HYE SHARZHOOM Armenian Action 21 LUB CUIPANTU Year

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Supplement to the Collegian

ASO Commemorates April 24th-Armenian Genocide Day

By John Jabagchourian Editor

ontinuing to remember and pushing for international recognition, students at California State University, Fresno along with faculty, the community and civic leaders commemorated the 85th anniversary of the 1915 Armenian Genocide at the Free Speech area on campus at noon on April 24, 2000.

The Armenian Genocide committed by the Ottoman Turkish Government was the first genocide of the twentieth century resulting in the planned and systematic murder of two million Armenian citizens of the Ottoman Empire and the total destruction of their homeland. Those who survived the massacres and death marches through the desert emigrated to other countries in an attempt to reconstruct lives ravaged by the trauma and scarred for a generation to come.

Until today the Turkish government denies the Genocide ever occurred; however, Armenians across the world fight the cover-up by reaffirming the facts and telling their stories and stories of their parents, grandparents and great grandparents, each of which could be a book in its own.



ASO members gather by the replica of the Armenian Martyr's Monument after the rally marking the 85th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide held at the Free Speech area on campus.

"In telling and retelling of the horror, a couple of things become very clear, first of all it did happen and it should be recognized, and there is no excuse for the Turkish government not to recognize what happened," Fresno Mayor Jim Patterson said to the crowd which welcomed his remarks with ap-

Armenian students gathered around a scale model of the Armenian Martyrs Monument built by the Armenian Students Organization three years ago and pinned black ribbons on the shirts of the two hundred plus in attendance.

The students were out to commemorate and honor the memories of those tortured and killed in the Genocide. The students also strove to bring out awareness of the Genocide to those who knew little about it.

A graceful ballet performance by the Anoush dancers opened the program. Dressed all in black, these seven young ladies holding candles woefully moved in coordinated steps in a dedication to those who died in the Genocide.

After the performance, Fresno Mayor Jim Patterson gave a speech that stressed the importance of remembrance. Speaking on behalf of the Fresno community he said, "It is an encouragement for you to continue to tell the stories, to play the music, to speak the language, to dance the dance, so that we will never forget."

"We are here today so that what happened in 1915 will never ever happen again," Patterson said.

Associated Students president, Arakel Arisian, read a resolution unanimously passed on April 6, 2000 by the Associated Students Senate that describes the planned acts of destruction, torture, starvation and murder committed by the Young Turk government and designated April 24, 2000 as the "CSU, Fresno Student Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide."

"This resolution represents another step towards official recognition of the Armenian Genocide," Arisian said.

City Council President Tom Boyajian who spoke at last year's commemoration welcomed the invitation to speak again, "I'll

See April 24th, Page 4

ASO Sponsors Armenian Film Festival



Film directors and ASO members enjoy an evening out after the Film Festival. By Hasmik Khalachyan-Cañas and Tamara Karakashian Staff Writer

he Armenian Studies Program and the ASO spon

sored the first ever "Armenian Film Festival" showcasing seven young and up and coming Armenian directors. The event took place on April 6th and 7th and was partially

See Film Festival, Page 7

Hovannisian Chosen First Incumbent of Henry S. Khanzadian KazanVisiting Professorship

r. Richard Hovannisian, Professor of Armenian and Near Eastern History and Holder of the Armenian Educational Foundation Chair in Modern Armenian History at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), has been appointed, for the Fall 2000 semester, as the first incumbent of the Henry S. Khanzadian Kazan Visiting Professorship in Armenian Studies at Fresno State.

Dr. Hovannisian will be teaching one three unit course, Armenian Studies 105, Armenian Genocide in Comparative Context, which will be offered on Monday evenings, from 3:00-6:00 PM. The Fall 2000 semester begins on Monday, August 28.

The course will review the

theory and characteristics of genocide, and especially focus on the Armenian Genocide as an example of genocide in the 20th century.

In addition to the course, Dr. Hovannisian will give three public lectures on a single topic, which will later be published as a monograph.

Dr. Hovannisian bring years of teaching and research experience to the position and it is especially significant that he will be teaching the course in the year 2000, which marks the 85th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

Dr. Hovannisian is the first appointee to the Kazan Visiting Professorship, and each year a new scholar will be invited to teach.

Dr. Hovannisian was born and reared in Tulare, California, and received his B.A. and M.A in history from the University of Cali-



Dr. Richard Hovannisian

fornia, Berkeley, and Ph.D. in history from UCLA. A member of the UCLA faculty since 1962, he has organized both the undergraduate and graduate programs in Armenian history at the university and has guided a number of students to the Ph.D. degree and an active academic career. He served as the Associate Director of UCLA's Center for Near Eastern Studies from 1978

See Hovannisian, Page 3

California State University, Fresno Armenian Studies Program

Fall 2000 Schedule of Courses

Course **Units** Time Day **Instructor**

General Education Division 9-Other Cultures

(Social Sciences Area D3, for students using 2000/2001 Catalog)

0930-1045 Arm S 10 Intro to Arm Studies 3 TTh Staff

• Arm S 10 Intro to Arm Studies 3 1000-1050 **MWF** B. Der Mugrdechian

Division 7-Languages

MTWF B. Der Mugrdechian • Arm 1A Elementary Armenian 4 1100-1150

Arts & Humanities, Area C1 for students using 2000/2001 Catalog

• Arm S 20 Arts of Armenia 1100-1215 TTH D. Kouymjian

Upper Division Courses

• Arm S 105 Arm. Genocide 1500-1800 Kazan Visiting Prof. R. Hovannisian

• Arm S 108A Arm History I B. Der Mugrdechian 0900-0950 MWF

For more information call the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669 or visit our offices in the Peters Business Building, Room 384.

Bertha & John Garabedian Foundation Grant Renewed

or the fifth consecutive year, the Bertha and John Garabedian Charitable Foundation has awarded Prof. Dickran Kouymjian and the Armenian Studies Program a grant for on-going projects. Thanks to previous grants, Armenian Studies has

Peters Business Building, which houses the Center for Armenian Studies and the Program offices.

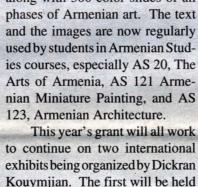
Thanks to the Garabedian grants, dozens of students have benefited over the years from special research grants to work on the Index of Armenian Art, an ongoing

on the Armenian Studies website along with 300 color slides of all

Christianity.

