

SCHOOL PROFILE

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OVERVIEW

Holy Martyrs Armenian Elementary & Ferrahian High School was founded in Encino, California in 1964. The historic founding of the school marked the establishment of the first Armenian educational institution in the United States.

The school is located on two campuses, the high school, the middle school, and the main offices are located in Encino and the Kindergarten through elementary school is located in North Hills. The Encino campus is in close proximity to the Holy Martyrs Armenian Apostolic Church of Encino and shares the religious and national values cherished by the Armenian Apostolic Church of America.

Holy Martyrs Armenian Elementary & Ferrahian High School is part of the Western Prelacy Armenian Schools, which seeks to promote bilingual education and cultural growth especially in children of Armenian descent. The latter is comprised of eight schools throughout California and is governed by the Board of Regents located in Glendale, California.

The school curriculum is designed to meet the students' intellectual, social, physical, and spiritual needs. Our Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Fine Arts, and Physical Education programs follow the California State education framework. In addition to the core subjects, the school offers Armenian programs, geared toward the acquisition and mastery of the Armenian language and understanding Armenian history and culture.

The high school has a rigorous, comprehensive, and college preparatory academic program in place. School graduation requirements exceed California State graduation requirements as well as University of California and California State University admissions requirements. Our program has been officially recognized by the University of California system and overall meets the requirements of colleges and universities in the United States.

Holy Martyrs Armenian Elementary & Ferrahian High School is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Our school earned its most recent six-year accreditation in spring, 2001. Our Pre-School is accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs (NAECP).

Holy Martyrs Armenian Elementary & Ferrahian High School accepts students without regard to race, color, creed, ethnic origin, or religious affiliation.

MISSION OF THE ARMENIAN PRELACY SCHOOLS

Armenian Prelacy Schools primarily aspire to

1. Preserve, enrich, and further enhance the wealth of Armenian culture and the well-being of the Armenian Nation.
2. Assure the intellectual, spiritual, and physical development of the new Armenian generation through the application of an educational program in which the pursuit of higher studies, the strict enforcement of positive and constructive school discipline, and the maintenance of a healthy social environment imbued with Armenian values constitute the basic rules.
3. Strive for the undeviating development of ethnic Armenian education within the framework of universal human values, as well as provide all Armenian students with an opportunity to grow within an Armenian-speaking environment and acquire strength from traditional Armenian values, such as family, religion, nation, morality, and arts.
4. Educate a generation that cherishes and takes pride in its nation and culture, is well-informed about its national rights, and constantly, vigilantly, and actively struggles to achieve these rights by participating in patriotic endeavors of mainstream national, social, church, political, cultural, and sports institutions.
5. Provide Armenian students with the very best means and facilities to master both oral and written fluency in Armenian and English languages.
6. Derive maximum advantage from the numerous benefits that modern science and the American educational system provide to those living within the American environment. In the belief that contacts with other cultures do ennoble and enrich their own culture, Armenian schools consider it their supreme duty to educate a civilized, self-confident, enthusiastic, and dedicated generation of Armenian-Americans. These Armenian- American citizens develop an appreciation for both cultures, act as talented and exemplary members of our society, and, with the education they have acquired, realize their own aspirations and form the basic component for the realization of the national goals of the Armenian people.

Board of Regents of Prelacy
Armenian Schools

EXPECTED SCHOOL-WIDE LEARNING RESULTS

(June 2007 - WASC)

Holy Martyrs Armenian Elementary & Ferrahian High School will prepare its graduates to be:

1. CRITICAL THINKERS AND PROBLEM-SOLVERS WHO

- a. Can gather, evaluate, and synthesize information from diverse sources.
- b. Utilize information-processing skills to understand complex concepts and solve various problems.
- c. Apply problem-solving skills to real-life situations.
- d. Use technology effectively and responsibly to enhance problem-solving skills.

2. LIFE-LONG LEARNERS WHO

- a. Demonstrate the desire to pursue higher education.
- b. Develop and practice academic skills and tools to acquire college education.
- c. Comprehend and appreciate that education is an on-going process.

3. EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATORS WHO

- a. Demonstrate proficiency in written and oral English language skills.
- b. Develop and demonstrate effective communication skills.
- c. Use technology effectively and responsibly to enhance communication skills.

4. INDIVIDUALS EMPOWERED IN ARMENIAN CULTURE WHO

- a. Understand and appreciate the Armenian cultural heritage.
- b. Acquire and apply written and oral communication skills in Armenian language and develop an appreciation of the Armenian literature and history.
- c. Develop pride and determination to pursue the aspirations of the Armenian people.
- d. Understand and respect the cultural diversity of the society in which they live.
- e. Acknowledge and respect the dignity of every individual human being.

5. RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS WHO

- a. Live with moral courage, integrity, and focused purpose.
- b. Contribute to the community and to the general society in which they live.
- c. Work collaboratively while appreciating individuality.
- d. Take responsibility of their personal health and wellness.
- e. Understand and appreciate the American cultural heritage and history.
- f. Appreciate and contribute to the well being of the global environment.

