



Office of American Spaces BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS



Resources for American Spaces

September 20, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

This month we pay tribute to the generations of Hispanic Americans who have positively influenced and enriched our nation and society as we celebrate [Hispanic Heritage Month](#) through October 15. We recommend a visit to [the National Museum of American Diplomacy's website](#) to learn more about the impact of Hispanic-American diplomats in the U.S. foreign service. They are celebrated in the new "Facing Diplomacy" exhibit, which highlights the diversity of U.S. diplomats around the world.

As we look to highlight other upcoming events through [the programming calendar](#), we are sharing toolkits for the following:

- **Space Exploration Week:** October 4-10
- **International Day of the Girl:** October 11

Thanks to all of you who have shared your programming ideas and highlights with your colleagues through our American Spaces FB page. You can continue to share your news and information by emailing us at AmericanSpaces@state.gov. If you have any questions or content to add, email Myles Marken at markenmg@state.gov.

To add someone to this newsletter, email us at AmericanSpaces@state.gov.

Upcoming Programming Themes

SPACE EXPLORATION

A RESOURCE TOOLKIT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

This Toolkit is designed for programming at American Spaces to provide discussions on Space Exploration and humanity's quest to learn more about the universe.



Take a trip to a galaxy beyond with our [Space Exploration Resource Toolkit](#) during **Space Exploration Week** from October 4-10.

This year also marks the final months of the 50th anniversary of the **Apollo Program** that landed a dozen Americans on the moon between July 1969 and December 1972. The U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has released [many resources](#), including logos, educational lesson plans, posters, audio and video content, and more to commemorate this anniversary.

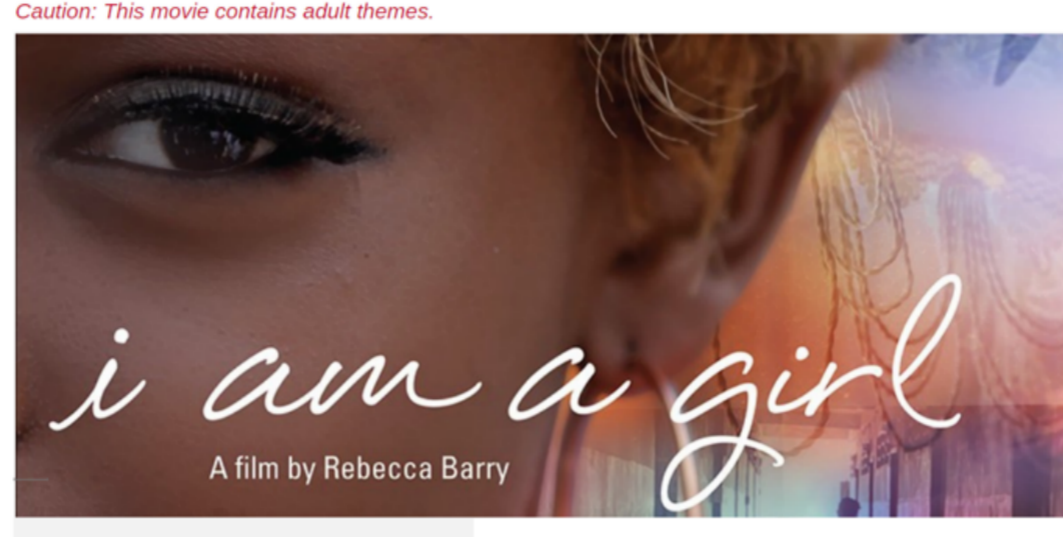
Also be sure to look at our amazing [American Spaces eShop](#) that features [great resources on space exploration!](#)

I AM A GIRL

MOVIEKIT FOR AMERICAN SPACES

This Moviekit is designed for programming at American Spaces. American Spaces should work with their Public Affairs Sections to ensure that this movie is appropriate for American Spaces audiences.

Caution: This movie contains adult themes.



This year marks the 10th anniversary of the [United Nations' International Day of the Girl Child](#). Get involved by sharing human interest stories, blogs and videos of girl changemakers, and share how American Spaces and other organizations are rescuing girls, letting girls lead, and strengthening services for girls. Let's collectively amplify our leadership, actions, and impact to inspire others!

