



Hamasdegh PTA Weekly Newsletter

March 12, 2020

Dear Hamasdegh Parent,

The PTA has been monitoring the news and information about COVID-19, as we are sure you have. While there are still relatively few cases in the DC area, it's likely there will be more confirmations every day. The safety, security, and well-being of our students and extended community are Hamasdegh School's top priorities. We continue to monitor the coronavirus developments closely and prepare ourselves for a variety of contingencies for the events planned for the rest of the school year. In particular, we have two major upcoming events -- Easter Breakfast on April 11 and Taline Concert on May 16. At this point, we have not canceled these events. But we will continue to monitor the situation closely and make a decision to postpone them in due course.

In a global pandemic, limiting the spread of the virus relies on everyone doing their part: following good personal hygiene, regular hand washing, and social distancing (at least 3 feet distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing). We as a community also want to exercise caution and follow some basic rules:

- If you or your child (or those with members of their household) have traveled to an area under the CDC's Travel Health Notice Level 2 or above, we kindly ask to not come to school for a period of time.
- If you or your child have symptoms such as fever, cough and body aches, we encourage you to avoid coming to church or participating in any church activity until 24 hours after symptoms have subsided.

Finally, if you feel uncomfortable about coming to church and school or if you or your child (or those with members of their household) have chronic medical conditions that may put you at higher risk, we encourage you to take the necessary steps to protect your loved ones including by staying home.

Update on costumes: The Armenian dance costumes for year-end hantes are continuing to come together nicely. In fact, some of the costumes are completed and ready to be delivered. Luckily, a family was ready to help with the transport of the finished costumes. We would like to express our deepest appreciation to the *Derthomasian* family for helping to bring some of the costumes back to the US. If you know someone who is traveling from Yerevan to Washington, DC in March or April and is willing to bring some of the costumes with them, please let us know.

Our list of contributors keeps growing! 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.



- ★ Maral Achikian
- ★ Hovig & Ani Aroush
- ★ David & Lucy Bartamian-Pinson
- ★ Curtis & Rima Cota-Robles
- ★ Peter & Lilian Festekjian
- ★ Ed & Vana Ghazarian-Ramadan
- ★ Chris & Tsoghig Hekimian
- ★ Kevork & Tanya Juskalian
- ★ Irma Kassabian
- ★ Tro & Tamar Kasbarian
- ★ Dikran & Lara Kechichian
- ★ James & Sarine Koftikian-Olden
- ★ Moses & Talin Mousessian
- ★ Vrege & Mary Najarian
- ★ Galin Tanashian
- ★ Raffi & Lisa Tatarian
- ★ Anto & Pamela Tossounian
- ★ Shant & Talar Vartanian



7th Grade

About Me

My name is Shoghig Tatarian-Aguilian. I was born and raised in Aleppo, Syria. I am a proud graduate of Karen Yeppe Armenian College of Aleppo. I was an active member of Homenetmen as well as AYF of Syria. I have always had a passion for teaching the Armenian language. My dream came true when I moved to Maryland, and soon after, started teaching at Hamasdegh Armenian School. This is my 16th year teaching at Hamasdegh. I enjoy spending time with my family, reading, cooking, and taking a walk on beautiful spring days.



A few of my favorite things

Color: Blue
Season: Spring
Animal: Birds
Restaurant: Carrabba's
Store: Macy's

Armenian dish: Eggplant dolma
Armenian movie: The Promise
Armenian book: "Samvel", "Zartok" and
poetry of Toumanyán and Shiraz
Place in Yerevan: Cascade

Of interest [Note date change]

On **March 22nd, 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!



Համազգային Հայ Կրթական և Աշակերտային Միություն
 Ուսանողների Մասնաճյուղ
 Hamazkayin Armenian Educational and Cultural Society
 Washington D.C. Chapter

Introduces newly formed dance classes of the

HAMAZKAYIN ETHNOGRAPHIC DANCE GROUP



Photo: "Սասնա ծռեր" 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

Hamasdegh School PTA presents a Benefit Concert Let's Sing and Dance with Taline & Friends



Saturday, May 16, 2020, 4-6pm

Soorp Khatch Church Hall
 4906 Flint Drive, Bethesda, MD 20816

Join us for a fun and interactive concert with Taline and a special meet-and-greet session after the concert!

Buy your tickets at squareup.com/store/soorp-khatch-church-pta

Tickets \$30 per person, \$35 per person after May 10th.

Free admission for children under 2.

Food, drinks and snacks will be available for purchase starting at 3:30 pm.

Please bring your ID and printed ticket to the door for admission.

No refunds.

For more info, please contact: hamasdeghpta@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)
May 16, 4pm	Let's Sing and Dance with Taline & Friends

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

STAY CONNECTED

[HamasdeghPTA.weebly.com](https://hamasdeghpta.weebly.com)
[Hamasdegh School Facebook Page](#)



Contact us at hamasdeghpta@gmail.com

Please be sure to add [PTA email](#) to your address book to receive the newsletter and all email notices.

If you no longer wish to receive emails from Hamasdegh PTA, please reply to this message with “Unsubscribe” in the subject line.