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Embassy of Monaco

United States and Canada

News and Selection of Activities

January – March 2020



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January



PBS Series "Polar Extremes"

At the invitation of Dr. Kirk R. Johnson, renowned paleontologist and Sant Director of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), the Ambassador of Monaco Maguy Maccario Doyle, accompanied by Elle Berdy, senior cultural and media officer, attended a reception on January 29 at the NMNH headquarters in Washington, followed by a preview of Dr. Johnson's acclaimed documentary "Polar Extremes".

The documentary takes viewers on a fascinating two-hour-long expedition to the Earth's two Poles - the Arctic and the Antarctic - focusing on the dramatic climate changes these regions have experienced over time. The screening was followed by a Q & A session hosted by producers from NOVA, the most popular science show in the United States. Speakers included Dr. Johnson, the directors of the documentary, and the scientists who appear in the film.



Above: Dr. Kirk Johnson in "Polar Extremes".

More than 200 guests were present including environmental, scientific, and business leaders, donors, and senior officials from the Smithsonian Institution (SI). The SI runs the largest number of museums and research centers in the world and has partnered with the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

"Polar Extremes" was broadcast on February 5 on the American public television network, PBS. The Polar Regions constitute one of the three geographical priority action areas of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, along with the Mediterranean Basin and the Least Developed Countries.

