



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
JERUSALEM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WEEKLY MAILING

February 17, 2012

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Official Websites:

<http://jerusalem.usconsulate.gov>

<http://arabic.jerusalem.usconsulate.gov>

<http://gaza.usvpp.gov>

<http://arabic.gaza.usvpp.gov>

Social Media:

www.facebook.com/UsConGenJerusalem

www.twitter.com/USCGJerusalem

www.youtube.com/UsConGenJerusalem

To subscribe to our Weekly Mailing list, please send an email to UsConGenJerusalem@state.gov

Thank You!

The U.S. Consulate Offers Condolences to Victims of Bus Accident



"The U.S. Consulate General joins the Palestinian people in mourning the victims of the tragic bus accident near Jaba this morning. Our thoughts and sympathies are with the families of the victims and we pray for the speedy recovery of the injured children."

القنصلية الأمريكية العامة تنعى ضحايا حادث الحافلة المؤسف قرب جبج

"تشاطر القنصلية الأمريكية العامة الشعب الفلسطيني في حداده على أرواح الضحايا الذين سقطوا في حادث الباص المأساوي قرب جبج هذا الصباح. قلوبنا مع أسر الضحايا وندعو للأطفال المصابين بالشفاء العاجل."



America House in Jerusalem

is pleased to invite you to the following upcoming concert in Jerusalem

American Rock 'n Roll with Antigone Rising

February 27, 2012, 4:00 PM



Known for their driving and vivacious live shows, Antigone Rising has performed with The Rolling Stones, Aerosmith, the Allman Brothers Band, the Dave Matthews Band, Rob Thomas, Joan Jett & the Blackhearts, Lucinda Williams, the Bangles, and many others. Come experience live American rock 'n roll, during Antigone Rising's first-ever visit to Jerusalem and the West Bank! This New York City-based rock band features Cathy Henderson (lead guitar/vocals), Kristen Henderson (bass/vocals), Dena Tauriello (drums), and Nini Camps (lead vocals).

**Date: 4:00 – 5:30 PM, February 27, 2012
YMCA on Nablus Road, Jerusalem**

Performance is free and open to the public.

If you would like to bring a large group to the Jerusalem performance, please contact us at JerusalemAmericaHouse@state.gov so that we can reserve seats for you.

Also Coming Up in February!

Focus on the U.S. Presidential Election System:

Digital Video Conference on Arab-American Participation in the Presidential Election Process

Black History Month Film Screening and Lecture:

Remember the Titans

To be added to America House's mailing list, please e-mail JerusalemAmericaHouse@state.gov
America House is the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem's cultural center in East Jerusalem and was established in 2010.

Consul General Rubinstein's Remarks at Performance by American Soprano Nicole Taylor



Consul General Rubinstein: "This is more than just a performance by a celebrated singer and a world-class musician. It is also a commemoration. In the United States, February is "African American History Month" – a time to reflect upon, respect and remember the proud history of a people who have challenged incomplete ..ideals and made America more whole."

Consulate and YES Alumni Provide Community Service in Bethany



Members of the U.S. Consulate General community, AMIDEAST, and Youth Exchange and Study (YES) program alumni launched a two-month course in cake decorating for the Al-Zahra Orphanage for Girls in Bethany. The workshops that continued until February, aimed to offer girls at Al-Zahra Orphanage the baking and decorating skills they need to potentially start their own business one day, and empower these girls to use their talents to grow and find their way in society.

For more photos, see our [facebook photo album](#)

نظم أفراد من عائلات موظفي القنصلية الأمريكية العامة وموظفون من الإيمدايست وخريجو برنامج الدراسة وتبادل الشباب Yes برنامجاً للتدريب على مهارات تزيين الحلويات استمر لشهرين واستفادت منه شابات من مدرسة الزهراء في بلدة العيزرية. واستمر برنامج التدريب حتى شهر شباط وهدف لتقديم مهارات جديدة للشابات قد يستقن منها للبدء في مجال الأعمال الخاصة ولتمكينهن من الاستفادة من المهارات لكي يندمجن في المجتمع.

Briefing by State, USAID Officials on 2013 State Department Budget

Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources Thomas Nides: “This year, our request includes a new \$770 million Middle East and North Africa incentive fund to support political and economic reforms in the region. Our investment in supporting our allies and partners includes everything from police training in Latin America, to efforts to promote stability in places like Haiti, in the South Sudan, to more than 70 military-to-military partnerships, which are managed by the State Department. It funds peacekeeping missions around the world and our presence in international institutions...”



