



The Manoogian Voice

Southfield, Michigan

Summer 2008

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

GRADUATION CEREMONIES – 2008

High School Seniors

Twenty-one high school seniors bade farewell to their school on June 9, 2008. The graduation ceremony, held at St. John's Armenian Church Cultural Hall, began with the procession of proud seniors. Following the procession, high school head teacher and master of ceremonies, Judith Kadri welcomed parents and guests and presented the program.

Dr. Richard Marburger, chairman of the board of education, delivered his greetings; and Dr. Hosep Torossian, high school principal, expressed his pride in the many achievements that were accomplished at Manoogian High School in his address.

“We give you the tools necessary to be successful citizens of our nation. Go ahead and use them with skill, with honesty and integrity,” said the principal, who also acknowledged the unwavering commitment of the Manoogian faculty. Dr. Torossian then highlighted the many success stories attained by Manoogian students.



Following his address, Dr. Torossian introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Roy Misirliyan, himself a graduate of the class of 1980 who received his M.D. in 1990 from Wayne State University. His professional affiliation includes: Fellow of American College of Cardiology, American Medical Association, American Society of Echocardiography and American Society of Nuclear Cardiology. Dr. Misirliyan is Chief of Staff at St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

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Kindergarten

June was the time for graduation ceremonies at the Manoogian School. First in line were the kindergarteners. On Thursday, June 5, 2008, twenty-three students dressed up beautifully, recited poems, and performed songs and dances in front of an enthusiastic audience. Ms. Dyana Kezelian, elementary and middle school principal, thanked kindergarten teachers, Seran Tcholakian and Sosi Palanjian; Armenian language teacher, Anahit Toumajan; and music teacher, Harry Hovakimian, for their hard work throughout the year, as well as for putting on this exciting program.



High School Seniors

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Dr. Misirliyan, in his speech, conveyed the core values of humanity: cherishing family and heritage, and determination in achieving goals in personal life. With great admiration, he acknowledged the late Alex and Marie Manoogian, founders of Manoogian School, who, with their generosity and vision, enabled two generations of Armenian and non-Armenian students to receive a quality education in a safe and family-oriented environment. Dr. Misirliyan urged the new graduates, as responsible citizens of this great nation, to get involved in public life and to try to make America a better place to live.

The class president, Sali Kesto, and vice president, Vazken Hartounian, presented the senior class gift. Salutatorian Angelica Terhune read a poem dedicated to the class of 2008. She and valedictorian Nayiri Kaissarian, respectively, addressed those



in attendance, stressing the important role Manoogian School has played in their lives. Each of the 21 graduates proceeded to the stage to receive their diplomas from Dr. Torossian, while head teacher, Judy Kadri presented their high school achievements and future plans.

During the ceremony, lower school principal, Dyana Kezelian, recognized this year's donors to the Manoogian School: Special Projects, \$120,000; Armenians from Istanbul, \$7,500; Detroit Armenian Women's Club, \$500; Daughters of Vartan, \$1,000; and School PTO, \$10,000.

A reception followed the ceremonies.

Anastasiya Amyelina
Vahan Bush
Vanessa Daoud
Garo Demirdjian
Mireille Demirdjian
James Dodd Jr.
Vazken Hartounian
Nayiri Kaissarian
Maral Kalanjian
Michael Kalfayan
Sali Kesto
Alec Kurjian
Yana Lapitska
Julian Maiden
Lucine Melkonian
Pavel Oganyan
Calvin Rabban
Melanie Shammami
Angelica Terhune
Kristyn Thomas
Mariya Vovna

Fifth and Eighth Grade Graduation Ceremonies

The fifth and eighth grade classes attended graduation ceremonies and were recognized on Tuesday, June 10, 2008. The keynote speaker, Vice Chairman of the Board of Education Edmond



Azadian, gave his words of wisdom to the fifth and eighth graders. The eighth grade students gave a tribute to their teachers from pre-school, elementary and middle school. They received numerous awards of recognition and excellence along with their certificates from head teacher, Mrs. Sonia Kalfayan and principal, Ms. Dyana Kezelian.



