



The
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Since 1949

[Press Release] The American Turkish Society Supports Teaching about Turkey in the U.S.

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Applications are now accepted for Curriculum Development Grants

New York, NY—February 10, 2010—The American Turkish Society's Education Program is pleased to announce the availability of Curriculum Development Grants in 2010.

The first grant of its kind to be awarded by The American Turkish Society, the program will offer funds to elementary and secondary school teachers in New York City and the tri-state area to develop innovative curricula, projects and other classroom activities about Turkey. "There is a great need to enhance knowledge and understanding of Turkey among teachers and students in the United States," remarked Laurence Pettit, Chairman of The Society's Education Committee.

Grants will vary between \$250 and \$2,500, and will cover the costs of research, materials, speakers, and other costs incurred by the school or the teacher. Project scope, availability of total funds, and the number of projects selected through a competitive process will determine the grant amount to each recipient. The American Turkish Society encourages all applicants to identify additional sources of funding where possible.

Once selected, the grantees will be free to develop their proposed projects without editorial input from The Society. However, they will participate in follow-up activities for evaluation purposes and will be asked to share any teaching plans, materials and activities with The American Turkish Society for future dissemination. "We aim to cultivate student learning about Turkey with this program and will share best practices with all interested," said Selen Ucak, Executive Director of The American Turkish Society.

Detailed information regarding the application process is available at www.americanturkishsociety.org and completed applications are due by May 15, 2010.

Founded in 1949, The American Turkish Society is America's oldest not-for profit organization seeking to enhance economic, political, and cultural ties between Turkey and the United States. The Society achieves its mission by bringing together leaders in government, including Prime Ministers, Ministers of State and Ambassadors, as well as business leaders, journalists, and scholars covering a spectrum of fields. Its "Meet the Ambassadors" program has hosted numerous U.S. and Turkish Ambassadors over the years. In addition, The Society initiates and sponsors a variety of educational and cultural exchange opportunities between the two countries. The American Turkish Society is a 501 (c) 3 charitable organization.

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Members of the press wishing to learn more about the grant and The American Turkish Society may contact Selen Ucak, Executive Director, at 212-583-7614 or selen.ucak@americanturkishsociety.org