Veronica Miracle
ABC7 Reporter
Mistress of Ceremonies

“I had the honor of emceeing the Armenian Genocide Education Awards Luncheon of the ANCA. It was eye-opening to hear stories from educators and descendants of genocide survivors. I was given a beautiful pomegranate—which I was told is a symbol of good fortune...”
After learning about the Armenian Genocide, I could not help but feel some of their pain and admire the strength of its people... The Armenian sorrow, their agony, their resilience and fortitude – all these moved me to tears, as they moved me into action.

Sandra Garcia
Social Studies Teacher
Theodore Roosevelt Middle School
Glendale Unified School District

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Ian McFeat
Principal
La Cañada High School
La Cañada Unified School District

“April 24 is widely regarded as a day of remembrance of the Armenian Genocide. It is a day to celebrate differences as we come together in solidarity; a day centered upon our collective humanity. Despite the attempts to erase Armenians from the earth, they are survivors…yet, even in the face of injustice and heartache, of unspeakable suffering, we have the capacity to stand together as a community.”
Sean Mispagel
Social Studies Teacher
La Cañada High School
La Cañada Unified School District

“I was very impressed by the information and access to primary sources on the Armenian Genocide I received last year at the Armenian Genocide conference at Glendale High School...with my principal we brainstormed the idea of a mock trial... Each side had to enter a plea and formulate an opening argument, presentation of evidence and exhibits, cross examination questions, and a prepared closing argument.”
“The Armenian Genocide was not broadly taught in schools during the inter-war period. Once widely reported, the Armenian Genocide faded from the news cycle after WWI. Sustained education of such atrocities is crucial to a free society.”
“I have always had a keen interest in history, especially regarding events of extreme unfairness to a particular group of ethnicity, resulting in indescribable tragedy. As a teacher my goal is to inform students of these historical facts, engage them in discussion, and hopefully create in them empathy for those who have suffered, and a willingness to fight against discrimination, violence, and all the evils they encompass.”
“We are striving to develop young people who will not be silenced, who will learn to speak against injustice. My students will never forget the Armenians.”
Reiner Kolodinski
Social Studies Teacher
Glendale High School
Glendale Unified School District

“We have done different projects to bring the experience to full completion– personalization… Camp Darfur connects the dots between [all genocides] with compelling visual evidence and is guided by students who volunteer…Now that more film based materials are available my [next] plan is to incorporate film/literature and bring it to life, personalizing it so to speak.”
It is important that our students humanize this history, that they listen to the words of those that survived so the truth of their stories continue to resonate with generations to come.

Alicia Gorecki
Creative Arts and Design Academy Teacher
Pasadena High School
Pasadena Unified School District

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Taline Krikorian Arsenian
President
Glendale Teachers Association

“I have a responsibility to my community to educate all my students about the historical significance of the Armenian Genocide and the impacts that the systematic denial by the perpetrators has on its survivors, whose descendants are sitting among them in class, including their teacher.”
Vivian Ekchian
Interim Superintendent
Los Angeles Unified School District

“Educating students about the Armenian Genocide provides the opportunity to teach about courage, hope, resilience and persistence. Studying genocides provides our students a window into the past. We must all gather the courage to stare through this window, never blinking at the horrors we find. Once that pain of the past starts to become blinding – only then can we see clearly where we must go in the future, never allowing atrocities like this to occur again.”
Kay Mouradian, Ed.D
Professor Emerita
Author of My Mother’s Voice
Armenian Genocide Legacy Award

“ If the Armenian Genocide is not taught in history classes, it will fade away into history as if it never happened. I especially want to acknowledge Senator Portantino, Congressman Schiff, and Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian who have extended their political efforts to bring the Armenian Genocide to the attention of California Department of Education and textbook publishers.”