

Girls Volleyball

The 2014 Manoogian Cougars volleyball team had one of its most successful seasons in its recent history, finishing the season with six wins and only one loss. The Cougars dominated teams like Crescent Academy and Universal Academy while winning very tough matches against Taylor Prep Academy and Taylor Christian.

The team was led by senior class captains Elleanna Saco and Arline Calukyan. Elleanna was last year's team MVP and she continued her strong play in her final season. She was one of the team's top servers and hitters. Arline was the most consistent server and the team's top scorer. Both girls were great leaders for the team.

The team also had, from last year's team, many returnees who played important roles. Sabrina Kesto shared starting setting duties with Arline, while Angelina Antonyan was one of the team's top servers. Alexandre Dehnerova was another key player, especially as a server. Michelle Hami and Marta Derevoriz also showed good skill and contributed to the team's

success.

Finally, the Manoogian team had some promising newcomers. They were led by Meklee Gumma and Alladia Saco. Meklee was one of the team's top hitters and servers, while Alladia was the only other consistent setter. The remaining newcomers were Dalis Hogan, Raquel Kesto, Racquel Norman, and Christina Tufenkjian., who all showed nice improvement throughout the year. The team was coached by Social Studies teacher Adam Novak. Bravo, girls!

Boys Soccer

This was a great year for Manoogian soccer. The team had tons of talent displayed by the many ethnic groups representative of the Manoogian School. The team recorded six wins and only two losses, one of which came at the expense of Universal Academy, a superior team in the State of Michigan. Goals were scored by eight different players. The team was coached by Class of 2006 graduate and superb athlete Paul Dawidian and Director of Athletics Andrew Middleton. This was one of the most successful Manoogian soccer teams in some time, boding well for the future. Congratulations, boys!



Visit Manoogian School's Web Site: www.manoogian.org



A.G.B.U. Alex & Marie Manoogian School
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, Michigan 48075

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The Manoogian Voice

Southfield, Michigan

December 2014

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



45th Anniversary of the A.G.B.U. Alex & Marie Manoogian School

Maintaining a Diaspora Armenian school, once private, but now charter, is a challenging, but heroic, proposition. The Manoogian School, located in the Detroit suburb of Southfield, MI, marked its 45th anniversary with a gala celebration held at St. John Armenian Church Cultural Hall. More than 350 guests had gathered

on this festive occasion. Long-serving member of the Manoogian School Board and Class of 1979 graduate Dikran Kurjian acted as master of ceremonies. He invited past graduates to share their impressions of the school. The common denominator for all was the extended family atmosphere of the school. The principals, Ms. Dyana Kezelian and Dr. Hosep Torossian, addressed the audience

in Armenian and English and expressed their gratitude to the families and community for entrusting their children to the school. They pointed out that the Manoogian School has not only an illustrious past, but also a viable and dynamic present, as well as a bright and promising future. They invoked the memory of the school's founders, Alex and Marie Manoogian, and the continuing support and benevolence of their children, Louise and Richard. A plaque of appreciation was presented to retired Armenian teacher Arpine Kaissarian for her 23 years of dedicated service to the school.

A lavish dinner was served, with the accompaniment of violinist Harry Hovakimian. Photos were taken of past and present school board members, principals, faculty, and graduates. Music was provided by the Harout Bedrossian Band from Montreal. Dancing continued well into the night. Everyone left the hall in anticipation of the next milestone in the heritage of the A.G.B.U. Alex & Marie Manoogian School – the 50th anniversary, scheduled for the Fall of 2019!

Elementary Shining Stars

Every month, the elementary faculty chooses, from each grade, two students who have shown growth in academic and social development. So far, students have been selected for the months of September and October. These select students have the opportunity, on a specific day, to eat lunch with their teachers and principal. They receive a trophy and earn free dress, as well. The recipients are:



SEPTEMBER

- K – Kyaneh Karapetian
- K – Tro Hamakorzian
- 1st – Yuriy Bereza
- 1st – Diana Kovalchuk
- 2nd – Lucas Yessayan
- 2nd – Nayiri Ourlian
- 3rd – Philip Lupas
- 3rd – Valeria Derwartanian
- 4th – Katrina Azar
- 4th – Christian Castorena
- 5th – Pateel Basmajian
- 5th – Hagop Alajajian

OCTOBER

- K – Vadim Makohin
- K – Marylena Nassory
- 1st – Sofi Dakessian
- 1st – Aram Mouradian
- 2nd – Sophia Basmadjian
- 2nd – Anthony Mirachian
- 3rd – Pateel Jamgotchian
- 3rd – Emma Dan
- 4th – Lora Derian
- 4th – Isaac Yaldo
- 5th – Taleene Snitgen
- 5th – Cristina Mahran

New Teachers at Manoogian

Mae Gosaynie

Mae, the new Life Science/Biology teacher, is an Eastern Michigan University graduate with secondary certifications in Biology and English Language and Literature. She is a native of Saginaw, Michigan, where she was born to parents of Lebanese descent. Following her high school graduation, she traveled to Lebanon to join the Teacher Education Program at the American University of Beirut. However, in 1983, she was forced to flee the country due to civil strife. She transferred her credits and enrolled at Saginaw Valley State University to complete her Teacher Education requirements.

