

2020 Annual Report



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The challenges of 2020 proved that all sectors of public life, including education, must be able to respond quickly to the crises. Faithful to its motto, "The best education for all," Ayb united the whole community of benefactors and partners during the pandemic and war, striving to make its numerous projects accessible to all students of the Republic of Armenia and Artsakh, including the most remote places. In a year full of hardship, we were once again convinced that our strength lies in the unity of our community.



2020 was also a year of opportunities. The role of education was valued more than ever, and we witnessed in practice that education needs to keep pace with technological development. All our programs are about this. I am hopeful that with our large community we will be able to implement all our new and ambitious initiatives and make educational advancement our strength, thus earning our right to live in peace.

Sona Koshetsyan

Executive Director of the Ayb Educational Foundation



Based on the circumstances, all the projects of the Ayb Educational Foundation were aimed at overcoming the crisis through innovative technologies and establishing an educational system that is able to ensure the continuity of the education process. One of Ayb's largest projects, Khan Academy's Armenian-language platform, which already has a large database of educational materials and facilities for distance education, was like oxygen for the Armenian educational system in the process of transition to distance education. Our schools adapted to changes very quickly. Ayb School and Dilijan Central School were one of the firsts to start distance education, serving as an example for other schools and even state bodies. Based on the pandemic situation, Ayb transferred two of its mass competitions, Kangaroo and Meghu, to an online platform. The Tournament of Young Chemists was held entirely online.

In 2020, Ayb continued its mission to develop the institution of patronage in education in Armenia, remaining faithful to its adopted principles of socialization. Thanks to that, the Ayb Scholarship Fund was replenished, and it became possible to make the best education accessible to many learners, regardless of their financial status. We tried to promote a new culture of cooperation in Armenia; Ayb found partners who made their contribution to education on a pro bono basis.

Ayb believes in the idea of changing the future through education, and establishing a strong and developed state in that way.

Our contributions are aimed at the implantation of these ideas. But the scourge of war in Armenia in 2020 united the Ayb community around the issue of also providing financial support to the homeland. As a result, the community, together with its friends, transferred USD 125,118 to the Hayastan All-Armenian Fund through fundraising.

2020, a year full of hardship, proved once again the most promising and perspective ones are the contributions to the field of education, which will allow to create the best future for all learners through knowledge, regardless of their social status and the situation in the country and the world. All the efforts of Ayb now as ever are directed to the realization of this priority goal.





# Ayb School is a foundation. It's a non-profit non-governmental organization that doesn't have owners, shareholders or stockholders.

The Ayb Educational Foundation is governed by the Board of Trustees, which has already become an exemplary model, as it guarantees governance transferability, transparency and participation. The Board of Trustees of 2020 was elected on December 12, 2019 for a term of two years. There will be a newly formed one at the end of 2021.

The highest governing body includes people who have taken on the responsibility for achieving the mission of the Ayb Educational Foundation.

#### The Board of Trustees:



Aram Pakhchanyan

Chairman, Deputy Director of ABBYY, co-founder of the Ayb Educational Foundation, Armenia



Artak Hovhannisyan

Deputy General Director of EPAM, RF



Ashot Mkrtchyan

President of VISA CONCORD GROUP, Armenia. RF



Levon Ghazaryan

Individual investor, USA



Samvel Dovlatyan

Founder of Melinet CJSC, Armenia (till December 2, 2020)



David Yang (Gagik Grigoryan, representative)

Founder of ABBYY, iiko and Platius, co-founder of the Ayb Educational Foundation, USA



Kharen Musaelian

Founder of HiQu Capital, co-founder of the Ayb Educational Foundation, USA



OUR COMPETITIONS IN

THE TECHNOLOGICAL

WORLD



We must make our children's education flexible and authentic. Today, the whole world, including the Ayb Educational Foundation, has changed the model of education, with the expectation of providing accessibility to everyone. For this purpose, together with our partners we created an environment and conditions in which each child can participate in competitions without any restrictions and at the same time develop computer skills.



The Ayb Educational Foundation held the Kangaroo and Meghu contests online for the first time, making the fans of mathematics and the Armenian language happy during the uncertain days of the pandemic.

Due to the pandemic, it was impossible to organize mass school competitions at schools, but with the help of digital technologies, particularly our new educational platform, children got the opportunity to participate in Kangaroo and Meghu. The children of Artsakh also took part despite the war, the greatest trial ordeal for the people of Artsakh. The Tournament of Chemistry Students was held for the first time, thus becoming the first project of the Ayb Educational Foundation in the higher education system. The Tournament of Young Chemists was also held online, managing to involve many members of the "chemical" community.









# Kangaroo Is Already in the Digital World

Bringing Kangaroo, the most popular school competition in the world of logical and fascinating problems, to the digital world for the first time, the Ayb Educational Foundation created new educational opportunities for the children of Armenia.

More accessible, more open, more participatory—these were the goals of the competition.

In **2020**, the online Kangaroo competition had more than 14 000 participants, and **25** of them were recognized as winners.

Throughout these years

427 770

participants from the Republic of Armenia and Artsakh joined this mathematical movement

Kangarooo has been held in Armenia since

2009

By the way, in 2023, Armenia, represented by the Ayb Educational Foundation, will host the annual meeting of Association Kangourou sans Frontières, which proves the high level of positive experience of organizing and holding competitions in our country.



← History of Kangaroo in Armenia





Kangaroo 2020

#### Grigori Artazyan

Graduate of Physics and Mathematics Specialized School named after A. Shahinyan

Grigori has participated in this competition every year since the third grade. He loves math and believes the first online Kangaroo was very innovative and considerably helped to save time.

Since I have always been enthusiastic about Kangaroo and math, I went to the Physics and Mathematics School with that love. Kangaroo is all about solving life problems. It makes life more interesting. There are so many logical things around us related to mathematics. I love logical and analytical thinking, which is exactly what Kangaroo teaches. Currently, besides applying to different universities, I am involved in volunteering. I am teaching the SAT test to children, as I am interested in Kangaroo contest's statistical data, which can serve as basis for very fascinating researches.

# Kangaroo 2020 **Ruben Gyagunts**

Fifth-grade student at the Secondary School No.

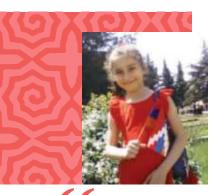
1 named after A. Sargsyan in Tegh village.

He was the best in the Kangaroo 2019 and Meghu 2018 in Syunik.

He has also become a winner of Kangaroo 2020 and Meghu 2020.



