



U.S. Embassy  
Ljubljana

# Alumni Newsletter



December 2014

*Happy Holidays!*

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## Who are alumni?

1. Slovenians who went on a US government-sponsored program like the **Fulbright, Ron Brown Fellowship Program, Ben Franklin, or IVLP** or who participated in the **Summer Economics Institute** are automatically our alumni!
2. Slovenians who completed their **university degree** (B.A./B.S., M.A./M.S., PhD, M.D., J.D., etc.) at a US university in the USA and/or **worked in a company in the US** in a management position for 1 year or more may also contact our Alumni Coordinator to become a part of our USAumni club.

## Why am I getting this newsletter?

The goal of our US Embassy Alumni Outreach Program is to stay in contact with you.

- ◆ to meet you and hear what you have to say
- ◆ to include you in some of our Embassy events
- ◆ to inform you of upcoming Alumni programs, grants, educational opportunities, etc.
- ◆ to organize activities that are of mutual benefit to the US and Slovenia

## Where are Alumni within the Embassy?

The Alumni Outreach Program is in the **Public Affairs Section (PAS)** of the Embassy.

Your emails and phone calls are **always** welcome, so please do not hesitate to be in touch!

Kind regards,

**Charlotte Taft**

**Alumni Coordinator**

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**Phone: 01 200 5539**



## New US Ambassador to Slovenia Brent Hartley to Arrive in Early 2015

Brent Hartley, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service since 1981, has been confirmed as the new US Ambassador to Slovenia and will be arriving in early 2015.

He is currently Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs where he oversees bilateral relations with

Nordic and Baltic countries.

His other most recent assignments include Director for European Security and Political Affairs (2010-2012), Director of the Office of Pakistan Affairs (2008-10) and Counselor for Political/Military Affairs in Kabul (2007-08).

Mr. Hartley also has extensive experience in European security issues and has held a number of positions in this area.

He holds a B.A. in U.S. History and International Relations from Hampshire College and a Masters degree in Strategic Studies from the National War College.

# Alumni Newsletter

## US Embassy Small Grants for Alumni Projects



The Embassy Public Affairs Section (PAS) gives out a number of small grants each year for various projects.

These consist of **cultural grants**, **NGO grants**, and now **alumni grants**.

We welcome proposals from alumni of U.S. government-sponsored exchange programs and encourage you to apply!

**Priority consideration will be given to alumni who:**

- ◆ Cooperate with other alumni to implement the grant
- ◆ Share with a wider community the knowledge or skills gained in the exchange program or training
- ◆ Explain how the project will enhance alumni professional development

Grants are typically between **\$3000-\$10,000** per project.

The deadline for the next round of project submissions is **March 1, 2015**.

To find out more: <http://slovenia.usembassy.gov/ngogrants.html>

## Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund to launch February 2015

**Get up to \$25,000 for your alumni group project**  
<https://alumni.state.gov/aEIF>

The State Department Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF) was created to support alumni initiatives that promote shared values and innovative solutions to global challenges.

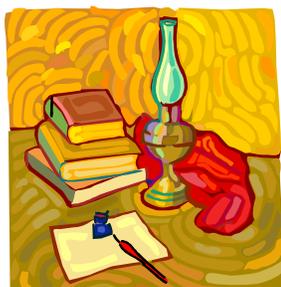
The competition provides small grants to teams of past and

current participants of U.S. government-sponsored exchange programs to carry out public service projects that utilize skills and knowledge they have gained through their exchange experiences. To participate, alumni must be members of the International Exchange Alumni

(IEA) global online community and form teams of at least five IEA community members.

Proposed projects must embody one of the AEIF themes. Grants of up to **\$25,000** are awarded to alumni teams to support their projects.

## English Language Book Club Hosted by Fulbright Alumna



**“Pride and Prejudice” by Jane Austen**

**December 19, 16.30**

**Knjiznica Otona Zupancica, Ljubljana**

The English Book Club meets once a month in the central branch of the Mestna knjiznica Ljubljana to discuss books written in English.

The sessions are prepared and moderated by **Dr. Leonora Flis, Fulbright Scholar alumna (2011-12)**, who teaches contemporary literature, literary theory, and film studies at the

University of Nova Gorica.

Discussions are in English, so the sessions are also intended as language practice for non-native speakers.

This is an open group, so anyone can join. It is free and you do not have to be a member of the library.

More information at [www.mklj.si](http://www.mklj.si)

# US Embassy Ljubljana—Alumni Newsletter—December 2014

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**Alumni, let us know your news and if we can help you in any way!**

- ◆ **Awards:** Let us know if you have gotten an award or other recognition
- ◆ **Updates:** Have you changed jobs, started a new company, left/returned to Slovenia, gotten your PhD, etc.
- ◆ **USA & English Language:** Anything you do connected to the USA or the English language is also most welcome!
- ◆ **Ideas:** Any ideas you have for alumni projects, events or ways we can work together on mutually beneficial projects are welcome!
- ◆ We would be happy to **publicize your news & your successes on the US Embassy Facebook page**, if desired and where appropriate.

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## Quick links

### US Embassy:

US Embassy Ljubljana: <http://slovenia.usembassy.gov>

US Embassy Facebook:  
<http://www.facebook.com/slovenia.usembassy>

US Embassy Consular Section: <http://slovenia.usembassy.gov/visas.html>

### Study, Work, Research in the USA links:

Studying in the USA: <http://slovenia.usembassy.gov/studyusa.html>

Fulbright Program: [http://slovenia.usembassy.gov/fulbright\\_scholarship.html](http://slovenia.usembassy.gov/fulbright_scholarship.html)

### AmCham Slovenia:

American Chamber of Commerce of Slovenia: <http://www.amcham.si/en/Default.aspx>