In 1985, Mae moved with her new husband to Saudi Arabia where she taught English at the Pakistani International School from 1990 to 1993 and then as a Biology/English teacher at the Thamer International School from 1995 to 2006. Her sons, Andy and Sam, were among the first proud graduates.

Mae resides in Norhville with two of her three sons, Sam and

Eimen. She enjoys cooking, reading, swimming watching movies and practicing Yoga. Mae is currently enrolled at the American College of Education seeking a Masters of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction.

Katherine Banerian

Katherine is the Librarian and is also teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) and Computers to students in grades K-5. She is a graduate of Michigan State University with a degree in Elementary Education. Katherine completed her internship year in the Pontiac School district and received her teaching certificate in Elementary Education with endorsements for the Language Arts and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) in the Spring of 2013. She spent the 2013-2014 school year substitute teaching in a few local school districts, as well as at Cranbrook's lower school, Brookside. Katherine enjoys reading, traveling, and spending time outside in her free time, but, most of all, she

values the time she spends with her family. Katherine comes from a large Armenian family and is very excited to teach in a school that embraces and supports the culture of her family.

Arshaluys Gharibian

Mrs. Arshaluys Gharibian was born and raised in Yerevan, Armenia. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Music Theory and Education at the Romanos Melikian Music College and her Master's degree in Musicology and Education at the Komitas State Conservatory of Music. Mrs. Gharibian is conversant in Eastern and Western Armenian, Russian, English, and Turkish. She loves working with kids: "I cherish my daily reality, surrounded by wonderful students." Mrs. Gharibian has joined the Armenian faculty as a teacher of Armenian language and culture. She is the wife of Mr. Sebouh Avedikian, coordinator of the Armenian studies program at the school, and the mother of two daughters, Sona and Leah.

Student Council

The Middle School Student Council is comprised of Celene Philip (8th grade – President), Otha Moore, Jr. (7th grade – Vice President), Karine Calukyan (6th grade – Secretary), Adar Moore (6th grade – Treasurer). It should be noted that for the first time in Manoogian School history two sixth graders were elected to the Student Council, a testament to their character and popularity.

Halloween Party

The Parent-Teacher Organization's annual Halloween Party was held at St. John Armenian Church Recreation Center on October 24, 2014. It was another successful year, filled with many activities. Those who attended the event had a great time. The costumed children enjoyed the



incredible magician, loved having their pictures taken at the photo booth, made arts and crafts projects, had their faces painted, visited the balloon lady who made hats, etc, and had their fortunes told by the amazing fortune teller.

Annual Celebrations

The traditional celebration of Armenian Independence Day (September 21, 1991) and Armenian Cultural Month (the month of October) took place on October 23rd for the Elementary grades and October 29th for the Middle and High School students. The elementary program consisted of recitations and songs, but the highlight of the day was a comic play performed by Mr. Avedikian's fifth grade class. Hovhannes Toumajnaian's "Kach Nazar" (Nazar the Brave) is a tale of a cowardly peasant (Nazar) who is thrown out of his house by his wife (Ustian), due to his laziness, and who, through a series of misunderstanding, marries the princess and becomes a renowned hero and legend in his own time. Many parents attended the program which was well received by all. Ms. Kezelian congratulated the students for being outstandingly prepared.

The upper school program began with the presentation of the American and Armenian flags. Two giants of 20th century Armenian culture were the focus of the celebration, which featured the 110th anniversary of the birth of Aram Khachaturian, one of the greatest classical music composers of the last century, and the 90th anniversary of the birth of Baruyr Sevag, the brilliant Soviet Armenian poet and intellectual, who sought more freedom for his people and whose life was cut short by a tragic automobile accident. A video was shown depicting



the 2796th anniversary of the founding of the capital of Armenia, Yerevan. Mrs. Toumajan's eighth grade class recited a medley of poems in Armenian. Then the audience was treated to the heroic music of "The Sabre Dance." The program was coordinated by Mr. Avedikian and his students. At the conclusion of the program, Dr. Torossian commented that visiting Armenia, as juniors and seniors have the unique opportunity to do every other year, gives one a greater appreciation of "The Sabre Dance" and the sacrifices that Armenians have made to remain Armenian and to hold on to at least one tenth of the historic homeland – the present-day free and independent Republic of Armenia.



< High School Students with the President of Blue Cross/Blue Shield at the Detroit Economic Club.



> High School Students with Mary Barra, Chairman and CEO of General Motors, at the Detroit Economic Club.

National Honor Society

On October 14, six students in grades 10 and 11 were inducted into the Manoogian Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS). The students are Celine Bouery, Cybelle Bouery, Jacob Garabedian, Sabrina Kesto, and Armen Vandavelde (10th grade) and Allan Oganyan (11th grade). NHS students are selected for membership based on the following four principles: Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character.