I want to become a programmer and Kangaroo is a part of this path. I love this mathematical competition as it makes think and develops logic. My teacher brings additional tasks with her so that we can think more and prepare better for the competition. As one of the winners I visited a lot of interesting places and met interesting people in the capital this year. I have been much impressed particularly with the Zangak printing house; I found myself in the world of books, various books, adventures. Kangaroo's problems are both easy and hard. But I am excited that these problems are not like the ones in the standard textbooks and require more thinking and logic. In my opinion, this is what makes Kangaroo different from other math contests—the problems are more diverse and interesting.



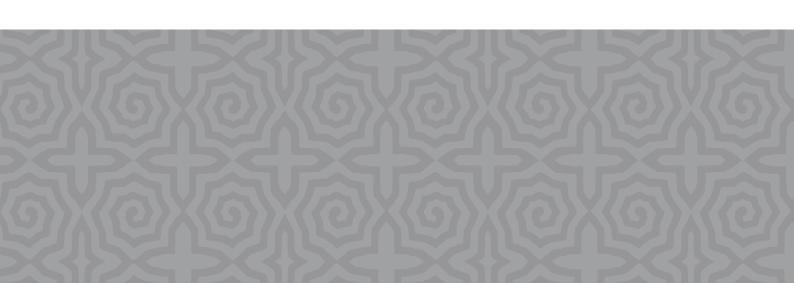
Kangaroo 2020

#### Larisa Hakobyan

Fifth-grade student at the School No. 9 named after H. Tumanyan in Stepanakert, awardee of Kangaroo 2020

I love Kangaroo and I always try to participate in it to develop my logical thinking. I tried to test my knowledge this time as well and participated in the first online Kangaroo. Even if I don't take any place, I am still happy to have taken part in the competition as I can learn from my mistakes and improve my knowledge.

Larisa moved to Yerevan as a result of the war and has many dreams about her future. She wants to become a doctor. "I want to become a doctor as doctors do good to mankind. I will make sure that my work will help the soldiers. I have brought several books with me and I am studying at home. Regardless of anything happening around, we should continue to work and improve our knowledge," says Larisa from Artsakh. She dreams of having her own chess school. She took the first place in the girls' group under age 10 at the Republican Chess Tournament held in Stepanakert.







# **Armenian Without Borders: Meghu 2020**



The Meghu 2020 Armenian language contest was also held online by using the platform tested during Kangaroo and bringing together Armenian-speaking children from both Armenia and the Diaspora. The mother tongue is a bridge uniting all Armenians, that's why Meghu is also held for the Armenian-speaking children of the Diaspora, bringing them closer to the Armenian language and arousing interest in its study. The mission of Meghu—the preservation of the Armenian identity through making the Armenian language more attractive and beloved for children—was also presented in the Armenia-Diaspora Cooperation During COVID-19 online workshops. The online Meghu had more than 4,000 participants, including those from the Diaspora.

The Meghu 2020 contest had six winners.



# **New Partners of Ayb Competitions**

# Uteach

The **Uteach** educational platform was the first to respond to the problems in the field of education caused by the pandemic. Committed to its motto "Education Without Borders," Uteach made it possible to hold the Kangaroo and Meghu competitions online. Uteach's experience of collaborating with Ayb for the sake of education development is a good example of private sector's corporate responsibility.



Thanks to high technologies, the **ArLoopa** application enabled our Kangaroo to communicate with children in virtual reality and to become a favorite educational companion for students.



VLUME is the largest and leading Armenian digital library, which together with Ayb helps children to enrich their knowledge in the digital world as well, enabling users to read and listen to their favorite books on computers and mobiles, most importantly in the Armenian language. VLUME provided a free online subscription to all participants of the Meghu Armenian language contest, encouraging them to always stay connected with their mother tongue.



## **DATA**MOTUS

#### **New Research Platform with Datamotus**

In September 2020, in cooperation with Datamotus company, the online educational research platform for Ayb competitions was launched, filling the gap of highly demanded research resources and tools in the field of education. For already 10 years, the Ayb Educational Foundation has been organizing mass competitions. Within these years, it has built a large and comprehensive database which can be used for research activities in the field of education.

The platform presents the analysis data of the Kangaroo, Meghu and Russian Bear Cub contests. Comparisons of the results of these three contests provide great opportunities to come up with new research hypotheses and to draw conclusions based on the data in the future.

Serob Khachatryan Education expert

Ayb's competitions are non-standard; there's a significant difference between our school curriculum and the assignments in these contests, which are mostly based on logics and creative approach. In that sense, we believe the platform data would provide a fairly interesting picture for education policy developers.









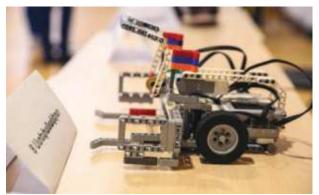


## **World Robot Olympiad**



In 2020, the national round of the World Robot Olympiad was held in a new and unprecedented hybrid format. This year, the motto of the Armenian WRO tournament was "WeShallWin by creating; our country needs an engineering mind," which emphasized the need to define robotics and natural sciences as priority areas in Armenia.

The event brought together well-known people interested in robotics and technological future of Armenia, including David Yang, Ayb's founder and member of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation.







WRO is a competition that promotes the teaching of robotics, programming and engineering at schools and encourages students to participate in international competitions and olympiads.

The participating teams design and build a robot model that must be able to solve real problems.

All tasks of the 2020 competition were related to climate issues. The robots had to solve different climate problems and reduce human fatalities by performing tasks with different degrees of complexity according to age groups. All 85 countries of the WRO 2020 had 80 000 participants aged 7-25 in the national and international rounds.

9 teams from different educational institutions of Yerevan participated in the national round.

## **PhysMath NGN** as the Winning Team

.....

"Robotics can play a big role in the development of the country. Hard work can make it possible to create everything spanning from automated factories, service centers to military equipment. We are following the path of developing our country."



#### **Winners**



The Shushi team representing Mind Center was the winner of the WeDo age group of the competition. Ararat from Whiz Code Academy was the winner of the elementary age group.

Stepanakert (Mind Center) was the winner of the junior age group, while PhysMath NGN from Physics and Mathematics

Specialized School named after Artashes Shahinyan was recognized as the winner of the senior age group and was also awarded for creative solutions.





#### Sponsor, Rostelecom

The Ayb Educational Foundation is greatly supported by Rostelecom, which has been sponsoring the national round of the World Robot Olympiad for the fifth year in a row. In 2020, AMD 2 800 000 was directed to the project.





