



## Jimmy Carter Library & Museum News Release

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### **COLUMBUS DAY ACTIVITIES AT THE CARTER PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY**

#### *TAKE PART IN PUBLIC FORUM ON EDUCATION & HEAR EXPOSÉ ON LOBBYISTS*

**ATLANTA, GA.** - The Carter Presidential Library and Museum will celebrate Columbus Day (Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>) with two special events:

**3pm- 5pm** A public forum on education, **“What is the 21st Century Mission for Our Public Schools?”**

**7pm-9pm** Investigative journalist Ken Silverstein will discuss his book **“Turkmeniscam”**

In partnership with the National Issues Forum, Emory University and the University of Georgia, the Carter Library will host a public forum on education from 3 pm until 5 pm. The forum, **“What is the 21st Century Mission for Our Public Schools?”** is free and open to the public.

From the very start, Americans have held widely divergent views on issues related to public schools. Many of these have to do with the methods by which we achieve an educated society. How do we ensure that our schools are accessible to all children? By what means do we hold students accountable for learning and schools accountable for teaching them? What is the role of families in the education of their children? What is the responsibility of schools in addressing social issues that affect their students? What is the most efficient and fair way to fund public education? Make your voice heard.

Monday evening, the Carter Library welcomes investigative journalist Ken Silverstein for an eye-opening look at lobbyists in Washington D.C. On assignment for *Harper's* magazine, and armed with a fistful of fake business cards, Silverstein went deep undercover as a corporate henchman with money to burn and a problem to solve: transforming the former Soviet-bloc nation Turkmenistan—branded “one of the worst totalitarian systems in the world”—into a Capitol Hill-friendly commodity. Silverstein will discuss his book *Turkmeniscam: How Washington Lobbyists Fought to Flack for a Stalinist Dictatorship*.

Even in the notoriously ethics-challenged world of Washington's professional lobbying industry, could “Kenneth Case” (Silverstein's fat-cat alter ego) find a team of D.C. spin doctors willing to whitewash the regime of a megalomaniac dictator with an unpronounceable name and an unspeakable reputation? Would the Beltway's best and brightest image-mongers shill for a country condemned for its mind-boggling history of corruption, brutality, and civil rights abuse? Find out Monday night. The lecture and book signing is free and open to the public. Doors open at 6:30 pm.

A Cappella Books will have copies of *Turkmeniscam* for sale and signing at the event.

For more information call 404-865-7109 or visit [www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov](http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov).