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Brachuse for ACYOA Account in ACEF

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INVEST IN OUR FUTURE: ACYOA HYE HERITAGE HEADLINE:

"Most importantly, you must have visions and goals. Then you must have the enthusiasm and the energy to carry a project or concept forward." -Barry Zorthian

We are all familiar with the visions and goals of the Armenian Church in America. For the past four decades, the Armenian Christian Youth Organization of America (ACYOA) has been instrumental in developing committed church leaders and faithful church members who strive to maintain these goals. It is, however, becoming increasingly difficult to reach young American-Armenians who are being immersed in mainstream America and the values it offers.

Our young people surely will accomplish much, but we must instill in them pride and understanding of our faith and heritage. They should draw upon Armenian values when making life decisions concerning their families and their futures, thereby preserving and perpetuating the visions and goals of our community.

Members of the ACYOA have provided the energy and enthusiasm necessary to develop two programs, both of which are part of the new ACYOA HYE HERITAGE educational series: The Cultural Weedend and The Christian Leadership Weekend. Each attracted 50 participants. establishment of these high quality religious, educational and cultural programs which reach out to our youth across the country, has proven to be an effective means of conveying the values and beliefs of the Armenian Church.

In addition to energy and enthusiam, programs of this caliber require financial support. Frequency and geographic diversity of the programs are necessary. To insure the continuation of ACYOA HYE HERITAGE series, it is imperative that a lasting means of financial support be established. An endowment, under the umbrella of the ACEF, would generate the income necessary to fund these programs annually.

The importance of this endeavor is clear. The ACYOA must educate young American-Armenians so that they might become leaders and active participants in our churches. Please make your gift to the ACYOA Endowment Fund today. Help keep the visions and goals of the Armenian Church alive. Our future depends upon your support.

consider putting mardigian photo and endorsement quote here...

Marc Janigian, Providence, RI: "As a result of the weekends, I feel much more knowledgeable and aware of Armenian issues, religion, history and culture. I not only feel proud to be Armenian, but also feel compelled to inspire and inform others of what I hve learned."

Pam Hajinian, Springfield, PA: "Unlike some of today's Armenian cultural endeavors, which tend to concentrate effort on fueling the emotions rather than addressing present-day concerns, the approach of the ACYOA Cultural Weekend appeals to the intellect without neglecting the heart."

Margarite Davidian, Cleveland, OH: "It wasn't just the lectures that were so interesting. What made this such a rewarding experience were the open, honest and straightforward discussions and the dialogue among the participants."

EDWARD MARDIGIAN

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13920 EAST TEN MILE ROAD WARREN, MICHIGAN 48089 (313) 778-4120

TEXT OF EDWARD MARDIGIAN FOR ACYOA BROCHURE

We must support our youth, they are our future. We must also support the ACYOA; it is the future of our church in America. The Armenians are a living people; we have a noble past, a rich present, and possibly a glorious future which depends on what we do now to prepare for it.

I have always believed in the youth, and I have supported them to the best of my ability. The more I gain in years, the more I realize that we must pass the torch to a new generation. To be young is not a value in itself; youth is only a period of time in the life of an individual. It is the guality of youth that counts. In the case of a minority like ours, quality means also a true understanding of our aspirations, involvement in our efforts, dedication to our ideals, and the ability to assume leadership rolls. To support the ACYOA is to contribute to the development of future leadership for our church and people. We must do it gladly.