



The Manoogian Voice

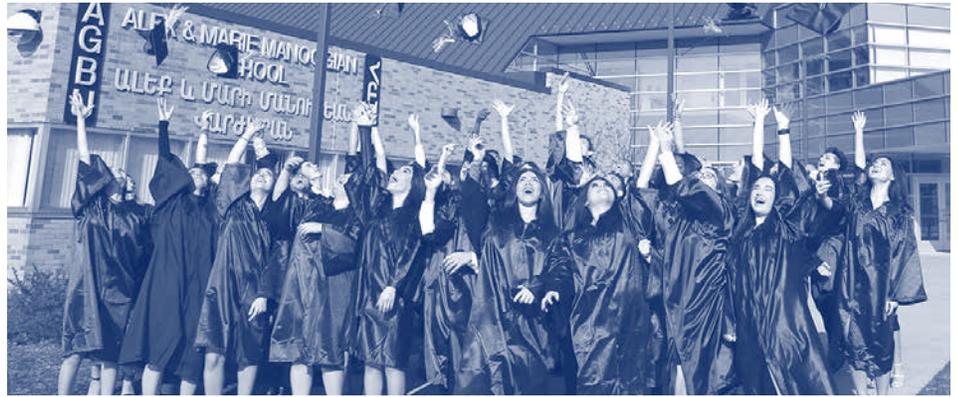
Southfield, Michigan

June 2018

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

Class of 2018

On June 4, 2018, 35 graduates walked onto the stage of St. John Armenian Church Cultural Hall to receive their diplomas from their Principal, Dr. Hosesep Torossian, and Head Teacher, Mrs. Judy Kadri. Alladia Saco earned the honor of being class Valedictorian, while Talar Malkadjian and Justin Zaitona earned co-Salutatorian honors. The commencement speaker was Linda Torakis, President of McKechnie Vehicle Components, former Manoogian School student and daughter of longtime School Board member, Mrs. Esther Lyons. Over a dozen of the graduates will attend Wayne State University, one each to Michigan State University, Central Michigan University, University of Detroit - Mercy, and the University



of Michigan - Dearborn, while four of the graduates will matriculate at the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor. The rest of the graduates will attend other local universities and community colleges. The class earned over a million dollars in scholarships. Congratulations to all the graduates and their proud parents.

Pilgrimage to the Old Country

By Rachel Garabedian

Even before the plane landed in Yerevan, emotions ran high among nearly everyone on board. Many students eagerly gazed out their windows attempting to get a first glimpse at Armenia. The plane's atmosphere was practically palpable, as everyone impatiently waited to land. Even after we landed, it still had not hit me that I was finally in Armenia, a place I have waited to visit since elementary school.

The moment I laid my eyes on Mount Ararat was when I and many other students were overwhelmed with joy. I, then, realized that I was in Armenia and was going to have the greatest time of my life. Visiting Khor Virap was a surreal experience and seeing Mount Ararat so closely was exciting. Every morning, I looked at Mount Ararat from my hotel room; the vista made me thrilled to start the day.

The night of the 23rd of April will forever be ingrained in my memory,

due to the resignation of Prime Minister Serzh Sargsyan. While the rest of Armenia was celebrating, the students and teachers joined in too. We danced, sang, and celebrated in the streets of Yerevan right along with the locals.

On the morning of the 24th, we marched with Armenians from all over the world and the locals to commemorate the Genocide. It was a time of self-reflection and prayer, and it was a break from the fast-paced trip.

This was a trip to conquer my fears. From crossing the bridge in Khndzoresk to climbing the stairs on the Noravank monastery to taking the aerial tram to the Tatev monastery, I definitely overcame my fear of heights. The scenery in each of those places was mesmerizing and truly beautiful.

Every day was action-packed and full of exciting endeavors; whether



we explored caves, climbed hills to reach monasteries, participated in a revolution, or met with the President of Artsakh, every single day was a miniature adventure that, combined, made for an amazing trip. On behalf of the junior and senior classes, I'd like to graciously thank the generous donors and chaperones: Digeen Dakessian, Digeen Toumajan, Baron Avedikian, and Dr. Torossian. Without them, this life-changing trip would not have been possible.

Career Readiness Academy Recital



For the third consecutive year, 16 students from the Junior class graduated from Detroit Economic Club's Career Readiness Academy. The graduation ceremony was held at the Westin Cadillac Hotel in Downtown Detroit. Over a course of six months, the students learned how to explore career opportunities, understood the importance of networking, practiced interview techniques, used social media to promote their skills, interacted with adults, and perfected their resumes. The sessions were led by a team of young professionals from various industries who came to our school and conducted 10 sessions, much to the delight of the participating students and Dr. Torossian. We thank the Detroit Economic Club for giving our students this wonderful opportunity and to the young professionals for dedicating their time and passion to assist our school.



