



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION**

**TONY THURMOND**  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

1430 N STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5901 • 916-319-0800 • WWW.CDE.CA.GOV

February 9, 2021

Dear County and District Superintendents, Charter School Administrators, and School Principals:

**Essay and Visual Arts Scholarships to Raise Awareness of  
the Armenian Genocide**

The California Armenian Legislative Caucus is holding two scholarship contests for the 2021 commemoration of the Armenian Genocide. California high school students in ninth through twelfth grade are invited to participate in an essay contest and/or a visual arts contest to increase greater awareness of the Armenian Genocide. **The submission deadline for both contests is Friday, April 9, 2021.**

All winners will be awarded scholarships and a trip to Sacramento to be acknowledged at the California Armenian Legislative Caucus' annual Armenian Advocacy Day during a press conference on April 26, 2021. (Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this may not be an in-person event. Final details will be determined closer to the event date.) Winners will be contacted directly and announced to mainstream and Armenian media by the California Armenian Legislative Caucus on April 16, 2021. Original artwork will be requested from visual arts applicants if selected as a finalist for possible display in the California State Capitol. Scholarship awards are \$1,000 for first place, \$750 for second place, and \$500 for third place in each contest.

Instructions and criteria for the contests are in the news release available at <https://a46.asmdc.org/press-releases/20210129-california-legislators-announce-essay-and-visual-arts-scholarships-raise>. Students may enter both contests, but submissions must be entered separately.

If you have any questions, please contact Grace Dikho, Legislative Assistant, Office of Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian, at 916-319-2046 or [Grace.Dikho@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Grace.Dikho@asm.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Thurmond".

Tony Thurmond  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

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