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Embassy of Monaco

United States and Canada

News and Selection of Activities

January 2021 – December 2021



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Above: (L-R) Monaco's Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle, French Ambassador Philippe Etienne, former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, French Consul General in San Francisco Frederic Jung, and Thomas Horn, Honorary Consul of Monaco in San Francisco in July 2021. *See page 5.*

Embassy Activities - Diplomatic Rounds



Diplomatic Rounds



Above: 'Little Sister' Liberty in the front garden at the French Ambassador's residence in Washington, D.C.

This year, the famous Statue of Liberty National Monument in New York Harbor was joined by one of her little 'sisters' at the annual Independence Day celebrations in New York City, and soon afterwards, the smaller Lady Liberty was trekked down to Washington, D.C.

She was unveiled on Bastille Day, July 14, in the front garden of the French Ambassador's residence, where it is expected she will remain for a decade.

The smaller bronze 'sister', measuring about one sixteenth the size of the original, was the first of a dozen replicas to be cast from the 1878 Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi plaster model.

A 'welcome' reception to introduce 'Little Sister' Liberty to Washington – one of the first large gatherings of D.C.'s diplomatic, media, business, government and social communities since Covid-19 restrictions began in March 2020 – was hosted by French Ambassador Philippe Etienne and Mrs. Patricia Etienne on the grounds of the French residence.



Above: Portuguese Ambassador Domingos Fezas Vital and Mrs. Isabel Vital with Monaco's Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle at the unveiling of 'Little Sister' Liberty.



Diplomatic Rounds

This year Monaco's honorary consul in San Francisco, Mr. Thomas Horn, was one of seven Americans to receive a prestigious *ordre national de la Légion d'honneur*, announced by French President Emmanuel Macron.

Several events were held in July to mark the occasion, culminating in the decoration ceremony in the Green Room of the War Memorial Veterans Building in San Francisco which was presided over by French Ambassador to the United States, Philippe Etienne.

More than 200 invited guests from the arts, government, and diplomacy included California Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis, San Francisco Mayor London Breed, French Consul General Frederic Jung, Monaco's Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle, and San Francisco's Chief of Protocol Charlotte M. Shultz*.

In his remarks, Ambassador Etienne said that for more than 30 years, Mr. Horn had promoted French language, culture and businesses, working with the vibrant French community.

"As a modern-day Renaissance man, your efforts bridge the distance between our countries. Your journey is exemplary. And tonight France honors you," he said.

At a celebratory brunch held at the penthouse of Mrs. Shultz and her late husband, former Secretary of State George Shultz, a surprise guest of honor was former United States Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Mr. Horn has been Monaco's honorary consul since October 2009 and is also the Board President for the War Memorial & Performing Arts Center, and serves as the Chairman for the San Francisco–Paris Sister City Committee.

**On a sad note, Mrs. Shultz passed away on December 3 at the age of 88. She was a great friend of Monaco in San Francisco, often hosting events and making important introductions for dignitaries and visitors to San Francisco, where she served as the Chief of Protocol for California, and the Chief of Protocol for the City and County of San Francisco for many years.*



Above: Thomas Horn receives his *ordre national de la Légion d'honneur* from French Ambassador Philippe Etienne.

Below: Marie-Elodie Bazy Jung, Frederic Jung, French Consul General in San Francisco, Ambassador Etienne, Charlotte Shultz, Thomas Horn, Mayor London Breed, Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle.





Diplomatic Rounds

On August 11, Turkish Ambassador Murat Mercan hosted a well-attended farewell reception at the Embassy of Turkey for Azerbaijani Ambassador Elin Suleymanov and his wife Lala, who have now moved to London for his most recent posting.

Suleymanov was the dean of the Washington, D.C. diplomatic corps by virtue of his long tenure. With his departure, Monaco's Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle assumes this title, according to the US State Department.



Above: Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle with Ambassador Elin Suleymanov and his wife, Lala.

Keeping in touch. . .

Throughout 2020 and into 2021, the Embassy adjusted quickly to virtual programming to keep in touch with the North American consular network, colleagues, and contacts. On August 21, the Embassy of Monaco arranged an hour-long informal conversation with H.E. Kelley E. Currie, the US Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues. This live-streamed broadcast brought together many women envoys based in Washington D.C. for an informal exchange on a variety of issues including the Women, Peace and Security (WPS), and the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (W-GDP), which was launched in 2019.

