

Silk Road Festival Runs October 4 to 7

STAFFORD, Texas/ Sept. 12, 2012/ -- The First Silk Road Festival is set to kick off on October 4 at the Stafford Center, in Stafford, South of Houston. The four-day event will bring together hundreds of participants from six major countries along the historic trade route in Eurasia; Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The event will be the most comprehensive and large-scale display of the music, dance, crafts and cuisine of these cultures in the U.S. until now.

The mission of the Silk Road Festival is to introduce visitors to the ethnic, cultural and historic bonds shared by these far-away nations and provide a unique interactive experience rivaled only by visiting the countries themselves.

The festival will feature round-the-clock live performances and craft demonstrations at separate exhibit areas hosted by each country. Dozens of folk dancers and musicians have traveled from all corners of this region to bring to the festival regional dances and dances rarely seen by Western audiences. The program also features evening concerts by world-class musicians and pop stars.

Each area will also have on display life-size replicas of famous landmarks with stands where craftsmen will display traditional arts, from carving to calligraphy.

At the center of the festival grounds there will be a market with 120 stands selling regional foods and crafts including rugs, clothes and jewelry.

The Silk Road Festival will offer entertainment

The Program:

Friday, October 5 -- Omar Faruk Tekbilek, a world-famous master of mystical music specializing in there ney (a traditional flute), and other wind and percussion instruments.

Saturday, October 6 -- The TURKSOY Regional Youth Chamber Orchestra performing classical Turkic music.

Sunday, October 7 -- Rafet El Roman, a chart-topping Turkish pop star and recording artist performing live.

Throughout the festival there will also be performances by FOMGET, an internationally-acclaimed folk group from Turkey showcasing regional dances and costumes.

Tickets for the festival can be purchased from the Silk Road Festival website at

www.silkroadfest.org or at the festival.

For more information about the festival visit www.silkroadfest.org email at silkroadfest@silkroadfest.com.

About the Sponsor

The Turquoise Council of Americans and Eurasians (TCAE) is an independent umbrella organization committed to advancing interaction among American, Turkish, Turkic and Eurasian people. Their mission is to foster educational, academic and business relationships within these communities by organizing events and activities within the United States. TCAE has hosted task forces, executive forums, luncheons, conferences, studies and seminars bringing together diverse communities, regardless of their ethnicity or religion. For more information visit www.turquoisecouncil.org.