



AURORA
HUMANITARIAN INITIATIVE



AURORA FOR ARTSAKH

NOVEMBER 2020
- JUNE 2023



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AURORA FOR ARTSAKH



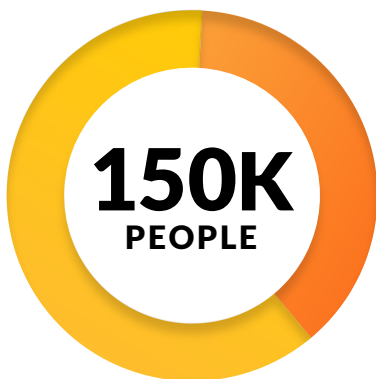
On September 27, 2020, Azerbaijan, supported by Turkey, launched a war against Artsakh, which forced 90,000 people to flee their homes and affected thousands more. The Aurora for Artsakh program was created in November 2020 to help the children and adults facing a grave humanitarian crisis in the aftermath of this attack. Initially set on providing urgent aid to the locals, the program was later refocused on assisting projects that support and facilitate the region's long-term social development.

Starting from November 2020, the Aurora for Artsakh program has been implemented with the funds raised through the #AraratChallenge movement, a global crowdfunding initiative addressing humanitarian needs in Armenia and Armenian communities globally.

In accordance with the updated objective of the Aurora Prize, aimed at directing part of its monetary award to combat one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world where human suffering requires urgent intervention, and considering the acute needs of the people in Artsakh, 2021 Aurora Prize Laureate Julianne Lusenge has also allocated \$250,000 (or 25%) of her \$1,000,000 award to address urgent humanitarian issues there. The Aurora Co-Founders matched this contribution, bringing the total amount to \$500,000.

Overall, since the launch of the program, Aurora has allocated \$2.2 million to support 93 projects implemented by 70 local and international partners. This includes a \$1 million grant donated to Hayastan All Armenian Fund to fund their efforts to provide support to those affected by the war. The implemented projects were mainly focused on humanitarian aid, healthcare, social development, infrastructure restoration, education, culture, and sport. The Aurora for Artsakh program is set to conclude on June 30, 2023.

Further on is the list of funded projects divided by category.



BENEFICIARIES

● DIRECT: 93K ● INDIRECT: 57K

The majority of people affected by the Artsakh war have benefitted directly or indirectly from one of Aurora's projects. Many people have benefitted from more than one project.

70 LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS



- 21 HUMANITARIAN AID
- 18 HEALTHCARE
- 21 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
- 8 EDUCATION / CULTURE / SPORT
- 11 INFRASTRUCTURE RESTORATION
- 14 ALL ARMENIAN FUND

PROJECTS
FINANCING **\$2.2M**

\$1.2M
\$1M

Projects financing through donations to local and international partners in Armenia and Artsakh
Project financing through donation to All Armenian Fund by Aurora Co-Founders

Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh)

- Providing food to the population of 8 villages in Martakert region (2,200 beneficiaries), Nov 2020 – Mar 2021
- Supporting the emergency clearance of cluster munitions and other explosives in civilian areas (15,156 beneficiaries), Nov 2020 – Dec 2021
- Funding the production of winter jackets for the people of Artsakh at the Stepanakert Clothing Factory (500 beneficiaries), Nov 2020 – Mar 2021
- Supplying Yazidi soldiers on the frontline with warm clothing (150 beneficiaries), Dec 2020
- The Christmas Miracle Project: Christmas gifts for the children of Artsakh (19,250 beneficiaries), Dec 2020
- Providing warm clothing to displaced people (225 beneficiaries), Feb 2021
- Covering the cost of meals for the displaced young people from Shushi studying at the Stepanakert Vocational School (210 beneficiaries), Apr 2021
- Supporting elderly people with medicine and emergency housing (50 beneficiaries), Oct – Dec 2022
- Delivering food to the people in the border village of Nor Shen (310 beneficiaries), Dec 2020–Jan 2021

