

For Immediate Release

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## Karabakh Foundation Celebrates Azerbaijan at the Turkish Festival



Washington, D.C. October 3, 2010 The Karabakh Foundation reached out to thousands of visitors at the annual Turkish Festival held on Freedom Plaza, two blocks from the White House, in Washington, D.C. The newly founded U.S. 501 (c) (3) Karabakh Foundation introduced its activities, projects, and

forthcoming events in a series of conversations with visitors, as well as via displays and children's activities.

Founded in 2003, the Turkish Festival [www.turkishfestival](http://www.turkishfestival) is one of the Nation's Capital's premiere ethnic festivals. The Festival raises awareness of Turkish culture and highlights its role as a bridge connecting the Balkanic, Middle Eastern, Caucasian, and Central Asian cultures. The event features a series of booths, a Turkish bazaar, and tents offering samples of the area's delicious cuisine.



Throughout the event, Karabakh Foundation staff and volunteers interviewed visitors for the Azerbaijani Documentary Project. The Project captures oral histories and preserves material artifacts from individuals with Azerbaijani connections. Visitors of many backgrounds demonstrated support for this key Karabakh Foundation initiative, which ultimately will form an archive of Azerbaijani materials not found elsewhere.



Visitors with varying degrees of knowledge of Azerbaijan and the Caucasus pored over maps on display. Many expressed interest in attending the new Foundation's fall events, which include a photo display and an exhibition by young Azerbaijani artist Halima Aleskerova, both focused on the region of Karabakh. Young guests competed for prizes playing "Test Your Knowledge of Azerbaijan."



### **About the Karabakh Foundation**

*The Karabakh Foundation seeks to increase awareness and understanding in the United States of the cultural heritage and traditions of the country of Azerbaijan, the Caucasus area, and the Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. While coalescing significant artistic and scholarly talent, the Foundation is nurturing a new generation of artists and scholars toward important accomplishments.*

*The Foundation serves as a dynamic facilitator and clearinghouse raising the public profile of Azerbaijan, its Karabakh region, and the Caucasus region in general. Main activities include preserving and disseminating cultural content via archival collecting, public programs, publications, exhibitions, speaking forums, international collaborations, scholarly exchange, artistic sponsorship, and related venues.*

*Foundation support comes primarily from Khazar University, the first private university in Azerbaijan and one of the country's leading institutions of higher learning. Additional information about the Karabakh Foundation may be found at [www.karabakhfoundation.org](http://www.karabakhfoundation.org).*

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