



THE U.S. EMBASSY IN TBILISI, GEORGIA

AMBASSADOR'S FUND FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION

2009 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi is pleased to announce a call for proposals for the 2009 Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation program (AFCP).

Since FY 2001, the U.S. Congress has directed the Department of State to support and implement the AFCP. Congress has noted that "Cultural preservation offers an opportunity to show a different American face to other countries, one that is non-commercial, non-political, and non-military. By taking a leading role in efforts to preserve cultural heritage, we show our respect for other cultures."

U.S. Ambassadors in eligible developing countries may submit proposals for projects that help countries preserve their cultural heritage. In FY 2008, awards ranged from US\$8,000 to US\$94,000, with an average award amount of US\$38,000. Posts that are able to implement larger projects are encouraged to submit proposals for such projects.

AFCP supports preservation projects in the following three categories:

- (A) CULTURAL OBJECTS AND COLLECTIONS from a museum, site, or similar institution;
- (B) CULTURAL SITES;
- (C) FORMS OF TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSION.

Please see detailed information about the *PROJECT CATEGORIES*.

**Deadline for application submission is December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.**

Please see *APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS*.

For more information or to submit a project proposal, please contact:

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### **PROJECT CATEGORIES:**

The CULTURAL OBJECTS AND COLLECTIONS category (A) includes archaeological and ethnographic objects, paintings, sculpture, manuscripts, photographic and film collections, and general museum conservation activities. Proposals in this category may involve, for example, conservation treatment for an object or collection of objects; needs assessment of a collection with respect to its condition and strategies for improving its state of conservation; inventory of a collection for conservation purposes; the creation of safe environments for storage or display of collections; or specialized training in the care and preservation of collections.

The CULTURAL SITES category (B) includes (but is not limited to) historic buildings and sites, sacred places, monuments, and archaeological sites. Proposals in this category may involve, for example, restoration of an historic building, an archaeological survey as a component of a preservation plan, preservation management planning for a site, or documentation of sites in a region for preservation purposes.

The FORMS OF TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSION category (C) includes traditional music, rituals, knowledge, languages, dance, drama, and crafts. Proposals in this category may involve documenting and audiovisual recording of traditional music and dance forms as part of a traditional expression and making the information and recordings available, or support for training in the preservation of traditional arts or crafts that are threatened by extinction.

**PHASED AND PILOT PROJECTS:** The Cultural Heritage Center invites posts to submit proposals for phased and pilot cultural preservation projects whose methods and outcomes will advance long-term cultural preservation objectives, lay the groundwork for subsequent AFCP-supported activities, or encourage the continued or expanded application of proven methods at the project site or elsewhere. Posts considering such projects are urged to contact the Center early in the process.

**EXCLUSIONS:** AFCP does not support the following:

- (A) Preservation or purchase of privately or commercially owned cultural objects, collections, or real property
- (B) Conservation of natural heritage (physical, biological, and geological formations, paleontological collections, habitats of threatened species of animals and plants, fossils, etc.)
- (C) Preservation of news media (newspaper, newsreels, etc.)
- (D) Archaeological excavations or surveys for research purposes
- (E) Historical research, except in cases where historical research is justifiable and integral to the success of the proposed project
- (F) Construction of new buildings
- (G) Commissions of new works of art or performances for commemorative or economic development purposes
- (H) Acquisition or creation of new collections for new or existing museums
- (I) Creation of replicas or re-creation of cultural objects or sites that no longer exist
- (J) Relocation of cultural sites from one physical location to another
- (K) Digitization of cultural objects or collections, unless part of a larger, clearly defined conservation effort
- (L) Removal of cultural objects or elements of cultural sites from the country for any reason
- (M) Cash reserves, endowments or revolving funds; funds must be expended within the award period and may not be used to create an endowment or revolving fund or otherwise spent over many years

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- (N) Costs of fund-raising campaigns for preservation
- (O) Costs for administrative time or materials not directly related to performing project work
- (P) Costs of work performed prior to announcement of the award
- (Q) Contingency or miscellaneous fees
- (R) Administrative staff or administrative fees greater than 5% of the overall project costs
- (S) International travel, except in cases where travel for outside specialists is justifiable and integral to the success of the proposed project (international travel will be considered on a case-by-case basis)
- (T) Projects totaling less than US \$10,000
- (U) Awards to individuals.

As a general rule, AFCP does not support independent U.S. projects abroad. Posts considering such projects must get prior approval from the Cultural Heritage Center before submitting proposals.

RELIGIOUS SITES, OBJECTS, and FORMS OF EXPRESSION: Special note regarding items that have a religious connection (including objects, sites and other forms of traditional cultural expression): The establishment clause of the U.S. Constitution permits the government to include religious objects and sites within an aid program under certain conditions. For example, an item with a religious connection (including a place of worship) may be the subject of a cultural preservation grant if the item derives its primary significance and is nominated solely on the basis of architectural, artistic, historical or other cultural (not religious) criteria.

<b>APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:</b>
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The project proposal text should not exceed 10 pages and should cover following items. Please submit photos as visual material of the object/site to be preserved. Please submit hardcopy of the proposals and enclose a CD with its electronic version. Project proposals must include or address the following:

- (A) Purpose and summary;
- (B) Description;
- (C) Timeframe;
- (D) Statement of significance;
- (E) Statement of urgency;
- (F) Rationale for U.S. support;
- (G) Detailed project budget;
- (H) Recipient information;
- (I) Resumes of the project director and professional staff;
- (J) Official permission to undertake the project;
- (K) Front office clearance;
- (L) Other funding sources, if any;
- (M) At least three digital images (JPEGs) or audiovisual files of the site, object, or form of expression to be addressed in the proposed project.
- (N) Please attach two recommendation letters.

REVIEW AND SELECTION: U.S. Department of State will administer the review and selection process with the cooperation of the office of the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and each of the Department's geographic bureaus. Recipients will be announced on or about May 31, 2009.

OBLIGATION OF FUNDS: Funds must be obligated by the end of fiscal year 2009 (September 30, 2009).

**REPORTING REQUIREMENT:**

Grant recipients must submit an interim performance report by October 25, 2009, and a final report at the conclusion of the project. If the project is still in progress by the end of 2009 fiscal year, then a status report must be submitted. The U.S. Department of State will compile this information for a Report to Congress, as required, and for an annual published report of all completed projects.

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