Armenia

- Distributing household appliances and work tools among the displaced families from Shushi (160 beneficiaries), Nov 2020 – Mar 2021
- Providing essential packages for new-borns and psychological support to pregnant women (425 beneficiaries), Nov 2020 – Mar 2021
- Delivering heaters to displaced people (2,485 beneficiaries), Nov – Dec 2020
- Providing shelter and food to displaced people (208 beneficiaries), Nov – Dec 2020
- Supplying displaced people with bedding sets (1,425 beneficiaries), Nov 2020 – Mar 2021
- Distributing folding beds among displaced people (193 beneficiaries), Nov – Dec 2020
- Covering the cost of meals of the displaced people housed in the Our Lady of Armenia Catholic Center in Gyumri for 30 days (201 beneficiaries), Nov–Dec 2020
- Providing meals to displaced people in Sevan, Dilijan, and Yerevan for 15 days (166 beneficiaries), Dec 2020
- Providing essentials to displaced people (420 beneficiaries), Nov – Dec 2020
- Supplying displaced children with essentials kits (175 beneficiaries), Nov – Dec 2020
- Purchasing agricultural goods from low-income families / farmers and distributing them among displaced people (1,995 beneficiaries), Apr – May 2021
- Supplying displaced people in Vayots Dzor province with essentials (65 beneficiaries), Nov – Dec 2020



Vartiter Asryan was born and raised in the Hadrut region of Artsakh, which is now occupied by Azerbaijan. When her family left their native village on September 30, 2020, no one thought it would be for so long, but they still live in Stepanakert.

“We are renting two rooms in a house. It is hard to get used to new conditions. “Mission Armenia,” a non-governmental charity, provided our family with kitchen utensils and an electric oven. Now, I can bake bread at home,” says Vartiter, who is grateful for this chance to save money with the help of one of Aurora’s local partners.

PARTNERS



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Culture and Sport of AR



Ministry of Finance
and Economy of AR



House of Hope



MARTAKERT
MUNICIPALITY



NAREGATSI
ART INSTITUTE
Your Culture Connection



Operational Headquarters
of The Republic of Artsakh
Government In Armenia



Tarazard



VAYOTS DZOR
REGIONAL YOUTH
CENTER



YOUNG TAVUSH
YOUTH NGO



“We helped the displaced people from Artsakh by providing them with household items. But this is not merely the provision of household items. Our cooperation has a bigger significance, since Aurora was the first donor organization, so to say, that allocated funds to Artsakh. And we were able to help the people of Artsakh on the ground. This gave our organization an opportunity to start working in Artsakh, and we have long-term goals and plan to work there.”

Alla Harutyunyan

Vice President, Mission Armenia Charitable Organization

“If we talk about restoring Artsakh and strengthening Artsakh, then we must definitely look into the future and also give this vision of the future to the people living there. We should show everyone clearly that we know what our goal is, we know where we are and where we want to be, how we want to do it and that we work very transparently, very correctly and we use these resources very rationally. Only in this we will be able to join our efforts and to overcome this challenge with dignity.”

Narine Aghabalyan

Head of the Aurora for Artsakh Project, Aurora Humanitarian Initiative

Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh)

- Providing winter tires for ambulance cars (1,505 beneficiaries), Dec 2020
- Distributing vital medication among the elderly (179 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Feb 2021
- Helping organize at-home medical services for the wounded people with limited mobility in hard-to-reach regions of Artsakh and Armenia (528 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Oct 2021
- Funding the rehabilitation of children and adults (5,000 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021
- Supporting the acquisition of ambulances for Artsakh (5,000 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021
- Funding a mobile clinic providing medical services to wounded people (1,000 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Jul 2021
- Supporting a training program for medical professionals on healthcare in war and post-war context (260 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Dec 2021
- Recruiting medical professionals from Armenia and abroad to work in Artsakh (525 beneficiaries), Jul 2021 – Jun 2022
- Providing free orthopedic surgeries to the survivors of 2020 war (68 beneficiaries), May – Aug 2022
- Supporting the development of an orthopedic center project (400 beneficiaries estimated), May 2022 – ongoing (postponed due to the Artsakh blockade)
- Supporting the development of a dental center project (2,500 beneficiaries estimated), Jun 2022 – ongoing (postponed due to the Artsakh blockade)
- Supporting the acquisition of a stand-bed and 10 “Qaylaber” digital devices for monitoring the rehabilitation of people with disabilities (1,000 beneficiaries estimated), Jun 2022 – ongoing (postponed due to the Artsakh blockade)
- Funding measures aimed at breast, thyroid, and cervical cancer prevention in the border regions (7,500 beneficiaries estimated), Aug 2022 – ongoing (postponed due to the Artsakh blockade)
- Organizing working trips to Artsakh for doctors to provide medical services to local people (4,500 beneficiaries), Sep – Dec 2022

