kalvonjian, MI **100**; Mr. Hrant Kamalyan, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Haig Kambourian, CA **100**; Mr. John Kaplan, ID **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Kaprielian, CA **100**; Ms. Lucy Karagosian, NY **100**; Mr. Kamer Karakas, Canada **100**; Ms. Virginia Karakas, NJ **100**; Dr. Ara Karamanian, TX **100**; Mr. Harout Karamanougian, NJ **100**; Mr. Khatchig Karamanoukian, United Arab Emirates **100**; Dr. Armen Karimyan, CA **100**; Mr. Charles Kasparian and Mrs. Virginia Kasparian, CA **100**; Dr. Harold H. Kassarian, CA **100**; Rev. and Mrs. Vartkes M. Kassouni, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Krikor Katmarian, CA **100**;



## AGBU Donors

Mr. and Mrs. George Katrandjian, NJ **100**; Mr. Ramon J. Kazanjian, VA **100**; Mrs. Takouhi Kazarian, MI **100**; Mrs. Michele H. Kazarian, RI **100**; Mrs. Diana Kazeian, CA **100**; Mr. Hans Keifer, CA **100**; Mrs. Barbara Artean Keljikian, PA **100**; Ms. Mary Jan Kelly, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Martin Kenosian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Keosayian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Mihran Keoseian, MA **100**; Ms. Ann Powers Kern, NY **100**; Mr. Leo J. Keshian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Van Keshish, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Ardo Keshishian, NY **100**; Ms. Vaneh Keshishian, Canada **100**; Mr. and Mrs. George Ketigian, NY **100**; Miss Mari Kevorkian, FL **100**; Mr. Haig Khachatoorian, NC **100**; Mr. Joe Khajadourian, CA **100**; Mrs. Nevert Khatchadourian, CA **100**; Mr. Walter P. Khazoyan, CA **100**; Mr. Haykaz Khdryan, CA **100**; Mr. Hamlet Khodaverdian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Krikor Khoroziyan, NJ **100**; Ms. Mary Ann B. Kibarian, MD **100**; Dr. Vartkes Kiledjian, TN **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Armen Kocharian, TX **100**; Ms. Nancy R. Kolligian, MA **100**; Mr. Thomas Kondakjian, NY **100**; Mr. Haig A. Kondayan, VA **100**; Mr. Razmig Y. Konyalian and Ms. Shoushig Arslanian, CA **100**; Mr. Herbert Koshgarian, IL **100**; Ms. Madelina Kozanlian, NY **100**; Ms. Sarah Kramedjian, NJ **100**; Ms. Isabel Krempa, NY **100**; Dr. Luz Amparo Krestin, NY **100**; Dr. and Mrs. Kapriel V. Krikorian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Mark Krikorian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Krikorian, NM **100**; Mr. Robert Krikorian, MA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Mark J. Krolian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Derek D. Kruiuzenga, CT **100**; Dr. Elizabeth Kurkjian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Garo Kurkjian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Raffi G. Kutnerian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. George B. Lebedeff, CA **100**; Mrs. Seta Lepore, MA **100**; Ms. Christine Leventhal, CA **100**; Mr. Serge Loussarian, SC **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Russ Luppino, NJ **100**; Ms. Arminee Madarentz, MA **100**; Mr. John M. Mahakian, MA **100**; Mr. Vahan Mahdasian, MA **100**; Mr. Papken Mahserejian, CT **100**; Mr. Zare D. Makasjian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Gary Malajian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Malconian, CA **100**; Mr. Vahen Malekian, CA **100**; Ms. Elizabeth Mamourian and Family, PA **100**; Mr. Arman Mamyan, Russia **100**; Mr. Harry Manadjian, FL **100**; Ms. Monica Manalo, NY **100**; Ms. Cecilia Mangoba, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. C. Vincent Manoogian, MO **100**; Mr. Richard Manoukian, OH **100**; Dr. and Mrs. Vazrick Mansourian, CT **100**; Mr. and Dr. Jeffrey Manternach, OR **100**; Mr. Daniel Manuelian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Manukyan, NJ **100**; Dr. Mushegh Manukyan, MA **100**; Mr. John A. Mardigian, VA **100**; Dr. Jonathan Mardirosian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Meinhard Mike Marek, CA **100**; Ms. Cecil Margosian, CA **100**; Mr. George Margosian, WI **100**; Ms. Carmen S. Maronde, CA **100**; Ms. Andrea Marootian, CA **100**; Mr. Charles Marootian, FL **100**; Mrs. Anna Apelian Martin, NC **100**; Mr. David C. May, NC **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mazdoorian, CT **100**; Ms. Alice S. Mazmanian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Mazmanian, MA **100**; Rev. and Mrs. Harry Mazujian, NJ **100**; Ms. Svetlana Mrcytycheva, IL **100**; Mr. Alan Z. Megerdichian, NY **100**; Mr. Goorgen Megerdooian, CA **100**; Ms. Arpi C. Mekhjian, NJ **100**; Mr. Aram Mekhjian, NJ **100**; Ms. Hazel Menegigian, NJ **100**; Prof. Ara Merjian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Alden Mesrop, NY **100**; Mrs. Elaine Tahmizian Meuse, MA **100**; Prof. Knarig Khatchadourian Meyer and Dr. Ralph C. Meyer, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Hagop Mikaelian, NJ **100**; Mr. Gagik Mikaelyan, IL **100**; Mrs. Emma Minasian and Family, MI **100**; Mrs. Chenourik Minassian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis Ohannes Minassian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Peter Miroyan, CA **100**; Mr. Martin Misakian, MD **100**; Mr. Ara G. Misakyan, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Jerry N. Misk, NJ **100**; Ms. Yana Mkrchyan, NY **100**; Mrs. Sonya Mkryan, CA **100**; Mr. Thomas Moradian, CA **100**; Mrs. Louise Tutelian Morgenstern, CA **100**; Mrs. Guline Moukhtarian, MA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Antoine Moundjian, NJ **100**; Mr. Garo A. Moundjian, NJ **100**; Mr. Harout Moundjian, NJ **100**; Mr. Vahak Mousigian, IL **100**; Mrs. Marilyn Mozian, MA **100**; Dr. and Mrs. Anthony Murro, GA **100**; Mr. Arthur Musurlian, WI **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Sebouh Nahabedian, NJ **100**; Mr. Ken Najarian, MA **100**; Dr. and Mrs. Nishan J. Najarian, NY **100**; Mr. Gary G. Nakashian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Hovsep

Nalbandian, CA **100**; Mr. Jirair Nalbandian, NV **100**; Mr. Zaven H. Nalbandian, MA **100**; Ms. Jacqueline Narguizian, Canada **100**; Ms. Joanne Nassar, MI **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Khajak Nercissian, CA **100**; Dr. Bedros Nersessian, IN **100**; Ms. Dickronouhi Nichols, IL **100**; Ms. Mae Nigohosian, MA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Leon Noorigian, NC **100**; Mr. George Noraian, MI **100**; Ms. Nora Noraian, MI **100**; Mrs. Alice A. Norsigian, CT **100**; Mr. Simon Novshadyan, Canada **100**; Mr. Varouj Oghali, NJ **100**; Ms. Cheryl A. Ohanesian, NY **100**; Mr. Don S. Ohanesian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Ohanesian, VA **100**; Ms. Annette Ohanganian, CA **100**; Mrs. Virginia Ohriker, NY **100**; Mr. Khatsho Orfali, CA **100**; Mr. Vosgan Z. Osganian, CA **100**; Ms. Ana Osvath, NY **100**; Mr. Robert and Misses Rose and Betty Ouloosian, RI **100**; Mr. Osep Ouzounian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Kirkor Ozbirman, NY **100**; Ms. Ani Ozdere, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Nerses Ozhallacyan, NJ **100**; Dr. and Mrs. Sevag Packard, CA **100**; Mr. Tavitt Panjarian, CA **100**; Mr. and Ms. Richard H. Papalian, CT **100**; Drs. Dennis R. and Mary E. Papazian, CA **100**; Mrs. Janet Parsanj, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Parsekian, CA **100**; Mr. Garo A. Partoyan, FL **100**; Mr. and Mrs. John Pehlivanian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Peltekian, CA **100**; Mr. Michael Peretzian, CA **100**; Prof. Hrvoje Petek, PA **100**; Mr. Gagik Petrosyan, CA **100**; Mrs. Alice Philibosian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Bedros Piandarian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Piligian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Andre Polisedjian, MD **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Poochigian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Prestigiacomo, WI **100**; Ms. Jacqueline L. Quillen, DC **100**; Mrs. Tamar Quillen, NY **100**; Consul General Majdi Ramadan, NY **100**; Mrs. Elena Ratevossian, NY **100**; Mr. Richard Reinis, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. George Perinjian Reish, CO **100**; Mr. Mark Seto Reisian, CA **100**; Mr. John Rossini, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Herair Rostamian, CA **100**; Mrs. Sallee Rush, PA **100**; Mrs. Carol M. Rustigian, CA **100**; Mr. Leo Saari, NY **100**; Mr. Arby M. Safarian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. John N. Saglamer, NY **100**; The Sahagian Family, CA **100**; Mr. Monte Sahagian, CA **100**; Mr. S. J. Sahakian, TN **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Avedis Sakalian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Samuelian, MA **100**; Ms. Diana Sanders, CA **100**; Dr. Emma Sargsyan, MT **100**; Ms. Anahid Sarian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Sarian, NY **100**; Ms. Juliet M. Sarkessian, PA **100**; Mr. Vatche Sarkisian, VA **100**; Ms. Zarouhi Sarkisian, MA **100**; Mr. Martik Sarkysyan, CA **100**; Mrs. Roxanne B. Sartorius, AZ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Stephen D. Scrobe, NY **100**; Mr. Jack Seferian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Noubar Semerdjian, CA **100**; Prof. and Mrs. Harry Semerjian, MA **100**; Mr. Robert Serabian, MA **100**; Mr. Edward Setrakian, Sr., NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Hagop Sezzin, CA **100**; Miss Teni Shahiean, United Kingdom **100**; Miss Lena Shahinian, CA **100**; Dr. and Mrs. Michael Shahnasarian, FL **100**; Mr. Thomas E. Shahnazarian, CT **100**; Mr. Herbert S. Shahzade, MA **100**; Mr. George Shanoian, NJ **100**; Ms. Sandra Shargabian, MI **100**; Mrs. Joyce R. Shenian, PA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara Shimshidian, CT **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Gerard L. Shirikjian, CA **100**; Mr. Dennis Simonian, CA **100**; Dr. Krikor M. Simonian, CA **100**; Mr. Khachik Simonyan, CA **100**; Ms. Margaret V. Sinanian, CA **100**; Mr. Nisan Sirinoglu, NY **100**; The Skeini Family, Canada **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Smith, MI **100**; Dr. Roger Smith, VA **100**; Mrs. Sharon Solomon, CO **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Steven Soultanian, CA **100**; Mrs. Takouhy Soultanian and Family, NJ **100**; Ms. Jeanette Soumakian, CA **100**; Mrs. Irene Soumakian, CA **100**; SRP & Associates, CA **100**; Mrs. Alice Zoerb Staples, AZ **100**; Misses Nevert and Maral Stepanian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara Stepanyan, NY **100**; Ms. Mariyetta Stepanyan, NY **100**; Mrs. Rose P. Stergiou, CT **100**; Mrs. Beth Stewart, OR **100**; Mrs. Carol A. Strube, MO **100**; Dr. Helen Sunukjian, IL **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Darius Surenian, NJ **100**; Mrs. Araxie Svadjian, CA **100**; Mrs. Mary Swajian, CA **100**; Ms. Deborah R. Szajnberg, CT **100**; Ms. Karen M. Tafajian, CO **100**; Mr. Donald P. Tafjen, CA **100**; Mrs. Chake Takadjian, MA **100**; Mr. Theodore Takorian, CA **100**; Mrs. Leah Talatinian, MA **100**; Talin Bozajian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Talverdian, CA **100**; Mr. Hrayr C. Tamzarian, MA **100**; Mr. Ara Tanajian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Minas H. Tanielian, WA

**100**; Mr. and Mrs. Flo Tarjan, NY **100**; Dr. and Mrs. Dick A. Tarpinian, AZ **100**; Dr. and Mrs. Vaghenag V. Tarpinian, PA **100**; Ms. Evelyn L. Tarzian, CA **100**; Mr. Barry M. Tashian, TN **100**; Mr. Issa Anton Tashjian, AZ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Armen Tashjian, CA **100**; Mr. Berj Tashjian, MA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Craig A. Tashjian, NJ **100**; Ms. Sonia Tashjian, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Berge Tasian, TX **100**; Mrs. Carol R. Tateossian, MA **100**; Mr. Peter A. Tatian, DC **100**; Ms. Linda Tatigian, VA **100**; Mrs. Arshagouhi Tavitian, CA **100**; Mrs. Sirun Tavli, Switzerland **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael N. Teferian, RI **100**; Mr. Martin L. Tellalian, IL **100**; Mr. Aram Terchunian, RI **100**; Dr. Ninet Sinaii, CO **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Arsen Terjimanian, MI **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Viguen R. Ter-Minassian, VA **100**; Ms. Josefina Teroganessian, CA **100**; Ms. Arpi Terzian, DC **100**; The Nixon Company Inc, MA **100**; Mrs. Louise A. Tibets, MA **100**; Mr. Werner H. Schneider, IL **100**; Mr. George D. Tookmanian, FL **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Toomajian, CA **100**; Mrs. Elizabeth D. Tootelian, VA **100**; Mr. Jack N. Topalian, FL **100**; Dr. Alexis Topjian, PA **100**; Mrs. Lily Totovian, MA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Tovmasian, NJ **100**; Travelers, MA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond D. Tucker, NH **100**; Dr. Andranik Tumasjan, Germany **100**; Ms. Patricia A. Tutunjian, MA **100**; Mrs. Armav Urun, CA **100**; Dr. Violet Vagramian, FL **100**; Mrs. Nancy Vale, NY **100**; Mr. Bronson Van Wyck, AR **100**; Dr. Armen Vardapetyan, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Vatche Varjabedian, NJ **100**; Mr. Ervant Vatyán, Slovakia **100**; Mrs. Ann Vaznaian, CA **100**; Verizon Foundation, MA **100**; Mrs. Marlene Vichabian, MA **100**; Ms. Traci Viklund, NY **100**; Mrs. Sira Vorperian, Australia **100**; Ms. Katherine Wall, VA **100**; Warner Bros. Entertainment, Inc., CA **100**; Mr. Barry Weisz, CA **100**; Ms. Mun Ee Woo, MA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Vartan Yaghsejian, CA **100**; Yahoo Inc., CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. James Yenicag, NY **100**; Mrs. Liza Yessayan, Spain **100**; Mr. Raymond Yezeguelian, NY **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Migirdic Yigitkurt, NJ **100**; Mr. and Mrs. George Yogurtian, CA **100**; Mr. James Yogurtian, CA **100**; Ms. Rosa Younekian, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Ken Zadoorian, SC **100**; Ms. Seta Zadourian, NJ **100**; Mr. Ruben Zadoyan, CA **100**; Mr. Diran A. Zahigian, MA **100**; Mr. Nahabet H. Zakarian, CA **100**; Mrs. Sose Zakaryan, NJ **100**; Ms. Kristina Zakaryan, CA **100**; Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis H. Zeronian, CA **100**; Mrs. Diane Zoraian, NJ **100**

