

AGBU Chapters

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

AGBU London Chamber Orchestra Performs in a Remembrance Concert for the Centenary of the Armenian Genocide

On November 7, the AGBU London Chamber Orchestra performed a special remembrance concert in honor of the centenary of the Armenian Genocide at St. John Smith Square in London. The concert, titled *Together for Armenia*, was organized by AGBU London and brought together Armenian soloists under the baton of Brazilian conductor Gustavo Ubada. The AGBU Chamber Orchestra in London was launched in 2014 by pianist Sarkis Zakarian, the orchestra's artistic director. Zakarian, a pianist by training, is also a member of the AGBU London Executive Board. Since its founding, violinist Levon Chilingirian has been appointed patron of the orchestra and Ubada serves as its main conductor. This international orchestra unites not only aspiring musicians of Armenian origin, but other instrumentalists from around the world. The performers included Kristina Arakelyan (piano and composer), Nairi Azezian (flute), Ani Batikian (violin), Anais Heghoyan (soprano), Gustavo Ubada (conductor), Sarkis Zakarian (piano) and Silvie Zakarian (marimba).



BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

AGBU Europe Co-Organizes Seminar Uniting Armenian, Jewish and Roma Diasporas for a Discussion on European Heritage

On October 16-18, AGBU Europe co-organized a seminar entitled “Diasporas’ Heritage and Remembrance” that brought together 33 Armenian, Jewish and Roma academics and activists from AGBU Europe, the European Union of Jewish Students (EUJS) and Phiren Amenca in Budapest. The seminar was the second in a series of events under the umbrella of the “A Europe of Diasporas” project, launched last June in Paris. A public conference, titled “Looking Back or Looking Forward?” provided an opportunity to draw a wider public into the conversation about the European diaspora. The conference was hosted by the Roma Access program of the Central European University during which speakers from the Armenian, Jewish and Roma communities shared their vision for preserving their heritage and popularizing it in Europe. A number of initiatives were identified to help promote the heritage of diasporas in Europe. The project furthermore plans to organize a cross-cultural exhibition to highlight their results and initiatives across Europe. Conference participants concluded by emphasizing the need for education about the diaspora in schools and agreed to provide an educational package for academic and other institutions in the future.

LYON, FRANCE

AGBU Lyon Hosts Exhibit on Memory and the Armenian Genocide

On October 2, AGBU Lyon hosted the opening of an exhibition entitled “Génocide arménien—En quête de mémoire” [Armenian Genocide: In Search of Memory] at the Alex Manoogian Cultural Center. The exhibition—in collaboration with the WE Report collective of independent reporters—gathered various photographs taken in Turkey, while the WE Report crew was reporting about nine French Armenians first time in Turkey, through a report titled “Aksor, le retour des enfants arméniens” [Exile: the return of Armenian children].