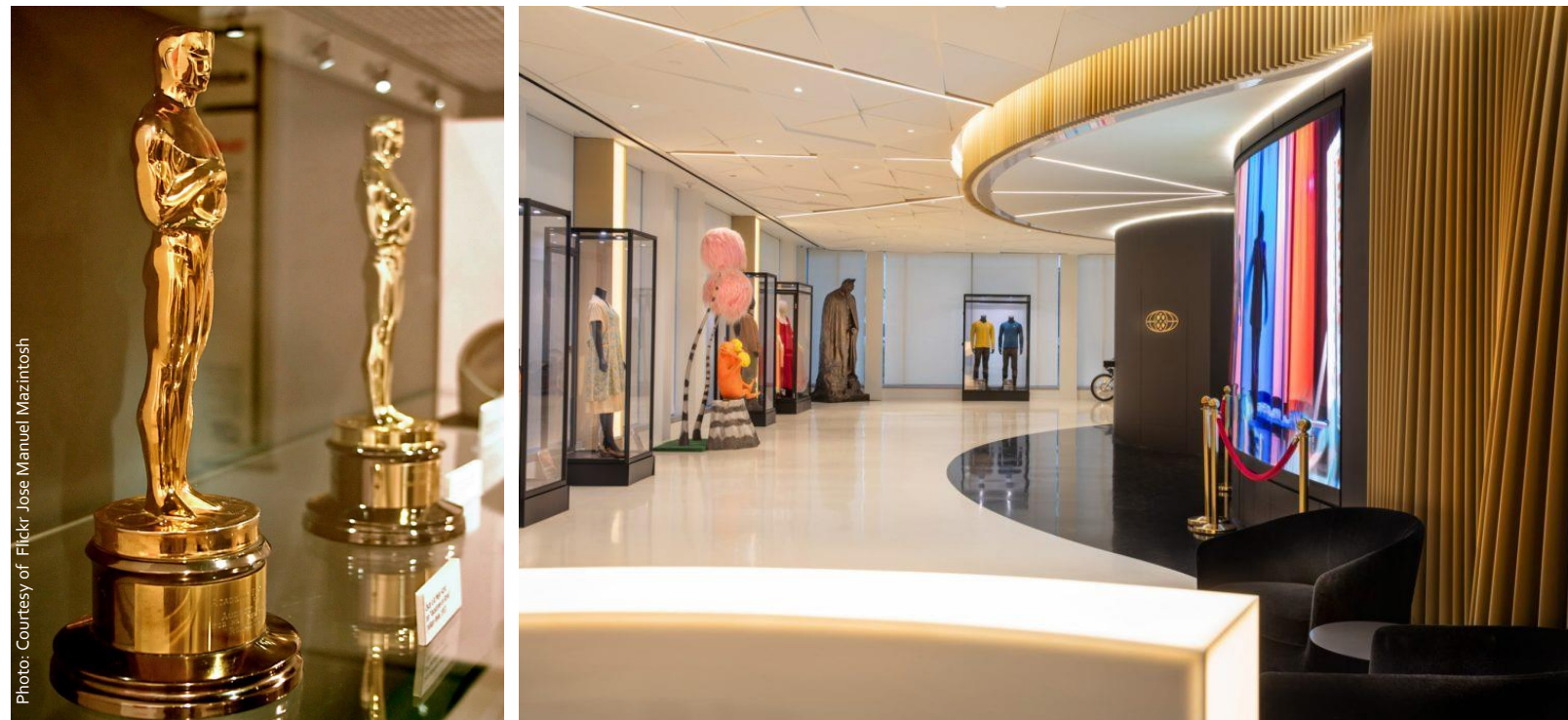


2020 Oscar-Nominated Short Films

On January 30, Ambassador Maccario Doyle attended a screening of the short films nominated for the 2020 Academy Awards® hosted by the Motion Picture Association (MPA).

The event was held at the MPA's newly refurbished premises in Washington, in the theater where a special tribute was paid to Princess Grace of Monaco last year - to mark the anniversary of her goth birthday - with a screening of her film "To Catch A Thief".

Ambassador Charles Rivkin, CEO of the MPA, and former Ambassador of the United States to France and Monaco, presided over the event. The MPA represents the interests of the major film and television studios in the United States.



Left: Academy Award of Merit statuettes, better known as "Oscars;" **Right:** Inside the MPA headquarters in Washington, D.C.



02

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February



Visit by H.S.H. Prince Albert II to California

His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco undertook a four-day tour of San Francisco and Los Angeles, California in early February during which He visited major educational and business enterprises. He also met with leaders of leading hi-tech companies and presided over a prestigious evening in Hollywood in prelude to the 60th anniversary of the Monte-Carlo Television Festival (which was scheduled in June in Monaco but has since been canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic). A highlight of His visit was receiving a special Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of His commitment to preserving the ocean, biodiversity conservation, and combating climate change.

On February 3, the Sovereign Prince - accompanied by a delegation from the Palace including Colonel Bruno Philipponat, Chargé de Mission, along with Mr. Frédéric Genta, Monaco's Chief Digital Officer and Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle - visited the world headquarters of Google, the world-renowned US technology services company, located at Mountain View in Silicon Valley near San Francisco, where He met with senior officials of the company.



Photo: Courtesy of Palais Princier

Above: H.S.H. Prince Albert with Mr. Kent Walker (left) Senior VP Global Affairs and Chief Legal Officer for Google photographed at Google's Mountain View headquarters.

The following day, the Monaco delegation visited Stanford University, also in Silicon Valley, long considered to be one of the best higher education establishments in the world. The University counts 32 Nobel laureates from its faculty as well as many pioneers of major internet and digital companies.

In the afternoon, after a short flight to Los Angeles, the delegation visited the Californian factory of Astrolab Venturi, a company specializing in the design of high-performance robotic, terrestrial and planetary electric vehicles, and the development of specially-designed vehicles for particular environments. This was followed by a visit to NeueHouse Bradbury, an historic landmark built in 1893 which features the unique concept of combining both social and work experiences within an iconic architectural space.

In the evening, Prince Albert II hosted a reception in Beverly Hills for many California-based friends of Monaco.



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Visit by H.S.H. Prince Albert II to California

The following day, February 5, the Sovereign Prince welcomed many guests from the entertainment world - actors, directors, producers, screenwriters - to mark the 60th anniversary of the Monte-Carlo Television Festival. The free festival, open to the public, was created by Prince Rainier and Princess Grace in 1961. The 2021 edition of the MCTV Festival will now be held from June 18 through June 22 in the Principality of Monaco.

On February 6, the delegation visited the University of California (UCLA), a world-renowned public educational institution for education and research, followed by a site tour of the (still-under-construction) Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, founded by George Lucas, the famed Star Wars director, and his partner, businesswoman Mellody Hobson. The museum is slated to open in 2021 and will house paintings, photography, illustration, cinematic and digital art from Lucas's personal collections, as well as a Star Wars exhibition.