Fact Sheet: Overview of Obama’s 2013 Budget for State and USAID

President Obama’s FY 2013 Budget for the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) strengthens U.S. national security, advances America’s economic interests, and elevates America’s global leadership through diplomacy and development. It supports U.S. businesses, protects Americans at home and abroad, and stops the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. It supports our allies and partners, prevents conflict, promotes democracy, and reflects our core values.

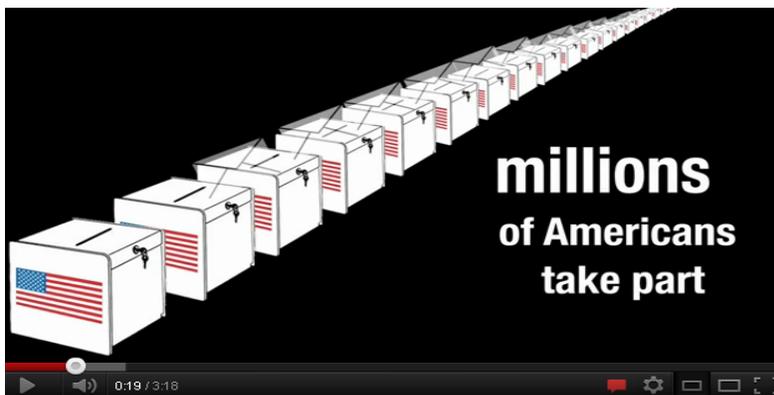
[أوباما يقدم للكونغرس مشروع ميزانيته للسنة المالية 2013](#)

Supporting Peace, Prosperity, Democracy in Middle East



Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Neal S. Wolin: “During our time in the West Bank, in meetings with Prime Minister Fayyad, Palestine Monetary Authority Governor al-Wazir, and representatives from the Palestinian private sector, we strongly encouraged the Palestinian Authority to continue pursuing reforms that promote private sector growth and build effective institutions of governance. These efforts are critical to meeting the aspirations of the Palestinian people and maintaining peace and security. The United States has offered its support through assistance programs, including \$200 million in budget support to the Palestinian Authority in the last fiscal year.”

[U.S. Elections: Primaries](#)



See how candidates are selected to become President of the United States? Check out this [video](#) that explains what primaries are? How they work? Find out how Americans pick their presidential candidates through primaries.

See Also: [U.S. Official's Invitation to OSCE to Observe U.S. Elections](#)

[2012 Election Cycle Begins Now](#)



For American Citizens!

Be an active voter! Start thinking about your participation in the U.S. 2012 elections today!

The Consular Section staff at the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem is ready to assist with completing your Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) -- the form you need to complete this year to participate in the 2012 elections as an overseas absentee voter. Our purpose is to inform and educate you about your voting rights, to ensure you are able to exercise your right to participate in elections for federal offices (president, vice president, senator, and representative), and to assist you with voting in state or local elections, if allowed by your state.

Upcoming Video Webchats

Understanding Cancer: Making Each Day Count

Wednesday, February 22, 2012

08:00-09:30 EST (15:00 -16:30 local time)

URL: <http://conx.state.gov/digital-diplomacy/>

Each year on February 4th, World Cancer Day is observed to raise awareness of cancer throughout the world and encourage its prevention, detection, and treatment. By making cancer a global priority, governments can work together to limit the impact of the disease. Join us on Wednesday, February 22 at 08:00 EST (13:00 UTC) for a live webchat on "Understanding Cancer: Making Every Day Count." Learn how you can help in the fight against cancer with a leading panel of experts from the National Cancer Institute, who will discuss how the U.S. is working to address this global health issue.

Internet Freedom and Online Piracy

Thursday, February 23, 2012

09:30 EST (16:30 local time)

URL: <http://conx.state.gov/digital-diplomacy/>

How can we prevent online piracy while protecting internet freedom? In an effort to stop online piracy, the U.S. Congress recently proposed two bills, SOPA and PIPA, which sparked controversy because of their potential impact on internet freedom. Join Corynne McSherry and Richard Bennett, two experts who will offer a balance of perspectives on this topic. Corynne McSherry is the Intellectual Property Director of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, and Richard Bennett is a Senior Research Fellow at the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF). Join this discussion to learn more, share your thoughts, and ask the experts your questions!

