



HYE HOKI PROFILE

www.hyehoki.com

HYE HOKI PROFILE

1. Background

In May 2001 an Australian-Armenian Youth Forum brought together a diverse group of young Australian-Armenians to discuss, debate and explore ways to foster positivity, productivity and vision amongst the young members of the community.

The Forum identified that members of this community have great potential and ability to achieve success both in Australia and Armenia. However, some problems have inhibited this potential and ability and they were noted in the Australian-Armenian Youth Forum Manifesto:

- There is a lack of overall vision, leadership and direction in the community. This does not mean that there is a lack of leaders, or the lack of vision and ideas, but rather that the absence of the big picture and of a coordinated platform for youth makes it difficult for such leaders to mobilise the youth and channel their energies.
- Many youth are unaware of what is happening in their own community.
- Sometimes ideological and other differences, which are in themselves healthy and need to be maintained and encouraged, can nevertheless present boundaries to cooperation. This is largely due to the lack of communication between various youth organisations, enterprises and groups.
- Those of our Australian-Armenian youth who have visited Armenia in recent years have struggled to find a supportive network for ongoing involvement in projects for the Homeland.

The Forum helped the participants understand and shed light on these issues in the Australian-Armenian community. The success of the forum inspired many of the participants and as a result Hye Hoki emerged.

2. Introduction

Hye Hoki is a non-partisan, non-denominational youth network of Australian-Armenian individuals, organisations, groups and business enterprises. It aims to facilitate the development of the Armenian community in Australia.

Hye Hoki was established in order to:

- Provide a means of bringing the community together;
- Encourage the youth to network with each other and with existing organisations, groups and projects;
- Offer the youth a forum or a medium to contribute and share their ideas and resources;
- Encourage participation in existing projects and provide a support base for new projects; and
- Preserve our unique identity as Armenians in Australia.

Hye Hoki does not aim to undermine existing organisations and their membership, but rather facilitate their activities and encourage participation by disseminating information and increasing awareness about them.

HYE HOKI PROFILE

One means through which Hye Hoki will achieve this is with its e-mail mailing list, which was created at the first gathering and has been growing rapidly.

To benefit from this list Hye Hoki will also encourage interest and participation through regular public forums and/or debates, social gatherings and opportunities for those with new ideas to find a support base.

For example, the concept of an Armenian Festival was discussed at the Forum. Such a festival would be an ideal way to involve Australian-Armenians from a variety of backgrounds in an event that can unite the community and raise awareness in the wider Australian community.

However, these types of projects are not necessarily Hye Hoki only projects, but rather youth and community projects that receive support and resources from the Hye Hoki network.

3. Hye Hoki – The Website

www.hyehoki.com

Hye Hoki has identified the importance of using technology to reach the youth.

We have designed a contemporary and innovative web site to be launched on 29th June 2002 that will allow individuals to express their ideas, projects, and ambitions.

The Hye Hoki website will provide information about up-coming community events, current affairs, projects and issues that relate to Armenians living in Australia, and also provide an easily accessible medium through which the Australian-Armenian youth can get involved.

The website also offers numerous future on-line opportunities, and as technology advances it too will evolve and offer increased interactivity.

4. Objectives

Hye Hoki has evolved since its inception, but its goals and objectives have remained unchanged.

The Forum in May 2001 proved that a group of interested, enthusiastic and motivated people can come up with many great ideas. However, these and many more people are needed to make these ideas a reality and a success.

Thus, Hye Hoki's overarching goal will always be to stimulate communication, understanding, tolerance and inclusion in the Australian-Armenian community.

5. Conclusion

Hye Hoki believes in the power and potential of youth, both as individuals and as a collective network of vibrant, energetic, talented, educated, mobilised men and women.

To reach this potential Hye Hoki will encourage participation, foster communication and aim to reignite the community *hoki* (spirit).

Statement of Objectives

1. To provide a network to connect Australian-Armenian youth with each other; Armenians from the homeland and around the world; and with existing Armenian organizations, through social interaction, activities and involvement in projects
2. To encourage social interaction among youth of Armenian descent as well as other interested persons.
3. To provide Australian-Armenian organisations and individuals with a place to promote their activities and to provide information about Armenian community events, both locally and abroad.
4. Promote interaction between Australian-Armenian youth of all backgrounds and persuasions by organising social activities
5. To raise awareness and promote the education of Armenians living in Australia on issues of concern to Armenians living in both the homeland and in the Diaspora; and other issues of general interest.
6. To stimulate an awareness of such issues in the wider Australian community.
7. To offer a forum for the presentation and discussion of these issues, and to undertake further research where appropriate.
8. This Association is a non-partisan organisation.