

# IWAY'S ANNUAL NEWSLETTER 2022-2023



**COMMITTED TO  
SELF-EMPOWERMENT  
&  
BETTERING THE LIVES  
OF WOMEN & CHILDREN  
IN ARMENIA**



**International Women's Association of Yerevan**



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“The frontier regions are the pillars of our house. If those pillars are solid, smoke from the House of Hayk will rise for eternity” – Tigran the Great -

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## Message from IWAY President



Dear Readers,

A few hundred miles away from Yerevan, in the border villages of Armenia, people need special attention. Not everyone has their basic human needs met to live an ordinary life, flourish, and progress. Women and children are the most vulnerable groups in these communities.

Stemmed from this reality, a group of ambitious international women founded the International Women's Association of Yerevan, IWAY, ten years ago. They wished to make a difference in people's lives. They wanted to inspire and help each other in this small, but historically and culturally very rich country, Armenia. Today, armed with this team of inspiring and Armenia loving women, we mark the tenth anniversary of IWAY.

It was an immense joy for me to serve this vibrant, open minded and powerful group of women over the past year. It is an honor to work with women who willingly rolled up their sleeves and united their experiences to help this wounded country.

The articles of this newsletter have been drawn from the charity projects studied, implemented and in progress, experiences gained as well as the cultural events, fundraising and networking opportunities that were made possible with the support of the diplomatic missions in Armenia, fans, friends, and members of IWAY, over this year.

I wish you a joyful, exciting but also informative reading. This is while I wish IWAY to root its success further, to reach new collaboration levels across the country where we reside. In the end, to change our world, it only takes the effort of all those who believe.

Yours Truly,

**Caroline Msrieh – Seropian**  
President 2022-2023

# Celebrating 10 Years of activities

By Armine Sargsyan  
Founding Member

The International Women's Association of Yerevan (IWAY) was registered as an NGO in 2011, shaping the project of a group of women living in Yerevan who wanted to welcome women from around the world temporarily in Armenia.

We sought to create an environment where these women could enjoy Armenia and could find their niche in the Armenian society. As the program saw more and more women coming from different places, it inevitably adopted a more international and humanitarian outlook. What began as a simple social circle evolved into a hub where women could address the concerns of women and children in Armenia.

IWAY has embraced the mission of improving the lives of the women and children, in particular in the remote border villages of the country. As we are celebrating our first decade, we realise the accomplishments we have achieved. For over 10 years now, IWAY has implemented 18 projects improving children's environment, hygiene and sanitation conditions, 7 projects bettering the life of families and empowering women and 4 projects focusing on helping global communities.

And not forgetting our original idea, we also put our efforts on building a tight community of women through social activities, such as trips to museums and historical sites, walking tours, cooking courses, language classes, celebrations and many other joyful times together.

# BETTERING THE LIVES OF CHILDREN

It may be challenging to find time for volunteering, but participating in charitable activities has many valuable returns. It helps in creating friendships, develop networks, acquire new skills, connecting with your community, and fulfilling life.



# Anipemza Village, Shirak Province

By Talin Ghazarian, IWAY Charity Director



Within our mission to better the lives of Children and Women in Armenia, IWAY decided to support the critical renovation of the secondary school in the boundary village of Anipemza in Shirak Province, following a visit on November 2, 2022.

The project includes the maintenance and renovation of the roof, the replacement of the outdated windows as well as the rehabilitation of the gym and the supply of sporting equipment.

This project, currently in progress, is anticipated to be completed by end of June 2023. It is funded by both the proceeds from IWAY's 2022 Christmas Charity Bazaar funds as well as remaining resources from 2021. Moreover, Armenia School Foundation (ASF) generously agreed to supply the desks and chairs that are needed to complete the project.

A review of the completed project will be conducted for all IWAY members to visit the school facilities and celebrate their role in enhancing the sustainability of the bordering village community.



This was a touching visit to the bordering village. It used to be vibrant... Now its population is only around 250. The school is very well structured and its management succeeded against all odds to keep the school clean and neat. However, the cold weather effected the structure tremendously. Windows need change for sure. The gym needs special attention because the winter is quite long. Kids need an indoor space for entertainment. This is while maintaining the roof as a priority.

