



# The Manoogian Voice

Southfield, Michigan

June 2016

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

## Electric Car Competition

On Saturday, May 14, the Manoogian High School automotive team entered the Square One competition at M-City on the University of Michigan's north campus in Ann Arbor. Our drivers were Monica Gharibyan and Petro Kindratsky. The team of 13 dedicated students built the Manoogian electric car from scratch, using recycled metal wherever possible. The competition was comprised of two races: a 20 minute warm-up race as a figure 8, and the main event, which was an hour long oval track race for distance. Out of 22 teams, we took the second place trophy, with an average speed of 13 mph, and we won the first place, all important, Public Relations and Presentation award. We would like to thank Mr. Levon Gharibyan and his body shop for their assistance with the car, and our teacher, Mr. Steve Scott, for his invaluable guidance and leadership.

Monica Gharibyan was the only female race driver in the competition. She is our ace pilot! Our car was built in the high school kitchen which was converted to a machine shop. Our key advantage over the other competing schools was our ingenuity and our "Armenia" license plate.

Building on our huge success this year, we are thrilled to announce that we will have an Automotive Engineering course starting in September. Also, our next generation electric car has been endorsed and sponsored by MVC, a renowned auto parts company in the amount of \$5000. "We are grateful to MVC president Mrs. Linda Torakis for this great honor," said High School Principal Dr. Hosep Torossian.



# America and Me Essay Contest Update

Last fall, the eighth grade class participated in the America and Me essay contest. Each student was required to write about his or her Michigan hero.

Nine students participated in the contest. Manoogian School finally found out who its top three writers were. Angela



Yuhana's essay came in first, Raquel Yaldo came in second, and Matthew Kakos placed third.

Angela's essay went on to compete with other school winners from Michigan. Although she did not place as one of the top three essays, it was a great experience to write about a person who is important in our lives.

# National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony



The National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony was held in the Manoogian School library on May 26. Fourteen students in grades 6 and 7 were inducted into the organization based on their exemplary qualities in scholarship, citizenship, character, leadership and service. The new

members are: Deena Oraha, Zeena Oraha and David Togmajyan, 7th grade; and Hagop Alajajian, Mardig Alajajian, Cynthia El-Khoury, Maryam Jeddo, Katrina Korendiy, Dmytro Kovalyuk, Cristina Mahran, Inesa Sahakyan, Tiamo Shauya, Anastasia Tayhler, and Renee Yaldo, 6th grade.

# Preschool Mother's Day Program

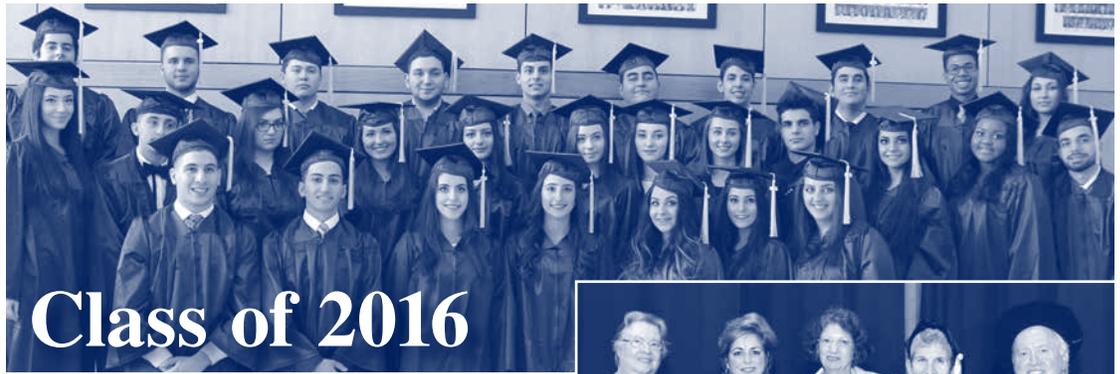


On Friday, May 6, the preschoolers put on their annual Mother's Day Program. Mothers and other family members gathered in the multipurpose room to watch as their children sang. The theme of the program was Diversity around the World and the children enjoyed singing in different

languages. After the program, the children passed out their Mother's Day gifts that they had made in class as well as a rose for their moms. It was great to see so many people! Thank you to the preschool staff for preparing for this special day.