You can also visit our eShop to access useful [resources on girls' empowerment](#).

Best Wishes to Carol Brey

This month we want to recognize **Carol Brey**, former Director of the Office of American Spaces, for her exceptional service as a Regional Public Engagement Specialist (REPS) with the U.S. State Department. Carol recently held a Pearson Fellowship with Senator Cardin's office. Between 2018 and 2021, she served as the Director of the Office of American Spaces in Washington, DC (ECA/AM). Carol also served as the REPS in Buenos Aires where she covered Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Peru and Uruguay. She also served as Division Chief for Information Resource Officer (IRO) Support and Training in the Office of American Spaces, and prior to that she was the IRO for Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay and Venezuela. Before joining the Foreign Service, Ms. Brey worked as a public library administrator for 30 years, most recently as Director of the El Paso (TX) Public Library, and previously for libraries in New Mexico, Illinois, and Oklahoma.



Ms. Brey is a Past President (2004-2005) of the American Library Association, the oldest and largest library association in the world. She currently serves as the Co-Chair of the Sister Libraries Committee, and has served on many other ALA Committees including as Chair of the Library Advocacy Committee and the Campaign for America's Libraries. Carol, we thank you for all the great work you've done to support American Spaces and we wish you the very best as you enjoy your retirement.

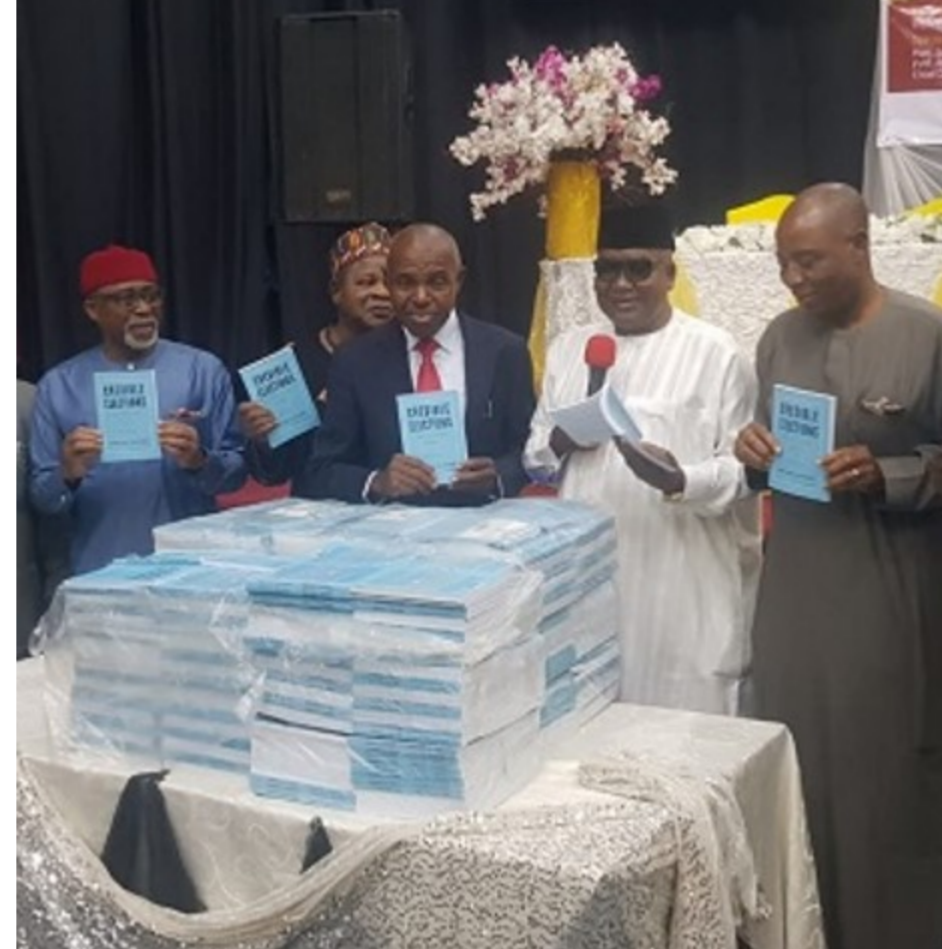
Best Wishes to Jerzy Roguski, Director of American Spaces in Poland