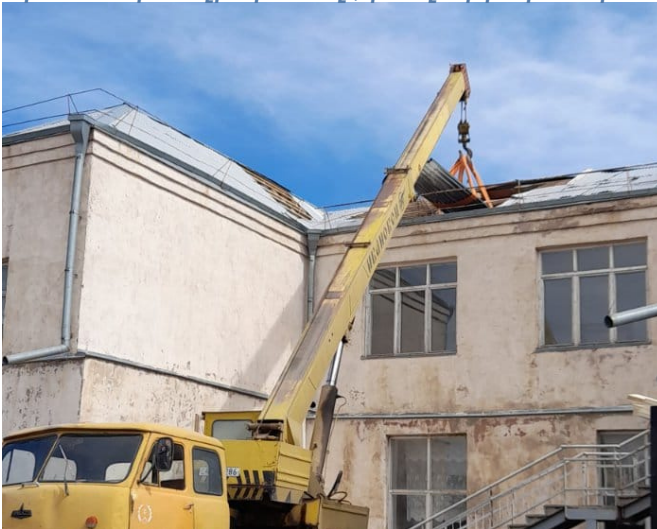
# A message from Anipemza Secondary School Director, Ms. Hasmik Nazaryan reached IWAY, following the heavy rains in April 2023

"Good morning.

All the students, teachers and parents of our school express their gratitude to your organization for repairing the roof of the school, because the long winds and heavy rains of these days would have destroyed our school building, but fortunately (unlike the buildings in the village, whose roofs were torn off by strong winds), our school building withstood that test and we did not see rainwater from any corner and anywhere. Once again, we thank you for your charity, may God protect you, may you never step on a stone".

Բարի լույս:

Մեր դպրոցի բոլոր աշակերտները ,ուսուցիչները և ծնողները իրենց երախտագիտությունն են հայտնում Ձեր կազմակերպությանը դպրոցի տանիքը վերանորոգելու առթիվ , քանի որ այս օրերի տևական քամիները և հորդառատ անձրևները կավերելն մեր դպրոցի շենքը , բայց , բարեբախտաբար ( ի տարբերություն գյուղի շենքերի, որոնց տանիքները ուժեղ քամիները պոկեցին ), մեր դպրոցի շենքը դիմացավ այդ փորձությանը և ոչ մի անկյունից ու ոչ մի տեղից անձրևաջուր չտեսանք: Կրկին անգամ շնորհակալ ենք Ձեր բարեգործության համար , թող Աստված պահապան լինի Ձեզ , թող երբեք Ձեր ոտքը քարին չառնի:





## IWAY continued to support the Drakhtik Village School

By Hayasa Tahmazyan  
IWAY Charity Committee Member

In 2022, The International Women’s Association of Yerevan (IWAY) continued supporting the Drakhtik village school.

The classrooms of Drakhtik village school, in Gegharkuniq region, had crumbling walls and outdated facilities. All that changed with the renovation project that breathed new life into the school, providing a safe and positive learning environment for the children. The project was made possible thanks the generous contributions of IWAY.

In 2021, the association had already funded the renovation of two classrooms. IWAY expanded its efforts in 2022, covering two more classrooms, thus making a total of four classrooms completely renovated. Furthermore, the Armenia School Fund (ASF) joined IWAY’s efforts by donating classroom furniture.

The association's funding and ASF contribution were crucial in transforming the school's infrastructure; the once worn-out classrooms were transformed into bright and colorful learning spaces and were complete with new furniture.

The school community also played an active role in the renovation process by ensuring the necessary labor for its implementation.

On June 25, 2022, both representatives of IWAY and ASF visited Drakhtik village to evaluate the completion of the work, and install IWAY’s contribution plaque in the school. During the visit, IWAY and ASF members had the opportunity to see the new and improved classrooms and witness the children's excitement firsthand.

The Drakhtik village school’s project is a shining example of how a community can come together to achieve a common goal.







# Lchavan Village

Gegharkunik Province

By Hayasa Tahmazyan  
IWAY Charity Committee Member



IWAY funded a charity project at the school of Lchavan Village in the Gegharkunik region, which was completed in 2022. The project aimed to improve the school canteen's infrastructure and provide better access to clean water, hygiene, and storage facilities.

As part of the project, IWAY funded the installation of a water reservoir with a pump to provide a steady supply benefiting both the children and the staff. Additionally, a sewer drain and a hand wash sink were installed to maintain hygiene in the canteen.



IWAY funded as well the renovation of the canteen storage and equipped the canteen with necessary kitchen utensils, enabling the school to store food properly and serve nutritious meals. IWAY also collaborated with the Armenian School Foundation (ASF) to equip the school canteen with new chairs and tables.