In the evening, the Sovereign Prince was awarded, as part of the 2020 Hollywood for the Global Ocean Gala for planet and ocean conservation, a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of His commitment to the preservation of the planet, including His actions and dedication to the protection of the world's ocean, biodiversity, and the fight against climate change, through His eponymous Foundation which He created in 2006. The prize was awarded by American actress Uma Thurman.

"I am deeply honored to receive this and to be welcomed at this exceptional event. The determination to act and the ambition to change the world with knowledge and intelligence are the most precious assets we have today," said Prince Albert at the ceremony.



Above: H.S.H. Prince Albert receives the 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award from Ms. Uma Thurman (right) at the Hollywood for the Global Ocean Gala for planet and ocean conservation.

The gala dinner that followed brought together 250 philanthropists who have lent their support to the fight for the preservation of the ocean and to support the projects led by the Foundation. In a February 13 interview with the Los Angeles Times, Prince Albert reaffirmed his desire to continue and strengthen His political action in ecological matters. "Certainly, it is easier to act on a smaller scale when you are a small country, but if we do not play our role, others will not be motivated to play theirs," He said.



Exhibition on the Work of Primatologist Jane Goodall

At the invitation of Washington's International Club Number 1 - a friendship club comprised of DC-based diplomatic corps members and of senior political, legislative and judicial officials and their families - on February 19, Ambassador Maccario Doyle attended a luncheon and private tour of the exhibition called "Becoming Jane". Devoted to the work of Jane Goodall, British primatologist and anthropologist whose work has profoundly transformed the understanding of relationships between humans and animals, the exhibition is housed at National Geographic's headquarters.



Above: H.S.H. Prince Albert with Dame Jane Goodall in 2009.

Jane Goodall was the first scientist to observe the chimpanzee's ability to make and use tools to catch termites. This discovery shook the definition of "human being" of the time, which then attributed this type of behavior exclusively to mankind.

The exhibition – which is currently closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic – was organized in partnership with the Jane Goodall Institute, which works to improve the lives of people, animals and the environment. The exhibition traces the professional career of more than 60 years of this emblematic figure, from her beginnings as a young woman passionate about wildlife in Africa, particularly in Gombe Stream National Park in Tanzania, to her international reputation as an activist committed to raising awareness of the protection and conservation of our environment.

Dr. Goodall was one of the first winners of the 2008 Biodiversity Prize awarded by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation for her commitment to, and revolutionary research in, the behavior of chimpanzees.



Diplomatic Activities

During the first quarter of 2020, Monaco's chancery in Washington received courtesy visits from newly appointed diplomats to positions in the United States and abroad. On February 20, the new Ambassador of Austria, His Excellency Martin Weiss visited the embassy to meet Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle. Appointed last November, Mr. Weiss is a seasoned diplomat who has held many positions of responsibility, including at the United Nations in New York, the Austrian Consulate in Los Angeles, and as Ambassador to Israel.

On February 24 Ambassador Maccario Doyle with Ms. Karine Médecin, Counselor at the Embassy, received Ms. Kristen Grauer, the incoming US Consul General in Marseille, France, who will be responsible for American interests in the south of the country and in Monaco. A serving US State Department official, Ms. Grauer is a graduate of the London School of Economics and has served in many positions abroad including in Russia, Iraq, France, and the Ivory Coast.

The following day, February 25, the Ambassador, along with other members of the diplomatic corps and US government representatives attended a reception at the Embassy of Japan in Washington to mark the 60th birthday of the Emperor of Japan, His Majesty Naruhito. The occasion took place just two weeks after the sudden and unexpected death of the Ambassador's wife, Madame Yoko Sugiyama. A very well-attended service in celebration of her life was held on March 6 at Ambassador Sugiyama's residence.

On the same day, the Ambassador attended a reception to mark the 59th anniversary of Kuwait's Independence Day, hosted by the Ambassador of Kuwait His Excellency Salem Abdullah Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. Several hundred guests representing the US capital's diplomatic, political, social, and business circles attended the festivities.