## Hayk Faramazyan

General Director of Rostelecom Armenia

Since the beginning of the year, we have withstood a series of trials that have also targeted our children. Today it is more than obvious that our country needs engineering minds, and the WRO is one of the best events held in that field.

Rostelecom Armenia is making all efforts to ensure the continuity of education and acquisition of new skills in the required areas. We should do everything possible to instill a love of science in children from early age. Education is the guarantee of a victorious outcome in every field.



Armenia TV broadcast WRO for free, joining the robotics movement in Armenia.

2020 was also an eventful year for our education sector. The COVID-19 pandemic canceled or transferred all programs and events to an online platform. In Ayb, we kept on doing our utmost to ensure the educational process is uninterrupted and continuous.

For the fifth year in a row, Ayb held the national round of the World Robot Olympiad. Every year, during this important event in the field of robotics, talented young people, different educational centers and reputable companies of the field come together.

In 2020, we decided to conduct the national round of the prestigious competition in a hybrid format—online and offline. The choice of the format aimed at not separating the fans, participants, and organizations interested in the competition.

Armenia TV, with its highly professional staff and modern technical equipment, became the exclusive partner of our initiative, ensuring high quality broadcasting of all rounds of the competition. We did it with high efficiency and success.

The Armenian round of this world competition was held for the first time in a studio built for that purpose, with simultaneous broadcasting of the performances of the competing teams.

In 2020, in the circumstances of distance education, Ayb was one of the pioneers to use the latest technologies in the field of education thanks to the involvement of the best media specialists. Due to that, the holding of this robotics competition became the main event in the field and made a significant contribution to the development of the engineering mind of the Armenian youth.

















# **Tournament of Chemistry Students**



The Tournament of Chemistry Students was held for the first time. It is the logical continuation of the Tournament of Young Chemists, which has been conducted for almost 10 years. The new project of the Ayb Educational Foundation is aimed at identifying talented young people in the field of higher education. The aim of the Tournament of Chemistry Students is to increase young people's interest in chemistry, to promote the development of this branch of science in our country and to contribute to the expansion and strengthening of the "chemical" community.

5 student teams participated in the tournament. The winner of the first Tournament of Chemistry Students was the PR team, whose members represented Yerevan State University and Yerevan State Medical University.

✓⇒ Tournament of Chemistry Students 2020



### **Karin Markides**

President of the American University of Armenia, chemist by profession, Dean of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering at Uppsala University, Sweden

Owing to chemistry, you can see the world on a molecular level and understand how the molecules interact to create new things.

I encourage everyone to not only love your profession but also maintain close contacts with one another.

## **Partner**



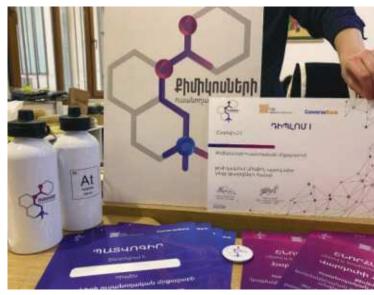
Our partner of the Tournament of Chemistry Students was the American University of Armenia. It was hosted by the University's Zaven & Sonia Akian College of Science & Engineering.



## **Sponsor**

# **ConverseBank**

The Ayb Educational Foundation's Tournament of Chemistry Students is supported within the scope of Converse Bank's corporate social responsibility program, as an exemplary step by the private sector toward development of science. **AMD 3 300 000** was directed to the project.







# **Tournament of Young Chemists**

The Tournament of Young Chemists was also held online, which did not hold 200 participants and observers back from joining the tournament. The competition gives high school students an opportunity of working together and finding solutions to chemistry problems that are still unsolved. For 10 years, the tournament has been a holiday in the field of chemistry, bringing together hundreds of chemistry lovers from the schools of the RA and Artsakh and specialists in the field, creating a large and solid "chemical" community.

During these ten years the Tournament of Young Chemists has had:

283



1415

students



280

teachers





The teams that made it to the finals are the following:

## Adrenalin

High School No. 65 named after Leo

. .

#### Heratsi

YSMU Heratsi High School



## **Oganesson**

YSMU Heratsi High School

## **Sponsors**



Our partner in the Tournament of Young Chemists was Azad Pharmaceuticals LLC (AZAD Pharma AG), which takes ongoing steps toward developing chemistry in Armenia and training new specialists. The money directed to the project amounted to AMD 4 000 000.



The organization and holding of the Tournament of Young Chemists was highly supported by ProfHolod company, which based on the worldwide experience, creates unique products for heat management. The money directed to the project amounted to AMD 3 164 590.











**Zhanna Sargsyan**Jury member

"The 10th tournament showed a new quality level. I would like to share my joy over the growth we all witness today and the achievements we have gained step by step within these ten years."

## **Members of Heratsi Team**

"The structure of the tournament allows us to do research, thanks to which we newly discover the chemical phenomena we are familiar with. Most importantly, we make the discoveries as a result of our own research."





It has already been four years that Khan Academy has been in Armenia. It has a large database of educational materials and a platform adapted for distance education.

In 2020, Khan Academy provided the Armenian education system with first aid during the

With the motto "A free world-class education for anyone, anywhere," Khan Academy helped teachers, students as well as parents to organize the teaching and learning process as effectively as possible. The demand for Khan Academy's platform, and the number of users increased dozens of times during the first two months of distance education.

Data of April 2020

Users 49 605

Views 119 000

It is notable that the number of the active users is about

70%



#### On Khan Academy

More than 3000 Armenian-language videos

28 000 exercises and articles

The number of registered users reached

50 000

with an increase of 300%

compared to the previous year

The number of registered students became

26 547

with an increase of **743%** compared to the previous year

The exchange visits, workshops and training courses carried out by Khan Academy in different marzes of the Republic so far have helped teachers and students to move more smoothly to the alternative field of education through this platform.



In 2020, we already had 5620 teachers registered on the website, whose number had increased by 435%, and 88% of them were science and math teachers living in Armenia. More than 2200 teachers have been added to the Facebook community of Khan Academy.





**Zhanna Andreasyan**Deputy Minister of MoESCS

The Ayb Educational Foundation and particularly Khan Academy's Armenian platform were among the firsts to respond to the ministry's call to ensure the continuation of education in the conditions of the pandemic. The compliance of Khan Academy's materials with the new academic standards deserves particular attention. The implementation of new educational technologies, the enhancement of the quality of teaching through that way, and the educational solidarity make it possible to share the experience accumulated in one single place, to distribute good resources and to achieve multiple results in different schools.