Thanks in part to the Bertha and John Garabedian Foundation grant, Professor Kouymjian will be able to have some free time from teaching to continue to study the objects in both exhibits and to describe each item individually including the complete inscriptions usually found on all Armenian liturgical objects. Both exhibits have separate teams of international experts in textiles, metalwork, miniature painting, and early printing.

provided 76 individual grants to Valley organizations and projects for the year 2000 totaling nearly half a million dollars. The Armenian Studies Program is deeply grateful to the Foundation and its Trustees: Silvestre Arias, Glenn E. Rose, Malcolm H. Stewart, and Dr. H. Tookoian.



Kouymjian. The first will be held at the Museum of Art and History in Geneva, Switzerland starting in the fall of 2001. It will exhibit for the first time the "Treasures of the Armenian Catholicosate of Cilicia." Already this spring a special team of students has scanned slides of the objects from Dr. Kouymjian's collection onto a CD disk for use in the writing of the catalogue. The second exhibition will open at the Textile Museum in Lyon, France on December 15, 2001 and run for three months. Its subject is "Armenian Altar Curtains from the Collection of Holy Etchmiadzin." It too will have a special illustrated catalogue. Both projects are part of the 1700th anniversary celebration of the conversion of Armenia to

The Garabedian Foundation

HYE SHARZHO ՀԱՅ ՇԱՐԺՈՒՄ

Editor John Jabagchourian Staff Jack Arikian Heidi Dunbar Tamara Karakashian Hasmik Khalachyan-Cañas Shayla Srabian Chris Tozlian **Photographers** Barlow Der Mugrdechian John Jabagchourian Heidi Dunbar Advisors Barlow Der Mugrdechian Dickran Kouymjian

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Armenian Studies Program Faculty: Dickran Kouymjian, Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies, Coordinator Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Lecturer, ASO Advisor

Frances C. Ziegler, Program Administrative Assistant

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Benefactor John Garabedian

been able to engage students skilled in computer technology to develop a special site on the World Wide http://csufresno.edu/ ArmenianStudies/. The work was started by former student Joseph Krajekian, then mounted on the web by Ara Mekhitarian, who was webmaster until last fall, when Dikran Chekian assumed the role.

John Garabedian (1909-1992) was a generous patron of the Armenian Studies Program back in the 1980s. Dr. Kouymjian, Director of the Program, visited him on his farm several times, and Mr. Garabedian returned the visits to the campus. During the fund drive for the Haig and Isabel Berberian Endowed Chair in Armenian Studies, John Garabedian pledged \$100,000, half of which he contributed before his death. The Armenian Studies offices are named in his honor and a special plaque commemorating the gift can be viewed on the third floor of the Leon S.

project whose purpose is to collect all examples of medieval Armenian art from both published and unpublished sources. Part I of the IAA, Armenian Manuscript Illumination, has been in progress since the early 1970s. Originally the completed set from all Armenian manuscripts to the year 1000 was issued in a booklet in 1977 and those of the 11th century were published in tabular form in 1979. With the aid of a previous Garabedian Foundation grant, the miniatures from the 9th through the 11th century were put on an interactive CD ROM disk. But the advent of the web quickly made this technology less useful than mounting the information and pictures on a website.

Also thanks to a Garabedian Foundation grant, Prof. Kouymjian's entire book, The Arts of Armenia, published by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon, Portugal in 1992 was put

Louise Nalbandian: Pioneer of Armenian Studies at Fresno State

By Dickran Kouymjian

Haig & Isabel Berberian Endowed Professor of Armenian Studies

A quarter of century has passed since the tragic death of Dr. Louise Nalbandian, Professor in the History Department of CSU Fresno from 1964 to 1974. She was the first to teach an Armenian course starting in the spring semester 1967 with a new class History 133, "Armenian History." She offered the course every semester she was on campus. In the fall of 1969 Louise Nalbandian instituted another course of interest to Armenia and Middle East entitled the "Ancient Fertile Crescent." Later in the spring of 1972 and again in 1974 she twice taught "Soviet Armenia" in the History Department.

Dr. Nalbandian was from San Francisco, where she grew up with her brothers Al and Harvey. She completed her doctorate at Stanford University and wrote her thesis on Armenian political parties. This was later published by the University of California Press under the title the Armenian Revolutionary Movement: The Development of Armenian Political Parties through the Nineteenth Century (1963); it was must reading for anyone interested in 19th and early 20th century Armenian political history. The first woman hired in the male bastion of history at Fresno State, she gradually developed offerings in her main field of interest.

Due to the surge in interest in ethnic studies, and perhaps in part to the university's accepting to offer an Ethnic Studies Program after

cluding the bombing of the computer center, Louise Nalbandian was able to push for more Armehad managed to recruit two new teachers, Serpouhie Messerlian, as Assistant Professor of Foreign Languages to teach Armenian, and Dr. Arra Avakian, Professor of Ethnic Studies to teach Armenian culture.

By 1972 a minor in Armenian Language was offered through the Department of Foreign Languages and a number of courses were included in the General Education Program. The 1973-4 and the 1974-5 university catalogues list her as Coordinator of Armenian Studies. The continued growth of the Program was dramatically halted by Dr. Nalbandian's death in a highway accident. In the spring of 1975 her previously scheduled courses were cancelled. Dr. Avakian had already left the university, but Ms. Messerlian continued to teach Armenian 1A until the University hired me in the 1977 after a two year search.

When I arrived to reestablish an Armenian Studies Program, no courses except elementary Armenian had been taught for more than two academic years. Though there was technically a minor in Armenian language, neither Armenian 2A nor Armenian 2B, both requirements for the minor, had ever been listed as offerings in the schedule of courses. I am not sure if anyone actually earned a minor in those years. Unfortunately, those courses which had been previously listed under General Education were dropped after Dr. Nalbandian's death, and even the many Arme-

wide spread unrest on campus, in- nian courses in Ethnic Studies disappeared after Arra Avakian left in 1974.

