

For Immediate Release Contact: 914-273-0200

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Youth Choir Workshop to Take Place at St. Nersess This Summer

Armonk, NY – St. Nersess Armenian Seminary is proud to continue its long history of hosting programs for high school students and young adults. This year, we are adding a choir workshop for boys and girls ages 13-18. The session will take place July 7 – 10.

The Yn. Diane Chevian Memorial Youth Choir Workshop has been established in memory of Yn. Diane and her love of liturgical music. The four-day workshop will be directed by Fr. Haroutiun Sabounjian, seminary graduate and pastor of the Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection in New Britain, CT. Instructors will include Fr. Mamigon Kiledjian of the Sacred Music Council and Louise Yardumian, choir director at St. Hagop Armenian Church in Pinellas Park, FL.

All students ages 13-18 are invited to attend. No choral experience required. Tuition, room and board are free for all participants (excluding travel expenses).

This annual choir workshop is being funded through the generosity of those who contributed In Lieu of Flowers to St. Nersess Seminary on the occasion of the passing of Yn. Diane Chevian. Yn. Diane was the beloved wife of Fr. Mardiros Chevian, dean, and mother of daughters Alexandra and Kristina. She was a dedicated choir director for many years at St. Mesrob Armenian Church in Racine, WI, as well as the primary instructor of the former St. Nersess Liturgical Music Program, which took place during several summers.

The first workshop will be the first part of a two-year curriculum. Throughout the workshop, Fr. Mamigon Kiledjian and Louise Yardumian will work to teach participants the *Yegmalian Divine Liturgy* in 4-part harmony. Special lectures will be offered to explain the meaning of these sacred hymns.

Participants will have opportunity to build relationships with choir members from across the Eastern Diocese. The workshop will end with their participation in the celebration of the Holy Badarak in the St. Hagop Chapel. After the workshop, participants will have access to regular one-on-one virtual training sessions with Fr. Mamigon to reinforce their learning and progress their musicianship.

For more information, please go to <u>www.stnersess.edu</u>. Registration will open soon.

Donations are still being accepted to the In Lieu of Flowers for Yn. Diane. Click <u>here</u> to donate and choose 'In lieu of flowers' in drop down menu.

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Photo: Students singing in the St. Hagop Chapel