

December 2014

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FROM THE COLLECTIONS STAFF ...

The Department of State works with several federal agency partners around the world on issues of global concern. These partners in diplomacy and their important work will be featured in the Diplomacy Center exhibits. The USDC is collecting artifacts that represent the work of our partners.

Recently, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) transferred several items to the Diplomacy Center that illustrate global efforts on health, food security, and disaster assistance. USAID is the lead U.S. government agency working to end extreme global poverty and enable resilient, democratic societies to realize their potential. Development experts from USAID and diplomats with the Department of State jointly pursue these development goals. A few of the transferred items are featured below. We thank our USAID partners for sharing these items with us.

DART stands for Disaster Assistance Response Team. In the wake of a large-scale disaster, such as the Ebola outbreak in West Africa or the humanitarian crises in Syria and Iraq, the Office of U.S. Foreign

The Curator's Corner cont....



(Top Left) Foreign Service Officer T.J. Grubisha speaking with WHNT-Huntsville about the Diplomacy Center; (Bottom Left) USDC Director Kathy Johnson speaks to a Global Ties U.S. audience; (Right) USDC Collections Manager shared several artifacts with conference attendees in Arizona

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The U.S. Diplomacy Center outreach program has started traveling to introduce the USDC to the American public. Audiences in Phoenix, Huntsville, Boston, and here in Washington, DC were pleased to learn about the Diplomacy Center through a variety of presentations, displays, and media appearances by USDC representatives. As we work towards opening in 2016, we welcome opportunities to share information about the forthcoming museum, its exhibits, educational programs and amenities.

For students visiting Washington as part of the World Affairs Councils of America's (WACA) National Conference, we arranged a special program at the Department of State headquarters where they were briefed on internship and career opportunities with the State Department. They also toured the *Faces of Diplomacy* exhibit which will travel around the country over the next two years.

National outreach is and will continue to be very important to us. The Global Ties U.S. conferences in Phoenix and Huntsville allowed us to focus on the importance of international exchanges and the invaluable roles that 'citizen diplomats' and their organizations can play. Volunteers and community supporters of the Global Ties U.S. affiliates in those cities were delighted to see actual museum artifacts and to talk with the USDC staff. At the same time, we were able to partner with the Diplomats in Residence to spread the word about the Foreign Service and careers in foreign affairs fields.

A Note from the Director ... cont.

Disaster Assistance (OFDA) at USAID can deploy a DART—when the size or scope of the disaster requires it—to coordinate and manage the U.S. government response. Deployable within hours, this team of humanitarian experts and technical advisors are on the ground to assess the situation firsthand, identify the most urgent needs, and coordinate an effective response. The DART works closely with local government officials, the international community, the UN and other relief agencies.



Dog vests such as this one are worn by trained K9 units who work with specialized search-and-rescue crews in the aftermath of a disaster. USAID/OFDA has partnerships with internationally certified Urban Search-and-Rescue (USAR) teams, allowing for their swift deployment anywhere in the world whenever their expertise is needed. Most recently, USAR deployed with USAID's DARTs to Japan for the earthquake and tsunami in 2011, to New Zealand for the 2011 Christchurch earthquake, and to Haiti for the 2010 earthquake.

The sturdy metal dishes, cups, and cooking utensils pictured here are used by development experts during food distribution efforts to disaster-afflicted communities.



These are examples of hygiene items – soap, razors, shampoo, toilet paper – that are distributed to disaster-affected communities. USAID/OFDA responds quickly to disasters by coordinating the distribution of emergency relief

supplies, including hygiene kits, to help people in need. Hygiene is critical after disasters as people become more susceptible to illness and death from waterborne and communicable diseases.

Please [contact us](#) if you have interesting or noteworthy objects you wish to donate or loan to the USDC.

I was pleased that we could send our Education Program Specialist to the National Council for the Social Studies National Conference in Boston – the world's largest gathering of social studies teachers and educators. Teachers were excited to receive information on the USDC and were interested in using our diplomatic simulations and educational content in their classrooms.

As an interdisciplinary subject that includes a wide range of fields and issues, diplomacy offers multi-faceted content and instructional opportunities for teachers. We view educators and students as important audiences – both now, through our education programs and the *Discover Diplomacy* website – and when we open. We hope that our ongoing outreach programs will not only enhance students' understanding of American diplomacy, but also pique their interest in coming to visit the USDC. We look forward to seeing many educators and students.

Developing relationships with organizations and educators will continue to be a major focus of our efforts in the months ahead. We hope that the public will be just as excited as we are about our historic mission.

Kathy Johnson, Director

A NOTE FROM THE FALL INTERN...



USDC fall intern Gabriel Iglesia studies the architectural model of the U.S. Diplomacy Center

I joined the staff in late September at a very critical point in the museum's development – the USDC had just broken ground and was well underway with construction, but also public outreach and web presence. As early as the first day, I jumped right into the deep end, assisting with a wide variety of projects as the USDC's only intern for the fall of 2014.

From the beginning, I played an instrumental role in the USDC's social media, preparing Facebook posts and

BUILDING THE DIPLOMACY CENTER

A Note From the Fall Intern ...

Tweets about some of our artifacts. By tracking analytics, I was able to report on how we were doing and to recommend actions that would improve our appeal to various audiences. With my years of involvement in Model UN, I enjoyed helping to facilitate diplomatic simulations for local high school groups and visiting ESL and exchange students.

In November, the USDC launched its *Faces of Diplomacy* exhibit. One of my highlights was planning an exhibit tour and career briefing for a group of college students from the World Affairs Councils of America (WACA) National Conference.

