



WINTER 2007  
BOULDER, COLORADO

## AKHBOR: News of Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities

### Boulder Sings for Dushanbe!

Sunday, April 1 - 4:00 PM

Macky Auditorium, CU campus

The Boulder Chorale, Jubilate! Sacred Singers & the Kutandara Marimba Ensemble  
join together in a benefit concert for the Dushanbe Cyber Café project.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call Allen Sparkman at 303.449.6543

### CYBER CAFÉ UPDATE

Thanks to the efforts and support of BDSC's many friends we continue to make progress towards bringing the Cyber Café to Dushanbe. The City of Dushanbe has pledged funds to cover required building redesign costs and to cover utility and grounds development. This brings us significantly closer to being able to start construction.

Fundraising is still pivotal to our success. In 2006:

- Cash donations = \$155,421 from 631 donations.
- Cash available for construction = \$235,941
- The City of Dushanbe has pledged \$206,650 to cover building redesign costs and budgeted utility and grounds development costs.
- We have a pledge to provide the computer hardware and software, cost to be determined.
- Our budget to implement the Cyber Café "vision" is \$940,000.
- We still need to raise \$241,710 in cash or in-kind donations to fully implement the Cyber Café "vision".

We have enough cash in the bank to begin construction. However, the actual construction start depends on finalizing our building contract and receiving pledged funds from Dushanbe.

We really are getting close. Thank you to all who have been keeping up hope and giving support. Fundraising to complete the envisioned project is on-going. Tax-deductible contributions can be made to:



BDSC/Cyber Café  
P.O. Box 4864  
Boulder, Colorado 80306-4864

For more information contact Don Mock at (303) 440-6283

### SUCCESSFUL BDSC ANNUAL MEETING AND ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER

At the November 12 BDSC Annual meeting, several board members were re-elected to serve two year terms (see our website for names).

Ron Broome was recognized as Volunteer of the Year for his long time

### EVENTS CALENDAR

**MARCH 2-31** Exhibit of Kadir Rahkimov's works  
Rembrandt Yard - 13th & Spruce

Kadir is the artist who carved the ganch panels in the Teahouse. He also painted the four large oil paintings on the north and south walls of the Teahouse.

**MARCH 18** Celebrate Navruz, the Persian New Year  
Boulder-Dushanbe Teahouse

Daytime events for the whole family: Tajik crafts, music, dancing, cultural information and traditional Tajik food. Evening activities include entertainment and a Persian dinner to help the Cyber Café. Call the Teahouse for more information and dinner reservations 303 442-4993

**APRIL 1** *Boulder Sings for Dushanbe* Cyber Café Benefit Concert  
Macky Auditorium, CU campus  
4:00 PM

**MAY** Fashion Tea at the Boulder- Dushanbe Teahouse  
Details coming soon

**MAY 17** Sister City Plaza dedication Ceremony  
East side of Municipal building

Each of Boulder's six sister cities will be represented by a tile representing aspects unique to each city and its country.

### TEAHOUSE ART TO ADORN VIOLIN

By George Peknik

While the Tajik Teahouse artists clearly demonstrated that "the medium is the message" in their masterpiece on 13th Street, Boulder resident and Teahouse aficionado Rodger Ewy is taking that maxim one step farther he is decorating an actual violin with photos from our precious *choi-bona*. Rodger is a master photographer who took many of the stunning photos for BDSC member George Peknik's book about the teahouse, *The Meaning of the Boulder-Dushanbe Teahouse*.



## KADIR RAHKIMOV, TEAHOUSE ARTISAN, COMPLETES SIX-MONTH VISIT

By Vern Seieroe

Kadir Rahkimov is a fine art oil painter and ganch (plaster bas relief) carving master and one of the four Tajik artisans to visit Boulder in 1998 to assist with the assembly of the Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse. In 1998, Kadir carved the ganch panels located in the Teahouse. These are the pairs of white plaster panels on each of the walls of the interior of the Teahouse. He also painted the four large oil paintings surrounded by four of these ganch panels on the north and south walls of the Teahouse.



Kadir returned to Moscow on January 8th after a six-month stay in the Boulder area. His main objective during his recent visit to Boulder was to provide restoration work to some of the ganch panels in the Teahouse which had received damage due to their fragile surfaces. He replaced several areas of the existing ganch panels along their bottom edges. To do this he cast and then carved new replacement panels, set the new panels to replace the old, and shaped the new and existing surfaces to match the existing panels that remained.

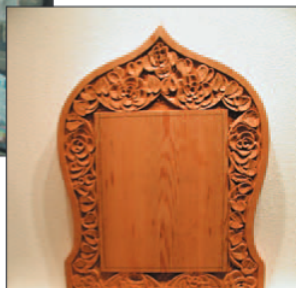
Kadir's main objective of ganch repair was paid for by funds annually set aside for Teahouse maintenance by the City of Boulder's Facilities and Asset Management Division as part of their income from rents collected from the lease of the Teahouse to the Martinelli's.

