

# Merdinian News

Pursue Excellence

OCT. 2017 • NUMBER 2

## Մշակույթի Ամիս

Ամբողջ ամսուան ընթացքին գանազան ձեռնարկներով Շրմբն Օքսի Մերտինեան Վարժարանի մէջ, հայ մշակույթին նուիրուած տարբեր միջոցառումներով, վարժարան տարի մը եւս յիշատակեց «Հայ Մշակույթի Ամիս»ը ու հաստատեց, թէ մեր մանուկներուն հոգիներուն ու առօրիային մէկ անգակտելի մասն է ան անսակարկ:

Հոկտեմբեր 3-ին Մերտինեանի աշակերտները անգամ մը եւս ունեցան առիթը «Touch of Art» լուսանկարչական ընկերութեան հայկական տոհմիկ տարագներով լուսանկարուելու:

Հոկտ. 11- ին ուսուցիչներու ընկերային յանձնախումբը, տնօրէնութեան եւ ուսուցչակազմին համար ճոխ սեղան մը պատրաստած էր : Ուսուցիչները հաճոյքով ճաշակեցին բրինձով ու մեղրով լեցուած համադամ Ղափաման:



Աշակերտներուն մօտ ընթերցանութիւնը քաջալերելու միտումով այս տարի եւս , կազմակերպուեցաւ Գիրքերու եւ Յուշանուէրներու Վաճառք ցուցահանդէսը, որ կայացաւ Հոկտեմբեր 17-20 -ի միջեւ :

Այս տարուան իրայատուկ նախաձեռնութիւններէն մէկն էր, School Spirit Committee-ի

մրցումը՝ իրաքանչիւր դասարանի աշակերտները հայ մշակույթին նուիրուած նիւթով մը զարդարեցին իրենց դասարաններուն դռները : Է. Կարգի աշակերտները շահեցան մրցանակը :

Ուրբաթ, Հոկտեմբեր 20-ը Մերտինեանի աշակերտութեան համար “ Spirit Day” էր. անոնք ազգային դրօշի գոյներով հագուած ու զարդարուած հպարտութեամբ եկած էին դպրոց: Խանդավառութիւնը անսահման էր, մանաւանդ որովհետեւ դասաւանդութիւնը մինչեւ կէսօր էր : Կէսօրին աշակերտներ, ուսուցիչներ, ծնողներ եւ վարժարանիս պատկան մարմնի անդամներ միասին ճաշակեցին համեղ խորովածը : Սրահին մէջ նաեւ վարժարանիս նուիրեալ Ծնողա-ուսուցչական Միութեան կողմէ հայկական ճաշերու վաճառք կազմակերպուած էր:

Ժամը 2-ին բոլորը ուղղուեցան Պուլկորձեան սրահ, վայելելու յայտագիր մը : Ծաղիկ եւ առաջին դասարաններու աշակերտները ելոյթ ունեցան խմբային երգերով, արտասանութիւններով եւ հայկական պարերով նուիրուած հայ զինուորին : Ապա անոնք ներկայացուցին Մերտինեան Վարժարանի պատմականը, տեսաերիզով մը զուգորդուած:



Է. և Ը. կարգի աշակերտները Էստանձնած էին հանդիսավարի դերը եւ այս օրուան համար պատրաստած էին հայ երաժիշտներու Կոմիտասի, Արամ Խաչատուրեանի, Բարսեղ Կանաչեանի եւ Տիգրան Մանսուրեանի մասին տեղեկութիւններու եւ սահիկներու ցուցադրութեան փունջ մը իրենց երաժշտութեան ուսուցիչի ղեկավարութեամբ: Հարկ է նշել նաեւ թէ սրահի պատերը կը զարդարէին տարբեր դասարաններու մէջ կատարուած աշխատանքներու որմագղներն ու արուեստի գործերը:



Հանդէսի աւարտին տնօրէնուհի Շիկին Արսլանեան խօսք առնելով շնորհատրեց եւ գնահատեց յայտագրին մաս կազմած աշակերտները, շնորհակալութիւն յայտնեց ուսուցիչներուն, որոնց միասնական աշխատանքի արդիւնքն էր այս հրաշալի հանդիսութիւնը:



## PARENTING WORKSHOP

A few parents and faculty members participated in a very informative parenting workshop on October 11 observing the differences between praising our children vs. encouraging them. The workshop was facilitated by Lilit Vartanian, M.E.D, Certified Positive Discipline Parent and Classroom Educator, teacher, and a Merdinian parent. We thank Mrs. Vartanian as well as those who attended.



## RED RIBBONS WEEK

Fifth through 8th grade students attended a very informative workshop on October 26 about anti-bullying and dangers of using drugs. They watched videos, were engaged in discussions, and learned helpful techniques. We thank the office of Assembly-member Adrin Nazarian and presenter Eileen Clark for the very educational assembly!



