



The University of Texas at San Antonio
Office of University Communications
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, Texas 78249-0619
(210) 458-4550
www.utsa.edu/today

Date: **October 13, 2006**
Media Contact: Ashley Harris (ashley.harris1@utsa.edu)
210-458-5181 or cell 210-410-1305

**UTSA TO HOST DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR, LATIF BOLAT
FOR LECTURE SERIES AND CONCERT ON
MIDDLE EASTERN CULTURE**

(San Antonio) - The UTSA Department of English, Classics, and Philosophy and the Office of Student Activities will host lectures and a performance by Turkish musician and Middle Eastern cultural expert, Latif Bolat on Tuesday, Oct. 17 and Thursday, Oct. 19. All events are free and open to the public. Bolat will speak at UTSA as part of the Brackenridge Distinguished Visiting Professor series.

On Tuesday, Oct. 17, Bolat will speak on "World Religions" at 3:30 p.m. in the UTSA 1604 Campus Humanities and Social Sciences Building (room 2.01.31) and at 5:30 p.m. he will address "Islam: Old and New Ways of Life" (room 2.02.16).

Bolat will continue his visiting lecture series at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 19 with a discussion on "Islamic Civilizations" in the Business Building (room 2.04.08) on the 1604 Campus.

His visit will be concluded with a Turkish Mystic Music Concert and Reception at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 19 in the 1604 Campus University Center Retama Auditorium.

Bolat, a native of the Turkish Mediterranean town of Mersin, specializes in the ancient Turkish mystic-devotional music genre. His academic accomplishments include degrees in Turkish history, Middle East religion and Turkish folklore and music, from Gazi University in Ankara, Turkey, as well as an MBA from San Francisco State University.

Bolat's lectures use culture and music to explore the related fields of Turkish and Ottoman history, politics, and religion.

-more-

Before moving to the United States, Bolat taught Turkish traditional music throughout his native country and managed Ankara Halk Tiyatrosu, a musical theater company. Considered one of the most distinguished Turkish musicians in this country, he has presented concerts and lectures at colleges, universities, performing arts institutions and festivals across the world, including U.S., Canada, England, Australia and his home country of Turkey.

For additional information contact the Department Office of English, Classics and Philosophy at 210-458-4374.

The Brackenridge Distinguished Visiting Professorship is made possible by a generous endowment gift from the George W. Brackenridge Foundation.

About The University of Texas at San Antonio

The University of Texas at San Antonio is one of the premier institutions of higher education in South Texas and one of the fastest growing universities in the state. One of nine academic universities and six health institutions that comprise the UT System, UTSA is the second largest institution in the system. Celebrating its 36th anniversary, UTSA serves more than 28,000 students enrolled in 62 bachelors, 43 masters and 19 doctoral degree programs.

Programs are offered through the colleges of Architecture, Business, Education and Human Development, Engineering, Honors, Liberal and Fine Arts, Public Policy, and Sciences, and the Graduate School. A Top 100 Hispanic-serving institution, UTSA is ranked among the top 10. A university of access and excellence, UTSA is committed to research and discovery, teaching and learning, and public service.

###