

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## ANOUSH SARKISYAN CLASS OF 2000

### **How long did you attend A.G.B.U. Manoogian-Demirdjian School?**

I attended AGBU from Kindergarten (1987) through 12th grade (2000).

### **What is your favorite experience at AGBU MDS?**

My favorite experience at AGBU was the feeling I had every day when I would walk onto campus, namely, that our school was a home away from home. The teachers and administration sincerely cared for our well-being and did not hesitate in going the extra mile to ensure our success and groom us into decent human beings with a sense of morals and ethics.

### **Which teacher inspired you and how?**

Ms. Hodson; she taught me to be an analytical thinker and appreciate the beauty of literature and poetry.

Mr. Paulus; instilled a love of history and politics, which helped pave the road for my further studies at UCLA.

### **What was the funniest moment you remember growing up at AGBU MDS?**

Theater class with Mr. Satamian, and my role as an annoying widow who thought very highly of herself...It was a fun and colorful experience.

### **What was your favorite class at AGBU MDS and why?**

History. By learning about the past, I was able to understand the growth and development of so many countries around the world.

### **What advice would you give to a student who is entering his/her freshman year in high school? To a senior?**

Freshman: Explore all potential interests you have for a future career. Research, volunteer, and take advantage of different opportunities that are available for students.

Senior: Your future is a blank canvas and you are the artist. Each step you take in life and each relationship you enter into will be a stroke on that canvas. Be kind to people. Do research and think before you take any action--don't act hastily. Work hard but always make time for yourself. Stay positive.

### **What do you wish someone told you about high school before you started?**

To always think about my future and career, and where I wanted it to go. To find a mentor in the field I wanted to study. I knew I would continue my education in history and politics. I later learned that there are so many opportunities at government agencies for high school students, such as in the State Department. I wish I had known that while I was in high school. This same concept can be applied for students interested in other areas.

**What would you have done differently at AGBU MDS to prepare for college/career? What could have AGBU MDS done differently?**

Volunteer in career-oriented offices and agencies. To have AGBU facilitate student involvement in such volunteer efforts, by providing a list of possible volunteer opportunities in different areas of knowledge, such as law, medicine, engineering, liberal arts, etc.

**Which college did you attend? What was your major or field of study in college, what degrees did you earn?**

I attended UCLA after I graduated AGBU. I double majored in history and classical civilization. I earned a degree in Bachelor of Arts. I attended and graduated from Loyola Law School.

**How did you decide on your career?**

I am an attorney. I always enjoyed learning about government, history, and politics, and wanted a foundation in the law.

**Where do you work and what do you do?**

I started my law practice, Sarkisyan Law Group, in January 2011. I currently handle general civil litigation matters, with a focus on business disputes. Prior to that, I was working at a law firm. During law school, I interned at the California Attorney General's office.