



CASPS 2008 IN REVIEW

COMMITTEE FOR ARMENIAN STUDENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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LAUSD Local District 2

Armenian Educational Foundation

Artists For Kids

City of Glendale CDBG

St. Mary's Church

Western Prelacy

LA Valley College

Dear Friends & Supporters of CASPS,

2008 was an eventful and very satisfying year. Thanks to our friends we continued our existing services and held our first annual leadership conference for high achieving GUSD seniors. Due to the overwhelming success of this event CASPS established it as its newest annual tradition.

Celebrating Students of Glendale Unified School District

For twelve consecutive years CASPS has hosted an annual event honoring all Armenian students graduating with a GPA of 3.5 or higher from Glendale schools. This traditional celebration includes scholarships, certificates from state



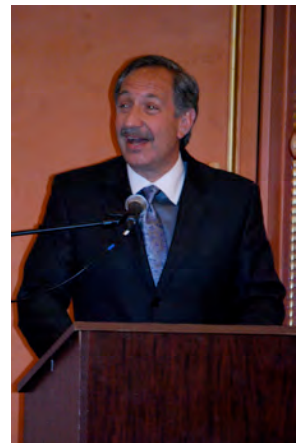
David Fox reading a passage from "My Name is Aram."

officials and an art exhibit.

The May 2008 keynote speaker, Mark Geragos, gave an impassioned talk about the importance of being good Armenian-Americans. He was followed by David Fox who delivered a spirited dedication to William Saroyan's centennial year of birth.

CASPS also acknowledged four organizations whose support was instrumental in meeting its goals in 2008.

From left to right: Joylene Wagner, Incoming GUSD Board President; Zareh Markarian, Chair St. Mary's Board of Trustees; Alec Baghdasaryan, AEF President; Gohar Karahagopian, AFK Board Member.



Keynote speaker Mark Geragos, Esq.



Leadership Conference

On February 16th, CASPS held a Leadership Conference for GUSD high school seniors at the campus of the Western Prelacy in La Crescenta. The theme of the event was Con-



Participants engaged in panel presentations.

necting to your Community. The one hundred participants eagerly welcomed the opportunity to interact with Armenian community leaders and professionals from various sectors such as education, entertainment, non-profit, business, and politics. By all accounts this was a very successful event. Numerous requests for follow up were made.



Pictured with students: Alice Petrossian, GUSD Asst. Superintendent; Katherine Sarafian, Producer PIXAR; Greg Krikorian, GUSD Board President.



Artist For Kids special award:
Haig Dalmaian



Armenian Educational Foundation first prize:
Arotin Hartounian

Second Annual Art Contest

The closing activity of 2008 was the second annual art contest organized for GUSD high school students. The twelve entries beautifully translated the contest's theme: "Across Generations-Honoring our Ancestors." Families, teachers and admin-



Second prize: Shant Alvandyan



GUSD Board President Joylene Wagner and Board Member Greg Krikorian with our young artists

istrators attended the awards reception held at the GUSD board room. The two top entries received scholarships from Artists For Kids and the Armenian Educational Foundation. CASPS sponsored scholarships for

the remaining entries, which included second and third prizes, three "honorable mentions" and five "special recognitions."



Third prize: Shant Seraydarian

Kudos to AEF & AFK for their friendship & support.

2008 Fundraising

On May 8th, at the Alex Theater in Glendale, Artists For Kids organized a show featuring the multitalented Armenian comic Kev Orkian, and donated part of the proceeds to CASPS. We enjoyed working on the project with AFK, deeply appreciated their friendship, and look forward to many more joint activities in the future.

Intervention/Prevention Clinical Group Counseling

This innovative program for K-6 students was piloted in 2000 at GUSD's Muir Elementary School. It continues to be offered by Dr. Ida Karayan and her staff for the fourth consecutive year at Columbus Elementary, and was implemented at Keppel Elementary last year. This program is partially funded by a Commu-

nity Block Grant through the City of Glendale. Through play/talk/create activities, students develop self-discipline, respect for authority, appropriate behavior and social skills.

Due to the demand for this service, the program will be offered at three GUSD elementary schools next year.

Homenetmen

In the summer of 2008, CASPS held its annual workshop for Homenetmen athletes. Deputy Sheriff, Diana Asatryan, discussed the consequences of breaking the law.



Celebrating Students of LAUSD Local District 2

In June 2008, at the LA Valley College Auditorium, CASPS honored Armenian students in grades 9-12 with a GPA of 3.5 or better, attending LAUSD Local District 2 high schools. All honorees received certificates

of achievement, and AEF generously sponsored scholarships, recognizing four seniors with the highest GPAs. The evening's highlight was an operatic performance by honoree and scholarship recipient

Anush Avetisyan. Siranush Manukyan, Harriet Torosyan and Haikaz Yakh-suzyan also received scholarships from the Armenian Educational Foundation.

Anush Avetisyan honoree and scholarship recipient performing an aria.



Alma Peña-Sanchez, Superintendent LAUSD Local District 2



AEF representatives Ara Shabanian (far left) and Razmig Hovanesian (far right) with student