Ambassador Currie said this initiative, which had a fund of \$ 122 million to encourage the empowerment of women in economic matters around the world, had the "increasingly strong bi-partisan support in the US Congress and would remain a priority regardless of who is in the White House." The ambassadors also discussed the issue of COVID-19 and its impact on women around the world.

Ambassador Maccario Doyle co-hosted this event with the former Ambassador of Kosovo, Vlora Citaku, for an informally assembled network of fellow women envoys based in Washington, D.C.

*An article about the network, colloquially known as the 'Women's Power Group' appeared in November in *The Washington Diplomat* ([link here](#)).*



Diplomatic Rounds

On May 3, Ambassador Maccario Doyle hosted a small, socially-distanced farewell event for her departing colleague, Kurt Jaeger of Liechtenstein. Ambassador and Mrs. Lauritta Jaeger were joined at the Monaco residence for the small reception by several colleagues including the newly arrived Ambassador Jean-Arthur Régibeau of Belgium and former US Ambassador to France and Monaco, now head of the Motion Picture Association, Charles Rivkin, and his wife, Susan Tolson.

The newly arrived Ambassador of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the United States, H.E. Georg Sparber, paid a courtesy visit to the Embassy in early December (photographed left with Ambassador Maccario Doyle).

A farewell soirée for long-time Washington D.C.-based diplomat H.E. Geir Haarde was hosted at the Residence of Monaco on June 28. The former Ambassador of Iceland and World Bank senior executive was joined by his wife, Mrs. Inga Haarde, as well as colleagues from Hungary, Jordan, Luxembourg and Portugal.



Above: (L-R) Mrs. Isabel Vital, Portuguese Ambassador Domingos Fezas Vital, Ambassador of Luxemburg Gaston Stronck and Mrs. Monika Langer, Mrs. Inga Haarde, Ambassador Geir Haarde, Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle, former Hungarian Ambassador Reka Szemerkenyi, and Ambassador of Jordan Dina Kawar.



Diplomatic Rounds



Above: French Ambassador to the OAS, Anne de la Blache with Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle on December 3.

On December 3, after more than a year and a half of tele-working, colleagues and friends of the Organization of American States (OAS) gathered to celebrate the holiday season at the Embassy of France.

The Embassy of Monaco was represented by Maguy Maccario, Ambassador and Permanent Observer to the OAS accompanied by Jean-Philippe Bertani, Deputy Permanent Observer and DCM at the Embassy of Monaco, and former OAS intern now the Embassy's public affairs associate, Agathe Renault.

The Washington D.C.-based 'Women's Democracy Network', an international organization which encourages accomplished women leaders in various areas to share their personal and professional experiences with members who are primarily young women starting out in their careers, celebrated its 15th anniversary in November. To mark the milestone, and as part of its 'Fireside Chats' series ([link here](#)), the WDN invited Monaco's Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle to discuss her professional career journey and advise young members on how best to achieve their goals. She was joined by former Hungarian Ambassador to the US, H.E. Reka Szemerkenyi, and moderator, Ms. Ameerah Shakoor.

In the fourth 'chat' of the series, launched online on December 1, Ambassador Maccario Doyle suggested that, despite some progress in the global labor market, women were still too often victims of inequalities in terms of promotion and remuneration, and often perceived as either too aggressive or too reserved in their approaches. She encouraged viewers to overcome their fears of thinking differently, to take initiative and to assert their convictions with force while accepting constructive criticism. "This is the best way to gain self-confidence," she remarked.



