

THE CARTER CENTER



NEWS

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Countries Challenged to Sustain Democratic Progress

What comes to mind if you are asked, "What is democracy?" Many think about voting on election day and the freedom to choose their leaders. But democracy involves more than holding elections, and elections aren't always transparent and free.

Three recent elections observed by The Carter Center demonstrated that democracy also depends on a strong civil society and rule of law. National organizations, civic groups, and citizens must be included in setting the government's agenda. Political parties must be allowed to organize. The human rights of all people, regardless of their ethnicity or gender, must be protected, and the media must be allowed to report events objectively without fear of repercussions.

Because an election's success or failure can be linked to the strength of its civil society and public institutions, election observers examine not only what happens on election day, but also the climate in which elections take place, including the degree to which all groups have access to the political process.

"Elections are an essential, critical element of democracy, but elections alone do not constitute democracy or guarantee good government," said Charles Costello, director of the Center's Democracy Program. "The Carter Center is interested in good elections as part of a larger political system that protects citizens and advances their welfare."

Peru demonstrated this in 2000, when fraudulent elections culminated a decade in which President Alberto Fujimori severely weakened the country's political institutions, dissolving Congress and compromising the independence of the Supreme Court. Increasing authoritarianism led to fraud in the April 2000 presidential elections and the subsequent refusal of The Carter Center to observe a run-off election guaranteeing

Fujimori's victory. After Peruvians demanded Fujimori's resignation, an interim government restored confidence in the electoral system, and elections for a new president in spring 2001 were deemed fair by monitors from The Carter Center and the Washington, D.C.-based National Democratic Institute.

"Peru is definitely on the upswing, but it will take a long time for Peruvians to repair damage and strengthen their democratic institutions," said Dr. Shelley McConnell of the Center's Latin American and Caribbean Program (LACP). "The dramatic change in Peru's political climate is due in part to a strong civil society that will help consolidate democracy."

To properly evaluate a national election, Carter Center teams begin months in advance to assess the political climate, technical preparations, the campaign season, political parties, the



President Carter met with Peru presidential candidate Alejandro Toledo in April.

Guillermo Malpica

candidates, and the media. The state of a country's democratic institutions is also weighed heavily.

"The Carter Center looks at independent institutions, like the courts, control agencies, and electoral councils, to evaluate if they represent the people and if their

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Peru Sets High Standard for Elections

By Jimmy Carter

This article appeared in The Atlanta Journal-Constitution on April 22, 2001.

As we in the United States consider ways to improve electoral procedures in the wake of last year's fiasco in Florida, we might do well to examine how other democracies conduct their elections in the 21st century.

We at The Carter Center have monitored nearly three dozen elections around the world, and we recently partnered with the National Democratic Institute to monitor presidential and parliamentary elections in Peru. Peruvians, who had to overcome the embarrassment of a fraudulent electoral process in 2000, evolved a system over the past five months that is admirable in many ways.

Peru's voter registration system, for example, is far superior to ours, which is seriously flawed and offers the opportunity for illegal voting. For historical reasons, our political leaders have resisted the concept of a national identification card or list of voters, with a uniform system of identification. Among other defects, this permits the names of dead people to remain on the rolls, and in many states, any American who moves from one county to another can easily be registered and vote in both places.

In Peru, an official organization maintains an accurate nationwide list of qualified voters. Those who die are automatically deleted, and registration is transferred when a person moves. A standard identification card, including a photograph and a digitized thumbprint, is issued when a person reaches voting age. Some of these requirements would not be acceptable to many Americans.

Elections are held on Sundays, and every citizen is required to vote. There is a fine of \$35 for those who fail to do so without good reason, and they cannot cash a check until the fine is paid.

Expatriates are encouraged to register at the nearest Peruvian consulate in a foreign country, and they can vote there in person on the same day as people do

back home. There are no absentee ballots, but the consuls send in the voter returns as soon as they are counted so they can be included in the announced tallies.

A civic organization called *Transparencia* now includes 21,000 well-trained volunteers, mostly young people, who are deployed throughout the nation to observe and monitor the election. They enjoy great confidence, and have substantial influence on the candidates. They help guarantee full compliance with rules and regulations, discourage negative campaigning, and require specific accounting for campaign contributions. In addition, they are assigned to a scientifically chosen sample of voting places to observe and report the actual results. On election night, this "quick count" is considered so accurate that it is equivalent to official returns.

