



# The Manoogian Voice

Southfield, Michigan

January 2003

A.G.B.U. Alex & Marie Manoogian School

## Students Donate to Children's Hospital

While everyone likes to receive, the act of giving brings the giver the added satisfaction of sharing their joy with someone else.

The Manoogian School, its student body, staff, and faculty, did their share of giving during the 2002 holiday season – something that will echo throughout 2003.

Recipients of the school's goodwill include Grace Centers of Hope, Armenia Tree Project, Redford Interfaith Relief, Make-A-Wish Foundation, and orphans in Armenia.

Children's Hospital of Michigan was also on the receiving end of Manoogian's generosity, in the form of a large toy donation. "We really appreciate support like this," said Karen Couser, the Pediatric Oncology social worker who coordinates Manoogian's donation to the hospital.

The donation, various toys in assorted shapes and sizes, are given to the pediatric patients. These patients, most of whom are being treated for cancer, receive a present when they enter the hospital and another when they've completed their often grueling medical procedures. Patients range in age from infants to 18 years, with the majority being of Elementary School age.

According to Couser, the children really look forward to the gifts, and each one who spends time as a resident of the hospital has a chart for accumulating stars toward earning a toy. "It enables us to give the kids something special," said



*The Manoogian School student body proudly poses with the school's 2002 holiday toy donation to Children's Hospital of Michigan.*

Couser, "instead of just the prods and pokes."

The relationship between the hospital and Manoogian, one which Couser said is unique, is similar to a Toys for Tots Program, but the hospital and Manoogian want this to be a year-round relationship.

According to Couser, who has been with the hospital for 20 years, as of mid-January the supply of toys and gifts at the hospital is dwindling, but a phone call to Manoogian will quickly replenish the supply with items currently being stored at the school.

Space for the donations at the hospital is severely limited, with nurses in the department using their areas, cubicles and offices as storage space, according to Couser.

That's why Manoogian stores donated materials while awaiting

Couser's call for more. The school is happy to perform this function, according to Dyana Kezelian, Manoogian's Head Teacher for the Elementary and Middle Schools, and coordinator of the program for the school.

Kezelian said she would like to see donations continue throughout the school year. She said she is confident that Manoogian's generosity will shine through.

According to Couser, Manoogian and the hospital found one another through word-of-mouth.

Kezelian said the school had started a donation program, but was a little late to give to the Toys for Tots Christmas drive. The two organizations then found one another, and Kezelian said the school couldn't be happier with the arrangement.

## Student Profile

**Editor's Note:** *The Manoogian Voice* begins a piece this month highlighting a student. Student Profile will appear in each subsequent issue. Senior Stephanie King is featured this month.



Though co-valedictorian of Manoogian School's senior class, Stephanie is humble enough to recognize that even a genius doesn't know everything. She, like most of us out there, admits that math has been a struggle.

NAME: Stephanie King  
AGE: 17  
GRADE: Senior  
PARENTS/FAMILY: Kirk and Julia,  
four siblings  
CITY OF RESIDENCE: Detroit  
FAVORITE SUBJECT: English

**What are your aspirations after Manoogian?** "I plan to attend Central Michigan University in the fall. I'm still undecided on my major, though."

**Who is the person you admire most and why?** "My mother, she's raised five children and has helped me become co-valedictorian and get my oldest brother on the Northwood University dean's list."

**What is your biggest personal accomplishment?** "Being named co-valedictorian."

## Santa Claus Returns

The A.G.B.U. Alex and Marie Manoogian School student body anxiously awaited the arrival of Christmas.

After all, Christmas meant time off from school, rejoicing with family, good food, and, of course, presents!

Amid all the joy and jubilation at the school, only the 12th-graders seemed a bit subdued – because this would be their final Christmas celebration at Manoogian.

One soon-to-be-graduated senior felt so strongly about her imminent departure that she wrote a composition explaining how difficult it would be to leave, especially after attending the school for the past 15 years.

Finally, December 19 arrived, with students coming to school in their colorful outfits, knowing well that Santa Claus would be visiting the school that day.

Accompanied by their smiling parents, the Elementary School students' holiday celebration began with a thunderous ovation. On stage, Anahit Toumajian's 5th-grade students presented

two theatrical sketches, "The Girl and the Bear," and "God and the King."

The younger students took the stage next, performing Christmas carols and New Year's songs. The children raised such a high-decibel level it seemed they were singing directly to Santa, perhaps trying to butter him up in an effort to receive more gifts. The efforts may have paid off, as Santa was even more generous than in previous years. No one missed out on his generosity.

While everyone likes **receiving** gifts, the Manoogian student body did its part when it came to **giving**. That included a visit to the Manoogian Manor, as they distributed gifts to the elderly. The students also did an impressive job of collecting toys for patients at Detroit Children's Hospital (*See cover story*).

To all of us, that generosity was one more indication that the benevolent spirit of Alex Manoogian, school founder and unparalleled benefactor, continues to reverberate throughout the school that bears his name.



