

# The Balázs Scholars Program

*A tangible connection to our Heritage*



Each year the Balázs Scholars Program at Starr King School for the Ministry brings a Hungarian Transylvanian Unitarian minister to study at the school and to preach in the San Francisco Bay Area and throughout the country.

Balázs scholars are committed to not only improving the lives of their fellow Hungarians in Transylvania, where Unitarianism began over 400 years ago, but also to sharing with North American Unitarian Universalists the breadth and depth of their passion and caring for their homeland.

The Balázs Program is immensely successful, providing meaningful educational experience for Transylvanian ministers, making lasting connections between Hungarian Transylvanian Unitarians and ministers and congregations in the US, educating US congregations about Transylvanian Unitarianism, and Starr King Students about Transylvania, Romania, and the reality of living as an oppressed minority. Balázs Scholars add vitality and breadth to Starr King classes. They help to strengthen Partner Church programs.

Balázs Scholars are the new young religious leaders in Transylvania. They serve on the Hungarian Unitarian Church Consistory (Board of Trustees), and as assistant to the Bishop. They teach at the seminary and Hungarian speaking high school in Kolozsvár, and are Deans of the Districts, as well as serving in the parish and as chaplains.



2012-2013 Balázs Scholar, Rev. Adél Nagy serves as the minister in Recsenyéd, a congregation in the Homoród valley where the village population of about 130 is 98% Hungarian Unitarians. She describes herself as “a simple, modest person, open to new experiences and with a great desire to learn more about Unitarian-Universalism.” “I am,” she says, “particularly interested in the organizational life and dynamics of Unitarian Universalist congregations, community building, conflict resolution and of course, pastoral care. I am looking for ways and methods to revive congregational life outside the church, between Sundays.”

The Balázs Scholars Program is funded by donations from individuals, a \$5,000 a year grant from the Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council, donations and Sunday service collections from churches, and honoraria where the Scholar preaches. It costs about \$43,000 a year to support the Balázs Scholar and family.

**For information on the Balázs Scholars Program see [sksm.edu/graduates/balazs\\_scholars.php](http://sksm.edu/graduates/balazs_scholars.php) or contact Arliss Ungar at [Balazs@ungar.us](mailto:Balazs@ungar.us)**

***Your financial help is needed to sustain this important program.  
Please write a check to Starr King School, with the notation “Balázs.”  
Send to Starr King School, 2441 Le Conte Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94709.***

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***(designate Balázs)***

***Thank you for helping the Balázs Scholars Program.***