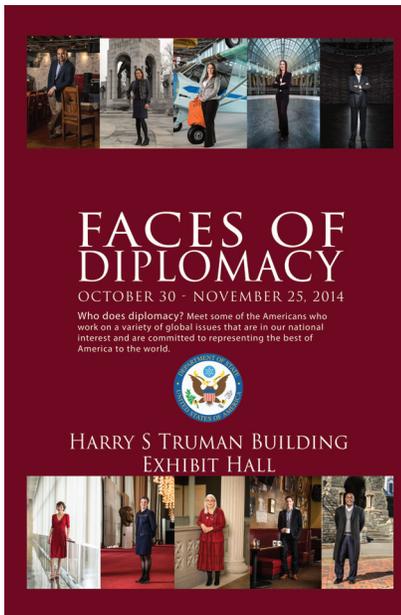
In the many months ahead, the USDC will need all the help it can get from future interns. Progress on the museum is going well and I am very glad to know I played a part in telling the story of American diplomacy. I leave this internship inspired to not only tell that story, but to also one day be a part of that story as a future diplomat. Years from now, when I come back to visit the U.S. Diplomacy Center, I will remember that I was involved in the making of something truly big and historical.

Gabriel Iglesias

FACES OF DIPLOMACY EXHIBIT

The USDC launched its *Faces of Diplomacy* exhibit in November. Installed in the Department of State's Exhibit Hall, the exhibit coincided with the FotoWeek DC celebration of photography.

Comprised of portraits and video narratives of ten Foreign Service Officers and Civil Service personnel, the exhibit's beautiful, warm photography draws the viewer in and creates the sense of closeness with the subjects.



Poster for the *Faces of Diplomacy* exhibit

Faces of Diplomacy cont....

EDUCATION NEWS: REACHING OUT TO EDUCATORS

The fall has been filled with the USDC's education outreach initiatives. The USDC hosted its first ever Google+ Hangout in October, showcasing the *Discover Diplomacy* website and the newly-launched issues map



Kelly McCarthy, Office of Digital Engagement, works with Lauren Fischer in preparing for the Google+ Hangout

for teachers, educators, and interested individuals across the nation. Lauren Fischer, Education Program Specialist at the Diplomacy Center, and Kate McNamee, Director of the Office of Teaching and Learning in the Global Education Department of the District of Columbia Public Schools, hosted the conversation, discussing how teachers can best utilize these resources in teaching diplomacy and foreign policy to their students.



Lauren Fischer shows a teacher how to use *Discover Diplomacy* in their classroom

ways to integrate it into classroom curriculum. Conference participants were thrilled to learn about the 2016 opening of the Center, and that visits would include a facilitated diplomatic simulation.

The USDC contributed to the range of programs marking International Education Week – conducting diplomatic simulations with a group of Bosnian students from the ECA Youth Leadership Program and ESL students from Wilson High School, as well as conducting teacher workshops in collaboration with the Close Up Foundation.

Comments or questions? Email us at: usdc@state.gov

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BUILDING UPDATE: WEBCAM GOES LIVE

The accompanying videos tell the stories of Americans who – coming from a wide range of professions, from every region of the country, from small towns and large cities – have chosen to serve their country as diplomats or as members of the career Civil Service working in the field of diplomacy.



State Department employees view the *Faces of Diplomacy* exhibit

The portraits and videos are the product of a partnership with the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design of George Washington University. Muriel Hasbun, Head of Photography, created a special class to produce this exhibit so students could gain experience working on a commissioned project.



Foreign Service Officer Catherine Rodriguez asked for her photo to be taken at the Kennedy Center

Under the expert tutelage of faculty members Ben Tankersley and Michael Kleinfeld, students covered new ground such as advanced lighting and new techniques in video production while simultaneously managing the demands and expectations of a client with all that it entails. In the end, they were thrilled to have gained valuable experience. The USDC benefited immensely from their work – amazing portraits, videos and, with the creativity of Clare Brown and the Corcoran’s Design Corps Fellows, the creation of our first preview exhibit!

Faces of Diplomacy is funded by the Diplomacy Center Foundation through a grant from Wallis Annenberg and The Annenberg Foundation.



A view of the job site from the Federal Reserve Building

In just a few weeks, the U.S. Diplomacy Center footprint will begin to take shape when earth-moving excavators begin digging for what will become the lower level of the Diplomacy Center. Once this happens, most of the stakeholders – the architectural firm, GSA, the engineers – will begin to make daily pilgrimages to the job site to observe the work that will determine the structural and design integrity of the building.

Fortunately, for those interested in the project but unable to enter the job site, two aerial Earthcams will capture and share progress. The cameras will follow the mud-moving trucks clearing the site; the excavators digging to levels last seen during the 1939 construction; the arrival of the Tennessee Pink Marble floor; the “topping off” or erecting of the steel frame and the placement of the glass sky lights.

Our neighbors at the Federal Reserve have allowed us to place an Earthcam on their roof to capture aerial stills of the job site’s progress.

Another Earthcam will sit on our own building to provide a second great angle. These HD time-lapse cameras help to monitor and record construction, and help us document the progress on the U.S. Diplomacy Center. The photos represent a time lapse construction sequence of the museum coming to life.

Watch the construction at <http://diplomacy.state.gov>

ABOUT THE U.S. DIPLOMACY CENTER

The USDC is a privately-funded, non-partisan museum and education center dedicated to bringing the story of American diplomacy to life. Located at the Department of State’s historic headquarters, the Harry S Truman Building, the Center will invite visitors to explore the history, practice, and challenges of American of diplomacy through interactive exhibits, artifacts, hands-on education programs, diplomatic simulations, and the expertise of foreign affairs specialists.