

AGBU

Biennial Report 2018-2019





In 2019 AGBU-AYA inaugurated a new sports field with a youth festival in Beirut, Lebanon.



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“In summary, 2018 and 2019 underscored AGBU’s substantial capacity to seize opportunity and turn global trends in favor of Armenians in broad-reaching and innovative ways. Through these efforts, AGBU remains a pre-eminent organization for governments and institutions seeking a reliable collaborator and partner. In turn, AGBU helps bring Armenia and Armenians into the fold of global culture, international commerce, and socio-economic growth.”

President’s Message

The years 2018 and 2019 marked another milestone in image-building for the Armenian Nation on the world stage—politically, culturally, and economically, in and out of the homeland.

With each widespread exposure, AGBU demonstrated its capacity to optimize and sustain momentum through its strategic international partnerships, global network of experts, and multi-media communications resources. We also leveraged our expanding nation-building presence in the homeland with multiple new initiatives in socio-economic development for Armenia and Artsakh.

Armenia as a nation made positive headlines and served as host to some of the most significant international forums in 2018 alone. Years of planning and positioning Armenia’s private sectors and international standing brought La Francophonie Summit to Yerevan where representatives and heads of state from 88 countries converged on our small but welcoming country. One year later, The World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) attracted thousands of high-tech professionals to Yerevan to discover the wonders of Armenia’s competitive Innovative Technologies industry.

Behind the scenes, AGBU facilitated the success of these and other outward-facing opportunities, not only by providing financial and technical support wherever gaps arose, but also by serving as a channel for educational and cultural exchanges that could grow Armenia’s international profile to outlast the fleeting fanfare of these weeklong summits. Our investment in educational resources over the years proved helpful as our AVC platform, ebooks and AGBU Webtalks along with our special publication of *AGBU Magazine* all served as support literature augmenting knowledge transfer to wider audiences beyond the Armenian world.

The same is true for other unprecedented exposure and opportunity to showcase Armenia as more than a trending destination, but rather as an ancient civilization with an astounding cultural and artistic pedigree. Two such milestones that exemplified the profound Armenian contribution to human progress was the 2018-2019 Armenia! exhibition at New York’s world-class Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Smithsonian Folklife Festival on The Mall in Washington DC.

In both cases, AGBU played an important role in ensuring that our national inheritance was presented accurately,

comprehensively, and with quality production values, all with the understanding that first impressions are crucial to building lasting positive images of our people, our place in world history, and our homeland as a must-see tourist attraction.

As the world was taking in the richness and relevance of both our history and intellectual potential, Armenians led the way with positive news headlines once again with the peaceful Velvet Revolution. AGBU, ready to serve as always, welcomed the post-revolution government during its maiden international diplomacy tour and beyond. AGBU delivered the audiences and industry experts for Armenia to present its credentials and enlist the support of partners and prospective foreign investors. One such fine example was the August 2019 tour in Silicon Valley whereby our chapter and volunteers leveraged their longstanding presence in the tech industry to make important links for our country. AGBU once again proved itself an effective connector of people and ideas—giving ample credence to the newly coined descriptor of Armenia as a “tiny republic that is a global nation.”

The following pages detail these turning points for image making, supported and reinforced by AGBU’s network of districts and chapters, Young Professionals groups, partners and friends. Each made extra efforts to share the treasures of Armenian heritage, history, and tradition with general mainstream audiences in their respective countries.

This report also describes other major theme that defines what 2018-2019 meant to our nation-building efforts in the homeland—with particular focus on women and Artsakh.

While women’s empowerment is a challenge worldwide, in Armenia, women struggle with a unique set of impediments to self-realization. AGBU decided it was high time to help unleash the economic potential of Armenia’s women not only to reshape the future of their nation but also to liberate them from the shackles of outworn traditions. One way is to become financially self-sufficient small business owners, respected in their communities, and able to serve as role models for other women and young girls. This perspective inspired the first step toward that goal, with launch of the groundbreaking AGBU Women Entrepreneurs (W.E.) program.

For Artsakh, AGBU reaffirmed and accelerated its strategy for helping win peace in the region by adding extra layers of support behind the sustainable development initiatives we started two years earlier, but now under the umbrella of the newly established AGBU Fund for Artsakh. A strong foundation for a diversified, growth economy is the key to retaining and increasing population, which is essential to legitimizing Artsakh’s ambitions for international recognition as a sovereign republic. By gaining the skills and opportunities for secure career-bound jobs through new AGBU projects, the people are on track to live, work and raise their families on their ancestral lands.

As in previous biennial reports, we also have many reasons to applaud the spirit of community and leadership infused into the AGBU mission during 2018-2019. Throughout this cycle, the dynamic energy of AGBU regions, districts, offices, and chapters reinforced the broader strategic goals of our mission on the community level. The numerous local engagements that filled the 2018 and 2019 calendar were designed to enlighten, inform and entertain across a range of relevant themes, special causes, and milestone occasions.

As always, I am proud to report the continued progress of AGBU programs, which never grow stagnant in meeting the needs of our diverse constituencies at every stage of life. Our programs, projects and products not only keep AGBU relevant across generations but also ensures a ready source of capable new leaders to step up to the challenges and opportunities in Armenian life, be it education, culture, humanitarian relief, or socio-economic development. It is all the more reason for Armenians across the globe to look to AGBU as a proven and trusted resource for uplifting and improving their lives in all spheres of endeavor.

Finally, the vital importance of our loyal donors, volunteers and staff cannot be overstated. So many of our shining moments in these highly productive two years are owed to all those who so generously shared their largesse, their time and their talents and expertise to bring opportunity, hope and progress to the beneficiaries and constituents we serve around the world.

In summary, 2018 and 2019 underscored AGBU’s substantial capacity to seize opportunity and turn global trends in favor of Armenians in broad-reaching and innovative ways. Through these efforts, AGBU remains a pre-eminent organization for governments and institutions seeking a reliable collaborator and partner. In turn, AGBU helps bring Armenia and Armenians into the fold of global culture, international commerce, and socio-economic growth.

Nonetheless, the impressive strides made in 2018 and 2019 yielded to a series of unfortunate events concerning both Armenia and the Diaspora in 2020. The global pandemic compounded by the tragedy of the Azeri invasion of Artsakh and the explosion of the Port of Beirut took the Armenian Nation in unforeseen directions. The AGBU response to these momentous events will be covered in the next biennial report.

Sincerely,



Berge Setrakian,
President, AGBU



Current AGBU Central Board of Directors

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Berge Setrakian

VICE PRESIDENT

Joseph Oughourlian

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Nazareth A. Festekjian

ASSISTANT TREASURER

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Lena Sarkissian

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COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES

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Vatche Manoukian

Members

Eric Esraillian
Armen Sarkissian
Sam Simonian
Sinan Sinanian
Berge Setrakian, *Ex Officio*

Financial Reports 2018–2019⁽¹⁾

All figures are in U.S. Dollars.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash & Certificates of deposit	\$31,148,925	\$26,334,863
Investments, at cost ⁽²⁾	8,566,435	14,819,182
Contributions receivable	1,900,756	3,550,000
Other receivables	4,191,415	5,041,705
Total Current Assets	\$45,807,531	\$49,745,750
Long term investments, at cost ⁽²⁾	229,187,961	225,120,051
Real estate, at cost ⁽³⁾	98,545,815	98,809,322
Other asset	4,498,589	4,480,000
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements, net	3,389,846	2,896,785
Total Assets	\$381,429,742	\$381,051,908
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and other liabilities	\$8,773,275	\$8,033,174
Notes payable—current and long-term debt	99,979	121,349
Total Liabilities	8,873,254	8,154,523
Net Assets		
General purpose ⁽⁴⁾	47,049,758	48,323,524
Special purpose ⁽⁵⁾	61,559,784	64,694,855
Endowments ⁽⁶⁾	263,946,946	259,879,006
Total Net Assets	372,556,488	372,897,385
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$381,429,742	\$381,051,908

- (1) Consists of the consolidated financials for 2019 and 2018 of AGBU (Delaware Corporation) and of the subsidiaries, branches, districts, chapters and schools.
(2) As of 12/31/2019, total fair market value of the investments and endowment investments were \$266,512,719 versus cost of \$237,754,396.
As of 12/31/2018, total fair market value of the investments and endowment investments were \$240,401,925 versus cost of \$239,939,233.
(3) The Central Board of Directors estimates that the current market value of the real estate properties are significantly higher than the historical cost reported above.
(4) General purpose are unrestricted assets.
(5) Special purpose are temporarily restricted assets designated for specific purpose.
(6) Endowments are permanently restricted and include real estate endowments.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Biennial Financial Report: 10-Year Comparatives

	2019	(a)%	2018	(b)%	2008
Total Assets	\$381,429,742	0.1%	\$381,051,908	25.8%	\$302,899,383
Total Revenue	55,428,745	4.9%	52,858,352	39.2%	37,965,686
Total Expenses	55,769,642	13.1%	49,296,030	28.4%	38,403,096

(a) Yearly % Increase (Decrease) (b) 10-Year % Increase (Decrease)

Financial Reports 2018–2019⁽¹⁾

All figures are in U.S. Dollars.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES—YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

	General Purpose	Restricted	Total
Public Support and Revenues			
Public Support			
Contributions	\$8,786,475	\$12,661,125	\$21,447,600
Special events and other income	5,880,889	7,040	5,887,929
	14,667,364	12,668,165	27,335,529
Revenue			
Investment income	9,286,947	1,584,316	10,871,263
Rental income	1,511,658	4,172	1,515,830
Tuition and other school income	15,706,123	–	15,706,123
	26,504,728	1,588,488	28,093,216
Satisfaction of specific program funding	41,172,092	14,256,653	55,428,745
	10,391,940	(10,391,940)	–
Total Public Support and Revenue	51,564,032	3,864,713	55,428,745
Program and Administrative Expenses			
Program			
Educational	26,587,400	–	26,587,400
Cultural	19,486,724	–	19,486,724
Religious	1,259,239	–	1,259,239
Humanitarian	2,208,555	–	2,208,555
	49,541,918	–	49,541,918
Administrative	4,837,260	–	4,837,260
Fundraising, Development & Outreach	1,208,300	–	1,208,300
Foreign exchange/Translation adjustment	182,164	–	182,164
Total Program & Administrative Expenses	55,769,642	–	55,769,642
Change in Net Assets from Operations	(4,205,610)	3,864,713	(340,897)
Inter Fund transfers/Appropriations & Restatement	2,931,844	(2,931,844)	–
Change in Net Assets	(1,273,766)	932,869	(340,897)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	48,323,524	324,573,861	372,897,385
Net Assets, End of Year	\$47,049,758	\$325,506,730	\$372,556,488

(1) Consists of the consolidated financials for 2019 and 2018 of AGBU (Delaware Corporation) and of the subsidiaries, branches, districts, chapters and schools.

Financial Reports 2018–2019⁽¹⁾

All figures are in U.S. Dollars.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES—YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

	General Purpose	Restricted	Total
Public Support and Revenues			
Public Support			
Contributions	\$10,836,914	\$11,781,872	\$22,618,786
Special events and other income	5,238,149	–	5,238,149
	16,075,063	11,781,872	27,856,935
Revenue			
Investment income	5,711,677	1,767,401	7,479,078
Rental income	2,032,856	6,105	2,038,961
Tuition and other school income	15,483,378	–	15,483,378
	23,227,911	1,773,506	25,001,417
Satisfaction of specific program funding	39,302,974	13,555,378	52,858,352
	7,928,942	(7,928,942)	–
Total Public Support and Revenue	47,231,916	5,626,436	52,858,352
Program and Administrative Expenses			
Program			
Educational	25,198,141	–	25,198,141
Cultural	15,356,007	–	15,356,007
Religious	1,218,174	–	1,218,174
Humanitarian	2,138,325	–	2,138,325
	43,910,647	–	43,910,647
Administrative	5,139,904	–	5,139,904
Fundraising, Development & Outreach	810,547	–	810,547
Foreign exchange/Translation adjustment	(565,068)	–	(565,068)
Total Program & Administrative Expenses	49,296,030	–	49,296,030
Change in Net Assets from Operations	(2,064,114)	5,626,436	3,562,322
Inter Fund transfers/Appropriations & Restatement	(387,261)	1,590,994	1,203,733
Change in Net Assets	(2,451,375)	7,217,430	4,766,055
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	50,774,899	317,356,431	368,131,330
Net Assets, End of Year	\$48,323,524	\$324,573,861	\$372,897,385

(1) Consists of the consolidated financials for 2019 and 2018 of AGBU (Delaware Corporation) and of the subsidiaries, branches, districts, chapters and schools.