Top: Ambassadors Martin Weiss and Maguy Maccario Doyle at the Monaco chancery.
Bottom: Ms. Kristen Grauer and Ambassador Maccario Doyle at the Monaco chancery.



Forum on the Future of American Cultural Institutions

Prominent representatives from three well-known cultural institutions in Washington joined David Rubenstein, the influential President of the Economic Club of Washington, D.C., for a discussion on "The Future of Cultural Institutions in the United States". The forum, which was attended by Ambassador Maccario Doyle, was part of a high-level dinner hosted by the Economic Club on February 24.

Mr. Rubenstein moderated the group's discussions, which consisted of three women leaders in their respective fields of activity: Ms. Kaywin Feldman, Director of the National Gallery of Art; Ms. Deborah Rutter, President of the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts; and Dr. Carla Hayden, Chief Librarian of the Library of Congress. The discussion allowed the guests to gather valuable information on the prospects of major American cultural institutions.

The National Gallery of Art, which Ms. Feldman has directed since 2008, aims to preserve, collect, exhibit and facilitate understanding of works of art in the United States at the highest level. Ms. Rutter, who took over as head of John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in 2014, serves as Curator of the Kennedy Presidential Memorial and Artistic and Administrative Director of the world's most active performing arts center. The first African American and first woman to become head of the National Library of Congress, Dr. Hayden was appointed to this prestigious position in 2016.



From left to right: Mr. David Rubenstein, Dr. Carla Hayden, Ms. Kaywin Feldman and Ms. Deborah Rutter at the Economic Club's cultural forum in Washington, D.C.

Established in 1986, the main objective of the Economic Club is to provide a platform to world leaders in different fields to express their views on the major issues of our time. The Economic Club has more than 900 members around the world.



Photo: Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

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March



Winter Diplomatic Reception in Canada

On March 10, the Ambassador of Monaco to the United States and to Canada, Maguy Maccario Doyle, participated in the Winter Diplomatic Reception, at the invitation of the Governor General of Canada, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette.

This traditional ceremony, which takes place annually in Canada's capital city of Ottawa, has been held since 1872 at Rideau Hall, the official residence of the Governor General. It allows new ambassadors and high commissioners from countries where Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of England is not the head of state to present their credentials to the Governor General before they take office; this custom does not apply, however, to

diplomatic representatives from countries of which the Queen is the Head of State, who are officially welcomed by the Prime Minister of Canada. The credentials ceremony is preceded by a ride on an Ottawa ice rink for new diplomats to experience the magic of Canadian winter. The following day, March 11, the Ambassador attended a luncheon hosted by the Governor General in honor of the approximately 40 female diplomats posted to Canada.



Above: Women diplomats accredited to Canada with Governor General Julie Payette (at front in red) at the annual diplomatic gathering in Ottawa in March 2020.



Monaco Students Discover the Kennedy Space Center

Partly inspired by the “Pioneers and Innovators of Our Time” space initiative held biennially in Monaco, a group of 27 high school students from the Aeronautic Club at the Charles III College, accompanied by four adults including Florent Portuese who is the head of the Club and its founder, made a memorable trip from March 8 to 14 to Florida, with the highlight being a visit to the famous Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral.

The students were welcomed by Mr. Robert D. Cabana, a distinguished former astronaut and the current Director of the Kennedy Space Center, who gave them a personal presentation of the world-famous center. The group spent two days on-site, touring the space facilities and learning about the American space programs, and shared lunch with American astronaut Wendy Lawrence who took part in four space missions.

The students also took an excursion to the Embry–Riddle Aeronautical University, in Daytona Beach, the world's largest accredited university center specializing in the aeronautics and aerospace industries.

Organizers of this unique once-in-a-lifetime trip were graciously assisted by Mr. Eric Stallmer, President of the Commercial Spaceflight Federation, by two of Monaco’s Honorary Consuls (Mr. Tomas Abreu in Miami and Mr. Doug Heckman in Atlanta), and by staff from the Embassy in Washington. To view photographs and a short film of the trip made by Florent Portuese, please click [here](#).