Since September 2020, the U.S. Embassy has joined the process of localizing the materials of natural sciences, which is significantly important for Armenia and allows to launch the localization of general chemistry and biology materials. Materials comply with the new state standards for subjects and enlarge Khan Academy's rich subject list (mathematics, arts history, English grammar, entrepreneurship). To this aim was directed USD 50 000: as a result, a series of seminars were organized for 900 students and 40 teachers teaching natural and exact sciences in secondary schools in Gyumri.



## Khan Academy in 2020

- Guidebooks were created in support of parents and teachers. Webinars were organized for math teachers to assist them to use the platform.
- In cooperation with the Department of General Education of Yerevan Municipality, the educational tools and resources provided by Khan Academy were introduced to the principals and vice-principals of Yerevan schools interested in this platform.
- Separate working groups were set up for about 150 teachers and math teachers, contributing to the process of forming a community of ambassador teachers.

- A community support platform became available where benefactors can get answers to the questions of their concern.
- Khan Academy
  Support Center

- An agreement was reached in Artsakh, in cooperation with MoESCS, to carry out workshops for teachers and students of Kashatagh schools, which, however, remained unfulfilled because of the war.
- Webinars were organized to help parents become skillful at using the educational tools (more than 3500 parents are registered on the platform).

Khan Academy Armenia, along with the Tavush regional administration, summarized the 21 workshops that had been organized in 2019 for the teachers and students of schools in border communities, attaching importance to the accessibility of free quality educational materials in the Armenian language in the RA marzes.

## **Partners**





In cooperation with **Rostelecom**, Khan Academy's materials became available on the air of Rostelecom Hybrid Edu channel as well as on the learning platform of the Serials section of the film library. Through this initiative, the students who were left out of the education process as a result of the pandemic and did not have access to the Internet were able to fill that gap thanks to television.



**Quality Testing Lab** provided free technical support for Khan Academy's Armenian website.

As a free online Armenian-language educational platform, Khan Academy was included in the list of distance learning platforms of the National Center of Educational Technologies.





# Zhanna Ghardashyan Head of the School Division under the Department of General Education of Yerevan Municipality

"The platform is completely free and in Armenian, which is very important, as there are schools that do not have big facilities. We decided to test this platform in schools and there were principals who wanted to take part in these meetings. There is a great willingness to work with Khan Academy. We are hopeful that our cooperation will definitely expand in the future."

# Inga Vardanyan Principal of Yerevan Basic School No. 33

"Khan Academy is quite helpful particularly for schools and teachers specializing in inclusive education. We have been using this platform for two years already. Khan Academy is also suitable for students skipping classes for some reasons. If children don't come to school, they can watch the videos and do the assignments at home, and catch up on missed topics, which in my opinion is particularly important. Thanks to this platform, each child can be provided with an education that meets their educational requirements and capabilities. That's why as a principal, I encourage our teachers to use Khan Academy."

#### Ruzanna Pipoyan Teacher of mathematics at H. Tumanyan Basic School No. 3, Gavar

"Thanks to Khan Academy, students have an opportunity to get acquainted with the assigned materials at hours



convenient to them and to watch videos without any limits. Both in the classroom and through online teaching, we are able to devote more time to the development of capacities and skills, as a result of which a self-managed learner is formed. And, most importantly, Khan Academy motivates my students."



#### Nane Vardanyan

## Volunteer of Khan Academy, 11th grade student of New School International School in Georgia

Nane volunteers at Khan Academy in order to be useful to society, as by using the English materials of this platform, she understood the great need of having a quality Armenian-language platform in Armenia.

"I am doing translations for Khan Academy, and other volunteer jobs at the same time—varying from science to sports. I try myself in different professions and as a high school student, I understand what I like best in that way. It is just an incredible feeling to realize that some children, sitting at home, will learn with the help of Khan Academy and the materials you have translated into Armenian."

#### **Donara Grigoryan**

Vice-principal of Urtsadzor Secondary School

I have been familiar with Khan Academy for so long a time. I used the materials both as a teacher, for self-study, and as a parent. When the state of emergency was announced, I didn't need special preparation for distance education as I had used the materials of Khan Academy before. I involved children in this and we started to work very quickly. Students love Khan Academy. The first motivating factor is the game-based approach. If they make a mistake, they can write again, there is one more chance to try and correct it. Khan Academy makes my job much easier. The second motivating factor, which I like very much, is about tasks; you can find tasks of any complexity for your students. I encourage other teachers to use Khan Academy. It really helps best these days.



#### Anahit Manukyan | Teacher

She is one of the active users of Khan Academy and has an online classroom. She thinks she has organized the teaching process with Khan Academy very effectively.

"The website is entirely in the Armenian language and does not require much internet coverage. The website can be used with less

megabytes. And since most children do not have computers, learning through mobile phones and mobile applications has become very convenient. The website also greatly encourages learning. Children are very fond of competitions; it's like "This one has this many meteors and that one has that many meteors." At first I was afraid of this competition, but it turned out to be really motivating. Each student only sees and observes their own grades; in that way, the children don't feel embarrassed at making mistakes. Individual approach is highly important. You can see each student's progress, gaps, and individual stories. According to their results I send each of them their individual tasks. Some parents have also started to study through Khan Academy, filling the gaps of their knowledge."

















The Araratian Baccalaureate continues to open the doors of the world's best universities to students. Of course, the results could have been greater and more widespread if the National Program for Educational Excellence, implemented in cooperation and co-financing with the state, had not been suspended. As part of that program, the internationally recognized Araratian Baccalaureate was to be gradually introduced in all schools of the RA and Artsakh from September 2018. The program has set a qualitatively new benchmark and created a new reality. We are hopeful that everyone will be provided with an opportunity to use this unique program.

#### **Dan Bray**

#### Cambridge Assessment International Education

"We realized a project together. The work has often been complex and challenging but Ayb has never compromised on quality. We have worked closely and openly together in a spirit of partnership and the assessments that we have designed and delivered together are internationally recognised and genuinely support the excellent work that Ayb does through the schools, curriculum and teacher training activities."



Cambridge Assessment International Education

## **Ayb Continues to Work with**

## **AB Teachers**



The Ayb Educational Foundation, together with Ayb School, carried out intensive online and offline training courses on conducting practical lessons for the teachers of natural sciences (physics, chemistry, biology) and



for laboratory assistants of Araratian Baccalaureate schools.

Practical lessons were initiated on the basis of need assessment, as high schools received quite a lot of laboratory equipment and property, but not all schools were ready to use these tools effectively. The training was useful for all teachers, which proves that Ayb continues to be with AB teachers, giving them an opportunity of getting the necessary skills.







