



Hamasdegh PTA Weekly Newsletter

February 20, 2020

Dear Hamasdegh Parent,

The PTA hosted its 3rd annual **Poon Paregentan Party** – an Armenian style Mardi Gras – last Sunday for all Hamasdegh Students before the Great Lenten season begins. Masks, fun games, music, and festivities were enjoyed by all students as the pictures below show! The festivities took place during school hours from 10:45am to 11:45am, followed by pizza lunch and refreshments, courtesy of the PTA. A big thank you to all parents who helped make this special day possible, including *Tanya Nazarian, Haykouhi Kazandjian, Aleen Markarian, and Tamar Kalajian* who signed up in advance to volunteer!



We are always looking for volunteers to help during lunch hour. Please [sign up](#) to be a lunch duty volunteer this Sunday.

Update on costumes: The work on costumes has begun in earnest. We are delighted to share some pictures of work in progress. Our sincere gratitude to those who donated to help Hamasdegh School and the PTA with the cost of the costumes. Any parent or community member who would like to contribute financially, please donate directly to the school.



Calling for Volunteers: PTA has fun event ideas for our students in the coming weeks but we need volunteers to spearhead them; otherwise, they will be cancelled. The two events for consideration are a **bowling party** on March 1, 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm and a **board game day** on March 22, 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm. Both events would be a hit with our children but we can't proceed unless we have volunteers to help plan the logistics. If you are interested, please email the PTA at hamasdeghpta@gmail.com. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Food Drive for Loudoun Hunger Relief (LHR): Mark your calendars for February 23-March 29, when Hamasdegh School & PTA will be collecting canned foods for Loudoun Hunger Relief (LHR). LHR is a food pantry that provides emergency food supplies to Loudoun County residents. All parishioners are invited to participate and bring in canned goods--and other pantry items such as dry beans, whole grain pasta, rice, cereal, canned meats (tuna or chicken), mac&cheese, peanut butter, hearty soups, cooking oil--to help those in need. Please follow the guidelines on the flyer below for the most needed pantry items. Financial contributions can be made by clicking on this link: <https://www.loudounhunger.org/donate-now/>. Per their website: "Help feed a needy Loudoun County family today! Our model is unique. We provide food for families to make breakfast, lunch and dinner for 3 days. Families may receive our service twice a month."

Let us not forget that there are many less fortunate families throughout the capital area that need special help each and every day. Any and all contributions are greatly appreciated! Kindly drop off donated food items in large collection bins provided at the church entrance. The food drive will run from Sunday, February 23rd to Sunday, March 29th.



FOOD PANTRY MOST NEEDED ITEMS

Canned Fruits & Veggies



Canned Meat



Canned Beans & Soup



Cereal



Whole Grain Pasta & Rice



Peanut Butter



Hygiene Items



Household Items



Paper Products



Cooking Oil



Fresh Fruits & Vegetables



Other

Diapers Fruit Cups
Wipes Granola Bars
Formula Popcorn
Infant Cereal
Nutritional Shakes
and Drinks

Pop Top Cans and Microwavable Cups Preferred
Low Sodium • Low Trans-Fat • Sugar Free

www.loudounhunger.org

Of interest



On March 15th, 2020 at 2:30PM at Soorp Khatch, Hamazkayin DC will be starting its first dance class for the **Hamazkayin Ethnographic Dance Group** - preferably for ages in 4th grade and up (adults included and encouraged). Ethnographic dance is not one that is choreographed, but pulls dances from villages in Armenia that have kept and passed on their traditions. The group will be taught and lead by

current Hamasdegh School Dance Instructor, **Alex Avaneszadeh**. On the first day of class, the group will meet for a lesson, but will also use the time to evaluate people's interests, age and to determine the amount of classes needed to accommodate each age group. If interested, please reach out to Alex at alex.avaneszadeh@gmail.com!

Community News

Armenian Festival

A festival dedicated to the Armenian culture, music and films named "Armenian Odyssey" will be held from February 29 to March 14 in Washington DC. The festival is organized by the National Gallery of Art in Washington, the Armenian Embassy to the US and the National Cinema Center of Armenia. For more information or to get tickets, refer to the following links:

<https://www.nga.gov/calendar/film-programs/armenian-odyssey.html>

<https://cathedral.org/event/an-armenian-odyssey/>

Narek Hakhnazaryan Concert

2020 marks the centennial of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the US and the Armenian Republic. A concert dedicated to the momentous occasion in the shared history between American and Armenian people and featuring one of the world's most acclaimed cellists, Narek Hakhnazaryan, will be held on March 6, 2020, 7:30 pm at the National Press Club. Follow [this link](#) for more details and tickets.





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Ունիվերսիտետի Մասնաճիւղ
Hamazkayin Armenian Educational and Cultural Society
Washington D.C. Chapter

Introduces newly formed dance classes of the

HAMAZKAYIN ETHNOGRAPHIC DANCE GROUP



Photo: "Մասնա ճոնր" ազգագրական համույթ

Start Date: March 15, 2020 | 2:30 - 4:30 PM
SOORP KHATCH ARMENIAN CHURCH
4906 Flint Dr, Bethesda, MD, 20816

Dance Instructor: **Alex Avaneszadeh**
For questions and/or to enroll:
email alex.avaneszadeh@gmail.com
Or Garbo Afarian at garbotravel@gmail.com

Important Links

- [Join the PTA](#)
- [Get Involved! Join a committee](#)
- [Complete the parent survey](#)
- [Amazon Smile](#)

PTA EVENTS - SAVE THE DATE!!

February 23 - March 29

Food Drive

April 11

Easter Communion and Breakfast

April 12

Easter (no school)

[Full Calendar of Events \(pdf\)](#)

STAY CONNECTED

HamasdeghPTA.weebly.com
[Hamasdegh School Facebook Page](#)



Contact us at hamasdeghpta@gmail.com

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