



Armenian Cultural Conservancy NEWSLETTER



PHOTO BY ALAIN EKMALIAN

Editor's Reflections

by Mary Mirigian Ekmalian

Thank you, Rev. Ara Guekguezian, for so graciously being our first speaker for the new year on Monday, January 23, at the Woodward Park Library. Badveli Ara travels to Armenia yearly on humanitarian projects and presented his personal experiences and views on the state of affairs in Armenia today. Following his presentation, there was a lively question-and-answer period. A couple members of the audience who have lived in Armenia also shared their experiences. The audience's interest and participation made it clear this topic must be revisited.

The Armenian Cultural Conservancy's next program to be presented will be on Tuesday, March 28, again at the Woodward Park Library. The Tekeyan Cultural Association is co-sponsoring this event. A flyer with the details is included in this issue. Publisher, music producer, and talk-show host Stepan Partamian from Glendale will present and speak on segments of his book *THE ARMENIAN IN AMERICA*. This photo journal documents significant Armenian landmarks and public signs with references to the Armenian people. His first amazing road trip took 50 days and he covered 45 states. Mr. Partamian has also written *YES, WE HAVE* and *YES, WE HAVE TOO*. These volumes comprise documentation of contributions of Armenian-Americans to the United States of America.

Coincidentally, the ACC will have a display in the Woodward Park Library during the month of April featuring many of these Armenian-Americans

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Fresno Teacher Awarded for Excellence in Armenian Genocide Education

by Serpouhie Messerlian

On February 25, 2017, the Armenian National Committee of America – Western Region, honored educators who have made extraordinary efforts to engage their students in lessons about the Armenian Genocide. Many of the awardees spoke about their use of the GenEd materials and training supplied by The Genocide Education Project to help implement Armenian Genocide curricula.

Mary Janzen, currently teaching AP European History and Modern World History at Duncan Polytechnical High School, was a recipient of an award. She led a district-wide program to commemorate the Armenian Genocide by



Mary Janzen



A memorial "Tulip Garden" planted on the grounds of Fresno's Duncan Polytechnical High School.

purchasing GenEd lesson plans for all World History teachers, hosting Armenian cultural events, and planting memorial tulip gardens in Fresno schools. The "Tulip Garden" activity is inspired by botanist JJ Manissadjian, who survived genocide and saved Armenia's "Tulipa sprengeri" from extinction.

All teachers are encouraged to go to the website genocideeducation.org for access to a variety of teaching materials. Anyone wishing to donate to The Armenian Genocide Education Project may do so on their website.

*The Armenian Cultural Conservancy
wishes to congratulate
Professor Barlow Der Mugrdchian, Coordinator,
Armenian Studies Program,
and Dr. Sergio La Porta,
Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor
of Armenian Studies,
on celebrating the 40th Anniversary
of the Fresno State University
Armenian Studies Program.*

Editor's Reflections

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and their contributions. Chanteur Charles Aznavour recently commented at an event honoring him that if the genocide had not occurred, he would probably be singing in Turkish. The same could be said for all those Armenian-American contributors. As President Obama said on April 23, 2011, "The legacy of the Armenian people is one of resiliency, determination, and triumph over those who sought to destroy them. The United States has deeply benefited from the significant contributions to our nation by Armenian-Americans, many of whom are descended from the survivors of the *Medz Yeghern*."

Speaking of which, the 102nd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide will take place on Monday, April 24, at 6:30 p.m., at Fresno State at the Genocide Memorial, located on the Maple Mall. Local clergy will conduct a short service and the guest speaker will be Fresno Mayor Lee Brand. FSU President Dr. Joseph Castro and the Honorable Consul to Armenia of Fresno Berj Apkarian will also be present. The public is invited to bring flowers to lay around the eternity symbol within the monument. A reception will follow.

The final event to commemorate the Armenian Genocide for 2017 will be the premiere screening of the long-awaited documentary film by Bared Maronian, *The Women of 1915* on Sunday, April 30, at 1:00 p.m. at Fresno State's Leon and Pete Peters Educational Auditorium. Mr. Maronian also made the documentary *Orphans of the Genocide*, which had a fundraising screening here several years ago at our local PBS station. These documentaries are not-for-



PHOTOS BY ALAIN EKMALIAN



102nd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide will take place on Monday, April 24, at 6:30 p.m., at Fresno State at the Genocide Memorial

profit projects and always need funding. Therefore, tax-deductible sponsorships are available. See the included flyer for details. In appreciation, sponsors will be invited to a private evening reception with the filmmaker. The ACC is proud to be one of the co-sponsors of this special event and tickets will be available at our March 28 program.