2018-2019 Themes and Trends

Sharing Our Gifts With the World



In 2018, AGBU Performing Arts Department organized a concert tour in Asia with Armenian-Japanese ensemble Arev Arts.

The 2018-2019 cycle presented groundbreaking opportunities for the world to explore the rich heritage, culture and economic competitiveness of the Armenian people. AGBU was proud to participate in the planning and organizing of multiple world-class events through collaborations, partnerships, and co-sponsorships as well as leveraging its in-house alternative education offerings. Our array of offerings from the flagship Armenian Virtual College (AVC) online learning resources, combined with AGBU signature products, programs and collaborations, created the synergy to raise global awareness and appreciation of Armenia's unique contributions to world civilization—from ancient times to the post-modern era.

At the same time, the AGBU Performing Arts Department (PAD) continued to expand its international outreach, exposing non-Armenians in far-flung regions to authentic Armenian music and instruments. These efforts were fortified by AGBU's regional chapters, which organized general-public events showcasing Armenian culture through the visual arts, music, traditional crafts, cuisine, language and literature.

Armenia! At The Met

Without question, the coalescing point of the 2018-2019 Armenian event calendar was the showstopping opening of the major art exhibition *Armenia!*, organized by the world-renowned Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Running from September 2018 to January 2019, it was the first time Armenian medieval artistic treasures were on display in the prime space of the museum's high-traffic main floor. The exhibition showcased over 140 objects, spanning the 14th to 17th centuries, on loan to the museum from public and private sources. Over one million visitors passed through and critical reviews in respected media and art world publications attested to Armenia's place in pantheon of ancient cultures that have influenced world civilization.

AGBU was honored to be a co-sponsor of *Armenia!* As a key collaborator with museum leadership, we provided ancillary cultural and educational events including concerts, activities for children and young adults, as well as a lecture series that supplemented curatorial commentary from the main installation.





La Francophonie 2018 in Armenia

From October 7-12 2018, delegates, media and attendees from over 88 countries gathered in Yerevan for the international 17th La Francophonie 2018. This biennial celebration of the francophone world helped raise awareness of the diplomatic, cultural, and historical ties between the French and the Armenians as well as enhanced Armenia's image as the winner of the highly competitive bid to host and organize such a prestigious event. In conjunction with the main events with heads of state and official delegates, a series of lectures, musical performances, artistic displays, educational programs, and a concluding gala was co-sponsored by AGBU along with the Francophonie organization, IDeA Foundation, and Centre Aznavour.

In addition, AGBU Montreal and the Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) announced their latest agreement to create scholarships and educational opportunities for Armenia's doctoral students who attend French-language universities. AGBU France launched a prestigious French language short story competition in partnership with the French Embassy in Armenia. The summit left its mark not only in the streets of Yerevan, but also in the minds of the French delegates who bid adieu to a nation renewed with democracy and international potential.

1



In each month throughout the five-month installation, AGBU WebTalks released its special series of interviews with the leading curators of the exhibition. Three highlights from the exhibition: *Armenian Art and Creative Exchange on Medieval Trade Routes*; *Armenians in the Medieval World*; and *Trade, Religion and Art in Medieval Armenia*. All were available on both the The Met and AGBU websites.



AGBU Alternative Education also brought its savoir-faire to the proceedings. During the Forum Economique, AVC presented on *eLearning Technologies: How Armenian Virtual College Serves a Global Nation*. A special issue of *Découvrons Erevan* (French language version of AVC's *Exploring Yerevan* e-book) featuring Francophonie logos on the cover was made available as an e-guide to all delegates via the AVC booth at the 47th Session of the International Union of Francophone Press, the official Francophonie website and Le Courrier d'Erevan Summit website. The AGBU *Im Armenia* app, which offers a French-language option, was featured in the special French-language edition of *AGBU Magazine*, distributed to all summit attendees.

1 Gala concert dedicated to Charles Aznavour at the finale of La Francophonie 2018, co-sponsored by AGBU.

2 Smithsonian Institution's Armenia: Creating Home

In the summer of 2018, the Smithsonian Institution featured Armenian traditional culture in its annual Folklife Festival on the Mall in Washington DC. AGBU was instrumental in providing the organizers with educational resources and advisory services before and during the event. The Armenian pavilion turned out to be one of the most well attended in the Folklife Festival's recent history.

AGBU proudly continued its long-term partnership with the Institution by developing the interactive e-book on Armenia's Vayots Dzor region, launched in 2019 in conjunction with the My Armenia program. Both Vayots Dzor and Gegharkunik regions had been added to the *Im Armenia* app for younger travelers to Armenia's regions in the previous year.

The Smithsonian Folklife Festival (2019). 3 Demonstration of traditional stone carving. 4 Master class in Armenian calligraphy techniques.



Armenian Village in the Heart of Paris

AGBU France organized the first-ever open-air Armenian festival on March 22-24, 2019 at the Place du Pantheon. The Region of Paris awarded 50,000 euros to make the Armenian Village project possible to showcase rich Armenian cultural heritage and folk-art traditions. A weekend of conferences, food stands, vendors, art demonstrations, and culture shows accomplished the original mission to raise public awareness of the geopolitical dynamics faced by Armenia and Artsakh.

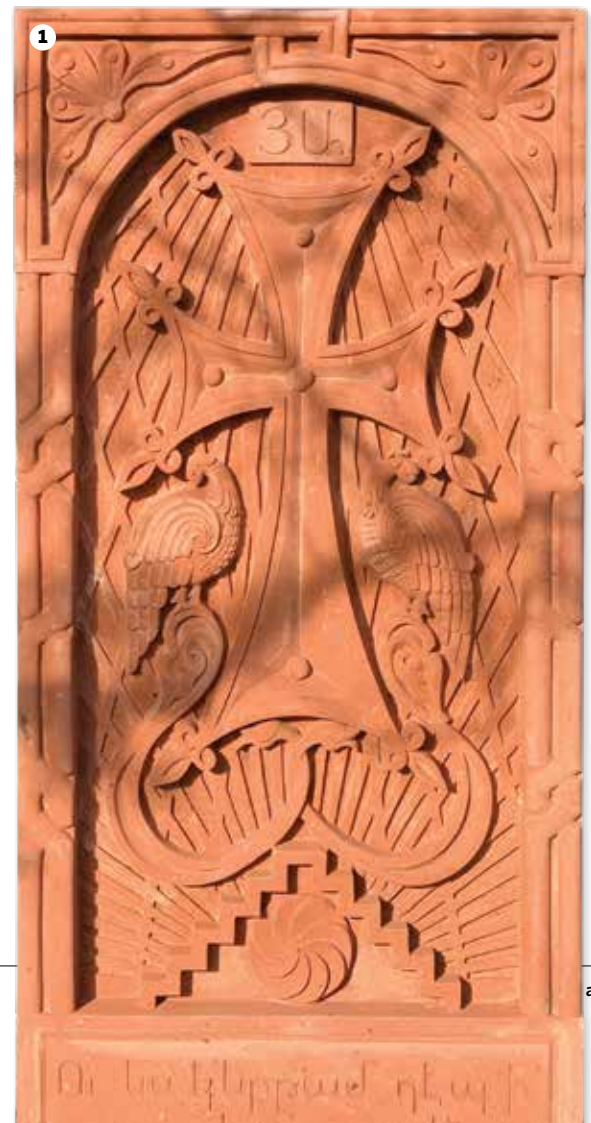


1 AGBU London Gifts Khachkar to Canterbury Cathedral

In 2019, in a historic move to share Armenian culture with the world, AGBU facilitated the arrival and unveiling of a khachkar to be installed in the Canterbury Cathedral. AGBU London played a key role in supporting the creation of the stone cross, crafted in Canterbury by artist Brigadier John Meardon using Armenian tufa stone. This symbolic gesture ensured the Armenian story would leave its mark in the United Kingdom.

Polish Senate Celebrates Armenian Accomplishments

At a conference held in September 2018, the Polish Senate commended the accomplishments of the Armenian community over the past 650 years. Held in collaboration with the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Armenian Cultural Association, and AGBU Europe leadership, the conference brought together Polish and Armenian scholars to highlight the Armenian cultural and religious heritage in Poland.





2 Uruguay Promotes Armenian as Second Language

In 2019, thanks to the steadfast efforts of AGBU Uruguay, the Department of Language Policy of Uruguay's National Public Education Administration (ANEP) incorporated Armenian language instruction as part of its flagship campaign *Uruguay Plurilingüe 2030*. The campaign hopes to foster multilingualism among Uruguayans, providing access to second language learning on a national scale while highlighting the country's diverse communities.

3 AGBU Melbourne Harmony Day

The annual multi-cultural event showcased the best of Armenian traditions, cuisine and crafts to thousands of diverse attendees.

4 AGBU Sofia Participates in Solidarity Festival

In 2018 and 2019, AGBU Sofia participated in the Solidarity Festival on June 24. Organized by Caritas Sofia, Multi Kulti Collective, and CVS Bulgaria, the event promotes solidarity among different cultures and ethnic groups. The AGBU Sofia booth displayed traditional Armenian costumes, showed visitors how to write their names in Armenian characters, and offered Armenian folk dance lessons.

AGBU France Organizes Musical Weekend in Brussels

In 2018 and 2019, the Performing Arts Department of AGBU France/Europe held an annual Musical Weekend in Brussels in partnership with the Boghossian Foundation—Villa Empain and the Armenian community of Belgium to showcase Armenian musicians of various genres to a broad audience of music lovers. In 2018, in partnership with the City of Brussels, the AGBU String Ensemble performed in the prestigious Gothic room of the City Hall in front of a packed auditorium to celebrate the centennial of the 1st Republic of Armenia. VIP guests included representatives of the Belgian government and of the European institutions.

In 2019, AGBU Europe started a partnership with Bozar Center for Fine Arts, the most visited cultural venue in Brussels, to co-curate and promote the Armenian film program of its annual "Bridges. East of West Film Days" devoted to the cinema of the Eastern Partnership countries. In 2019, the Belgian media coverage of the event included two special focuses on Armenia and its film program.

5 Weekend in Brussels featured duduk legend Levon Minassian.

2018-2019 Themes and Trends

Accelerating Nation-Building



*Harvesting the abundance
of premium grapes for a winery
in Artsakh (2018).*

By the year 2018, Armenia and Artsakh had reached a turning point in their socio-economic development, emerging from years of dire poverty and widespread unemployment and pivoting toward a new phase of industrial growth in key sectors. AGBU leadership decided it was time to play a more proactive role in creating momentum behind these positive trends. Working with economic and business experts in and out of Armenia, AGBU identified strategic shortfalls that could benefit from programs that foster generational transformation and greater foreign interest in the promise and potentials of a more competitive Armenia—whether through tourism, high technology, agriculture and greater efficiencies in government, trade and business.

1 Promoting Armenia's High-Tech Industry

In August 2019, AGBU was instrumental in introducing the impressive capabilities of Armenia's high-tech sector to Silicon Valley's industry royalty. Paving the way for a special high-ranking delegation from Armenia, led by the prime minister and the minister of high technology, AGBU provided the financial support, professional know-how, and industry connections to arrange visits with the CEO of Nvidia and the Co-CEO of Synopsis Inc., as well as the legendary venture capitalist Tim Draper.

