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## The World Academy of Arts, Literature & Media - WAALM® Honors KIOSK With Best Blues Band of 2008

Beverly Hills, CA, November 10, 2008 — The World Academy of Arts, Literature & Media - WAALM® honored KIOSK with Best Blues Band of 2008 during their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual awards ceremony on Friday, October 31, 2008 in London. WAALM® develops and promotes the dramatic and fine arts, creative writing and poetry, as well as professional journalism and media productions. WAALM® regularly identifies and rewards excellence, inspires practitioners, and benefits the public, by means of awarding event.

Other awards recipients in the music category included: Prof. Cyrus Forough, USA - Best Classical Music - Violinist, Prof. Reza Najfar, Austria - Best Classical Music - Flutist, Mahasti Kamdar, Germany - Best Arrangements for String, Sima Bina, Germany - Best Folk Vocalist, Martik, USA - Best Contemporary Pop, Abjeez, Sweden, Best World Pop and Dastan, Iran - Best Persian Classic Ensemble.

KIOSK is known as an Iranian Blues/Rock/Jazz band, established by a few friends in a basement in Iran, now all living abroad. The band members are Arash Sobhani (guitar & vocals), Ali Kamali (bass guitar), Ardalan Payvar (keyboards), Babak Khiavchi (guitar), Shahrouz Molaei (drums). KIOSK is often noted for its biting critical social and political, but humorous lyrics.

KIOSK's highly-anticipated third studio album, "Bagh eVahsh e Jahani" (Global Zoo) is set to release on November 14, 2008. The new album features ten tracks varying in music style from Gypsy Jazz to Waltz and from Argentinean Tango to Blues. Although the music of the album is a big departure from the Underground Blues/Rock sound of the previous two KIOSK albums, the lyrics of Arash Sobhani (lead vocalist, songwriter and guitarist) continues the social commentary on a wide variety of issues affecting the daily lives of Iranians all over the world.

With the release of their third album, KIOSK is also launching their North American "Global Zoo" tour, as follows:

November 14, 2008 San Francisco, CA Mezzanine (with special guest Babak Amini) November 16, 2008 Los Angeles, CA El Rey Theatre (with special guest Babak Amini)

November 28, 2008 Seattle, WA Neumos

November 30, 2008 Vancouver, Canada Richards on Richards

To learn more about WAALM®, please visit <a href="www.waalmawards.com">www.waalmawards.com</a>.

## **About WAALM**

The WAALM Academy® was founded by Prof. Dorbayani, PhD and his spouse Marjan Abdi, PhD in April 2005 as an extension of IFSI Institute, which was formed by them in 1990. The first two WAALM Awards® were conducted in October 2005 and 2006 in Budapest, Hungary - European Union in which more than 50 awardees in categories of art, music, literature, and media were honored. WAALM® became an independent awarding body in 2007 and confers Persian Golden Lioness Awards (Statuettes OR Diploma and Medals of Excellence) to the most outstanding and extraordinary talents and professionals. For more info visit: <a href="https://www.waalmawards.com">www.waalmawards.com</a>.

## **About KIOSK**

Kiosk is a Persian Blues/Rock/Jazz band established by some friends, some years ago in a basement somewhere in Tehran. Kiosk has never been limited by music style or location. It continues to evolve and experiment by using music and lyrics to express itself and connect to its worldwide audience. For more info visit <a href="https://www.kiosk-music.com">www.kiosk-music.com</a>.