Aytsemnik Harutyunyan
Participant of training courses,
chemistry teacher at Vayk High
School

The equipment is available now, but since the teachers have not developed practical skills for years, they, of course, need new training. I think this will be quite useful for all teachers; they will obtain very good skills and will be able to do practical work much more successfully with students in the newly established laboratories.

#### **New AB Subject, Visual Arts**

Since 2020, a new AB subject, visual arts, has been added to the existing list.

The course is meant for those willing to continue their education in the area of arts to receive knowledge in line with international standards, to develop technical skills in

different genres of drawing and painting, to carry out research on topics, and to conduct text analysis and individual research by studying different genres and areas of art and works of artists, comparing principles and approaches, and coming to a corresponding conclusion.



# The List of Universities Recognizing AB Is Expanding

The international recognition of the Araratian Baccalaureate in the world continues quite rapidly. The number of universities recognizing the AB certificate has already reached **97**.

higher education institutions
were added in 2020, expanding the
geography of the Araratian Baccalaureate.



- Oral Roberts University
- University of San Francisco
- Hofstra University
- University of Florida
- College of Charleston
- Emerson College, Boston
- The American University of Paris

#### United Kingdom

- University of Derby
- Staffordshire University
- Teesside University
- Falmouth University
- Brunel University London



University Carlos III of Madrid





Grenoble School of Management



Sacred Heart University



Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences

## Certificates of Araratian Baccalaureate

In 2020, despite the unprecedented and challenging conditions created by the pandemic, all students studying AB subjects were awarded AB certificates.



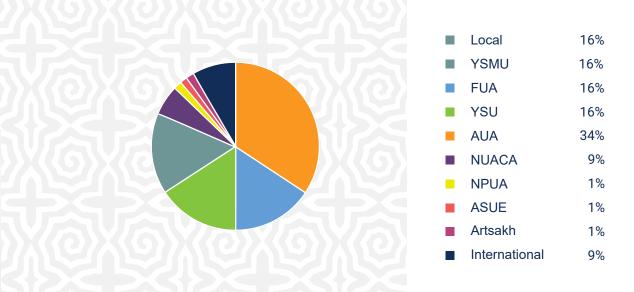
The assessments reflected in the certificates were calculated by an alternative method developed and applied in collaboration with the Cambridge Assessment Center and in accordance with international best practices, maintaining the equivalence to the assessments from the previous years.

Our graduates have been admitted to the best universities in the RA and Artsakh: the American University of Armenia, French University in Armenia, Yerevan State University, Armenian State University of Economics, Yerevan State Medical University, National Polytechnic University of Armenia, National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia, Artsakh State University.





## 2019/20 Admissions to Universities



Nine students of the Araratian Baccalaureate were admitted to the world's best universities:

University of California San Diego, Leeds Arts University, Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation, National Research University Higher School of Economics, King's College London, UWC Canada, University of Manchester, University College London, University of Colorado.



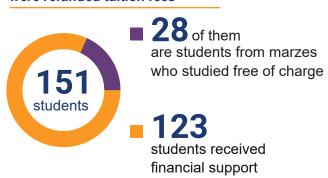




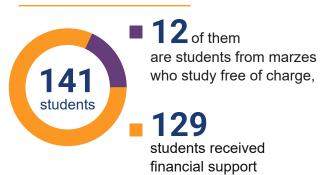
The mission of the Ayb Educational Foundation is to make the best education available to as many children as possible. Adhering to this goal, the Foundation provides financial support to children for quality education based on their social status. Thus, the Ayb Educational Foundation is unique; being a non-governmental organization, the Foundation implements a large social project in the field of education.

In **2020**, the Ayb Educational Foundation transferred AMD 51 984 861 to the students of Ayb High School as tuition fee reimbursement. The scholarship fund is formed by donations from individuals, commercial organizations and other funds.

#### In the 2019-2020 academic year were refunded tuition fees



### In the 2020-2021 academic year were refunded tuition fees





The Path to Success Has Its Beginning



## Sirarpi Ghasabyan

Sirarpi was one of the first students to be admitted to Ayb School in 2011, when the school building wasn't even ready yet.

66 Since the first day, when we came to school and met the founders and benefactors, we, the 14-year-olds, had been surprised to be treated like grown-ups and talked to as equals. At the same time, we learned to be disciplined and responsible in Ayb, not to be afraid of workload and new challenges. It maybe helped me to start working right from the first year in university. By the time of my graduation, I had already gained four years of experience at various companies and had the confidence that I could start my own, although small, business.

## **Goodwill Dinner**

Goodwill Dinner is a non-profit charitable project that aims to reimburse the tuition fees of students receiving Ayb High School scholarships. As part of the project, the participants who won the auction meet with a well-known figure, and the funds raised during the meeting are entirely used to pay scholarships for children studying at Ayb High School.





met with the participants of the auction.



## Scholarships for the Best Graduates

Ayb's scholarship project gives our graduates an opportunity to study in the world's best universities.

In 2020, the budget for scholarships was USD 195 426. Arman Tigranyan, Gevorg Khandamiryan, Hasmik Avagyan, Hasmik Hakobyan, Zhanna Sarukhanyan, Tatevik Martirosyan and Ani Khachatryan received scholarships in 2020.



**Arman Tigranyan**University of California, Berkeley

During these years I have changed my specialization from physics to programming and got a job for the first time in parallel with my studies. After being an intern in programming, I received a bachelor's degree in computer science getting 3.97 points out of the possible 4.0. During these four years I learned a lot, also realized what I didn't know, so decided to continue my studies. I am glad to announce that I have been successfully admitted to the University of California, Los Angeles with full financial aid.



#### Emilya Simonyan Cambridge University

This year I started to study a field that I am very curious about— neurobiology. Next year we'll get an opportunity to study the science topics we are interested in. I have decided to conduct laboratory research in the fields of neurology and oncology. I want to study the ways of treating cancer, neurodegenerative diseases and nerve injuries of humans and animals. This will help me with my future specialization in clinical neurology and oncology.

Hasmik Hakobyan University College London

l've successfully completed the second year of University College London; that was incredible. I studied the fundamental subjects of chemistry, mathematics and informatics. This year helped me get an idea of my future specialization in chemistry. I improved my practical knowledge in the field of chemistry, as I had eight-hour laboratory classes a week. I also had an opportunity to get acquainted with the Armenian community in London.





### **Donation to Artsakh**



Entire Ayb united around a community initiative to stand by the homeland to face the war, the main disaster of 2020. Thanks to the fundraising, the Ayb community together with its friends donated USD 125 118 to the Hayastan All-Armenian Fund, and joined various volunteer and social initiatives to alleviate the burden of the state in that very fatal year.