Capping the visit was the town hall, organized by the Silicon Valley Chapter of AGBU with leaders of the tech community, academic professionals and scientific thinkers. During this event, the AGBU Virtual Bridge initiative was announced. The project would provide Armenia's tech entrepreneurs with the tools and resources to access client and venture capital networks as well as the office space and residential accommodations to plant a stake in the Silicon Valley community.





1 WCIT 2019 in Yerevan

Tech enthusiasts, aspiring entrepreneurs, students, business leaders and innovators were given the opportunity to discover Yerevan with the three day 23rd annual World Congress on Information Technologies (WCIT) event, which took place in October of 2019 in the Karen Demirchyan Sports Complex. AGBU played an indispensable role in providing financial support to the conference, in addition to securing a booth for interns and young professionals to receive hands-on experience with AGBU digital products on display.

Big names in the tech sphere spoke at the various panels, shedding their expert knowledge on social media, cybersecurity, E-health, artificial intelligence, startups and more. Ambitious

visionaries were also given the chance to pitch their business ideas in the first ever Lightning Round pitch battle and receive a grant to pursue their project. With over 20 panel discussions, attendees were privy to a wide selection of tech topics and were given the chance to rediscover innovation.

AGBU and AUA High Tech Research Group

In 2019, a research group was established by the American University of Armenia (AUA) and AGBU to study areas in which Armenia could dominate in innovative technologies space. The findings would be the first step in formulating strategies based on objective analysis of the national assets, including educational, economic and technological resources.



AGBU France Armenia Pavilion at VivaTech Conference

In May 2019, AGBU France helped put Armenian high-tech prowess on display at the annual Paris VivaTech Conference, a gathering dedicated to global innovation and startups. Organized in partnership with HyeTech Europe and G2iA (International Armenian Interprofessional Group), the event, representing 13,000 startups and attracting over 124,000 visitors, 3,300 investors and 2,500 journalists, highlighted 15 exemplary Armenian-owned startups as well as established IT ventures like TUMO and Armath Engineering Laboratories at the “Inspiring Armenia” pavilion, organized by AGBU Armenia.

2 President of AGBU Armenia, Vasken Yacoubian (Left) participates in press conference at WCIT 2019. 3 The Inspiring Armenia pavilion at the 2019 VivaTech conference, organized by AGBU.

4 Pastry producer and W.E. entrepreneur Shushan Avetisyan.

6 Kim Kardashian and sister Kourtney visit AGBU Armenia to learn more about the AGBU W.E. program, meet the participants, and sample their products.



5



4

AGBU Women Entrepreneurs Program

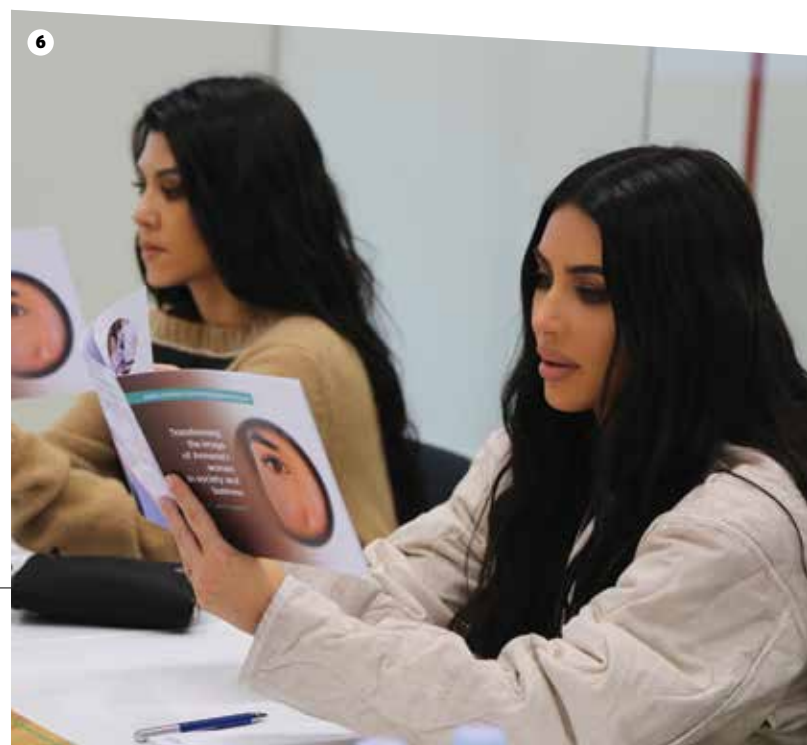
Recognizing that financial independence is the key to unlocking Armenia's female potential, the pilot of AGBU Women Entrepreneurs (W.E.) was introduced in 2018 by AGBU Armenia. Based on a one-year cycle of support for a cohort of 25 women selected from all regions of Armenia, the program offered them tools and resources to start or scale up a small business enterprise in industries as diverse as food, fashion, education, tourism and even construction. During the cycle, women were enrolled in free university level coursework, participated in pitch battles for mini-grants, and engaged in networking and mentoring opportunities by local and foreign experts. After the highly successful pilot, along with word-of-mouth popular demand, 2019 added 75 women to the program. It also introduced the first W.E. cohort for the women of Artsakh.

5 Bridge for CSO's

AGBU Armenia concluded the three-year BRIDGE for CSO's program, funded by the European Union, to bring impact to Armenia's growing civil society organizations through diaspora engagement. Together with the EPF (Eurasian Partnership Foundation), AGBU implemented this three-year program (2017-2019) with the goal of strengthening civil society in Armenia using diaspora talent and expertise. Over the years, AGBU helped deliver sector-specific trainings, a university certificate program and small grants of 20,000-30,000 EUR. The Good Will Ambassador component attracted high-profile influencers from the Diaspora to help raise awareness about the CSO they were matched to represent. The program proved to succeed in its goals.

AGBU Extends Scholarships After Closing of Luys

In August 2018, AGBU decided to coordinate with the newly established Armenia-based My Step Foundation to extend scholarships to select students recently accepted to some of the top universities in the world. Many of these high achievers were in jeopardy of deferring their dream of a high-quality education, after the Luys Foundation, established by the previous Armenian administration, closed its doors after the Velvet Revolution. At the request of the My Step Foundation, which had recently assumed the responsibilities, AGBU stepped up with the funds to keep the students on track with their academic goals.



6



Promoting Armenia as a Must-See Destination

AGBU actively supported the innovative ideas and products that contribute to the development of tourism as one of the most promising sectors in Armenia. Acknowledging a quiet but steadily growing trend in foreign tourism to Armenia that went far beyond the Diaspora, the March 2018 issue of *AGBU Magazine* took a fresh look at Armenia as a destination that could offer authentic experiences not only in history and folk traditions but also more contemporary attractions from fine eclectic cuisine and diverse musical fare to spectacular vistas for hiking, mountain climbing and skiing, along with western-style hospitality and high marks for safety and friendliness. Readers from the Armenian world were armed with compelling proof points to recommend Armenia as the next big discovery for the well-traveled visitor.

Off-the-Beaten Path Travel Campaign

AGBU's series of educational travel tools peaked the interest of the over 150 US travel industry representatives present in the last week of June leading up to the Smithsonian Institution Folklife Festival. Encouraging travel industry insiders' and Armenia enthusiasts' interest toward Armenia is key to promoting tourism and putting it on the map for travelers.

AGBU Alternative Education staff joined Hripsime Grigoryan, the newly appointed chair of Armenia's State Tourism Committee, and representatives from the Armenian tourism industry to participate in a series of meetings and events with local media and travel representatives of the US trade industry to increase awareness of Armenia's cultural heritage tourism offerings. Statistics showed an increase in downloads soon after the events were held.

The three-city tour of events, which started in Boston then traveled to New York, culminated in Washington, D.C. with a visit to the Folklife Festival. The events were organized by My Armenia, a cultural heritage tourism program funded by USAID and implemented by the Smithsonian Institution, in collaboration with AGBU.

Promoting Armenia's Wine Industry

The April 2019 issue of *AGBU Magazine* put the premium wine industry on notice that a new competitor was now on the map of the world's best wine countries: Armenia. With an in-depth exploration of the various aspects of the Armenian wine industry, the Armenian grape was becoming the new gold for wine connoisseurs and aficionados around the world. Readers followed suit, organizing Armenian wine festivals locally and serving as ad hoc trade ambassadors for Armenian wines.

1 AGBU President Berge Setrakian with then-President of the Republic of Artsakh Bako Sahakyan in Stepanakert (2019).

Economic Growth Strategies for Artsakh

Understanding that a sustainable growth economy is indispensable to the survival of Artsakh and its bid for international recognition, AGBU established a special fund called AGBU Fund for Artsakh in 2018 to support existing and new programs designed to deliver socio-economic opportunities.

The strategy for accelerated development was built on the inherent assets and strengths in the republic, including agriculture, education, culture, and a budding class of professionals in administration and tourism, not to mention the 20-year-old AGBU-supported Artsakh Chamber Ensemble, and humanitarian medical supplies. Such popular programs as TUMO X AGBU for teens, the AGBU-supported AUA Extension School for adults, educational resources and digital training for military officers and cadets, plus other existing initiatives now fell under the umbrella of the AGBU Fund for Artsakh, creating a bulwark of interlocking opportunities to move the republic forward.



Fields of Hope

In 2018, AGBU launched a new agricultural development project, initially to help provide a livelihood for Syrian-Armenian refugee farmers resettled in Artsakh. AGBU provided land, and a cooperative arrangement for shared use of a tractor and other farming machinery free of charge. The program centerpiece was providing loans for the purchase and storage of seeds and the protection of crops. In 2019, the program was extended to native farmers in Artsakh, helping them leverage the great agricultural bounty derived from Artsakh's favorable climate and soil conditions.





Olive Tree Program

With the undeniable success of Fields of Hope, in 2019, AGBU launched the Olive Tree Program with the long-term view of turning Artsakh into a powerhouse for olives and olive oil for both domestic use and foreign export. Some of the same Syrian-Armenian refugees signed up to break new ground for this potentially lucrative agro venture. AGBU provided high quality olive tree saplings, understanding that it takes years of cultivation for the orchards to yield marketable produce.

1 AGBU W.E. in Artsakh

In 2019, the Women Entrepreneurs (W.E.) program was expanded to the women of Artsakh, creating the first cohort of 25 individuals interested in scaling up or starting their own small business enterprise.

2 AGBU LEAP

Introduced in 2019, this professional development initiative was designed to help locals from different educational backgrounds and skill sets to create more sustainable and remunerative sources of income through self-employment and enhanced employability. The program also aimed to support public servants in delivering quality administrative services and strengthening the skills of those interested in the tourism and hospitality sector. Other beneficiaries, from youth to adults, are also eligible to receive English-language instruction, a prerequisite for international business, to help Artsakh attract foreign investors as part of its economic growth and job generation strategy.

Dialogue and Democracy

Shortly after Armenia's Velvet Revolution of 2018, the AGBU Central Office helped set the stage for a reset in Diaspora-Armenia relations through open forums with AGBU community members. The newly appointed President of Armenia Armen Sarkissian conducted open dialogues in both New York and California, and then Armenia ambassador to the United Nations Zohrab Mnatsakhanyan (subsequently appointed minister of foreign affairs) visited the Central Office in New York to update the community on the impact of the Velvet Revolution on the New Armenia. In September 2019, the new High Commissioner of Diaspora Affairs Zareh Sinanyan met with new generations of American-Armenians at a breakfast organized by the Young Professionals of Greater New York to help identify shared goals in democracy-building and explore mutually beneficial ways to boost Armenia's socio-economic opportunities.



Connecting Points



*New England District 110th Anniversary
Celebration at the MIT Samberg
Conference Center (2018).*



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The years 2018-2019 were vibrant with diverse events initiated throughout the AGBU global network—from international summits like the biennial AGBU General Assembly in Paris and AGBU Focus in São Paulo to local commemorations of Armenian historical turning points and beloved heroic figures. There were also celebrations of AGBU school and district anniversaries as well as other firsts that showcased the creativity, dynamism and proactive spirit at every level of AGBU community leadership to strengthen their communities and expand connections globally.