All-School Program



The A.G.B.U. Manoogian All-School

Program, held on Monday, May 12, 2008, at St. John's Armenian Church Cultural Hall, was a huge success. Students in all grades performed Armenian dances choreographed by the dance teacher, Nayiri Karapetian. Elementary students also sang Armenian songs cherishing their heritage.

The principals, Ms. Dyana Kezelian and Dr. Hosesep Torossian, acknowledged the years of service of the fourth grade teacher, Karen Florka, and Pre-K aide, Arpi Bedrossian, who are leaving the Manoogian School due to family circumstances.

Armenian Genocide Commemoration

The Armenian artistic and literary competition, which is devoted to the memory of the victims of the Armenian Genocide or a chosen topic related to Armenian history of culture, took place in late April and early May. Middle School winners were: first place, Karoun Tcholakian (6th); second place, Lena Ferhadson (8th); third place, Solomiya Svytka (7th) and Sevan Markosian (8th); Honorable mention, Tamar Kalanjian (6th) Grace Torossian (6th), and Nicholas Aznavour (6th).



Middle School winners.

The award recipients for three-dimensional projects presented by high school students were: first place, Linda Kalfayan (9th), Vartan Kurjian (10th),



High School winners.

Liliya Ayrapetyan (10th); second place, Arsen Melkonyan (9th), Inna Mirzoyan (9th), Kristine Mkoyan (10th), Sarine Dakissian (11th); honorable mention, Rima Saghumyan (9th), Anahit Movsesyan (9th), Lena Namrod (10th), Shanon Cholak (10th), Romana Svytka (10th) and Cardall Rabban (10th).

Manoogian School administration would like to extend its appreciation to Dr. Ara Babaian and Nurse Nadya Batarseh for once again doing an outstanding job working with the fifth graders on the Growth and Development program.

Habitat for Humanity

The Manoogian Chapter of the National Honor Society participated in its annual community service project for Habitat for Humanity-Detroit on Thursday, May 15. The students spent the day helping other Habitat volunteers build a home on Detroit's southeast side. Job responsibilities included picking up debris outside of the home, filling in dirt in the yard and sweeping the interior of the house. Volunteers were seniors, Vazken Hartounian, Nayiri Kaissarian, Sali Kesto, Alec Kurjian, Yana Lapitska and Angelica Terhune; juniors, Dolores Duduman and Olivia Hosmi; sophomores, Nina Ferhadson, Kristine Mkoyan and Romana Svytka; Manoogian teacher, Cathy Mrcna, and Manoogian counselor, Joanna Holsinger.



Orientation

On Tuesday, May 27, the fifth and eighth grade classes each participated in orientations to prepare them for middle school and high school. The eighth grade class had the opportunity to have their first hour class in the high school multi-purpose room to hear Manoogian Counselor, Joanna Holsinger, discuss high school credits, transcripts, required curriculum and extracurricular activities that are offered in the high school. Dr. Hosesep Torossian, high school principal, presented information on the new high school building, and senior students Garo Demirdjian, James Dodd, and Sali Kesto were on hand to answer questions from the eighth grade students.

Mrs. Holsinger also visited Mrs. Kalfayan's fifth grade classroom to help prepare the students for middle school. She and Ms. Dyana Kezelian, middle and elementary schools principal, discussed class schedules, homework responsibilities, study skills and middle school opportunities, such as National Junior Honor Society and Peer Mediation. Lenna Ferhadson and Hagop Krikor, eighth grade students, talked about their middle school experiences and answered questions.

The PTO held the annual school Khunjouyk on May 18, 2008. In spite of the inclement weather, those who attended enjoyed the inflatable rides and the delicious food.

During the PTO meeting on Thursday, May 22, 2008, the following Manoogian parents were elected as PTO Board Members for the academic year 2008-2009.

*Sonia Kalfayan and Haigan Ferhadson, co-presidents
Cal Kachigian, vice president
Peter Toukhanian, treasurer
Silva Sagherian, secretary
Sebouh Avedikian, faculty advisor
Morris Richardson, advisor
Laura Lucassian, advisor*

June 6 – Field Day at Manoogian School



*Remember to Visit Manoogian School's Web Site:
www.manoogian.org*



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