*Friends and supporters of Manoogian School gathered December 14 in the home of Dr. Nadya Sarafian to celebrate the holidays and to toast another prosperous year for the school.*

### PTO CORNER

#### Calendar:

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| February 21 | Lunch                                    |
| March 20    | Meeting                                  |
| March 21    | Lunch                                    |
| May 22      | Meeting<br>(for purpose<br>of elections) |
| May 23      | Lunch                                    |

# Կաղանդ Պապան Դարձեալ Եկաւ

Հ.Բ.Ը.Միութեան Տիրոջ Ալեք Եւ Մարի Մանուկեան Վարժարանի աշակերտները անհամբեր կը սպասէին կաղանդին: Նախատօնական այդ օրերը, իրենց իրայատուկ համ ու հոտով, նուէրներով, բարի մաղթանքներով կ'որախացնեն բոլորը՝ երեք տարեկան աշակերտներէն մինչեւ տնօրէն ու պաշտօնէայ:

Աւարտական 12-րդ դասարանի աշակերտները միայն քիչ մը տխուր էին որովհետեւ այս իրենց վերջին կաղանդը պիտի ըլլար Մանուկեան Վարժարանին մէջ: Անոնցմէ մէկը իր հայերէնի շարադրութեան մէջ գրած էր թէ 15 տարի այս դպրոցը յաճախելէ ետք շատ դժուար պիտի ըլլայ իրեն ապրիլ առանց այս ընտանեկան մթնոլորտին:

Վերջապէս հասաւ սպասուած օրը: Հինգշաբթի 19 Դեկտեմբերին, աշակերտները իրենց գոյնզգոյն ու սիրուն հագուստներով եկան դպրոց քաջ գիտնալով որ այդ օր կաղանդի հանդիսութեան ընթացքին Կաղանդ Պապան պիտի այցելէր դպրոց: Իսկապէս ալ կէսօրուան ժամը մէկին նախակրթարանի տօնական հանդէսը սկսաւ պզտիկներու ծնողներուն գորգուրոտ հայեացքներուն ընկերակցութեամբ:

Բեմը տրամադրուեցաւ հինգերորդ դասարանի աշակերտներուն, որոնք հայերէնի ուսուցչուհի Տիկ. Անահիտ Թումաճեանի բեմադրութեամբ հայերէն լեզուով ներկայացուցին երկու թատերական պատկերներ՝ «Աղջիկն ու Արջը» ու «Աստուած եւ Թագաւոր»:

Այս ներկայացումներէն ետք բոլոր նախակրթարանի աշակերտները բեմ բարձրանալով սկսան իրար ետեւէ երգել Նոր Տարուայ ու Սուրբ Ծնունդի երգեր: Աշակերտներուն խանդավառ տրամադրութիւնը անցեր էր ծնողներուն, անոնց քամերաները անդադար կը գործէին «անմահացնելով» իրենց զաւակներուն ուրախութիւնը:

Տօնական օրերուն առիթով նախակրթարանի աշակերտները նախապէս այցելէր էին քաղաքիս հայկական Մանուկեան ծերանոցը, նուէրներ բաժնելով եւ ուրախացնելով այնտեղ ապրող մասնիկներն ու պապիկները: Իսկ Տնօրէնութեան նախաձեռնութեամբ Տիրոջ տրեխաներու հիւանդանոցի հիւանդ երեխաներուն համար Մանուկեանի աշակերտներուն հաւաքած այդ օրուայ նուէրները իսկապէս տպաւորիչ էին: Այս արարքով դպրոցի աշակերտները ցոյց կու տային, որ իրենց դպրոցի հիմնադիր ու անգուգական բարերար Ալեք Մանուկեանի բարեսիրական ոգին կը շարունակէ թելածել իր անունը հպարտութեամբ կրող դպրոցէն ներս:

Վերջապէս հեռու լեռներէն հասաւ Կաղանդ Պապան: Երեխաները իրենց երգերով կը թնայացնէին սրահը որպէսզի Կաղանդ Պապան շատ նուէրներ տար իրենց: Իսկապէս ալ այս տարի կարծես ան ասելի առատաձեռն էր, ան չէր մոռցած որեւէ մէկուն:

Այսպիսով աշակերտները Կաղանդ Պապային տեսնելէն ու նուէրները ստանալէն ետք գոհ սրտով մեկնեցան արձակուրդի:

Թղթակից

# Interaction Is the Key

## Young Children and Eating

Parents should know what to expect when it comes to their children's eating. The following tips may go far in assisting parents and making mealtime less of an ordeal:

- Allow children to help select their own diet from a variety of nutritious foods and eat only as much as they want.
- Be patient with idiosyncrasies.
- Be patient with hungry children.
- Children experience temporary periods of not being hungry.
- Children generally eat better when an adult sits with them.
- Children should always sit when eating.
- Day care children are often hungry when picked up at the end of the day. Provide them with a light snack as soon as they get home.
- Do not present dessert as a reward or an incentive for eating a scheduled meal.

- Make the child's chair a comfortable height for sitting at the table.
- Provide small meals and snacks to maintain a consistent supply of energy and nutrients for growth and activity.
- Provide tip- and spill-proof glasses for drinking.
- When a child refuses to eat a scheduled meal or snack, then asks for something to eat, inform him or her kindly when the next meal is scheduled.

## Sometimes, Kids Need to Depend on Themselves

Parents should encourage children to gradually become self-reliant.

Children should spend more time in free play where they can explore their own ideas and think for themselves; let children manage their own time when it comes to their academics and social life; and allow children to set their own goals, unless they are taking the easy way out and are capable of much more.

When children are older, they can help with chores, and they should

be given responsibilities and held accountable if they don't fulfill their duties – but parents shouldn't rush to their children's aid every time they come to them with a problem.

Physical fitness and strength are essential to becoming competent and self-reliant – but don't set impossibly high standards for your children or load them with responsibilities they will find difficult to handle.

## Events Calendar

**Wednesday, February 19**  
Spring Pictures

**Friday, February 21**  
Mid-Winter Break

**Monday, March 3**  
Classes Resume

**Wednesday, March 19**  
Parent-Teacher Conferences

**D A T E S T O  
R E M E M B E R**

*Remember to Visit Our Web Site for a Virtual Cornucopia of Information  
About the Manoogian School: [www.manoogian.org](http://www.manoogian.org)*



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