

THE ARMENIAN CENTER AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

THE MAKING OF ARMENIAN AMERICA

OCTOBER 9–11, 2026

Columbia University School of Social Work

1255 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY 10027

FRIDAY

October 9, 2026

1:30–2:15 p.m.	REGISTRATION
2:15–2:30 p.m.	WELCOME REMARKS — KIM HEKIMIAN
2:30–3:30 p.m. PANEL 1	Armenian American Bibliographies Chair: Arthur Ipek Marc A. Mamigonian. “Largely Neglected” No More? The Slow Growth of Armenian-American Historiography Ani Babaian. Armenian Libraries on the U.S. East Coast, 1890s–1950s
3:30–3:45 p.m.	BREAK
3:45–4:45 p.m. PANEL 2	Carrying Armenia Chair: Aleksandr V. Gevorkyan Vartan Matiossian. A Response to the Melting-Pot: Garegin Nzhdeh in America (1933–1934) Khatchig Mouradian. David Atamian: From Genocide Survivor to Armenian American Witness
4:45–5:00 p.m.	BREAK
5:00–6:00 p.m. PANEL 3	Sound and Script Chair: Nicole Vartanian Sylvie L. Merian. “Armenian? What’s That?”: Looking to Museums for Answers Sylvia Alajaji. On the Musical Worlds of the Armenian-American Diaspora in the 21st Century
6:00–6:15 p.m.	BREAK
6:15–7:15 p.m. PANEL 4	Hybrid Imaginations Chair: Paul Boghossian Eric Nazarian. Hollywood Buzz Peter Balakian. Armenian American Literary Imagination: Hybridized Invention

SATURDAY

October 10, 2026

9:00–10:30 a.m. PANEL 5	Armenians and the City Chair: Hrag Vartanian Armen Manuk-Khaloyan. Taking Manhattan: Global Commerce and the Making of the Armenian-American Rug-Trading Empires Antreas Hindoyan. Already New Yorkers? Armenians and the Making of a Cosmopolitan City Nora Lessersohn. “Yankees of the East”: Christopher Oscanyan’s New York Herald Columns (1860–61)
10:30–10:45 a.m.	BREAK
10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m. PANEL 6	Armenian American Voices and Votes Chair: Nancy Kricorian Jennifer Manoukian. Babel in the New World: Language Practices and Politics in Early Armenian American Communities (1890s–1950s) Talar Chahinian. The Making of an Armenian Diasporic Reading Public: Nor Kir and Hairenik Monthly in the Early United States Diaspora Bedros Torosian. “At the Ballot Box”: Armenian Voting in U.S. Presidential Elections (1904–1944)
12:15–1:15 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
1:15–2:15 p.m. DISPLAY AND PRESENTATION	Display and Presentation Chair: Marc A. Mamigonian Mark A. Momjian. Armenian Immigrants and Higher Education, 1885–1915
2:15–2:30 p.m.	BREAK
2:30–4:00 p.m. PANEL 7	Subjects of Belonging Chair: Alison Vacca David Gutman. Migration Bans, Exclusion Laws, and the Global Politics of Mobility: Armenian and Chinese Migration to the United States in Comparative Perspective Zeynep Gürsel. Following Female Subjects Across Nationality Thomas Simsarian Dolan. Edward Said: Looking toward Armenia
4:00–4:15 p.m.	BREAK
4:15–5:45 p.m. PANEL 8	A Community at War Chair: Nana Shakhnazaryan Benjamin F. Alexander. The Partisan Armenian Press in America from the First World War Through the 1970s Gregory Aftandilian. World War II as a Watershed Period for the Armenian-American Community Ara Sanjian. Adamantly Divided... Despite a Common Cause: Armenian Americans during WWII
5:45–6:00 p.m.	BREAK
6:00–7:30 p.m. PANEL 9	The Armenian Cause in America Chair: Harout Ekmanian Michael Bobelian. When opportunity strikes! The Prospects and Limitations of Armenian-American Advocacy from WWI to the End of the Cold War Victoria Abrahamyan. Vahan Cardashian, Armenian-American Activism, and Armenian Territorial Claims, 1918–1923 Dikran M. Kaligian. Armenian-American Political Advocacy, 1990–Present

SUNDAY

October 11, 2026

9:00–10:30 a.m. PANEL 10	Archives of Survival Chair: Eylem Delikanlı Kohar Avakian. Impossible Archives, Diasporic Indigeneity, and the Palimpsests of Genocide in New England Asya Darbinyan. From Survivor Testimony to Community Memory: The Story of Hagop Jamgotchian and the Teaching of Armenian Genocide History in America Vahe Sahakyan. Reimagining Homelands: Compatriotic Societies and the Making of Diasporic Translocality among Armenian-Americans
10:30–10:45 a.m.	BREAK
10:45 a.m.– 12:15 p.m. PANEL 11	Faith and Community Chair: Yervant Kutchukian Gegham Mughnetsyan. The Holy Cross Armenian Apostolic Church and Russian Armenians in 1920s Los Angeles Christopher Sheklian. Armenian Evangelicalism and the American Religious Landscape Roberta Ervine. Fight, Flee, Freeze—or Create: Tiran Nersoyan's Alternative Path to an Armenian Future in America
12:15–12:30 p.m.	CONCLUDING REMARKS — KHATCHIG MOURADIAN

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