The American Spaces family offers our best wishes to **Jerzy Roguski** who is retiring after 35 years working as a Public Engagement Specialist and Director of the American Spaces Unit in the Public Affairs Section of U.S. Embassy Warsaw, Poland. Jerzy's deep experience and with data and analytics helped guide the Office of American Spaces' approach to data management, and we greatly appreciate his willingness to share his time and talents with others in the American Spaces network for these many years. Jerzy, we thank you for all you've done for Mission Poland and for the American Spaces program, and we wish you the very best as you enjoy your retirement. He is photographed here with **REPS Carol Brey**, who also retires this month.

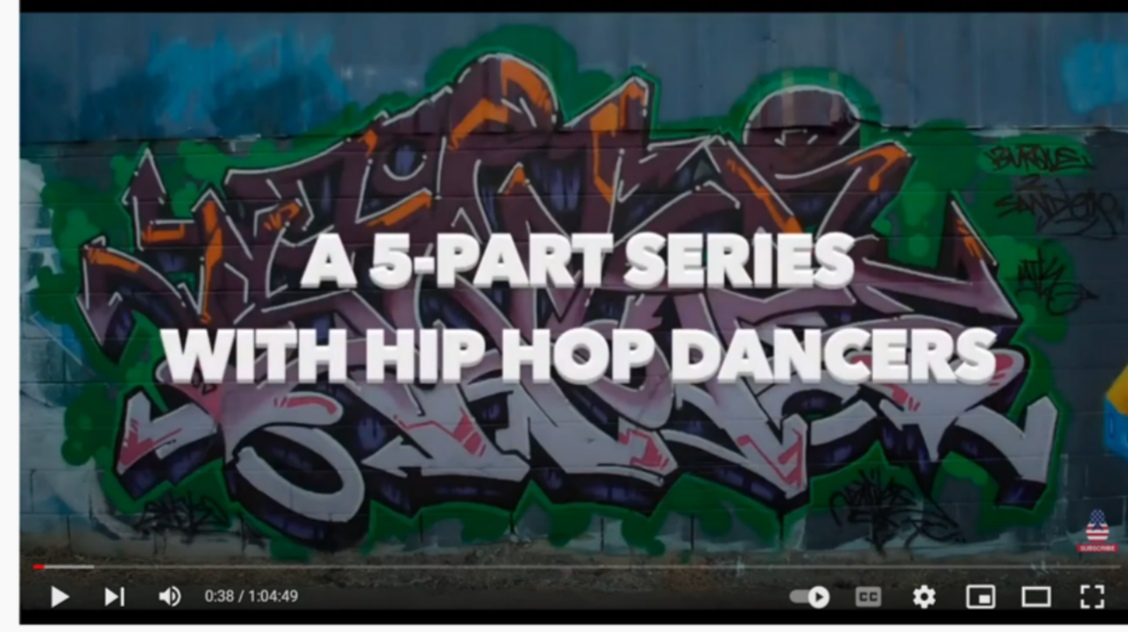
Top Highlights from our American Spaces

Nigerian Author Credits American Center Abuja in Successful Book Publication



At a recent event to launch the new book, *Credible Elections in United States and Ghana: Lessons for Nigeria*, Dr. Samuel A. Eziokwu, a human rights NGO leader, credited his book's successful publication to his decade-long access to **American Center Abuja's** scholarly resources. In the book's acknowledgment, Dr. Eziokwu wrote: "An international work of this nature would not be possible without institutional support from U.S. Embassy Abuja, which granted me membership to the information resource center, provided access to information, and exposed me to online research skills." His book captures the structures and nuances of democracy in the United States and Ghana to show that stability and resilience in Nigeria's democracy is possible in the lead-up to Nigeria's 2023 presidential election.