## **\$51–\$99**

Mr. Ronald Mahtesian, MT **95**; Mr. Nerses Akopyan, CA **90**; Mr. Vahan Basmajian, MI **90**; Mr. George K. Kodokian, PA **90**; Ms. Beatrice Hagopian, Canada **88**; Ms. Hripsik Sarkissian, Canada **87**; Mr. Michael G. Casey, MA **85**; Mr. Leo Arkelian, CA **80**; Mr. Ohannes Bezzian, CA **80**; Mr. and Mrs. Taniel Dadurian, CA **80**; Mr. and Mrs. H.J. Karakachian, CA **80**; Mr. Raffi Markarian, IL **80**; Mr. Vahe Mardirosoian, Canada **77**; Mr. and Mrs. Vicken Nersesian, Canada **77**; Mrs. Ani Arabian, Canada **75**; Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Stephen Berliner, NJ **75**; Mr. and Mrs. Albert G. Boyajian, WA **75**; Ms. Dina Cruz, Canada **75**; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Davis, MA **75**; Mr. George H. Donigian, SC **75**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Garabedian, NH **75**; Mr. Edmund Gregorian, NY **75**; Mrs. Karni Griffin, NY **75**; Mr. and Mrs. Steven Guendjoian, NY **75**; Miss Helen Hagopian, MA **75**; Mrs. Diane Hirst, NH **75**; Mr. Frederick Hovsepian, CA **75**; Mr. and Mrs. Karekin Hovsepian, CA **75**; Mr. Jason Irwin, Canada **75**; Mrs. Sara K. Jamharian, WY **75**; Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Killian, PA **75**; Mrs. Anahid Manoukian, Canada **75**; Ms. Karen Mesrobian, NV **75**; Mr. Vik Momjian, CA **75**; Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Nalbandian, CA **75**; Mr. and Mrs. Philip Paregian, NY **75**; Mrs. Gladys Prince, NY **75**; Mr. and Mrs. Harout Sarkissian, CA **75**; Mr. Gary Snoonian, MA **75**; Mr. Leo M. Stepanian, IL, PA **75**; Mr. and Mrs. Drury M. Stith, VA **75**; Mr. Joseph Torosian, NY **75**; Mr. Ken Traynham, NC **75**; Ms. Margaret Wasielewski, OH **75**; Mrs. Lucy Babahekanian, Canada **73**; Mr. and Mrs. Ajib Dabbagh, Canada **73**; Mrs. Anitsa Haroun, Canada **73**; Mr. and Mrs. Garo Hasessian, Canada **73**; Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jenkins, Canada **73**; Mr. John Alexanian, Canada **71**; Mr. Berge Bardakjian, Canada **71**; Mrs. Silva Kupelian, CA **71**; Mr. and Mrs. Haig

Misakyan, Canada **71**; Mr. and Mrs. Vazken Terzian, Canada **71**; Mr. Sevag Yeghoyan, Canada **71**; Mr. and Mrs. Noubar Yeretsian, Canada **71**; Mr. and Mrs. Berts Zambaktsian, Canada **71**; Mr. and Mrs. Bob Adourian, Canada **70**; Mr. and Mrs. Van Aroian, MA **70**; Ms. Alice Karabian, PA **70**; Mrs. Tania Gulekjian Mobayed, Switzerland **70**; Mr. and Mrs. George Nazarian, AL **70**; Ms. Anne-Marie Paraghamian, Canada **70**; Mrs. Viola Reimers, ND **70**; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Spiteri, Canada **70**; Mr. John Tellyan, Canada **70**; Mr. and Mrs. Khatchig Kouyoumdjian, Canada **66**; Ms. Lilit Sponeman, IN **65**; Dr. and Mrs. Shahan Yacoubian, CA **65**; St. Mary Armenian Church, NJ **64**; Ms. Lydia Haddad, Canada **62**; Ms. Ruth Attarian, MI **60**; Mr. Barkef Avakian, FL **60**; Mrs. Hera Basmacyan, FL **60**; Mr. Edward A. Essayan, FL **60**; Ms. Caroline Garabedian, CA **60**; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kashian, WI **60**; Mr. and Mrs. Levon Keshishian, CA **60**; Mr. and Mrs. Onik J. Kouyoumdjian, MA **60**; Mr. James H. Kuzirian, KY **60**; Miss Angelina Najarian, United Kingdom **60**; Mr. Apar Potookian, MA **60**; Samsung Electronics North America, USA **60**; Mrs. Alice Sharp, PA **60**; Ms. Srbul Zoravarian, CA **60**; Mr. Daniel P. Bedrosian, FL **56**; Mr. Steve Saroyan, CA **55**; Ms. Esther Silverman, CA **54**; Ms. Taleen Chouljian, Canada **53**; Ms. Setta Franklian, Canada **53**; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ishkanian, Canada **53**; Mr. George Paraghamian, Canada **53**

## **\$50**

1N Harlan Hatcher Grad. Library, MI **50**; Ms. Alexandra Achkarian, NY **50**; Ms. Mary Adil, NY **50**; Mr. Levon Agasyan, Russia **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Agazarian, MA **50**; Mrs. Varsanik Agopian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Ajamian, NJ **50**; Mr. Ronald H. Ajemian, FL **50**; Mr. Michael C. Akashian, MA **50**; Mr. Aret Akcatel, CA **50**; Mrs. Sirvart Akilian, NJ **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Avedis J. Alashaian, NJ **50**; Ms. Semiramida Alchangyan, MA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Rupen Altan, NY **50**; Ms. Yelena Ambartsumian, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Greg Amerkanian, NJ **50**; Ms. Tanya Amirian, CA **50**; Mr. Andre Minasian, NY **50**; Mr. Harry Anjoorian, VA **50**; Anonymous "AB", NY **50**; Anonymous "JP", CA **50**; Mr. Yvonne A. Antreasyan, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. George M. Apelian, FL **50**; Mrs. Sirvard Arakelian, NY **50**; Mrs. Sirarpi Kazanjian Aram, NJ **50**; Mr. Artur Arevyan, CA **50**; Mr. Galoust Aroutiunian, CA **50**; Ms. Rose M. Aslanian, MA **50**; Mr. Ignacio José Assadourian, Argentina **50**; Mr. Vaheh Assatourian, CA **50**; Mr. Robert Ata, FL **50**; Mrs. Alice Atamian, MA **50**; Mr. Alan Avakian, CA **50**; Mr. Michael Avakian, MA **50**; Mr. Aris S. Avanesian, IL **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Vahe Y. Avedissian, CA **50**; Ms. Orsella Ayyazian, TX **50**; Mr. Andranik Ayyazyan, The Netherlands **50**; Mr. Frederic Azilazian, France **50**; Ms. Seta Azizian, CA **50**; Dr. Pablo A. Aznawrian, Mexico **50**; Ms. Anais Babajanian, TX **50**; Mr. and Mrs. John Baboian, MA **50**; Mrs. Irina Badalyan, Russia **50**; Ms. Charlotte M. Bader, IL **50**; Mr. and Mrs. George Bagdasarian, MA **50**; Ms. Astreed T. Bagdoian, MA **50**; Ms. Shooshanik Baghdasarian, CA **50**; Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Baghdassarian, France **50**; Mrs. Anouche Bagrevandian, FL **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Eric J. Baier, KY **50**; Ms. Armineh Bakhtanians, CA **50**; Mrs. Billie Baladouni, VA **50**; Ms. Mary Balakian, CA **50**; Mr. Haig Balian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Zaven A. Bandarian, CA **50**; Mr. Dicran B. Barian, MA **50**; Mr. Nicholas Bazarian, MI **50**; Mr. Robert Bdros, Sweden **50**; Mr. Peter Bebirian, NH **50**; The Bedrosian Family, NJ **50**; Rev. Magar Bedrosian, FL **50**; Mrs. Suzanne S. Bellamy, IN **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Selim Bencuya, CA **50**; Ms. Gayle L. Boghosian, CA **50**; Mr. Serop Boghossian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bogosian, CA **50**; Mr. Gary W. Bohigian, VA **50**; Mr. Mark Bohigian, CA **50**; Mr. Edward Boodaghian, CA **50**; Ms. Nora N. Bouldoukian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bourghol, NY **50**; Mrs. Marie Boyadjian, Canada **50**; Mrs. Evelyn C. Boyd, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Chad Brown, TX **50**; Mrs. Melody Maksudian-Bruckner, MO **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Stephen H. Burns, ME **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Sam Buyajian, Jr., TX **50**; Mr. Arman Calikyan, NY **50**; Mr. Nino Cammarata, AZ **50**; Mr. Edward S. Cankosyan, NY **50**; Mr. Peter Carian, CA **50**; Mrs. Mary G. Carpenter, MA **50**;



## AGBU Donors

Mr. Randy Chakerian, OR **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Harout Chatmajian, NJ **50**; Ms. Iris Chekenian, NY **50**; Mrs. Virginia Cherishian, NJ **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Armen Chopourian, MA **50**; Ms. Armene Chorbajian, MA **50**; Ms. Joyce Chorbajian, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Mark Chutchian, TX **50**; Mr. David A. Clark, VA **50**; Mr. Charles H. Cobaugh, MO **50**; Mr. Raffi Codilian, CA **50**; Mrs. Naush Compani, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cornish, CA **50**; Mr. Kevin Crampton, CA **50**; Ms. Doris Crisci, FL **50**; Mrs. Lucy Croneberger, NJ **50**; Daniel Dermardiros, Canada **50**; Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Daniels, CA **50**; Mrs. Meline Darbinian, CA **50**; Mr. Edward H. Davidian, OH **50**; Mr. Edward Davidian, OH **50**; Ms. Pamela Davis, MA **50**; Mrs. Narek Davtyan, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Aram Demerjian, CA **50**; Father Hovnan Demerjian, FL **50**; Ms. Eileen R. Der Gurahian, MA **50**; Drs. Jack K. Der Sarkissian and Marie A. Dakessian, CA **50**; Dr. Adrina DeVitre, MA **50**; Mr. Richard Dildabanian, NY **50**; Mrs. Margaret A. Dildilian, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael H. Dinovi, NJ **50**; Mr. Thomas Dolan, NY **50**; Mr. Hossep Dolatian, DE **50**; Mr. Edward Dombourian, CA **50**; Mrs. Eve Donigian, CT **50**; Mrs. Rita Donikyan, NJ **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dulgerian, NY **50**; Mr. Mihran Dulgerian, MI **50**; Mrs. Grace Edelstein, NJ **50**; Mr. Andrew Ekhian, CA **50**; Mr. Dikran D. Elgatian, IA **50**; Mrs. Peggy Enokian Mason, NM **50**; Mr. Gokhan Erdogan, NJ **50**; Mr. Hagop Ergerian, PA **50**; Dr. and Mrs. Milo Engoren, MI **50**; Dr. Haig Alexander Eskandarian, Switzerland **50**; Mr. John Esperian, NV **50**; Mr. Edward Ezikian, PA **50**; Dr. and Mrs. Andre Farah, NJ **50**; Ms. Knarig A. Fermanian, FL **50**; Mr. Andranik B. Frounjan, CA **50**; Mr. Artashes Galachyan, CA **50**; Ms. Elizabeth K. Garabedian, MD **50**; Mr. Michael M. Garabedian, Sr., NC **50**; Mr. George A. Garabian, MA **50**; Ms. Varvara Gasparyan, RI **50**; Ms. Loretta A. Gelenian, MA **50**; Mr. Gary M. Gengozian, AL **50**; Mr. George Georgian, CA **50**; Mr. Narek Gevorgyan, India **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Garik Gharibjanians, CA **50**; Dr. and Mrs. Charles Gibbs, NY **50**; Mr. William H. Giragosian, NJ **50**; Mrs. Ida Dorris Gononian, MI **50**; Miss A R. Gorgodian, United Kingdom **50**; Mr. Thomas Gorgorian, NY **50**; Mrs. Margaret P. Grabe, CA **50**; Mr. Hayk Grigoryan, IL **50**; Mr. Larry L. Grocott, PA **50**; Mr. Kenneth R. Gulaian, NC **50**; Ms. Aylin Gulbenkian, CA **50**; Ms. Gail L. Gulbenkian, VA **50**; Ms. Dorothy Hadigian, NY **50**; Ms. Mary M. Hagopian, IN **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Aris Haigian, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Hamlet H. Hamparsumian, CA **50**; Mr. Bruce Hanessian, MD **50**; Ms. Adrineh Hanzel, CA **50**; Mrs. Sona S. Hoisington, MA **50**; Mr. Fletcher Holmquist, WA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara Hourdajian, NJ **50**; Ms. Alice Ekrek Hovanessian, United Kingdom **50**; Mrs. Sandra Hyland, VA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Van Jabagorian, MA **50**; Ms. Martha Jamgochian, RI **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Hrant Jamjyan, RI **50**; Dr. Christopher Janjigian, IL **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Hagop S. Jebejian, NJ **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara Jeknavorian, MA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Duane Jemal Day, MI **50**; Ms. Kathleen Jenanyan, CA **50**; Prof. Vahagn Jerbashian, Spain **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Vartan Jerian, NY **50**; Ms. Amy K. Jerrehian, PA **50**; Mr. John Jermajian, CA **50**; Mr. Arek Jibilian and Ms. Meldia Yesayan, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Rob Jorgensen, WI **50**; Mr. Sarkis A. Kabadayan, CA **50**; Mrs. Anne Kachigian, NJ **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Steven Kachigian, PA **50**; Ms. Margaret Kahn, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Kaitangian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Artem Kalajyan, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Raffi Kalamkarian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Alexander A. Kalfayan, NJ **50**; Mr. Thomas Kaljian, CA **50**; Mr. Nubar Kalpakchyan, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Kapighian, NJ **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Agop S. Kapitanyan, NY **50**; Mrs. Helen Kaptanjan, CA **50**; Mrs. Laura Kara, CT **50**; Mrs. Carol A. Karabian, CA **50**; Ms. Virginia A. Karanfilian, CA **50**; Mrs. Sylvie Karayan, Canada **50**; Mr. and Mrs. John A. Kareken, IL **50**; Mrs. Efkina S. Karian, WI **50**; The Kasabian Family, NJ **50**; Ms. Lilly H. Kassardjian, CA **50**; Mr. Shahan Kavafian, MI **50**; Ms. Sandra Kazanjan, FL **50**; Mr. Denis E. Kebabjian, NY **50**; Dr. Abraham H. Kedeshian, NJ **50**; Mr. Thomas W. Keljik, MN **50**; Mr. David M. Kenosian, PA **50**; Mrs. Florence Kenyon, MI **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis Keochekian, CA **50**; Dr. and Mrs. Albert A. Keshgegian, PA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. James H. Keshian, MA **50**; Mrs. Alice Keurian, NY **50**; Mr.