Armenia

- Providing psychological assistance, physical rehabilitation, and Christmas presents to displaced people (1,378 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021
- Funding the production of the rehabilitation equipment designed and manufactured in Armenia during the war (210 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021
- Providing transfer services to the wounded soldiers with mobility issues (50 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021
- Supplying wounded soldiers with orthopedical items (300 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021



10-year-old **Slavik Seyranyan** from the Arakel village in Hadrut, Artsakh has sadness in his eyes when talking about his family's reluctant move to Armenia. His favorite yard, his school, his toys, even his bike – everything was left behind. To make it easier for Slavik to cope, Bari Mama (“Kind Mother”) and Aurora provided the boy with much-needed psychological support.

“We help him, but he helps us a lot as well. At first, it was hard, but step by step, we made our way through the hardships together,” says psychologist Nina Petrosyan.

PARTNERS



“With our first project with Aurora we have had quite tangible results. It helped to put the smile back on the faces of the children who have gone through a very difficult emotional period. Now, these children smile again, and they are able to imagine their future.”

Marine Adulyan
Founder, Bari Mama NGO

“Our company and Aurora have teamed up to implement a project to improve the quality of life of disabled soldiers. We create rehab equipment and provide it to disabled soldiers. On the whole, it restores the walking functions, as well as prevents the development of a number of disability-related diseases.”

David Arsenyan
Founding Director, Qayl Tech

Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh)

- Supporting sports and educational programs for young women and children (224 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021
- Providing laptops to children with hearing impairments (49 beneficiaries), Jan 2021
- Organizing Wushu classes for the children in the border villages of Artsakh (420 beneficiaries), Jul 2021 – Apr 2022
- Supporting football academies in Artsakh and the border region of Armenia helping the recently displaced community members impacted by the war (70 beneficiaries), Jul 2021 – May 2022
- Empowering young people in rural communities (540 beneficiaries estimated), Jun 2022 – Jun 2023
- Opening a children's development center (150 beneficiaries estimated), Apr 2023 – ongoing (postponed due to the Artsakh blockade)

Armenia

- Organizing vocational culinary training for displaced people (53 beneficiaries), Apr – Jul 2021
- Supporting a French-Armenian workshop on Dramatic Art (18 beneficiaries), Jul – Dec 2021



Gayane Arushanyan is an actress from Shushi, Artsakh. In the aftermath of the war, she lost her home and favorite job and fled to Armenia. Thanks to the Aurora for Artsakh program, Gayane and others had an opportunity to participate in the Atelier d'Art Dramatique, a project created by French-Armenian director Serge Avedikian to help young artists dive into the world of theater. *“After the war, it is very difficult to come back. It is really hard to shift from one world to another. But here [in the Atelier], you find yourself and self-confidence to go ahead,”* said Gayane Arushanyan.

PARTNERS



Ministry of Social
Development and
Migration of AR

ARTEVA



ACT
FOR ACTION, IMPACT



“The project has 2 main components – football as a means of involving children in extracurricular outdoor activities and bringing back the pre-war routine they had. And promoting sports, of course. The second component is developing leadership skills. The goal is to make Artsakh a place to live, a place to stay and build your future, to see your future in Artsakh, because it is very important for the children to know that people are standing by them and supporting them, that they have an opportunity to be in Artsakh, to play and create in Artsakh.”