My charge was to establish a nian content courses. By 1970 she new Armenian Studies Program. In the first years I taught Armenian language, history, and art and architecture. As an historian my interests and publications were in medieval and ancient Armenian Studies, rather than the modern period. One of the first steps I took to revive the program was to expand history into a two semester course (I wanted four semesters, but there were limits), the first covering ancient and medieval period and the second the history of Armenian from the Cilician kingdom to the Genocide of 1915. I also immediately developed a new course, AS 10, Introduction to Armenian Studies, which covered language and linguistics, history, genocide studies, Armenians in America, literature, art, and architecture. It was the first Armenian Studies course to get into the newly revised General Education program and remains the fundamental initiation to Armenian Studies for our students.

> The subsequent history of Fresno's Armenian Studies Program is much clearer and after 1979 available for anyone to study through the pages of 21 years of Hye Sharzhoom. What has changed during the past two decades is the consistent number of students completing minors in Armenian Studies, the vast outreach program of public lectures and conferences, the increase in overall enrollment, the availability of large numbers of scholarships and grants for student enrolled in Armenian Studies, and, perhaps most important, the establishment of several major endowments. Because of these endowments — the Haig & Isabel Berberian Endowed Chair of Armenian Studies, which I currently hold, the Henry S. Khanzadian Kazan Endowed Visiting Professor of Armenian Studies, the Victoria Kazan General Endowment for Armenian Studies, and the Pete Peters scholarship and program endowment - the Program is stabilized and will continue automatically when I retire.



Dr. Louise Nalbandian

After Louise Nalbandian passed away, a spontaneous movement was engaged to create a lasting memorial in her name. Spearheaded by Dr. Joseph Satin, then Dean of Arts and Humanities, and loyal friends of Dr. Nalbandian like the late Professor Ara Dolarian and his wife Rose, a project to erect a Louise Nalbandian Memorial Museum was undertaken. Her brother Al Nalbandian offered to give his multimillion-dollar collection of art to the University if such a facility was built on the CSUF campus in his sister's memory. A site was chosen at Maple and Shaw just a bit southwest from where the new Smittcamp Alumni Building has been built. The Nalbandian Museum was to be part of an "Heritage Park," which would accommodate museums and other facilities representing Fresno's major minority populations. Drawings and renderings were completed by a San Francisco architect and the project was approved by the Board of Trustee and placed on the University's masterplan.

When I was recruited from Paris in 1976, I was given copies of the plans of the impressive building and told that if I accepted to come to Fresno State, I would have as one of my duties the directorship of the museum. I was also assured that groundbreaking would take place in the summer of 1977. Unfortunately, the project never ma-

terialized. Though I headed a support committee to raise funds for more than five years, the idea was much ahead of its time and represented a fund drive of several million dol-

A form of the project was revived twice. Dean Satin, a couple of years before his retirement in the 1980s, acquired the rights to an Arts and Humanities complex designed by the famous American architect Frank Lloyd Wright, but never executed. It was to include an Armenian museum, but again the multimillion-dollar project

was never realized. Most recently proposals have been made for a Center for Armenian Studies and Museum in the new Save Mart Event Center and a major out of state Armenian donor had offered to making a gift of \$400,000 for such a facility, if it were matched by the local community. However, that too fell by the wayside because of a serious misunderstanding.

Thirty-three years have passed since Prof. Nalbandian taught the first Armenian history course on campus. Even I have been ignorant of some of the facts presented above and from time to time have forgotten her vital role. My wife and I last met Louise Nalbandian in Beirut in 1972. She was on a sabbatical leave collecting material for a forthcoming book on Maro (Mariam Vardanian), the famous Hunchak revolutionary leader. Over dinner at our house, she explained many of the trials and tribulations she was suffering with Armenian Studies at Fresno State. Our only connection with Fresno was the writings of William Saroyan and as we accompanied her back to her hotel in the early morning, we could not have imagined for a moment that we too one day would be involved in Armenian Studies in California.

A very nice photograph-portrait of Dr. Louise Nalbandian hung for years on the wall outside the History Department in the Social Sciences Building on our campus. I hope many of you who remember Louise had seen it, if not, we have reproduced it for this article.

ASP Book Donations

Professor Dickran Kouymjian and the Armenian Studies Program would like to thank the authors and publishers for the following books, videos and periodicals.

Armenian Cultural Foundation, Arlington, MA.

Ghazaraians, A. (2000). Bibliography of Armenian Periodicals, Monographic Series, and Reference Materials. (Arlington: Armenian Cultural Foundation)

Diocese of the Armenian Church, Outremont, Quebec Five religious books

Dundurn Press Limited, Toronto

Skrypuch, M. F. (1999). The Hunger. (Toronto: The Dundurn Group, A Boardwalk Book)

Pavel Kazarian, Yakutsk, Russia 3 Books and 3 Pamphlets

Eduardo Kozanlian, Buenos Aires Video: Turquia, Estado Genocida

Dr. Dora Sakayan, Montreal.

Sakayan, D. (2000). Modern Western Armenian for the Speaking World. (Montreal: Arod Books Mcgill University Dept. of German Studies)

Urban Research & Design, Inc., Ottawa.

Armen, Garbis (Jan. 2000) The Future of Armenian Architecture in North America (Ottawa: Urban Research & Design, Inc.)

Congressman George Radanovich

A flag of the United States, which has been flown over the U.S. Capitol. The flag was presented at the April 24th commemoration on campus by District Director Steven Samuelian.

Hovannisian, Cont. from Page 1

to 1995.

tory.

Dr. Hovannisian is author of Armenia on the Road to Independence (1976), and the four-volume comprehensive study titled The Republic of Armenia (1971-1996). He has edited and contributed to The Armenian Image in History and Literature (1981); The Armenian Genocide in Perspective (1986); The Armenian Genocide: History, Politics, Ethics (1992); Remembrance and Denial: The case of The Armenian Genocide (1998); and Enlightenment and Diaspora: The Armenian and Jewish Cases (1999). In 1997 he contributed three chapters: The Armenian People from Ancient to Modern Times. He has scholarly articles on Armenian, Caucasian, and Near Eastern his-

Professor Hovannisian is a Guggenheim Fellow and has received many honors for his scholarship, civic activities, and advancement of Armenian studies. He is a founder and three-time president of the Society for Armenian Studies and serves on the editorial boards of five journals and on the boards of directors of ten scholarly and civic organizations. He has given hundreds of lectures and participated in numerous international forums and in the media of Armenian issues. He is listed in the Who's Who of the World and Who's Who in America, as well other biographical volumes. He represented the State of California on the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education from 1978 to 1994, and has served as a consultant to the California State Board of Education, authoring the chapter on the

Armenian Genocide in the State's Social Studies Model Curriculum on Human Rights and Genocide.

