



The Manoogian Voice

Southfield, Michigan

May 2019

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

Golden Class – Golden Anniversary



This year is the 50th anniversary of the A.G.B.U. Alex and Marie Manoogian School. To celebrate this milestone, a gala has been scheduled for Saturday, October 19, 2019. This year's high school graduating class has 35 students who have set new records at the school. There have been 80 acceptances by universities offering \$1.85 million in total four-year scholarships. Furthermore, nine graduates have received four full-year scholarships from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. This is truly a testament to the high quality of instruction displayed by the high school faculty, as well as the value of recommendations made by the high school Principal, Dr. Hosep Torossian. All the graduates have justified the faith entrusted in them by their teachers and principal to achieve academic success. Bravo and good luck!



Robotics Team

This was the first year that the Manoogian School fielded a robotics team at such a highly competitive level. In previous year, the Manoogian robotic team had participated at Lawrence Technological University in autonomous robotics competitions and had brought home several trophies. However, this year, the bar was much higher as we competed in the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) tournament.

Our team, under the leadership of Mr. Steve Scott and Mr. Robert Schroeder, was awarded the prestigious “2019 Rookie All Star of the Year Award” during the first round of competitions in Southfield, and the much desired “2019 Rookie of the Year Inspiration Award” at the second round in Livonia. In addition to the above, our Nayiri Sagherian, who was leading our public relations efforts during the competition, won the “Star of the Day” award for both events, which, in itself, is a huge honor.

Our robotics team performed as a cohesive group and displayed team camaraderie, and honed their technical, mechanical, analytical and problem-solving skills. Congratulations to the entire team and we look forward to next year’s competitions.



The entire fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade students attended the World Robotics Championship at Cobo Hall in Detroit inspiring the next generation of robotics engineers.

The Automotive Engineering and Robotics class paid a unique visit to the Nissan Technical Center in Farmington Hills. Dr. Torossian, who accompanied the students and their teachers, commented that he could not use enough superlatives to describe the visit. He expressed unlimited appreciation to chief electrical engineer Mike Dinsmore, his daughter Molly Kilgore, event facilitator engineer Sara Taggart, and the entire crew at Nissan.

April 24th at the Capitol in Lansing



This year, on the 104th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, Mr. Sebouh Avedikian, head of the Armenian Department, organized a unique field trip to the State Capitol for the eleventh and twelfth grade classes, a first time for all but one of the students. Rev. Fe. Hrant Kevorkian, Pastor of St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church, gave the invocation prayer. Later, newly elected Armenian-American State Representative Mari Manoogian introduced a genocide resolution which passed unanimously. The students witnessed government and democracy in action.

Meanwhile, in school, the twelfth grade class performed a solemn commemoration of the Armenian Genocide for middle and high school students, while Mrs. Anahit Toumajan's fourth grade class presented a remembrance thanking some righteous non-Armenians for saving the lives of thousands of innocent women and children. The elementary classes planted a tree in memory of the martyrs. Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian and Rev. Fr. Ardashir Bagdasarian, Pastor and Assistant Pastor, respectively, of St. John Armenian Church, led the students in prayer and stressed the importance of helping one another in need.



The middle school Spelling Bee winners were Chris Ogua (8th grade), Christina Putrus (7th grade), and Katrina Azar (8th grade), pictured with head teacher, Mrs. Marlene Pupa.



The middle school Geography Bee winners were Garod Hamakorjian (7th grade), Arsen Pohrishchuk (8th grade), and Lucas Stan (6th grade), pictured with head teacher, Mrs. Marlene Pupa.



Choir director, Mrs. Paulette Apkarian, pictured with her high school choir members: Olesa Belozeroeva (11th grade), Lisa Ogua (10th grade), Anastasiia Rostetska (11th grade), and Nayiri Sagherian (12th grade).



Choir director, Mrs. Paulette Apkarian, pictured with her middle school choir members: Anna, Mandybura, Anthony Mirachian, Anoush Missak, and Nayiri Ourlian (6th grade), Sofiia Groshko, Veronika Harahuts, and Shayna Mouradian (8th grade). Sevag Ghazarian (6th grade) not pictured.

VEM Ensemble

Besides the emphasis on STEM classes, the Manoogian School also places great importance on the arts, in order to teach and graduate well-rounded students. On March 27, 2019, students in the middle and high school were treated to a concert by the VEM Ensemble of the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music. The group was on a Midwest and East Coast tour of the United States and Canada, sponsored by the Tekeyan Cultural Association. The ensemble features a singer and a quartet with two violinists, a violist, and a cellist, all non-Armenians singing and playing authentic Armenian music. Their professor, Dr. Movses Pogossian, founded the ensemble at UCLA. The students were thrilled to hear the music of Aram Khachaturian and Komitas, among others. That same evening, the ensemble gave a performance, co-sponsored by the St. John Armenian Church Music Guild, for the Armenian community of Metro Detroit.



PreK 4 students



Preschool students and staff gathered for a picture right outside the preschool hallway.

Our preschool students and staff celebrated the 100th day of school on Friday, February 15 by dressing up as 100-year olds. Many of the girls wore printed shirts, sweaters, shawls, and white hair with white curlers. The boys wore plaid shirts, cardigan sweaters, suspenders, bow ties, hats, and glasses. Many of the kids were referring to themselves as grandma and grandpa. It was a fun-filled day to celebrate 100 days of learning.



Viken Zulkiewski made his own walker to go along with his outfit for the day.



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