While in Boulder, Kadir also completed a commission to carve white pine wood panels for the Teahouse proprietors Sara and Lenny Martinelli. These wood panels form a screen at the inside of the Teahouse near the hostess station and can be seen as one enters the Teahouse.

Kadir also carved a red cedar wood panel for the Boulder Rose Society. The panel was commissioned by the Boulder Rose Society as part of an interpretive panel that will be mounted at the exterior of the Teahouse to describe the Teahouse Rose Garden and the role of the Boulder Rose Society in its creation and ongoing care.



During this visit, Kadir also exhibited his fine art paintings at the



Rembrandt Yard galleries at 13th and Spruce. Rembrandt Yard will mount an exhibit of his work available for exhibition as a "one man show" from

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Molly Rector as new head of the BDSC Membership Committee and our new database manager. We owe a big thank you to Leslie Hinder for her past leadership chairing this committee and to Mary Beth Zarlingo for maintaining the BDSC database.

## HOST FAMILIES WANTED

Sister Cities International is preparing for the Fourth annual YES Leadership Summit in Boulder to be held March 1-4, 2007. Thirty-eight high school students from around the predominately Muslim world have been selected to participate in the summit. The activities will take place at Chautauqua Community House and the University of Colorado. If you are interested in hosting students please contact Bethany Rehling at (202) 347-8630x8252 or send an email to [brehling@sister-cities.org](mailto:brehling@sister-cities.org)

## STUDENT EMAIL EXCHANGE

Dushanbe Rotary Club and BDSC are collaborating to establish an email exchange between eighteen to twenty students at Boulder High and the same number at school #10 in Dushanbe. If you are a Boulder Valley teacher or student who would like to participate in future email exchanges please contact Jancy Campbell at [jancy@jancycampbell.com](mailto:jancy@jancycampbell.com)

## SISTER CITY PLAZA

By Jancy Campbell

The dedication ceremony for Boulder's new Sister City Plaza is scheduled for Thursday, May 17th at 4:00 PM. Beautiful new landscaping will be installed this spring that will frame the Plaza itself on the east side of the Municipal Building. The celebration will take place at the site.

The project is a tribute honoring Boulder's six sister cities. Each sister city will be represented by a tile representing aspects unique to each city and its country. Extensive research has gone into the creative aspects of each tile.

The unveiling of the plaza will be a city-wide event to call attention to all of our Sister Cities and educate our community and others interested in the purpose and goals of Sister Cities throughout the world.

Boulder's Alliance of Sister Cities, the City, and artists have been meeting for the past year planning this addition to Boulder's own landscape. The artwork for the tile representing Dushanbe, Tajikistan is below.



See a larger view and description of the tile on our website: [www.boulder-dushanbe.org](http://www.boulder-dushanbe.org)

## CURIOUS ABOUT DUSHANBE?

We asked Madina Rahkmanova, a former exchange student to Boulder, who lives in Dushanbe to give us a little window to life in Dushanbe. Please read her article on our website [www.boulder-dushanbe.org](http://www.boulder-dushanbe.org)

## DUSHANBE WEBSITES TO EXPLORE

March 2 through March 31.



[www.rotaryclubofdushanbe.org](http://www.rotaryclubofdushanbe.org)  
[www.FSCL.freenet.tj](http://www.FSCL.freenet.tj)

### **Contacting Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities**

**Email:**

**General information:** [info@boulder-dushanbe.org](mailto:info@boulder-dushanbe.org)  
**Donations:** [treasurer@boulder-dushanbe.org](mailto:treasurer@boulder-dushanbe.org)  
**Membership:** [membership@boulder-dushanbe.org](mailto:membership@boulder-dushanbe.org)  
**Newsletter:** [newsletter@boulder-dushanbe.org](mailto:newsletter@boulder-dushanbe.org)  
**Volunteers:** [volunteers@boulder-dushanbe.org](mailto:volunteers@boulder-dushanbe.org)  
**Web site:** [webmaster@boulder-dushanbe.org](mailto:webmaster@boulder-dushanbe.org)

**Phone:** 303-440-6283

**Web site:** [www.boulder-dushanbe.org](http://www.boulder-dushanbe.org)

If you are receiving this newsletter and you are not currently a member of BDSC, please consider joining or renewing by sending a check for \$30.00 (basic individual/household membership) to:

**Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities - Membership**  
P.O. Box 115  
Niwot, CO 80544

To make a contribution to the Cyber Café Gift project, send a check made out to:

**Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities - Cyber Café**  
P.O. Box 4864  
Boulder, CO 80306

Please include name, address, phone and email address with all correspondence. Information is kept confidential by BDSC.