Serine Avetisyan

Leadership Programs Coordinator, GOALS Armenia

“Our goal was to open clubs in communities and try to involve other regions where children were deprived of the opportunity to practice sports. With Aurora's support, the Federation was able to open clubs and engage these children, which is especially important in the post-war period. This helps them to recover psychologically, too. And it's very important for them to feel that support and attention toward them.”

David Grigoryan

President, Artsakh Wushu KungFu Federation

Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh)

- Supporting the “Made in Artsakh” brand aimed at creating additional employment opportunities (35 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021
- Supporting the improvement of living conditions and providing assistance to the families in need in the village of Chldran, Martakert region (17 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – May 2021
- Opening a bakery in Stepanakert to create jobs and distribute free bread for 6 months (200 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – May 2021
- Providing displaced families in Askeran with poultry (50 beneficiaries), Apr – Jun 2021
- Opening a bakery in the village of Khnatsakh, Askeran region (455 beneficiaries), Apr – Sep 2021
- Funding an income-creating beekeeping program for displaced families (350 beneficiaries), Jul – Oct 2021
- Providing cattle to the families in need (60 beneficiaries), Jun 2022 – ongoing
- Supporting the reequipping of greenhouse farms to promote knowledge-based agriculture (294 beneficiaries estimated), Feb – Jun 2023

Armenia

- Supporting professional trainings and creating job opportunities for displaced women (42 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021
- Creating job opportunities for displaced women in textile industry (67 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021
- Supporting the development of an online platform engaging the Armenian Diaspora’s resources to mitigate the humanitarian crisis and boost the economy of Artsakh (100 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Dec 2021
- Creating job opportunities for displaced people in Syunik province (270 beneficiaries), Jan – Jul 2021
- Supporting small businesses to create jobs for displaced people (35 beneficiaries), Apr – Jun 2021
- Creating job opportunities for the displaced women from Hadrut, Artsakh by developing the “Nakhshun Hadrut” brand (53 beneficiaries), Apr – Jun 2021
- Supporting the development of a beekeeping businesses in Tavush province for displaced people from Shushi (118 beneficiaries), Apr – Jun 2021
- Assisting the displaced vulnerable families from Artsakh that settled in rural communities (2,725 beneficiaries), Apr – Oct 2022
- Helping displaced people start small businesses (18 beneficiaries), Apr – Dec 2021
- Funding a humanitarian needs assessment survey (3,850 beneficiaries), Apr – Jun 2021
- Empowering the displaced youth (vocational training programs, job placements, etc.) (350 beneficiaries), May 2021 – Jun 2022
- Supporting entrepreneurial projects for wounded soldiers (8 beneficiaries), Jul – Nov 2021
- Funding a social enterprise promoting eco-friendly fuel alternatives in the border communities (364 beneficiaries estimated), Apr 2023 – ongoing



Arsen Hayrapetov was the head of the Jraghatsner village in Askeran region, Artsakh, which is now under control of the Azerbaijani military forces. Having been displaced from their own home, Arsen and his family moved to the Khnatsakh village in Artsakh. One of the things they missed the most was the smell of homemade bread baked in “tonir” (a traditional oven built in the ground).

Arsen decided to open the first and the only bakery in the village to make it a source of income. He was able to do that with support from the Aurora for Artsakh program and “Love Does,” its international partner.

“As a displaced person, I can imagine what kind of difficulties other displaced families go through. And this bakery will be a big help not only for my family, but also for others, as I’m going to prioritize the employment of displaced people to work in this bakery,” explains Arsen Hayrapetov.

PARTNERS



Support Fund of Village
and Agriculture of the AR



DE-OCCUPATION
OF HADRUT NGO



FOR ARTSAKH
National Movement



JRAGHATSNER
Charitable Foundation



SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES



Tikoong
Initiative Group



“With the support of the Aurora Humanitarian Initiative, Hay Mayrer (Armenian Mothers) NGO helped women from Hadrut that have lost their homes and livelihoods to gain new skills and get back on their feet again. We helped these displaced women by teaching them to become nail technicians, as well as providing them with necessary basic tools, so that immediately after they completed the training, they were able to apply their skills and knowledge to generate sustainable income for their families.”