## **Our Sponsors:**

Ayb's I large-scale projects are realized thanks to the constant support of our benefactors.

Thank you for sharing our ideas, for investing your time and money for the development of education and strong community.

Today we are building the future of our country together.

## Strategic Sponsors

Artur Janibekyan David Yang

David Pakhchanyan

Matevos Aramyan

Sergey Hambartsumyan

According to the charter of the Ayb Educational Foundation, taking into account donations and investments, three groups of sponsors were identified: strategic sponsors, permanent sponsors with financial obligations, and permanent sponsors. This principle is also applied in the formation of the Board of Trustees.

## Permanent Sponsors with Financial Obligations

AGBU, Vasken Yakoubian

Aram Pakhchanyan

Arsen Sargsyan

Artak Hovhannisyan

Artur Alaverdyan

Artur Janibekyan

Ashot Mkrtchyan

Avetik Chalabyan

David Pakhchanyan

**David Yang** 

Karo Sargsyan

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Sergey Hambardzumyan

Silva and Yevgeni Yang

Vahe Amirbekyan

Vardan Babikyan

Victor Akulian

Yulia Danielyan

#### **Sponsors of 2020**

Ani Matevosyan

Anna Hakobyan

Ara Chalabyan

Aram Pakhchanyan

Argishti Stepanyan

Arno Mosikyan

Arpi Topchyan

Arsen Galstyan

Artak Hovhannisyan

Artur Alaverdyan

Artur Gasparyan

Artur Janibekyan

Ashot Mkrtchyan

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Samvel Dovlatyan

Sargis Badalyan

Sergey Hambardzumyan

Shushanik Basmajyan

Silva and Shi Yang

Sona Koshetsyan

Suren Marashlyan

Talin Saghdasaryan

Tatevik Adamyan

Tatevik Avetisyan

Vahagn Areyan

Vahe Amirbekyan

Vardanyan Family Charity

Foundation

Victor Akulian

Youth Centers, Armenian

Apostolic Church Zigzag LLC

You can see the complete list of our sponsors on the website.

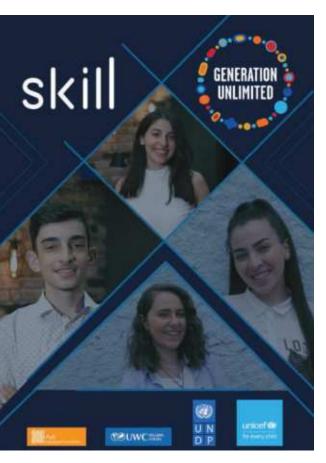








# Generation Unlimited Youth Challenge in Armenia



Attaching importance to the imperative of time—to give birth to ideas and make them reality for the solution of community or social problems—the Ayb Educational Foundation in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and UWC Dilijan College carried out a competition of ideas, Generation Unlimited (GenU), which was attended by 12 teams—50 young people from different marzes of the RA.

The goal of the GenU Global Partnership was to provide expanded education, training and employment opportunities for the children aged 10-24. The five winning teams of the Armenian competition—Word by Word, VR Lab, For the Sake of Changes, CreaActive, Pottery Village— received a prize of USD 1000 each for implementing their projects.



## The final competition had 36 participant countries, among which Armenia was represented by **Word by Word and VR Lab (Ayb School).**



#### **Word by Word**

Word by Word wanted to do everything to protect acoustically challenged children's rights to development, inclusion, education as well as to protect their social and health rights. They were united around the idea of creating, producing and circulating a common surdopedagogical package for the speech development of children with hearing problems. The money won helped them create the initial version of the package.

#### **VR Lab**

Because of the absence of appropriate chemical laboratories and equipment, children are not able to practically strengthen their theoretical knowledge. As a solution, the team offers innovative VR (virtual reality) glasses, through which children will be able to conduct accurate experiments without appropriate materials and equipment. With the money won, the team hired a programmer and created the first prototype of the glasses.



#### Teams Finishing the Semi-final



#### **CreActive**

CreActive, creative and active, is the name these enthusiastic students have chosen for their team and want to infect everyone with creativeness and activeness. They aim to help young people find their own mission in life from school age, set a goal, develop the necessary skills and abilities, and make the goal a reality. The money won helped them create a platform where the most active young people from universities will come together.

#### For the Sake of Changes

The team came together to improve the living standards of the elderly, young people, children with disabilities, and to solve their problems of the involvement in work processes and inclusion in the society. The team aims to establish a center in Gyumri, which will provide them with permanent employment and a job. With the money won, it acquired the necessary raw materials to make handicrafts.







#### **Pottery Village**

In Aznvadzor community of Lori marz, the team wants to create a small workshop of clay pots, which will serve as an education and employment center for the residents of the community. The center is unique as it will be the first in the region, and the youth will sell agricultural products of the village through the pots. With the money won, the team renovated the area, which is open to the people living in the region and to tourists, and bought the necessary items.

## Tanja Radocaj UNICEF Representative in Armenia

"We are going to develop and create projects with young people. Youth have a unique worldview and can offer solutions needed to get the world back on track. We just need to give them opportunities to cooperate and think creatively."



#### **Dmitry Mariyasin**

UNDP Resident Representative in Armenia



"Through GenU, we hope to inspire Armenian youth to generate new ideas and bring them to life, to contribute to the creation of new opportunities, entrepreneurship initiatives, and workplaces in their communities."





Cash Flow	Cash Inflow	Cash Outflow
General and Administrative Work	72 570 853	50 450 867
We Are Our Borders; All for Artsakh	61 945 499	62 307 957
Ayb Learning Hub	62 217 271	56 575 823
Building C		4 590 962
Scholarships for Ayb School Students	62 217 271	51 984 861
Competitions	47 370 469	93 988 597
Math Kangaroo competition	32 546 699	22 456 691
Russion Bear Cub contest		11 984 336
Tournament of Young Chemists	7 219 700	10 683 331
Meghu contest	3 184 070	29 370 533
World Robot Olympiad	2 100 000	11 591 651
Tournament of Chemistry Students	2 320 000	7 902 055
Scholarships for the Students of the World's Best Universities	81 985 621	73 028 993
Project on Creation and Translation of Electronic Resources	27 576 663	33 350 914
Other Projects	77 719 703	82 417 079
Science and Technology Program (FAST)	29 044 145	28 817 246
AB exams	48 675 558	53 599 833
Total	431 380 293	452 120 230



KPMG Armenia LLC 8th floor, Erebuni Plaza Business Center 26/1 Vazgen Sargsyan Street Yerevan 0010, Armenia Telephone + 374 (10) 595 999 Internet www.kpmg.am

# Independent Auditors' Report

#### To the Board of Trustees of Ayb Educational Foundation

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Ayb (the "Foundation"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2020, the statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising significant accounting policies and other explanatory nformation.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material espects, the financial position of the Foundation as at 31 December 2020, and its inancial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with nternational Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are ndependent of the Foundation in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board or Accountants International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including nternational Independence Standards) (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements hat are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the Republic of Armenia, and we nave fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Vanagement is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRS, and for such internal control as management letermines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free rom material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

n preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing he Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters elated to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless nanagement either intends to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations, or has no ealistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Foundation's financial eporting process.

