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Vientiane, November 3, 2015

**The U.S. Embassy in Vientiane is Accepting Applications for the
2016 Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation**

The U.S Embassy Vientiane is accepting project proposals for the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP) 2016 Competition. The deadline for submitting proposals is **December 22, 2015**.

BACKGROUND: Since 2001, Congress has directed the Department of State to support and implement the U.S. Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP). The Senate report on this bill noted that the preservation of cultural heritage offers an opportunity to show a different American face to the world, one that is non-commercial, non-political, and non-military. The AFCP has supported more than 700 projects to preserve cultural heritage in more than 100 countries around the globe.

Qualified entities are reputable and accountable non-governmental organizations, museums, ministries of culture, or similar institutions that are able to demonstrate that they have the requisite experience and capacity to manage projects to preserve cultural heritage.

Project Types:

AFCP supports projects to preserve cultural heritage in the following three categories:

CULTURAL SITES such as, but is not limited to, historic

buildings and archaeological sites;

CULTURAL OBJECTS AND COLLECTIONS from a museum, site, or similar institution – that include, but are not limited to, archaeological and ethnographic objects, paintings, sculpture, manuscripts, and general museum conservation needs; and,

FORMS OF TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSION such as traditional music, indigenous languages, and crafts.

Please see the Embassy's web page on past AFCP projects in Laos (http://laos.usembassy.gov/amb_fund.html) for information on these projects.

HOW TO APPLY: Applicants must submit completed project proposals to:

Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation Office

Public Diplomacy Section

U.S Embassy, Vientiane

KM 9, Thadeua Road

Vientiane, Lao PDR

Email: AFCPLaos@state.gov