



...Culture, arts, & heritage of Azerbaijan & the Caucasus

For Immediate Release

Contact: Michelle Estrada

press@karabakhfoundation.org

May 16, 2011 Washington, D.C.—Executive Director Diana Altman gave an opening speech at the Azerbaijan Day hosted by The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) on May 13, 2011. More than 50 attendees—including faculty, students, and members of the diplomatic and business communities—enjoyed the traditional Azerbaijani dance performances by the Silk Road Dance Company, *mugham* music played by top performer Jeffrey Werbock, and delicious Azerbaijani food. In her opening remarks, Ms. Altman recognized the performers and praised Azerbaijani culture maintaining its identity over the years and throughout significant historical changes.



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. Support also comes from the U.S.-based Allaverdy Foundation. Additional information about the Karabakh Foundation may be found at www.karabakhfoundation.org.

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