KPMG Armenia LLC, a company incorporated under the Laws of the Republic of Armenia, a member firm of the KPMG network of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Cooperative ("KPMG International"), a Swiss entity





Ayb Educational Foundation independent Aughors' Report Page 2

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HPM9 Arrigana LLC 20 June 2021

## In 2020, the Ayb Educational Foundation:



*transferred AMD* **48 675 558** 

for the international recognition of the Araratian Baccalaureate and examination process



spent AMD 93 988 597

for the organization and accessibility of Ayb's competitions



27 576 663
for free of charge online education



directed AMD 73 028 993

for students studying in the world's best universities



11% of financial resources were directed to administrative work

For foundations, this indicator is 15-40% worldwide, and up to 20% is regarded as the best indicator.

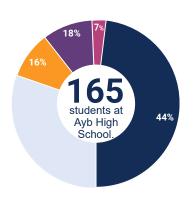


#### Ayb School started the 2020-2021 academic year with 479 students.

Ayb School continues to be faithful to its mission to provide students with an education meeting the requirements of the 21st century, and remains the greatest supporter for them to enter a new, big stage of life with a solid base of knowledge and values.



During this year, **86%** of Ayb High School students received scholarships (tuition fee reimbursement).



27 students were awarded full scholarship

students
received a 96%
tuition fee refund

students received up to **82%** scholarship

students
received up to
30%
scholarship





#### **Graduation Ceremony 2020**

The big family of Ayb was replenished with 70 bright graduates who were accepted in the mentorship program and received certificates.

Thus, Ayb School now has **370** alumni.

# Coping with the Main Challenge of 2020

From the first day of the state of emergency caused by the novel coronavirus pandemic, Ayb School has successfully launched distance learning. Ayb's teachers and students continued the educational process using the Microsoft Teams platform, which they had used before. Ayb has always been an advocate of testing educational innovations and new methods; it has also expressed willingness to share its experience, contributing to the improvement of the Armenian education system. In emergency conditions, Ayb School initiated a series of webinars on distance learning. They lasted more than a month and were carried out by our teachers and students.



# **Ayb Standing by the Homeland**



This year, Ayb's New Year exhibition-fair took place in a unique format. The Ayb alumni organized an online auction, which had always been an integral part of the fair. This year's auction had a slightly different meaning. It was charitable, with a purpose to help our wounded soldiers. All the money raised was transferred to the Homeland Defender's Rehabilitation Center.

During a six-day auction, the school managed to raise AMD 292 000 by selling most of the items presented.

Dozens of Ayb alumni and employees of different years took part in the military operations. Levon Hovsepyan, a 2020 Ayb graduate, died heroically during the second Artsakh war. He had joined the army two months before the war.



#### **Events of the Year**





Ayb School hosted the exclusive screening of Lorik movie. The producer of the movie is Ayb's benefactor and friend Martiros

Minasyan, who thinks the movie presents the social, political and daily problems of the Armenian society. But this isn't a movie for Armenians only; it is for everyone and about everyone.

The VR Lab team representing Ayb
School became the winner of the
second round of the Generation
Without Borders Challenge. The Word
by Word team that includes Ayb graduate
Mariam Ghazaryan made it to the second
round of the competition.



## **Guests of the Year**

The school hosted online meetings with cartographer Rouben Galichian, analyst Areg Kochinyan, famous fashion professor Giovanni Ottonello, and physicist Garik Israelian.



Rouben Galichian



Areg Kochinyan



Giovanni Ottonello



Garik Israelian

# Achievements of the Year



Ayb School students

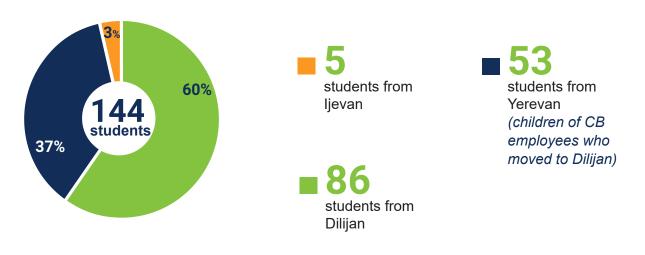
Eteri Sargsyan, Suren Tadevosyan, Meruzhan Khachatryan and Ani Harutyunyan became winners of the final rounds of the Republican Subject Olympiad and were awarded individual scholarships.





Dilijan Central School is our first project by external order. It was established by the Ayb Foundation jointly with the Central Bank of Armenia.

In 2020, 144 students attended Dilijan Central School (DCS).







In the 2019-20
academic year, 7
graduates of DCS
were admitted to the
10th grade of Ayb High
School.





# Dilijan Central School Standing by the Homeland

With the purpose to help our homeland at war, the school teachers came up with the initiative "Donate money, develop your knowledge." **The** teachers prepared a series of fascinating educational courses on various topics, designed not only for schoolchildren but also for adults. The total proceeds, AMD 217 000, were transferred to the Hayastan All-Armenian **Fund.** The participants' reaction to the courses was very positive; many of them expressed a desire to ensure their continuity. Taking into account this circumstance as well as emphasizing the charitable purpose of the initiative, the school teachers will develop a new series of courses for the benefit of our country and for the enrichment of the knowledge of our students.



## Dilijan Central School in 2020



DCS staff and students prepared with great enthusiasm for Candlemas (Tyarnendaraj). The holiday was celebrated in the yard of the Dilijan church with happy songs and dances, and a reception was organized by the school



As part of the Russian language course, the third and fourth graders of DCS initiated an event on the occasion of "Maslenitsa." The children did not have time to present it orally. Instead, the event became available as a video.





January 24 is celebrated as International Day of **Education.** A video dedicated to the International Day of Education was prepared with the participation of DCS students.



Watch the video



June 1, International Children's Day, became a real holiday for DCS students being in isolation.



Watch the video



The seventh generation of DCS graduates was given a special farewell.



