



AMERICAN CENTER

AUGUST 2020
NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME NOTE AMERICAN SPACES TEAM

Namaste!

We hope many of you have enjoyed and found our virtual programs enriching. Our team continues to work tirelessly to develop the programs that will resonate with you the most. As the lock-down eases across Nepal, we will continue to provide virtual programming until we are able to open our Spaces to the public. In the meantime, we welcome you all to join us virtually as we hear from subject matter experts and discuss topics ranging from challenges entrepreneurs have faced during the global pandemic; to how the tourism industry post-pandemic will look like in Nepal; to something lighter such as listening to a live music performance.

To register for our programs, please click on the given link (Register). We post more programs on our Social Media platform (<https://www.facebook.com/nepal.usembassy/>) so, keep checking the page for additional program postings. And feel free to share the American Center [Newsletter Subscription](#) link (<https://rb.gy/el551i>) to interested ones.

Sincerely,
American Spaces Team

DCM INSPIRES YOUTH AT SKILL-BUILDING SESSION DURING THE REGIONAL TECHCAMP

DCM Manuel P. Micaller attended the inaugural skill-building training for the Embassy Kathmandu-led Regional TechCamp. He encouraged participants to concentrate their energies on reinforcing the rule of law, building transparency, and increasing accountability. Emphasizing the importance of good governance to build a more secure, stable, and prosperous South Asia, the DCM commended the youth for investing energy and time in achieving prosperity for their respective countries. The 50 participants from Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka will participate in training and leadership workshops culminating in an in-person TechCamp later in the year.

WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

American Spaces in Biratnagar and Surkhet invited two women government officials from the Ministry of Social Development from their respective provinces to talk about the ministry's work in promoting and elevating women in their communities. Although a lot of progress has been made in the past decades, such as allocating educational scholarships for women, establishing safe

houses for victims of domestic violence, and assisting women to open bank accounts, there is much more to be done. Persistent systemic issues such as low literacy rates, domestic violence, child marriage, menstrual taboos, lack of emphasis on gender equality, and lack of laws to protect women in the labor market continue to slow the progress of women particularly in the rural areas.

PANDEMIC TALK WITH A TV JOURNALIST

In the third series of the Pandemic Diary, the host of a popular TV show 'Lockdown Diary,' Mr. Rupesh Shrestha, talked about his pandemic-related reporting from different parts of Nepal. He discussed a range of topics such as countering

misinformation, challenges faced by journalists in Nepal, the status of media in Nepal versus neighboring countries, the growth of media in Nepal, and his professional and personal life.

AUGUST PROGRAMS

THE CONTEXTATOR

Episode 6 : August 16 | 5-6 PM

Episode 7 : August 30 | 5-6 PM

[Event Page Link](#)

PROJECT BASED LEARNING

Teachers' Training Program

August 7 | 2:30-4 PM

YOUTH CONVENTION

Sharing, Learning & Implementing:

August 13 | 12:30 PM

TALK PROGRAM

Contraband and the Business Environment in Far-west Nepal

August 24 | 1-2 PM ([Register](#))

NATIONAL LIBRARY DAY CELEBRATION

Brief Introduction on American Spaces and Public Library of Nepal

August 31 | 5-6:30 PM

SCREENING OF HAMILTON VIA DISNEY PLUS

PAS Kathmandu had the unique opportunity to screen the musical Hamilton to a small audience in Nepal. During the three post-movie discussions the participants discussed several themes, including Hamilton's role as the

founding father, his role in establishing the first bank of the U.S., the bitter history of slavery in the U.S., the use of rap battles to communicate important messages, racism, and the current Black Lives Matter movement in the U.S.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP TRAINING

American Center Kathmandu, in partnership with Karkhana, offered a virtual Training of Trainers (ToT) on digital citizenship to educators. During the first meeting, participants learned about the concept of digital citizenship, digital communities, digital wellness, and online security and etiquette. Forty-one participants attended the session and read articles, watched videos, and

completed assignments that helped develop their understanding of digital citizenship. The course aims to empower educators and American Spaces program coordinators to prepare their audiences to leverage the potential of digital technologies and to support them in navigating the challenges and dilemmas that these technologies can also produce.

HISTORIES FROM HOME WORKSHOP

As part of our ongoing Histories from Home workshop series, the Book Bus delivered four workshops to mixed age groups across Nepal. The simple goal of the workshop was to bring out stories and experiences that are often marginalized and ignored in conventional narratives of history. For instance, in two sets of workshops with disadvantaged students from marginalized communities, participants wrote about

an object that reminds them of their family and is close to their hearts. In another workshop, women over the age of 30 wrote stories about their own experiences and family histories. The workshops aim to build empathy and a greater tolerance for diversity by sharing participants' stories through social media to highlight the many different histories and experiences of people across Nepal.

A CONVERSATION WITH A POPULAR NEPALI PODCASTER

On July 15, the American Spaces invited Ms. Sabeena Karki, a popular media personality for a chat about her media journey and her success as a podcaster. Explaining why she left a popular FM station to start her own podcast, she underscored the importance of seeking new challenges in life. She emphasized how the podcast is a simple yet powerful

tool to express one's feelings and emotions. She encouraged the Zoom participants to be passionate and committed in life and to keep exploring the many opportunities that are available to them. Some of her fans even joined from Germany and Japan through Facebook Live.