Photo: Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Embassy Activities

- Environment



Environment News

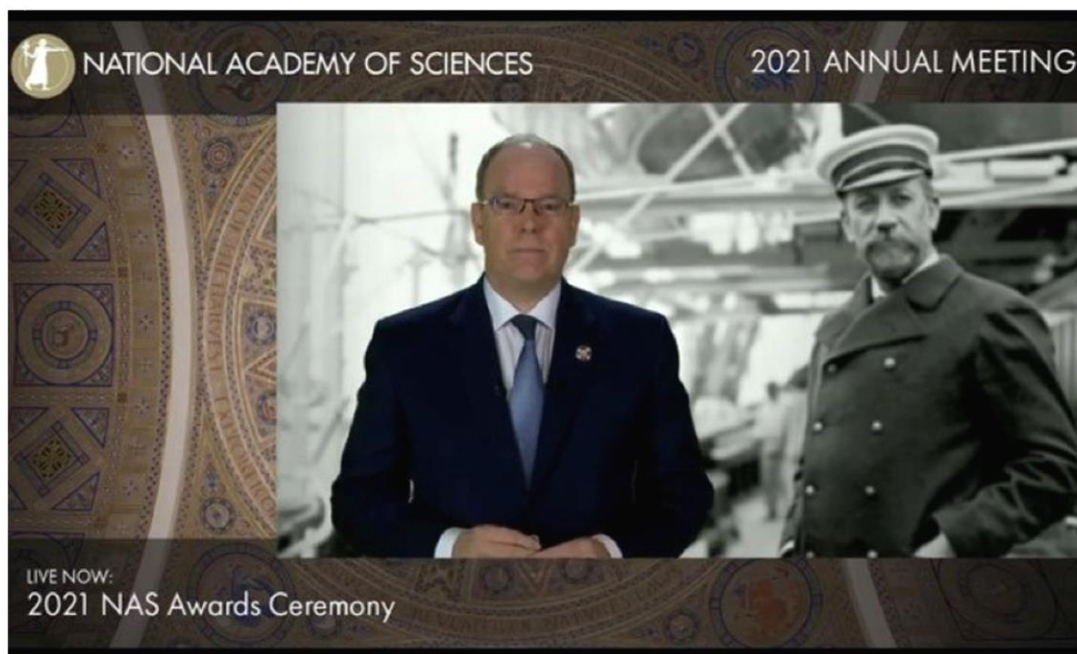
April 25, 2021 marked the 100th anniversary of the presentation by Prince Albert I of Monaco to the annual meeting of the United States National Academy of Science of his visionary discourse on the ocean (*'Discours Sur L'Océan'*). On that day, he also accepted the distinguished Alexander Agassiz Medal which had been awarded to him in 1918, but the Spanish influenza epidemic delayed his receiving it.

To mark the milestone anniversary, his great-great grandson, His Serene Highness Prince Albert was invited to present remarks to the global scientific audience during their 2021 awards ceremony. In a strange quirk of fate, the Covid-19 pandemic likewise prevented the Sovereign Prince's presence in Washington, D.C.

Prince Albert's remarks may be viewed [here](#).

On a related note, the Embassy arranged for an in-depth article to appear in National Geographic which outlined the legacy of Prince Albert 1, and the continuation of his mission to conserve and protect the world's ocean and other precious resources by Prince Albert II, his eponymous foundation, and Monaco's Government.

The article, published in early May, was written by senior environment editor, Rob Kunzig, in NatGeo's digital magazine which has around 3 million subscribers world-wide, and was also featured in the May 11 weekly [NatGeo Environment newsletter](#). Find the article [here](#).





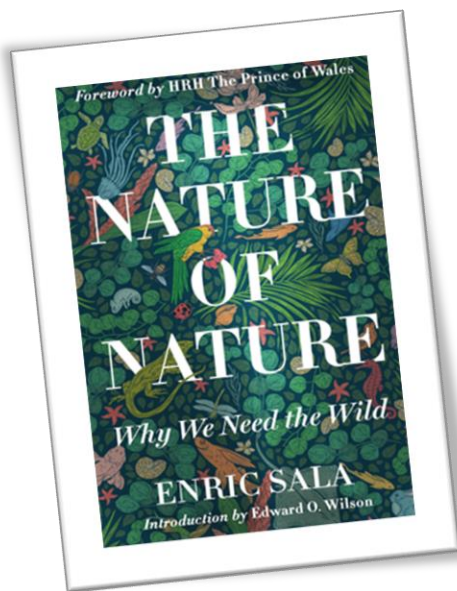
Environment News

On Wednesday, June 16, Dr. Enric Sala, founder of the ocean conservation program, Pristine Seas and Explorer-in-Residence at National Geographic, received their highest honor, the Hubbard Medal. He joined an esteemed list of astronauts, explorers, aviators, and scientists who have been awarded this prestigious prize. The awards ceremony was held virtually this year and included a special recorded message of congratulations from His Serene Highness Prince Albert.