Richard Hovannisian was awarded the Medal of Mesrop Mashtots by His Holiness Karekin II of the Great House of Cilicia in 1982. In 1990, he became the first social scientist living abroad to be elected to the Armenian National Academy of Sciences, and he has received honorary doctorate degrees from Yerevan State University (1994) and Artsakh (Karabagh) State University (1997). In May 1998, on the occasion of the eightieth anniversary of the founding of the first Armenian republic, he was awarded the Movses Khorenatsi medal by President Robert Kocharian.

For more information on the course, please contact the Armenian Studies Program office at 559-278-2669.

Armenian Genocide-85th Anniversary Commemoration

April 24th, Cont. from Page 1

positive, we turned it into the traits that mark us as Armenians."



Left to Right: Mayor Jim Patterson, Barlow Der Mugrdechian, ASO President Armen Ghanbarian, Steven Samuelian, City Council President Tom Boyajian, AS President Arakel Arisian

support anything that commemorates and acknowledges what happened and reflects on the sacrifices of the Armenian people."

"This was a dark age for the Armenians," Boyajian said. "It is one of the most detrimental things that happened to our culture, but you know what, we did not turn it into a negative, we turned it into a

Boyajian described survival, good citizenship, strong family and sacrifice for ones children as those traits that make Armenians a vibrant ethnic group.

Boyajian closed his remarks by thanking the students for their hard work and hoped for a time when the United Nations, the United States, and Turkey would

Resolution for Associated Students

85th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide

WHEREAS, Armenians living in their 3,000 year historic homeland in Asia Minor were subjected to severe persecution and brutal injustice by the Turkish rulers of the Ottoman Empire before and after the turn of the 20th century, including widespread acts of destruction and murder during the period from 1894-1896 and again in 1909; and

WHEREAS, The horrible experience of the Armenians at the hands of their Turkish oppressors culminated with what is known by historians as the First Genocide of the Twentieth Century, and

WHEREAS, The Armenian Genocide began with the murder of hundreds of Armenian intellectuals, and political, religious, and business leaders who were arrested and taken from their homes in Constantinople before dawn on April 24, 1915; and

WHEREAS, The Young Turk regime then in control of the empire planned and executed the unspeakable atrocities committed against the Armenians from 1915 through 1923, that included the torture, starvation, and murder of 1,500,000 Armenians, death marches into the Syrian desert, and the exile of more than 500,000 innocent people;

WHEREAS, While there were some Turks who jeopardized their safety in order to protect Armenians from the slaughter being perpetrated by the Young Turk regime, the massacres of the Armenians constituted one of the most atrocious violations of human rights in the history of the world;

WHEREAS, Adolph Hitler, in persuading his army commanders that the merciless persecution and killing of Jews, Poles, and other peoples would bring no retribution, declared, "Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians"; and

WHEREAS, Unlike other peoples and governments that have admitted the abuses and crimes of predecessor regimes, and despite the overwhelming weight of evidence, the Republic of Turkey has denied the occurrence of the crimes against humanity committed by the Young Turk rulers, and those denials compound the grief of the few remaining survivors of the atrocities and desecrate the memory of the victims; and WHEREAS, By consistently remembering and forcefully condemning the atrocities committed against the Armenians and honoring the survivors, as well as other victims of similar heinous conduct, we guard against repetition of such acts of genocide; and

WHEREAS, California is home to the largest population of Armenians in the United States, and those citizens have enriched our state through leadership in the fields of academia, medicine, business, agriculture, government, and the arts, and are proud and patriotic practitioners of American citizenship and that Fresno State is home to the Armenian Studies Program, the Armenian Students Organization and many students of Armenian descent;

Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the Associated Students Senate, hereby designates Monday, April 24, 2000, as the "California State University, Fresno Student Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-23"; and be it further Resolved, That the Associated Students transmit copies of this resolution to the President of California State University, Fresno to all other pertinent officials on the Fresno State campus, and to all clubs on campus.

recognize the Genocide so that it would not happen again.

US Congressmanof George Radanovich (R-19th District) is currently co-authoring a bill to commemorate the victims of the Armenian Genocide and calling upon the current day Turkish government to recognize the 1915 Genocide. His district director and member of the Advisory Board of the Armenian Studies Program, Steve Samuelian, was at the commemoration and spoke of the current events concerning the Genocide.

"The Turks spend \$3 million a year trying to convince members of the US Congress that the Genocide never occurred," Samuelian said.

He also pointed out the efforts of State Senator Chuck Poochigian who has recently sponsored and passed legislation to get insurance reparations for victims of the Genocide and legislation that commemorates April 24, as genocide commemoration day. " think more and more events like these put pressure on the US government to finally recognize this horrible act that has occurred in 1915," Freshman Sevag Tateosian said. "Events like this make me proud because it shows me that we are moving forward."

The efforts of Congressman Radanovich, State Senator Poochigian, Council President Boyajian and Mayor Patterson are providing the push for official recognition in the US and hopefully in Turkey and demonstrates that the Armenians' commemoration efforts are achieving positive results.

The Armenian Studies

Program was also presented with a US flag flown over the Capitol in Washington DC in memory of the Armenian Genocide on behalf of Congressman Radanovich and Samuelian.

It is indicative to note that April 24th is not just for Armenians but for human rights everywhere. century, played in the background.

"It was a real powerful moment, slowly walking up to the monument, kneeling down and placing a flower in remembrance," Sophomore Andre Torigian said. "It made me think long and hard of those in the Genocide and the miracle of my relatives managing



Anoush Armenian Dancers performing the Candle Dance

A key statement of the April 24 event is that creating awareness would hopefully prevent genocide from ever happening again.

"We want to tell the world that it is never right for a government to kill any of its citizens," Professor Barlow Der Mugrdechian said.

The commemoration, in following a tradition established two years ago on campus and a tradition followed in Armenia on every April 24th, concluded with the crowd placing pink and white carnations at the base of the scale model of the Armenian Martyrs Monument. While apporaching the monument, a selection from Gomidas Vartabed, the premier Armenian composer of the twentieth to survive so that I could be here today."