The International Olympic Committee organizes the 5th World Conference on Women and Sport

On February 16, 2012 The International Olympic Committee (IOC) organized the 5th World Conference on Women and Sport. The Conference takes place every four years with the objective of analyzing the progress made within the Olympic Movement and identifying ways to improve and increase the participation of women in the world of sport. Participants from more than 130 countries took part in the conference, representing National Olympic Committees, International Federations, Non-Government Organizations (NGO), universities and other organizations. The theme of this year's conference was: "Together Stronger". This theme recognizes that in order to continue these extraordinary achievements and to move to the next level, women and men will need to work together to break down barriers and overcome obstacles to further progress. It also reflects the increased effect of global and multi-generational alliances; co-operation across borders and across age groups leads to more powerful insights and quicker successes.

Visit our [Facebook page](#) to see how the U.S. Consulate supports Palestinian sports women.

GETHER STRONGER: The Future of Sport



[See the video](#)

See Also: [State's Brimmer on Empowerment of Women and Girls Globally](#)

[OneBeat Program](#)

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs & Bang On A Can's Found Sound Nation are pleased to announce **OneBeat**, a cultural exchange program offering professional development opportunities to 50 young emerging - professional musicians and advanced students (ages 19-35) from around the world.

Deadline: February 24, 2012

[2012 TechGirls Program](#)

The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem is pleased to announce the inaugural TechGirls program, an educational exchange initiative for approximately 25 teenage girls from select countries and territories in the Middle East and North Africa that complements the TechWomen program. The eligible countries are Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian territories, Tunisia, and Yemen.

Deadline: March 6, 2012

["Doors to Diplomacy" 2012 International Web Project Competition for Middle and High School Students:](#)

The Department of State and the Global SchoolNet Foundation announce the 2012 "Doors to Diplomacy" award competition, recognizing the student-created Global SchoolNet Web projects from around the globe that best teach others about the importance of international affairs and diplomacy. To qualify, middle school and high school students will work in small teams with teacher-coaches. **Projects must be completed by March 15, 2012**, and winners will be announced in May 2012. Every team that enters a project will receive a special "Doors to Diplomacy" certificate recognizing their achievement. Each student member of the two winning teams – one American and one international – will also receive a \$2,000 scholarship and the winning coaches' schools will each receive a \$500 cash award.

Deadline: March 15, 2012.

For a complete description of the competition and information about eligibility and judging criteria, please visit <http://globalschoolnet.org/gsndoors/>. For more information, contact Dr. Yvonne Marie Andres of Global SchoolNet by phone at (760) 635-0001 or by e-mail at diplomacy@globalschoolnet.org or Wanda Ramsey of the Department of State by e-mail at RamseyWC@state.gov.

[USG Department of State Citizen Exchanges Program](#)

The applicants must be citizens of Jordan, Egypt, Israel or the Palestinian Territories, and cannot hold dual US citizenship. Emerging professionals (roughly an age range of 25-40) and would prefer some professional experience and evidence for advancement in their field. A successful applicant will have excellent English skills. The program is fully paid (travel, meals, and lodging) for and includes generous book and cultural entertainment allowances.

Deadline: October 31, 2012.

International and Regional News

[Secretary Clinton on Bomb Attack on Israeli Envoys in India and Georgia](#)

[كلينتون تقول إن نظام الأسد يقود سوريا نحو حرب أهلية](#)

[Secretary Clinton Says Assad Regime Is Leading Syria Toward Civil War](#)

[كلمة السفارة دي كارلو في الأمم المتحدة بخصوص سوريا](#)

[Ambassador Rice on U.N. General Assembly Resolution on Syria](#)

[شركات تجارية أميركية تتطلع إلى المساعدة في إعمار أفغانستان](#)

[Ambassador DiCarlo at U.N. on Situation in Syria](#)

[مقتطفات من تصريح الوزيرة كلينتون بحضور وزير خارجية تركيا دافوتوغلو بعد اجتماعهما](#)

[Assistant Secretary Gordon's Interview with BBC on Iran](#)

[بيان البيت الأبيض عن اجتماع الرئيس أوباما بشأن أفغانستان وباكستان](#)

[Summary of Obama's Meeting on Afghanistan, Pakistan](#)