AGBU Biennials

90th AGBU General Assembly in Paris

In February 2019, the 90th AGBU General Assembly gave members and friends of AGBU a chance to reflect on AGBU's achievements during the 2016-2017 cycle. The official assembly convened at Les Jardins de Saint Dominique as the centerpiece of a three-day line up of activities and events that included global leadership meetings and workshops with AGBU districts, chapters, young professionals, and special committee representatives, an elegant kick off event at the top of the Eiffel Tower, an all day panel discussion at Station F, a concert dedicated to the late Charles Aznavour, and a gala extravaganza at the Pavillon Ledoyen, which honored Sarkis and Seta Demirdjian and Vatche and Tamar Manoukian.

General Assembly (2019): 1 GA attendees at all-day conference at Station F in Paris. 2 Performer at GA Gala. 3 AGBU YP workshop on leadership. 4 Conference key-note address by Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer of Atos, Robert Vassoyan. 5 Brainstorm session for AGBU new programs by GA delegates. 6 AGBU President Berge Setrakian presides over the 90th General Assembly. 7 Honorees Sarkis and Seta Demirdjian at the Gala. 8 Gala afterparty.



AGBU FOCUS 2019 São Paulo

The 10th AGBU FOCUS Weekend was held in South America in 2019. Brazil hosted guests from 26 countries, including leadership from the Young Professionals (YP) network, who participated in a conference and brainstorming sessions for future projects and collaborations. After a lively idea pitch battle, conference participants voted to award the first ever grant of the Noubar Nazarian YP Young Innovators Fund.

The FOCUS Weekend Gala and advance fundraising were dedicated to the AGBU Womens Entrepreneurs (W.E.) program in Armenia. The combined efforts generated \$120,000.

- 1 Perspectives panelists. (From left) Mikael Djanian (Armenia/Brazil), Natasha Der Avedissian (Cyprus), Sarkis Semerdjian (Brazil); and Solange Merdianin (Argentina/United States).
- 2 FOCUS on Art night featuring music of Armenia and Latin America.
- 3 Participants in "Building for the Future" Workshop present new program ideas.
- 4 Dancers with the Brazilian Samba School Rosas de Ouro celebrate Armenian culture with a rendition of their 2019 Carnival performance at the Gala.
- 5 Young Professionals gather at São Paulo's Pullman Hotel for an all-day conference.





Historical Commemorations

1 30 Years Since the Artsakh Liberation Movement

In 2018, the AGBU network came together to commemorate the 30th year since the mass rallies in Stepanakert and Yerevan ignited the Artsakh Liberation Movement.

The AGBU Central office hosted Armenia-based photographer Davit Hakobyan's exhibition of works from his publication *The Trembling Soil Under Their Feet* depicting the lives and service of Armenian soldiers over the span of eight years. Europe, and the European Friends of Armenia (EuFoA) followed the commemoration with a conference at the European Parliament to continue the conversation about the world's connection with Artsakh. AGBU Milan and the Union of Armenians of Italy held a discussion at the Armenian House to remember victims of the Sumgait Pogroms.

2 100 Years Since the First Republic of Armenia

The year 2018 marked the centennial of the Battle of Sardarabad, which allowed for the creation of the First Republic of Armenia and the 28th year of the Third Republic of Armenia. AGBU celebrated this momentous anniversary across three countries—first a musical weekend in Brussels organized by the Performing Arts Department of AGBU France in partnership with the Boghossian Foundation, the City of Brussels, and the Armenian community of Belgium. Armenia celebrated with a lecture series by Professor Richard Hovhannissian, planned in partnership with the American University of Armenia (AUA). Los Angeles rounded off the celebration with a documentary screening with the AGBU Asbeds and the Western Diocese of the United States.

30th Anniversary of Sumgait

In April 24, AGBU Sofia HayLer Sunday School and Plovdiv's Malvina Manukian Theater commemorated the 30th anniversary of the Sumgait Pogroms. Attendees lit candles and laid flowers near the city's Armenian cross-stone located next to Sofia's Yerevan Garden.

3 150th Birthday of Komitas

The Gurdjieff Ensemble performed at the Peter Jay Sharp Theatre at New York's renowned Symphony Space, organized by AGBU's Performing Arts Department in 2019. A Canadian Tribute was held in Canada's famed Telus Centre for Performance and Learning, featuring the Amici Chamber Ensemble and Canadian Children's Opera. Meanwhile, AGBU Sofia celebrated Komitas with a concert at the Armenian Community Center organized with the support of the Embassy of the Republic of Armenia. AGBU Armenia displayed artist Ani Hovak's solo exhibit, entitled Komitas, at the AGBU Gallery in Yerevan, accompanied by a performance by the HOVER Choir.

South American audiences were treated to the music of the Armenian legend. AGBU Buenos Aires organized an eclectic concert in collaboration with the Armenian Embassy in Argentina and Yerevan's Komitas State Conservatory. Gathering hundreds at Kirchner Cultural Center in Buenos Aires, the event featured a performance by AGBU Uruguay's Grung Choir.

Milestones

1 Hye Geen Marks 25th Anniversary with Conference

Los Angeles, 2019: The 13th Annual Hye Geen Conference focused on the digital era and its effect on today's youth, a phenomenon experienced both at home and in schools. Chairwoman Sona Yacoubian moderated and presented a concise history of AGBU Hye Geen and its accomplishments over the past quarter century. The event took place at AGBU Vatche & Tamar Manoukian Center's newly opened theater complex.

2 AGBU Antranig Celebrates 50 Years of Dance

New York, 2019: The AGBU Antranig Dance Ensemble celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a milestone performance at the French Institute's Florence Gould Theater. The show, titled "Sunrise," paid tribute to the new generation in Armenia, with almost 20 original dance numbers.

HAIK German-Armenian Students Club 10th Year

Rostock, 2018: HAIK German-Armenian Students Club organized an event devoted to the 10-year anniversary of its partnership with the AGBU. The event hoped to foster stronger bonds of friendship between Germans and Armenians.

South America Celebrates Multiple Milestones

AGBU chapters in the region had a variety of significant historical markers to appreciate in 2018 and 2019. First was the centennial of AGBU Córdoba in 2018, followed by 55 years since the founding of AGBU Brazil in 2019. The AGBU Buenos Aires Armenian Cuisine Week and AGBU Uruguay's Grung Choir both reached their 25th year in 2019, bringing the joy of Armenian cuisine and the gems of Armenian song to their respective communities.

3 Artsakh State Chamber Orchestra Celebrates 15 Years

Influential politicians and music-lovers gathered in Stepanakert, Artsakh to recognize the 15th anniversary of the Artsakh State Chamber Orchestra in 2019.



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4 AGBU Satamian Theatre Marks 40th Anniversary

Los Angeles, 2019: AGBU Satamian Theatre Group celebrated its 40th anniversary at the Nazarian Hall of the AGBU Manoogian-Demirdjian School. With over 500 people in attendance, the evening was full of laughs as Krikor Satamian recounted the last four decades of performances around the world, taking a trip down memory lane with guests.

AGBU New England 110th Anniversary

Boston, 2018: Over 300 guests attended the AGBU New England weekend celebration with a gala held at the Samberg Conference Center at MIT to celebrate the Global Excellence Awards. The New England district raised a record \$1.22 million, with \$1 million from the Armenian-American war veterans' group to support local and global AGBU youth programs.

5 Far Left: AGBU New England District Chair Ara Balikian. Fourth from Left: AGBU President Berge Setrakian with members of the Cpl. Paul Marsoubian AMVETs Post 41, an Armenian American war veterans group that donated one million dollars for the AGBU scholarship program.



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6 Manogian School 50th Anniversary

Detroit, 2019: The Detroit community celebrated the AGBU Alex and Marie Manogian School's 50 years of success with a gala on October 19th. Richard Manogian, son of the school's founders, was in attendance representing the family. The overwhelming support for the school was evident by the sold-out crowd of 600 attendees.

AVC Marks 10th Anniversary

This global online resource, which has developed in leaps and bounds from 2009-2019, celebrated its achievements, including over 13,000 students from 107 countries to date, over 27,000 readers engaged with AVC's five multimedia eBooks, and over 150 instructors and facilitators trained in AVC's various disciplines.



5

Regional Conferences

1 AGBU Nubar Library International Conference

In 2019, under the leadership of its Executive Director Boris Adjemian, the AGBU Nubar Library co-organized *Comparative Lenses: Video Testimonies of Survivors and Eyewitnesses on Genocide and Mass Violence*, an international and interdisciplinary conference at the American University of Paris in conjunction with the George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention (American University of Paris), Yahad-In Unum (Paris), and the University of Southern California (USC) Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research (Los Angeles).

2 AGBU Western District Inaugural Conference

In March 2018, the AGBU Western District held its inaugural conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. AGBU Western District board members, chapter chairs, and members from Las Vegas, Phoenix and Los Angeles were in attendance.

Conference on Nagorno-Karabakh Policy

In 2018-2019, AGBU Europe co-organized a conference in the European Parliament to encourage the European institutions to become more pro-active in their contribution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict resolution to reduce tensions in the region.

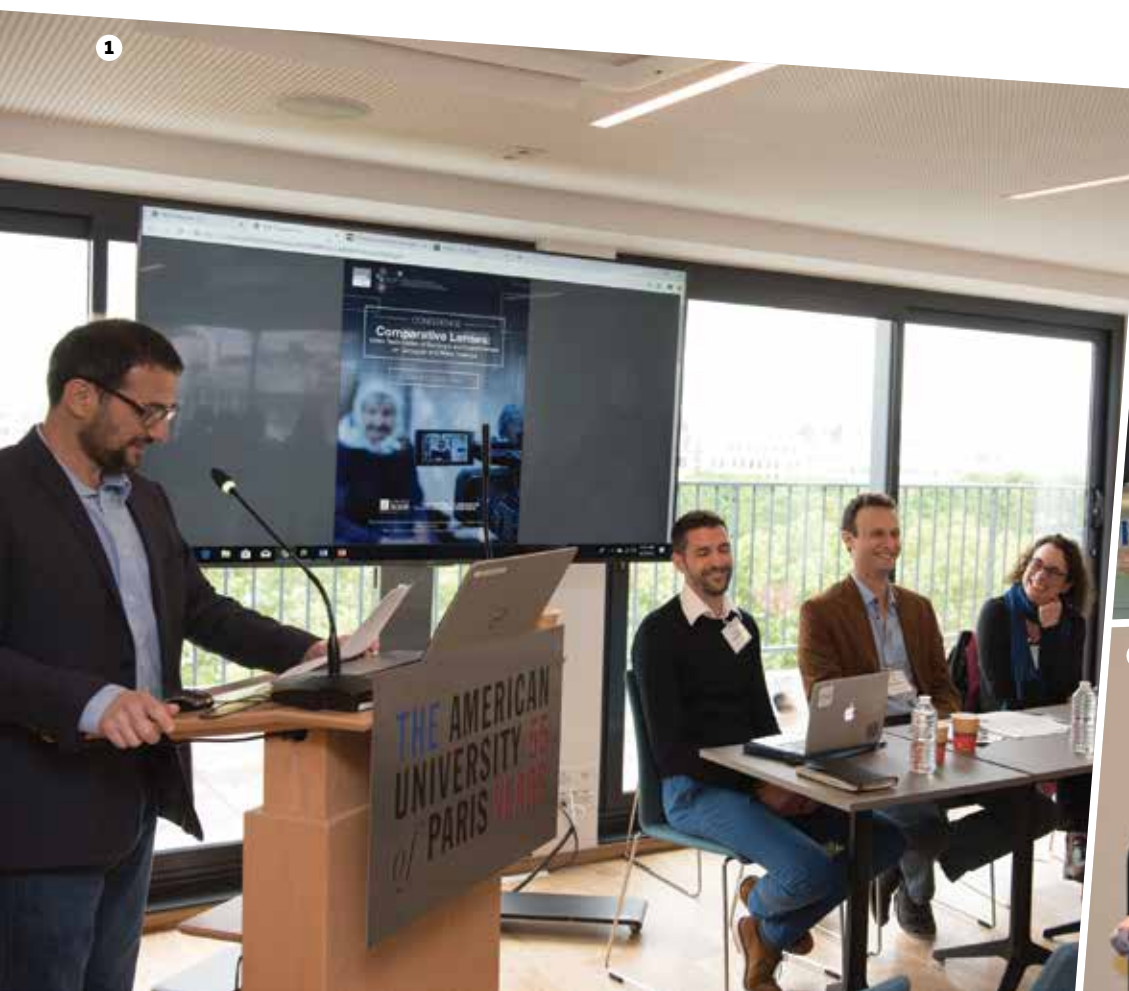
United Nations Genocide Prevention Day

Brussels: AGBU organized a panel titled *Mass Violence in the Middle East Today* hosted by the Belgian Collective for the Prevention of Crimes of Genocide and Against Negationisms in 2019.