The ceremony was followed by a small reception at the Monaco Residence hosted by Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle, in recognition of Dr. Sala's close relationship with the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, which is a partner in Pristine Seas. Guests included Jill Tiefenthaler, CEO of National Geographic, Andrew Steer, President & CEO of the Bezos Earth Fund, Steve and Jean Case of the Case Foundation, Roger Sant, Chairman of The Sant Foundation, Kirk Johnson, Director of the National Museum of Natural History, and Chef José Andrés, founder of World Central Kitchen.

In August, Dr. Sala published a book called 'The Nature of Nature: Why We Need The Wild' and the Embassy hosted many D.C.-based women diplomats for the online launch ([read more in this article](#)). It was followed up with personally signed copies to colleagues from the embassies of Afghanistan, Canada, Denmark, Ecuador, Greece, Jordan, Kuwait, Mexico, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, and Sweden.

In Monaco in November, the Oceanographic Museum and the Prince Albert I Foundation awarded Dr. Sala – in person – the prestigious Prince Albert I Grand Medal for his ocean conservation work. The biannual prize was established in February 2001 by Prince Rainier in partnership with the International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans, for physical and chemical sciences of the ocean.



Below: Dr. Enric Sala watches HSH Prince Albert's congratulatory remarks with partner Kristen Rechberger. **Right:** Guests at the post-awards ceremony at the Monaco ambassador's residence.





Environment News

Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation Annual Gala and Awards were held in Monaco on Friday, October 29, and Ambassador Maccario Doyle, in her capacity as the vice president of the US chapter, joined other international board members of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation to celebrate the 2021 ceremonies.

It was the 14th annual Gala and the 2021 Planetary Health Awards for notable achievements in water conservation, biodiversity and climate change. Tributes were paid to leading figures organizations from around the world for their deep commitment to preserving our planet, including Canada’s Autumn Peltier, the Green Wave Organization, and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).

"I created these awards to show my support for exceptional men and women who are committed to saving our planet."
H.S.H. Prince Albert



Above: Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle with Mr. And Mrs. Eric and Maya Wittouck at the annual Planetary Health Awards for the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.
Photo by Claudia Albuquerque.

Above: His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco with the 2021 Planetary Health Awardees: young Canadian activist Autumn Peltier, Dr. Anne Larigauderie on behalf of the IPBES, and Bren Smith, co-founder of Greenwave.

Photo courtesy of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.



Above: A view of Monaco as seen from space in 2015. Photo reprinted with kind permission of astronaut Scott Kelly.

Embassy Activities

- Space



Space News

His Serene Highness Prince Albert II established, on August 2, 2021 by Sovereign Ordinance No. 8.809, the creation of an Office of Space Affairs in the Principality. The creation of this new entity is a result of calls from numerous companies within the Monegasque aerospace business community, whose activities include the manufacture of Earth observation nano-satellites, communication satellites, and planetary rovers.

By setting up a 'one-stop-shop' for aerospace-related matters, and reporting to the Digital Platforms and Resources Department (under the authority of the Minister of State), the Principality is taking its first steps towards supporting the growth and development of these companies by streamlining administrative procedures. The Office will also act as the 'welcome office' for any prospective aerospace-related businesses looking to set up in Monaco.

On an international level, the Office of Space Affairs will represent the Princely Government in the relevant international organizations, in co-operation with the Department of External Relations and Cooperation. The Office of Space Affairs will interact with its counterparts in other countries for knowledge sharing, to foster economic cooperation, and to benefit Monegasque companies in aerospace and related fields. The space sector, and in particular private enterprise within aerospace-related industries, is booming and, among other benefits, it can allow for better Earth observation, improved understanding of weather and climate patterns, and help to bridge the digital gap by providing (high-speed) broadband access to previously isolated regions.

The creation of the Office of Space Affairs is part of a wider push to diversify the Monegasque economy, under the leadership of Prince Albert II, while still preserving the Principality's core values. Growth in this sector will attract highly qualified individuals to well-paying jobs, and generate broader economic, educational and reputational benefits for the Principality.



