A ceremony was held at Heydar Aliyev Center on May 4 to award the winners of “Best presentation” contest, which marked the 95th birthday anniversary of national leader Heydar Aliyev.

Prior to the ceremony, senior education officials visited the Alley of Honors to pay tribute to national leader Heydar Aliyev and lay flowers at his grave.

They also put flowers at the grave of prominent ophthalmologist, academician Zarifa Aliyeva.

Participants in the award ceremony included Deputy Prime Minister, deputy chair and executive secretary of the New Azerbaijan Party Ali Ahmadov, Executive Director of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation Anar Alakbarov, Minister of Transport, Communications and High Technologies Ramin Guluzade, Chairman of Azerbaijan Education Workers Free Trade Unions Republican Committee Sattar Mehbaliyev, parliamentarians, heads of educational institutions, education experts, teachers and students.

The ceremony started with the performance of the state anthem by the choir of the Arts Gymnasium.

Minister of Education Jeyhun Bayramov said national leader Heydar Aliyev played a crucial role in ensuring Azerbaijan`s overall development and global recognition.

Pointing out effective programs and projects carried out in education sector, Jeyhun Bayramov highlighted measures implemented under the “State Strategy for Development of Education in the Republic of Azerbaijan”, which was approved by President Ilham Aliyev. The minister hailed First Vice-President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, president of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation Mehriban Aliyeva`s attention to education. Jeyhun Bayramov highlighted achievements in education, saying that projects implemented in this sector contributed to the improvement of financial resources and infrastructure of educational institutions.

The minister emphasized the importance of the “Best presentation” contest among schoolchildren in terms of promoting great politician and outstanding statesman Heydar Aliyev`s rich legacy, large-scale activity and statehood philosophy among the young generation. He congratulated the winners of the contest.

Deputy Prime Minister, deputy chair and executive secretary of the New Azerbaijan Party Ali Ahmadov said the contest played an exceptional role in shaping the youth`s political mindset and raising them in the patriotic spirit. Ali Ahmadov said Azerbaijan had made great strides in the field of education in recent years, expressing his confidence that reforms would pave the way for laying a strong foundation for future development of the country.

Executive Director of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation Anar Alakbarov noted the significance of the contest. He highlighted the activities of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation. Anar Alakbarov said the foundation was promoting national leader Heydar Aliyev`s ideas through implementing large-scale projects aimed at ensuring the country`s prosperity and the people`s well-being. “Today`s contest testifies to the Azerbaijani youth`s interest in studying national leader Heydar Aliyev`s services to the country as well as his state building conception.”

Minister of Transport, Communications and High Technologies Ramin Guluzade said that during his tenure national leader Heydar Aliyev took crucial steps towards ensuring Azerbaijan`s development and its global recognition. Pointing out President Ilham Aliyev`s attention to education, the minister said a number of grants were allocated for startup projects, particularly those involving youth, in order to develop innovative areas in the country.

Chairman of Azerbaijan Education Workers Free Trade Unions Republican Committee Sattar Mehbal?yev praised the Azerbaijani government`s attention to intellectual development of youth, preparation of highly-qualified specialists, discovery of talented children and youth, development of their potential. Sattar Mehbaliyev said Azerbaijan`s education system enjoyed wide opportunities for integration into education systems of developed countries.

The event featured performance by students of the Republican Arts Gymnasium.

According to results of “Best presentation” contest, eight entries received 1st degree certificates, 14 entries received 2nd degree certificates, 18 entries received 3rd degree certificates and 25 entries received certificates of

merit. The winners also received valuable prizes.

Held among 9th-11th grade pupils of general education institutions, the contest was co-organized by the Ministry of Education, Heydar Aliyev Foundation, New Azerbaijan Party, Ministry of Transport, Communications and High Technologies, and Azerbaijan Education Workers Free Trade Unions Republican Committee.