

November 28, 2011

Dear Friend of Azerbaijani Culture,

I am writing to you today to seek your support of Azerbaijani culture.

Today the significance of Azerbaijani culture is felt in the streets and homes of Azerbaijan, where some Azerbaijanis appear in national costumes, listen to music by Uzeyir Hajibeyov, perform national dances, prepare Azerbaijani delicacies. . . .

The Karabakh Foundation is the United States' leading comprehensive cultural foundation dedicated to sharing the Azerbaijani cultural experience. Staff and volunteers bring decades of cultural development training to public events, publications, and to programs in museums, libraries, archives, and more.

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Your support of the Karabakh Foundation tells the world that Azerbaijan and Azerbaijani culture matter.

Your contribution helps us to sustain exhibits such as *Karabakh on My Mind*, public programs like *Azerbaijan Rugs: Gifts to the World*, publications with names like *Azerbaijan's Musical Legacy* . . .

Here is what Foundation supporters have made possible in 2011:

2011 Accomplishments: Building Blocks

- **Combined audience of some 2,000 people to the March "Rhythms of Azerbaijan" and TURKSOY concerts**, which in living dimension of sight and sound demonstrated Azerbaijani and Turkic folk traditions.
- **More than 10,000 rug avid radio listeners to the Azerbaijani Radio Hour: The Voice of the Karabakh Foundation**, which brings Azerbaijani traditions, heritage, and music into American homes and onto the Web every week.
- **Hundreds of participants in the Foundation's Azerbaijani Rug Initiative**, which featured outdoor music/dance performances and rug displays at the Washington, D.C., Museum Walk Weekend; intimate showroom discussions and gatherings courtesy of longtime dealers David Zahirpour in Washington, D.C., and David Lotfallahi in Falls Church, Virginia; and the inclusion of Azerbaijani textiles materials in displays at the Washington-area Turkish Festival and elsewhere.

- Hundreds of attendees at art exhibitions focused on Azerbaijan and on the history of the Karabakh region, held at art galleries around Washington, D.C.
- Several hundred attendees at a concert of Azerbaijani, Armenian, and Georgian music cosponsored with the Smithsonian Institution—the national museum of the United States—at the Freer/Sackler Galleries.
- Extension of the range of Azerbaijani content in a leading U.S. research venue—the U.S. Library of Congress—via donations and presentations
- Web-accessible research on topics ranging from Azerbaijani women's history to facts about the Karabakh region; also a blog addressing a range of writers and interests
- Children's programming reaching a vast number of young people, including traditional Nevruz (Novruz) celebration, educational games, and special displays.

Moving Forward

In 2012 the Karabakh Foundation is expanding its endeavors with an emphasis on scholarship and innovative partnerships. Here is a taste of what you can expect in the coming year:

- A series of online exhibits that will serve as a virtual museum of Azerbaijani heritage.
- Publications highlighting Azerbaijan's cultural contributions to world culture.
- Accessioning of artifacts to the Foundation's collections/archive, providing enhanced research opportunities.
- More fact sheets and white papers related to heritage and cultural topics.
- Expansion of Foundation programming beyond Washington, D.C.
- New and innovative partnerships that increase Azerbaijani visibility
- Launch of Karabakh Foundation Grants and Fellowships Program empowering partnerships between key institutions and individuals
- Implementation of a nationwide network for the Foundation's Azerbaijani Documentary Project, ensuring that more Azerbaijani life stories are recorded and preserved in the Foundation's archive.

Your contribution enables the Foundation's unique voice—your voice—the voice of Azerbaijani culture in its many dimensions—to be heard in the United States and beyond!

Donors are recognized in Karabakh Foundation publications. The Foundation is a U.S. cultural charity 501(c)(3) foundation, and U.S. donors' contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.

How to Donate

You can donate via <http://karabakhfoundation.org/pages/donate/>, by sending a check, or by calling with your credit-card number. Reach office staff at

1128 16th Street, Northwest

Washington, D.C. 20036

[202-457-1450](tel:202-457-1450)

Kelsey@KarabakhFoundation.org