



Information Resource Center - Monrovia

# NEWS & ARTICLES ALERT

Vol. 2 No. 5  
May 2013



Public Affairs Section  
Embassy of the United States of America  
Monrovia, Liberia



## IRC-MONROVIA

The Information Resource Center (IRC) offers information resources, organizes regular weekly events, and is the hub for coordinating outreach programs, especially the American Corner program. The IRC is open to the public Monday to Thursday from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm; photo ID is required for entry.

### IRC NEWS

#### Post Monrovia Holds Jazz Night



Jazz musicians, including Political Officer George Sarmiento, performing on stage.

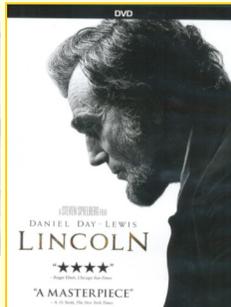
The Public Affairs Section, in collaboration with Political / Economic Office, organized a special musical presentation on April 30 to celebrate United Nation's International Jazz Day, climaxing activities in observance of Jazz Appreciation Month. Jazz musicians performed live selections to an audience that included invited guests as well as Embassy staff. Post Monrovia joined U.S. Embassies worldwide to share music and jazz as a toll for global peace and intercultural dialogue.

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#### IRC Hosts Law Students to a Special Movie



Public Affairs Officer Sally Hodgson welcoming the guests to the special movie screening in the IRC Reading Room



On April 15, IRC-Monrovia screened the movie, *Lincoln*, for law students from University of Liberia who watched it together with their visiting college students from Washington & Lee University from the United States. The movie focuses on the 16th United States President's tumultuous final four months in office as he pursues a course of action to end the Civil War, unite the country and abolish slavery; it shades light on a man of moral courage and fierce determination.

#### IRC Bids Farewell to USAID-Liberia Director



IRC-Monrovia and its numerous users bid farewell to USAID Director Patricia Rader who ends her tour of duty in Liberia. Director Rader was a regular presenter at many IRC outreach programs, as seen here at the Children's Hour.

### COMING UP IN MAY 2013

#### IRC Observes Press Freedom Month

**Movie Series:**(4:30 - 6:30 pm):  
In observance of World Press Freedom Month IRC-Monrovia will screen a movie on Thursday, May 16.



#### Education Advising Session at AC-Kakata

The Cultural Affairs Assistant and EducationUSA Advisor at the Public Affairs Section, Robert Tanookpuwa, will conduct a one-day education advising session at the American Corner at Booker Washington Institute in Kakata, Margibi County on Monday, May 20. Students and persons interested in learning about possibilities of studying in the United States are encouraged to attend this town hall session. For more information contact AC-Kakata Coordinator Ms. Daisy Fahnbulleh at 0886-644-600.

#### eLibraryUSA Training Schedule



IRC-Monrovia will conduct training on eLibraryUSA and other research databases as follows:

- May 7: Youth group coordinated by Augustine S. Weah, Jr.
- May 9: Correction Officers of Ministry of Justice; Admin & Staff of St. Teresa Convent; and members of Dominion Christian Fellowship Church
- May 15: Members of Education Assistance Movement (SEAM)- United Methodist University (UMU)
- May 16: Members of Immaculate Conception Parish
- May 21: Members of Life Tabernacle
- May 23: Members of Foundation of Educational Loan Services

### EDUCATION ADVISING

Education advising sessions at the IRC:  
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 to 5:00 pm.

[www.educationusa.state.gov](http://www.educationusa.state.gov)

### STAY CONNECTED

- <http://monrovia.usembassy.gov>
- <http://facebook.com/monrovia.usembassy>
- <http://twitter.com/embassymonrovia>
- <http://flickr.com/usembassymonrovia>

## ARTICLES ALERT

**Articles Alert** is produced monthly by the Information Resource Center, Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy Monrovia. It offers abstracts of current articles, mostly from U.S. publications and by U.S. authors, highlighting significant issues in major areas of international or U.S. domestic affairs. Views expressed in the articles are those of authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government policies.

### WHITE HOUSE Source: whitehouse.gov

#### “Children Are Not For Sale!” -- President Obama



“Nations must speak with one voice,” President Obama has urged, “our children are not for sale.” And now U.S. government agencies, after years of having operated separate programs to fight human trafficking, are joining forces to more effectively work to end the exploitation of vulnerable children, says Kathleen Sebelius, U.S. Secretary of

Health and Human Services. Although the U.S. government has worked for decades to strengthen work being done by outside groups to fight child trafficking, it lacked internal coordination, Sebelius acknowledged May 1 in remarks to the Advisory Council on Child Trafficking, an all-volunteer bipartisan group of women who are committed to finding cost-effective, evidence-based solutions to domestic child trafficking. “The Justice Department handled enforcement, Homeland Security handled international components, our department [Health and Human Services] handled victim services, and so on. The result of that was that we weren’t being as effective as we could be,” she said. “So we knew that we had to change our approach.”

#### Steady Growth in US Job Growth



The U.S. unemployment rate is continuing to experience a slow but steady decline, with the Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reporting that 176,000 private sector jobs were added during the month of April, bringing the rate down to 7.5 percent. Alan Krueger, chairman of the White House Council of Economic Advisers, said in a May 3 statement that while more work needs to be done to speed job creation and expand the U.S. middle class, the employment report “provides further evidence that the U.S. economy is continuing to recover from the worst downturn since the Great Depression.” According to BLS data, the U.S. economy has added private sector jobs for 38 straight months, with a total of 6.8 million jobs over that period. There have been more than 800,000 private sector jobs added since the beginning of 2013.

Source: infocentral.state.gov



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### WORLD PRESS FREEDOM MONTH

#### Press Freedom a Human Right, Moral Necessity



Media freedom is a human right and the moral equivalent of oxygen, says Tara Sonenshine, US Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs. Speaking at an April 25 event sponsored by the independent advocacy group Human Rights First at the State Department’s Foreign Press Center, Sonenshine said press freedom “is how any free, healthy, vibrant and functioning society breathes, and it is essential to building civil societies. Without it, aspirations choke, economies suffocate and countries are unable to grow.” Sonenshine’s remarks came as a prelude to the 20th-anniversary World Press Freedom Day on May 3. Proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1993, World Press Freedom Day is meant to inform citizens of violations of press freedoms and to remind governments of the need to respect their commitment to press freedom.

### WEATHER AND CLIMATE

#### Weather, Climate Forecasts Help Farmers Worldwide



The U.S. agency responsible for daily weather forecasts, severe storm warnings and climate monitoring is using freely available satellite imagery and scientific analysis to help farmers around the world make decisions about what crops to plant and how to allocate their water and land resources. “The agriculture community depends on accurate and timely weather and climate information to make informed decisions. The 10- to 14-day forecast is as critical today as it has ever been,” said Kathryn Sullivan, acting administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NOAA describes weather as atmospheric conditions over a short period and climate as how the atmosphere behaves over longer periods. “Long-range forecasts can help [people in farm communities] anticipate, prepare for and respond to drought, heat waves and other extremes,” Sullivan said April 30 in opening the second and last day of the G8 International Conference on Open Data for Agriculture at the World Bank in Washington.

Source: iipdigital.state.gov

#### Search IRC Books Online

Search IRC–Monrovia books online at: [www.librarything.com/catalog/ircmonrovia](http://www.librarything.com/catalog/ircmonrovia). Click Your Books on the Home Page, then search using Style C. Over 1,650 books are already uploaded.