



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
JERUSALEM

WEEKLY MAILING

July 30, 2010

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Shooting Stars Basketball Camp

Donnie Arey, an American basketball coach, and Kayte Christensen, former player with the U.S. Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA), conducted a series of training camps for Palestinian youths and coaches as part of the "Shooting Stars Basketball Camp," July 24-29, 2010, in Ramallah and Bethlehem. The Basketball Camp is a joint-program coordinated between the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem and the Palestinian National Committee of Summer Camps (NCSC). Approximately 200 Palestinian boys and girls, ages 11-16, from traditionally hard-to-reach areas surrounding Ramallah and Bethlehem participated in the training sessions. The camps promote confidence, self-esteem, team-building, and respect among participants, in addition to promoting mutual understanding between Americans and Palestinians. In addition to the program for youths, twelve Palestinian coaches (six men, six women) were selected by NCSC to participate in a coaches' clinic, to learn coaching and management skills.

[PHOTO ALBUM](#)



القنصلية الأمريكية ومؤسسة الأمدايست تستضيفان أول معرض للجامعات الأمريكية في غزة

27 تموز، 2010

إستضافت القنصلية الأمريكية العامة في القدس ومكتب مؤسسة الأمدايست في غزة وفرع مؤسسة خريجي برامج التبادل الثقافي الأمريكية في غزة أول معرض للجامعات الأمريكية في قطاع غزة حيث جذب المئات من الشباب الغزيين المهتمين بمعرفة المزيد حول الخيارات المتاحة لهم للدراسة في الولايات المتحدة. ويأتي هذا المعرض الذي نظم في مطعم الأفنيو على شاطئ غزة كجزء من جهود القنصلية الأمريكية العامة في زيادة التواصل مع سكان غزة وتوفير نفس الفرص المقدمة لأهالي الضفة الغربية والقدس الشرقية لهم.

وبعد الكلمة الافتتاحية لمدير مؤسسة الأمد ايست في الضفة الغربية وغزة ستيفن كيلر رحب مسؤول برامج التبادل التعليمي في القنصلية الأمريكية أليستر باسكي بالطلاب من خلال رسالة فيديو مسجلة قال فيها، " لقد دعمنا هذا المعرض للتعبير عن ثقتنا في قدراتكم ولمساعدتكم في تحقيق أحلامكم وطموحاتكم." [اقرأ المزيد...](#)

Photo Album:



[Students attend first U.S. University Fair in Gaza](#)



[Director of Educational Exchanges answers Gazans' questions on education opportunities in the United States](#)

U.S. Consulate General and AMIDEAST Host First U.S. University Fair in Gaza

July 27, 2010

The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem, AMIDEAST's Gaza office, and the Gaza chapter of the Palestinian Fulbright Alumni Association hosted the first-ever U.S. university fair in the Gaza Strip, attracting hundreds of young Gazans interested in learning more about options for study in the United States. The fair, held at the Avenue Restaurant on Gaza City beach, is part of the U.S. Consulate General's goal of increasing outreach to Gazans to offer them the same opportunities open to their fellow Palestinians in the West Bank and east Jerusalem.

Following introductory remarks by AMIDEAST Country Director Steven Keller, the U.S. officer responsible for educational exchanges, Alistair Baskey, welcomed the students with a videotaped message, noting that, "We supported this fair to express our confidence in your abilities and to help you realize your dreams and ambitions." [Read more...](#)

تختتم مؤسسة الأميديست مخيمها الصيفي "مخيم المعرفة والاكتشاف" في أربع من محافظات الضفة الغربية وموقعين في غزة. عقد هذا المخيم وللسنة الرابعة على التوالي بتمويل من القنصلية الاميركية في القدس وبالتعاون مع وكالة غوث وتشغيل اللاجئين (أونروا). يعتبر هذا المخيم مخيماً متعدد الأوجه ، يتم التركيز فيه على أن المشارك هو محور العمل التربوي، ويخدم فتيات وفتيات تتراوح أعمارهم بين 8 - 14 سنة في مخيمات اللاجئين في غزة وفي الضفة الغربية. وتم ترشيح الطلاب من قبل مدارس أونروا، تم اختيارهم من قبل مؤسسة الأميديست على أساس الأداء الأكاديمي والخلفية الاجتماعية والاقتصادية. يستمر البرنامج 13 يوماً مع التركيز على تعلم اللغة الإنجليزية والفنون التعبيرية والاكتشافات والتجارب العلمية في جو تفاعلي. وقد استفاد من مخيم المعرفة والاكتشاف 540 طالباً في ستة مواقع في جميع أنحاء الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة . و منذ بدايته في عام 2006، شارك أكثر من 1600 طالب و طالبة من مختلف أنحاء الضفة الغربية وغزة في المخيم. [اقرأ المزيد...](#)

Photo Albums:



[Camp Discovery Summer 2010 – Gaza](#)



[Camp Discovery Summer 2010 - The West Bank](#)