and Mrs. George T. Keverian, MA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Kevorkian, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Khatchatoorian, MD **50**; Mr. Sevan Khatchatoorian, DC **50**; Mr. Roupén Kiredjian, MA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Hampar H. Kocek, CA **50**; Ms. Melanie Kodikian, PA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Norman J. Kondy, CA **50**; Mrs. Elise Konjoyan, CA **50**; Ms. Karen E. Kopoian, RI **50**; Mr. Avedis Korbekian, CA **50**; Mr. Geoffrey Korf, FL **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Brad Koshar, NJ **50**; Mrs. Mary Ann Kouyoumjian, TX **50**; Mrs. Lucy Krolian, NY **50**; Ms. Etil Kucuksirin, NJ **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kuljian, MA **50**; Mr. Vace Kundakci, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Haig Kurdian, KS **50**; Mrs. Nicole Lalama, NY **50**; Dr. and Mrs. Reed Landau, TN **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Ron Lazaro, TX **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Khai D. Le, NJ **50**; Library of Congress, DC **50**; Mr. Robert D. Magarian, CA **50**; Mr. John H. Malconian, ME **50**; Ms. Janet Malecki, OH **50**; Mr. Simon R. Malian, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Mark H. Malootian, CT **50**; Mrs. Nazli Mampourian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Miridjan Manavian, MA **50**; Ms. Anahid Manoogian, NY **50**; Mr. Ara Manoogian, MA **50**; Manoug Hagopian, Cyprus **50**; Mr. Arsen Manoukian, NY **50**; Ms. Jennifer Manoukian, NJ **50**; Mr. Edward A. Manughian, CA **50**; Maral Kassabian, Canada **50**; Mr. Andre Maranhao, CA **50**; Misses Clara and Grace Margossian, CA **50**; Mr. Levon Markosyan, MA **50**; Mrs. Rosalind V. Mashoian, CA **50**; Mr. Joseph Matossian and Ms. Molly Matossian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mazian, IL **50**; Mrs. Nancy S. McDonagh, IL **50**; Ms. Tamara Mchitarian, IL **50**; Mr. Mark McNaughton, United Kingdom **50**; Mr. Vincent G. Melekian, DC **50**; Ms. Elizabeth Melikian, MA **50**; Ms. Joyce Melikian, MA **50**; Mr. Sarkis Melikyan, CA **50**; Mr. Shahen Melikyan, Russia **50**; Mrs. Sona Melikyan, TX **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Vahe Mener, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Berj Meneshian, MA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Dicran Merguerian, CA **50**; Dr. and Mrs. Ashot Merijanjan, GA **50**; Mr. Charles Merzian, IL **50**; Ms. Ankeen D. Merzikian, MA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Andrey Meshkov, NY **50**; Ms. Lara Messerlian, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Metjian, Jr., MA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Dominick Milillo, NY **50**; Mr. Wesley Milillo, NY **50**; Mr. Ralph D. Minasian, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Raphael Missirian, FL **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Edmond Momartin, CA **50**; Mr. Robert M. Mooradian, MA **50**; Dr. Zak Mortensen, IL **50**; Dr. Dan and Mrs. Janice Moy, CT **50**; Mr. Aris P. Muradian, CA **50**; Mr. Artyom Nahapetyan, TX **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Gregg K. Najarian, NJ **50**; Mr. and Mrs. John Najarian, NJ **50**; Mrs. Dorothy Nalbandian, CA **50**; Dr. Hartune Neffian, CA **50**; Ms. Janet Nercessian, CA **50**; New York Public Library, NY **50**; Mrs. D. Robin Newman, MI **50**; Dr. Ervant V. Nishanian, NJ **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Noorian, MI **50**; Mr. Jerry Norian, MI **50**; Dr. John Norian, CA **50**; Ms. Laura Norian and Mr. Jeff Townsend, IA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nouryan, NY **50**; Prof. James Nowick, CA **50**; Ms. Francisca Nunez, FL **50**; Ms. Jeanette L. Oghigian, CA **50**; Mr. Edward Ohanesian, CA **50**; Mr. Gary Ohanian, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. George Ohanian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Haig Ohanian, AZ **50**; Dr. and Mrs. Vigen Ohanian, TX **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Hagop S. Orchanian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig E. Ouzoonian, MI **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Takvor Ozsan, GA **50**; Mr. Shant Panos, CA **50**; Mr. Charles Papazian, NY **50**; Mrs. Florence Parlakian, NY **50**; Ms. Penny Parsekian, CT **50**; Mrs. Shushig Perlumutter, CA **50**; Mrs. Virginia Kalaydjian Peters, NY **50**; Ms. Caroline Petrossian, CA **50**; Mrs. Susanna Petrosyan, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Vahan Pezeshkian, CA **50**; Mrs. Sylvia Philibosian, CA **50**; Mrs. Linda Pichichero, OH **50**; Mr. Torkom A. Pilbossian, NY **50**; Mr. Jacob Pilibosian, MA **50**; Mrs. Sona Bodigian Polkowski, NJ **50**; Private Prep, NY **50**; Mr. Ara Proudian, NY **50**; Mr. John Putukian, MA **50**; Ms. Margot Putukian, NJ **50**; Mr. Hirant R. Rakijian, CA **50**; Dr. and Mrs. Joel Rakow, NJ **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Reddington, NY **50**; Ms. Mary A. Robertson, OH **50**; Mrs. Karen D. Roby, MA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Grover Rodgers, MI **50**; Ms. Patricia Kezerian Rosenthal, CA **50**; Ms. C. Eve Rudman, NY **50**; Mrs. Barbara Gans Russo, NY **50**; Ms. Knar Sagherian, MD **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Ara B. Sahagian, MD **50**; Mr. Richard Sahagian, OR **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Sahakian, MI **50**; Ms. Nune Sakapetoyan, Armenia **50**; Mr. Ara K. Sakayan, MA **50**; Mrs. Irene Puskuljian Sallustio, NY **50**; Sally Houston/Per

Proc, CA **50**; Mr. Harout Samra, FL **50**; Ms. Lisa M. Sandall, IL **50**; Mrs. Juliet Saraydar, GA **50**; Mrs. Lilit Sargsyan, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Nishan Sarmisakoglu, NY **50**; Dr. and Mrs. John A. Saryan, MA **50**; Mrs. Lucy A. Saxenian, MA **50**; Mrs. Lusya Schinelli, NC **50**; Mr. Dale Sefarian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sellner, NJ **50**; Ms. Mary Selvinazian, NY **50**; Mr. Stepan Setrakian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Edward K. Shahbazian, NY **50**; Mrs. Asdghig Shahverdian, CA **50**; Mr. Armen Shimonian, CA **50**; Mr. Arthur F. Silbergeld, CA **50**; Mrs. Janna Simonian, IL **50**; Mr. Simon Simonian, CA **50**; Ms. Diana Kharatyan, Russia **50**; Mr. Mikael Singulyan, CA **50**; Mrs. Kilhatir A. Sisian, NJ **50**; Mrs. Nancy Smith, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Stephen R. Smith, CA **50**; Mr. Haig M. Soghigian, Jr., FL **50**; Mr. and Mrs. David Souren, NJ **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Dan Steffens, NJ **50**; Ms. Barbara J. Stepanian, CA **50**; Mr. Armen Stepanyan, Luxembourg **50**; Mr. Vahram Sukyas, USA **50**; Mrs. Alice Sullivan, NY **50**; Dr. Melissa Sullivan, PA **50**; Ms. Lili S. Sutura, MA **50**; Ms. Monique Svazlian Tallon, CA **50**; Ms. Judi A. Swenson, CA **50**; Mr. Sammy Tabib, CA **50**; Dr. Neshan Tabibian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Onik Tahtakran and Family, CA **50**; Mr. Ararat Tarbinian, CA **50**; Mr. Jim E. Tarpinian, WA **50**; Mr. Nishan Tarpinian, IL **50**; Mrs. Linda Tarzian, NJ **50**; Mr. Sami A. Tashjian, CA **50**; Ms. Gloria E. Tatarian, MA **50**; Mrs. Rose Tatarian, FL **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Keith L. Taylor, NY **50**; Ms. Doro Tegnazian, NM **50**; Ms. Andrea Tekirian, NY **50**; Mrs. Adrienne M. Terrizzi, MA **50**; Mr. Toros Tervizian, NY **50**; Mr. David L. Terzian, VA **50**; Mrs. Rose Sielian Theriault, NH **50**; Mr. Leo Thomasian, TX **50**; Thompson Coburn LLP, MO **50**; Mr. Nish J. and Ms. Rose M. Tikijian, MA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tomei, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Toomajian, FL **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Mark Toomajian, CA **50**; Ms. Janice Torosian, MI **50**; Ms. Ariana Torossian, NY **50**; Dr. Sandra Torossian, CA **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Torres, NY **50**; Mr. Owen Tosoian, MI **50**; Mr. Alec Toumayan, MD **50**; Mr. Zorab Toutoundjian, NY **50**; Prof. and Mrs. Bruce Tromberg, CA **50**; Mrs. Katherine A. Troyer, NJ **50**; Mrs. Valerie R. Vahouny, VA **50**; Mrs. Roxanne Vahratian, MI **50**; Vardui Marshall, CA **50**; Ms. Aline Varjabedian, CA **50**; Mr. Arsen M. Varjabedian, NC **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Dick Vartanian, IL **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Aram Varteresian, NJ **50**; Mr. Michael Varteresian, MA **50**; Mrs. Frida Vatter, NY **50**; Mr. Richard V. Vishab, PA **50**; Dr. Christopher Visser, TX **50**; Mrs. Rose Marie K. Warman, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Andrew F. Yashar, IL **50**; Mr. Gourgen Yeghyazarians, CA **50**; Dr. Garabet Yeretsian, NY **50**; Mr. and Mrs. Nerses Yerjanian, CA **50**; Mr. Michael Yetemian, NY **50**; Mr. David Zakarian, United Kingdom **50**; Mr. Ruben Zakinian, CA **50**; Mrs. Alice Zallakian and Mr. Michael Zallakian, MI **50**; Mr. Robert Zaroookian, NY **50**; Mrs. Susan Zeitounian, Brazil **50**; Mrs. Rita Zobayan, CA **50**; Mr. Nubar Zohrabian, NJ **50**; Mr. David Zokhrabyan, United Kingdom **50**

## **\$26-\$49**

Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis Avedisian, CA **45**; Ms. Julia Kellermuller, NY **45**; Mr. Aret Minasian, PA **41**; Mr. and Mrs. Arnaud Attamian, United Kingdom **40**; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Baltaeff, PA **40**; Ms. Joan E. Dadian, WI **40**; Mr. James G. Davis, NC **40**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry H. Dikranian, Canada **40**; Ms. Deanna Evans, CA **40**; Ms. Adrienne Fosberg, IL **40**; Mr. Steven H. Gazanian, CA **40**; Mrs. Alice Kourtjian, MI **40**; Ms. Violet Maguire, MA **40**; Mr. Setrak Markarian, NJ **40**; Mr. Charles Masoomian, NJ **40**; Mr. Ruben Oganesian, CA **40**; Ms. Lara Townzen, MA **40**; Ms. Taline Baltayan, Canada **38**; Mr. and Mrs. Serge Colekessian, Canada **38**; Ms. Shakia Estefanos, Canada **38**; Mr. and Mrs. Mardik Hekimian, Canada **38**; Mrs. Nyree Nalbandian and Family of Sonia Nalbandian, Canada **38**; Mr. Varoujan Tanielian, Canada **38**; Anne Balemian Estate, NY **37**; Mr. Jeffrey Brown, CA **36**; Ms. Barbara Cullen, MA **36**; Mr. and Mrs. George Der Ghazarian, Canada **36**; Mr. Ara Der Kevorkian, Canada **36**; Ms. Hripsime Dwyer, Canada **36**; Ms. Anita Hyrapet, Canada **36**; Mr. Harry Avanesian, IL **35**; Mr. Sarkis K. Balukjian, NY **35**; Mr. and Mrs. Vachik J. Boodaghian, NJ **35**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Der Minasian, FL **35**; Miss Kelly Deweese, MN **35**; Ms.

Marcia Gazoorian, MA **35**; Ms. Ann Hablanian, MA **35**; Mrs. Alma D. Jackson, CA **35**; Ms. Ann Kalajian, CA **35**; Mr. and Mrs. Armen Kazanjian, NJ **35**; Ms. Miriam A. Kazanjian, MD **35**; Mrs. Donna Kirkland, MA **35**; Mr. and Mrs. Steve Ghevont Kuiuudjian, Canada **35**; Mr. Peter Manuelian, WA **35**; Ms. Jean E. Martinian, MA **35**; Mr. Joshua E. McPhail, ME **35**; Mr. and Mrs. Martin Melkonian, NY **35**; Ms. Anna Minasian, NY **35**; Ms. Florence Nahigian, DE **35**; Mr. Gary Odabashian, NJ **35**; Mr. Robert S. Ohnigian, NY **35**; Mr. Onige Papelian, CA **35**; Ms. Norma Yaglijian, CA **35**; Mrs. Nazeli Aghadjanian, CA **30**; Mr. Ernest Asadoorian, FL **30**; Mrs. Carolyn Ashjian, CA **30**; Mrs. Mary Barghamian, NJ **30**; Mr. Michael A. Barsamian, WI **30**; Mr. and Ms. David T. Bertaud, IL **30**; Dr. and Mrs. George Bezirgianian, VA **30**; Mr. Andrew Butler-Boudakian, NY **30**; Dr. Zaven H. Chakmakjian, TX **30**; Mr. Earle A. Chorbaganian, MI **30**; Mr. Sarkis Dakessian, CA **30**; Mr. Michael T. Eramian, CA **30**; Ms. Yeva Ghazaryan, WA **30**; Mr. Vahan Hovakimian, IL **30**; Mr. Darwin Jamgochian, FL **30**; Mr. George Karamanian, MA **30**; Mrs. Tanya Kevorkian, NJ **30**; Mr. Hapet J. Kharibian, MO **30**; Mr. and Mrs. Jarnis Khorozian, NJ **30**; Dr. and Mrs. K. Jack Kooyoomjian, VA **30**; Mr. Harry Koroghlanian, WI **30**; Mr. Vartkas H. Krikorian, MA **30**; Miss Elizabeth Martines, NJ **30**; Mrs. Sue Mirakian, OH **30**; Mr. Armenak Petrosyan, TN **30**; Mrs. Doris K. Pyle, OR **30**; Mr. and Mrs. Garbis Sariyan, NM **30**; Mrs. Louise H. Tezel, NY **30**; Mr. Burt Toumayan, CA **30**; Mr. Stephen N. Yakoubian, CA **30**; Ms. Patricia Yeghissian, MD **30**; Mrs. Rose Yenidjeian, FL **30**; Mr. Keith Williams, Canada **28**

## **\$25**

Ms. Christine Abrahamian, CA **25**; Ms. Lyudmila A. Agabekova, MI **25**; Ms. Rosette Aghoian, CA **25**; Mr. Edward Ahigian, MA **25**; Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Alexanian, WA **25**; Ms. Kohar Alexanian, MD **25**; Mrs. Helen Aloian, IL **25**; Mr. Vartan Amirian, CA **25**; Mr. Tigran Ananian, MD **25**; Anonymous "AK", CA **25**; Anonymous "EP", OH **25**; Mr. and Mrs. John Aprahamian, MD **25**; Ms. Mary Aranosian, NH **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Moses Arkoian, MD **25**; Ms. Virginia Arpiarian, NY **25**; Mr. Mark Arslan, NC **25**; Mrs. Beatrice Arzuoumanian, NY **25**; Mrs. Florence Arzrouni, NJ **25**; Mr. Suran Asadoorian, RI **25**; Mr. Haig Ashjian, CA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Giragos Atamian, NY **25**; Ms. June Athanasian, NY **25**; Mr. Christopher Austin, CA **25**; The Andonian/Avagyan Family, NY **25**; Mr. Hrant Avedissian, TX **25**; Mr. Michael Avsharian, MI **25**; Ms. Gina Ayyazian, MA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Yeghia Baboomian, NY **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Arsene G. Bajakian, MA **25**; Ms. Vivian Bakal, VA **25**; Mr. Earl M. Bedoian, CA **25**; Ms. Martha Bedrosian, MA **25**; Mrs. Takouhy Bedrossian, NY **25**; Mr. Alexander Bedrosyan, PA **25**; Mr. Martin D. Bennett, NY **25**; Mr. George M. Berberian, MA **25**; Ms. Dina Blokland, Israel **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Bogoshian, NJ **25**; Dr. Paul G. Bogosian, PA **25**; Mr. Jim Bouldoukian, NH **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bousian, CA **25**; Mrs. Christine M. Boyajian, PA **25**; Mr. David B. Boyajian, MA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. D. Bruce Brauning, ME **25**; Ms. Elyse Brown, NH **25**; Mrs. Ramela Carman, MI **25**; Mr. Theo A. Cavacos, MD **25**; Mrs. Ayshe Chakmaklian, PA **25**; Mrs. Kathleen Chavoor-Bergen, CA **25**; Mr. Ara Chekmayan, NY **25**; Mr. and Mrs. David H. Chorlian, NJ **25**; Mr. Charles Coloian, OH **25**; Mr. Thomas Cremeen and Ms. Tatevik Minasyan, TN **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dagdigian, MA **25**; Mr. Andrew Daghlilian, OR **25**; Mr. Mike Daghlilian, CA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Ardash Daronatsy, IN **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Davidian, NY **25**; Mr. Sion Davoudi, CA **25**; Mr. Agop K. Demirozu, NY **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Der Garry, FL **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Der Manouelian, RI **25**; Mr. George Derbabian, CT **25**; Mr. and Mrs. George Derderian, VA **25**; Mr. John Derderian, MA **25**; Mr. Nazaret Dirinian, MA **25**; Mr. Jeremiah J. Donovan, MA **25**; Dr. and Mrs. Robert V. Dorian, NJ **25**; Prof. Robert S. Dulgarian, MA **25**; Mrs. Seta Dickran Dupkin, NY **25**; Mr. James H. Durgerian, MI **25**; Mr. Leo Emerzian, CA **25**; Mr. Samuel Esayian, WA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Peter Essayan, CA **25**; Ms. Hourii A. Frost, CA **25**; Miss Sarineh Garapetian, MD **25**; Mrs. Emma Edgarian

