



Jazz Bridges Pakistan: Mike Del Ferro in Karachi

Welcome to American Voices' new quarterly newsletter format! With the goal of keeping our member and project partners up to date on our recent activities, successes and challenges, we are switching to a more nimble system that will keep us all in touch on a more regular basis. News of our Iraq initiatives, recent projects in Turkey, Maldives, Sri Lanka and much more is now just a click away.

## FEATURED NEWS

### Executive Director's Update

John Ferguson's internationally syndicated opinion piece on 'Hiplomacy' and our recent Unity Performing Arts Academy in Iraq recently appeared in the Christian Science Monitor and was distributed internationally.

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2007/1123/p09s02-coop.html>

### Watch 'American Voices TV'

We now have our own YouTube Channel with dozens of recently uploaded video highlights from the past 10 years of projects ranging from Jazz Bridges in Burma, Afghanistan and Uighur Western China to Opera in Bangkok and Hiplomacy in Vietnam and Argentina. <http://www.youtube.com/user/americanvoices>

### Annual Drive a Success

Many thanks to our friends! Your generosity on our first annual drive has brought in more than \$18,000 in donations. Check to see if your name is on our [donor list](#). If not, you can still [make a donation via our Web site](#).

### Music, Theater and Hiplomacy Still Going Strong in Iraq

- Donated materials and expertise continue to flow to Baghdad, Erbil and Suleimaniyah. [Read more](#)
- Dr. Gene Aitken and John Ferguson will return to Northern Iraq in early April for a series of workshops with alumni of the 2007 Unity Academy. [Read more](#)
- Improved security allows the Iraq National Symphony Orchestra and the Baghdad School of Music and Dance to resume a normal rhythm. [Read more](#)
- View [videos](#) and [photos](#) from the 2007 Unity Academy.

## PROGRAM UPDATES

### Hiplomacy

- HaviKoro tours Georgia, Bulgaria, Greece and Italy in a Hiplomatic tour de force. [Read more](#)
- Hip-hop dance from the shores of The Maldives to the mists of a former tea plantation in Sri Lanka. [Read more](#)

### Jazz Bridges

- Mike Del Ferro wows Pakistan. [Read more](#)
- Way out west in Uighur Western China. [Read more](#)

### Musical Theater

- Broadway in Adana, Turkey. [Read more](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

2008 is shaping up to be an exciting season!

- **Houston:** *On Stage in Iraq Concert and Multi-Media Presentation* at three locations in Houston on February 16 and 17th (e-mail us for details).
- **Manila:** *Black Ladies of the Silver Screen* at the University of the Philippines in Manila for Black History Month; this will be our first film program in conjunction with the Mayme Clayton Center in Los Angeles.
- **Uighur Western China and Japan:** *Rhythm Nation Hip-Hop Dance* with Michael Parks Masterson, Quae Simpson and Brian Jones. This trio of dancers will take hip-hop dance instruction and their Rhythm Nation show to Okinawa, Fukuoka and Sapporo in Japan and to Urumchi and Kashgar in Western China.
- **Denmark:** B-boy Isaac Barron and hip-hop dance specialist Rosie Pichon return to work with immigrant communities in Denmark.
- **Taiwan:** *American Performing Arts Academy* will be in Taipei August 10 - 23, 2008; featuring an American piano academy, hip-hop dance workshops and musical theater workshops centering on *Rent* and *Guys and Dolls*; more than 100 Taiwanese and international participants are expected.

- **Iraq:** Jazz and classical music workshops with the Institutes of Fine Arts in Suleimaniyah and Erbil, Iraq.

For more information about our programs or to make a donation, contact us at:

AMERICAN VOICES  
404 CORDELL  
HOUSTON, TX 77009

[www.americanvoices.org](http://www.americanvoices.org)  
[info@americanvoices.org](mailto:info@americanvoices.org)

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