



Toronto “Roubina” Chapter A.R.S. DAY 2012

The Armenian Relief Society (A.R.S.) Toronto “Roubina” Chapter celebrated its A.R.S. DAY, and the 49th Anniversary of re-establishment of the Toronto Chapter, on Sunday, January 29, 2012 @ 5:00 p.m., at the Armenian Youth Centre Hamazkayin Theatre. Over 300 A.R.S. members, supporters and friends were present, including the pastor of St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church, Very Rev. Father Meghrig Parikian, A.R.S. Central Executive Board Vice-Chair Eng. Nairy Shahinian, A.R.S. Canada Regional Executive Board members Eng. Iren Telemi & Eng. Hasmig Papissian, and representatives of sister organizations at the Toronto Armenian Community Centre (A.C.C.).



The master of ceremony, Eng. Roubina Kassabian invited Miss Roubina Keushkerian, to sing the National Anthems of Canada and Armenia, and the A.R.S. Anthem. Eng. Kassabian, delivered her opening remarks and invited the Chair of A.R.S. “Roubina” Chapter, Eng. Zepure Dorna, who presented the Chapter’s accomplishments and the continued support provided to the community throughout the years. In addition to the 49th anniversary of the re-establishment of the A.R.S. Toronto Chapter, Eng. Dorna acknowledged the 25th anniversary of the A.R.S. Social Services Office in Toronto, and highlighted its support and contribution to all those in need.

A group of A.R.S. Day School’s Grade 8 and Grade 9 students performed three Armenian songs, with piano accompaniment of Mrs. Talin Kelebozian. Jack Hagopian’s “Ays Kouyrere” poetry was recited by Ari Garabedian. Karnik Sosaian entertained the crowd with musical numbers performed on the “Duduk”.

The following awards and scholarships were granted: Christine Galustians (A.R.S. Youth Volunteer of the Year Award), Shahe Papissian, Suzana Sukiasian, Seta Boyadjian (A.R.S. “Roubina” Chapter University Scholarships), and Krista Boghossian (A.R.S. Tro Najarian University Scholarship). A.R.S. “Roubina” Chapter Community Achievement Awards were granted to Ung. Keghouhi Bastajian and Mrs. Elize Sharapkhanian.



The ceremony continued with the keynote speaker, Eng. Nairy Shahinian’s speech. She highlighted the past achievements of A.R.S., and urged continued unity and team effort to undertake future projects.

The A.R.S. Membership Pins were received by: Eng. Anahid Nahabedian and Suzie Kaltagian (35 years); Engerouhies Hasmig Papissian, Rima Paul-Peter, Lidia Sabounjian, Baydzar Titizian, and Sossi Titizian and Ahnie Krikorian (25 years), Engerouhies Hasmig Babian, Zabel Hagopian and Marie Melemetdjian (15 years). Also fifteen new members joined the A.R.S.



family on this special occasion.

The event was concluded by Very Rev. Father Meghrig Parikian's congratulatory remarks and prayer, which was followed by a reception at the Armenian Youth Centre.