Freshman Amalia Vareldjian believed the commemoration was "Something to remember, something that shows the Armenian people have survived."

The Armenian Studies Program and the ASO have always cosponsored a rally on April 24th at Fresno State and plan to continue doing so as long as the program and organization are at Fresno State.

"We have a reason to remember April 24th every year on this campus, and for every year to come. It is our duty and responsibility to honor those martyred and to bear witness to the world about the Armenian Genocide," Der Mugrdechian said.

"Destination Nowhere" Premieres in Fresno

By Barlow Der Mugrdechian Armenian Studies Program

More than 100 students and community members experienced an emotional evening watching the

written comments on a an evaluation form which was distributed to viewers. Comments included: "It was a great and moving film...," "It was an excellent film that really touched our hearts...," "It was an

through vivid and often disturbing photographs, which were taken while he served in the German army in Ottoman Turkey in 1915-1916, dramatically bringing to life the Armenian Genocide of 1915.

Wegner photographed the destruction of Armenians in the deserts of Der Zor, and his photographs provide some of the most powerful images we have of the Armenian Genocide.

He was recently honored at the Armenian Genocide Museum in Yerevan, Republic of Armenia, for championing the plight of Armenians until the end of his life.

It was expected that Dr. Martin Rooney, a specialist on Armin Wegner would be in the United States from Germany to talk about the film and more about Armin Wegner. Due to health reasons Dr. Rooney was unable to come to the United States. Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program introduced the film and read a brief biography of Armin T. Wegner.

Armin T. Wegner's (1886-Schiller Museum and Literature archive in Marbach am Neckar. Only 32 of the approximately 200

1978) collection of glass picture plates and negatives are in the pictures are related to the Arme-

Public Executions of Armenians Armenian Information and Documentation Center Archive, Berlin

United States premiere of the documentary "Destination Nowhere: The Witness," which was screened on Tuesday, April 25.

Audience reaction to the movie was intense, as demonstrated by excellent presentation...," and "The movie was very informative and well presented."

The documentary depicted Armin Wegner's personal testimony to the Armenian Genocide

See Documentary, Page 8

Graduates 2000

Armenian Studies Minors

Chad A. Kirkorian

Major: History Minor: Armenian Studies

Future Plans: I plan on moving to Washington D.C. and working as a paralegal prior to enrolling into law school at UCLA.

Memorable Experience at Fresno State: There is no single experience that I can reflect on as I have thoroughly enjoyed the continuous interaction with other Armenian students at the university. So when I look back and reminisce about the time I spent at FSU, I remember the experiences that occurred with the many different people I have grown to appreciate and regard as friends.

Thoughts on the Armenian Minor: The Armenian Studies program provides students with an opportunity to explore Armenian culture and

heritage. The Armenian Studies curriculum is well rounded and allows students to build a breadth of knowledge in a myriad of diverse subjects. Thanks to all Armenian Studies faculty at the university who share their knowledge and expertise with us to build for the future.



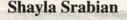
Hasmik Khalachyan-Canas

Major: Liberal Studies Minor: Armenian Studies Future Plans: I have already started the credential program and will be finished with it in one year. I will receive a multiple subject teaching credential. I plan on getting my Masters in Education and eventually receiving my Ph.D. I haven't decided on what grade level to teach, but I will probably end up teaching in elementary school.

Memorable Experience at Fresno State: I have had a lot of memorable experiences here, but I assume that my graduation day

will be the most noteworthy.

Thoughts on the Armenian Minor: I am very thankful to Armenian Studies for opening my eyes and teaching me about myself. The more I learn, the more I realize there is still a lot I don't know about Armenians.



Major: Speech Communication Minor: Armenian Studies Future Plans: I plan to receive my teaching credentials. Memorable Experience at Fresno State: Meeting new people and making friends. I am thankful that I had the opportunity to learn about

different cultures, subjects and topics. Thoughts on the Armenian Minor: I think it is a great program. It helped me learn a lot about myself and to open my mind to the Armenian culture while being able to understand other cultures.



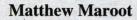
Armen Ghanbarian

Major: English Minor: Armenian Studies

Future Plans: I plan on having a future in corporate law and hopefully establish a strong Armenian presence in our judicial system.

Memorable Experience at Fresno State: Being given the opportunity to lead the Armenian Students Organization as their president. Not only for academic purposes, but also to gain a closer relationship with the community.

Thoughts on the Armenian Minor: I think it brings the Americanized Armenian student closer to a culture they know little or nothing



Major: Mass Communication and Journalism

Minor: Armenian Studies

Future Plans: Soon after graduation I plan to enter the print journalism field, hopefully at a large metropolitan daily newspaper. Memorable Experience at Fresno State: The greatest memories I hold of my four years at Fresno State are of the valuable education I earned, the dedicated professors I was fortunate enough to work with and the friendships I made and those I continued. Most of all, I enjoyed getting involved with many different campus clubs and organizations to make the most of my college years.

I also really enjoyed working on The Collegian. It gave me the

opportunity to meet and get to know many different people and contribute to the production of some great

newspapers along the way.

Thoughts on the Armenian Minor: As an Armenian-American I felt it only natural to pursue a minor in Armenian studies. I enjoyed the chance to learn about Armenian history, language and culture beyond what I already knew. My involvement with the Armenian Studies Program will forever remain one of the

defining elements of my college career.

Robert Mackertichian

Major: Computer Science Minor: Armenian Studies Future Plans: I would like to move down south to Los Angeles. There, I will pursue a career in computer science in conjunction with post graduate work at UCLA and



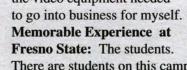
obtain a Masters Degree in Computer Science. My main interests are to work with graphics and web design.

Memorable Experience at Fresno State: It is not a single moment which makes my four years here worthwhile, rather the combination of them all. Being a member of the Armenian Students Organization, making friends and learning about my heritage was great. I was also a member of the Associated Students, serving as Vice President of Finance. This position allowed me to be intertwined with student affairs on campus and learn how to make decisions with students in mind. I have no regrets and I am proud to tell my peers that I will be a graduate of California State University, Fresno.

Thoughts on the Armenian Studies Minor: I feel that the Armenian Studies Program of Fresno State is a great program for the students. Fresno has a large population of Armenians and this program not only has courses that teach the history and language of Armenia to the students, but offers several events and lectures each semester that are open to all. The program has given me a much better understanding of the Armenian culture and my people, which allows me to be a better person.