## KAHAM GAMES

KAHAM games have started. Track and Field athletes were ready to represent our school at this year's KAHAM Games. Pep Rally for Track and Field was held on October 20 in the hall for Kindergarten through 8th graders. The students cheered for our athletes. Thank you Mrs. Beth Chatalyan for your support and dedication to our athletes and MAC Committee! Kindergarten through 8th grades participated in the Track and Field event on October 22 at Birmingham High School. Congratulations to our winners:

### Running

#### Girls

- 400 Meter-Bronze  
**Ani Karajayan (8<sup>th</sup>)**
- 200 Meter-Gold  
**Elisa Krtotyan (2<sup>nd</sup>)**
- 100 Meter-Silver  
**Elisa Krtotyan (2<sup>nd</sup>)**
- 50 Meter-Silver  
**Elisa Krtotyan (2<sup>nd</sup>)**

#### Boys

- 400 Meter-Bronze  
**Robert Dergharapetian (8<sup>th</sup>)**
- 200 Meter-Gold  
**Jyre Avanesian (3<sup>rd</sup>)**
- 100 Meter-Gold  
**Rafael Hambartsumyan (K-Y)**
- 100 Meter-Bronze  
**Sarkis Migranyan (5<sup>th</sup>)**
- 50 Meter-Silver  
**Rafael Hambartsumyan (K-Y)**

### Shot Put

- Shot Put-Silver  
**Abigail Chatalyan (5<sup>th</sup>)**
- Shot Put-Bronze  
**Emily Krtotyan (5<sup>th</sup>)**



## SCHOOL SPIRIT COMMITTEE

The students from K through 8th grade came to school with a very high spirit on October 4. It was an "ice-cream day" organized by the School Spirit Committee who invited the CVT soft serve ice cream truck, which served to the students different flavors of ice cream. The company donated 10% of the ice cream sales to the committee. "The kids had fun," said Ms. Marine Galadjian, one of the members of the committee.



The 7th grade class was the winner of the October door decoration contest. Each student from the winning class received a gift card. The School Spirit Committee introduced the idea to the teachers to decorate their classroom doors every month with a different theme of the season. During October, the doors were decorated with the Armenian culture theme.

## VISITING THE CATHOLICOS

The 8th graders along with their teachers, Mrs. Alice Derkevorkian, Mrs. Sona Kassardjian, and principal, Mrs. Lina Arslanian visited the headquarters of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church in Burbank on October 27. They met with His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians. The students took part in a question and answer session with the Catholicos. Sarine Boghossian, on behalf of her class, asked His Holiness on how and when he decided to become a clergy and if he ever envisioned to become the Catholicos of All Armenians. During the meeting, where students from different Armenian schools were present, Yerevan-based Armen Tigranyan Music School students delighted the audience with their religious and folkloric Armenian songs. Every school received an artwork from the Catholicos and each student received a wooden cross made in Armenia.



## CALIFORNIA GREAT SHAKE-OUT

The California Great Shake-Out earthquake drill took place on October 19 at 10:19 am. Students watched earthquake readiness videos ahead of time to have knowledge of

what should be done before, during, and after earthquakes. On the day of the drill, everyone successfully evacuated the building according to the school disaster plan. Students were encouraged by their teachers to practice the same steps at their homes.

## FACULTY NEWS

- Computer teacher, Mr. Fred Sayadian attended a webinar entitled "K-8 Technology Curriculum" on October 3.
- Coach Zorik Isajane has completed the 34th KAHAM Games Coach's Certification Course on October 8.



- Our Social Committee organized a luncheon for the faculty and staff on October 11 to celebrate Armenian Cultural Month. All enjoyed the traditional Armenian dish, "Ghapama" prepared by our teacher Mrs. Mariam Petrosyan. Thank you Social Committee!



- October 30 was a pupil-free day at Merdinian. That day teachers came to school not to teach but to be taught and receive CPR and First Aid certification as well as to attend a workshop led by

Project Learn Academy. The CPR and the first aid training was conducted by the owner and the head instructor of Heartstart Enterprises, Daniel E. Guezubeyukian. After their lunch break, the teachers took part in a workshop where they learned how to transform their classrooms into project-based learning environments. They explored the essence of PBL (project-based learning) and its implementation for their classroom. The teachers were able to brainstorm different ideas in regards of PBL implementation.



The Preschool teachers had their own professional development session led by our counselor, Mrs. Nora Chitilian. They discussed topics about emotional and behavioral needs of students as well as classroom management.



October Character Trait  
Honesty

## AMAA CENTENNIAL BANQUET

More than 400 attendees listened to a taped recording of the American National Anthem sung by four of our fifth graders, Evelina Aharonian, Sarine Boyajian, Abigail Chatalyan, and Celine Nalbantian at the Armenian Missionary Association of America's (AMAA) Centennial Banquet held on October 21 in New Jersey. These students taped their singing with the help of our teachers Mrs. Alice DerKevorkian and Mr. Fred Sayadian.

