



ORRAN BENEVOLENT NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

"HELPING FAMILIES IN NEED"

DECEMBER 2013

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ORRAN'S EIGHTH ANNUAL BANQUET



Mr. and Mrs. Ralph and Armik Yirikian

On October 18, 2013, Orran held its 8th annual fundraising gala dinner at the Armenia Marriott Hotel. Over \$180,000 was raised through the contributions of our generous donors including VivaCell MTS, Ralph and Armik Yirikian's children Narek and Sarin, Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company, HSBC Bank, Mr. and Mrs. Garegin and Maral Odabashian, Krikor Krikorian, Vardan Kirkikian, Vahe Keushguerian, Mary Kaye, Kanaka Construction Company, Mr. and Mrs. Vahan and Charlotte Zanoian and Hirair and Anna Hovnanian.



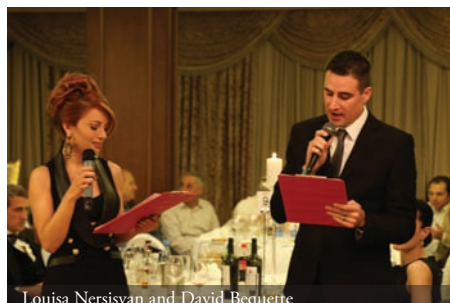
Mr. and Mrs. Garegin and Maral Odabashian

The guest list was sparkling with names of artists, representatives of the diplomatic corps, notable companies and old friends of Orran. The master and mistress of ceremonies were David Bequette, Director of ONE Armenia, and Louisa Nersisyan, a popular actress. Orran Board of Directors members Gagik Danielyan, CEO of Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company and Myrna Mugrdichyan Techler welcomed the guests. After the blessing of the table by Father Krikor, the guests enjoyed delicious food repre-



Vahan Zanoian

sented the Silk Road prepared by Chef Gerber of the Marriott Hotel. Anna Parsamyan on the piano and Manan Garoukian on the violin played beautiful music accompanying the dinner. Remarks were delivered by Krikor Krikorian, one of the principal benefactors of Orran and Financial Director and Advisor to the Board, and Mr. Ralph Yirikian, General Manager of VivaCell MTS.



Louisa Nersisyan and David Bequette

The evening's highlight was the story told by Arthur Sukiassyan. With the assistance of slide photographs, Arthur traced his life story of 29 years. He was 15 when he met Armine Hovannisian in a park where he was selling flowers. That autumn day came to change his life. He and his then living physically handicapped mother were gifted a home by Orran and more importantly embraced by Orran where he learned to read and write. Later as Arthur graduated school, he was coupled with a master to learn hairdressing. He makes enough money practicing his trade to take care of his needs. However, Arthur has bigger dreams, the dream of becoming an actor. And so he auditioned for the theatrical institute and was admitted as a student. Orran was and is there for him paying his tuition to make sure that Arthur reaches for the stars he desires.



Arev Petrosyan and Gagik Danielyan

Before the start of the auction, Orran Board of Director members Thies Clemenz, CEO of HSBC Bank Armenia, and Miriam Clemenz presented a khatchkar prepared by the Orran chil-

dren to long time friends Jonathan Stark and Ani Matevosyan, founders of Resolution Insurance Brokers LLC.



Thies Clemenz, Jonathan Stark and Manana Mananyan

The couple started a dynamic duo of an auction never before seen by Orran. At times, Mr. Ralph Yirikian would interrupt to make a call to the guests to consider giving to the needy children of Orran.

The items on the auction list were:

- Chest made by Orran children
- Tile Mosaic donated by Mane Tiles
- An opportunity to commission a painting by Arthur Sarkissian
- Painting on Silk by Nune Aghbalyan
- Two days stay voucher for two people at the Armenia Marriott Hotel
- Two days stay voucher for two people at the Armenia Marriott of Tsaghkatzor
- Cognac Erebouni by Yerevan Brandy Company donated by the Company
- Plate Art by Arev Petrosyan



Krikor Krikorian

A very unique item that the guests could purchase was an opportunity to spend a magical evening at the garden of Kuwaiti Ambassador H.E. Mr. Bassam M. Al-Qabandi and his wife Maha, enjoying a delicious barbecue prepared by Mr. Ralph Yirikian.

The evening was concluded with dancing led by Gagik Ginosyan and friends.