Photo from the European Space Agency



Space News



A private dinner was held at the Monaco residence on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 to honor [Senator Bill Nelson](#) who had recently been appointed as the 14th NASA Administrator. Senator Nelson, a long-time advocate for space exploration, has previously assisted the Embassy with the biennial space forum, 'Pioneers and Innovators of Our Time'. He was accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Grace Nelson. The evening's guests (pictured left) included Jordan's Ambassador [Dina Kawar](#), [Charles Rivkin](#) former US Ambassador to France & Monaco, now head of the Motion Picture Association, and Mrs. Susan Tolson, [Captain Michael Lopez-Alegria](#) astronaut and ISS Commander (he will command the February 2022 [Axiom Space 1/Crew Dragon](#) mission to the [International Space Station](#)), [Dr. Ellen Stofan](#), former NASA Chief Scientist, now Under Secretary for Science and Research at the Smithsonian, and [Mr. Tim Dunn](#), and Mr. and Mrs. [Fred & Karen Schaufeld](#), business entrepreneurs from Virginia.

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation hosted the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Space Rendezvous Weekend in November (11-14) 2021, postponed from 2020 due to the pandemic.

Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle joined the Astronaut Hall of Fame Inductees, Michael Lopez-Alegria, Pamela Melroy (recently named NASA Deputy Administrator) and ISS astronaut Scott Kelly (all pictured right) at the induction ceremony at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor's Complex and the Gala at the Apollo/Saturn V Center.



Guests at both events included NASA Administrator Bill Nelson and former NASA Administrator Charlie Bolden who have both participated in the Embassy's 'Pioneers and Innovators of Our Time' space series, Astronaut Hall of Famers, and Raphaël Domjan who piloted the first electric flight by a head of state, His Serene Highness Prince Albert, in October.



Above: From 'Rencontres en Arctique' ('Encounters in the Arctic') a film by Cristiana Bontemps

Embassy Activities

- Cultural Affairs



Cultural Affairs



The Alliance Française of Washington, D.C.'s annual month-long cultural Francophonie Festival in March featured three Embassy of Monaco-hosted events this year, all held virtually, free to registered participants, and very widely attended.

On Thursday, March 11, the Embassy presented an online screening of 'Rencontres en Arctique' ('Encounters in the Arctic') a film by Cristiana Bontemps (pictured left). The short (24 minutes) documentary in French with English sub-titles was available to viewers online throughout March and was presented in collaboration with the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation for the environment. The documentary follows the footsteps Madame Bontemps on 10 expeditions to the Arctic realm and encounters its most inspiring inhabitants: the polar bears.

The following week, on Thursday, March 18, the Embassy 'debuted' another online screening, this time the popular 2007 film, 'Monte-Carlo: Naissance d'un Mythe' ('Monte-Carlo: Birth of a Legend') directed by Francois Freynet and written by Kate Krasuski.

This drama-documentary, in French with English sub-titles (52 minutes) is the storybook tale of the visionary creators of Monte-Carlo, two unknown entrepreneurs — French financier, François Blanc and his beautiful young German wife, Marie Hensel Blanc (pictured left) — who founded the most famous of Monaco's districts, Monte-Carlo, which, even 160 years later, still conjures images of a magical and glamorous destination.





Cultural Affairs



The Embassy's final artistic offering for the Alliance Française Francophonie Festival was a selection of works by acclaimed Monegasque poet, Sabine Peglion (pictured left) in the Festival's fourth edition of its popular Nuit de la Poésie/Poetry Night on March 19. The evening was billed as "a relaxed evening where you will hear select poems from around the French-speaking world and discuss their meanings".

This event presented in French and English, showcased the works of Madame Pégliion, and featured two poems, both extracts from her 2019 Collection: 'These words so scattered' ('Ces mots si clairsemés'), Editions la tête à l'envers. The poetry reading was by the Embassy's DCM Karine Médecin.



Monaco's Embassy was proud to support -- via its numerous social media platforms -- the Embassy of France and the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF) between November 3 to 9 as they celebrated the diversity of the French language during the 21st annual National French Week. The AATF is the only national association devoted exclusively to the needs of French teachers at all levels.



Cultural Affairs

Film & Television News



In mid-August, Ambassador Maccario Doyle joined Designated Survivor actress and longtime environmentalist, Maggie Q, star of the highly successful series, 'The Protégé', with Ecuador's Ambassador, Her Excellency Ivonne Al-Baki (far right) at a reception at the Ecuador residence.