## AGBU Donors

Gevorkian, Spain **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Giragosian, IL **25**; Mr. Armand Gougasian, CA **25**; Mrs. Virginia Gregorian, FL **25**; Ms. Nelly Gureghian, MA **25**; Ms. Mary Kaprilian Guth, CA **25**; Ms. Amy Hagopian, WA **25**; Mr. Hagop Hagopian, MA **25**; Ms. Judith Hagopian, MD **25**; Ms. Sarah Hagopian, MA **25**; Mrs. Sonia D. Haight, CA **25**; Miss Alexis Halejian, CA **25**; Mrs. Jane Hanisian, ME **25**; Mrs. Paula Harrop, NV **25**; Mr. Philip H. Hart, IL **25**; Ms. Agnes Hasacorzian, NJ **25**; Mrs. Jo Marie Hawks, DE **25**; Ms. Marie Herrington, SC **25**; Mr. Warren Holopigian, NY **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Seboo Hovanessian, CA **25**; Mrs. Nancy S. Hovhanessian, MA **25**; Mr. Jeffrey Hovsepian, CA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Injaian, NJ **25**; Ms. Amy Ishkanian, NY **25**; Mr. Chas Israelian, NY **25**; Mr. Hraj B. Jaburian, CA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. William J. Keim, MA **25**; Ms. Angeline Jamjiamian, MO **25**; Mr. Paul Jamushian, VA **25**; Mr. Warren C. Janigian, MA **25**; Mrs. Geraldine M. Jezarian, NY **25**; Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Johnson, Jr., VA **25**; Mr. Patrick Michael Jost, VA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Kademian, WI **25**; Mr. and Mrs. George N. Kaderian, MA **25**; Ms. Nancy Kalajian, MA **25**; Miss Serli Kalaycioglu, Canada **25**; Mr. Kathryn Kandarian, CO **25**; Ms. Claudia Karagoz, MO **25**; Ms. Susan Kassapian, NY **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Karnik G. Kazazian, MI **25**; Mr. Bedros Keklikian, CA **25**; Ms. Georgianne Ensign Kent, CT **25**; Mr. Edward Kerekian, CT **25**; Mr. Vartkes Ketenjian, CA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Keyishian, NY **25**; Ms. Megan Kilidjian, TX **25**; Mr. George Kinoian, CA **25**; Mrs. Alice L. Klug, PA **25**; Ms. Helen Krikorian, VA **25**; Mr. John Krikorian, MA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Benno Lebkuchner, CT **25**; Ms. Michele Lewis, NY **25**; Mr. Keane Lim, CO **25**; Ms. Rachel Lowitz, MD **25**; Mr. Alan Magarian, IL **25**; Ms. Mimi Malayan, CA **25**; Mr. Robert Malconian, ME **25**; Mr. and Mrs. John Malkasian, CA **25**; Ms. Diane H. Maloomian, MA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Mamassian, MI **25**; Mr. Hrachik Manukyan, United Kingdom **25**; Mrs. Arlene Marks, NY **25**; Ms. Heather Martin, CA **25**; Mrs. Nancy Telian Martinez, CA **25**; Mrs. Mary Mashlajkian, OR **25**; Mr. M. Richard Mekenian, NJ **25**; Miss Florene Susan Memegalos, NY **25**; Dr. Michael G. Mensoian, MA **25**; Miss Leona Migroyan, CA **25**; Mrs. Carol E. Mirakian, CT **25**; Mrs. Lucine Mirakian, OH **25**; Mr. Hamlik Mirzakanian, CA **25**; Ms. Gabriella Mouradian, PA **25**; Mr. Jason Mueller, WA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Avedis Mujukian, CA **25**; Mrs. Lucy Murad, VA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Vrege Najarian, VA **25**; Mr. Zaven D. Nalbandian, MO **25**; Mr. Arlen Navasartian, CA **25**; Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence F. Nazarian, NY **25**; Ms. Seta Nercessian, MA **25**; Ms. Marina Oganyan, WA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Ogasian, MA **25**; Mr. Mark Ohanesian, CA **25**; Ms. Rosette Ohannessian, NJ **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Gustave A. Olander, Ill, CT **25**; Mr. Charles Oymaian, CA **25**; Ms. Lauren Paige, CA **25**; Mr. Robert N. Paklaian, MI **25**; Mr. John Pakradounian, CA **25**; Mr. Arnold Paloolian, NV **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Victor Papakhian, MI **25**; Mr. James H. Parsehyan, NY **25**; Mr. Harut Pirinjian, CA **25**; Mrs. Christine S. Polito, PA **25**; Miss Celia Prescott-Decie, Lebanon **25**; Mr. Edward Prescott-Decie, Lebanon **25**; Mr. Nathaniel Prince, NY **25**; Mr. Alex Raizian, CA **25**; Mr. Robert Riley, VA **25**; Mr. Paul Sagherian, Jr., FL **25**; Mrs. Margaret N. Sahatdjian, CA **25**; Ms. Christine Santourian, MI **25**; Miss Ani Sargsyan, United Kingdom **25**; Mrs. Nina Sarkisian, MI **25**; Mrs. Aida V. Sarkisian, VT **25**; Mr. Samvel Sarkisyan, NY **25**; Mr. and Mrs. David Schlueter, TX **25**; Ms. Lura E. Seferian, NJ **25**; Mr. John Semerjian, MA **25**; Mrs. Donald Shaghalian, RI **25**; Mrs. Mary J. Shram, NJ **25**; Mr. Fred Sienkiewicz, TN **25**; Miss Tatevik Simavorian, CA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Smith, NJ **25**; Ms. Maureen Sullivan, MA **25**; Ms. Irene T. Swiney, RI **25**; Miss Sareen Tchekmedyian, CA **25**; Mr. Robert B. Thomas, VA **25**; Mr. Don K. Tomajan, Ill, CA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Leo Topjian, MA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Dickran Toumajan, MI **25**; Mr. Harrison Tu, CA **25**; Mr. Edward Tutelian, OH **25**; Mrs. Marion Tutunjian, MA **25**; Ms. Anahid M. Ugurlayan, NY **25**; Ms. Alexis Van Den Berg, AZ **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Vartabedian, MI **25**; Mrs. Elizabeth Vartanian, CT **25**; Mrs. Sylvia Voegelé, CA **25**; Ms. Susan Marie Voelz, CA **25**; Mrs. Marjorie Z. Voth, NC **25**; Mrs. Edwina Walsh, MA **25**; Mrs. Patricia Williamson, NY **25**; Ms.

Anita M. Wolfson, NY **25**; Mr. Vaughn Yacobian, MA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. John Yalenezian, MA **25**; Mr. and Mrs. Garabed Yeghiaian, OR **25**; Mr. Hayk Yeghiazaryan, United Kingdom **25**; Mr. David G. Zartarian, RI **25**; Ms. Marianne A. Ziver, MD **25**; Ms. Alexandra Zoraian, PA **25**

### \$1-\$24

Ms. Catherine M. Adjan, NJ **20**; Mr. and Mrs. Artin Agasyan, NJ **20**; Mr. Daniel Akullian, NY **20**; Dr. Arin Allahverdi Balalian, NY **20**; Mr. Shahen Andresian, NV **20**; Mrs. Nelly Aprahamian, NY **20**; Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Asadourian, NH **20**; Mr. Richard Atamian, CA **20**; Ms. Erika Avanesian, CA **20**; Mr. Yervand E. Avanian, CA **20**; Ms. Gail L. Baderian, MA **20**; Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Baghdassarian, CA **20**; Ms. Rema Bandarian, CA **20**; Mr. Lee D. Banner, NY **20**; Mr. Raffi Barsoumian, CA **20**; Mr. Armen Boyadzhyan, CA **20**; Mr. Shahan Chelebi, FL **20**; Miss Varduhi Danielyan, Armenia **20**; Ms. Arpine Dod, NY **20**; Ms. Vicki Duvendjian, CA **20**; Mr. George Gigarjian, MA **20**; Mr. Michael Gopoiian, NH **20**; Ms. Nina Rochelle Hagopian, NY **20**; Mr. and Mrs. John Hamalian, NJ **20**; Mr. and Mrs. Vahak Hamamciyan, NY **20**; Mrs. Virginia Hazian, RI **20**; Ms. Alice Johnson, MD **20**; Mr. Megerdich Jonian, CA **20**; Mr. Kris Kachadoorian, CA **20**; Mr. Tigran Kalantaryan, Armenia **20**; Dr. M.J. Kaldjian, MI **20**; Mrs. Ovsanna Kalfayan, AZ **20**; Mr. Andy Kasparian, CA **20**; Miss Armine Khachatryan, Armenia **20**; Mrs. Manushak Khalulian, CA **20**; Mrs. Roxie Kricorian, VA **20**; Mr. and Mrs. Gary A. Kulhanjian, NJ **20**; Mr. Sévák Kulinkian, France **20**; Mr. Donald S. Kuzoian, CT **20**; Mrs. Suzy Lee, CA **20**; Mrs. Carol Sahakian McAndrew, MI **20**; Ms. Melanie Medina, NJ **20**; Mr. John Messikian, NY **20**; Mr. John K. Mooshian, MA **20**; Mr. Frederick D. Nahabedian, MI **20**; Mrs. Ania Nazarian, FL **20**; Mr. Krikor Nazarian, OH **20**; Mrs. Margarita Oganessian, CA **20**; Mr. and Mrs. Harold K. Ohanian, RI **20**; Mr. and Mrs. Nazareth Ohannessian, NH **20**; Online donations received through Crowdrise, USA **20**; Mr. and Mrs. Leo Pilibosian, CA **20**; Ms. Gloria Sands, NC **20**; Ms. Narine Sargsyan, NY **20**; Mrs. Syuzanna Sargsyan, WA **20**; Mr. David Alexandros Sisti, Armenia **20**; Mr. Mark. A. Sydlo, NY **20**; Mrs. Sonia Tchakedjian, CA **20**; Mrs. Adeline Tegnazian, NY **20**; Ms. Armenohi Valijian, NY **20**; Ms. Sonya Varoujian, United Kingdom **20**; Mrs. Mary Vartanian, IL **20**; Mr. Martiros Vartanov, CA **20**; Mr. Todd Wyner, MA **20**; Ms. Clariss Yadegarian, CA **20**; Mr. Albert H. Yenian, MA **20**; Mr. Soghomon Meneshian, Canada **19**; Mrs. Caroline Chamavonian, PA **18**; Mr. and Mrs. Eddy Karakachian, MA **18**; Mr. Henry Anmahian, VA **15**; Mrs. Elaine Carson, FL **15**; Mrs. Mary L. Groh, AZ **15**; Mr. Jerry Hachadourian, MA **15**; Ms. Lucy Jordan, NH **15**; Mrs. Naomi K. Kuzoian, RI **15**; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Loshigian, NY **15**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael Nalbandian, NJ **15**; Ms. Catherine L. Sakalian, NJ **15**; Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Seferian, CT **15**; Ms. Seta Tchobanian, Canada **15**; Mrs. Cynthia G. Wilkinson, CA **15**; Ms. J. Yazarian, IA **15**; Mrs. Haidzine Yeretsian, Canada **14**; Ms. Anokhi Dalal, TX **12**; Anonymous "DI", NJ **10**; Aramayas Mkrtrchyan, France **10**; Mr. Arnold Arslan, MN **10**; Mr. Tigran Avagyan, NC **10**; Mrs. Betty Avakian, NY **10**; Mr. Charles A. Babikian, NJ **10**; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bajada, NY **10**; Mrs. Alice Bennett, RI **10**; Mr. Robert T. Bowen, CA **10**; Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Damerjian, PA **10**; Mrs. Margaret De Simone-Wyman, NY **10**; Mr. and Mrs. Alex Dionysian, CA **10**; Ms. Arpi S. Emirzian, CT **10**; Miss Cassandra Guerrero, IL **10**; Ms. Edna Hovagimian, MA **10**; Dr. and Mrs. Gourgen L. Hovnatanian, LA **10**; Mr. and Mrs. Angele Keshian, MA **10**; Mr. Armenio Keusseyan, United Kingdom **10**; Mr. Norire N. Khachikian, NV **10**; Mr. and Mrs. George Kirazian, Jr., CA **10**; Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Koolakian, NY **10**; Ms. Mary Lowenbraun, NJ **10**; Ms. Araksia Makarian, RI **10**; Mr. Yervant R. Manoogian, IL **10**; Ms. Teresa L. May, VA **10**; Mr. Harry Medzorian, MA **10**; Mrs. Zabel S. Medzoyan, CA **10**; Ms. Araz Megerdichian, CA **10**; Mr. and Mrs. Herach S. Mesdjian, WI **10**; Miss Anna Meshkova, Russia **10**; Mrs. Rosemary Minasian, CA **10**; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Narsasian, MA **10**; Misses Flora and Mary T. Naturian, NY **10**;



Ms. Anahis Odabashian, PA **10**; Mrs. Helen Parnagian, CA **10**; Ms. Siranush Safarian, DC **10**; Mr. Ed S. Sarkisian, CA **10**; Mr. George Teloian, NH **10**; Ms. Barbara A. Tutelian, VA **10**; Vartan Kesiz Abnousi, VA **10**; Mr. and Mrs. Wanis Voskeridjian, PA **10**; Mr. Michael Gourdikian, CA **7**; Anonymous "BH", AZ **5**; Anonymous "DJ", TN **5**; Anonymous "KC", MA **5**; Anonymous "ZA", United Kingdom **5**; Ms. Gayane Aramyan, Armenia **5**; Miss Catherine Bornmann, FL **5**; Mr. Kyle M. Bozian, NJ **5**; Mrs. Ani Harutyunyan, Armenia **5**; Mrs. Lillian Haugland, IL **5**; Mr. Arthour Kazandjian, CA **5**; Ms. Adelina Kazaryants, CA **5**; Mrs. Elham Khalil, CA **5**; Miss Preeti Kooner, Canada **5**; Ms. Terry Kutin, CA **5**; Miss Miriam Marderosian, PA **5**; Ms. Kerry Mclarty, United Kingdom **5**; Ms.