Sahakanuysh Poghosyan
PR Manager, Hay Mayrer NGO

“The goal is to make sure Artsakh develops proportionately and resources aren't concentrated in one place only and aren't making the development disproportionate. The social sector is especially sensitive to this. Every mistake in social affairs immediately affects people's lives. To me, the most important thing is that social sector is not marginalized in Artsakh.”

Mira Antonyan
Chair, Armenian Association of Social Workers
Executive Director, Children Support Center-Foundation, FAR

Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh)

- Supporting the renovation of several houses (5 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021
- Covering the repair cost of an electric generator and an X-ray machine in the Stepanakert Republican Hospital (17,500 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021
- Refurbishing a kindergarten in Stepanakert hosting the displaced children from Shushi (140 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – Mar 2021
- Supporting the restoration of a hospital in Martakert (number of beneficiaries is confidential), Dec 2020 – Apr 2021
- Helping restore the infrastructure of the Martuni City Hall (5,000 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – May 2021
- Covering the restoration of School №2 in Martuni (1,400 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – May 2021
- Supporting the restoration of School №1 in Martakert (2,100 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – May 2021
- Helping restore Kindergarten №3 in Stepanakert (455 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – May 2021
- Refurbishing schools in Stepanakert (4,375 beneficiaries), Dec 2020 – May 2021
- Restoring water supply in the village of Taghavard, Martuni region (400 beneficiaries), Apr – Jul 2021
- Supporting the renovation of the hospital in Chartar, Martuni region (5,000 beneficiaries), Apr – Jul 2021



Before the 2020 war in Artsakh, 111 children attended the **Kindergarten N3 in Stepanakert**. Now, 150 children spend their day there. The kindergarten welcomes children from displaced families and families affected by the war.

Thanks to the support of the Aurora Humanitarian Initiative, Stepanakert City Hall improved the conditions in the kindergarten, so that the children could still have a happy childhood and their smiles continued to brighten up the world.

PARTNERS



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MARTUNI
MUNICIPALITY



STEPANAKERT CITY
ADMINISTRATION

STEPANAKERT REPUBLICAN
MEDICAL CENTER



WE ARE
ARMENIANS

“Given the fact that Martakert, the city of Martakert is today twice as far from Stepanakert as it used to be in terms of driving distance, it’s critically important that the hospital is not only renovated but also medically equipped with the necessary equipment, which it wasn’t before the war. So, we believe that there is more to be done at the Martakert Military Hospital to make sure it serves not only the military itself and the military families but also the general population.”

Vicken Arabian
Support Our Heroes NGO

“As someone from Artsakh and as a representative of the Artsakh Government, I would like to thank you for your heart that beats for that piece of our homeland, too. I am grateful to Aurora and all participants for their efforts to help Artsakh.”

Artak Beglaryan
Former Chief of Staff of the President of the Artsakh Republic



The Afeyan, Gregorian and Vardanyan families have donated \$1 million to Hayastan All Armenian Fund to cover the immediate humanitarian needs in Armenia and Artsakh and to provide support to all people affected by the war. The projects listed below* were selected and implemented by the Hayastan All Armenian Fund from November 2020 to February 2021.

Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh)

- Providing shelter and gas canisters for cooking to displaced people (1,300 beneficiaries)
- Supplying temporary shelters for displaced people in Artsakh with furniture (3,200 beneficiaries)
- Delivering heaters to displaced people (2,150 beneficiaries)
- Distributing hygiene product packs and supplies among displaced people in Artsakh and Armenia (500 beneficiaries)
- Providing light bulbs (3,000 beneficiaries)
- Delivering diesel generators to communities without electricity (5,000 beneficiaries)

* Based on the report provided by the Hayastan AAF in March 2021.

