





TWLA ,UN RELATED ANNOUNCEMENT #1




Associated with the United Nations Department of Global Communications




Celebrating International Day of Education

to invest in people, prioritize education

 Turkish House
Auditorium
821 UN Plaza, First Ave.
New York, 10017

Jan 24

5pm-7pm



Please RSVP by Jan 23rd to twla@newyork@gmail.com or (516) 234-5015

For RSVP: <https://forms.gle/4Zag2gQUsixHJfJh9>

“The biggest battle is the war against ignorance.”

Mustafa Kemal Atatürk

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION DAY

Education is a human right, a public good and a public responsibility.

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 24 January as [International Day of Education](#), in celebration of the role of education for peace and development.

Without inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong opportunities for all, countries will not succeed in achieving gender equality and breaking the cycle of poverty that is leaving millions of children, youth and adults behind.

The fifth International Day of Education will be celebrated on 24 January 2023 under the theme “**to invest in people, prioritize education**”. Building on the global momentum generated by the UN Transforming Education Summit in September 2022, this year’s Day will call for maintaining strong political mobilization around education and chart the way to translate commitments and global initiatives into action. Education must be prioritized to accelerate progress towards all the Sustainable Development Goals against the backdrop of a global recession, growing inequalities and the climate crisis.

The focal point of the event is to determine how we could improve the education system to adapt to modern times and prepare for future generations.

PROGRAM

| 24 JANUARY 2023 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION TURKISH CENTER 823 United Nations Plaza, New York Organized by Turkish Women’s League-America Associated with the United Nations Department of Global Communications | |
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| TIME | SPEAKERS |
| 5:00-5:30 | Welcome Vice President -TWLA Ms. Fatma Aldas (5 minutes) Professor David Cuthell Buket Sahin- Village institutes in the history of Turkish Education Professor Selcuk Sirin |
| 5:30-6:00 | Korhan Beba (Executive director of Foundation) Dr. Gul Bahtiyar (NY Director of BTF) Discussion Refreshment |

SPEAKERS

Professor DAVID CUTHELL (HONORARY GUEST)



David moved to Istanbul in 1958 at age 5 and spent the happiest years of his life on the shores of the Bosphorus in Bebek and Rumeli Hisar.

His family was in Turkey off and on until 1972.

He never forgot his early years and returned frequently for vacation, traveling all over the country.

On his retirement from a career in Finance, he attained a PhD in Ottoman History from Columbia University, improving his Turkish at Bosphorus University and learning to read Ottoman at a Harvard University program in Ayvalik.

He went on to teach at Stevens Institute of Technology, Georgetown University and Columbia University. In addition to Turkish History and Topics in Contemporary Turkey, He taught classes on the Role of Women in Modern Turkey, and Turkish Film.

He was Director of the Institute of Turkish Studies in Washington DC for six years and continued as a trustee for many more.

He has been a supporter of the Sabanci Center at Columbia University since inception and this year, they issued the summer intern scholarship in his name.

A highlight of his career was to be asked to serve on the Board of Robert College where he made many good friends and felt that by supporting Turkish education, he was giving back to the country that has been a source of so much pleasure over the years.

Professor SELCUK SIRIN (KEYNOTE SPEAKER)



As an applied psychologist, I use empirical research methods to better understand the needs of children and families, and to arm professionals and policy makers with this knowledge so as to better address the needs of the most vulnerable. The goal that unites all of my work is to enhance the lives of marginalized children using development in context as a general framework. I focus on immigrant children in New York, Muslim youth in the US, refugees in Turkey and Norway, and students at risk in US schools.

I have published my work in top journals, such as *Child Development*, *Developmental Psychology*, *Review of Educational Research*, and *Pediatrics*, in an effort to inform scholars, practitioners, and policy makers about marginalized children. I have also made a concerted effort to get my work to a wider audience both locally and globally, as I believe strongly in “giving scientific knowledge away.” I have served on several policy committees such as the *National Academy of Sciences*, the *Urban Institute*, and the *Migration Policy Institute*. I have collaborated with *UNESCO* and *Save the Children*, in their efforts to improve the lives of refugee children.

Fatma Aldas (Vice President -TWLA)



She is a retired Financial Consultant, stockbroker, international private banker. She served as Vice president and customer Relations Manager at JP Morgan Chase Bank. She retired after 35 years of service in financial sector. Fatma Aldas is married and has two children. She has two wonderful grandkids. Her youngest daughter is a graduate of New York Ataturk School. Fatma Aldas has been serving on the board of directors of TWLA since 2006.

Executive Director of Beba Foundation KORHAN BEBA



Korhan Beba has 25 years of progressive international marketing experience in large multi-national companies managing global brands and market research projects. He brings in-depth knowledge of multiple consumer goods categories in the US, and Eastern European markets. He has also worked in multiple start-ups in the US bringing new initiatives and innovative products by using his corporate entrepreneurial experience to global markets. Korhan has been working full time as the Executive Director of Beba Innovation and Entrepreneurship Foundation since Jan 2020. He has been leading programs like the Greater Good Challenge with Columbia University School of Professional Studies, and the Innovation and Entrepreneurship High School Program at Darussafaka High School in Turkey.

BUKET SAHIN



Buket Şahin was born in eastern Anatolian city of Malatya. As a daughter of a prominent author, she is raised in ISTANBUL with leftist intellectuals visiting their home often; a home with a huge library of over 20 thousand books.

After a happy and imaginative childhood reading world literature, she became fascinated with travel and the exploration of ancient cultures.