Sharon Bogosian

Major: Mass Communication and Journalism (emphasis on video production) Minor: **Armenian Studies** Future Plans: I plan to get a job that pays well so I can buy the video equipment needed to go into business for myself.



There are students on this campus that I have had the pleasure of knowing and they are the people that I will miss seeing and talking to on a daily basis.

Thoughts on the Armenian Minor: I am full blooded Armenian but I have never lived in an Armenian community until I came to Fresno. The courses in Armenian studies have been a great opportunity for me to learn about my heritage. I would encourage everyone who is Armenian to take the courses that the Armenian Studies Program offers and get a minor in Armenian studies.



Jennifer Keledjian

Major: English Minor: Armenian Studies

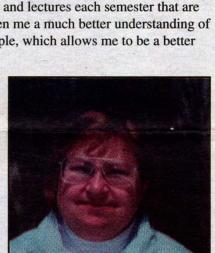
my classes.

Future Plans: I plan on attending Law School in the

Memorable Experience at Fresno State: Making lifelong friends with people from

Thoughts on the Armenian Minor: Being a part of the Armenian Studies Program has benefited me greatly. I have learned to appreciate all areas of my culture and grown in knowledge of my heritage.





Architecture Course Leads Students to Appreciation of Armenian Art

By Christopher M. Tozlian Staff Writer

uring the last weekend of February, I had the opportunity to attend Dr. Dickran Kouymjian's Armenian Studies 123 class, which was a course on Armenian Architecture. Although I had serious doubts about taking this class, I semi-willfully enrolled assuming that it would be both uninteresting and a waste of my time due to the subject-matter. However, I could not have been more wrong in this assumption; Dr. Kouymjian's class proved to be intellectually stimulating and fascinating because he taught in a way that made me and the rest of the class want to learn more.

The zeal that Dr. Kouymjian exhibits as he teaches is truly what makes the course interesting. He speaks as one who is fascinated with the subject-matter itself and yet he teaches at the students' level, so as not to confuse them. This, together with his extensive studies dealing with Armenian architecture and his in-depth travels, make Dr. Kouymjian the ideal professor to teach this course.

When asked about the Armenian Studies 123 course, fourthyear student Jennifer Keledjian responded, "It was a truly enjoyable course. I learned a lot and it was great to have such a knowledgeable professor teaching the course."



Students from Armenian Architecture class gather around Dr. Kouymjian

The course itself focused on Armenian architecture, especially churches built in Armenia between Armenia's conversion to Christianity (traditional date of 301 A.D.) and the successful Muslim military campaign against Armenia during the mid-eighth century. Among other church types, we studied a large number of domed-basilica churches, basilicas, and centrally-planned churches, just to mention a few.

By the end of the first course meeting, I was fascinated by the number of students who had taken the course. There were about thirty-five of us and, to my surprise, many were not Armenian Studies minors. This course usually wouldn't be taken by students who don't need Armenian Studies units but this semester a large percentage of the people in attendance came for various other reasons. Some people needed upper-division credits, some people came because their friends had to come, but many came because they had a genuine interest in Armenian Architecture, myself

included.

I have been asked since completing the course what I liked most about the course, and to that my response has been that it truly is interesting. I would earnestly rec-

ommend this course to anyone who is interested in architecture or interested in learning more about the history of the Armenian people. Personally, I have come to a greater understanding of the contribution that the Armenian architects had on the architectural community worldwide. If nothing else, their ability to suspend stone in mid-air in the form of stone roofs is impressive.

However, a great by-product of this course was that it brought together people that normally would not have met. Upper division courses are usually only taken by students planning to obtain a degree in that subject, or a related subject, but this course brought together students of all ages with very different degree aspirations; this lack of uniformity actually added to the cohesiveness of the group of students and made the course even more enjoyable. Armenian Studies 123, Armenian Architecture, was an excellent course taught by a great professor; it proved to be well-worth my time to attend and complete this course.

Documentary "Surviving on the Richter Scale"

John Jabagchourian Editor

fter the devastation of the December 7, earthquake in Leninakan (now called Gyumri), Armenia eleven years ago, it is hard to believe that survivors who had lost nearly everything could maintain hope through the pains of their tragedy.

Yet stories of people crushed with despair but filled with hope and inspiration were the subjects of the documentary "Surviving on the Richter Scale," presented at St. Paul Armenian Church on April 27.

Araz Artinian, a 26 yearold filmmaker from Montreal, Canada, visited Fresno to present her film, a documentary on the 1988 Armenian Earthquake. Artinian brings to the screen the vivid stories of 11 survivors who describe their hopes and optimism for the future as it masks their everyday struggles amongst the aftermath.

"Surviving on the Richter Scale" is well acclaimed for Artinian's ability to emphasize the positive aspects of the survivors' lives over the negative. The story of Martin Pashayan is an example of inspiration in her documentary. Pashayan, a French teacher in Armenia, witnessed his students die when the earthquake shattered his classroom. He went home to find his wife and children dead amongst the debris. Pashayan was overcome by depression and sorrow; however, he found the willingness to live as he translated for French physicians during rescue missions and went back to teaching, first in tents, and then in the new French School of Gyumri.

Pashayan's story is just one of the many stories providing hope for those still devastated by

the earthquake.

Artinian's interest and inspiration for the project goes back to when she and her father, an architect, would collect articles published in papers about the earthquake. For ten years she carried the images from the news clippings of her fellow Armenians suffering. In



Araz Artinian

The 44-minute documentary was a culmination of seven months of research, one month of interviewing and filming in Armenia and 12 months of post-produc-

Scale" has received many awards and accolades including Best Documentary award at the 29th Montreal Student Film Festival, a Silver Hugo at the 35th Chicago International Film and Video Festival and a Bronze Plaque at the 47th Columbus International Film and Video Festival in Ohio.

Program and St. Paul Armenian Richter Scale."

Tatoulian Stars in One Woman Show

By Shayla Srabian Staff Writer

felt like I was coming home. The ads and the strong influence they first time I performed was at the



Right: Lory Tatoulian as the Fortune Teller

n Thursday evening April 13, 2000, California State University, Fresno was treated to a performance by artist Lory Tatoulian. Lory was born in Reedley, California and moved to San Diego at the age of twelve. She is now a senior at San Diego State where she is majoring in Theater. She wrote five original pieces and performed them on stage at the University Satellite Student Union.