Yerevan: Yerevan hosted a *Global Forum Against the Crime of Genocide*, organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and AGBU in 2019.

3 Lebanon: In 2019, the theme was *Incitement to Genocide, Freedom of Expression and Social Media: The Balance of the Unbalanced?* The Director of the International Center for Human Sciences (CISH-UNESCO, Byblos) Dr. Darina Saliba Abi Chedid presented "Hate Speech Used as an Incitement to Genocide under International Criminal Law." The event took place in collaboration with the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs and in partnership with UN-OHCHR, CISH-UNESCO, Facebook, Smex, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch Lepsiushaus Potsdam (Germany), *L'Orient le Jour* and the Foundation of Human and Humanitarian Rights.

Toronto: AGBU followed the history of Western Armenia with their presentation of *Sharing the Journey* and discussion of *Grit and Grace in A World Gone Mad: Humanitarianism in Talas, Turkey* in 2019.



Community and Culture



*Art exhibition held at the AGBU
gallery during La Francophone Summit
in Armenia (2018).*



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Armenia

In addition to implementing its vast socio-economic development initiatives and supporting some of the largest national events, AGBU Armenia also served as a local hub for enhancing cultural exchange and important forums and conferences. Some events took an international turn with the International Contemporary Art Exhibition: Armenia 2018, representing artists from 25 countries and attracting patrons and foreign and national dignitaries. Convergence: A Collective Fine Arts Exhibition and the AGBU Armenia “Civil Society Talks” discussion series put the spotlight on homegrown talents and thought leaders. Many events were held at AGBU’s state-of-the-art building in the heart of Yerevan, raising public awareness of its capacity to bring people and ideas together.



2

1 Convergence: A Collective Fine Arts Exhibition organized by AGBU Armenia (2019). 2 AGBU hosted a welcome dinner for Dr. Karin Markides, the incoming president of American University of Armenia (2019).



3 Mountaineer Ara Khatchadourian promotes the first Yerevan marathon as a goodwill ambassador (2018). 4 AGBU Armenia hosted a Sunday Expo Bazaar with a full day of Armenian food, dance and a fashion show (2019). 5 Bambir rock band playing at the Yerevan Book Fest organized by Armenia’s Ministry of Culture with help from AGBU Armenia (2019). 6 AGBU Armenia Scouts (2018). 7 Russian-Armenian children’s book writer Narine Abgaryan presenting the Armenian translation of her latest book Simeon Andrevich, A Story Told With Scribbles (2019). 8 AGBU Armenia relief for Syrian-Armenian refugees (2018).

AGBU Sponsored Programs and Projects in Armenia and Artsakh

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Armenia

- Antranik Scout Camp
- American University of Armenia (AUA)
- Armenian Virtual College (AVC)
- Arménie T erre de Vie
- Claudia Nazarian Polyclinic
- Children’s Centers (3)
- Discover Armenia
- Global Leadership Program
- Green House Project
- Humanitarian Programs
- Hye Geen Pregnant Women Centers (5)
- Interschool Chess Tournament
- Musical Armenia (MAP)
- Senior Dining Centers (3)
- Scouts
- Syrian Armenian Relief Projects
- Together 4 Armenia
- TUMOXAGBU Gyumri
- Women Entrepreneurs (AGBU W.E.)
- Yerevan State University (YSU)

Artsakh

- Agricultural Support to Syrian Armenian Families
- Artsakh Chamber Orchestra
- Artsakh State University Reconstruction
- AUA—Extension
- Fields of Hope
- Learn to Earn (LEAP) Program
- Olive Tree Program
- TUMOXAGBU Stepanakert
- Women Entrepreneurs (AGBU W.E.)

MAJOR PROJECTS

- Holy Etchmiadzin—Candle Chapel Construction
- Holy Etchmiadzin—Cathedral
- Holy Etchmiadzin—Clergy Support
- Holy Etchmiadzin—Elderly Homes
- Holy Etchmiadzin—Georgian Seminary
- Holy Etchmiadzin—Grants
- Holy Etchmiadzin—Old Veharan Maintenance
- Holy Etchmiadzin—Pontifical Fund for Pastoral Development
- Holy Etchmiadzin—Pontifical Legate of Western Europe
- Holy Etchmiadzin—Vagharshapat Children’s Center
- Holy Etchmiadzin—Vanadzor Children’s & Senior Dining Center
- Izmirlian Hospital (Formerly: St. Nersess Hospital)
- Vaskenian Theological Seminary

SPECIAL GRANTS

- Armenian National Philharmonic Orchestra (ANPO)
- AYB School
- BRIDGE4CSOs
- Cilician Armenia Book Publication
- Cultural Programs and Festivals
- Drinking Water System in Sarigyugh Village
- Educational Advancement—Army Cadets
- Francophonie Conference
- Irind School, Community Center & Irrigation System Renovation
- Kindergarten Renovation, Village of Marz, Ararat
- Matenadarn Research
- Meronq TV Program
- Nvirir-Kyank (Gift of Life) Organization
- Office of the Human Rights Defender, Armenia (Public Sector Capacity Building)
- Office of the Human Rights Defender, Artsakh (Website Construction)

- Peniamin Jamgotchian School
- Reimagine Armenia: Educational & Technical Renaissance
- St. Hovhannes Mgerdich Church-Martakert
- Teach for Armenia
- Universit  Franaise en Arm nie (UFAR)

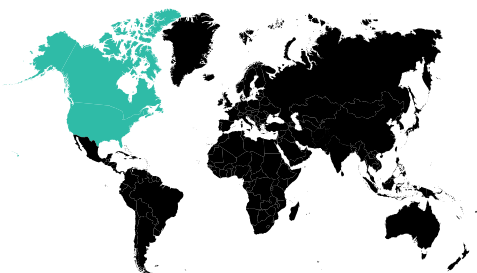
RENOVATION PROJECTS IN COOPERATION WITH ARMENIA TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ATDF)

- Cultural Center Renovation
Lori Region, City of Spitak
- Kindergarten Reconstruction
Shirak Region, Anushavan Village
- Drinking Water System Renovation
Vayots Dzor Region, Agarakadzor Village



North America

In 2018-2019, the United States and Canada gained momentum in pursuit of youth education and human development, focusing on school conferences, sports championships, camping trips and more. The efforts of AGBU Montreal were notable for helping Syrian-Armenian youth accelerate second language learning at the École Alex Manoogian d'Armen-Québec de l'UGAB. The success of the program caught the attention of the wider Montreal school system which adopted the AGBU methodology city-wide. Throughout these proactive and productive years, high-quality cultural experiences, from concerts and talent shows, abounded. The culmination was in 2019 with the multi-city tour of the internationally acclaimed Gurdjieff Ensemble. Sold-out concerts were held in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles with the cooperation of AGBU chapters in each city.



1 Pasadena, United States: AGBU Manoogian-Demirdjian and the AGBU Vatche and Tamar Manoukian schools came together to celebrate the 113th anniversary of AGBU (2019). **2** New York, United States: AGBU Camp Nubar campers (2018).





3 Montreal, Canada: AGBU Montreal Armenian Youth Town Hall (2019). 4 Toronto, Canada: AGBU Toronto talent show (2018). 5 Pasadena, United States: AGBU Hye Geen explored Armenian youth priorities at its 12th international conference (2018). 6 New York, United States: In New York City, AGBU Performing Arts (PAD) showcased the role of women in the arts (2018).

AGBU Presence in North America

*Denotes the Presence of a District, Chapter or Young Professionals Committee

CANADA

- Montreal***
- Athletics
- Ecolé Alex Manoogian
- Garni Dance Ensemble
- Hayortyats Camp
- Hayortyats Or Saturday School
- NOVA Summer School
- Scouts
- Toronto***
- Athletics

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ARIZONA

Scottsdale*

CALIFORNIA

- Asbeds
- Generation Next Mentorship Program
- Hye Geen
- Hye Geen TV Program
- Krikor Satamian Theater
- Los Angeles Choir
- Los Angeles Media Internship Program (LAMIP)
- Manoogian-Demirdjian School
- Camp Amaras
- Vatche & Tamar Manoukian High School

FRESNO*

- Glendale-Pasadena***
- AYA Athletics
- AYA Scouts
- Orange County***
- Saturday School
- San Fernando Valley***
- AYA Athletics
- AYA Scouts
- San Francisco***
- Silicon Valley***

ILLINOIS

- Chicago***
- Sisag H. Varjabedian Saturday School

OHIO

Cleveland*

MICHIGAN

- Detroit***
- Alex & Marie Manoogian Charter School

NEVADA

Las Vegas*

MASSACHUSETTS*

- Boston***
- Global Leadership Program

NEW YORK

- AGBU Insider
- AGBU News Magazine
- Antranig Dance Ensemble
- Camp Nubar
- Global Leadership Program

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia*

TEXAS

Houston*

WASHINGTON, D.C.*



South America

2018 and 2019 were pivotal years for culture, cuisine, and community-building in Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay. Armenian arts became a focal point with tribute concerts, curated exhibitions, film screenings, and the production of an original online series, *Armênia em 1 Minuto*. While AGBU Córdoba launched the *Ari Barenk* Project, making Armenian dance accessible to all, AGBU Uruguay continued its #UGABTalks series on contemporary Armenian life. AGBU Brazil hosted generations of alumni for the AGBU Paren and Regina Bazarian School reunion. As the Liga de Jóvenes (Youth League) of AGBU Buenos Aires broke the world record for preparing the biggest dish of basturma, to support the city's Garrahan Hospital, AGBU Córdoba's Restaurant Armenio was featured in an international documentary, *Así es (come) Argentina*, profiling the ethnic food of Argentina in 2019. Continuing to build community in ways unprecedented, all four chapters partnered to support Argentina's National Agricultural Technology Institute and Armenia's National Agrarian University in a joint agricultural development project in Armavir, Armenia.



- 1 Montevideo, Uruguay: Students gather for class at Colegio Nubar (2019).
- 2 Córdoba, Argentina: Restaurant Armenio was featured in an international documentary profiling beloved ethnic food of Argentina (2019).





3 Montevideo, Uruguay: Erevan 50 Scouts build leadership skills (2018). 4 São Paulo, Brazil: AGBU Brazil produces Armênia em 1 Minuto, a vibrant online series dedicated to Armenian heritage and history (2019). 5 Buenos Aires, Argentina: AGBU Buenos Aires welcomes musicians from Armenia for a concert dedicated to the Francophonie Summit (2018). 6 Córdoba, Argentina: AGBU Córdoba makes their community center accessible to all, installing ramps (2019). 7 AGBU Buenos Aires Sports Committee celebrates renovated gymnasium at the Marie Manoogian Institute (2019).