Erica Nyyssönen, Finland **5**; Mr. Richard Perry, ME **5**; Ms. Helen H. Sevagian, MA **5**; Mr. Vernon Lee Tevriz, CA **5**; Ms. Reyna T. Harabedian, MA **3**; Mr. Kazim Hasirci, Turkey **3**; Mr. Viktoriya Matevosyan, CA **3**; Mr. and Mrs. Michael A. Terzian, MA **3**; Miss Caitlin Vesper, OR **3**; Anonymous "IB", Belgium **2**; Ms. Alaina Crumrine, TX **2**; Ms. Emma Deyneka, Russia **2**; Rev. Marcos Ferandes, FL **2**; Allstate Giving Campaign, VA **1**; Anonymous "AP", Canada **1**; Anonymous "SK", Canada **1**; Ms. Tiffany Gantz, IL **1**; Mr. Nicholas Garcia, IL **1**; Mr. Michael D. Owen, CA **1**; Ms. Iqrah Rashid, Canada **1**; Miss Monica Torosyan, NY **1**

## We thank the many individuals and families for their generosity and thoughtfulness in designating memorial gifts or special occasion contributions for the programs of the AGBU.

### Donations Received in 2016

#### In Memory of...

##### Lila Chorbajian

General Programs, AGBU Children's Centers  
**\$350**

##### Zareh N. Demirjian

Zareh N. Demirjian Memorial  
**\$22,345**

##### Harry Deroian

Scholarships  
**\$860**

##### Garo Djeghelian

AYA Cultural Programs  
**\$40,700**

##### Nubar M. Dorian

Scholarships  
**\$5,075**

##### Mihran Dukmejian

Camp Nubar  
**\$4,025**

##### Artoun Nazareth Festekjian

Humanitarian Emergency Relief, Education  
**\$51,650**

##### Azadouhi Gurunian

AGBU Senior Dining Centers  
**\$2,220**

##### Andrea Halejian

Camp Nubar, Humanitarian Emergency Relief  
**\$45,140.32**

##### Edward Holobigian

Humanitarian Emergency Relief, Scholarships  
**\$950**

##### Harry Karagozian

General Programs  
**\$200**

##### Vasken Kassabian

Scholarships  
**\$28,299.73**

##### Noyemi Keleshian

AGBU Senior Dining Centers  
**\$184**

##### Varoujan Kradjian

Scholarships  
**\$1,100**

##### Hagop and Hasmig Krakirian

Humanitarian Emergency Relief  
**\$5,405**

##### Flora Manavian

New York Summer Internship Program  
**\$2,650**

##### Ankin Messikian

Camp Nubar  
**\$575**

##### Flora Mirzaian

General Programs  
**\$100**

##### Maida Nersisyan

AGBU Hokis  
**\$1,636**

##### Eduardo Seferian

Humanitarian Emergency Relief  
**\$20,000**

##### Vaughn Rose Soultanian

Penjamin Jamgotchian School, Armenia  
**\$2,000**

##### Zohrab Tamzarian

Humanitarian Emergency Relief  
**\$175**

##### Marie Vehouni

Educational Programs in Armenia  
**\$800**

##### Jacqueline Yedibalian

AGBU Senior Dining Centers  
**\$1,840**

##### Apik and Hilda Zorian

Humanitarian Emergency Relief  
**\$3,850**

#### In Honor of...

##### In Lieu of Gift—Vera Maria Arslanian

Humanitarian Emergency Relief  
**\$3,500**

##### Birthday—Marguerite A. Dilimetin

Humanitarian Emergency Relief  
**\$1,100**

##### Birthday—Heratch O. Doumanian

Humanitarian Emergency Relief  
**\$3,000**

##### Vartan Geudelekian

Humanitarian Emergency Relief  
**\$7,825**

##### George Hotonian

General Programs  
**\$5,000**

##### Running New York City Marathon—Anna Sharoyan

Humanitarian Emergency Relief  
**\$540**

##### Tenny Tatusian

Scholarships  
**\$1,000**

##### Birthday—Arden and Von Yacoubian

NKR Relief  
**\$475**

##### Birthday—Jane Yeretsian

AGBU Senior Dining Centers  
**\$1,119.69**

## BEIRUT, LEBANON

### Young Professionals at AGBU FOCUS 2017 in Beirut Raise Close to \$100,000 for the AGBU Scholarship Program

**N**GBU Young Professionals (YPs) boarded flights from as far as Australia, Brazil, Thailand and beyond to participate in AGBU FOCUS 2017 held during the first week of August in Beirut. Following the tradition established sixteen years ago, over 400 guests came together to expand their networks through meaningful exchange while discovering the cosmopolitan Lebanese capital and attending an unparalleled series of cultural and social events.

This year, in addition to AGBU's anticipated schedule of events, guests were invited to join a special tour of the unique sites of Beirut, the Jeita Grottoes, Byblos city, the Jbeil souks and the Armenian Genocide Orphans' Aram Bezikian Museum at the Bird's Nest Orphanage. The visit to the museum proved particularly memorable as many attendees found themselves in the spot where their ancestors once took refuge and learned skills to integrate into some of the communities represented by the FO-

CUS guests. "We were eager to welcome guests to our city, which carries a lot of emotion and history as well as a sense of belonging for Armenians. Lebanese traditions, culture and hospitality added a special touch to our weekend. From the very start, we presented a truly inclusive Lebanese-Armenian experience ranging from the local food to music and settings," said AGBU FOCUS 2017 chair Natacha Keuchguerian.

AGBU FOCUS officially kicked off with its signature event Perspectives, a panel discussion held at Bachoura in the Beirut Digital District. The evening offered insights by fellow professionals who had broken the mold in their careers by taking risks in their fields and often stepping outside of their comfort zones. Sarine Karajerjian, the former chair of the AGBU Young Professionals (YPs) of Lebanon, moderated the discussion that included engineer Sevag Babikian, fashion designer Sarah Hermez, attorney-turned-entrepreneur Stéphane Petrossian and tech researcher and startup

founder Anna Vartapetian. Although panelists' careers and paths varied, an underlying theme of social responsibility emerged in each person's journey. "Someone once told me that beauty and justice can be found in everyone and that statement resonated with me and pushed me to start Creative Space Beirut which aims at making design education accessible to all students with vision and an impulse to create, regardless of their socio-economic standing," said Sarah Hermez, co-founder of the design school.

The dialogue continued the following day at the inaugural FOCUS Conference where emerging leaders and engaged young professionals learned how grassroots ideas have evolved into signature programs within the AGBU's landscape of activities.

*Hundreds of young professionals from around the world traveled to Beirut for the celebrated biennial event to share ideas, expand their networks and fundraise for the AGBU Scholarship Program.*





Framed appropriately as a network of ideas, AGBU has served as an incubator for new initiatives for decades. The participants were also offered a look at two up-and-coming projects aimed at engaging communities on an international scale. Brainstorming sessions and workshops created a stimulating environment for attendees to provide feedback and hold collaborative discussions for new program concepts. “It was a distinct honor to host the first FOCUS Conference and collaborate with AGBU leadership. The drive of like-minded peers was evident throughout the day as participants shared their thoughts and encouraged each other to take action to ensure that their communities remain engaged in giving back,” noted AGBU FOCUS 2017 co-chair Nathalie Piranian. The day concluded with an opportunity for industry-based networking before the ever-popular FOCUS Club Night at B018, a former bunker turned into an open-air nightclub designed by world-renowned architect Bernard Khoury.

On Saturday, after the first-hand exposure to Khoury’s architecture, guests at FOCUS on Art held at the impressive Sursock Museum were treated to his special presentation. Reflecting on the resilience of the city and his design process and ideology, Khoury noted that his mother’s Armenian roots remain ever present in his mind. Khoury, who has left his indelible mark on the Beirut landscape and designed the Tumo Center for Creative Technologies in Yerevan, has a few ongoing projects in the homeland. “What a treat to discover the spirit of the structures and spaces of Beirut, their virtues and vices through the architectural storytelling of Bernard Khoury,” noted Stepan Khzrtian who traveled from Arcadia, California, for the weekend.

The highlight of the weekend was the AGBU FOCUS Gala held at The Legend, nestled on the bank of the ancient Lycus River. The impressive entertainment ranged from a performance by the AGBU Arine Dance Ensemble and a fire drumming show to fireworks and endless dancing. The night began with a dedication to the AGBU Scholarship Program, the designated beneficiary of the FOCUS fundraising drive. Since 1923, the AGBU Scholarship Program has provided financial assistance to tens of thousands of students pursuing higher education at some of the world’s top-ranked universities. AGBU FOCUS



*AGBU Demirdjian Center summer campers extend a warm welcome to FOCUS attendees in Beirut.*

2017 organizers Natacha Keuchguerian and Nathalie Piranian addressed guests drawing their attention to the lasting impact of the AGBU Scholarship Program. The fundraising campaign leading up to the FOCUS weekend raised nearly \$100,000, demonstrating that the spirit of giving is alive and well in the current generation of YPs.

As a beneficiary of an AGBU scholarship, fashion designer Eddy Anemian of Saint-Chamond, France, shared his experience and expressed his gratitude to AGBU and its donors. Anemian, who received the coveted H&M Design Award 2014 at age 24 and whose own collection for the company sold out within the first hours on the market, recounted his incredible journey from his small-town upbringing to the storefronts of the Champs Elysées. “My AGBU scholarship was extremely helpful because it allowed me to fully engage in the creative process without facing the struggle of a financial burden. The creative process is often very tiring and overwhelming at times but AGBU’s support provided me with the encouragement I needed to propel forward and pursue my dream,” said Anemian.

Addressing the crowd in three languages, AGBU Lebanon District Committee member Gary Nazarian thanked AGBU Lebanon, the Central Office in New York and the

Organizing Committee for their tireless efforts behind the scenes. In a touching tribute, he announced the establishment of the AGBU Noubar Nazarian YP Innovators Fund, which will designate \$10,000 per year to finance start-up projects initiated through the AGBU YP network. “Noubar Nazarian committed his time to ensure that AGBU youth activities thrived during his lifetime and this fund builds on the foundation he and his generation of leaders set decades ago,” he noted.

The weekend ended with a farewell brunch at the Beirut Waterfront. In the weeks and months following FOCUS, professional and personal connections will continue to be made and new ideas will be explored, a testament to the impact that FOCUS has on connecting Armenians around the world.

Since premiering in New York City in 2001, AGBU FOCUS has distinguished itself as a unique networking experience for Armenian young professionals globally. What began as a signature anniversary celebration is now a sensational biennial tradition, offering young professionals an opportunity to connect with hundreds of international peers while highlighting the direct and positive impact of AGBU’s programs on generations of Armenians. Over the past 14 years, AGBU FOCUS has united close to 3,000 young professionals in seven different cities: New York City (2001, 2007), Montreal (2003), Miami (2005), Chicago (2009), Paris (2011), San Francisco (2013), Toronto (2015) and now Beirut (2017). 🇺🇸



WORLDWIDE


# AGBU Continues to Support *The Promise* and Campaigns to Promote Genocide Education

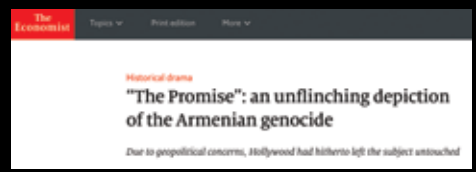
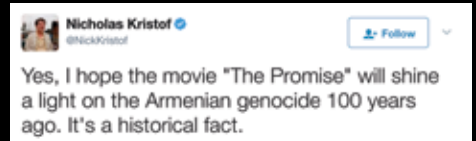
*The Promise*—the first big budget, wide-release film to depict the Armenian Genocide—opened in theaters in the United States, Canada, Armenia, Russia, the United Kingdom and Australia, as well as across Europe, the Middle East and Asia. Produced by the legendary Kirk Kerkorian’s Survival Pictures and directed by Academy Award-winner Terry George (*Hotel Rwanda*), *The Promise* featured an outstanding international cast, including Oscar Isaac, Charlotte Le Bon, Christian Bale, Shohreh Aghdashloo, Angela Sarafyan, and many more. Iconic musicians, including French-Lebanese composer Gabriel Yared, Chris Cornell, Serj Tankian and others created and recorded music for the movie.

In anticipation of the film’s release, AGBU in partnership with Armenian organizations in North America promoted the film with a social media and print publicity campaign to reach mainstream audiences. AGBU chapters and YP groups wholeheartedly supported the film by orchestrating premieres and group screenings to ensure sold-out theaters in North America and beyond.

With an intention to expand the movie’s social impact, Survival Pictures made an unprecedented announcement that all proceeds from box office ticket sales would be donated to human rights organizations and non-profits. With a strong belief in *The Promise*’s powerful messages, the stars—Christian Bale, Chris Cornell, Terry George, Angela Sarafyan, and Serj Tankian—teamed up for an international campaign through the fundraising platform Omaze to support AGBU’s Humanitarian Emergency Relief Fund. Individuals donated to the cause for a chance to win a once-in-a-lifetime experience to spend an evening with these celebrities at the red-carpet premiere of the film at Grauman’s Chinese Theater. A total of nearly \$75,000 was raised through donations from 52 countries, including Germany, Brazil, Korea, Australia and Armenia.

Taking its commitment one step further, Survival Pictures is now donating all its proceeds from the movie’s DVD and digital sales to humanitarian causes, including supporting Armenian Genocide education initiatives in the United States. AGBU is collaborating with a number of organizations to promote purchases of DVDs and downloads.

AGBU is simultaneously managing the latest campaign “The Promise to Educate” aimed at collecting funds to furnish public schools and universities with copies of *The Promise* along with carefully designed Armenian Genocide education curriculum guides. The global community continues to support this film and its overarching messages. To contribute to AGBU’s campaign and to access the special links for download, please visit [www.thepromisetoeducate.org](http://www.thepromisetoeducate.org). 







**SALON** VIDEO NEWS POLITICS ENTERTAINMENT LIFE INNOVATION

**The Armenian genocide is still being denied: "This human tragedy has been allowed to be treated as a debate rather than actual history"**



**Christian Bale's 'The Promise' lives up to its impressive commitment**

REVIEW: The historical drama is rich with contemporary relevance. | ★★½ out of 4 stars

By Colin Covert Star Tribune | APRIL 20, 2017 - 11:45AM



LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

## The AGBU Central Board Emphasizes its Youth in a Series of Strategic Meetings in London

For the third year in a row, the Central Board gathered in London for a critical conference that brought together leadership and the local community for a weekend of events that emphasized the role of young leaders and provided an opportunity to cultivate a shared vision.

The weekend featured a series of meetings to expand the reach of the global Armenian nation. The meetings welcomed participants from the AGBU Central Board, Europe District Committee and 16 Young Professionals (YP) groups from around the world to build on the on-going dialogue that AGBU began at its 89th General Assembly and 110th Anniversary Weekend in New York last October. The lively discussions in London focused on four key pillars of the organization (humanitarian; culture and identity; education; and socio-economic development) to develop ways and means to move forward as a people and an organization.

The topics addressed the vision of AGBU and its goal of increasing the visibility of Armenians on the world stage. AGBU's role in Armenia as an agent for change was a prominent focus of the meetings as well as discussions surrounding local strategy for attaining exponential reach by forging ties beyond the Armenian community. Partnerships have been a major means through which AGBU has sought to make its mark. In the past year, the organization has engaged in strategic partnerships with international organizations, including the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Smithsonian Institution; the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); the European Union and the Eurasia Partnership Foundation; and most recently the United Nation's Children Fund (UNICEF) and the Shoah Foundation. These partnerships provide AGBU with new op-

portunities to make a more profound impact in reaching out to the global community.

The participation of the Young Professionals (YP) in implementing ideas was also underscored as essential for the success of AGBU initiatives. "These meetings were designed to bring in the YP leadership from around the world, to connect them and provide an opportunity to share respective experiences. Gladly, we covered many topics and I am confident that the leaders will continue based on what we saw," said AGBU board member Yervant Zorian.