On May 14, 2022, IWAY members, along with ASF, headed to Lchavan to evaluate the completion of the project. The school principal proposed a toast and expressed his thanks for IWAY's contribution saying "You should feel happy because you made children very happy".

It is heartening to see how such initiatives can bring happiness and hope to communities that need them the most.



# EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH SHARED EXPERIENCES

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By Arax Kankarians - IWAY Secretary

IWAY's Wednesday meetings are also an opportunity to invite guest speakers and members to share their experiences and projects.

We were blessed to welcome many talented women, and sometimes men too!



**April 20, 2022**

Mr. Markus Tschan presented the topic of Gender Equality with emphasis on women in the German Foreign Service. The presentation consisted of historical overview of the gender equality rules inclusion in the German constitution, the constraints of practicing the accepted law, and the current mechanisms for implementing gender equality and empowering women in the German public service sector.

**May 18, 2022**

Moneh Der Grigorian, Chair of ASF, presented the mission of her charity Foundation which mainly provides furniture for schools in Armenia's provinces. Three of her past projects were conducted in collaboration with IWAY.

**June 1, 2022**

IWAY was honored with the visit of H.E Mr. Masanori Fukushima, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan, and Mrs. Sumiko Ikeda, Second Secretary, Chief of the Consular and Security Section of the Embassy of Japan. His Excellency first greeted the ladies and thanked for the invitation. As a special treat for the wonderful ladies of our Association, he performed the National Anthem of Armenia & Japan followed by a few popular songs in Armenian. Everyone enjoyed the memorable moments of his performance.

**July 6, 2022**

Tatevik Abrahamyan is a Psychologist with over 20 years of experience in the field of psychology and has written 2 books. She has been working in Armenia for over 10 years with disadvantaged children and their families. She is the co-founder of an association in Armenia for social services and has also established a summer camp for children in the neighboring villages.

**September 28, 2022**

Members enjoyed an inspiring talk and enjoyable exercises presented by Lucile Montariol, IWAY member and Life Coach. Members had an enjoyable time and profited a lot from the positive energy of the atmosphere. With the help of Lucile, members felt grounded in themselves and their community.

**October 19, 2022**

IWAY Communication Director, Caroline Consten gave a speech on outcomes of personal growth and positive thinking, particularly crucial as the country is under a lot of stress.

**February 1, 2023**

In a very interactive atmosphere, Azniv Aslikyan (KASA Swiss Humanitarian Foundation) presented various types of medicinal herbs that grow locally and exclusively in Armenia, in addition to speaking about over 300 recorded grape varieties. Members were pleased to receive new information about Armenian natural richness and beauty. As always, promoting the right Armenian experience and honoring the Armenian culture by presenting it to the world simulate the IWAY mission.

**March 1, 2023**

Gohar Palyan presented "A journey to Mount Ararat" presentation. She spoke about her climbing trip to the summit of Mt. Ararat. She shared with us her process of preparing for the hike, the amazing people she met along the way, and all of the emotions she felt.

# EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH SHARED EXPERIENCES

Continued....

**April 5, 2023**

Eva Minassian, a French-Armenian with a long time experience in the film industry, presented us her work, aiming at creating the proper environment to put Armenia on the map as a destination for international movie productions. She emphasised all the benefits for the Armenian economy and shared the challenges she was facing. It is fascinating and so interesting to realise that such an industry can make a positive impact on a country.

# TIES WITH DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS

Throughout the years, IWAY has established diplomatic ties with many of the Embassies in Yerevan.

Together we made impactful projects possible.

By Caroline Consten  
IWAY Communications Director

IWAY is a very dynamic small organisation which is only based on voluntary work. Its resources are solely depending on donors and membership contributions.

Rather than spending on operational expenses, IWAY allocates all its funds to projects bettering the lives of women and children in border villages. Aside from sharing its activities on social networks through members' posts, IWAY promotes its mission and invites new members to join through personal connections.

Developing ties with Diplomatic Missions brings opportunities to get acquainted with foreigners who wish to contribute to IWAY's mission by donations or/and becoming members during their time in Armenia. These ties also support sharing cultural values and traditions, as well as learning from different experiences.





## A musical event celebrating cultural togetherness

Caroline Msrieh – Seropian  
President 2022-2023

The promotion of art and culture are very important for IWAY, as an association that places a strong focus on fostering understanding between women of different cultural and social backgrounds.

Occasions which give the chance to experience other cultures, in addition to the Armenian, and appreciating their value in shaping the human history is emphasised among members.

