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**A PLACE IN THE SUN** British Council continues to support disability arts in Azerbaijan under the **Unlimited** programme.

Baku, 15 February 2018 – **The British Council in Azerbaijan in cooperation with the University of Arts and Culture, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture, Sabah Group Azerbaijan and Nizami Cinema Centre is proud to announce the first performance of *Place in the Sun* staged by the abled and disabled actors of the Azerbaijan University of Culture and Arts.**

As a part of the British Council's *Unlimited* programme, the project supports disability arts by creating a sustainable network of disability arts practitioners, venues, producers and decision makers, and developing their skills to create and present inclusive work. The performances are a great example of persons with disabilities working with those without to overcome challenges together and produce marvellous works of art.

The play will be presented under the supervision of DOM Theatre Founder and Director Tarlan Rasulov, and Forum Theatre practitioner from the UK, Caryne Chapman, Actress, Theatre Deviser and Workshop Leader committed to using theatre as a tool for social change.

*A Place in the Sun* will be presented at different universities across Baku in Azerbaijani language. The premiere will be staged at the Theatre of Young Spectators on 9 March at 19:00. The second performance will be staged at Nizami Cinema Centre on 13 March at 19:00. The play was written by Azerbaijani writer Lala Aliyeva - Klichkova, and is based on the true story of motivator and blogger Murad Mammadov, who will stars in the play.

The Forum Theatre technique will be used in the performance. This means that once the play has finished, the 'Joker' (as in a pack of cards, belonging to no particular side) acts as a facilitator to encourage the audience to think of different choices they might make if they were in the shoes of the protagonist.

The play is then restarted and runs as before – but this time, whenever a “spect-actor” (active audience member) feels the protagonist might usefully have tried a different strategy, they can stop the action, take the protagonist's place and try out his idea. The whole process is designed to come to a conclusion through the consideration of opposing arguments.

British Council Director Elizabeth White said, 'This is going be a remarkable performance, put together by remarkable people. If you have never watched or taken part in Forum Theatre, or if you have good ideas on ways of making change in people's lives, or if you are interested in disability arts, or if you just want to see an unusual, highly engaging and utterly unforgettable piece of theatre, be sure not to miss *A Place in the Sun*'.

The British Council in Azerbaijan would like to take this opportunity to thank Sabah Group Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan University of Culture and Arts, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and Nizami Cinema Centre.

**For more information or questions, please contact:**

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**Notes to editor:**

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