Above: High school students from the Charles III College of Monaco pose with Mr. Robert Cabana (center) at the Kennedy Space Center.



Spotlight on the Principality at the 2020 Philadelphia Flower Show

On January 16, Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle attended a press conference in Philadelphia to announce the Principality's participation in the prestigious annual flower show organized by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS). The 2020 show's theme was "Riviera Holiday". The event, which traditionally attracts hundreds of thousands of professional florists, botanists and landscapers, as well as flower lovers and budding gardeners from around the world, ran from February 29 through March 8. Please also see www.MonacoEventsUSA.com.

The Ambassador unveiled the Embassy's sponsorship, in cooperation with the Principality's Department of Public Works, the Environment and Urban Development, of several key aspects of the Flower Show, including the creation of a rose garden dedicated to Princess Grace which was produced by landscape designer Renee Tucci, a member of the American Institute of Floral Landscape Designers.



Above: Princess Grace Rose Garden pavilion illuminates the Philadelphia Flower Show.

In the heart of the exhibit, which was based on the Princess Grace Rose Garden in Monaco and featured more than 5000 blooms including Grimaldi and Princess Charlene rose varieties, visitors could admire a replica of the Princess's 1956 wedding dress, graciously loaned by an American couple. In addition, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation's US chapter sponsored a first-of-its-kind symposium on sustainability entitled "Gardening for Biodiversity".

"Princess Grace has long been an admirer of beauty in all its forms, but especially flowers. As one of Philadelphia's most famous and best-loved 'daughters', she expressed her strong support for the city's famed Horticultural Society and its annual exhibit, even participating as a judge in 1976," said the Ambassador.

"The close links between Monaco and activities related to the preservation of the environment, especially through the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, led the US chapter to sponsor a symposium dedicated to the promotion of the biodiversity of our planet, one of the subjects of great interest to our Sovereign Prince."



Spotlight on the Principality at the 2020 Philadelphia Flower Show

On the eve of the exhibition opening to the public, on February 29, a gala dinner organized in Philadelphia by the PHS brought together exhibition sponsors and VIP guests, such as Mr. John "J.B." Kelly, President of the Prince Albert of Monaco Foundation-USA, Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle (the Vice President of the Foundation), and Mr. John Coffman, its Executive Director. Also present were members of the Kelly family, including Mrs. Susan Kelly von Medicus, as well as the Ambassador of Jordan, Her Excellency Dina Kawar, and the former Ambassador of Bulgaria to the United States, Her Excellency Elena Poptodorova.

On March 3, as part of promotional activities alongside the exhibition, the Embassy of Monaco in Washington organized, in collaboration with the Monaco Government Tourist Office and the office of the Société des Bains de Mer in New York, a private tour of the show for a large group of travel professionals, conference organizers and journalists. They were greeted by the President of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, Mr. Matt Rader, and accompanied by senior PHS officials. The tour was followed by a reception at the Kelly House organized by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation's US chapter which brought together more than 80 guests, including symposium speakers and local dignitaries.

The next day, March 4, the symposium was held at the Philadelphia Convention Center. Sponsored by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation-USA, the symposium's theme was "Gardening for Biodiversity" emphasizing the central role of botany in preserving the environment. The symposium gathered a number of US experts including Dr. Peter Raven, world-renowned botanist and winner of the 2018 National Geographic Society Hubbard Medal, and Dr. Dennis Whigham, Senior Botanist at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center and Founding Director of the North American Orchid Conservation Center.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) is a non-profit organization founded in 1827. Its annual event, the Philadelphia Flower Show, is the largest and oldest horticultural event in the United States. Launched in 1929 by the PHS, the exhibit showcases a variety of plants and sustainable gardening concepts. It also organizes, among other things, world-renowned floral arrangement and horticultural competitions.



Top: Ambassadors Dina Kawar and Maguy Maccario Doyle with Mr. Sam Lemheney, Senior Vice President of PHS Shows and Events at the PHS gala.

Bottom: Mr. John "J.B." Kelly addresses guests at the "Gardening for Biodiversity" Symposium.



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