AMIDEAST Conducts Camp Discovery 2010

For the fourth consecutive year with funding from the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem and in partnership with UNRWA, AMIDEAST conducted "Camp Discovery" — a multi-faceted, learner-centered summer camp experience for Palestinian youth aged 8–14 in refugee camps in Gaza and the West Bank. Students were nominated by UNRWA and selected by AMIDEAST based on academic performance and socioeconomic background. Those selected were enrolled in an interactive, 13-day program focusing on English language learning, artistic self-expression, and scientific discovery. Camp Discovery 2010 benefited 540 students at six sites throughout the West Bank and Gaza. Since its inception in 2006, more than 1,600 students throughout the West Bank and Gaza have participated in Camp Discovery. [Read more...](#)



Celebrating 20 Years of the Americans with Disabilities Act

Twenty years ago today the United States ushered in a new era of opportunity for our citizens with passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This groundbreaking legislation has played a critical role in combating disability discrimination and promoting the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in our society. A global pioneer, the ADA has also inspired adoption of disability rights legislation around the world, and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities incorporates the core principles and concepts of the ADA. Today we are proud to join our colleagues across government and civil society in celebrating this 20th anniversary.

Here at the State Department we are making inclusion of persons with disabilities a central element in our policies and practices within the Department and around the globe. In July 2009, the United States signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This past June, we welcomed Judith Heumann as the first Special Advisor for International Disability Rights; she is working across the Department to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote the rights of all persons with disabilities internationally. We will continue to address the inclusion of disability issues throughout the Department, including through ensuring the accessibility of buildings, communication, and information technology. I also would like to take this opportunity to recognize the invaluable contributions to the work of the Department made by our colleagues with disabilities and the Disability Advisory Group, who demonstrate on a daily basis the importance of disability inclusion. [Read more...](#)





[You asked, and we're getting experts to answer. Literary expert David Kipen answers the question "What is American culture?"](#) What question would you like to ask?

سألتم: ما هي الثقافة الأميركية؟

بقلم ديفيد كيبين

(هذا المقال مقتطف من الكتاب الحي "سألتم").

لعل النكتة الطريفة السهلة هي "أوجز الثقافة الأميركية في 500 كلمة. أليست هذه كثيرة؟"

الحقيقة الصريحة هي أن الثقافة الأميركية لم يعد لها وجود. والفضل للإنترنت – الوسيط ذاته الذي يمكنكم الآن من القراءة في قارة أخرى مقالا أكتبه أنا في أميركا الشمالية ردا على سؤال ربما طرح في قارة أخرى مختلفة كليا. والواقع هو أن كل أكشاك الحراس التي تحرس ثقافتنا القومية تفتقر إلى الموظفين بشكل خطير. انظروا إلى الأشكال الفنية الثلاثة التي يعتقد معظم مواطني بلدي أنها، نوعا ما، جوهر الأصالة الأميركية، وهي مسرحيات الكوميديا الموسيقية والجاز والروايات البوليسية.

الفنان الموسيقي النيجيري فيلا كوتي تأثر بموسيقى الجاز الأميركية في السبعينيات من القرن المنصرم فجمع بين الفن والاحتجاج ضد الفساد ولعل أكثر برامج برودواي رواجيا حاليا والتي يمكن المراهنة بذكاء على أنها ستفوز بجائزة توني هي "فيلا"، وهي مسرحية موسيقية عن الموسيقى النيجيري فيلا كوتي الذي برع في عزف عدة آلات وعن تأثيره على موسيقى الجاز، وتتعاظم أيضا لتبين كيف أن انهيار الثقافات "القومية" السابقة يوازي تلقيا مماثلا بين الأنماط التي كانت خافية في الماضي. فموظف الجمارك على الحدود بين الجاز والموسيقى الشعبية والمسرح الغنائي مثله مثل الخفراء الذين يحرسون المتاريس "الأميركية" السابقة للثقافة، غادروا مواقعهم وعادوا إلى مواطنهم، أينما كانت. [اقرأ المزيد...](#)



The Public Affairs Office of the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem Announces the AY 2011 - 2012 Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Program

The Public Affairs Office of the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem announces the AY 2011- 2012 Hubert Humphrey Fellowship. This program provides mid-career Palestinians residing in the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza with an opportunity to enhance their professional capabilities through participation in a specialized year of graduate level, non-degree academic course work and professional development activities at selected U. S. universities. The program brings together professionals in leadership positions who have a commitment to public service and the potential for professional advancement. Programs are individually designed to include course work, independent projects, internships, consultations with U.S. experts, and special seminars. To learn more, please visit www.humphreyfellowship.org. The Humphrey program addresses broad policy-making and problem-solving issues, rather than technical aspects.