American Center Moscow Hosts Five-Part Livestreamed Hip Hop Dance Series



American Center Moscow hosted a five-part series called "ONE LOVE: A Celebration of Movement and Meaning," featuring livestreamed talks and live Q&As with hip hop artists every week from August 17 to September 14. The series was posted on the American Center Moscow's [YouTube channel](#), VK group, and Telegram channel.

The series included conversations and dancing performances from different artists in the United States to celebrate hip hop as a social organizing tool and community builder. It also brought together artists with both Russian and American experience in hip hop dance.

We appreciate all the submissions that highlight your great programs! To be showcased in this newsletter, email us at AmericanSpaces@state.gov with a brief description of your program, the audience reached, and a photo or link.

REPS and Coordinator Feedback on Upcoming Game Competition, Farmcraft 2023!

In a few weeks, we are poised to launch the third season of **Farmcraft**, a worldwide gaming/eSports competition based on the popular Minecraft platform. Farmcraft teaches students ages 8-18 about agricultural biotechnology and the challenges that climate change brings to food security.

Video games are a \$152 billion industry globally, engaging an estimated 2.5 billion gamers. In an effort to harness this medium, ECA is partnering with the Bureau of Economic & Business Affairs and the North America Scholastic Esports Federation (NASEF) to bring gaming into American Spaces and schools through Farmcraft.

We would love more American Spaces to be involved in the upcoming competition, and so we will be soliciting REPS' and Coordinators' feedback to better understand the challenges and opportunities you may see with participation. **Look soon for an interest survey to reach your email inboxes.** Responses will be due October 3, 2022.

If you are interested in learning more about gaming, Farmcraft, or eSports, please email Lynne Scheib in the Office of American Spaces at ScheibLD@state.gov.

Calendar of Events

Please feel free to access these resources now to help you plan ahead for the coming month!

Here's a [link](#) to the **2022 American Spaces Calendar of Holidays and Observances**.

- September 21:** International Day of Peace - See [official site](#)
- September 25:** Comic Book Day - See [related site](#)
- September 27:** World Tourism Day - See [related site](#)
- September 29:** World Heart Day - See [related site](#)
- October:** Cybersecurity Month - See [toolkit](#)
- October:** International Disability Employment Awareness Month - [toolkit](#)
- October 4:** Child Health Day - See [CDC Guidelines](#)
- October 4-10:** World Space Week - See [Space Exploration toolkit](#)
- October 11:** International Day of the Girl - See [official site](#) and [resources on women's empowerment](#)
- October 12:** Columbus Day (United States Federal holiday also known as Indigenous Peoples' Day)
- October 16:** World Food Day - See [official site](#)
- October 17:** International Day for the Eradication of Poverty - See [official site](#)
- October 24:** United Nations Day - See [official site](#)
- October 27:** International Religious Freedom Day - See [toolkit](#)
- October 29:** International Internet Day - See [official site](#)
- November:** National Entrepreneurship Month - See [resources](#)
- November 6:** International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict - See [official site](#)
- November 8-12:** Global Entrepreneurship Week - See [related site](#) and [resources](#)
- November 9:** World Freedom Day - See [resources](#)
- November 11:** Veterans Day - See [resources](#)
- November 15-19:** International Education Week - See [related site](#) and [resources](#)
- November 16:** International Day for Tolerance - See [related site](#) and [resources](#)
- November 19:** Women's Entrepreneurship Day - See [resources](#)
- November 20:** World Children's Day - See [related site](#)
- November 24:** Thanksgiving Day - See [resources](#)
- November 25 - December 10:** 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence - See [resources](#)
- December 1:** World AIDS Day - see [related resources](#)
- December 2:** International Day of the Abolition of Slavery - See [official site](#)
- December 3:** International Day of Persons with Disabilities - See [toolkit](#)
- December 5:** International Volunteer Day - See [toolkit](#)
- December 5-11:** Computer Science Education Week - See [related site](#)
- December 9:** International Anti-Corruption Day - See [toolkit](#)
- December 10:** International Human Rights Day - See [resources](#)
- December 18:** International Migrants Day - See [official site](#)
- December 20:** International Human Solidarity Day - See [official site](#)

Want to learn about more events in your area or causes you care about? Tell us about yourself and your interests here.

[Update My Preferences](#)

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