# Recital

The Manoogian School recital, featuring pianists, violinists, and even one drummer, was held on Monday, May 23, at St. John Armenian Church Cultural Hall. Twenty five talented elementary, middle, and high school students played with confidence and amazing stage presence. The recital was organized by Mrs. Arsho Gharibian, who also collaborated with 11th grader Matthew Yaldo in putting together an impressive power point presentation, projected onto a big screen. Mr. Harry Hovakimian is the school's violin teacher, and it was evident that his students had matured greatly. Hopefully, this recital will become an annual affair and those who missed this wonderful concert will get a chance to see and hear a new performance next year.



## Class of 2016

Twenty-nine graduates from the Class of 2016 held their commencement ceremony at St. John Armenian Church Cultural Hall on Monday, June 6. The overwhelming majority of graduates just recently returned from an unforgettable class trip to Armenia. Most of the graduates plan to further their education at the University of Michigan, Wayne State University, or Oakland Community College. The commencement speaker was Dr. Rose Berberian, who has held various executive positions at the Detroit branch of the



YMCA and served as Chair of the Manoogian School Board of Education. The class Valedictorian was Selena Cholak, while the class Salutatorian was Aram Ferhadson. Four students received full-ride scholarships from the University of Detroit Mercy.



*Fifth and eighth grade awards ceremony*

*Kindergarten graduation*



## Manoogian's K-12 Art Show 2016

The past two weeks the hallways have been adorned with various works of art created by my favorite artists: our students. This show depicts artwork from the elementary level to the high school level. It has been a pleasure to work with these artists all year and see where their imagination and problem solving skills take them. This year they had the opportunity to work with many art materials to create these pieces for the art show. Artists past and present inspired several of these works of art in the show. Some of these works were created for contests the students had an opportunity to compete in. One of the contests was the "Doodle for Google" and the other for the "Space Foundation International Student Art Contest". We can't wait to see what these artists have in store for next year. Create on!!





## Paul March

No, he is not “Mr. Bob” but his two predecessors were. “Mr. Paul” is often under the radar but he has been serving conscientiously as Business Manager/Accountant for the past four years. Mr. March holds a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor (Go Blue!) and a Master’s degree from Central Michigan University (Go Chips!). He has spent over 30 years in various finance/accounting roles in private business. Mr. March was born and raised in Oak Park and later Sterling Heights. He also lived for a while in Texas and Oklahoma. Mr. March is an avid sports fan and particularly a golf enthusiast. We thank him for his patient and dedicated service to the school.

## April 24, 2016

The 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide passed one year ago. Armenians all over the world raised their voices to demand justice. Many nations joined with Armenians to remember and honor our martyrs. The century-old wound of our beloved nation is still throbbing. It is our responsibility to remember and demand justice and reparations as long as the current Turkish government continues denying the crime committed by the Ottoman Turkish government. This year, as they do every year, the Manoogian School students commemorated the 101st anniversary of the Genocide. It is a tradition in our school to plant a tree in remembrance of our fallen ancestors. This year was no exception. In the morning, the elementary school participated in the tree planting ceremony, and with a heart-warming prayer by Father Diran and a recitation by fourth grade students Garod Hamakorzian and Pateel Jamgotchian we planted a beautiful tree. After



the tree planting, a short program was held for the elementary grade students. The students were once again reminded about what happened to the Armenians a century ago. Then, to honor and to remember the martyrs, fourth grade students read poems by Hovhannes Shiraz and Diana Der Hovanissian. Madagh lunch was provided to everyone at the Manoogian School as a remembrance of the Genocide. In the afternoon, middle and high school students gathered in the high school auditorium where they watched a short documentary on the Genocide and heard a recitation based on a poem by the renowned Armenian poet Vahan Tekeyan. The Manoogian School joint choirs (the Singers and the Stars) sang a beautiful song, Giligia, which was a region in Historical Armenia whose population was entirely deported or killed during the Genocide. This was followed by a second recitation based on a poem by another renowned poet, Hovhannes Toumanian. Our guest speaker was Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian, the newly appointed pastor of St. John Armenian Church, who encouraged the students to get involved and speak out against injustice and stand up for justice.



*Fifth and sixth graders at Walled Lake Nature Camp.*



*Visit Manoogian School’s Web Site: [www.manoogian.org](http://www.manoogian.org)*



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