Watch the video

## **Events of the Year**

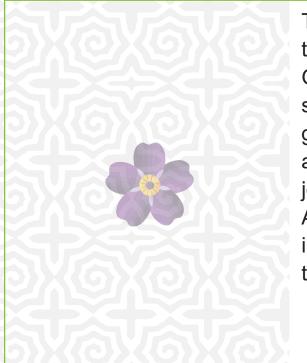


On February 20, the community competition on programming dedicated to the memory of Ashot Hovhannisyan was organized for the third time in DCS. Its 20 participant students were from the schools of Dilijan community. The aim of the competition is to develop computer and technology education in Dilijan.





On February 13, a regular teacher training seminar was held at Dilijan Central School. The topic was "Modern Approaches to the Management of Learners' Behavior."



The ninth graders of DCS carried out two projects on the Armenian Genocide. In one of the projects, the students told stories about the genocide heard from their parents and grandparents. The other one—the joint work of two students studying at Ayb School and DCS—was an interview with the teachers on the topic of the Armenian Genocide.

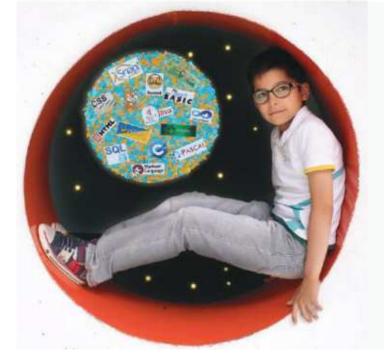
## **Achievements of the Year**



The students of Dilijan Central School actively participated in school olympiads.

Arsen Melkonyan, a fifth-grade student, was awarded a third class diploma in the republican round of the Mathematics Olympiad. Among the winners of the republican round of the Write On 2020 contest in Armenia were also students representing DCS.

6th Grade
1st place – Mane Stepanyan
7th Grade
3rd place - Vahagn Aloyan
9th Grade
3rd place – Lilit Kakoyan

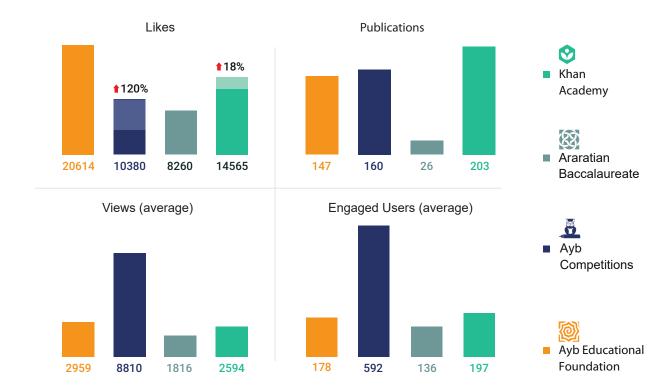








#### On Social Media



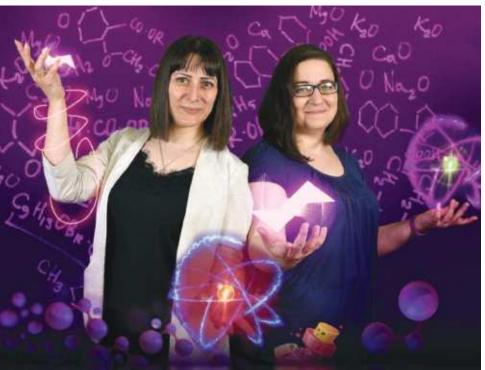
#### On Media

- 90 positive publications (including TV)
- 6 videos
- 12 press releases

#### **In Community**

- Annual reports in three languages (video and online)
- 10 monthly newsletters
- more than 100 success stories

















The goals of the Ayb Educational Foundation are realized thanks to the efforts of its purposeful team. We strive to be faithful to the mission of Ayb—to provide the best educational opportunities for children and to promote a culture of quality in Armenia. Although in 2020 the Ayb team started working remotely, none of the projects carried out in the new conditions of corporate culture were suspended. Moreover, all the projects were realized in the emergency situation through new technological solutions.





In 2020, the bases for a number of new and large-scale initiatives were laid that will make 2021 a year of active educational processes.









Together with UNICEF Armenia, Ayb will hold courses on basic life skills in all marzes of the RA.

As part of the EU COVID-19 Solidarity Program for the Eastern Partnership, with a grant received from the People In Need Charitable NGO through Khan Academy, Ayb will provide free high quality education in the Armenian language to the students and teachers in Shirak, Lori and Kotayk marzes.

Ayb becomes one of the partners of the Mission: Talent project, which aimes at discovering, developing and applying human potential. The organizer of the project is Rosatom Corporate Academy with which a memorandum of cooperation was signed. According to that, Ayb is going to invest its experience of the development of teachers and school leadership in the Russian Federation.



With the financial support of the United Nations Development Program, the Ayb Educational Foundation, together with EV Consulting CJSC and AD-WISE Business and Legal Consulting, provides consulting services to the NA Standing Committee on Science, Education, Culture, Diaspora, Youth and Sport of the Republic of Armenia. Consulting topics are as follows:

- ✓ Efficient ways of improving the procedures for granting teachers the right to work in the educational institutions and filling the vacancies
- ✓ Distance education as a way of maintaining country's development, education continuity, and socialization
- ✓ Core issues of non-formal education, including the area of extracurricular education and priorities of legislative regulation
- Compliance of the RA Law on Bases of the Cultural Legislation (November 20, 2002, No. ZR-465) and of legal relations arising from it with the international obligations and solutions of modern core issues



Under the EC-World Bank Partnership program, the Ayb Educational Foundation, with the support of MoESCS of the Republic of Armenia and as part of the teacher training component of the EU4Innovation's pilot program, conducts training for the natural science and mathematics teachers of second, fifth, seventh and tenth grades and for school leadership teams in all 80 schools in Tavush marz. This program is important as Ayb, based on its experience of the Araratian Baccalaureate, will create a teaching model that will be implemented throughout the whole country in the future.



Ayb's educational programs will continue in 2021, giving priority to the introduction of project-based education in the marzes of the Republic of Armenia and in Artsakh as well as investing efforts to create educational opportunities for the Armenian Diaspora.



Charity for Ayb programs means investment in the future of Armenia. Even the smallest donation can be of great value. Donate to our educational programs and give an opportunity for a better future for our children and our country.

# Donate.ayb.am

Donate a future



Ayb Educational Foundation 1/21-1 Azatutyan Ave Yerevan 0037 Republic of Armenia +374 77 010 863 +374 60 701 707 info@ayb.am ayb.am