The weekend closed with an intimate dinner on Saturday, hosted by AGBU Central Board member Dr. Armen Sarkissian and his wife Nouneh, at the Dorchester Hotel. The evening, emceed by Camilio Azzouz, featured a keynote address by Eric Esrailian, who was also honored with his wife Melina, for their tireless work on *The Promise* and its



worldwide promotion. “When there has never been a major motion picture on the Armenian Genocide that has reached millions of people, you have to design a film that is accessible. The most important aspect of *The Promise* is that it is not just for Armenians. Silence and denial are destructive for generations because we all bear the scars of what our ancestors have gone through and not just Armenians—African-Americans, Native-Americans, people around the world who have dealt with atrocities feel these scars generations deep,” said Esrailian. As part of the weekend, the meeting participants were treated to a special screening of *The Promise*, the first big-budget, wide-release film to depict the Armenian Genocide, and encouraged to reflect on the universality of its message.

Saturday evening saw *The Promise’s* impulse to give non-Armenians insight into Armenian experiences manifested in yet another way. Benjamin Devoy—a British student at Queens’ College in Cambridge, England—was invited to speak before the guests about his experience during the Yerevan Summer Internship Program (YSIP) last summer. Devoy was the first intern to participate in YSIP’s Dikran Knadjian Medical Internship, which enables one non-Armenian medical student to pursue a fully-funded internship in Armenia: “A continuing theme I experienced in Armenia was the collective effort of individuals who wanted to help. Armenia has gone through a lot and still faces some major problems. It is a testament to the people there and Armenians abroad that has propelled a huge movement to improve conditions. I’m very grateful to have had my internship experience and to learn firsthand about the country,” said Devoy.

While the weekend of events emphasized young AGBU leaders, it was also a chance to pay tribute to two members who have served as remarkable local leaders: Berge Azadian and Assadour Guzelian, two former leaders of the AGBU London Trust and prominent figures in the community, who have offered AGBU decades of dedicated leadership and service. They served the organization with a life-long commitment and are examples from which the burgeoning generation of leaders can draw strength. **A**



**Above:** AGBU Young Professionals (YPs) with Eric Esrailian. **Below:** Honoree Berge Azadian with his wife, Fiona, and Berge Setrakian; 2016 Yerevan Summer Internship Program participant Benjamin Devoy with Vartkess and Sylwia Knadjian; Eric and Melina Esrailian with Vatche and Tamar Manoukian, and Berge Setrakian.





### PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

#### AGBU Central Board Member Dr. Levon Nazarian Receives the 2017 Joseph H. Holmes Clinical Pioneer Award

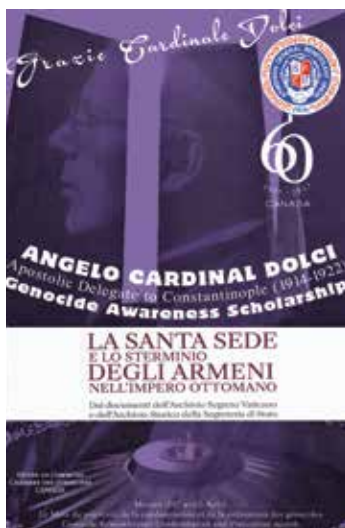
In March, AGBU Central Board member Dr. Levon Nazarian received the 2017 Joseph H. Holmes Clinical Pioneer Award. The award honors individuals who have significantly contributed to the growth and development of diagnostic ultrasound. Each year, the Joseph H. Holmes Pioneer Award recognizes two current or retired members of the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM), one in clinical science and the other in basic science. Dr. Nazarian is a specialist in musculoskeletal ultrasound and has had an enormous positive effect on patients and other ultrasound professionals. Over his career, he has given over 490 invited lectures and scientific presentations at 150 meetings in 25 states and eight countries. His 42 awards and honors, ranging from dean's citations, to distinguished service, to excellence in teaching, to best doctors in America, to international tributes all attest to the high regard with which his abilities and wisdom are viewed by his medical colleagues across the globe.



### MONTREAL, CANADA

#### Canada Post Issues Stamps in Honor of the 60th Anniversary of AGBU Canada

In May, Canada Post issued limited edition stamps in honor of the 60th anniversary of AGBU Canada. The postage stamps can be used to mail letters, postcards or other items across Canada and can be purchased from the AGBU Centre in Montreal. The stamp, with its Armenian motifs, was designed by a Syrian Armenian artist who now proudly calls Canada home.



### OTTAWA, CANADA

#### The 60th Anniversary of AGBU Canada is Recognized in the Canadian Parliament

In March, the Canadian Parliament recognized the 60th anniversary of the establishment of AGBU in Canada. Liberal, Conservative and New Democrat members of Parliament read statements that commended the organization's mission in serving the Armenian community through educational, youth, cultural, social, athletic and humanitarian programs and initiatives. They also honored the spirit of benevolence that AGBU members and volunteers embody, which has contributed to bettering Canadian society. In honor of its 60th anniversary, AGBU also announced the launch of its Cardinal Angelo Maria Dolci Genocide Awareness Scholarship in Parliament in April. Members of Parliament congratulated AGBU on this initiative and recognized the importance of genocide studies. This annual scholarship will encourage university students in Canada to further their knowledge in the field of genocide studies and to promote awareness about grave violations of human rights.



# AGBU Young Professionals

**The AGBU YP is a dynamic and growing network of like-minded young leaders between ages of 22 and 40 who serve their local communities and collaborate globally to uphold the Armenian heritage. The YP movement began in 1995 with the first group in Los Angeles. Since then, the network has expanded to include chapters and partnerships in North America, South America, Europe and the Middle East.**



## **NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

### **YP Greater New York Raises \$50,000 for the AGBU Humanitarian Emergency Relief Fund for Syrian Armenians**

On February 4, the AGBU Young Professionals of Greater New York (YPGNY) held its 16th annual Silent Auction & Cocktail Party at The Redbury in New York. The event raised \$50,000 for the AGBU Humanitarian Emergency Relief Fund for Syrian Armenians and drew 200 young professionals from throughout the tristate area as well as members of the AGBU Central Board. Throughout the evening, guests listened to music by Greg “DJ GLO” Stepanian and enjoyed bidding on a wide array of gifts, luxury items, and services donated by leading businesses and generous individuals in the fields of fine art, fashion, sports, dining, and entertainment. Together with the 2017 proceeds, YPGNY has raised over \$125,000 for Syrian Armenians in need over the last four years. In past years, the YPGNY Silent Auction & Cocktail Party has raised funds for the AGBU Children’s Centers in Armenia and the AGBU Humanitarian Emergency Relief Fund for Iraqi Armenians.



## **SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

### **YP Northern California Raises \$21,000 for the AGBU Humanitarian Emergency Relief Fund for Syrian Armenians**

From February 17 to 19, the AGBU Young Professionals of Northern California (YPNC) held its 17th Annual AGBU San Francisco Winter Gala. The weekend—the theme of which centered on the idea of connection—welcomed 250 young professionals from across the globe with three full days of events. YPNC directed the weekend’s proceeds—\$21,000—to the AGBU Humanitarian Emergency Relief Fund for Syrian Armenians. The weekend included a welcome reception, a walking tour of San Francisco, the signature gala dinner/dance, a special karaoke and game night along with a wine tour in the Sonoma Valley.





### MONTREAL, CANADA

#### YP Montreal Meets with Mayor of Montreal Denis Coderre

On February 12, the executive committee of YP Montreal met with the mayor of Montreal, Denis Coderre, at a conference entitled “The Youth at the Heart of the Development of the Metropolis.” YP Montreal was invited to attend the conference by Mayor Coderre and Harout Chitilian, the deputy chairman responsible for administrative reforms, information technology and youth programs as well as a former chairman of YP Montreal. The conference was an opportunity for the mayor to meet with over 300 leading young professionals from the city, who represent the fields of business, community and cultural development to discuss legislative changes that will have a significant and favorable impact on the development of Montreal and its youth.

### BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

#### YP Belgium Co-Sponsors First Belgian Armenian Youth Congress

On March 25, YP Belgium—in collaboration with the Armenian Committee of Belgium and Hayasa—held its first Armenian Youth Congress of Belgium. The congress brought together 80 Armenian students and young professionals in Belgium to discuss sociopolitical topics that directly affect their lives as Armenians in Belgium. Participants learned about the importance of youth involvement and shared their views on their role and their potential to have a long-term impact on the Armenian community and civil society in Belgium. The panels included “The Multiple Ways to be Armenian in Belgium,” “Political Involvement among the Youth,” and “What is Expected from the Young Armenians of Belgium?”



### YEREVAN, ARMENIA

#### YP Yerevan Welcomes Students from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College

On March 16, YP Yerevan hosted a networking event with MBA students from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College. Their annual trip to Armenia is organized by Stephen Powell, a professor of business administration, and offers students insight into the business environment and culture of Armenia. The YP Yerevan networking event brought together two groups of like-minded, promising young people from around the globe and gave them a unique platform to connect and learn from each other. YP Yerevan hopes to make this meet-up an annual tradition, bridging generations of YPs with Tuck students and encouraging the exploration of joint projects and valuable collaborations.

## NEW YORK, NEW YORK

### The AGBU Central Office Presents Premiere of Director's Cut of *Women of 1915*

On February 22, the AGBU New York Special Events Committee (NYSEC) and the AGBU Performing Arts Department (PAD) co-sponsored the premiere of the director's cut of the Emmy-nominated *Women of 1915* to over 300 people in New York. The documentary, directed by Bared Maronian, highlights the experiences of women during the Armenian Genocide and brings to light new facts and stories of survivors. In addition to recounting the lives of Armenian women, Maronian also emphasizes the European and American women who traveled great distances to save lives and provide shelter in the aftermath of the genocide. At the premiere, singer Hooshere Bezdikian performed an original song from the film's soundtrack which was followed by a question-and-answer session with Maronian. *Women of 1915* has been screened in North America, Europe and Oceania, with premieres in South America in the near future, and has garnered multiple awards at the 2016 Pomegranate Film Festival in Toronto and won the Armin T. Wegner Humanitarian Award at the 2016 ARPA Film Festival in Los Angeles.



## NEW YORK, NEW YORK

### AGBU Central Office Hosts Book Presentation on the Life of an Armenian Soldier in the Ottoman Army

On May 10, the AGBU Central Office held a book presentation with Adrienne Alexanian, the editor of *Forced into Genocide*, the memoir of her father, Yervant Alexanian, an Armenian Soldier in the Ottoman Army who was an eye-witness to the massacre and dislocation of his family and fellow countrymen during World War I. This book—incomparable in the literature on the Armenian Genocide—includes never-before-seen documents and photos that highlight both the cruelty of the perpetrators and unexpected acts of humanity between victim and oppressor. Yervant Alexanian was able to document the tragedy of the Armenian people in his journals and offers a glimpse into the motivations and actions of the Turkish military as they committed the atrocities. Adrienne Alexanian is an educator and a 2010 recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor for her decades of volunteer work and philanthropy. She has also been the UN representative for both the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church and AGBU.



# AGBU Chapters



## WATERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

### The AGBU New England District Hosts 8th Anniversary Party for Luys Foundation

On May 20, the AGBU New England District, with the cooperation of the MIT Armenian Society and the scholars of the Luys Foundation, gathered at the newly renovated AGBU center to celebrate the 8th anniversary of the Luys Foundation. The foundation grants loans and scholarships to Armenian students worldwide to study at the world's top universities, including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University in the Boston area. The event—attended by the executive director of the Luys Foundation Jacqueline Karaaslian and the AGBU New England District chairman Ara J. Balikian—also honored the Luys scholars who have graduated this year and will be continuing on to graduate school or bright careers.

## GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA

### The AGBU Western District Partners with City of Glendale for Series of Cultural Events

In March and April, the AGBU Western District hosted a series of events called Meet Us on Maryland held in the new Maryland Paseo in Glendale's arts and entertainment district. The idea was mutually beneficial to AGBU and its goal to serve a larger population in Glendale as well as to the City of Glendale and its goal to increase foot traffic in the paseo. Meet Us on Maryland encompassed a variety of events, which included a pop-up art gallery with local Armenian artists; a performance by the AGBU Manoogian-Demirdjian School's band; AGBU Heritage Night composed of Armenian *kanun*, dances, poetry and songs performed by MDS students; and dance performances, acapella singing, poetry recitations and a skit by the AGBU Vatche and Tamar Manoukian High School students.



## MONTREAL, CANADA

### AGBU Montreal and the AGBU Alex Manoogian School Welcome Garo Paylan

In May, AGBU Montreal and the AGBU Alex Manoogian School welcomed Garo Paylan, a member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey for the People's Democratic Party (HDP). During his visit to the AGBU Center in Montreal, Paylan sat down with 30 AGBU members from various committees and discussed his role in Turkish politics as well as his work in advancing human rights in Turkey. Paylan works toward the recognition of minority rights in Turkey and is a symbol of resilience and strength. On his visit to the school, Paylan met with staff and students, serving as a role model for the children.



## PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

### AGBU Hye Geen and Young Circle Hold 11th Annual International Conference in Pasadena

On April 1, AGBU Hye Geen and AGBU Hye Geen's Young Circle held their 11th annual international conference—Evaluating the Changes Within the Armenian Family—which focused on changes affecting the central role of the Armenian family both in Armenia and in the diaspora in Southern California. Six distinguished professors and researchers presented a comprehensive overview of the Armenian family and raised awareness about persistent problems as well as the available resources to tackle them, including emphasizing the importance of the preservation of the Armenian culture and empowerment within the family.



## PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

### The AGBU Krikor Satamian Theater Group Performs "Lend Me A Tenor"

In January, the AGBU Krikor Satamian Theater Group gave six performances of the play, "Lend Me a Tenor," written by American playwright Ken Ludwig. The show attracted so much interest in the community that four more performances were held in February. The play was directed by the AGBU Western District artistic director, Krikor Satamian, and performed by seven local actors. The theater group is currently rehearsing for its next production, Ray Cooney's "Caught in the Net," which is scheduled for the fall as well as for a series of sketches to be performed as part of a Comedy Night in December.

## TORONTO, CANADA

### AGBU Toronto Hosts Concert with the Karapetyan Brothers

On March 19, AGBU Toronto—in collaboration with the AGBU Performing Arts Department and under the auspices of Armen Yeghanyan, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to Canada—hosted a concert by two violinist brothers, Henrik and Hrayr Karapetyan, and pianist Hasmik Manukyan. At their Canadian debut, the three musicians performed a collection of pieces by both European and Armenian composers in a variety of styles. The Karapetyan Brothers duo was created out of the desire of the two Yerevan-born brothers to work together after being separated for more than a decade. Their first musical reunion took place when the two brothers—both recipients of multiple AGBU scholarships—were invited to perform with the Armenian World Orchestra in Paris in an AGBU-sponsored concert commemorating the centenary of the Armenian Genocide.



## AGBU Chapters



### SÃO PAULO, BRAZIL

#### **AGBU São Paulo Organizes Fundraiser for Landmine Removal in Nagorno-Karabakh**

On April 9, AGBU São Paulo organized a cocktail party and fundraiser to benefit the work of ONEArmenia in removing landmines in Nagorno-Karabakh. The event—which raised more than \$3,000—was attended by nearly 200 members of the Brazilian Armenian community, including Hilda Diruhy Burmaian, the Honorary General Consul of Armenia in São Paulo; Bishop Nareg Berberian, the Primate of the Armenian Church in Brazil; founding members and former chairmen of AGBU São Paulo; and a large number of young Armenians. Current AGBU São Paulo chairman Haig Apovian also took the opportunity to introduce the new board and launched Im Armenia, an AGBU educational app that has recently been translated into Portuguese.



### MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY

#### **The AGBU Montevideo Ereván 50 Scout Group Begins its Scouting Season**

In March, the AGBU Montevideo Ereván 50 Scout Group began its scouting season with 80 participants between the ages of four and 20. In April, the group joined the AGBU Buenos Aires General Antranik Scout Group and the Liga de Jóvenes from Montevideo and Buenos Aires for a special camping excursion. The theme of the excursion—In Search of the Five Wonders of Armenia—taught participants about the khatchkar, the Armenian alphabet, Armenian music, Mount Ararat and the Battle of Sardarabad. The groups plan to continue their collaboration into the future in order to help further the scout movement and Armenian identity in South America.

### BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

#### **AGBU Buenos Aires Welcomes Violinist Samvel Yervinyan for Concert to Benefit Music Schools in Nagorno-Karabakh**

On May 4, AGBU Buenos Aires welcomed renowned violinist Samvel Yervinyan for a concert to benefit music schools in Nagorno-Karabakh. The concert was held as part of the chapter's on-going project ¿Qué Haces Vos por Artsaj? (What are you doing for Artsakh?), which is co-sponsored by the Armenian Ministry of Diaspora. The proceeds from the event were used to buy musical instruments for students at music schools in Nagorno-Karabakh. The concert included classical music by Vivaldi as well as contemporary songs by Aznavour and Armenian pieces by Gasparian. As part of his trip to Buenos Aires, Yervinyan also visited AGBU Marie Manoogian School and listened to performances by the students.





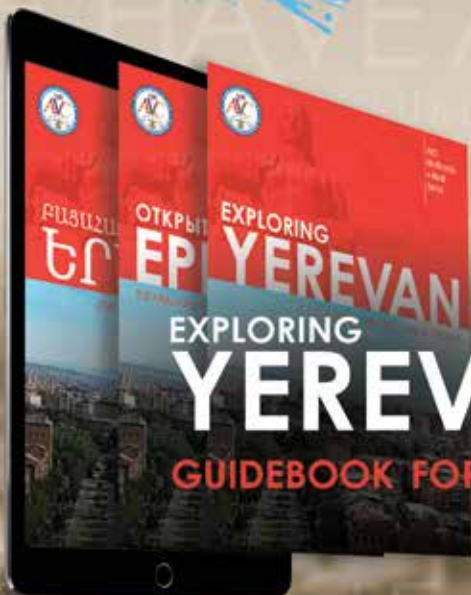


**BRUSSELS, BELGIUM**

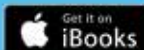
**AGBU Europe Leadership Meets to Develop a Five-Year Plan for the District**

On January 28 and 29, 40 members of AGBU Europe—representing 13 European countries—met in Brussels for an AGBU Europe Summit during which members of the AGBU Europe Executive Committee, chapters and Young Professionals (YP) groups developed a plan for the implementation of the district’s strategy for the next five years. Participants took part in four workshops organized around the four aspects of AGBU Europe’s strategy: language and heritage; leadership and influence; network platform for stewardship; and prosperity for Armenia. The discussions resulted in measurable action plans to implement the goals of the strategy and move forward, including the development of the campaign for the European Union Engagement in Nagorno-Karabakh; the promotion of civil society in Armenia; the strengthening e-learning opportunities with the Armenian Virtual College; and the continuation of the Goriz leadership seminars.

Two travel guides. Up to eight languages.  
*One amazing adventure.*



**imArmenia!**  
 Travel Guide for Kids



[avc-agbu.org](http://avc-agbu.org)



[imarmenia.org](http://imarmenia.org)



### BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

#### AGBU Europe Co-Organizes Teacher Training and Conference on the Armenian Genocide

On April 26, the Armenian Committee of Belgium (Comité des Arméniens de Belgique) in partnership with AGBU Europe and the Secular Jewish Community Centre (CCLJ), with the support of the Boghossian Foundation, organized a seminar in Brussels on teaching the Armenian Genocide in French-speaking Belgian high schools as well as a conference on the contemporary significance of the genocide. This initiative was financed by the Belgian government through the educational division of the Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles and represented the first step toward the larger goal of expanding knowledge of the Armenian Genocide within the Belgian educational sphere. The public conference that took place after the seminar focused on the contemporary repercussions of the genocide. The conference aimed to help demonstrate that it should be seen an important part of historical culture as it provides significant background to many of the events of the twentieth century.



### LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

#### AGBU London Hosts Presentation by Provost of the American University of Armenia

On April 8, AGBU London hosted a special reception for Dr. Randall Rhodes, the provost of the American University of Armenia (AUA). The event brought together 80 diplomats, leaders of Armenian organizations, friends of AGBU and alumni of AUA for Rhodes's presentation entitled "AUA: Diaspora's Best Investment in Armenia." He began by outlining AUA's history from its founding in 1991 to its position today as the leading university in Armenia. He also discussed the administrative and academic structure of the institution; the organization of classes; the attraction of top faculty; and the growing student body both at the undergraduate and graduate levels. One of the activities Rhodes's mentioned concerned the university's role in the broader development of Armenia, such as addressing Armenia's development priorities within the realm of education; helping small businesses with logistical and other support to create employment outside of Yerevan; working with environmental groups to spread awareness for Armenia's future wellbeing, and much more. In closing, Rhodes emphasized the importance of the diaspora's continued involvement with AUA to meet Armenia's needs in the 21st century.



### PARIS, FRANCE

#### The AGBU Nubar Library Launches English-Language Website for its Digital Collection

In May, the AGBU Nubar Library in Paris launched the English-language version of its website, offering a wealth of information, photos and documents about Armenians in the Ottoman Empire and the Armenian diaspora. A major highlight of the website is an extensive virtual exhibition—now available in English and French—on the history of the Ottoman Armenians and the Armenian Genocide, entitled *Armenia 1915*. The exhibition is based on the *Arménie 1915* exhibition initiated by the Mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo, and shown at City Hall in Paris on the occasion of the commemoration of the centenary of the Armenian Genocide. The virtual exhibition first evokes the everyday structures of Ottoman Armenian society at the end of the nineteenth century and shows the ideological radicalization of the leaders in power between 1908 and 1914, which led to the genocide. It then presents the implementation of the genocide with its major phases in 1915 and 1916, before taking a human and political assessment at the end of World War I. The final section is dedicated to the reactions in France about the fate of the Armenians.





## PARIS, FRANCE

### AGBU Paris Launches Series of Jazz Concerts for Armenian Musicians

In March, AGBU Paris launched a series of jazz concerts at the AGBU Alex Manoogian Cultural Center to bring talented, up-and-coming Armenian musicians to the forefront. The goal of the series is to promote Armenian musical traditions and discover high-level artists who bring Armenian folk and religious music to life through jazz. The first concert featured French-Armenian musician Alexis Avakian and his quintet on the occasion of the release of his second album *Hi Dream*. The second concert in April welcomed Miqayel Voskanyan & Friends and Sevana Tchakerian of the Collectif Medz Bazar, who fuse ethnic jazz and folk music. The French Armenian artist Macha Gharibian also showcased her unclassifiable music that exists between oriental jazz, neo-classical and adventurous pop.

## MILAN, ITALY

### AGBU Milan Holds Mother's Day Celebration

On May 14, AGBU Milan held a Mother's Day celebration at the Casa Armena. At the start of the event, children from the community recited poetry and played the piano for the dozens of guests. The celebration continued with a presentation by AGBU Milan chair Gueguel Khatchadourian on the role of the mother in general and the virtues of the Armenian mother in particular. The event also served as an opportunity to recognize Alis Boranian who has organized activities for children (poetry readings, theater productions, parties, etc.) through AGBU Milan for decades. On the occasion, her granddaughter, Gayane Khodaveerdi, read two poems written by her grandmother and sang two popular Armenian songs in her honor.



## ATHENS, GREECE

### AGBU Athens Organizes Exhibit of Sketches by Famed Cartoonist Alexander Saroukhan

On January 25, AGBU Athens organized an exhibit of sketches by the famed Egyptian Armenian cartoonist Alexander Saroukhan (1898-1977) on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of his death. Saroukhan was known throughout the Arab World for his political cartoons and satirical caricatures that appeared in various newspapers and magazines for decades. The exhibit was sponsored by the Paleo Faliro Municipality and was attended by Saroukhan's granddaughter, Sylva Neredian Pladian; Father Khoren Arakelyan, the Armenian Prelate of Greece; Anna Khachaturyan, consul of the Embassy of Armenia in Greece; Hussein Marey, the cultural attaché of the Egyptian Embassy in Greece; Dionysios Chatzidakis, the mayor of Paleo Faliro; and representatives of various Armenian and Greek organizations. At the end of the event, AGBU Athens chair Hampik Sahak Maroukian presented Pladian with a plaque honoring her grandfather's life and work.



### NICOSIA, CYPRUS

#### **AGBU Nicosia and AGBU Larnaca Award Aurora Mardiganian Gold Medal to Author Eve Makis**

On May 2, AGBU Nicosia and Larnaca awarded British Cypriot author Eve Makis with the Aurora Mardiganian Gold Medal for her work on raising global awareness of the Armenian Genocide. Makis's 2015 novel, *The Spice Box Letters*, explores the aftermath of the Armenian Genocide through the story of Melina Knight and her grandmother Mariam. When Mariam dies suddenly, Melina inherits her grandmother's journal and handwritten letters in a wooden spice box, cryptic treasures written in Armenian. On a spring break in Cyprus, she meets a young Armenian man who agrees to act as translator and begins to unearth a family secret that changes her life and lays the ghosts of her grandmother's turbulent past to rest. The event, which took place in the AGBU Nicosia Club, was organized by Tatiana Der Avedissian, and guest speakers included Member of Parliament Stella Kyriakides; and Armenian Cypriot artist and writer Vardan Tashdjian. AGBU Larnaca vice-chairman Tigran Kalaydjian presented Makis with the Aurora Mardiganian Gold Medal on behalf of the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute in Yerevan.



### SOFIA, BULGARIA

#### **The AGBU Sofia Chamber Orchestra Holds Baroque and Classical Concert**

On April 19, the AGBU Sofia Chamber Orchestra held a concert featuring baroque and classical masterpieces for trumpet and organ. The performance was part of the European Music Festival—an annual forum that attracts prominent soloists and orchestras from across Europe—and was led by Maestro Bedros Papazian. This particular concert was a collaboration between the Italian Cultural Institute of Bulgaria and the AGBU Sofia Chamber Orchestra, highlighting the musical symbiosis between the two countries. During the performance, works based on masterpieces by Bach, Handel, Purcell and Haydn were performed as well as “Phoenix” by composer Georgi Andreev, a chamber symphony specially dedicated to the AGBU Sofia Chamber Orchestra to commemorate the Armenian Genocide.

### PLOVDIV, BULGARIA

#### **The AGBU Plovdiv Saturday School and Ladies Club Visits the Cyrillic Yard**

On April 10, the AGBU Plovdiv Saturday School and Ladies Club visited the historic capital of Pliska in Bulgaria to visit the Cyrillic Yard. The Cyrillic Yard, designed by Armenian artist Karen Aleksanyan, is an open-air museum with two-meter high replicas of Cyrillic letters made from tuff stone brought to Bulgaria from Armenia. The group also took a tour of the yard's museum and learned that King Boris I of Bulgaria, the first Bulgarian king to accept Christianity, was introduced to the religion by Patriarch Photios, a prominent Byzantine clergyman of Armenian origin.







## BURGAS, BULGARIA

### AGBU Burgas Welcomes the AGBU Plovdiv Erebuni Musical Ensemble

On April 27, AGBU Burgas welcomed the AGBU Plovdiv Musical Ensemble for a concert in honor of the 111th anniversary of AGBU and the 102nd anniversary of the start of the Armenian Genocide. The concert, made up of patriotic songs, was attended by dozens of members of the Armenian community of Burgas.

## ALEPPO, SYRIA

### AGBU Lazar Najarian-Calouste Gulbenkian School Holds End-of-Year Celebration for its Kindergarteners

On May 21, the Mikayel Yessayan Kindergarten at the AGBU Lazar Najarian-Calouste Gulbenkian School held an end-of-year celebration for its 28 kindergarteners. During the event, attended by parents and friends, the children sang, danced and performed short skits in Armenian, Arabic and English, led by their teacher Ani Sevan Pamboukian.



## BEIRUT, LEBANON

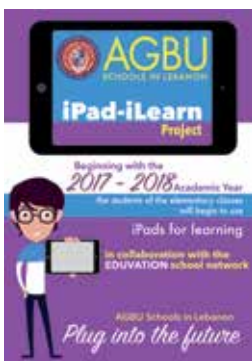
### The AGBU-Antranik Youth Association Hosts Art Exhibition and Auction Fundraiser

On April 19, the AGBU-Antranik Youth Association's Art Exhibition and Auction 2017 brought over 120 paintings by world-renowned artists to the Le Yacht Club, Zaitounay Bay in Beirut. The proceeds of the exhibition, the association's largest fundraiser of the year, are now being directed to local AGBU and AYA youth activities. The paintings ranged from impressionist to cubist, surrealist to abstract. Each piece was by an Armenian artist who has received international acclaim such as Vahram, Vahan Roumelian, Yuroz, Paul Guiragossian, Sarkis Hamalbachian, Hrair, Daron Mouradian, Krikor Norikian, Jean Jansem, Bernard Buffet, Serge Shart and Ruben Grigorian, among many others. In addition to guests from the local community, dozens of members of AGBU were present at the exhibition's opening ceremony, auction and through its eleven-day run.

## BEIRUT, LEBANON

### AGBU Lebanon Schools Launch Educational Innovation and Leadership Programs

In October 2016, AGBU Lebanon announced that in the next six years, AGBU Lebanon schools, in partnership with the EDUvation (Education Innovation) School Network, will integrate e-books and related interactive technologies into the teaching and learning process to enrich the curriculum, particularly in elementary school. By 2023, all students in grades one through six will use e-books and corresponding software instruction for English, Arabic, mathematics, French, science and social studies. This plan, the iPad-iLearn Project, will put AGBU Lebanon schools at the forefront of educational innovation and leadership as they will be among the very few in Lebanon to use this technology for teaching and learning. Within the context of this project, the entire IT infrastructure of the school has been upgraded in the past months, with the installation of a new network of wires, computer systems and servers.



## AGBU Chapters

### CAIRO, EGYPT

#### AGBU Cairo Holds Exhibition for Up-and-Coming Young Artist to Encourage Armenian Arts

On March 11, AGBU Cairo held a special exhibition for the young Egyptian Armenian painter Rita Kevorkian. The exhibition, dedicated to portraits of Egyptian Armenians, aimed to encourage artistic production among a young generation of Armenians, which aligns with AGBU Cairo's goal of increasing interest in the fine arts among Armenian youth. Kevorkian's exhibition was a way to highlight an exemplary young artist as a role model. Thirteen-year-old Kevorkian is a seventh grader at the Kalousdian-Nubarian School in Cairo and represents a new generation of Armenian artists in Egypt.



### YEREVAN, ARMENIA

#### AGBU Armenian Virtual College (AVC) and the Armenian Ministry of Diaspora Celebrate UNESCO International Mother Language Day

In February and March, AGBU Armenian Virtual College (AVC) and the Armenian Ministry of Diaspora celebrated UNESCO International Mother Language Day to draw attention to the importance of the Armenian language. The overall objective of the day was to contribute to promoting awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism through global language education and intercultural communication. The day was marked in Armenia by the active participation of AVC in a series of five events dedicated to the language: the 13th Yerevan Book Fair-Expo in the Khnko Aper National Children's Library; a roundtable panel discussion at the National Academy of Sciences entitled "The Armenian Language in Textbooks;" and in the Armenia-Lebanon virtual conference on preserving Western Armenian. Also in the framework of the day, AVC organized an e-chatroom event for AVC alumni and an e-connect session between the AGBU Lazar Najarian-Calouste Gulbenkian School in Aleppo and #150 Public School after F. Nansen in Yerevan to close the celebrations.

