

Bio of Armenia Retreat Faculty: 23- 28 June 2023 in historic & spiritual Tatev Armenia

Dr. Ani Kalayjian, a licensed multi-lingual and multicultural clinician, scientist, practitioner, professor of psychology at Columbia University, international consultant, Fellow of the APA, Fellow of New York Academy of Medicine, Ambassador of Psi Chi, author of 6 major books and over a hundred of research articles, 35 years of leadership within the United Nations and its NGO community working closely with others in 50 countries, and 26 states in USA, to expand human rights, peace building, conflict transformation, nurturing emotional intelligence, healing from individual, collective, vicarious, intergenerational & horizontal trauma, and integrating mind body-eco-spirit. Founder of Meaningfulworld, & certified in EMDR, Electromagnetic Field Balancing, Yoga, meditation, Tapping & Red Cross.

Karine (Ryna) Arshakyan is a Certified Art & Special Ed. Teacher, certified in Neurographica, a Life Coach & Breath Work. She is born in Armenia and immigrated to the U.S. in 2001. She is actively involved in the practice and promotion of various techniques geared towards personal and spiritual growth. Her work with all age groups from art therapy, life coaching to holistic healing and meditation spans over three decades and includes international workshops, holistic retreats, and Neurographica groups. Ryna is a proud mother of four daughters all of whom are successful artists in music and visual arts.

Karen Hakobian is an artist, musician and researcher based in Yerevan and New York. His series of “Conversations under the tree” are experimental strategies for collective autonomy and healing. With Paris based V. Zaryan Theater Company, he was conceptualizing and practicing body, gesture, movement, and sound practices in the context of exile, identity, and transformation. His approach on `body as a recorder` was implemented in “Speaking to one another” oral history project. Author of publications and trainings for several hundred organizations in Armenia and the region. He obtains MS degree in Educational Technology (Netherlands) and will receive a master’s degree in Positive Psychotherapy (Germany).

Instructors:

Mr. John Gyumishyan is a certified full-time teacher of Transcendental Meditation (TM) – a technique for peace & tranquility. He has been TM practitioner for over 20 years. He has participated in advanced meditation course for about 4 years. John was a musician at first, graduating from Yerevan State Conservatory and taught music/guitar for several years in public music schools. He is very inspired by TM and taught many people in Armenia. To John, the idea that people can live happy, free from suffering, and with full self-realization, is very inspiring.

Mr. Mikayel Tadevosyan is born, lives, and works in Yerevan. He graduated from the Yerevan State Conservatory and is a musician and a teacher. In addition, he is a master's student in positive psychotherapy and personality psychology. Mikayel is a certified international basic consultant in the Positive & Transcultural Psychotherapy. Mikayel likes to merge the two professions, creating new possibilities. He is a French Horn teacher in Avet Terteryan school. He values family and culture and is a highly motivated person always putting his positive energy to achieve new perspectives and horizons.

Anush Hovhannesyan is an educator with more than 40 years' experience teaching in public schools in Armenia, conducting trainings and coaching for NGOs in the field of assessment, networking, and coalition building. She is specialized in *neurographics*, which is a new trend in Art therapy, and currently, she works as art therapist and Russian language teacher at Tnak" children's development center in Yerevan. She obtained a Positive Psychotherapy Counselor certificate from Wiesbaden School of Positive Psychotherapy and developed her special training called "7 keys to 7 doors" for individual and group therapy and growth.