On November 29, in the perfect setting of the Komitas Museum's musical hall, the IWAY ladies and their close friends, enjoyed a beautiful convergence between the songs that were performed by HE Mr. Fukushima Masanori, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Republic of Armenia and the musical genius playing the piano, Mr. Robert Amirkhanyan, the Armenian very well-known professor, composer, song writer and former long year President of Armenian Compositors.

IWAY members were so honoured to have two wonderful people among them. The two esteem gentlemen presented a simulation between Japanese and Armenian culture forming a bridge to emotions and minds.

The musical performance was preceded by a visit to the Komitas Vardapet Museum to relive the life of the founder of the Armenian National School of Composers.

At the end of performance, the two performers received certificates of gratitude in the name of IWAY, in addition to symbolic presents gifted by friends of IWAY in recognition of their performance.



## **Celebrating 30 years of Diplomatic relations between the Swiss Confederation and the Republic of Armenia.**

By Nane Djerrahian

On April 21st, IWAY members had the honour to be invited to attend a Swiss Armenian Musical Collaboration, with the performance of Albin Brun and Tigrane Kazazian Ensemble at the National Centre of Chamber Music, to celebrate 30 years of togetherness.

It was a wonderful evening with incredibly talented multi-instrumentalists musicians, combining Oriental and Western sounds, demonstrating how music is a language that transcends cultures and traditions. The audience could not help being transported by the spirituality of the performance.

The two musicians met for the first time the day before the concert and had very little time to rehearse. But this didn't change the exceptional quality of their collaboration and the beautiful, emotional and sometimes playful music they created together. Albin Brun played saxophone, duduk and Schwyzerorgeli, while Tigrane Kazazian played oud. Four compositions of each musician were performed and the evening flew by in a second.

It was really a wonderful way to show the relations between the Swiss and Armenians, which is not only limited to diplomatic ties but goes beyond borders and is heard in the music.

# Embassy of Switzerland Reception

By Suzy Sahakian  
Membership Director

We all know that the 1st of August is the Swiss National Day, celebrating the historic alliance of the three cantons, Uri, Schwyz and Unterwalden in 1291, the focal point around which the Switzerland of today was built. But well, we are in Armenia where even the Swiss precision can be challenged.



The date was changed to September 8, when the merry vacationers were back in town as well as the new Swiss Ambassador H E M. Lukas Rosenkrantz and the Swiss delegation of which Yoko Shimo Thut, the charming spouse of Werner Thut, Deputy Regional Director of Swiss Cooperation in South Caucase, and a dear and irreplaceable IWAY member is part.



That is how a group of IWAY ladies were invited on a pleasant September evening on the grounds of the Holiday Inn on Amiryan Street.

After the official presentations, we were invited to enjoy a magnificent buffet and the traditional raclette (melted cheese on potatoes). The garden space and comfortable chairs made it very pleasant to chit chat with a swinging background music.



The event also gave the opportunity to IWAY ladies to introduce their mission to attending guests, raising awareness to their worthy cause.

# Visit to the Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic in Armenia

By Anita Vardanyan  
Communication Team Member



On March 3, 2023, a delegation of IWAY members had the honour of having an audience with Her Excellency, Dr. Nora Arissian, the Ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic to Armenia. The visit was upon a request from IWAY following the early February sad and devastating earthquake in Syria. Damages and losses were so heavy that IWAY members had decided to respond via individual donations which went towards the purchase of milk for children affected by the tragedy.

On behalf of the association members, the IWAY President started the conversation by offering condolences to the Ambassador and to the Syrian people. The Ambassador was very thankful to IWAY members for both their visit and their response. Her Excellency highlighted to the IWAY delegation all the relief operations made in the affected cities and provinces, as well as the current phase of emotionally supporting all those impacted by this catastrophe.

One of the stories the Ambassador shared with us was very touching. It was about students from the Embassy's neighbouring school, who in just a couple of days, put together 20 boxes full of socks, warm clothing, and canned food as a humanitarian response. This heart-warming story brought us hope that not only on happy occasions, but also in times of need, humanity can unite.





## IWAY IS ABOUT CREATING A COMMUNITY

By Caroline Consten  
IWAY Communications Director

From New Year to Nowruz, Valentine's and Women's days, birthdays, baby showers, Michink and Easter (Hambartsum), at IWAY we love celebrating so we never miss a chance to gather and share all our traditions. Since IWAY is a group of women bringing so many different cultures from all around the world, we have a lot to share.

