

THE CAMBRIDGE-YEREVAN SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION
AND
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ARMENIAN
STUDIES AND RESEARCH (NAASR)/ CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN
FOUNDATION LECTURE SERIES ON CONTEMPORARY ARMENIAN ISSUES

Present a Panel Discussion

**ACTIVISM AND TRANSITION TO
LEADERSHIP IN ARMENIA:
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

*With the participation of five young professionals from Armenia's
civil society organizations*

Moderated by Dr. Anna Ohanyan

*Richard B. Finnegan Distinguished Professor of Political Science and
International Relations, Stonehill College*

Thursday – December 6, 2018 - 7:30 p.m.

**At the AGBU Center (temporary home of NAASR)
247 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown, MA**

Five young professionals from Armenia will be in Greater Boston Nov 30 – Dec 8, 2018, to participate in a grant program focused on activism and transition to leadership hosted by the Cambridge-Yerevan Sister City Association (CYSCA) and with funding support from the “Open World” (OW) program of the U.S. Library of Congress, CYSCA, and its team of volunteers. Building on the Velvet Revolution, a key goal of the program is to help participants develop methods for translating civic activism into government action by engaging them with their American counterparts. The program aims to give the participants first-hand exposure to America’s democratic government and free-market system as an instrument for Americans engaged in citizens’ diplomacy.

CYSCA has designed a program of visits/meetings with various organizations/individuals in the Greater Boston area, including ACLU, Common Cause, the Pioneer Institute, and numerous other organizations and individuals.

The participants will discuss their work experience in Armenia and reflect on their visit to the U.S. The program will include **Yuri Avagyan**, communications manager, Restart Student Initiative; **Levon Chukaklyan**, co-founder, Restart Student Initiative; **Astghik Isakhanyan**, project coordinator, Rights Information Center NGO; **Garik Miskaryan**, foreign affairs manager, Restart Student Initiative; **Alla Yeremyan**, manager, Basen Hotel; and **Liana Sahakyan**, facilitator for the group, currently resource coordination specialist at the US Embassy in Yerevan.

● *Admission free (donations accepted)*

● *Reception preceding and after program*

The NAASR Bookstore will be open at 7:00 p.m. prior to the program.