

Arts of Armenia 2026

Contributor: Denise Karakashian

Twenty-five energetic children ages 8-12 experienced a week of creative activities from July 13-17 during this year's Arts of Armenia program. Students enjoyed a variety of activities around the theme of Royalties and Saints.

Each day began with the Armenian National Anthem and the Hayr Mer. Students then made their way to various sessions where twelve teachers prepared and taught engaging classes. Throughout the week students experienced classes in painting, cooking, dancing, music, literature, and more. They learned about David of Sassoon through an epic poem, painted flags of Armenian Dynasties, understood the connection between religious leaders and royalty, watched a priest's vesting process and got an up-close view of the religious objects and crowns used during the Divine Liturgy.

The students created a gorgeous group mosaic of King Drtad, designed and painted a shield of their family coat of arms, made rojik and ghapama, learned songs and dances, visited the Manoogian Museum, and even wrote and performed a RAP about Vartan Mamigonian! There was a special visit from Queen Keran as her costume was modeled from the Armenian Heritage Collection.

At the week's end, students took all their projects to the church sanctuary where Father Aren Jebejian blessed all their beautiful creations. It was quite a week!