

To collect, preserve and interpret
the evidence of the Armenian experience in Central California
in an **enduring institution of learning**

Originally a
project of
Heritage Fresno,
the Armenian
Conservancy will
begin to, as
phases permit

Be a repository

for artifacts and an archive reflecting the experience of
this remarkable people;

Inform

future generations of the tragedy and heroism,
enlightenment and inspirational example of the Armenian
people;

Preserve

the history, music and folklore of Armenia, and convey
that culture to the future;

Work

to make William Saroyan's historic Armenian Town a hub
promoting heritage tourism;

Answer

our grandchildren's heritage questions when we are no
longer here to do so.

The "Armenian Quarter" in Fresno was once a symbol of important History: California's Armenian people came to Fresno first. Racial policies of the time prevented them from living in other parts of town. Thus in our view, downtown Fresno is the proper place for the kind of institution we envision, an enduring institution which is ethically and transparently managed in the heart of William Saroyan's Fresno.

With your help, we will build a repository to preserve the relics of a people that have been important to Fresno and to California. Their letters, diaries, and artifacts that include textiles, jewelry, photographs and genealogy will inform future generations. The City of Fresno's Historic Preservation Commission is working to make the Old Armenian Town area near "M" and Ventura Streets into an official historic district. Through this historical and cultural hub, we will enrich the future – for our grandchildren and beyond.

Together we can make the Armenian Cultural Conservancy project a reality!

*"For when two of them meet anywhere in the world,
see if they will not create a New Armenia."*

– William Saroyan, 1936