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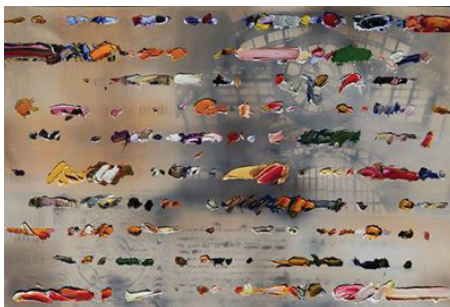
SYMPATHIES

We express our condolences to the families for the loss of their loved ones and thank them for remembering Orran in their hour of need. Donations in lieu of flowers were received in memory of

Hakop Barseghian
Yeranuhi Barseghian
Marusya Arakelian
Mare Agazaryan
Cleo Cafesjian
Ania Atomian
Anna Dirmandzhyan
Patricia Ekizian
Hripsime Ourtalian
Vivian Margossian

We also join the many family members and friends in mourning the early passing away of Christian Shahnazarian. Christian's family is a long time supporter of Orran.

ORRAN EXHIBITING ARTHUR SARKISSIAN'S PAINTINGS



Orran USA's second year of hosting a fall fundraising event featured paintings by Arthur Sarkissian. Sarkissian, who lives in Yerevan, is a longtime supporter of Orran. For years he has offered paintings for auction at our annual gala dinner in Yerevan. Over time he has donated more than \$40,000 to Orran as a result of the sale of his paintings to benefit the children and elderly.

For the month of November Orran organized 3 fundraising receptions in 3 cities featuring Sarkissian's paintings. The first event took

place at the Garboushian Gallery in Beverly Hills. Herair and Lori Garboushian generously offered their gallery for this packed event. Our enthusiastic and hard-working Host and Event Committees guaranteed a large turnout that resulted in the sale of 5 paintings.

The second event was hosted by Jason Johnson at his incubator firm Founder's Den in San Francisco's SOMA neighborhood. The last reception took place at Bayside restaurant in Newport Beach with the support of owners John Ghoukassian and his son Marc. We are pleased to report that 4 additional paintings were sold between these two events raising in total \$25,000 for Orran.

Orran would like to extend its sincere appreciation to all of its event sponsors, members of the host and event committees, those who provided in-kind donations and to its supporters and attendees. We are excited about expanding our Orran family in the US and look forward to many new exciting developments in the months to come.

GRANTS AND GIFTS



Orran received a \$14,750 grant from Philip Morris Company. The grant was allocated for a special vocational training project. Twenty adolescents

were coupled with a master to learn a trade of their choice. There were 5 children from Gyumri, 3 from Vanadzor, 3 from Etchmiatzin, 3 from Vedi and 6 from Yerevan. The youngsters are learning to be hairdressers, manicurists, constructors, cooks, pastry makers and dental technicians. Five of the trainees received \$400 each to start their work.



Mentor Graphics, an IT firm, gifted Orran \$5000 to provide vulnerable

youth the opportunity to obtain computer skills and tutoring in math and science so that they can find employment in Armenia's growing technology industry and generate a legal and honorable income. Two math teachers were hired to teach math to the Orran children and a computer room was set up for providing computer skills.

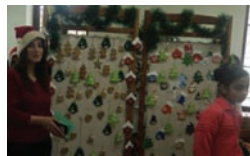


18 litres of oil, 18 packs of pasta and 1 sack of rice on a monthly basis.

A grant of 1000 Euro was received from UK HERA International. The grant was used for creating a sewing workshop for Vanadzor Orran mothers so that they can sew potholders, aprons, and other items to be sold during various Orran events. It will enable them to obtain sewing skills which they can use for future employment opportunities. A percent of the sold items is provided to them to improve their living conditions, to find future employment as well as to prevent them from becoming victims of human trafficking. Within the framework of the grant three sewing machines and one over lock machine were purchased for Vanadzor Orran Center.

For weeks, the children have been pre-

paring clay Christmas ornaments for sale. Thanks to the Pragma Corporation and Habitat for Humanities, the children received income which will be directed to purchasing materials for the pottery room.



CHOIR AT ORRAN



We have a new choir at Orran.

The elder beneficiaries are practicing choir twice a week with choir master Silva Karapetyan, an experienced artist.

We plan to have a show when the weather gets warmer.

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ACTIVITIES from September to December 2013



On September 19, 10 children were invited to Armenia Marriott Hotel to enjoy the biggest Strudel on this Land. The children had fun eating their strudel and playing with clowns.

As of September, Khoren Grigoryan an ethnographer at the National Museum of Armenian Ethnography and History of Liberal Struggle, monthly presents interesting themes linked to the Armenian language, history and culture. The children listen attentively, participate actively and ask many questions.



On October 5, the children who are part of the Math/Computer program sponsored by Mentor Graphics took a trip to the Digitec expo. The children were exposed to different technologies and their uses. They also learned about robotics.

On October 9 and December 5, the children were invited to a puppet show. The children enjoyed the show and even had the chance to see the handmade puppets up-close.

Throughout the month of October, Orran displayed the children's handcrafts at the Marriott



Armenia Hotel's lobby for sale. The proceeds of the sale are used to purchase materials for the craft workshops.