Armenia

- Giving displaced people from Hadrut shelter in Yerevan (126 beneficiaries)
- Providing Christmas mood packages to displaced people in Martuni and Vardenis (2,335 beneficiaries)
- Installing heating and delivering beds to temporary shelters for displaced people in Goris (600 beneficiaries)
- Distributing warm blankets among displaced people (929 beneficiaries)
- Providing psychological support to servicemen and their families (3,500 beneficiaries)
- Organizing a theatre performance and entertainment for displaced children in Armenia (1,000 beneficiaries)
- Providing tools and materials for lower limb prosthetics (700 beneficiaries)
- Transporting displaced people and their possessions (825 beneficiaries)



THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

June 2023

Noubar & Anna Afeyan
Zaven Atabekyan
Baghdassarian Family
Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation
Vladimir Chirakhov
Mikhail Davidyants
Jacques Der Megreditchian
Vartan Gregorian
Charles-Antoine Janssen
Foundation Jean-Francois

Rafik Khatchaturian
Kouyoumdjian Family
Toros H. Mangassarian
Tigran Matinyan
Vahik Meserkhani
Mkhitar Mkhitarants
Sumbat Oganov
Armen Panossian
Vahik & Alice Petrossian
Oleg Pukhov

Anton Sahazizyan
Saint Sarkis Charity Trust
David Vardanyan
Ruben Vardanyan & Veronika Zonabend
Isaac & Freida Vartanian
Davit & Mikhail Yakobashvili
Jeanette Zakari
Robert Zakari

Yelena Abovyan
Hoa Binh Adjemian
Artem Agabekov
Ara Arakelian
Araks Arakelyan
Anoush Atabekyan
Anthony Barsamian
Housep & Elizabeth Boyajian
Albert & Diane Cabraloff
Alain Chaglassian
Charities Aid Foundation America
Vatche & Lena Farmanian
Pierre Gurdjian

Gerard Kassabian
Artem Konstandian
Mikhail Kusnirovich
Elena Lileeva
Grigori Lobanov
Roupen Noubar Mangasaryan
Vazgen Mazanians
Meet for Charity
Armen Khatchatourian &
Maria Mehranian
Garnik Meliksetyan
Frank Melkonian
Marietta Mikaelian

Monarch Apparel Group Inc
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Nicola Stanisch
Together for a Greater Armenia
Greg & Caroline Tufenkian
Vahag Hambarsumian & Seda Yaghoubian

Gabriel Abad
Konstantin Abaryants
Karen Abgaryan
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Movses Abrahamyan
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Zorayr Apresyan

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Arsen Arsenian
Deana Arsenian
Mikayel Arsenyan
Marat Arutyunyan
Yervand Arzakanyan
Artur Asiryan
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Sarkis Asratyan
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Ara Asryan

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Aram Avagyan
Marine Avagyan
Kim Avanesyan
Seyran Aveg
Oksana Averba
Arevik Avetisyan
Hayarpi Avetisyan
Telman Avetisyan
Vardan Avetisyan
Anna Ayyazova
Ani Babayan
Tigran Babayan

We also acknowledge the support of the contributors who choose to remain anonymous.