Lory knew at an early age that she wanted to be a performer. "It

Peach Blossom Festival at Fresno State in the third grade. After I won I knew I wanted to be a performer. It was neat to come back to Fresno and perform in "An Evening of Five Very Original Performance

The performance dealt with today's social issues and the Armenian Genocide. Her grandmother's survival of the Genocide inspired her to write these pieces.

The first piece, titled "Simone Catchatone," also starred Rian Bohner. This piece spoke of print have in our society. Lory captured the audience's attention as she powerfully strode on the runway with her outrageous outfits that portrayed the fashion business. In the words of Simon Catchatone, "I am the most beautiful woman in the world, everyone wants to be me!" This statement was comical but held a lot of truth of how society looks at these false images for validation.

Lory's second piece "Beautiful Armenian Girl" was a strong piece and told the story of her grandmother who survived the 1915 Armenian Genocide. In the background a picture of her grandmother as projected as she brilliantly told her story. The piece spoke of the horror and sadness of the genocide and migration to America. She expressed the hope and happiness she now can have in America.

In the third piece, "Hidden," she played a woman with many phobias and obsessions.

In the fourth piece "Hripsime" she was a gypsy-like fortune teller who comically read the fortune, through the reading of coffee cups, of Gina Alvarado who starred with her. Lory gave the secret of how to catch your man.

The last piece "Ritual" spoke of bringing the two worlds together, the Armenian world and the world itself. Bringing together all of the material things, the rules, the norms, but at the same time holding on to Christian Faith.

Lory's performance was creatively done. She gave a powerful performance. Well done Lory!

her final year at Concordia University she decided to use her archive in her basement as the bases for her research and put together this documentary.

"Surviving on the Richter

The Armenian Studies **Church Parish Mission Program** co-sponsored the special Fresno showing of "Surviving on the Awareness Program.

Film Festival, Cont. from Page 1 funded by the University Diversity

Those who assumed that the films were going to be the traditional Armenian documentaries or



Tina Bastajian

films dealing strictly with Armenian themes were in for a surprise. The new generation of Armenian/ American filmmakers presented powerful films dealing with universal and even sometimes controversial themes.

Gary Atashkarian, vice president of ASO, introduced each



Andrew Simonian

film and filmmaker. At the conclu-

sion of each film, the audience had the opportunity to ask the directors questions. The directors traveled from various parts of California to participate in this unique festival.

films were pre-

Vem Yenovkian sented on the first day of the festi- was filled with religious symbolval. The first was a 16-minute, black and white film titled "The In-Between" by writer and director Ara Ebra of San Francisco. It was a post-modern coming of age story from a male's perspective. It told of a friendship of two men and how they grew apart when a woman



Jason Kartalian

comes between them. They reunite after discovering the woman was secretly seeing both of them.

The second film was written and directed by Vem Yenovkian, an English major at UCLA. The 25 minute film titled Ruppy gave the audience an unusual opportunity to be in

the mind of a crippled crack addict. The music and sounds, which were all added in at a later time, gave the film a very dramatic and emotional feel. Yenovkian has been working with Tony Petrossian and Mher Kouryan in making films. Yenovkian said, "We learn from each other."

"Pinched Cheeks and Slurs In a Language That Avoids Her" was the title of

Tina Bastajian. It was the only film that dealt with Armenian issues, but the general theme was universal and dealt with prejudice. The

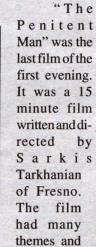
rected by

film presented an African woman who sat uncomfortably while

Armenian voices spoke negatively of her. Little did the sources of the voices know, as well as the audience, that the woman spoke fluent Armenian and was in fact half Armenian.

Armen Titizian

This film was a unique perspective of Armenian issues from the non-Armenian point of view, or as Bastajian put it "Outsiders are very important to me."



ism. It depicted a young man who is supposed to be a good Christian but ends up trying to cover up the murder of his girlfriend.

The second evening began with a film titled "The Window," which was produced and

directed by Armen Titizian of Los Angeles. The simple 18- Ara Ebra minute film depicting two people falling in love, but actually dealt with the complex issue of massacre. This was the third film that Titizian had made on his own after co-producing many others. When asked who were his major influences, he was quick to respond "Hitchcock of course".

Andrew Simonian's 20 minute color film titled "The Take Out Move" is a simple yet playful comedy that Simonian also acts in. There are some interesting comments made by the characters and a funny fight scene. "How much did it really cost?" was a question asked by an audience



Sarkis Tarkhanian

the third film written and di- member who could not believe the

only \$35.00 to make. Simonian was able to borrow i University's video equipment. His friends and roommates were part of the cast and crew, which allowed him to keep the cost at only \$35.00.

The

whole film cost

last presentation was Jason Kartalian's first feature film titled Pedestrian. Kartalian said, "Making the film was a life changing experience for me." The 96 minute color comedy tells the story of a young man named Marty who is about to lose his mind. Kartalian's idea for the film was, "In some ways it is autobiographical . . . however Marty is an everyday man," said Kartalian. Kartalian is the son of the famous actor, Buck Kartalian, who also acts in his son's film. "My father plays the angry investor, maybe he really is an angry investor, he helped me out," joked Kartalian. Jason Kartalian was very thankful for all the help that he had received and made a special note of how important it is



for the community to support art-

The reactions to the first Armenian Film Festival were extremely encouraging. Mariel Hovsepian, an Anthropology major, was glad the film festival was at Fresno State because of the lack of a film department on campus.

This new generation of filmmakers have begun with a great start because they have left a powerful impression on the audience. We wish them well and know that they will succeed in the future.

Hye Oozh On Air

By Jack Arikian Staff Writer

n my house, Saturday is not complete without the sound of Armenian music echoing throughout the house, and my mother dancing to the songs she loves and has listened to her entire life. This is the case for many Armenian households who enjoy the songs played every Saturday on the Fresno State radio station KFSR 90.7. From 9 am to noon the station airs the Hye Oozh Show, which is hosted by two Fresno State stuyouth to be exposed to the vast styles of Armenian music."

