



Armenian Students' Association of America, Inc.

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In Memoriam

We extend our deepest sympathies to the family of **R. Carol Norigian** of Boca Raton, Florida and Rhode Island. Carol's involvement in the ASA began during the late 1960's. She served as Providence Branch President, Central Executive Committee President, Convention Chairman, and on the Board of Trustees. She was a devoted member of the ASA and her devotion to the ASA will be missed by all who knew and worked with her.

2017 Scholarship Recipients

This year the ASA awarded **\$102,300** in scholarships to **15** deserving students of Armenian descent enrolled in colleges and universities in the United States of America.

ASA Scholarship Recipients 2017

Ani Avoundjian	University of Southern California School of Pharmacy	Doctorate in Pharmacy
Armauni Barsamian	Dartmouth – Tuck School of Business	Masters in Finance
Karnee Berejiklian	Northeastern University	Health Science
Monica Godoshian	University of Michigan-Flint	Doctorate of Physical Therapy
Suzanna Bezyan	University of California-San Francisco	Masters in Sports Management
Matthew D'Antuono	Georgetown University – Medical School	Medicine
Michael D'Antuono	Gordon College	Math and Economics
Daniel Emirzian	Northwestern State University	Masters in Health and Health Performance & Sports Administration
Mariam Khorenyan	American University	Law and Society
David Mampre	Johns Hopkins University	Medicine
Artak Meloyan	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Agricultural and Applied Economics
Hovhannes Mnatsakanyan	Texas A & M- Commerce	Masters in Agricultural Economics
Ani Movsisyan	Stanford University	Masters in Community Health & Prevention Research
Daniel Ohanian	UCLA	PhD in History
Raffi Wartanian	Columbia University	Masters of Creative Writing



The Armenian Students' Association of America, Inc. encourages educational pursuits by Armenians in America and the raising of their intellectual standards, provides financial assistance in the form of scholarships to deserving Armenian students, develops fellowship among them, cultivates in them the spirit of serve in the public interest, and acquaints them and the entire American community with Armenian culture.



ASA Silver Medal Awards

The Armenian Students' Association (ASA) Silver Medal Award Committee selected eight (8) high school seniors to receive the Silver Medal Award.

The following students were selected to received this award: **Melanie Talin Alcalá** of Montebello, CA a graduate of the AGBU Vatche & Tamar Manoukian High School enrolled at California State University Fullerton; **Gregory Andreopoulos** of New Hyde Park, NY a graduate of Chaminade High School enrolled at Fordham University; **Nicholas Hatfield Hanoian** of North Smithfield, RI enrolled at University of Vermont; **Serena K. Pelenghian** of Arcadia, CA a graduate of the Vatche and Tamar Manoukian High School enrolled at Occidental College; **Syetlana Petrosyan** of Fair Lawn, NJ a graduate of Hackensack High School enrolled at Rutgers University; **Andrew Madanian Reppucci** of Belmont, MA a graduate of Belmont High School enrolled at Northeastern University; **Daniel Yeghia Sarafian** of Northridge, CA a graduate of AGBU Manoogian-Demirdjian School enrolled at UCLA-Irvine; and **Peter S. Taraian** of Rehoboth, MA a graduate of LaSalle Academy, enrolled at University of Massachusetts Amherst.

The **Silver Medal Awards** are given annually to high school seniors who have demonstrated outstanding scholastic ability.

The ASA Gold Medal Award

The ASA Gold Medal Award is recognized as the highest Scholastic Award within the ASA. Any member of the ASA who is an undergraduate student and is at least a sophomore in an accredited college or university within the United States is eligible for consideration for this award. Selected to receive the award - **Janina Aimee Messerlian of Greenville, RI a student at Nichols College**. Applications for Gold and Silver Medal Awards can be obtained at: www.asainc.org. Deadline for submitting applications and documentation is May 1, 2018.

ASA Scholarship Applications for 2018-2019 academic year are available on our website: www.asainc.org. Completed application with all documentation must be submitted to the **ASA National Headquarters , 333 Atlantic Avenue, Warwick, RI 022888 by March 15, 2018**.

Poetry Project

The Armenian Students' Association of America, Inc. announces the winners of its **7th Annual Poetry Competition**. Once again, the ASA, Inc. partnered with the Armenian Poetry Project for the writing competition named in honor of the late Arthur Halvajian, a former trustee who lead its Board in sponsoring the first competition. Congratulations to the 2017 winners and thank you to those who helped make it possible by contributing to the organizing and selection committees' efforts.

Adult Category: Michael Minassian of Charlotte, NC was awarded \$300 for his poem *Twelve Views of Mt. Ararat*. **College Category:** Elizabeth Minasian of Glendale, CA was awarded \$125 for her poem *All this Armenian*. **Student Category:** Sophie Youssefian of St. Gregory's A & M. Hovsepian School, Pasadena, CA was awarded \$75 for her poem *Dreams*.

Honorable mention in the Adult Category Anna Gharabaghtsyan of Glendale, CA for her poem *Fall...Rain*.

Tsoleen Sarian of Massachusetts, Christopher Janigian of Rhode Island and Lola Koudakjian served on the organizing and selection committee. Manoog Kaprielian, a member of the ASA Inc. Board of Trustees served as the liaison of the group.

The Armenian Poetry Project, led by Lola Koundaljian is a research and documentation site of 19th to 21st Century Armenian poets and poetry. Its website is: <http://armenian-poetry.blogspot.com/>

Information of the ASA Arthur Halvajian Poetry Project and its past winners can be found on the ASA website: www.asainc.org. Deadline for the 2018 competition is May 19, 2018.

ASA Elects Robert M. Avakian to the Board of Trustees



Robert M. Avakian, Juris Doctor, is the President of RM Avakian Enterprises, Inc., agent/fiduciary for First Command Financial Planning, Inc. in Lexington, MA. He received his Juris Doctor in 1992 from the Massachusetts School of Law, where he was President of the Student Bar Association and was awarded the Founders Club Award for diligence. He served as a federal court intern in the US First District Court and as Superior Court intern under Judge Robert Barton in the Middlesex Superior Court. He was awarded the Postrider Award for Journalism Excellence as an undergraduate. As a senior in high school, he was a national essay winner in a competition entitled, The Validity of Interpreting MacBeth as a Dream. In addition, he has published poetry and won short story awards.

Professionally, he has served as Advisor Team Leader for First Command since 2008 in Lexington, MA where he has been recognized for estate planning and elder care planning, including hybrid long term care planning and portfolio allocation

balancing. He has been involved in many areas of finance and has worked with companies across the US. He has also been an AVP at Bank of America in the Boston HQ and served as an AVP at Wachovia.

He has been elected several times to local office and has served as the President of the Middlesex Club since 2010. He has served in many leadership roles of the Knights of Vartan since 1997 and has been a member of the Council of Armenian Executives in Boston since 1999. Bob believes that there is some symmetry in the mission of the Knights of Vartan, who also award college scholarships and the Armenian Students Association – but on a different scale. Bob is also involved with assisting the local youth in Boston to enter internships at local companies and in government. The ASA looks forward to utilizing Bob's experience and financial/legal background.