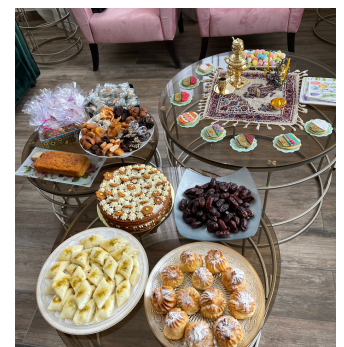
Wherever we are, no one can miss our group of laughing ladies from UK, Ukraine, Syria, Lebanon, Iran, Armenia, Italy, France, Japan, Switzerland, the Netherlands and USA ...

When together, the room quickly sounds like a hive, filled with laughter, music, and dancing. And of course tables overflowing with wonderfully tasty soul food.

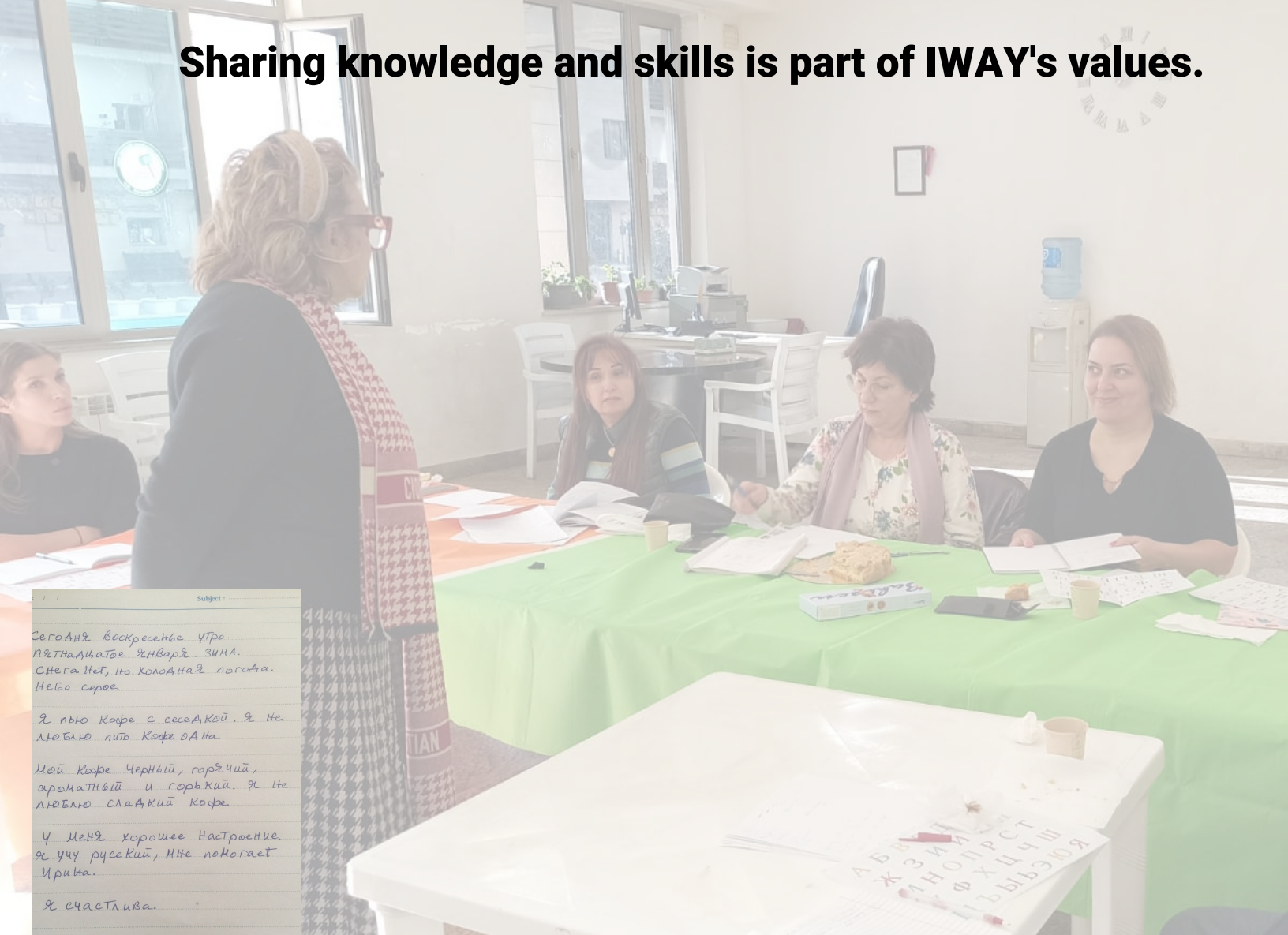
We also do have more cultural moments all around the year, including tours in museums, excursions to churches and schools in border regions, visits to festivals and Armenian small businesses launched by empowered women.

