

# AMERICAN SPACES NEPAL

DECEMBER 2020  
NEWSLETTER



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## WELCOME NOTE

Namaste!

Thank you for subscribing to our American Spaces newsletter. It's December and winter has officially arrived. I hope everyone is staying warm and staying safe.

The American Spaces team across Nepal continues to work to develop virtual programs to meet your needs and help you navigate this new world we live in. For December, we plan to provide programs focused on combating gender-based violence (GBV), honoring World AIDS Day, and continuing our Book Club. Keep your eyes open for updates regarding these topics.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to alter our lives, we will provide virtual programming until we are able to open our Spaces to the public.

If you have suggestions or ideas to share, feel free to contact us.

To register for our programs, please click on the given link (Register). We post our programs in our respective Corner Facebook pages (<https://np.usembassy.gov/education-culture/american-spaces/>), so keep checking the page for additional program postings. And feel free to share the [American Center Newsletter Subscription link](https://rb.gy/el551i) (<https://rb.gy/el551i>) with interested folks.

Sincerely,

American Spaces Team

## DECEMBER PROGRAMS:

- Spoken Word Poetry to Honor the World Aids Day  
Dec 1 | 1-2 PM
- From Breaking Silence to Making Laws: A Path to Ending Gender-Based Violence  
Dec 4 | 3-4:30 PM  
[REGISTER](#)
- 16 Days of Activism: Women's Rights and Development in Local level  
Dec 10 | 1-2:30 PM
- Incooperating STEAM in Classroom Activities: Teachers' Training  
Dec 19 | 9-10 AM

## NOVEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### International Education Week

*American Spaces in Nepal Highlight the International Education Week American Spaces in Nepal organized the following programs to celebrate the International Education Week:*

### **Stories From Current Graduate/Undergraduate Students in the U.S.**

To celebrate International Education Week (IEW), American Spaces convened two current Nepali graduate students studying in the United States, as well the EducationUSA adviser from the U.S. Educational Foundation (USEF) in Nepal. Pradeep Niroula is currently doing his PhD at the University of Maryland and Bibek Pandit is enrolled in a Master's program at MIT. They both spoke about their experience attending elite colleges in the U.S., their undergraduate application process, scholarship opportunities in the U.S., and the importance of seeking advice and asking questions. Pradeep and Bibek, completed their undergraduate studies from Harvard and MIT respectively. Broadcast live through Facebook you can see the recording here:

<https://www.facebook.com/IHKathmandu/videos/738053307058686>

### **Study in the USA Advising Session**

To draw attention to International Education Week (IEW), American Spaces invited an EducationUSA adviser from the U.S. Educational Foundation (USEF) of Nepal to talk about the five steps USEF has developed to apply for university to the U.S. These steps include; researching your options, financing your studies, completing your application, applying for your student visa, and preparing for your departure. The adviser also addressed questions from the participants related to the application process, standardized tests, and scholarship opportunities in the U.S. According to the Open Doors Report 2020, with 12,730 students in the U.S. Nepal ranks 12th worldwide in the number of undergraduate and graduate students studying in America.

## NOVEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



### *American Spaces in Nepal celebrates Global Entrepreneurship Week*

#### **American Corner Dhangadhi Celebrates the Global Entrepreneurship Week**

To celebrate Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), American Corner Dhangadhi organized a panel discussion entitled “Contraband and the Business Environment in Far-west Nepal.” The panel consisted of a Deputy Inspector General of Nepal Police, former Customs Chief of Kailali, and the President of Kailali Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Participants discussed the impact of contraband on the local businesses, ways to control contraband, and the steps being taken to support local entrepreneurs during the current pandemic.

Emphasizing that coordination between the government sectors and the chamber is necessary to promote businesses in the region, the panelists gave specific examples of their collaboration. Broadcast live through the Facebook pages of American Spaces in Nepal, the event has been viewed over 400 times.

<https://www.facebook.com/IHKathmandu/videos/662955137917864>

#### **American Spaces Celebrate the Global Entrepreneurship Week**

To continue the celebration of Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), American Spaces organized an entrepreneurial talk series, inviting two established entrepreneurs Ramkali Khadka, a USG exchange alumna and the Founder/Executive Director of Women’s Skills Development Organization.

Khadka spoke about her entrepreneurship journey, and challenges she faced in building a successful business.

(<https://www.facebook.com/IHKathmandu/videos/2268776166593295>). Similarly, Manoj Bikram Shah former president of the Biratnagar Chapter of the Nepal Young Entrepreneurs Forum shared lessons she has learned throughout the years of running a business as a woman. (<https://www.facebook.com/IHKathmandu/videos/201077965004563>).



## NOVEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

# BOOKS BEYOND BOARDERS

*"The House on Mango Street"*  
by Sandra Cisneros  
Dec. 7-24, 2020.

*Webinars on Mondays and Thursdays  
(December 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, and 24 ) from  
2:30-3:30 pm*  
[REGISTER.](#)

### **Regional Book Club Participants Receive Certificates**

Since the start of the regional book club in April, only a select few have attended every book club discussion, totaling 40 webinars covering the 10 books we read together. As a small thanks to these individuals we distributed certificates to acknowledge their commitment and contribution to the book club. David H. Kennedy, Counselor for Public Affairs in India, Karl Rogers, Cultural Affairs Officer for Nepal, and Mark Burnell, Regional Public Affairs Specialist for South Asia had the honor to congratulate and hand out the certificates.

All together, the sessions have reached over six thousand participants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka

### **Dāphā Calling: Revitalizing Our Musical Heritage**

In celebration of Global Entrepreneurship Week, the Book Bus hosted a four-part virtual town hall as part of its "Dāphā Calling: Revitalizing Our Music Heritage" program.

Inaugurating the program on Nov. 19, Cultural Affairs Officer Karl Rogers highlighted the role of the Book Bus to build alliances at the community level in order to preserve cultural heritage and create entrepreneurship opportunities. Joined by over 150 participants, the 13 experts and 4 moderators who participated in the town hall sessions talked about the entrepreneurial opportunities present in Nepal's music traditions and the importance of preserving and continuing traditional musical cultures.