AGBU Presence in South America

*Denotes the Presence of a District, Chapter or Young Professionals Committee

ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires*
 Athletics
 General Antranik Scouts
 Colonia de Vacaciones
 Generación 3
 Global Leadership Program
 Instituto Marie Manoogian
 Krikor Satamian Theater Group
 Liga de Jóvenes

Córdoba*

Ararat Dance Ensemble
 Colonia de Vacaciones

BRAZIL

São Paulo*

URUGUAY

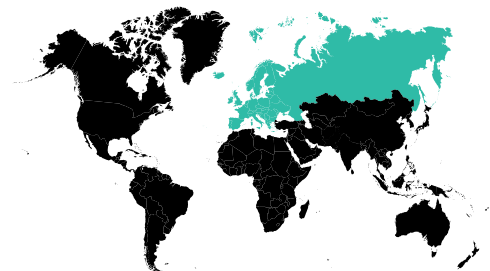
Montevideo*
 Athletics
 Colegio Nubarian
 Erevan 50 Scouts
 Grung Choir
 Liga de Jóvenes



1

Europe

From London, Brussels, Paris, and Milan to Sofia, Plovdiv, and Nicosia, the districts and chapters under the AGBU Europe umbrella continued to cultivate thought leadership with diverse conferences, lectures, and educational forums in 2018-2019. These events helped raise awareness of Armenian-related issues among European institutions, covering diverse topics as the historic movements of Armenia and Artsakh, new insights on the Armenian Genocide, equal access to education in Armenia and its challenges integrating youth with disabilities into the Armenian educational system. Meanwhile, the arts continued to flourish through sold-out performances and concerts, dance recitals, art shows and more. AGBU Plovdiv and AGBU Sofia dazzled audiences with an array of Armenian cultural events that showcased the great versatility of Armenian talent in Bulgaria.



2

1 London, United Kingdom: Henrikh Mkhitaryan (right) with French-Armenian footballer Yuri Djorkaeff was honored at the AGBU London gala to benefit the TUMOxAGBU Centers (2018). 2 Milan, Italy: The Naregatsi Folk Instruments Orchestra performed at an Armenian folk music concert co-hosted by AGBU Milan (2019).



3 Plovdiv, Bulgaria: AGBU Plovdiv Dance Groups perform at the annual 6FEST (2019). 4 Haute-Savoie, France: 36th year of the Colonie de Vacance camp (2019). 5 Athens, Greece: AGBU Artaki Kalpakian School Theatre Night (2018). 6 Sofia, Bulgaria: AGBU Sofia Concert (2019).

AGBU Presence in Europe

*Denotes the Presence of a District, Chapter or Young Professionals Committee

AUSTRIA

Vienna*
Ani Choir

BELGIUM

Brussels*
Goriz Leadership Program

CYPRUS

Larnaca*
Nicosia*
Ararat Futsal Team

BULGARIA

Burgas*
Dobrich*
Haskovo*
Krikor Azaryan Theater Group
Saturday School
Plovdiv*
AGBU Voice
Astghigner Dance Group
Camp Hayler
Erebuni Musical Ensemble
Nreni Dance Group
Saturday School
Yerazank Dance Group
Youth
Rousse*
Sliven*

Sofia*

Camp Hayler
Chamber Orchestra
HayLer Sunday School
Youth
Varna*
Chamber Orchestra

FRANCE*

Arménie T erre de Vie
Colonie de Vacances
HyeTech
Nubar Library
 tudes Arm eniennes Contemporaines
Paris Summer Internship Program (PSIP)
S jour de Ski
UFAR Internship Program

Lyon*

Youth

Marseille*

Youth

Nice-C te d'Azur*

Paris*

Ahazank Theater Group
Alex Manoogian Saturday School
Koghtan Choir
US Nubar Paris
Youth

Valence*

Youth

Vienne*

Wednesday School
Youth

GERMANY

Frankfurt*
HAIK (affiliate)

GREECE

Athens*
Ani Dance Ensemble
Artaki Kalpakian School
Youth
Thessaloniki*

ITALY

Milan*

LUXEMBOURG

Luxembourg*

NETHERLANDS

Almelo*
Amsterdam*

RUSSIA

Moscow

SPAIN

Barcelona
Asociaci  Cultural Armenia de Barcelona (ACAB) (affiliate)

SWITZERLAND

Geneva*

UNITED KINGDOM

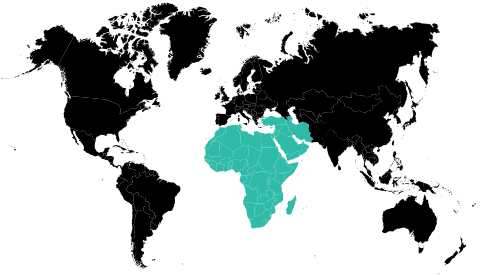
London*
Global Leadership Program



1

Africa and the Middle East

AGBU district and chapters of the Middle East and Africa, including Egypt, Lebanon, and Syria, excelled in uplifting, engaging and enlightening their communities through wide-ranging cultural events. Ongoing programs and initiatives were continued and new projects launched in addition to hosting visits by dignitaries and luminaries from the Armenian World such as Armen Sarkissian, the president of Armenia and Bako Sahakyan, the then-President of Artsakh. Major players in the local and global community were celebrated at luncheons, tributes, and a special concert dedicated to the legendary Charles Aznavour who passed away in 2018. There were also collaborations for diverse lectures and panel discussions with distinguished international scholars on subjects such as Armenian history and human rights.



1 Beirut, Lebanon: AGBU Lebanon Picasso Tour and Taste event (2019). 2 Aleppo, Syria: AGBU Lazar-Najarian-Calouste Gulbenkian School in Aleppo (2019).



2



3 Aleppo, Syria: Graduation ceremony for AGBU Lazar Najarian-Calouste Gulbenkian school (2019). 4 Beirut, Lebanon: AGBU-AYA Vahram Papazian Theater comedy show (2019). 5 HMEM Nubar Cairo basketball tournament (2018). 6 Beirut, Lebanon: AGU-AYA Lebanon Annual Blood Drive (2019). 7 Istanbul, Turkey: AGBU community commemorates Armenian Genocide (2018).

AGBU Presence in Africa and the Middle East

*Denotes the Presence of a District, Chapter or Young Professionals Committee

EGYPT*

Alexandria*

Youth (HMEM Nubar Sports Club)

Cairo*

Deghegadou Quarterly

Dziadzan Children's Choir

Youth (HMEM Nubar Sports Club)

Heliopolis*

ETHIOPIA

Addis Ababa*

IRAQ

Baghdad*

Yerchanik Tajirian Summer School

LEBANON*

Amanos/Antelias/Sin el-Fil/Zahle*

Asbeds

AYA Antranik Sports

AYA Antranik Scouts

AYA Antranik Youth

AYA Arine Dance Ensemble

AYA Lebanon e-Newsletter

AYA Vahram Papazian Theater

AGBU Schools

Demirdjian Center Armenian Studies Saturday School

Demirdjian Center Summer Camp

Khosnag Monthly

Medical Dispensaries

Vahram Papazian Theater

SYRIA*

District Committee*

Aleppo*

Aram Khachaturian Conservatory

AYA Antranik Dance Ensemble

AYA Antranik Scouts

AYA Antranik Sports

AYA Big Band

AYA Spondiarian Choir

AYA Bedros Atamian Theater Group

Gomidas Chamber Orchestra

Hayatsk Quarterly

Lazar Najarian-Calouste Gulbenkian School

Pountch Children's Dance Ensemble

Mardiros Sarian Academy

Damascus*

AYA Sports

AYA Youth

Gullabi Gulbenkian School

Kamishli*

Summer School

Kessab*

Kessab Camp

Latakia*

Karoun Children's Choir

TURKEY

Istanbul

UTI (affiliate)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Dubai*



Australia

AGBU Melbourne opened new doors with the long-awaited opening of their new center at 30 Rocco Drive, Scoresby. With this more spacious facility, communities in were better able to host more diverse events. Celebrating Armenian artistic triumphs, the Melbourne chapter held its annual Harmony Day at the center, dedicated to showcasing the many facets of Armenian traditions. The Sydney chapter accommodated a diverse mélange of arts groups—extended on an international level—with an impressive performance at the Concourse Theatre Hall in Chatswood. Both years brought about athletic triumphs, broadened networks, and strengthened bonds, demonstrated by every active member of AGBU Youth.



1 Melbourne, Australia: AGBU Melbourne celebrates opening of new center (2019). 2 Sydney, Australia: AGBU Sydney united three dance groups in performance (2019).

AGBU Presence in Asia and Australia

**Denotes the Presence of a District, Chapter or Young Professionals Committee*

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne*

Armenian Radio Program
Hagop Baronian Theatre Group
Nor Tsayn Newsletter
Youth

Sydney*

Alexander Primary School
Alex Manoogian Saturday School
Mioutune Newsletter
Tamzara Armenian Dance Group
Youth

Programs, Products and Sponsorships



ATLAS® by AGBU, the latest product innovation from the AGBU Education Department. Launched in 2019, this online resource for Armenian-related content and learning tools is ideal for students, educators, and parents.





1

1 AGBU Central Board members visit Quebec to promote cross-cultural education. From left: Hagop Arslanian, AGBU Canada Executive Committee member; Berge Setrakian, AGBU President; Chahe Tanachian, Chair of AGBU Montreal chapter; Christopher Skeete, member of the National Assembly of Quebec for Sainte-Rose; and Francois Legault, Premier of Quebec. Earlier, Tanachian signed an MOU with the Québec Chess in the teaching of chess in the Quebec schools through the AGBU Armenian Virtual College (AVC).

Education

AGBU Schools 2018-2019

	<p>Total Schools Primary, Secondary, Preparatory, Summer, 1-Day Schools: 24</p>
	<p>Total Enrollment Over 3,500</p>

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Instituto Marie Manoogian (PreK-12)

Sydney, Australia

Alexander Primary School (PreK-6)
Alex Manoogian Saturday School (K-7)

France

Paris

Alex Manoogian Saturday School

Vienne

Wednesday School

Bulgaria

Haskovo

Saturday School

Plovdiv

Saturday School

Sofia

HayLer Sunday School

Montreal, Canada

École Alex Manoogian (PreK-8)

Hayortyats Or Saturday School

NOVA Summer School

Athens, Greece

Artaki Kalpakian School (PreK-6)

Baghdad, Iraq

Yerchanik Tajirian Summer School

Antelias, Lebanon

Demirdjian Center Armenian Studies Saturday School

AGBU Schools in Lebanon (PreK-12)

Syria

2 Aleppo

Lazar-Najarian-Calouste Gulbenkian School (PreK-12)

Damascus

Gullabi Gulbenkian School (PreK-12)

Kamishli

Summer School

Montevideo, Uruguay

Colegio Nubarian (PreK-6)



United States

Canoga Park, CA

Manoogian-Demirdjian School (PreK-12)

Costa Mesa, CA

Orange County Saturday School

Pasadena, CA

Vatche & Tamar Manoukian High School (9-12)

Chicago, IL

Sisag H. Varjabedian Saturday School

Southfield, MI

Alex & Marie Manoogian Charter School (PreK-12)

Digital Offerings

Online

AGBU Armenian Virtual College (AVC)

AVC Hybrid Education Program

AVC eBooks

AGBU Apps

- Armenian Holidays and Traditions
- Gus on the Go: Armenian for Kids
- Im Armenia

AGBU ATLAS

AGBU WebTalks

After-School Programs

3 AGBU Children's Centers (Yerevan: Nork, Arapkir, Malatya)





4 TUMOXAGBU (Artsakh)





AGBU Scholarships 2018-2019

AGBU Scholarships

	Total Awards Distributed 2018: \$904,000 2019: \$946,000
	Additional Distribution for Institutional Scholarships in Armenia (See Below) 2018: \$350,000 2019: \$221,000
	Number of Scholarship Recipients 2018: 486 2019: 528
	Number of Countries in Which Studies Were Pursued 2018: 28 2019: 30

Scholarship Categories

Type of Scholarship	Number of Scholarships Awarded	
	2018	2019
US Graduate	67	69
Performing Arts	51	47
Religious Studies	10	11
International	355	397
Heritage Scholar Grants	3	4
Total	486	528

Institutional Scholarships in Armenia 2018

Scholarships to Syrian Armenian University Students	\$137,000
AUA-NKR Extension Project	\$100,000
AUA Scholarships	\$50,000
French University of Armenia	\$30,000
AUA-MOD Cadet Scholarships	\$16,000
Yerevan State University Endowments	\$8,000
Matenadaran Scholarships	\$7,580

Total **\$348,580**

Institutional Scholarships in Armenia 2019

Scholarships to Syrian Armenian University Students	\$77,016
AUA-NKR Extension Project (5-Year Commitment Completed)	–
AUA Scholarships	\$50,000
French University of Armenia	\$30,000
AUA-MOD Cadet Scholarships	\$16,000
AUA-MOD Officers & Civil Servants	\$23,527
Yerevan State University Azeri Language Courses	\$18,180
Matenadaran Scholarships	\$6,550

Total **\$221,273**

Heritage Scholar Grants

Top Four Fields of Study: Physical Sciences, Public Health, Engineering, English

Undergraduate Schools: University of California (Several Locations), University of Michigan

AGBU US Graduate Scholarships

Top Five Fields of Study: Public Administration & Policy, Medicine and Health Sciences, Law, Business, Armenian/Russian/Middle Eastern Studies

Sampling of Schools: Columbia University, Dartmouth College, Georgetown University, Tufts University, MIT, Stanford, New York University, University of Chicago, University of California (several locations)

AGBU International Scholarships

Top Five Fields of Study: Computer Science & IT, Political Science & International Law, Economics & Finance, Applied Mathematics & Physics, Architecture.