Not only do we give, but we do receive so much in return ! As an example French and Russian lessons are provided by two of our members.

And our doors are always open to welcoming new members to join our community.



## Sharing knowledge and skills is part of IWAY's values.



Subject :  
Сегоднѣ воскресенье утро.  
Пятнадцатое Января. Зима.  
Снега нет, но холодная погода.  
Небо серое.  
Я люблю кофе с сахаркой. Я не  
люблю пить кофе одна.  
Мой кофе Черный, горячий,  
ароматный и горький. Я не  
люблю сладкий кофе.  
У меня хорошее настроение.  
Я учу русский, мне помогает  
Ирина.  
Я счастлива.

This year, French and Russian language lessons were offered by IWAY members to IWAY members, who responded happily to these new learning opportunities.

The Russian course, conducted by Irina Hovhannisyanyan, had 10 participants. Her students received preliminary key knowledge about phonetics, word formation and grammar. Classes took place in an atmosphere of high activity and enthusiasm, as a result of which progress was fast.

The French course was conducted by Corinne Di Riso. It initially comprised 4 students who met once a week for one and a half hour. All students were very eager to learn not only grammar and vocabulary but also anything connected with the French way of life. Corinne is now teaching to a beginner group of two students and to an elementary one of five.

It shows once again how IWAY ladies are open to new challenges for self-education, acquisition of new knowledge and eager to learn new cultures.

Both courses are ongoing, and maybe new languages will be offered by members from various nationalities who recently joined our community!

# A Day at the Aregi Factory

By Jenny Krikorian

OCTOBER 12, 2022



On a wonderful October day, IWAY organized a trip to Aregi to visit a dried fruit factory which is located in one of the sunniest part of the Armenian highland.

Our tour guide took us around the factory, detailing for us all the production steps of the drying process, each fruit and vegetable having its own preparation technology. Fruits and vegetables are first washed, then cut and placed in clean conditions in innovative energy-efficient dryers, or in the warmer seasons of the year, dried directly under the sun in the traditional way. In the case of vegetable chips, they are mixed with some natural spices.

The guide also mentioned that Aregi's team is very dedicated to maintaining the Armenian traditions while providing healthy sweets and snacks to all who choose the healthy lifestyle. Besides dried fruits and vegetable chips, Aregi produces herbal mixed teas, natural candy bars covered with Belgian chocolate, canned products, natural syrups, fruit pastas, vegetable and fruit powders. Aregi also embraces sustainability by operating under big solar stations.

While visiting the premises, we had the chance to try a big variety of the tastiest Armenian dried fruits and vegetables, and enjoyed a delicious lunch.

It was a great experience and super fun day for us. Each time we gather for an event, we truly enjoy a new experience. Despite everyone's busy schedule, we always manage to spend some quality time together.

*"A little glimmer of light there, but the night is so dark..."*



## The Storytelling of Karen Jeppe

By Vania Movsessian  
IWAY Treasurer

It is consistent with the IWAY values to surface stories where women heroically support those in need. Therefore, when inquired about English understanding audience from a former IWAY member residing in Denmark, Anahit Mouhghnessyan, for sharing the story of Karen Jeppe, the response was instant and positive.

Karen Jeppe is an iconic and legendary character who willingly chose to devote her entire life to rescuing the victims of the Armenian genocide. She is described as the Danish Mother of Armenians. Her story depicts the worst circumstances when the light at the end of the tunnel fades out to utter darkness.

In cooperation with the National Library of Armenia, IWAY organized the event with the participation of Danish musicians Helle and Amalie Asmild on June 17, 2022. The event took place at the National Library of Armenia.

The event combined music from Denmark and Armenia with storytelling and theatre.

Several diplomats, researchers, historians, professors, Aleppo community members and graduates of Karen Jeppe Armenian College residing in Armenia were present at the event.

Storytelling is an ancient artform where the storyteller makes the audience experience the story strongly through their own imagination. During this specific show, the audience was taken on a journey through Karen Jeppe's life. Through their wonderful performance, the mother and daughter, were successful in taking the audience to the past, when Karen Jeppe chose to leave her homeland and dedicate her life to help the Armenian people survive the genocide. The voice of the singer, the violin and accordion being played, blended in beautiful harmonies. The Danish songs from Karen Joppes Childhood and Armenian traditional, classical, and religious music helped illustrate the story further.