The annual school musical recital was held at St. John Armenian Church Cultural Hall on May 14, 2018. Twenty-nine Elementary, Middle, and High School students participated. Besides individual performances, the school's violin ensemble, comprised of sixth graders Abhik Arya, Narine Janjanian, Rachel Kesto, and Christina Putrus, fifth graders Anush Missak, Nayiri Ourlian, Willow Rhodes, and Ariel Razumovsky, and fourth graders Anna Mandyrova and Katia Mirachian, performed under the direction of their teacher, Mr. Harry Hovakimian. The program was organized by Mrs. Archaluy Gharibian.

Electric Car

Dr. Hosep Torossian is pleased to inform the Manoogian School community that our automotive engineering team's superb performance resulted in two trophies.

We came second in among 20 schools in the grueling endurance race and won FIRST place trophy in the STEM Ambassadorship competition. A joyous day indeed!

Our students built this year's electric car from scratch, with carbon fiber, which reduced the total mass of the vehicle by nearly 100 pounds!

We sincerely thank our sponsors: The Manoogian Foundation and McKechnie Vehicle Components, for their support, as well as our automotive team for their grit and their problem-solving skills. Last but not least, our heartfelt gratitude goes to Mr. Steve Scott for his passion, leadership and for elevating the Manoogian School to new heights.



National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony

The Manoogian Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society held its annual induction ceremony in the Manoogian School library on May 22. Nine 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: Maksym Grygorkiv, 7th grade; and Abhik Arya, Erika Dafterdarian, Nathalie Demircioglu, Valeria Derwartanian, Narine Janjanian, Victoria Kuliniy and Adriano Shauya, 6th grade.



Earth Day Cleanup



ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

April 24, 2018 marked the 103rd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Elementary grade students gathered in the rear of the school to plant a tree in memory of the martyrs. Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian, pastor of St. Sarkis Armenian Church officiated and then led the students to the Martyrs' Monument, where fifth graders Sevag Ghazarian and Aren Vardanyan recited survivor Levon Surmelian's poem on the theme of a memorial tree. This was followed by a gathering of all Middle and High School students in the high school auditorium, where Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian and Rev. Fr. Ardashir Bagdasarian, pastor of St. John Armenian Church officiated, and Alladia Saco, Karine Sahakyan, David Togmajyan, and Justin Zaitona recited an excerpt from Baruyr Sevag's "Anreli Zankagadoon." Then all participated in a madagh (memorial) lunch.

Donations toward the 2018 Trip to Armenia

1. Manoogian Foundation	10,000
2. Cultural Society of Armenians from Istanbul	6,000
3. Wells Fargo (matching gift)	5,550
4. AGBU Special Projects group	5,000
5. Bank of America (matching gift)	5,000
6. Class of 2017	2,600
7. Mr. Herman Hintiryan	1,500
8. Mr. and Mrs. Mike and Maral Arzoumanian	1,150
9. Detroit Armenian Women's Club	1,000
10. Mr. and Mrs. Ohannes and Sona Malkadjian	1,000
11. Ms. Elizabeth Aprahamian	1,000
12. Class of 2016	1,000
13. Dr. Nejla Israel	750
14. Mr. and Mrs. Garo and Sona Lacinian	500
15. The Vartkes and Rita Balian Family Foundation	500
16. Mr. and Mrs. Osep and Nadya Sarafian	500
17. Evereg – Fenesse Educational Society	400
18. Mr. John Sarafian	200
19. Mr. and Mrs. Dickran and Anahit Toumajan	200
20. Leader Business Machines	100
21. Sunrise Heating and Cooling	100
22. Mr. and Mrs. Mufeed and Ranya Kesto	100
23. Mr. and Mrs. Greg and Nayiri Karapetian	50
Total Donations	44,950

MANOOGIAN FLASH DANCE



Preschool Trip to Armenia!

On Wednesday, April 25th, 2018, our Preschool took an imaginary trip to Armenia. Students had the opportunity to embrace the cultural aspects such as

Armenian music, dance, food, literature, art, landmarks and monuments. While dressed in the colors of the Armenian flag, students traveled on A.G.B.U. Airlines with their passport, boarding pass, and suitcases in hand. The students dined at a café where they ate choreg, string cheese, and cucumbers. Dikran Callan, one of our school dance instructor and a preschool parent, along with two high school students, taught the students traditional dance steps. We concluded the trip with a walk to the Genocide Memorial at St. John's

Armenian Church to commemorate the victims of the Armenian Genocide.

Our trip was a grand success as students had the opportunity to build a stronger connection to the Armenian culture we learn about in school. We appreciate the generous support of the parents and the teachers. The preschoolers will remember this trip to Armenia for years to come.



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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Southfield, MI
Permit No. 314