Sampling of International Schools: University of Cambridge, University College London, Sorbonne University, EPFL-EPF Lausanne, American University of Beirut, McGill University, Polytechnic Institute of Milan.

AGBU Performing Arts Scholarships

Sampling of Schools: The Juilliard School, The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Munich Hochschule fuer Musik und Theater, Gerasimov Institute of Cinematography, Royal College of Music, University of London, Berklee College of Music, Cleveland Institute of Music

AGBU Religious Studies Scholarships

Sampling of Schools: St. Nersess Armenian Seminary, University of Oxford, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich, Harvard Divinity School



Socio-Economic Development Armenia

- 1 Bridge for CSOs
Claudia Nazarian Polyclinic for Syrian Armenian Refugees
- 2 Levon and Claudia Nazarian Radiology Center
Hye Geen Pregnant Women's Centers in Armenia
- 3 Senior Dining Centers in Armenia
Women Entrepreneurs Program (W.E.)/Armenia

Artsakh

- 4 Learn to Earn in Artsakh (LEAP) Program
Olive Orchard Program
Fields of Hope
Women Entrepreneurs Program (W.E.)/Artsakh





Culture

Summer Programs

Overnight Camps

Armenia, Vanadzor: Antranik Scout Camp

Bulgaria, Plovdiv: Camp HayLer

Bulgaria, Sofia: Camp HayLer

1 France, Haute-Savoie: Colonie de Vacances

Syria, Kessab: Kessab Camp

USA, New York: Camp Nubar

Day Camps

Argentina, Buenos Aires: Colonia de Vacaciones

Argentina, Cordoba: Colonia de Vacaciones

Canada, Montreal: Hayortyats Camp

Iraq, Baghdad: Yerchanik Tajirian Summer Camp

Lebanon, Antelias: Demirdjian Center Day Camp

USA, California: Camp Amaras

Homeland Voluntourism Experiences

Youth Trips to Armenia

2 Terre de Vie

3 Discover Armenia





1

Leadership Programs

- AYA Scouts
- Generation Next (GenNext)
- Global Leadership Program (formerly AGBU Summer Internship Program)
 - Boston
 - Buenos Aires
 - London
 - Paris (2018)
 - New York
 - Yerevan
- 1 Goriz Leadership Program
- Los Angeles Media Internship Program (LAMIP)
- UFAR Internship Program



Global Publications

- AGBU Magazine
- AGBU Insider



2



Arts and Culture Groups/Programs

Art and Music Academies

Aleppo, Syria:

- Aram Khachaturian Conservatory Music School
- Mardiros Sarian Academy

Choral Groups

Aleppo, Syria: Spendirian Choir

Baghdad, Iraq: AYA Choir

Cairo, Egypt: Dzaiadzan Children's Choir

Montevideo, Uruguay: Grung

Paris, France: Koghtan Choir

Pasadenia, USA: LA Choir

Latakia, Syria: Karoun Children's Choir

Vienna, Austria: Ani Choir

Music Groups

Aleppo, Syria:

- AYA Antranik Marching Band
- AYA Big Band
- Gomidas Chamber Orchestra

Plovdiv, Bulgaria: Ereboundi Musical Ensemble

Sofia, Bulgaria: Chamber Orchestra

2 Stepanakert, Artsakh: Artsakh Chamber Orchestra

Varna, Bulgaria: Chamber Orchestra

Dance Ensembles

Aleppo, Syria:

- AYA Antranik Dance Ensemble
- AYA Pountch Children's Dance Group

Beirut, Lebanon: AYA Arine Dance Ensemble

Cordoba, Argentina: Ararat Dance Ensemble

Montreal, Canada: Garni Dance Ensemble

New York, USA: Antranig Dance Ensemble

Plovdiv, Bulgaria:

- Astghighner Children's Dance Group
- Nreni Dance Group
- Yerazank Dance Group

Sydney, Australia: Tamzara Armenian Dance Group

Talent Development

3 Creative Armenia

4 Musical Armenia Program MAP
Sayat Nova Competition

Theatre Groups

Aleppo, Syria: AYA Bedros Atamian Theater

Beirut, Lebanon: AYA Vahram Papazian Theater

Buenos Aires, Argentina: Krikor Satamian Theater

Haskovo, Bulgaria: Krikor Azaryan Youth Theater

Melbourne, Australia: Hagop Baronian Theater

Paris, France: Ahazank Theatre Troupe

5 Pasadena, USA: Satamian Theatre

Sydney, Australia: Vahram Papazian Theater



AGBU Young Professionals

New YP Groups

2018

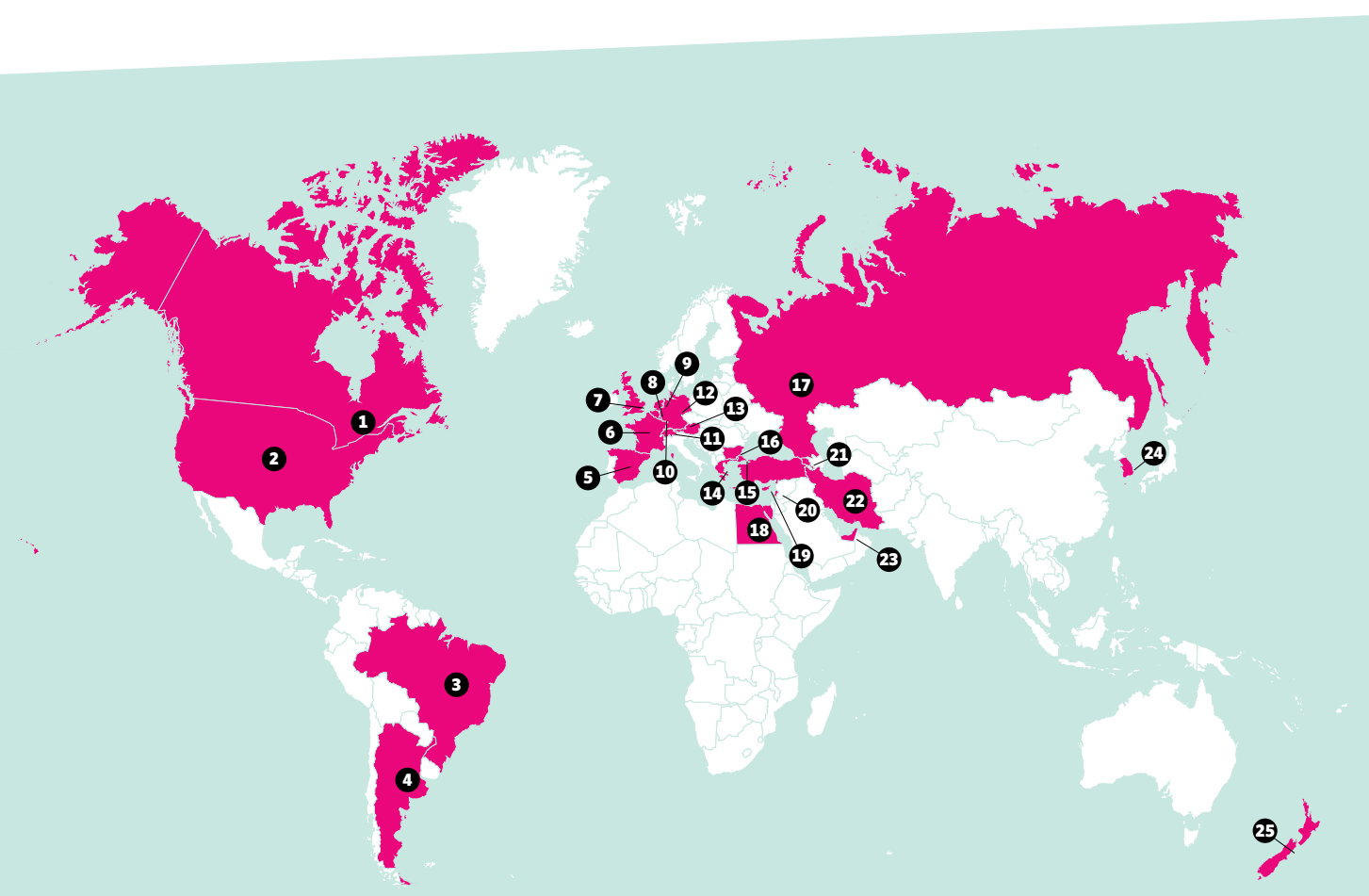
Frankfurt
Luxembourg
South Korea

2019

Egypt
Madrid
New Zealand
Valence
Zurich



- 1 YP South Korea literature event at Yeouido Hangang Park, Seoul (2019).
- 2 YP Moscow #Cycle4Women (2019).
- 3 YP Boston Christmas Party/Fundraiser (2018).
- 4 YP Los Angeles team-workshop (2018).
- 5 YP Luxembourg first anniversary event (2019).
- 6 YP New York 17th Silent Auction (2018).