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

June 2023

Tigran Babayan	Dilijan UWC students	Artur Grigoryan	Khachatur Julfakyan
Viken & Lisa Babikian	Alex Dimitriou	Lyusine Grigoryan	Varduhi Julhakyan
Nicole Babikian Hajjar	Ellen Dingizian	Mery Grigoryan	Aram Kagramanov
Araksya Babikyan	Yelena Drampyan	Armine Guledjian	Vyacheslav Kaplunencko
Rafael Babikyan	Norayr Dunamalyan	Artur Gulumyan	Narek Karakhanyan
Vagan Babloyan	Armen Dzhangiryan	Maria Gusarova	Alexandr Karamian
Inna Badalyan	Armen Dzhigarkhanyan	Elena Guseva	Ovsanna Karamyan
Gyulvard Bagaryan	Caroline Ebrahimi	Hakob Gzraryan	Artur Karapetyan
Artak Bagdasaryan	Haykaz Eghikyan	Astkhik Hakhverdyan	Tamara Kasparova
Zarig Baghdadlian	Yulia Egorova	Any Hakobyan	Alexey Kavun
Alexey Baghdasaryan	Hasmig Eskandarian	Garik Hakobyan	Zorik Kazarian
David Baghdasaryan	Anastasia Fadeeva	Sos Hakobyan	Armen Kazaryan
Zhenya Baghdasaryan	Konstantin Fantomas	Spartak Hakobyan	Garik Kazaryan
Suren Bagramyan	Sergey Filimonov	Vladimir Hakobyan	Mikael Kazaryan
Yuriy Baluyan	Bert Frankian	Arsen Hakopyants	Mikhail Kazaryan
Petros Balyan	Irina Frolova	Lilit Hambardzumyan	Lucy Kearsley
Hovsep Barseghyan	Vilen Garamov	Melissa Hanak	Lori Kechter
Vergine Barsoumian	Svetlana Garipova	Artak Hanesyan	Ruslan Keshishyan
Yulia Baytalyuk	Gor Gevorgian	Nune Haroyan	Gaik Khachatryan
Mary Jo Bazarian Murray	Alisa Gevorgyan	Piruzha Harutjunjan	Karen Khachatryan
Naira Begrakyen	Artyom Gevorgyan	David Harutyunyan	Varduhi Khachatryan
Evgeniy Belenkiy	Ashot Gevorgyan	Gaya Harutyunyan	Karen Khachaturian
Elena Belevantseva	Hamlet Gevorgyan	Margarit Harutyunyan	Elena Khachvankyan
Vadim Bogatyrev	Levon Gevorgyan	Lilit Hayrapetyan	Rafael Khechoyan
Maria Bukley	Madlena Gevorgyan	Zaruhi Hayrapetyan	Aram Khojayan
Jorge Joao Burunzuzian	Nune Gevorgyan	Varuzhan Hovakimyan	Anastasia Khomyakova
Mikhail Butyugin	Susanna Gevorgyan	Hovnan Hovhannisyan	Ashot Khrimian
Gayane Bznuni	Eduard Gevorkyan	Mher Hovhannisyan	Christopher Kibarian
Aram Chakryan	Gevorg Gevorkyan	Maria Hovsepyan	Aleksandr Kim
Inessa Chilingaryan	Elina Geyvandova	Grigor Igitbashyan	Daria Kirilkina
Amalya Chobanyan	Arpenik Ghahriyan	Irina Ikonnikova	Marina Kirsanova
Anaida Dadayan	Lusine Gharamyan	Indian Cultural Information and Trainig Centre LLC	Maksim Kitaitsev
Artur Danielyan	Salpi Ghazarian	Elina Ismunts	Maro Kochinyan
Georgiy Danielyan	Garik Ghazaryan	Akop Ispirian	Galust Kochiyan
Tigran Danielyan	Ghukas & Knarik Ghazaryan	Hakob Ispiryan	Mariya Kogan
Lusine Darchinyan	Sahak Ghazaryan	Galina Ivanova	Greg Kokino
Diana Davidova	Varuzhan Ghazaryan	Lilit Ivanyan	Olga Komissarova
Virginia L. Davies	Hovhannes Ghumashyan	Armen Jamkotchian	Natalia Komrakova
Karen Davtian	Neal & Norma Gordon	Karen Jehanian	Vladimir Koptev
Ani Davtyan	Victoria Gorlacheva	Arman Jilavian	Ivan Kopytov
Aram Davtyan	Eva Grabskaya	Avag Jomardyan	Aleksandr Korolev
Norayr Davtyan	Mery Grigoreva	Armen Julakyan	Alexey Krivoruchko
Olga Degtyareva	Artashes Grigoryan		Petr Kruglov
Lilit DerKevorkian			Meelis Kubits

We also acknowledge the support of the contributors who choose to remain anonymous.

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

June 2023

Lubov Kurnikova
Andrew & Marous Lais
Alexey Lebedev
Sabina Levanova
Al Loehnis
Tatiana Lopareva
Anna Lord
Andrey Loshak
Nvard Lotfi
Levon Mailyan
Artyom Artur Makaryan
Eleonora Malkhasyan
Elena Malykhina
Ina Mandre
John Manirakiza
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Ani Mnatsakanyan
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*We also acknowledge
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