



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES

BUDAPEST NEWSLETTER

JULY 2009



Congressman Price delivering President Obama's message to Prime Minister Bajnai

President Obama Congratulates Hungary on Making the First Break in the Iron Curtain

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the demolition of the Iron Curtain along the Austro-Hungarian border, the Democratic Congressman from North Carolina delivered a message from President Barack Obama which concluded with the following words:

“We salute all those who found courage to stand up for this change and set in motion the progress that very much continues to this day. On behalf of the people of the United States, I offer my congratulations on this most important celebration, and my warmest wishes for continued friendship between our two great nations. Sincerely, Barack Obama”

[More▶](#)

Recently at the Embassy



Roma and Friends Summer Camp

The second annual camp brings together both Roma and non-Roma children from all over Hungary and their English teachers for one week to focus on teaching tolerance and to develop the youths' English language skills. Visiting Embassy Chargé Levine wished the students a joyful stay and asked them to bring the message of tolerance back home and share it with their community. [More▶](#)



Multinational Heavy Airlift Wing activated at Pápa Air Base

The first of three US-made C-17 NATO military cargo aircraft arrived in Pápa Air Base and was presented to the public on July 27. These giant Globemaster III Boeing cargo planes will be stationed at the west Hungarian air base under NATO's Strategic Airlift Capability Program. [More▶](#)



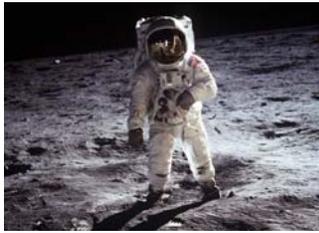
Wynton Marsalis Concert in Budapest

On July 26, jazz trumpeter, composer, and educator Wynton Marsalis together with the *Jazz at the Lincoln Center Orchestra* performed before a packed house at Budapest's Congress Center. It was a stellar performance that brought down the house, and included the works of Thelonious Monk, Duke Ellington, and other jazz legends. Recipient of countless awards and honors, Marsalis was honored with another special award, the Embassy's Award for Cultural Diplomacy. [More▶](#)



Historic Marshall Plan Films Premiered in Budapest

For the first time ever, a selection of films made to document the European Recovery Program -- better known as the "Marshall Plan" -- was presented in Hungary by Marshall Film historian and curator Sandra Schulberg. [More▶](#)



40 Years Since Apollo 11 – Moon Day at Millenáris

On July 20, 1969, the first human set foot on the Moon. To celebrate this historic event, the U.S. Embassy supported Moon Day at Millenáris on July 20, 2009. Programs included a lecture by astronomer Attila Grandpierre, documentaries from the NASA archives, NASA photo exhibit, Z.U.P. concert and more. Details are available at the [Millenáris web site](#).



Hungarians and Americans Celebrate 4th of July

Chargé d’Affaires Jeffrey Levine hosted a large reception at the U.S. Ambassador’s residence to celebrate America’s national holiday. Hundreds of Hungarians and Americans met to mark America’s 233rd birthday and listened to the Chargé’s remarks about tolerance and Prime Minister Gordon Bajnai’s remarks about Hungarian-American friendship. [More with Video▶](#)



Budapest American Corner 4th of July Photo Exhibit

The American Corner at the Corvinus University of Budapest commemorated 4th of July with a photo exhibit opening at the Ráday Könyvesház art gallery. The festive opening featured a jazz tribute from Erika Lakatos, a Hungarian-American jazz singer and Béla Szakcsi Lakatos, Jr., jazz pianist. The exhibit is called *Motel, American Night Photographs* and is the work of Shandor Hassan, a New York based artist and a Fulbright Scholar in residence in Budapest. [More▶](#)



Colorado Symphony Chorus in Budapest

Celebrating their 25th anniversary, the Colorado Symphony Chorus performed Verdi’s Requiem to a full house at the Palace of the Arts on July 2nd. Welcoming them on behalf of the U.S. Embassy was the Embassy Spokesperson, Jan Krc, who presented the founder and Director of the Chorus, Maestro Duain Wolfe with the U.S. Embassy’s Award for Cultural Diplomacy. [More▶](#)



Healthcare Roundtable

On June 23, the U.S. Embassy Commercial Section organized a roundtable with executives of leading U.S. health care companies and officials from the Hungarian Ministries of Economy, Finance, and Health, including Health Minister Tamás Székely. The meeting was organized under the auspices of an ongoing U.S. Commerce Department initiative, the U.S.-Hungary Healthcare Working Group, which aims to promote transparency, innovation and access in the Hungarian health care market. [More▶](#)



Hungarian Roma NGO Recognizes U.S. Embassy Employee

The ‘Together for Gyöngyös’ Roma-Hungarian Association in Mátraháza presented Embassy Political Specialist Linda Mézes with their “For a Better Future” Award, which recognizes those non-Romas who contribute to the advancement of Roma integration. [More▶](#)



Looking Ahead



The famous American EUGENE CONCERT CHOIR TOURING ENSEMBLE will give a concert in the St. Mihály Church – (1056 Budapest, Váci utca 47/b) on August 6 at 6:00 p.m. Free entrance, music fans are welcome! [More▶](#)

NEW EMBASSY WEB-SITE IS UP AND RUNNING

Our English language web site has a new look! On the homepage, you will find more stories highlighting Embassy events and major U.S. policy issues, as well as direct links to our most popular pages and to partner programs and organizations. Graphic features have also been enhanced. The basic structure of the site remained the same, but in the top navigation bar drop-down menus help easier navigation. [Check it out!▶](#)

The Hungarian language site will have this same new look in the near future.

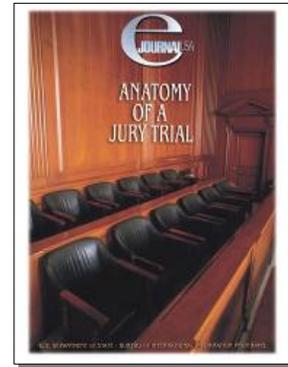


New Publications

Anatomy of a Jury Trial *EJournal USA* Vol 14, No.7. July 2009

Juries — usually groups of 6 or 12 ordinary citizens — provide a crucial service for their fellow citizens: Just as in medieval England, where they got started, juries prevent government, even democratic government, from pursuing oppressive prosecutions.

[eJournal▶](#)



IRC NEWSLETTERS



Security & Defense



Environmental Issues



U.S. Society and Values



Health Issues