It was a true story of destiny and overcoming the impossible. It was a story of human strength, compassion, and cross-cultural meetings.



## Participating and contributing at the Annual Harvest Festival

By Shoghig Bejorian

This year IWAY decided to give an opportunity to eight women from border and rural communities to participate in the Annual Harvest Festival organised by Green Lane, enabling them to sell their agricultural and hand made products.

The primary objective of the festival is to promote the sustainable development of agriculture and rural communities of Armenia. The festival took place in the open air, at Green Training Centre.

Despite the bad weather conditions, eight members of IWAY offered to volunteer, stand beside the two tents sponsored by IWAY and support the eight selected women.

The festival was also a good opportunity to give visibility to IWAY and convey its mission message: to better the lives of children and women in Armenia. Although not as long lasting as improving school facilities, giving a chance to women to participate in the Festival could be life changing for entire families. Therefore, IWAY volunteers and beneficiaries ended the day with big satisfaction.

IWAY is grateful for donors, festival visitors and all who supported this very valuable event.



# IWAY 10th Anniversary Christmas Bazaar

By Sevan Baghdjian  
Christmas Bazaar Chairwoman

On Sunday December 4, IWAY, true to its commitment to improving the lives of women and children in the border villages and taking further inspiration from Tigran the Great's quote, organized its 10th Anniversary Christmas Bazaar.

The Bazaar took place at the Best Western Congress Plus hotel, occupying the Ball room (reserved for arts and crafts sales), the Picasso Hall (reserved for baked goods sales), the hotel lobby and the pool area. The Bazaar sponsor this year was the Canadian Advertising and Branding agency, Funday.

A total of 61 vendors participated in the Bazaar. Thirteen Diplomatic missions supported the Bazaar, with six missions participating physically and seven missions by donations and raffle prize gifts. As always, proceeds from the Christmas Bazaar are used to fund IWAY's charitable projects. The proceeds from this year's bazaar will fund the renovation of the roof and the gym, the replacement of the windows of the corridors and of the first floor classrooms of Anipemza Secondary School, Shirak Province. Other charity projects are also being considered for execution in Drakhtik village school, Gegharkunik Province and Hayanist Village Kindergarten, Ararat Province once there is surplus in the IWAY funds.

Although the Christmas Bazaar is IWAY's main fund-raising event, it is also an event where members and visitors experience a cultural exchange with the participation of vendors of different backgrounds and Diplomatic missions representing their country's national food and handicrafts. With an entertainment program running throughout the day, with performances by Confucius Institute, Armenian National group "Van", "Arevayin Zankagner", Waldorf school Tsayk band and Marieta Kheboyan to Santa's visit, face painting, raffle ticket draws and prizes, all attendees, children and adults, had a most joyful day. It was also a day for IWAY to present itself and its mission by displaying the charitable projects funded over the past ten years and by hosting a reception for visiting dignitaries. Guest appearances by IWAY members promoting the Christmas Bazaar on the morning shows of Public TV of Armenia and Kentron TV, an interview on CIVILNET, an article in Aztag Daily and the coverage of the Christmas Bazaar by Hay Horizon, the Canadian Armenian TV show, made sure that IWAY's mission and message was heard all over Armenia and beyond its borders!



*"The frontier regions  
are the pillars of our  
house. If those pillars  
are solid, smoke from  
the House of Hayk will  
rise for eternity"*  
- Tigran the Great-



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# OUR COMMUNITY IS GROWING

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By Suzy Sahakian  
Membership Director



*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."*

Margaret Mead (American Anthropologist)

As much as we are proud to announce that our IWAY Family has now reached 55 members, we are even more proud and happy to see how our members are involved in our mission.

We are still quite a small family but our members bring very valuable differences and experiences that make us more efficient.

Our social reunions are pleasant and fun, and they are essential for creating togetherness and tolerance. They are opportunities to know each other, understand each other and help each other.

But we all understand quite well that we need to be active and productive, as our country is confronted with the bitter reality that we have to rely on our own powers. We, as women all over the world have proven how much they can bring change.

From past results, it seems that we have chosen a right path but there is yet so much to be done. Ladies, let's get to work !



