



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES

## BUDAPEST NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2009

### Message from President Obama to President Laszlo Sólyom



DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, I EXTEND WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AND THE CITIZENS OF HUNGARY AS YOU CELEBRATE YOUR NATIONAL DAY ON AUGUST 20.

HUNGARY REMAINS A CLOSE AND VALUED PARTNER TO THE UNITED STATES. OUR FRIENDSHIP WILL CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN AS WE WORK TOGETHER TO ADVANCE THE COMMON GOALS OF OUR SHARED DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE JOIN YOU IN COMMEMORATING THE FOUNDING OF YOUR NATION ON THIS VERY IMPORTANT DAY.

SINCERELY,  
BARACK OBAMA

### *Recently at the Embassy*

#### ROMA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM AT U.S. EMBASSY BUDAPEST

The Embassy of the United States in Budapest is pleased to announce the launch of its Roma Fellowship Program. The aim of the program is to provide the participants with linguistic and professional experiences which will add to their future career opportunities. The program is designed for recently graduated Roma university or college students who are Hungarian citizens. [More▶](#)



#### Strong Partners - at Home and Abroad

On Aug 17, senior military and civilian leaders from Hungary and the US officially welcomed the first combined Hungarian-US (Ohio National Guard) Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) on its return from Afghanistan. The team had just completed a year assignment together. [More▶](#)



#### Inter-active Embassy Tent Attracts Youth at Sziget Festival

The Embassy tent was on the path between several of the main music stages, so thousands of Hungarians and youths from other countries visited the tent. The aim of the Budapest Embassy's program was to involve young people in entertaining games, yet provide them with the opportunity to get information about the United States as well as studying there. [More with video clip ▶](#)



#### Embassy Helps Rock against Racism

Love Music Hate Racism (LMHR) was the prevailing mantra at the opening day concert of Budapest's week-long Sziget music festival on August 11. In an effort to mobilize the power of music as a great unifier that transcends all boundaries and cultural divides, the U.S. Embassy participated in this campaign that brought together top Hungarian bands with British musicians from the UK-based LMHR organization for a full day of performances. [More▶](#)



### Teaching Tolerance through English

[More▶](#)

For the fourth time in a row since 2006, 55 students and 11 teachers of English from Croatia, Hungary, Kosovo, Montenegro, Romania and Slovakia participated in the "Teaching Tolerance through English" summer camp in Balatonlelle. The counselors engaged them in a variety of athletic, theatrical, artistic and educational activities designed to further their understanding of and tolerance towards each other's cultures while enhancing their English language skills.



### Repatriation of WWII U.S. Airman's Remains from Hungary

In a solemn joint Hungarian-American military ceremony fallen WWII serviceman Sergeant First Class Marvin J. Steinfeld was honored before his body was repatriated to the U.S. and returned to his family. Thus the promise made to all service members and their families to do everything possible to bring them home again was fulfilled.

[More▶](#)



### Chargé Levine Commemorates the Roma Holocaust

On August 2, Chargé d'Affaires, Jeffrey Levine, participated in the Roma Holocaust memorial event at Nehru Quay, Budapest. Chargé Levine spoke to the crowd emphasizing the importance of rejecting racism and political extremism. Along with representatives of Roma civil organizations, Chargé Levine laid a wreath at the memorial monument of the Roma Holocaust.



### Luncheon for Rabbi Arthur Schneier

Chargé d'Affaires Jeffrey Levine hosted a luncheon in honor of visiting Rabbi Arthur Schneier, who leads the "Appeal of Conscience Foundation." Representatives from the Papal Nuncio, the Catholic Church, the Reformed Church, the Lutheran Church, the Chabad-Lubavitch of Hungary, and the Hungarian Islamic Community attended the luncheon to discuss the current status of religious freedom and religious tolerance in Hungary.

[More▶](#)

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## News from Washington



### EULOGY FOR A LION

The President's full remarks at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Basilica in Roxbury, Massachusetts: ▶

# Looking Ahead

## WEEK OF EDUCATION AT HUNGEXPO



This year's Week of Education will take place at the Hungexpo Budapest Fair from September 9-13. In cooperation with the Hungarian Fulbright Commission and the Institute of International Education European Office, the American Embassy will put on exhibits to promote EducationUSA. Visitors, who stop by our stand, will receive comprehensive information about the possibilities of studying in the United States. We will have handouts and other literature available for visitors.

### The Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program



The Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program is intended primarily for practitioners and scholars from emerging and aspiring democracies. The program offers five-month fellowships for practitioners to improve strategies and techniques for building democracy abroad and five- to ten-month fellowships for scholars to conduct original research for publication. Deadline: Applications for fellowships in 2010-2011 must be received no later than November 2, 2009.

[More▶](#)

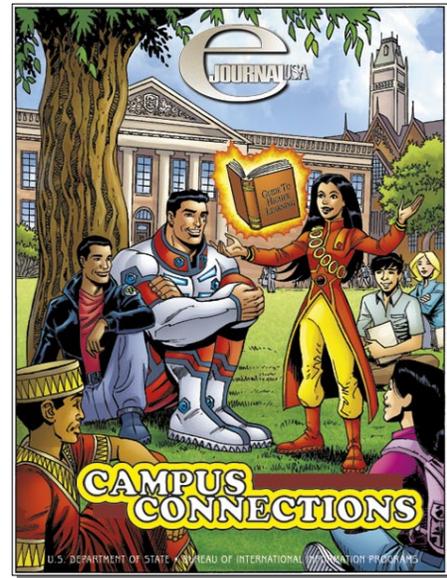
# New Publications

## Campus Connections

### *EJournal USA* Vol 14, No.8. August 2009

A globalized economy makes business and employment spill across national boundaries, so an education abroad is likely to make a young person better prepared for the world of the future. Almost double the numbers of students travel abroad for an education today as compared with 20 years ago. Campus Connections examines the international study experience and its influence on individual growth.

[eJournal▶](#)



### IRC NEWSLETTER

### Economic Issues August 2009▶