



# Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

## Central Council

Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern)  
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

February 10, 2014

Dear friends:

I am writing to apprise you of a wonderful new initiative launched at the 2013 ACYOA General Assembly in Providence, RI, one in which we hope that you will join us in supporting.

At that Assembly, the *Nancy Basmajian ASP (Armenia Service Program) Scholarship Fund* was created by overwhelming support. The Fund was established for two reasons: to support a very worthwhile program by supporting worthy participants and, while doing so, honor the exemplary service of the outgoing ACYOA Executive Secretary Nancy Basmajian, who left full-time ministry this past year. Nancy had been in that position for a full decade, which is unprecedented in the history of ACYOA Executive Secretaries. As such she's made a profound impact in the lives of many young people, shaping them both spiritually and intellectually.

Her vocation, however, extends far beyond these recent years in the ACYOA. She served the Diocese for 34 years, beginning her ministry doing groundbreaking work as Director of the ACYOA Juniors, Program Director of St. Vartan Camp, and Co-Director of Christian Education. In all three areas, she brought innovation and excellence, both of which she applied just as energetically to her final position with the ACYOA Seniors.

As for the ASP, that program remains one of the proud accomplishments of the ACYOA. Under its auspices, a group of young people visit and tour their ancestral homeland every summer, while on a mission to serve and give back during their stay. Very few return untouched by this experience, as the trip is one that rekindles a sense of identity, as well as a sense of devotion.

Upon retiring and true to her modest nature, Nancy declined any honorary banquet. She was touched and excited about the Scholarship in her name and would prefer that all energies, testimonials, and gifts support its growth.

Towards that aim, may we ask you to consider contributing to the *Nancy Basmajian ASP Scholarship Fund*? If you know Nancy, doing so honors her hard work and dedication. And if you believe in the time-honored purposes of the ASP, know that your gift will help more young people attend and then return, enlightened, inspired, and eager to serve.

To donate, please go to the Diocesan website [www.armenianchurch-ed.net](http://www.armenianchurch-ed.net) and click on "Donate Now." As you fill out the form, check "In memory of" and fill in Nancy Basmajian Scholarship Fund. (Never fear, Nancy is alive and well! Unfortunately, this is the only way the site currently accommodates special funds.) OR, send a check payable to Armenian Church Endowment Fund with "Nancy Basmajian Scholarship Fund" written on the memo line to:

**Diocese of the Armenian Church \* Attn: ACYOA \* 630 Second Avenue \* New York, NY 10016**

We look forward to your response and generosity,

Danny Mantis, Chair  
ASP Scholarship Committee\*

\*Committee Members: Elise Antreassian, Alex Derderian, Shaké Derderian, Diran Jebejian, Lydia Kurkjian Mantis, Jonathan Pelaez (ACYOA Central Council Chair)