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COMMUNIQUE

CELEBRATING ARMENIAN WOMEN'S LEGACY IN PRINT

Under the auspices of AGBU Arts and Cultural Committee, AGBU Hye Geen will launch two important books. One is devoted to Hye Geen's 20 years of community service which include the creation of AGBU Hye Geen Young Circle, the publication of a magazine, the initiation of a TV program about issues of public concern and the Armenian heritage, the formation of a coalition with the participation of 13 women's organizations, as well as the establishment of five Pregnant Women's Centers in Armenia. Moreover, AGBU Hye Geen is highly regarded for its annual conferences and public debates about topics relevant to the various aspects of Armenian life, both local and in the Homeland. The 20-year anniversary book is compiled by Sona Yacoubian, Founder and President of AGBU Hye Geen.

The other book, Sona Zeitlian's *On the Traces of Armenian Women* is a comprehensive overview of the struggles and achievements of Armenian women throughout history. This well researched book is the first of its kind and has won the Kevork Melidinetsi 2013 award from the Catholicosate of Cilicia. The annual award is bestowed on an original work, which contributes to the Armenian heritage. Sona Zeitlian is an AGBU Hye Geen member and the author of such distinguished works as the role of Armenian women during the revolution, a series on legendary heroes and heroines, the folktales of Musa Dagh based on the oral tradition and the comprehensive study of Armenians in Egypt.

The event celebrating the publication of these unique books will take place on Thursday, November 20, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at the Zorayan Hall of St. Leon Armenian Cathedral, Western Diocese of the Armenian Church at 3325 N. Glenoaks Blvd, Burbank, California 91504.

The day's mistress of ceremonies is Cecile Keshishian. Her opening remarks will be followed by the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary book presentation by educator Lora Kuyumjian. Sona Zeitlian will speak about the impact of landmark women's experiences, which have impressed her most. Then Therese Hayrapetian will comment on behalf of AGBU Hye Geen Young Circle.

The closing remarks will be delivered by His Eminence Archbishop Hovnan Derderian.

A reception will conclude the evening's program.