- Agricultural development/agricultural economics
- Communications/Journalism
- Substance Abuse Education, Treatment and Prevention
- Economic development and Finance/banking
- Education Administration, Planning and Policy
- HIV/AIDS Policy and Prevention
- Teaching English as a Second Language (Teacher Training or Curriculum Development)
- Human resource management
- Law and Human Rights
- Natural Resources/Environmental Policy/Climate Change
- Public Health Policy and Management
- Public policy analysis and administration
- Technology Policy and Management
- Trafficking in Persons, Policy and Prevention
- Urban and Regional planning

In addition to the pre-academic language training, the Humphrey program also offers a Long Term English Language Training (LTE) for an intensive of 20 to 25 weeks for candidates with a range of 440 – 500 TOEFL score. The LTE candidates begin their study program in the United States between January and March 2011 in preparation for the 2011-2012 academic year. [For more Information.](#)



The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem Announces the AY 2011 Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program

The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem is pleased to announce the Academic Year 2011 competition for the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) program. The Fulbright FLTA program is an integral part of the Fulbright student program. The nine month, non-degree program will host around 125 Arabic FLTAs from Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, the Palestinian Territories, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

The FLTA program, funded by the State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), is aimed at strengthening foreign language instruction at U.S. colleges and universities, and some high schools, while providing future foreign teachers of English with the opportunity to refine their skills, increase their English language proficiency and extend their knowledge of U.S. society and culture. [More Information.](#)

Also Check: [Fulbright Foreign Student Scholarship Program](#)

U.S. Government Bets on Electric Cars

By Karin Rives
Staff Writer

Washington — The fledgling market for electric cars is on the cusp of a major breakthrough as unprecedented investments in battery technology are making such cars affordable to many consumers in the United States and beyond, a new report from the U.S. Department of Energy predicts.

The price of batteries for electric cars, their most expensive part, will decrease 70 percent over the next five years, the agency says. That means the price of electric cars will drop to as low as \$25,000 in the United States, a price equivalent to the cost of many new gasoline-powered cars. Hybrid cars that run on both electricity and gasoline will cost even less, the Energy Department estimates). [Read more...](#)



الولايات المتحدة تراهن على رواج السيارة العاملة بالبطارية

من كارين رايفز، المحررة في موقع أميركا دوت غوف

واشنطن،- باتت سوق السيارات الكهربائية الناشئة على وشك تحقيق اختراق هائل وذلك بعد أن جعلت استثمارات غير مسبوقة في تكنولوجيا البطاريات هذه السيارات سلعا في متناول العديد من المستهلكين في الولايات المتحدة وفي الخارج، حسب ما توقع تقرير جديد لوزارة الطاقة الأميركية.

وقالت الوزارة في تقريرها إن أسعار بطاريات السيارات الكهربائية، وهي المكونات الأعلى ثمنا فيها، ستخفض بمعدل 70 في المئة على مدى السنوات الخمس القادمة، ما يعني أن سعر السيارة الكهربائية قد ينخفض بدوره ليصبح في حدود 25 ألف دولار في الولايات المتحدة وهو سعر مرادف حاليا لثمان سيارة جديدة تعمل بالبنزين. كما أن السيارات الهجينة التي تعمل بالطاقة الكهربائية والبنزين معا ستكلف أقل من أسعار السيارات الكهربائية حسبما جاء في تقرير تقديرات وزارة الطاقة راجع التقرير بنمط. [اقرأ المزيد...](#)

Selected E-Docs:

- [COVERING CORRUPTION: THE DIFFICULTIES OF TRYING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.](#) Center for Media Assistance and National Endowment for Democracy. Rosemary Armao. July 21, 2010.

The idea that a free press is linked to better, more honest government is accepted as a given, largely without direct evidence. Yet only recently have news organizations begun asking whether what they are doing is making any difference. The report examines the impact of reporting about corruption on the incidence of corruption, asking whether and how media has an effect in bringing about reform and better governance.

- [NEW KILLER: CLIMATE CHANGE THREATENS HOMES AND LIVELIHOODS.](#) YaleGlobal. Sasha Chavkin. July 22, 2010.

Changes in weather patterns and the landscape, once gradual, have become more abrupt and noticeable with this century. Deserts expand, seas rise, rains pound, etching away land, jobs and homes. Hardest hit are the poorest nations, and families forced to move are left to their own devices by their governments as well as the wealthier nations that continue to emit carbon that fuel extreme weather. The number of environmental refugees could approach 50 million, and yet most domestic and international agencies have avoided their plight for decades. The author offers proposals for recourse while examining the hardships endured by one family from Isiakpuenu, Nigeria.

- [AMERICA'S DIVERSE FAMILY FARMS 2010 EDITION.](#) U.S. Department of Agriculture. July 2010.

American farms vary widely in size and other characteristics, but farming is still an industry of family businesses. Ninety-eight percent of farms are family farms, and they account for 82 percent of farm production. Small family farms make up most of the U.S. farm count and hold the majority of farm assets, but they produce a modest share of U.S. farm output. In contrast, large-scale family farms and nonfamily farms—only 12 percent of all farms—account for 84 percent of farm production. Small farms are less profitable than large-scale farms, on average, and the households operating them tend to rely on off-farm income for their livelihood. Because small-farm households receive most of their income from off-farm work, general economic policies, such as tax policy or economic development policy, can be as important to them as traditional farm policy.

- [THE IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT \(R&D\) FOR U.S. COMPETITIVENESS AND A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE.](#) Brookings Institution. Michael Greenstone. July 27, 2010.

In testimony before the Joint Economic Committee, Michael Greenstone discussed the need for expanded energy R&D investments to help combat our reliance on fossil fuels and promote our country's future competitiveness in the global economy.

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