On a crisp fall day in October, to celebrate women in film, Middleburg Film Festival founder and CEO of the luxury Salamander Hotel and Resort, Sheila Johnson, hosted a lunch at a local winery for diplomats, film industry executives and corporate identities. Guests included (left to right) Meridian International's Mary Streett, executive, Missy Owens, Sheila Johnson, Ambassador Maccario Doyle, and Lee Satterfield, Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA).



...and in November, French Ambassador Philippe Etienne hosted 'Emily In Paris' stars Lily Collins and Ashley Park (pictured left) as well as producer Darren Star and other cast and crew at the Ambassador's residence to promote the successful show's second season on Netflix.



Cultural Affairs

Film & Television News



The Embassy of Monaco was one of just six countries chosen to be featured in a Washington, D.C. television special, 'Holidays Around the World'. Broadcast on Christmas Eve and throughout Christmas Day on the Washington, D.C. FOX affiliate, FOX 5DC, the segment showcased the holiday decorations at Monaco's Ambassador's residence, and some of the Principality's Christmas holiday customs.

Anchor Erin Como interviewed the Ambassador about some of Monaco's Christmas culinary traditions, as well as special seasonal cocktails featuring L'Orangerie, the orange liqueur manufactured in the Principality. The program included segments on Germany, Finland, Malta, Moldova and Columbia, and was organized in partnership with iDIPLO Media, Washington D.C. You can view the [show here](#).



Embassy News



Embassy News

- Monaco National Day



During this year's Monaco National Day ceremonies, in the presence of members of the Princely Family, HSH Prince Albert II presented decorations in the orders of Saint Charles and Grimaldi in the Cour d'honneur of the Princely Palace.

In recognition of her services to the Principality of Monaco and to the Princely Family, Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle - who had previously received from Prince Rainier in 1996, the prestigious "Chevalier de l'Ordre de Saint-Charles" - was elevated to the rank of "d'Officier de l'Ordre de Saint-Charles" in the 2020 Monaco National Day Honours and was presented with the distinction (pictured left) by His Serene Highness Prince Albert this year.

After four years at the Embassy, Deputy Chief of Mission Karine Médecin departed in late summer for her new posting at Monaco's Embassy in Rome.

In early September the new DCM, Jean-Phillippe Bertani arrived following the completion of his posting in Brussels. Mr. Bertani is a distinguished career diplomat having served in postings throughout Europe over many years.



Monaco's Deputy Chief of Mission Jean-Phillippe Bertani (center) with French Consul General in Washington, D.C. Francois Penguilly and Luxembourg's Ambassador Nicole Bintner at the Embassy holiday reception in December.



Embassy News - A Farewell

With great sadness we learned on June 10 of the passing of Monaco's honorary consul in Boston, Mrs. Rina Spence Countryman.

Rina was a much-cherished member of the Monaco family – since August 2015 – in North America and was always a vibrant and dedicated supporter of the Principality, especially in the fields of health care and education.

We were lucky to have her on our team.

We will miss her.

R.I.P.





Embassy News - The Year's End

To toast the end-of-year holidays and enduring friendships, the Ambassador welcomed friends and colleagues on December 15.



Clockwise from left: Former NASA Administrator Charlie Nelson, NASA's Karen Feldstein from the Office of International & Interagency Affairs, Deputy Administrator Pamela Melroy, and NASA Administrator Senator Bill Nelson.

Below: Ambassador Mathilde Mukantabana of Rwanda, Adrienne Arshat, Jackie and Charlie Bolden.



Far left: Mrs. Phoebe and Ambassador Stavros Lambridinis of the EU, former US Ambassador to France & Monaco, Charlie Rivkin, now head of the Motion Picture Association. Afghanistan Ambassador Adela Raz, Mrs. Shahin Mafi and Mrs. Michelle Javorčíková.



Embassy News

- The Year's End continued

From top left: Ambassador Maccario Doyle with FOX5DC's Erin Como, Ambassador Mathilde Mukantabana of Rwanda, Karen Feldstein of NASA, Nan Ellen Nelson, Slovak Republic Ambassador Radovan Javorcik, Sheila Johnson.
Bottom row from left: Doug Hollett, Kirk Johnson of the National Museum of Natural History, NASA's Deputy Administrator Pam Melroy, and The Washington Post's Mary Jordan with Susan Davis.





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