On October 22nd, the children from the junior group went to the British Garden to collect fall leaves to create art projects. The children had much fun in the park.



On November 2nd, the children visited Etchmiadzin and Sartarabat museums. They had a guided tour and learned about the struggle for liberty, the history of our nation and saw artifacts. They were also exposed to old instruments that were used to make carpets and were fascinated to see how much progress has taken place.



On November 6, the Sharm Beauty Salon sent 7 graduating students to offer free haircuts to 10 children of Orran. This was an opportunity for them to practice and for the children to go home with a new haircut.



On November 15, 10 children participated in the walkathon for the protection of children

with special needs organized by Bridge of Hope, under the auspices of Caucasus Network for Children (CNC), an organization which brings different NGOs together addressing children's issues. Orran is a member of the CNC.



December 2, 2013 The children were the guests of Armenia Marriott hotel of Yerevan for the traditional annual ginger bread cookies day. The staff of the Marriott spent an afternoon with the children decorating their cookies with gummy bears, M&Ms, and other variety of candies. The children sang and laughed as they hung their cookies on a Christmas tree assembled just for them.



On December 5, 20 children were invited to see a play at the Okro Okroyan Library. The play was prepared by the 1st and 3rd grades of School #70. The play had the intention to motivate children to read and enjoy books. The library offered books to the children who were present at the activity.

On December 8, Vanadzor Orran held a Christmas Fair and displayed the hand made crafts of the children. Archbishop Sebouh Chuljian brought his blessings. Over 261,000 drams was raised which will be used to purchase winter boots for the children.

NGO center hosted the children of Orran Vanadzor at Tonchik Ponchik.

On November 25 a big fire broke out in the village of Gougark. As a result 6 families were left homeless. Orran of Vanadzor took in 7 of the children and provides them with daily food, clothing, school supplies and medical and psychological assistance.

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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE ASSISTING ORRAN:

You can visit us at www.orrان.am and make an **online donation**. For US donors, the donations will be tax deductible.



TAX-DEDUCTIBLE*

Please send your US tax-deductible donation to Orran either by post to 2217 Observatory Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90027, USA

Or by bank transfer to
Wells Fargo Bank
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San Francisco, CA 94104
ABN: 121000248
SWIFT/BIC: WFBUS6S
Account Name: Orran
Account Number: 8836295801

*Orran is a charity with a 501(c)(3) tax exempt status.

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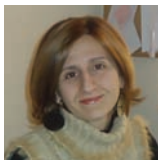


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VANADZOR FAIR



NEW STAFF



Tamar Kabassakalian

Born in Canada in 1972, she moved to Armenia in 2011 with her family. She is an experienced and qualified teacher for over 15 years. She graduated from University of Montreal and received her Bachelor's degree as well as her teaching license in 1990. She completed her Master's in TEFL from the American University of Armenia. She joined Orran as the academic coordinator in September 2013.



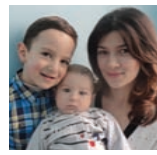
Kristy Khachigian

Orran is pleased to welcome our first employee in the US, Kristy Khachigian. Kristy, who grew up in Southern California, is development director for Orran USA. She recently moved back after spending more than 18 years in the Washington, DC area. Her background is in corporate relations, development, and educational programming for a nonprofit.

GOOD NEWS



Metaqsia Tadevosyan had her first born son on July 16, 2013. He was born with a height of 50cm and weighed 3.26kg. Today he has grown by 19cm and 6kg. We are so happy to have such a beautiful baby!!!



We are delighted that Anahit Gharaghazarian, Orran Fundraising and Marketing Manager, has a second son Aram Poghosyan. Aram was born on September 12 at 2:15. At birth, he weighed 3.2kg and had a height of 50 cm. Since then he has grown much more. Congratulations to us all!!!

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING FRIENDS OF ORRAN FOR THEIR MOST GENEROUS DONATIONS IN THE YEAR 2013

Platinum Donors more than 50000\$

- VivaCell-MTS (K-telecom CJSC)
- Ralph Yirikyan

- Garo Mardirossian
- Dan Miller

Gold Donors 25000-49999\$

- Krikorian Charitable Trust
- Krikor & Anna Krikorian
- Bedros and Anna Oruncakciel

Bronze Donors 5000-9999\$

- Salem Agencies and Service
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- Hirair and Anna Hovnanian
- Vardan Grkikyan
- Carolyn Mugar
- Garegin & Maral Odabashian
- Andy & Haykouhi Torosyan
- Vahan and Charlotte Zanoayan

Silver Donors 10000-24999\$

- Akian Foundation
- Zaven and Sonia Akian
- Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company Armenia
- Gagik Danielyan
- Luther and Glenda Khachigian
- Sarin & Narek Yirikian

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