



The Manoogian Voice

Southfield, Michigan

March 2017

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

General Motors Executives Visit Manoogian School

In the annals of the nearly half century that the A.G.B.U. Alex and Marie Manoogian School in Southfield, Michigan, has been in existence, January 30, 2017 was a remarkable day. Seven prominent leaders from General Motors Corporation, based in Metro-Detroit, paid a visit to the school. Manoogian is the only charter school in Michigan that offers two high-caliber STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) courses: Project Lead the Way and Automotive Engineering. High School Principal Dr. Hosep Torossian invited the dignitaries from General Motors to interact with students, by discussing their own rise to success through high school, undergraduate and graduate degrees, and finally a career at GM.

Manoogian students in the Automotive Engineering class, under the expert direction of their science teacher, Mr. Steve Scott, last year built from scratch an electric car that participated in a competition organized by Square One Education Network at M-City on the campus of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Out of 25 high schools being judged for endurance, speed, and energy efficiency, the Manoogian School's electric car, driven confidently and daringly by the only female behind the wheel, Monica Gharibyan, placed second, while a public relations high-



tech presentation, prepared by Matthew Yaldo, earned a first place trophy. This achievement led to a \$5000 sponsorship from MVC, an auto parts company, and another \$5000 from the Manoogian Foundation, toward the production of this year's car.

Coordinating the visit on behalf of the GM team was an ethnic Armenian American, Jules Torossian, IT – Systems Engineering Program Manager and President of GM Women in IT. Ms. Torossian has received Construction Engineering and Computer Science degrees from Lawrence Technological University, which was particularly thrilling news to Dr. Richard Marburger, President Emeritus of LTU and the Chairman of the Manoogian School Board of Education. Dr. Marburger, along with Board members Esther Lyons and Richard Kurjian, as well as Dr. Sibrina Collins, Director of the Marburger STEM Center at LTU, also

participated in this historic meeting.

The guests were impressed with the quality of the electric car and with the insightful questions asked by the students. They were particularly fascinated by 17 year old Matthew Yaldo's hazard sensing app running on an Iphone that is connected over Bluetooth and beeps when there is an object within a precise range. His goal is to connect a camera/app to the brake system of the vehicle so it will automatically apply the brakes when there is an object within a certain distance. One of the members of the group commented that what Matthew has achieved would require four months of coding by a professional IT programmer!

Kudos to Dr. Torossian for taking this bold initiative, which will undoubtedly result in continued contact and cooperation involving the A.G.B.U. Manoogian School, General Motors, and Lawrence Technological University.

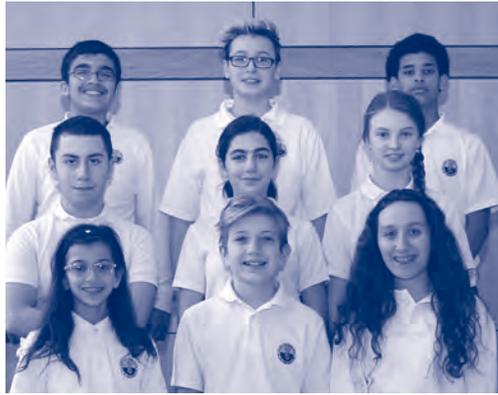
The Middle School completed their National Geography Bee competition. Each grade competed for their top three winners; and these winners competed against each other for a school winner.

From 8th grade, the winners were Artem Beisiuk, Simon Yeldo and Deena Oraha,

From 7th grade, Van Derian, Diana Shul, and Inesa Sahakyan, and from 6th grade: Zachary Garabedian, Katrina Azar, and Dante Moore.

Congratulations go to Zachary Garabedian who was the Middle School champion. Second place went to Inesa Sahakian, and third went to Simon Yeldo.

Good luck Zachary on your final competition!



“Leisurable;” the 2016 – 2017 Middle School Spelling Bee was anything but that! It was, though, the winning word for Simon Yeldo who is this year’s Middle School winner. He faced stiff competition from class winners of each grade in the Middle School.

This year’s school winners are as follows:

In eighth grade, Simon Yeldo took first place, Andreana Kirma placed second, and Javen Kakos came in third.

In seventh grade, the winners were Inesa Sahakyan; first, Katrina Korendiy, second, and Tiamo Shauya came in third.

In sixth grade, Fadi Abdulmassih placed first, Zachary Garabedian took second, and Katrina Azar placed third.

Simon will proceed to the next round which takes place at Oakland Schools on March 26. Good luck Simon!



Three seniors, Jacob Garabedian, Sabrina Kesto, and Robert Zakharian, have received full rides to attend the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. In addition, other members of the senior class have been accepted at Lawrence Technological University, Michigan State University, Wayne State University, Oakland University, University of Detroit Mercy, Purdue University, Indiana University, as well as several community colleges. In total, this year’s senior class has been offered 1.1 million dollars in scholarships. Bravo!



Vartsnantz Program



Kenson Siver pictured with Mary Rose and Manoogian High School Principal Dr. Hosep Torossian. Mary Rose is the top essay winner from all participating Southfield schools.

Delightful ceremony honoring Martin Luther King and top essay winner Mary Rose Azar.

In attendance were a dozen State and city representatives including the Mayor of Southfield, the Honorable Kenson Siver, pictured above with Mary Rose.

Photo credits to our very artistic Mrs. Melissa Valenti.

The United States was once a country of strong racism and discrimination, but thanks to influential acts and people, including the Voting Rights Act and Martin Luther King, it has evolved into a place of equality.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 has shaped the United States into a country of freedom and liberty. It suspended literacy tests, and ensured that the right of all citizens to vote, including the right to register to vote and cast meaningful votes, was preserved and protected as guaranteed by the Constitution. After decades of discrimination, this act aimed to overcome legal barriers at the state and local levels which prevented African Americans and other minorities from exercising their right to vote.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was an activist and influential leader of the Civil Rights Movement, who fought for equality and voting rights. He demanded that all Americans be given the ballot, and spread that message through speeches and actions. His idea of the march in Selma led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and showed that he was charismatic. He stood up for what he believed in, and was famous for using nonviolent resistance to overcome injustice, which gave the movement its moral strength. He had a strong devotion for what he fought for. As Dr. King once said, “If you can’t fly, then run, if you can’t run, then walk, if you can’t walk, then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward.”



Toys for Tots



Manoogian Idol Talent Show. Mary Rose Azar and Lerna Lacinian (tie for 3rd), Shamiran Jeddo (2nd), Andrey Shturko (1st)

Elementary and Middle & High School Song/Dance Programs



Vartanantz Program



Middle School



Ethnic Fair



Visit Manoogian School's Website: www.manoogian.org



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

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