In the final ballot tabulation, there is an almost nonexistent error rate. Early reports in the April 8 election revealed only two challenged or disputed ballots out of every 10,000 counted. Official returns from individual voting places are delivered by hand to 57 counting centers, where they are entered on computers and then transmitted to central election headquarters in Lima. A small group of distinguished jurists, with constitutional authority, makes final decisions over the entire procedure and resolves any possible disputes. Few of these constraints or guarantees exist in the United States. Our voters lists have no guarantee of being either current or accurate. Instead of an authoritative and trusted governing body supervising a standard system, we have at least 50 separate state procedures and, it might be



A Peruvian voter deposits his ballot in a tamper-proof box.

Guillermo Malpica

said, almost 4,000 independent county organizations. As we have seen in Florida and some other states, procedures and ballots vary from one precinct to another, and the expected error rate in some jurisdictions is as high as three percent of the total.

One other significant difference between our two countries is that Peru (like almost all other democracies) requires that television networks offer 10 free minutes a day to each politically viable presidential candidate, who can purchase additional advertising. With one exception, American networks refused an appeal last year to contribute just five minutes a day for all candidates combined.

Although America's historic commitment to democracy helps counteract some of the obvious deficiencies in our electoral process, we could learn from experiences of other countries such as Peru, Mexico, and Brazil. As the greatest democracy on Earth, we must take every opportunity to ensure our electoral process continues to keep pace with modern technology, while adhering to our historic democratic ideals. 

Jimmy Carter led a delegation to observe the first round of Peru's 2001 presidential election.

Profile: Dr. Ben Hoffman

Pioneering New Ground in Conflict Resolution

When Conflict Resolution Program (CRP) Director Ben Hoffman joined The Carter Center a year ago, he saw an opportunity to chart a new course in the field of conflict resolution.

“The Carter Center is unique in integrating what we call track one and track two mediation—track one being official state-to-state diplomacy and track two being long-term peacebuilding at the community level,” Dr. Hoffman says. “We can take advantage of President Carter’s access to political leaders to achieve peace accords, yet implement agreements in a way that achieves sustainable peace.”

“Track 1.5” is the name Dr. Hoffman has given to this hybrid approach to conflict resolution being pioneered by The Carter Center.

Although most conflict resolution and peacebuilding originates at the grassroots track two level, there is a limit to what such work can achieve, Dr. Hoffman says.

“A few words in a diplomatic accord can set the framework and political will for permanently improving life for hundreds of thousands of people. But those agreements should contemplate all the elements of sustainable peace with justice—the role of civil society, rule of law, respect for human rights—aspects of long-term peacebuilding dependent on grassroots action and vigilance,” he explains.

Seeking Justice for All

Throughout his 25-year career, Dr. Hoffman’s “preoccupation with the realization of justice” has been more than an intellectual passion.

In Canada, he managed large-scale projects to bring about healing of battered women and their abusers and of clerics who perpetrated long-term patterns of abuse against boys in their care. Later, after leading peacebuilding projects in Haiti, Lebanon, Lithuania, Crimea, and Romania, he became widely recognized for

his work on reconciliation and the design of dispute resolution systems to support rule of law.

He says lessons from the trenches have proven useful at the elite level of mediation, noticeably in CRP’s current effort to restore diplomatic relations between Sudan and Uganda and advance peace in the region.

Since President Carter and CRP brokered an agreement between Sudan and Uganda in December 1999, Center staff have worked continuously to get the accord implemented, with successes including the exchange of 74 prisoners of war and the return to Uganda of more than 200 Ugandan children abducted by



Deanna Congilio

Dr. Hoffman joined The Carter Center as director of the Conflict Resolution Program in March 2000.

the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA), a northern Uganda rebel group based in Sudan.

“Ultimately, we need to look at a range of peacebuilding activities in the region,” he says. “The peace accord is only one step.”

