

U.S. Cultural Envoy Inaugurates KJC

June 9, 2008



In the presence of Ambassador Nancy J. Powell and other music enthusiasts, U.S. Cultural Envoy Dr. Gene Aitken inaugurated the Kathmandu Jazz Conservatory (KJC) on Monday, June 9 at its premises at Lalitpur. Cultural Envoys are American performing and visual artists, arts managers and educators who travel abroad for short-term residencies to conduct workshops, master classes, present seminars, or deliver lectures. These activities are conducted in diverse fields such as film, intellectual property rights, video art, sculpture, painting, cultural preservation and heritage, conservation, museum administration, theater, modern dance, music, arts management and education to build and strengthen relationships between U.S. and foreign countries. At the opening of the program, Dr. Aitken donated music instruments and related materials to KJC. Dr. Aitken will also contribute two weeks of his time to the Conservatory. He will conduct music teacher training at KJC, and will teach choirs, coach ensembles, conduct private lessons and manage workshops during his tenure at KJC, including a 10-day workshop for over 50 music teachers and Nepali jazz educators.

"U.S. Cultural Envoy Dr. Gene Aitken begins his first day in Nepal by cutting the ribbon to inaugurate the Kathmandu Jazz Conservatory"