

# U.S. Embassy Book Bus

The U.S. Embassy's American Library was established in 1952 to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and Nepal. Smaller libraries established with local partners, called American Corners, were first opened in 2004. There are now eight American Corners located in different parts of Nepal. The first mobile library, called the Book Bus, was launched in November 2013. It seeks to provide library and information services to remote communities in Nepal.



Figure 1: Ambassador Bode Inaugurating the BookBus



Figure 2: Students reading books from the Book Bus

The Book Bus provides a complete library experience that includes reference, fiction and non-fiction books, mobile internet services, and tablet computers. Visitors can access educational websites, learn about the latest technology and participate in various literary and artistic events and activities. The tablets and computers are charged using environmentally friendly solar panels located on the roof of the bus.

With the help of a partner organization, Quixote's Cove, the Book Bus hopes to encourage communities to establish and expand their own local libraries. The Book Bus also donates books to young readers in English and Nepali. The goal is to inspire young people with a desire to read, share American culture, and help people improve their English language skills. The Book Bus has traveled widely in Nepal and brought the joy of reading to thousands of students.



Figure 3: The Book Bus is unveiled amid much excitement

## Book Bus Activities

- Book Readings
- Book Exhibitions
- Book Browsing
- Storytelling Sessions
- Movie Screenings
- Slam Poetry Workshops
- Art Workshops
- Writing Workshops
- iPad Demonstrations
- Book Donations
- Dance Performances
- Climate+Change Exhibition

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