Let's Connect Virtually - US Embassy Jerusalem

Dear Friends,

Thinking of you all during this challenging period, if our office for EL programs can be of assistance in any way, please reach out to me.

In this document, you will find details about some of our featured digital resources - our Facebook pages and group, American English at State, American English for Educators, and Teacher's Corner; our American English YouTube channel; our American English Live Webinar Series 7; our featured MOOCs; and the newest issue of our journal for English teachers worldwide, English Teaching Forum, just published online. Many of these resources are also accessible through our website, AmericanEnglish.State.Gov.

Should you be interested in having a **virtual Embassy Speaker** engage with your students on a topic of your choice, please complete the attached information form and we will make this happen. If you have any special requests and/or suggestions for online/virtual programs, please contact me at: levyrx@state.gov

As April is **National Poetry Month**, a celebration of poetry introduced in 1996 and is organized by the Academy of American Poets as a way to increase awareness and appreciation of poetry in the United States, we are very interested in hearing from your students and you teachers - so if they could film themselves with their phones reciting their favorite poems (preferable written by American poets) or their own original poetry – please send your videos to me at levyrx@state.gov or check out our FB page for information.

U.S. Speaker Program
The U.S. Speaker Program offers virtual programs that promote an understanding of U.S. policies and institutions, as well as the political, economic, social, and cultural context from which they arise. Speakers can present lectures, conduct or facilitate workshops and seminars, appear in foreign media, and serve as consultants for targeted professional audiences. Virtual programming allows one or more U.S. experts to engage foreign audiences in real-time (or prerecorded) on a virtual platform. They can also participate in a podcast, video, or mini-course using a virtual platform. For more information, including slates of speakers available for specific topics, please go to: https://infocentral.state.gov/outreach-tools/speakers.

Office of Citizen Exchanges
International Writing Program at the University of Iowa: IWP

Free Writing Course Packs with hundreds of instructional online videos and free online course content, covering topics as specific as, "Whitman's Civil War: Writing and Imaging Loss, Death, and Disaster," and as broad as, "How Writers Write Fiction: Storied Women," including a course for teens, a course in Spanish, and a course in Arabic. All are available at www.distancelearningiwp.org. Also available are two Whitman MOOCs: "WhitmanWeb," which features ready-to-go online instructional materials for teaching or learning about Walt Whitman; and, "Every Atom: Walt Whitman's Song of Myself." The MOOC-Pack is available at http://www.distancelearningiwp.org/atom14. For more information visit https://exchanges.state.gov/iwp.

Office of Alumni Affairs

Alumni stay engaged through **MentorTalks**, a monthly Facebook (FB) Live session on the Alumni Affairs @internationalexchangealumni FB page. Upcoming sessions will feature U.S. Fulbright alumnus and Zuckerberg Institute co-founder Michael Littig on telling your story professionally and personally, and how COVID is affecting life in New York City (Tuesday, March 31 at 1:00 p.m. EDT). Mandela Washington Fellow alumnus and international artist Kunle Adewaleto will talk about art and medicine and how we can apply principles of art therapy while we practice social distancing (Wednesday, April 15, at 1:00 p.m. EDT/10 a.m. PT).

The International Exchange Alumni network at https://alumni.state.gov offers **online resources** for alumni, including a MentorTalks archive at https://alumni.state.gov/enabling-entrepreneurs/mentortalks#_blank and databases for research and grant opportunities through EBSCO, Gale, and Candid. The Gale database recently announced the launch of a COVID-related resource center for librarians and educators, including resources on health-related topics and global issues, as well as professional development eBooks to help transition to and strengthen virtual learning. These databases are available to registered exchange alumni, who can log into https://alumni.state.gov to access distance learning, academic databases, newspapers, magazines, and career resources. If alumni are having trouble accessing their account, they can reach out to exchangealumni.state.gov. Follow us on @internationalexchangealumni on Facebook and @exchangealumni on Twitter for additional information, and share and retweet #ExchangeAlumni content.

Office of English Language Programs (POC: ECA-OELP@state.gov)

The Office of English Language Programs offers several virtual professional development opportunities for teachers and learning aids for students. These include:

- Virtual communities of practice for U.S. program participants and alumni (https://elprograms.org/alumni/staying-involved/the-community-of-practice);
- Regional English Language Nominated Global Online Courses for foreign English language teachers and other professionals (https://www.aeeteacher.org/about);
- Massive Open Online Courses for English learners (https://americanenglish.state.gov/american-english-moocs);
- MOOCs for English language teachers (https://www.aeeteacher.org/MOOC);
- Webinars for English teacher professional development (https://americanenglish.state.gov/ae-webinars, also streamed live on Facebook - www.facebook.com/AmericanEnglishforEducators and through Zoom - https://eca-state.zoom.us/;
- Online journal for English-language teachers (https://americanenglish.state.gov/forum);
- Facebook page directed at English learners (https://www.facebook.com/AmericanEnglishatState);
- Facebook page directed at English teachers (https://www.facebook.com/AmericanEnglishforEducators/);
- YouTube channel that offers resources for English teachers and English learners (https://www.youtube.com/StateAmericanEnglish);
- Website full of teaching and learning resources (https://americanenglish.state.gov/);

Sites worth checking out:

https://stories.audible.com/start-listen
http://www.readinga-z.com/
https://www.storylineonline.net/
http://www.openculture.com/download_popular_high_school_books_from_audiblecom
https://www.gutenberg.org/
https://www.ort.org.il/category/lemida-heroom/
http://www.amalnet.k12.il/e-learning/

All the best,

Risa Levy
Cultural Program Specialist
Embassy of the United States of America