The student DJs illustrate their desire to bring new and exciting music to the community with their recent announcement of a benefit concert. The Hye Oozh Show has scheduled an appearance by Joseph Krikorian and the Knar Band on July 8, 2000 at the Fresno State Satellite Student Union on campus. It is an exciting event because it will be the first time Joseph Krikorian will play in the Valley. Krikorian is one of the recent stars of Armenian music and is thrilled at the opportunity to play in the



Hye Oozh D.J. Sevag Tateosian

dents who take the time each week to provide Armenian music for the Central Valley.

The show is currently hosted by Susie Saghdejian and Sevag Tateosian and offers a combination of traditional Armenian folk music and modern dance mixes. This variety satisfies everyone's tastes and preferences, and the show expresses a part of the Armenian culture. The show is one of few in Fresno that plays Armenian music, and the only one that provides uninterrupted play. The Armenian community is diverse in the Valley and Tateosian recognizes this, stating, "It is important to provide music for everyone in the community and to acknowledge everyone's preferences." He continued and said, "Although I am still in my first year with the show, I feel it is my responsibility to see that the community embraces the show and makes it a regular part of their Saturday mornings."

The show currently has three sections, each of which is an hour in length. The first hour is dedicated to folk music, the second hour to more modern music, and the third hour is for dedications. Saghdejian and Tateosian feel that if they can demonstrate an increase in demand for the show to the University, then they can lengthen the show an additional hour. This will allow an even larger variety of music as Tateosian said, "It is important to understand our ancestors' culture by listening to the folk music. I feel it is important to show the direction Armenian music is headed. It is necessary for the

Valley. Saghdejian and Tateosian selected Krikorian because it would give the community the opportunity to listen to something new. An event like this does not happen often and it is exciting to see new artists in town. This concert will give the Armenian community of Fresno an opportunity to unite and get together for a night of dancing right before the summer picnic festivals. Tateosian promises the show to be a success, which means more artists may be invited in the future.

The Hye Oozh Show has enjoyed much success over the years and no one knows how large its listener base can get. The show's success can be attributed to Saghdejian who has worked hard on the show for over three years. She has raised money through her public appearances and various fundraisers to build a collection of compact discs for the show. Unfortunately, Saghdejian has elected to make this her last semester with the show. However, the show will continue with Tateosian taking her place as full-time DJ.

Listening to the show you can see that Hye Oozh provides more than just music; it provides the community with knowledge and history along with entertainment. It provides an opportunity for the community to unite through the beautiful sounds of music. The show has passed its tough days and is looking to expand on the exceptional progress Saghdejian achieved. One can only believe that this show will prosper in the community and will provide us with additional events and activities.

Special thanks to John Guglielmo, **Production Manager of The Collegian** for his assistance in producing this first full color issue of Hye Sharzhoom

Armenian University Students Symposium

Call for Papers

The Knights of Vartan, Yeprad Lodge, from Fresno, CA; and the California State University, Fresno Armenian Studies Program (Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Director), are sponsoring a symposium for the benefit of university students of both Armenian and non-Armenian descent. The attendees, as well as the presenters, will be undergraduate and graduate students. The date for the symposium is Saturday, 30 September 2000. It will take place on the campus of California State University Fresno.

This Call for Papers is being circulated to invite submissions-on political, social, cultural and religious themes applicable to Armenian-Americans today. Individual papers or pre-arranged panels with three or four participants may focus, for example, on one of the following themes.

This list is not exclusive and can be altered according to the abstracts submitted. If you are able to arrange an entire panel with colleagues regarding the same general topic, please feel free to do so.

Suggested Topics:

- 1. Arts / Music / Architecture / Journalism / Media. Their influence on Armenian American vouth.
 - 2. Elected official of Armenian descent.
 - 3. Growth and effectiveness of the Armenian lobby.
- 4. Effect of Armenian independence on Diaspora psyche and
 - 5. Intermarriage among Armenian youth.
 - 6. Assimilation in the Diaspora and its effects.
 - 7. Prison population of and ministry to Armenians in the U.S.
 - 8. Church attitudes: loyalties and affiliations.
 - 9. Church attendance and participation.
 - 10. Ecumenical relations between Armenian Churches.
 - 11. Changing career opportunities.
 - 12. Political situation in the Republic of Armenia.

As mentioned before, the above list is not intended to be comprehensive. We will welcome diverse disciplines and perspectives on any issues related to Armenian American youth. Please submit a onepage proposal and abstract by July 31, 2000 with the suggested title for presentation. The proceedings of the symposium will be published, and all participants will be required to submit a written text by September 10, 2000, for inclusion in the program to be distributed at the Conference.

Please pass on this call for papers to scholars in related fields who may wish to participate in the symposium.

The symposium organizers will help defray the cost of travel and lodging for the presenters.

Please submit your proposal by mail, fax or e-mail to:

Barlow Der Mugrdechian CSUF Armenian Studies Program 5245 N. Backer Avenue M/S PB4 Fresno, CA 93740-8001 Telephone 559-278-2669 Facsimile 559-278-2129 e-mail barlowd@csufresno.edu

Armen Devejian, Chairman **AUSS Committee** Telephone 559-227-1356 e-mail armen@psnw.com

Hye Oozh

presents

Joseph Krikorian

Knar Band

On Saturday July 8th at the **Satellite Student Union**



Doors open at 7 pm Tickets will be on sale May 13th

For more information listen to the Hye Oozh show 90.7 FM every Saturday from 9 am to noon

call (559) 307-2553 or (559) 435-8418

DOCUMENTARY, **Continued from Page 4**

nian Genocide.

Scholars Tessa Hofmann and Gerayer Koutcharian have written an article on "Images the Horify and Indict": Pictorial Documents on the Persecution and Extermination of Armenians from 1877-1922, which appeared in Volume 45, Spring/Summer 1992 of the Armenian Review. Their article focuses on the issue of photo documentation of the Armenian Genocide and includes many of the horrifying photos which make Wegner's work so important to Genocide documentation.

The presentation of the film was co-sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization and Armenian Studies Program as part of a week long series of activities in commemoration of the Armenian Genocide. The Gomidas Institute Outreach Program organized the screening of the film.

For information about screening the film in your community contact the Gomidas Institute at wegner@gomidas.org.



Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program (left) is joined by ASO President Armen Ghanbarian as they place flowers at the base of the replica of the Armenian Martyrs Monument. This was the third year that students have continued the tradition. Members of the community joined in the commemoration.

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