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## JOIN US TO HELP OTHERS

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## FINANCIAL REPORT

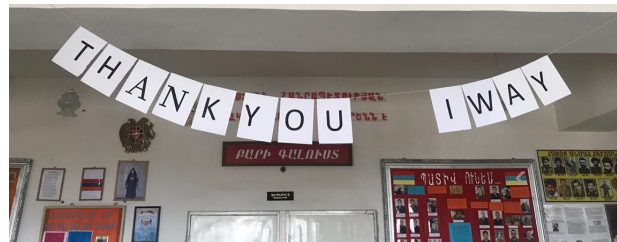
### COLLECTED FUNDS

<b>Donations</b>	1092600 AMD
<b>Members Yearly Contribution</b>	701 000 AMD
<b>Christmas Bazaar</b>	4 900 000 AMD
Net income after taxes	



### PROJECT FUNDING

<b>Anipemza Secondary School</b>	5 428 458 AMD
<b>Harvest Festival</b>	300 000 AMD



*IWAY NGO is working with Philin AM LLC for its accounting reports and taxes in line with the tax regulations of the Republic of Armenia.*

# 2022 -2023 CALENDAR OF IWAY SOCIAL, CULTURAL & FUN EVENTS

A wonderful group of women, all Armenian by birth or by heart, with a rich open-mindedness due to their multi-cultural origins (from Iran, Syria, Lebanon, the United States, Switzerland, France, Sweden...).

It is a joyful energy that animates us, based on sharing and mutual aid.

-Lucile Montariol-



## May 14, 2022 - Gegharkunik Province

Visit to Lchavan village school, followed by a visit of the Makenis Monastery, coffee break at 'Շնվաօնց'.

## May 21, 2022- Debet, Lori Province

Visit to COAF Smart Center

## May 28, 2022 - Yerevan

'Համբարձման տոն' (Easter) celebration at IWAY's President home.

## June 8, 2022 - Yerevan

Tour of The Printing Museum of the National Library.

## June 11, 2022 - Shirak Province

Day in Gyumri and visit of the Graphic Design Museum. Visit of Jajur village and Minas Avetisyan's House-Museum.

## June 17, 2022- Yerevan

"Story telling of Karen Jeppe" concert at the National Gallery.

## June 25, 2022- Gegharkunik Province

Visit to Drakhtik village to see the finished renovations.

## July 9, 2022- Armavir Province

Visit of Sardarapat Memorial Museum and Levon Galichian's Cultural Center.

## October 12, 2022- Aragatsotn Province

Visit to the Aregi Dried Food Center.

## October 22-23, 2022- Kotayk Province

IWAY's participation in the Harvest Festival.

## October 26, 2022 - Yerevan

Pink October for Women at Hard Rock Café Yerevan.

## November 5, 2022- Tavush Province

Day around Dilijan with a stop at the Pumpkin Festival, visit of Haghartsin Monastery, lunch at Daravand guest house.

## November 23, 2022 - Aragatsotn Province

Day in Oshakan with a visit of Arshakuniner's tomb and Tegher Monastery. Harissa lunch at our member Vera Zakaryan's place.

## November 29, 2022- Yerevan

Concert with the Ambassador of Japan, HE Mr. Fukushima Masanori & Robert Amirkhanyan at the Komitas Museum.

## December 4, 2022- Yerevan

IWAY Annual Christmas Bazaar.

## December 10, 2022 - Yerevan

Christmas Party at Mandaloun.

## January 19, 2023 - Yerevan

Visit to MISMA embroidery show room.

## February 11, 2022- Yerevan

Valentine's Day celebration with a surprise baby shower for our member, Anita Vardanyan.

## March 8, 2023 - Yerevan

Celebrating Women's Day at Lusik Aguletsi House Museum & Art Cafe.

## March 15, 2022 - Yerevan

Michink Gathering at Alina Popescu's home.

## April 19, 2023 - Yerevan

Visit of Yeghishe Charents House-Museum.

All these events were made possible thanks to  
Kristine Grigoryan,  
IWAY Activity Director

# credits

**Caroline Consten**  
**IWAY Communications Director**

I want to express my special thanks to our IWAY members who dedicated a lot of their time contributing to this newsletter, providing their very thorough and touching articles. I hope each reader of this newsletter will feel how much we at IWAY are committed to our mission, and may be willing to join us in bettering the lives of Women and Children in the border villages of Armenia.

I also want to thank my dear IWAY friends, who made my work so much easier putting together this newsletter, proof-reading and designing it.

My warmest thanks to:

Anita Vardanyan

Nane Djerrahian



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