After graduating from Istanbul University, she moved to New York and pursued MBA degree. A 10-year professional finance background on Wall Street, Buket Şahin gained an in-depth knowledge and understanding of economics in human behavior. She also participated visual documentary classes at ICP in NYC and served on the board of Moon and Stars Project Foundation for 7 years.

Since 2013, she serves on the editorial board of Magma Magazine. She also worked as a freelance local producer-researcher for over 30 documentaries for international networks such as BBC, Smithsonian Channel and National Geographic.

Her extensive explorations and involvement with cultural projects allowed her to interview renowned authors such as Eduardo Galeano, Paul Auster and Chomsky.

Şahin travelled to over 50 countries with an interest in current affairs and cultural anthropology. Her first book "Latin Amerika 'Yakılan Bellekler': Burned Memories" was a collection of essays written on the road through 17 countries in Central and South America. Second book titled "Sınırların Ötesinde: Beyond the Borders" was a collection of interviews she conducted during her travels. Her third book "FRIDA: Conscience of Mexico" is dedicated to the women of Anatolian nomadic yoruks and Oaxaca's Zapotek weavers.

Her last published book "Manhattan Masalları: Manhattan Tales" is a compilation of essays reflecting her personal observations of NYC from 1991 to the present.

Buket is currently working on a new book titled "Living MAYA", a cultural anthropology comparison of Anatolian & Mayan civilizations.

DR. GUL BAHTIYAR -BTF Director of NY Giving Circle



I was born in Erzurum at Ataturk University in 1974. I am coming from an academic family who believed in the value and importance of education and given all the opportunities to excel in our studies. We moved to Istanbul when I was 11 and attended to Besiktas Ataturk Anadolu Highschool and Istanbul University, Cerrahapasa Medical School. Thereafter I moved to the US to complete internal medicine residency in 1998. I am currently Professor of Medicine at NYU Grossman School of Medicine, Division Chief of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism and Medical Director of Lifestyle Medicine at NYC Heath+Hospitals/Woodhull, Site Program Director for Woodhull, SUNY Downstate Medical Center Endocrine Fellowship Program. I am actively involved in teaching residents, medical students, clinic research and patient care.

In 2014, I established BTF NY/NJ Circle and since then actively volunteering to crowd-raise and fundraise for girls' education in Turkiye. I took the initiate to obtain the consultative status with the United Nation (ECOSOC) for BTF in 2016, organized 3 parallel events at Commission Status of Women (CSW) under UN during World Women's Day. I organized 7th Run4Kids event to raise funds for supporting education of children in need in Turkiye. I have been a board member and am currently the chair of the Community Engagement and Fundraising Committee.

NY Atatürk School TSL Teacher YASEMİN ÜNLÜSOY-Moderator



Yasemin Ünlüsoy graduated with B.A. from Bogazici University, department of translation & interpreting. She worked as a translator, interpreter and language instructor in a number of multinational companies to facilitate the business communication process of expatriate directors in Istanbul. She completed her certificate in English Teaching (CELTA) at New York teaching house and teaches both English and Turkish to adults and Children. Translated five books and miscellaneous articles from and into Turkish interpreted in international meetings on an occasional basis. Yasemin was born and grew up in Izmir. She currently lives in New Jersey with her husband and two sons.

NY ATATÜRK SCHOOL



Founded and sponsored by Turkish Women's League of America (TWLA) since 1971, New York Atatürk School has hundreds of alumni and is the oldest established weekend Turkish educational institution in New York. As a forerunner institution promoting the educational ideals of Atatürk, New York Atatürk School was founded in 1971 with President Ayla Erdamar's diligent work and endeavor and with the support of Consul General Sait Sahipoğlu. At the time, the classes were held at the Turkish Consulate at Rockefeller Center in New York and the school had only 30 students. With the increase in number of students the following year, the classes were held at the leased classrooms in New York Theological Seminary Building. Between 1974-1977, the education continued at the United Nations International School. With the support of Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations İlder Türkmen and Consul General Sıtkı Coşkun, Atatürk School moved to New York Turkish Center after its acquisition in 1977. During the renovation of the Turkish Consulate Building in New York, Atatürk School continued to provide education by leasing classrooms from public schools in the Manhattan area. Since 2022, we accept students from all the United States and Canada through online and in person education. Our program beginning of October and including the second week of June is implemented for a total of 37 weeks. Every Saturday between 11:00-14:00, education-training, cultural and social activities continue successfully without interruption. Our in person educational address is: Eleanor Roosevelt High School 411 East 76th Street New York 10021.

TURKISH WOMEN LEAGUE OF AMERICA (TWLA)



Established on September 17, 1958 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in New York, Turkish Women's League of America (TWLA) aims to preserve and teach Turkish language and culture to the future generations. The organization is one of the oldest active Turkish-American organizations in the USA and is the sole supporter of the NY Atatürk School which has been a pride since 1971. The Turkish Women's League of America's Board of Directors is comprised entirely of volunteer members. The organization and its members adhere to the principles of modern Turkey's founder Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and the values of the Republic and adopt the national, moral, human, spiritual and cultural values of the Turkish Nation. Our Mission is to unite the Turkish women living in America under one roof, to provide solidarity and strength among them. We organize cultural and recreational activities to foster a better understanding between the people of Turkey and the United States. With this awareness, Turkish Women's League of America works devotedly with institutions and nongovernmental organization to achieve and preserve the deserved respected place of women in the society. The Turkish Women's League of America is proud to announce our association with the United Nations Department of Global Communications as of December 10,2021.



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