### YEREVAN, ARMENIA

#### AGBU Armenia Signs Memorandum to Expand Healthcare for Syrian Armenians in Armenia

On March 17, AGBU Armenia, the Izmirlian Medical Center, the Armenian Ministry of Diaspora, the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, the Syrian Armenian Relief Coordination Center and the Aleppo Compatriotic Charitable Organization signed an agreement with the Izmirlian Foundation to expand healthcare for Syrian Armenians living in Armenia. AGBU Armenia will now refer the Syrian Armenian patients receiving free medical consultations at the AGBU Claudia Nazarian Medical Center for their follow up treatment at the Izmirlian Medical Center, which will offer up to a 45 percent discount for their services. The AGBU Claudia Nazarian Medical Center offers Syrian Armenians access to free medical consultations and primary healthcare services in gynecology, cardiology, ophthalmology, and pediatrics.







### **STEPANAKERT, NAGORNO-KARABAKH** **AGBU Europe Holds Training Seminar for European Union Aid to Nagorno-Karabakh Campaign**

Between April 21 and 24, AGBU Europe organized a training seminar for its European Union (EU) Aid for Nagorno-Karabakh Campaign at the Tumo Center for Creative Technologies in Stepanakert. Attended by 15 young activists from 10 European countries, the seminar was intended to promote European engagement in the territory and included meetings with the leadership of Nagorno-Karabakh as well as with civil society; field visits with the demining NGO, Halo Trust; and internal meetings aimed at exchanging experiences and planning for the future. The seminar also provided a rare opportunity to see the reality of Nagorno-Karabakh. The coordinators returned to their countries with coordinated plans of action to advance the objective of their campaign. Currently Nagorno-Karabakh is the only territory in Europe in which no EU official is allowed to travel and for which the EU provides no assistance.



## **Australia Day**

### **MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA**

#### **AGBU Melbourne Welcomes New Syrian Armenian Arrivals at Australia Day**

On January 26, AGBU Melbourne joined the rest of the country in celebrating Australia Day. This year's celebration was unique for the chapter in that it was also an opportunity to welcome the hundreds of Syrian Armenians newly arrived to Australia. The AGBU chapter took this day designed to celebrate Australian culture to introduce the newest members of the Australian and Australian Armenian community to the country's landscape and lifestyle with walks along the beach, barbecues and day-long games to enjoy.

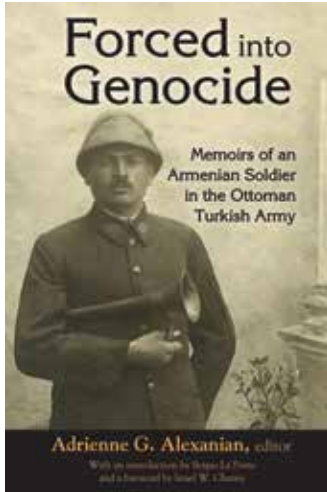
### **SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA**

#### **AGBU Sydney Tamzara Dance Group Holds its 2017 Premiere**

On May 6, the AGBU Sydney Tamzara Dance Group held its 2017 premiere for a sold-out audience. The ensemble, founded in 2015, attracts to its performances members of the AGBU Sydney community as well as members of the wider Armenian and non-Armenian communities interested in learning about Armenian culture through dance. For the 2017 premiere, the director of the dance group, Nazarena Anush Arabeian, choreographed dances to familiar songs, and some new releases. The premiere also featured the participation of Natalie Aroyan, soprano at the Opera House in Sydney.



## NEW



### Forced into Genocide

Item Number: 037 \$35.00

Alexanian was forced to become an onlooker while he watched the atrocities unfold. His story of resourceful action and fateful turns is a suspenseful “insider’s account” of a genocide survivor. From his singular position, Alexanian was able to document the tragedy of his people in his journals and diaries, but he also offers us a behind-the-scenes look into the motivations and actions of Turkish military officials as they committed the atrocities. His story continues after the war as we follow the trail of his journey through Europe and finally to America, where he found solace and was able to start anew with fellow survivors.

No comparable account exists in the literature of the Armenian Genocide. This edition, translated from Alexanian’s hand-written Armenian-language chronicle by Simon Beugekian, includes never-before-seen documents and photos that the author preserved. Through his eyes we relive the astonishing cruelty of the genocide’s perpetrators—but also rare, unexpected acts of humanity between victim and oppressor.

Editor: **Adrienne G. Alexanian**; Forward: **Israel Charny**; Introduction: **Sergio La Porta**

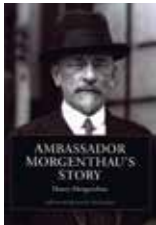
Endorsements: **Taner Akcam, Vartan Gregorian, Eric Bogosian, Frank Pallone Jr. and Andrew Goldberg**

Publisher: **Transaction/Routledge**

Format: **Hardcover**

### Ambassador Morgenthau’s Story

Item Number: 028 \$28.00



These are memoirs of the American ambassador to Constantinople between 1913 and 1916. They were written in 1918. Morgenthau was an astute observer who had good contacts with the leaders of Ottoman Turkey, as well as their allies. His memoirs cover WWI in the Middle East, including the Turco-German alliance, the Allied Gallipoli campaign and the Armenian Genocide.

This critical edition of Morgenthau’s work includes a critical introduction by Ara Sarafian with reference to Morgenthau’s private papers.

Author: **Henry Morgenthau**

Publisher: **Gomidas Institute**

Format: **Paperback**

### Now I know in Part

Item Number: 315 \$30.00



Penning a vivid memoir, Ignatius depicts exciting autobiographical accounts from a childhood in Glendale to becoming class president and later working as a messenger boy at Warner Bros. One day he would become the Assistant Secretary of Defense and then the US Secretary of the Navy during the Vietnam War.

Ignatius pieces together a perfectly formed mosaic of an Armenian family against the backdrop of America. This second edition includes new chapters featuring former Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara (Ignatius’s boss at one time) and a touching visit to his family’s ancestral home in Kharpert in Historic Armenia (Harput in eastern Turkey).

Author: **Paul Ignatius**

Publisher: **The American Heritage Press**

Format: **Paperback**

### Armenian-Italian Architectural Influences

Item Number: 038 \$95.00



The architectural works of the Armenian nation have been appropriated by the Italian and other European nations and are represented as their own creations. This book will confirm that in the architectural designs of churches, built in Italy between 12th-15th centuries, have been included as architectural elements of churches that were built in Armenia between 5th-12th centuries and which still exist today.

Thus, it is time to justly recognize the influence of the Armenian architectural elements on Italian churches.

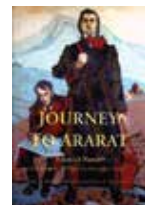
Author: **Varoujan Akshehirlilian**

Publisher: **Moughni Publishers**

Format: **Paperback**

### Journey to Ararat

Item Number: 029 \$30.00



In February 1828, the Russian Empire annexed the historical Armenian province of Erivan (Yerevan) from Persia. The province included Mount Ararat, never before been scaled in recorded history.

Author: **Friedrich Parrot**

Publisher: **Gomidas Institute**

Format: **Paperback**



## Check out our favorite books by featured female authors

### MISAK—An Armenian Life

Item Number: 031 \$24.00



*MISAK—An Armenian Life* is a masterful translation of Karen Jeppe's biographical work on her adoptive son, Misak, and includes an 84-page introductory essay on Jeppe's legacy working with Armenians in the late Ottoman Empire and French-mandate Syria. The translation, introductory essay and annotations are the work of Jonas Kauffeldt, assistant professor of history at the University of North Georgia.

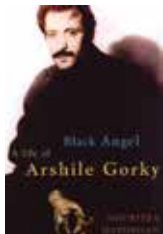
Author: Karen Jeppe

Publisher: Gomidias Institute

Format: Paperback

### Black Angel: The Life of Arshile Gorky

Item Number: 220A \$25.00



Adopting the cover of a famous Russian name, Gorky helped change the course of Armenian art. Born on the shores of Lake Van, he lived through the genocide of his people, a world war, famine and exile, before reaching America in 1920 at the age of 17.

Author: Nouritza Matossian

Publisher: The Overlook Press

Format: Paperback

### Marsovan 1915: The Diaries of Bertha Morley

Item Number: 234 \$18.00



Bertha Morley (1878-1973) was an American missionary from Mentor, Ohio. She first came to the Ottoman Empire in 1911 and began teaching music at Marsovan College in 1913. In 1915 she witnessed the genocide of the Ottoman Armenians and documented her experience in her diaries.

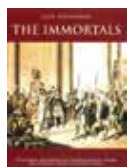
Author: Bertha Morley

Publisher: Academia

Format: Paperback

### The Immortals

Item Number: 317 \$100.00



*The Immortals* is the third book by accomplished author Alice Navasargian that surveys the many contributions of the Armenian people. Drawing on extensive research from as early as the 12th century to the present, Navasargian profiles key figures in Armenian history. They include names such as Mkhitar Heratsi, the famous medieval doctor; Arakel Davrizhetsi, the 17th century Armenian historian; and Hovhannes Masehyan, the celebrated translator of Shakespeare.

Author: Alice Navasargian

Publisher: Alice Navasgarian, California

Format: Hardcover

### Armenian Cuisine

Item Number: 307 \$55.00



Aline Kamakian, passionate cook and co-owner of the famed Mayrig restaurant in Beirut, traveled with Belgian writer and anthropologist Barbara Drieskens to her ancestral homeland of Cilicia, Historical Armenia (southeastern Turkey), where many of the recipes in the book originated. There they gathered stories, recipes and vibrant images that add to the rich history of passing on, from mother to daughter, an entire culture through food. The book includes over 130 of the most popular Armenian recipes with photographs throughout.

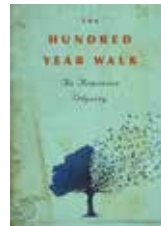
Author: Aline Kamakian

Publisher: The Daily Star

Format: Hardcover

### The Hundred Year Walk—An Armenian Odyssey

Item Number: 022 \$25.00



In the heart of the Ottoman Empire as World War I rages, Stepan Miskjian's world becomes undone. *The Hundred-Year Walk* alternates between Stepan's saga and another journey that takes place a century later. Reading this rare firsthand account, his granddaughter Dawn MacKeen finds herself first drawn into the colorful bazaars before the war and then into the horrors Stepan later endured. Inspired to retrace his steps, she sets out alone to Turkey and Syria, shadowing her resourceful, resilient grandfather across a landscape still rife with tension.

Author: Dawn Anahid MacKeen

Publisher: Mariner Books

Format: Paperback

### Modern Western Armenian for the English-Speaking World

Item Number: 014 \$80.00



*Modern Western Armenian for the English-Speaking World* is an introductory, yet complete first-year course for adults in the English-speaking world. It is a handbook for both the prospective teacher and the student of Armenian. However, the full guidance given in this textbook will allow motivated learners to use it for self-instruction as well. The book incorporates the recent achievements of applied linguistics into the instruction of Western

Armenian. Although grammar is treated as an important aspect in mastering the language, other linguistic areas also receive attention.

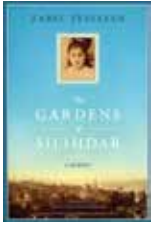
Author: Dora Sakayan

Publisher: Dora Sakayan

Format: Paperback

**The Gardens of Silihdar**

Item Number: 004 \$20.00



From her earliest years until her tragic death, Zabel Yessayan championed social justice and women's rights. Yessayan authored several novels, short stories, newspaper articles an eyewitness account of the aftermath of the 1909 massacres of the Armenians. Her 1935 memoir, *The Gardens of Silihdar*, is a narrative of her childhood and a vivid account of Armenian community life in Constantinople (Istanbul) at the end of the nineteenth century. Zabel Yessayan (1878-1943) is recognized today as one of the greatest writers in Western Armenian literature.

Author: Zabel Yessayan  
 Publisher: Armenian International Women's Association  
 Format: Paperback

**Survivors**

Item Number: 024 \$50.00



Ten years in the making, *Survivors* is a photographic narrative about the surviving victims of the Armenian Genocide, which includes portraits, interior scenes, witness accounts and archival photographs.

The photographs in *Survivors* are not a memento mori, but a form of storytelling. They turn us into witnesses who must see, listen and find some form of redemption by giving these

victims back the dignity of individual identity that was once erased.

Author: Nazik Armenakyan  
 Publisher: 4Plus Doc Photography Center  
 Format: Hardcover

**Order Form: Checks payable to AGBU Publications. All payments in U.S. dollars only.**  
**For shipping to Canada, add \$8.00 to the U.S. shipping schedule below. For all other countries add \$15.00 to the U.S. shipping schedule below.**  
**Mail Coupon to: AGBU, 55 East 59th Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10022-1112. Or fax this coupon to 212-319-6507.**

SHIPPING SCHEDULE		ORDERED BY		SHIP TO	
MERCHANDISE TOTAL	PLEASE ADD	NAME		NAME	
\$1-40	\$7	ADDRESS		ADDRESS	
\$41-100	\$10	CITY	STATE	ZIP	CITY
\$101-150	\$15	TELEPHONE		TELEPHONE	
FOR ALL INTERNATIONAL ORDERS, PLEASE CALL 212.319.6383 OR EMAIL BOOKS@AGBU.ORG		GIFT MESSAGE		GIFT MESSAGE	
LINE	ITEM NUMBER	BOOKS/CDS/DVDS/VIDEOS	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
1					
2					
3					
			<b>MERCHANDISE TOTAL</b>		
			<b>SHIPPING &amp; HANDLING</b>		
			<b>ORDER TOTAL</b>		
PLEASE COMPLETE ABOVE FOR ITEMS SHIPPED TO ANOTHER ADDRESS					
ENCLOSED IS A CHECK PAYABLE TO AGBU <input type="checkbox"/> OR CHARGE MY: VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MASTERCARD <input type="checkbox"/> AMEX <input type="checkbox"/>					
CARD NUMBER					
EXPIRATE DATE					
SIGNATURE					



**YOUR FAVORITE SELECTIONS AVAILABLE ONLINE**  
[agbubookstore.org](http://agbubookstore.org)





## CUSTOMIZE YOUR SPECIAL OCCASION & MAKE IT MEMORABLE

Mark every occasion with a donation in support of an AGBU program close to your heart.

In lieu of wedding favors, birthday presents, christening gifts or to pay tribute to a loved one send a Certificate of Hope and donate to an AGBU program in honor of your special occasion.

100% of your donation will support those in need.

Shop today at [agbubookstore.org/collections/certificate-of-hope](http://agbubookstore.org/collections/certificate-of-hope)

**LEAVE A LEGACY TODAY**  
**MAKE A MEANINGFUL**  
**DIFFERENCE TOMORROW**  
**ENRICH LIVES FOR GENERATIONS**

No matter what your age or income, there are many ways you can support AGBU through a planned gift.

Connect with the projects you care about most, while creating life-changing opportunities in Armenia, Nagorno-Karabakh and throughout the diaspora.

To learn more about estate planning, please request a free informational brochure by emailing [giving@agbu.org](mailto:giving@agbu.org) or calling 212-319-6383, ext 136.





The Kelekian Orphanage Band in Beirut, 1931  
*AGBU Nubar Library Archives, Paris*

**AGBU**

55 East 59th Street,  
New York, NY 10022-1112