

Incoming Student Commissioner Application from Victoria Airapetian

Name: Victoria Airapetian

(Please keep 300 words or less); In the modern day, everyone would like to think that we, as a society, are well down the road to the acceptance of those who differ from ourselves. However, even in diverse areas such as Howard County, that are filled with the highly-educated, we still have a long ways to go before discrimination is truly eradicated. As the Howard County Student Human Rights Commissioner, I would be fully committed to speaking for my fellow students, as well as proposing new ways of encouraging acceptance --- starting with spreading knowledge of different cultures and religions by getting everyone involved. During this past year, I have learned the importance of learning about foreign cultures and customs, and how the world thrives because of them, from my AP Human Geography class. In addition, I also have a lot of leadership experience; not only am I an active leader in my school French Club and church Culture Club, but I am also an active member of the National Honors Society and Horizon Club, for both of which I engage in many hours of community service. I also have excellent communication skills; and am very open minded and empathetic, which will allow me to speak for my peers and effectively fight for the human and moral rights that every person deserves. As a child of two immigrants, both of which were born and raised in Armenia, I am very aware of the racial ignorance that exists in many young people and adults alike --- most people have never even heard of my country. As a result, I have experience with both growing up in a non-traditional American household, as well as in dealing with racial and cultural ignorance. With my experiences, along with my defining attributes, I believe that I would be the best candidate for allowing students voices to be heard and represented, as the Student Commissioner of Human Rights.