

**SACRED MUSIC COUNCIL**  
**Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern)**

**To:** Parish Priests, Choir Chairs, Choir Directors, Organists, and Choir Members  
**From:** Sacred Music Council Chair  
**Date:** March 30, 2025  
**Subject:** Boyajian Young Choir Directors Program (BYCDP) 2025

Since 2004, the Sacred Music Council (SMC) has sponsored the **Boyajian Young Choir Directors Program** (formerly known as the Junior Choir Leadership Development Program). This letter serves as the first official communication regarding the planning of the **2025 BYCDP**.

The program was previously held at the Ararat Center and St. Nersess Armenian Seminary in 2004, 2005, and 2007–2013, with the 2006 session conducted in Armenia. We are pleased to announce that the **2025 BYCDP will once again take place at St. Nersess Armenian Seminary from Monday, July 7, through Wednesday, July 9, 2025.**

The SMC has appointed Rev. Fr. Hovhan Khoja-Eynatyan as the Program Coordinator for the 2025 BYCDP.

**Program Highlights**

BYCDP is designed for 3 years.

This year's program will focus on conducting techniques, sight-singing, and vocal training. Participants will receive instruction from leading musicians from across the Diocese, who will share both their expertise and practical experience.

Each day will consist of:

- Four 75-minute instructional sessions
- Time for fellowship and sports competitions after classes

**Participant Criteria**

The BYCDP 2025 is designed for young individuals who have demonstrated leadership qualities in their communities and possess a strong musical foundation. Participants will be nominated by their parish priests, with final approval by the Sacred Music Council.

Ideal candidates should meet the following criteria:

- **Age range:** 13 and up
- **Active in parish life** for at least **one year** (e.g., Senior Choir, Junior Choir, Sunday School, Armenian Language School, ACYOA)
- **Basic music-reading skills**
- **Ability to read Armenian** (or at least follow English transliteration)

*"Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!"  
Psalm 95:1*

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**Application Process**

Please review the application form and submit nominations by **June 1, 2025**. The Sacred Music Council will fully underwrite the cost of participation (tuition and boarding, but not the travel expenses.)

For questions, please contact Der Hovhan at (847) 644-7389 or [smc@armeniandiocese.org](mailto:smc@armeniandiocese.org).

Sincerely,  
Sacred Music Council

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