



July 20, 2006

Ms. Helene Hagan
Tazzla Institute
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Burbank, CA 91506

FOWLER MUSEUM OF CULTURAL HISTORY
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Dear Helene,

The Fowler Museum at the University of California, Los Angeles, is pleased to support your organization's efforts to bring a delegation of distinguished guests from Agadez, Niger, to take part in the opening festivities for the exhibition *Art of Being Tuareg: Sahara Nomads in the Modern World*. These guests include: **Akoli Daouel**, the Mayor of Agadez; community leader **Issyad Ag Kato**; and activist and educator **Mohamed ag Ewangwaye**.


Art of Being Tuareg is the first major exhibition on Tuareg art and culture in the United States. The exhibition aligns with our museum's continued dedication to promoting the understanding of diverse peoples and cultures of the world. To this end, it would be invaluable to have the presence of a delegation of Tuareg at the museum when the exhibition makes its debut here at UCLA.

The opening festivities are scheduled to take place on Saturday, October 28, 2006 and Sunday, October 29, 2006. On Saturday night, the museum will host an exhibition preview and reception for museum members and other special guests. On Sunday, when the exhibition opens to the public, we have planned a panel discussion about the exhibition, as well as a performance by the Niger-based band Tidawt.

We envision that the guests sponsored by the Tazzla Institute would take part in the opening events as follows: we would like to invite the three guests to speak at the opening, as representatives of today's Tuareg community who have first-hand knowledge of the group's history and culture. In addition, as a contributor to the *Art of Being Tuareg* publication, we would like to ask Mohamed ag Ewangwaye to take part in the panel discussion on Sunday, which will inaugurate a season of programs dedicated to exploring the exhibition's related themes and issues.

As outlined above, the presence of the aforementioned delegation would be a truly wonderful and important aspect of the events we have planned at the Fowler. Thank you in advance for agreeing to arrange for their visit. We look forward to working with you and the Tazzla Institute.

Sincerely yours,


Mary (Polly) Nooter Roberts
Deputy Director and Chief Curator