2018-2019 YP Groups

1. Montreal, Toronto 2. Arizona, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Greater New York, Houston, Los Angeles, Northern California, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C. 3. Brazil 4. Buenos Aires 5. Madrid 6. Paris, Lyon Rhone-Alpes, Marseille, Valence 7. London 8. Belgium 9. Amsterdam 10. Luxembourg 11. Geneva, Zurich 12. Frankfurt, Germany (HAIK) 13. Austria 14. Athens 15. Istanbul (UTI) 16. Sofia 17. Moscow 18. Egypt 19. Cyprus 20. Lebanon 21. Yerevan 22. Tehran 23. United Arab Emirates 24. South Korea 25. New Zealand



1



2



3



4



5



6

Young Professionals Chairs and Coordinators

*Denotes Affiliate

AMSTERDAM

Vahag Avakian

ARIZONA

Zari Panosian (2018)
Shoushan Kaprielian (2019)

AUSTRIA

Dalida Ghazelian

ATHENS

Setrak Abassian

BELGIUM

Nadya Movsisyan (2018)
Gevorg Demurchyan (2019)

BOSTON

Vrej Pilavdjian (2018)
Rebecca Shahverdian (2019)

BRAZIL

Natália Ortiz Hazarian

BUENOS AIRES

Maria Sol Torosian (2018)
Raffi Gechidjian (2019)

CHICAGO

Ani Grigorian (2018)
Tara Mikaelian (2019)

COPENHAGEN

Tatevik Revazian (2018)

CYPRUS

Natasha Der Avedissian (2017)

DETROIT

Naera Hagnazarian

FRANKFURT

Sahak Artazyan

HAIK (GERMANY)

Shushanik Aprikyan

GREATER NEW YORK

William Nazarian

HOUSTON

Anais Babajanian (2018)
Armen Merjanian (2019)

ISTANBUL (UTI)*

Katya Kaya and Aren Semerciyan

LEBANON

Natacha Keuchgeurian

LONDON

Nathalie Piranian

LOS ANGELES

Carin Kellzi and Tenny Khachatourian

LUXEMBOURG

Rafayel Gevorgyan

LYON RHONE-ALPES

Viken Kojakian (2018)
Emma Varosyan (2019)

MARSEILLE

Maral Hekimian (2018)
Mikael Guéviguian (2019)

MONTREAL

Olga Markarian (2018)
Karl Guiragossian (2019)

MOSCOW

Anna Sharoyan

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

David Ojakian

PARIS

Hermine Samuelian

PHILADELPHIA

Sara Selverian

PLOVDIV

Haik Garabedian

SOFIA

Eliza Bakardjjeva

SOUTH KOREA

Narine Haroyan

SWITZERLAND

Rubina Yacoubian-Balyozyan

TORONTO

Eliz Kaltakjian and Nyrie Kouyoumdjian (2018)
Nazig Gabriel and Aren Sroujian (2019)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Vilen Khlgatyan

YEREVAN

Inga Vardanyan (2018)
Haykaz Nahapetyan (2019)

UAE

Arina Maljian

Note: Names without dates served in both 2018 and 2019.



AGBU Honorees



*Tamar and Vatche Manoukian,
honorees at the General Assembly
in Paris (2019).*

AGBU Honorees

2018-2019



AGBU Boghos Nubar Award

Sarkis and Seta Demirdjian

Distinguished with the Boghos Nubar Award in 2019, Sarkis and Seta Demirdjian have been pillars of the global AGBU community for generations. Honoring the legacy their own families had established within AGBU, the Demirdjians have set the synergetic tone of AGBU Lebanon with their activism and philanthropy. Founding the AGBU Demirdjian Center in Beirut as a social enterprise and welcoming the broader Lebanese community, they pioneered a space for cultural exchange and mutual growth. Ardent patrons of the arts, the Demirdjians have invested in numerous musical organizations and festivals, most notably the Lebanese Philharmonic Orchestra. Their investment in the AGBU Manoogian-Demirdjian School in California stands as a testament to their boundless service.

AGBU Boghos Nubar Award

Vatche and Tamar Manoukian

Vatche and Tamar Manoukian were honored with the Boghos Nubar Award in 2019 for their decades of selfless generosity. Invested in community empowerment and faithful to the global Armenian nation, the Manoukians have been benefactors to numerous institutions, notably the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin and the AGBU Vatche and Tamar Manoukian High School and Cultural Center in California. Active in the diaspora, Mr. Manoukian was first to facilitate key investments and partnerships in Armenia, broadening development prospects. While Mrs. Manoukian is an alumna of Aleppo's AGBU Lazar-Najarian School, Mr. Manoukian has served on the AGBU Council of Trustees since 2017 and was elected Chairman in 2019.



AGBU Boghos Nubar Award

Patrick Devedjian †

Awarded the Boghos Nubar Award in 2019, celebrated politician Patrick Devedjian dedicated decades of his life to public service in France while dutifully advocating on behalf of the global Armenian nation. The son of an Armenian father who survived the Genocide, Devedjian helped pass an amendment to French holocaust law in 2016, making the denial of all events classed as genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes or slavery punishable crimes. As the President of the General Council of Hauts-de-Seine, he partnered with the All Armenia Fund of France to develop agriculture in Armenia's Tavush region, investing nearly 4,5 million euros since 2019. Throughout his prolific career, he never abandoned the mantle of defending the voiceless.



AGBU President's Award

George Boynarian

Recognized for his collaborative spirit and unwavering commitment, George Boynarian was honored with the AGBU President's Award in 2018. Engaged in numerous organizations within Syria, his humanitarian work throughout Aleppo is particularly notable. As a long-standing member of the AGBU Syria District Committee and Education Committee, and the treasurer of the Emergency Relief Body of Syria, Boynarian served selflessly throughout the devastating war that uprooted the Syrian Armenian community, delivering aid at the AGBU Center in Aleppo.



AGBU Honorees

2018-2019



AGBU President's Award

Herminé Duzian

With nearly three decades of service, Herminé Duzian serves as the AGBU Diaspora Youth Programs Chief Coordinator throughout Europe and in Armenia. As the founder and director of the popular Discover Armenia program, she has been responsible for introducing young Armenians to their homeland every summer since 2003. Integral in initiating the AGBU scouting movement in Armenia, she has also worked in administering the AGBU summer camp in Bulgaria. For her boundless efforts in engaging youth and connecting new generations to their identity, she was honored with the AGBU President's Award in 2019.

AGBU President's Award

Tamar Khabaian

Bestowed the AGBU President's Award in 2019, Tamar Khabaian was distinguished for her impassioned service and her steadfast dedication to the AGBU Aleppo community in a time of great need. Acting as head secretary of the Syria Central Committee and Education Committee since 2002, presiding over the chapter's Health Care Committee, and sitting on the Editorial Board of the *Hayatsk* publication, she continues to provide urgent support as part of the Emergency Relief Body in Syria.



AGBU President's Award

Monica Nalbandian

Regarded as the "armeniapedia" of AGBU Brazil and a vital figure in organizing the chapter's beloved Armenian volunteer kitchen, Monica Nalbandian was honored with the AGBU President's Award in 2019. As one of the longest serving members on the AGBU Brazil Board, she has supported the chapter's multitude of needs throughout the decades. An exemplar of service, Nalbandian continues to use her extensive knowledge to connect Armenians all over the world, bridging generational gaps and constantly welcoming new faces into the community.



AGBU President's Award

Maral Tchorbadjian

Distinguished with the AGBU President's Award in 2019, Maral Tchorbadjian has sustained a commitment to the Armenian community for decades. Since 2003, she has acted as the AGBU Melbourne Chair, building networks across the Australian continent and across the world, whilst uplifting the legacy of AGBU in her pursuits. With the support of a dynamic and dedicated committee, her leadership was instrumental in raising funds and mobilizing community members to build a brand-new facility, which now acts as both a social space and an administrative center for AGBU Melbourne.



AGBU Honorees

2018-2019



AGBU President's Award

AGBU Buenos Aires

Serving a thriving and dynamic community of Armenians in Argentina, the AGBU Buenos Aires chapter was honored with the AGBU President's Award in 2019. Home to a myriad of programs, a robust scouting and sports culture, and an integrative spirit, this chapter supports the Marie Manoogian Institute, Liga de Jóvenes, YP Buenos Aires, the Global Leadership Program, the Krikor Satamian Theater Group, the AGBU Restaurant, the *Generación3* publication, and much more. Working harmoniously within our global network of chapters and functioning independently as a unifying force in Argentina since 1911, AGBU Buenos Aires continues to demonstrate how unity is strength. *Accepted by Rubén Kedikian, AGBU Buenos Aires President.*

AGBU President's Award

AGBU YP Greater New York

The AGBU Young Professionals of Greater New York were recognized with an AGBU President's Award in 2019. Celebrated for inspiring a unique approach to giving, YPGNY has donated \$400,000 to AGBU programs in total—the most raised by any one YP group—and established the AGBU YP Endowment Fund in 2002 to benefit AGBU Children's Centers, which has since become a pan-YP endeavor, raising \$185,000 to date. YPGNY has also raised nearly \$125,000 for relief in Syria and Iraq. The group continues to work in the spirit of service and mentorship, collaborating with both the Global Leadership Program and the AGBU Central Office, mobilizing their networks to support local events and programs. *Accepted by William Nazarian YPGNY Chair.*



AGBU President's Award

YP Northern California

One of the first YP groups established and a beacon for the global network, the AGBU Young Professionals of Northern California were honored in 2019 with the AGBU President's Award. For over two decades, AGBU YPNC has been instrumental in uniting Armenians across disciplines and galvanizing generations to invest in their identities, both personally and professionally. The Winter Gala, a bedrock of the group's organizing efforts, has gathered thousands of Armenians throughout the years, annually publicizing AGBU initiatives and raising funds to support them. Utilizing their unique location in Silicon Valley, YPNC continues to organize a robust community characterized by networking and knowledge sharing. *Accepted by David Ojakian, YPNC Chair.*

District and Chapter Chairpersons 2018-2019

ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires: Ruben Kedikian

Córdoba: Nicolas Analian (until June 2019); Ariel Vartanian

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne: Maral Tchorbadjian

Sydney: Toros Boghossian (until August 2019); Mihran Lepejian

AUSTRIA

Vienna: Lousin Balmanian

BRAZIL

São Paulo: Haig Apovian

BULGARIA

Burgas: Hagop Movsesian

Plovdiv: Roupen Chavoushian

Chapters Associated with Plovdiv:

Dobrich: Eduard Kokonyan

Haskovo: Srpuhi Derandonayn

Rousse: Boghos Garjarian

Sliven: Arshavir Hulian

Sofia: Arno Kuumdjian

CANADA

Montreal: Chahé Tanachian

Toronto: Mihran Egavian (2018), Aida Knadjian (2019)

CYPRUS

Larnaca: Tikran Kalaydjian

Nicosia: Missak Kouyoumdjian

EGYPT

District Committee of Egypt, Cairo: Onnig Belekdanian

Alexandria: Berj Jebejian

Cairo: Viken Djizmedjian

ETHIOPIA

Addis Ababa: Vahakn Karibian

EUROPE DISTRICT

Nadia Gortzounian

FRANCE

France District: Nadia Gortzounian

Lyon: Viken Kojakian

Marseille: Patrick Malakian

Nice-Côte D'Azur: Chakée Hagopian-Clausen

Paris: Raphaël Der Agopian (until June 2018); Grégoire Soukiassian

Valence: Philippe Panossian (until September 2019); Kevin Markarian

Vienne: Philippe Beylerian (until July 2019); Nazar Tatevossian

St-Chamond-St-Etienne: Edmond Anemian (until April 2019);

Leonardo Basmadyian

GREECE

Central Committee of Greece, Athens: Hampig Sahag Manoukian (until June 2018);

Ovsanna Karayan

Thessaloniki: Haigouhi Portukalian

IRAQ

Baghdad: Pakram Movses Derhagopian

ITALY

Milan: Gueguel Khatchadourian

LEBANON

Lebanon District: Gerard Tufenkjian

Antelias: Krikor Keshishian

Sevan (Sil e-Fil): Varoujan Margossian

Zahle: Shant Tchirchirian

NETHERLANDS

Almelo: Harout Dermovsesian

SYRIA

Syria District: Nerses Nersoyan

Aleppo: Manuel Varjabedian

Damascus: Ara Yacoubian

Kamishli: Zareh Simonian

Kessab: Vasken Tchapanian

Latakia: Nicola Madani

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Dubai: Hratch Borghosizian

UNITED KINGDOM

London: Armine Afrikian

URUGUAY

Montevideo: Jose Geozucaraian

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Chicago, IL: Vahan Janjigian

New England District: Ara Balikian

Cleveland, OH: Sebouh Setrakian

Western District: Talin Yacoubian

Scottsdale, AZ: Karekin Kaprelian

Fresno, CA: Zaroohi Der Mugrdechian

Glendale/Pasadena, CA: Krikor Demirjian

Hye Geen, Los Angeles, CA: Sona Yacoubian

San Fernando Valley, CA: Hrag Ohannessian

Silicon Valley, CA: Yervant Zorian

Las Vegas, NV: Vazrik Makarian

While AGBU has made every effort to achieve complete accuracy in all the content provided herein, we apologize in advance for any inadvertent errors that may appear in this report.

AGBU

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