

# The American Center

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<http://vietnam.usembassy.gov>

## Newsletter

OCTOBER 2009



### National Hispanic Heritage Month

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

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***Coming in November:***

- Veterans Day – November 11st (American Center closed)
  - Thanksgiving Day – November 26th (American Center closed)
  - International Education Week (November 16-22)
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**Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy - Hanoi**

## EMBASSY WEB HIGHLIGHTS

### U.S.-Vietnam Education Task Force Final Report Signing Ceremony, September 30



Ambassador Michalak and MOET Vice Minister Luan signed the long-awaited Final Report containing recommendations on ways that the U.S. and Vietnamese governments can cooperate to support public-private sector partnerships to improve the Vietnamese educational system and increase the number of Vietnamese studying at American schools. The Report also lays out a roadmap for the development of an American-style university in Vietnam. In addition, the Report calls for the creation of

four working groups that will explore ideas to establish the American style university, to improve English language instruction, and to support closer cooperation between American and Vietnamese universities, and between American companies and Vietnamese universities.

### New York Philharmonic Inspires Students at American Center



In conjunction with their Asian Horizons Tour, Assistant Conductor Daniel Boico and Associate Principal Trombonist, Amanda Stewart of the New York Philharmonic visited the American Center on October 15. Ms. Stewart and Mr. Boico spoke to more than 60 patrons, most of whom are musicians themselves. The Philharmonic representatives discussed their musical backgrounds and training and took questions that ranged from music programs in the US to the struggles that they have encountered

along their own professional paths. The audience was also treated to a brief trombone performance. Ms. Stewart and Mr. Boico encouraged the audience members to pursue their dreams of musical training no matter what their age.

More web highlights please visit <http://vietnam.usembassy.gov/embhighlights.html>

### PHOTO CORNER:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/achanoi>



## USEFUL WEB SITES

**US Government's Channel at Youtube:** <http://www.youtube.com/USGovernment>



The official YouTube channel of the U.S. Government, linking you to videos across government. Visit the playlists and other channels for a wide variety of interesting videos! The U.S. Government does not promote or endorse any non-Government or commercial content appearing on the page.

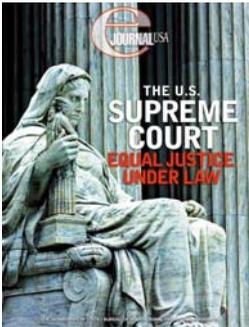
**U.S. Department of State at Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/usdos>



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## NEW ELECTRONIC JOURNALS

**The U.S. Supreme Court: Equal Justice Under Law**



As an institution, the Supreme Court commands respect, legitimacy, and prestige both in the United States and abroad. The October 2009 edition of eJournal USA describes many aspects of the U.S. Supreme Court. Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and Solicitor General Elena Kagan present their introductions and contributions by legal scholars and journalists focusing on the elements of judicial decision making and independence of the justices. Four Court officials and a former Supreme Court law clerk also describe their jobs.

**New Arrivals at the American Center: New DVDs**

*School Ties*

*Step up*

*Day the Earth Stood Still*

*Namesake*

*Nanny Diaries*

*Searchers*

*Twilight*

*Wall-E*

*Angels and Demons*

*Duck Soup*

*My Life in Ruins*

## TALKING NUMBERS

### U.S. Embassy Websites

<http://vietnam.usembassy.gov>

From September 15 to October 21:

**131,318** page views and **47,876** visits.

<http://vietnamese.vietnam.usembassy.gov/>

From September 15 to October 21:

**215,594** page views and **56,355** visits.

### Visitors to the American Center

In first two weeks of October 2009 the American Center welcomed **1,125** visitors.

### Top Watched Movies at the American Center

*1. Pronunciation for Success; 2. Back to School; 3. Twilight; 4. High School Musical; 5. Another Cinderella Story*

## IN YOUR WORDS

### From Ms. Le Hong Hoa, AC regular customer:

"American Center Hanoi, in one word: AWESOME! Readers are expected to become more knowledgeable about various aspects. There are always helpful and friendly assistants, ready to help you out. You can have many chances to participate in interesting weekly events and talk to Americans. In conclusion my suggestion is there is no way to realize your dream of studying in the US faster than becoming a favorite member of the American Center."

## UPCOMING PUBLIC EVENTS

The American Center in Hanoi will host a series of events and programs during International Education Week, from 16-20 November, 2009. All events will take place at the American Center, in Rose Garden Tower. Mark your calendar to attend and visit the web site to keep you posted on our program calendar at <http://vietnam.usembassy.gov/program.html>

Nov. 7, 9:30-11:30 American English Club: "Thanksgiving Day"

Nov. 13, 2:00-4:00 Film Show: *Mississippi Masala*

Nov. 16, 2:00- 4:00 IIE presentation on TOEFL iBT IIE Official

Nov. 17, 2:00- 3:45 Film Show and Discussion: "Miss Navajo Director/Producer Billy Luther"

Nov. 21, 9:30-11:30 American English Club: "Student Life in the U.S."

## USEFUL INTERNET LINKS

Search the American Center's collections online: <http://tinyurl.com/achanoi>

Register to become a member: <http://creator.zoho.com/pashanoi/form/14>

Register for free public events: <http://creator.zoho.com/pashanoi/form/10>

Register to receive our Reference Update Service: <http://creator.zoho.com/pashanoi/form/56>

*(We only provide Reference Update Service to Vietnamese officials, teachers, and researchers)*

## THANK YOU MESSAGE TO THE INTERN GROUP

On behalf of the American Center (AC) staff, I would like to thank you all for your hard work and tireless effort to help the Vietnamese student community. You have done a great job, from holding American English clubs to supporting many speaker programs, film showings and book clubs at the American Center. The activities you have planned, the room you have designed and decorated, the friendships you have helped foster-- it's all excellent and wonderful, and it's helping our American Center patrons believe that the Center is not only a place to study but also to have fun together. Together, we build a long lasting friendship!

Quản Mai Bình, AC Director