We look forward to seeing you at any or all of these events and others listed in our community calendar that many people have spent innumerable volunteer hours bringing to our community.

ACC Community Calendar

Sunday, March 19, 5:00 p.m.,
Armenian Studies Program
40th Anniversary Banquet, Ft. Washington Country Club, Guest Speaker Dr. Mary Papazian, President, San Jose State University, \$50, Contact Armenian Studies Program at 559-278-2669.

Saturday, March 25, 2017, 6:00 p.m.,
The Knights & Daughters of Vartan Man of the Year Banquet, Pardini's Banquet Hall, honoring FSU President Dr. Joseph Castro, \$75, Contact Dennis at 559-284-6286.

Tuesday, March 28, 2017, 6:30 p.m.,
Armenian Cultural Conservancy Program, Guest Speaker Stepan Partamian, Woodward Park Library, Free, Contact Linda at 559-226-1984.

Tuesday, April 4, 2017, 7:30 p.m.,
Armenian Studies Program, Guest Speaker, Dr. Keith Watenpaugh, UC, Davis, "Bread from Stone: The Middle East and the Making of Modern Humanitarianism," A. Peters Auditorium, Free, Contact Armenian Studies Program at 559-278-2669.

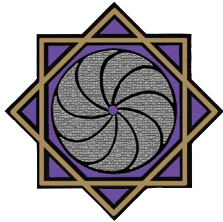
Friday, April 7, 2017, 5:30 p.m.,
Armenian Studies Program and CineCulture, Premiere Screening of "Lost Birds," Leon and Pete Peters Educational Auditorium, FSU, Free.

Monday, April 24, 2017, 6:30 p.m., 102nd Armenian Genocide Commemoration, Guest Speaker Fresno Mayor Lee Brand, Genocide Memorial Monument, FSU, Free, Contact Ara at 559-696-7185.

Tuesday, April 25, 2017, 6:30 p.m.,
Armenian Cultural Conservancy film (To Be Announced), Woodward Park Library, Free, Linda at 559-226-1984.

Sunday, April 30, 2017, 1:00 p.m.,
Premiere Screening of "The Women of 1915," Leon and Pete Peters Educational Auditorium, FSU, \$25 in advance, \$35 at the door, Contact Mary at 559-261-1026.

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



Armenian Cultural Conservancy Logo
The six- and eight-pointed stars have a long history in pre-Christian Armenia and have been adopted in Church architecture and decorative arts. They are thought to have magical powers and are used extensively in astronomy and sacred art. The logo's wheel of eternity signifies life; the eight-pointed star represents the eight architectural pillars of the Armenian Church; the color purple represents the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Genocide; the gold color is the richness of the Armenian culture.

This logo was created by Alain Ekmalian.

Armenian Cultural Conservancy

2930 North West Avenue
Fresno CA 93705-3901
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Yes! I want to become a member of the Armenian Cultural Conservancy

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|--|------|---|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student membership | \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Founding membership | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual membership | \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor membership | \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family membership | \$75 | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservator membership | \$500+ |

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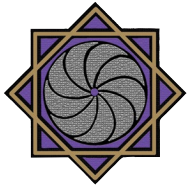
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Please, make checks payable to Armenian Cultural Conservancy
mail to: 2930 North West Avenue Fresno CA 93705-3901

You can help. Become a member. Spread the word. Host or assist with an event.

*"For when two of them meet anywhere in the world,
see if they will not create a New Armenia." – William Saroyan, 1936*



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Armenian Cultural Conservancy

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WOMEN OF 1915

*The epic journey of women survivors of the Armenian Genocide and the
odyssey of the relentless human rights advocates who empowered them.*

2016
Regional
Emmy
Nominee



A Documentary Film by **Bared Maronian**

Sunday, April 30, 2017

Reception at 1:00pm • Film starts at 1:30pm
Q&A with filmmaker to follow immediately

Leon S. and Pete P. Peters Educational Auditorium
5010 N Woodrow Ave., Fresno, CA 93740

Tickets - \$25 in advance • \$35 at door
Limited Seating

For info and tickets, call 559.261.1026 or 559.323.1955
or purchase directly from CKACS or CSUF Armenian Studies Program
Sponsorships available 559.431.6902 or 559.284.8478

To purchase tickets online, please visit
www.itsmyseat.com/freswmn1915