## SCHOLAR'S VISIT

The 8th grade students enjoyed the visit of well-known writer, scholar, educator, and author of 18 books, Mr. Hovsep Nalbandian on October 25. During his meeting with the students, Mr. Nalbandian highlighted the values and the importance of books versus the computer. He also underlined the beauty of our Armenian language. Mr. Nalbandian donated copies of his publications to our school and to the 8th graders. Thank you Mr. Nalbandian for your visit and your informative lecture!



## ALUMNI CORNER

**Eddy and Anush (Kiramichyan) Asmerian** are proud alumni and are happy to be able to call Merdinian their family's second home. Eddy and Anush graduated in 1990 from Merdinian as the second graduating class. Through the close friendships that are formed at Merdinian, they kept in touch and married in 1996. They now have 3 boys. Their eldest son Hrach attended Merdinian from Kindergarten to 7th grade and due to the outstanding education he received, he graduated high school with honors in 2016. Their younger boys Vartan (4th) and Joseph (2nd) have enjoyed the love and encouragement they've received at Merdinian for the past five years.



Eddy with diverse job experiences started his first company, in Internet marketing, in 2001 and his second in 2016. Due to his passion of law enforcement, he pursued a job in the field and later graduated from the Los Angeles Sheriff's Reserve Academy as Class Sergeant in 2007. He is stationed in East LA, and on several occasions, has brought in his patrol car and provided educational programs to Merdinian students. Anush has been a medical claims specialist for the past 16 years and is currently working part-time while

assisting her husband with his companies. She has also been an active member of the PTO for the past 5 years. "Merdinian has been an outstanding educational institute providing a nurturing and supportive environment for our family throughout the years. We are blessed to be part of the Merdinian family."

## THE ARMEN TIGRANYAN MUSIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AT MERDINIAN

The Armen Tigranyan Music School from Yerevan, Armenia visited our school on October 31. Seven young singers with phenomenal voices performed Armenian folk songs. The students were impressed by their singing talent and their love for their country and culture. It was great to see our Armenian young children who traveled all the way from Armenia to sing for our community.



## HAMAZKAYIN ANI DANCE PERFORMANCE

The Hamazkayin Ani Dance Group had a performance on October 28 at the Glendale High School John Wayne performing Arts Center. The Dance Company donated complimentary tickets for our families at the school. Those who attended appreciated the program greatly.

## PRESCHOOL

• Preschool students joined Mrs. Mary Saghbazarian, Merdinian parent and alumna, who led the Chapel on October 16 with her songs.



• On October 31, preschool celebrated its traditional Career Day. Students wore different career costumes and paraded around the school.



## PTO

• The second PTO parent breakfast took place on October 6. The attendees had the opportunity to mingle with teachers, staff, and other parents while enjoying coffee/breakfast and learning about upcoming events. Everyone shared ideas and input for the remainder of the year's activities.



• PTO organized several activities during the extended recess on October 20 on the occasion of Armenian Cultural Month. Also, lunch was served to the students, parents, and faculty/staff. Our tireless PTO members held a bake sale of Armenian food items that they had prepared themselves. Thank you PTO!



## PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE

The first semester Parent-Teacher Conferences took place on October 24 for Kindergarten through 8th grade. Over 70% of our parents met with their children's teachers to discuss academic progress and areas of needed improvement of the students.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec. 1**  
**Parent Breakfast**
- Dec. 9**  
**Winter Wonderland**
- Dec. 18**  
**Min. Day, 6th-8th**
- Dec. 19-21**  
**Exams, 6th-8th**
- Dec. 22**  
**Minimum Day**  
**Christmas Assembly**  
**PTO Bake Sale**
- Dec. 25- Jan. 5**  
**Christmas Vacation**
- Jan. 8**  
**School Reopens**

Merdinian PTO Presents

# Winter Wonderland celebration

**11:00 SHOW:** Christmas Tree Lighting, December 11th, 11:00 AM  
**Christmas Boutique:** Christmas Trains, Fun Games, Art & Crafts, and much more.....

**Where:** C&E Merdinian School  
13330 Riverside Drive, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

**When:** Saturday, December 9, 2017

**Time:** 2:00pm – 7:00pm

*Free Admission includes lunch  
All Day Play Structure Available  
C&E Merdinian Armenian Evangelical School  
(Please bring change of clothes for easier play)*



## Meridian School



### Winter Wonderland Sponsorship Form

Saturday, December 9, 2017

Dear Parents,

Help sponsor the 2017 Winter Wonderland! Fill out the form below and submit to the office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Grade(s): \_\_\_\_\_

For sponsorship, your banner will be advertised during Winter Wonderland with the following options:

- ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> level: \$100
- ◆ 2<sup>nd</sup> level: \$200
- ◆ 3<sup>rd</sup> level: \$300

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**CHARLOTTE AND ELISE MERDINIAN  
ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL SCHOOL**  
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