For example, long-term peace in the region will require commitment to reintegrating former combatants into society. A Carter Center field representative has been working to get agencies in Sudan and northern Uganda to cooperate

to establish reception centers, provide trauma recovery programs, and train former soldiers to work in society. “We do not work directly with the traumatized children, but we are mobilizing people and resources to see that necessary groundwork for permanent peace is made,” he explains.

This emphasis on long-term peacebuilding is not completely new. After assisting with peace negotiations in the Liberian civil war in the early 1990s, the Center remained engaged for nearly a decade in Liberia, observing peaceful elections in 1997 and subsequently working to advance human rights and strengthen Liberian nongovernmental organizations. The same is true in Guyana, where the Center has had post-election projects to strengthen human rights and civil society.

Spreading the Word

As CRP refines track 1.5 diplomacy, Dr. Hoffman says staff will begin to analyze and document successes and failures to share with the academic, diplomatic, and conflict resolution communities.

With his own extensive academic credentials, Dr. Hoffman knows the rigors of making a sound case for a new concept. His training includes a specialization in dispute resolution from the Program on Negotiation at Harvard University and a doctorate from York University in the United Kingdom, where his thesis examined approaches to restructuring power in political conflict.

But along with running the academic gauntlet is a pressing need to share this new mediation approach with the larger diplomatic community putting theory into practice.

“There is a bona fide set of clinical skills used in the mediation field and here at The Carter Center that are available to the larger diplomatic community,” says Dr. Hoffman. “And, there is a great opportunity to build bridges, operationally and professionally, between diplomats and those working at the grassroots level for peace. The Carter Center is uniquely positioned to move this vision forward.”

Sustaining Democracy

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powers are being used appropriately within the political system,” said Dr. Jennifer McCoy, LACP director.

In the case of Venezuela’s 2000 presidential election, technical deficiencies and the executive branch’s perceived influence on election administration seriously weakened faith in the electoral system.

“The public’s perception that partisan choices were made for justices and election authorities helped undermine confidence in the government and in the independence of Venezuela’s institutions,” said Laura Neuman, LACP senior program associate. LACP observed a lengthy post-election appeals process before issuing its final report on the election in April 2001.

The challenges of openness and inclusion for new democracies became clear again in Guyana, where this spring’s general elections met international standards only to be marred by post-election street violence and lingering doubts about the accuracy of the voters list. Racial divisions and distrust between the two biggest political parties have hindered efforts to move the relatively undeveloped nation forward. The Carter



Poll workers prepare for the vote in Guyana in March 2001.

Center, which observed the 1992 and 2001 Guyana elections, has worked for more than a decade there to strengthen human rights, electoral processes, and economic development. A project launched in 2000 focuses on strengthening the rule of law and civil society.

“Guyana’s political parties are divided along racial lines,” said Dr. David Carroll, associate director of the Democracy

Caucasus Youth Build Bridges to Peace

Reset by ethnic and civil strife in their homeland, youth from the Republic of Georgia and the region of Abkhazia came together at The Carter Center in March to learn conflict resolution skills.

Since gaining independence from the former Soviet Union in 1991, the Georgian government has faced an armed separatist conflict with the region of Abkhazia, which is still recognized by the international community as part of Georgia, though it has its own government and is negotiating with Georgia for official recognition. Many families have been displaced since they fled Abkhazia during the civil war in the early 1990s, trekking over the Caucasus Mountains to settle in other parts of Georgia.

Funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), The Carter Center workshop hosted 20 youth for three weeks to train them in conflict resolution techniques they can spread in their communities. The group included youth who have fled Abkhazia as well as those still living there. Most have lost family members or other loved ones to the war.

“The program gave them realistic hope and concrete ways to approach problems in the future,” said Dr. Susan



Students from Abkhazia and Georgia discuss ways to resolve their differences peacefully at a Carter Center workshop.

Allen Nan, senior program associate for The Carter Center’s Conflict Resolution Program. “Ultimately, we hope that back home they will tell their friends that the people they thought were their enemies are actually real people, with real lives, real families, and interests similar to their own.”

The youth are preparing to lead Caucasus-wide peace dialogues with their peers from other conflicts in the Caucasus.

Lasha Zantaria, a law student from Sukhum, said he will have an obvious advantage over an “outside” negotiator because he knows his people’s needs. He believes his knowledge gained and role as a teacher will be very powerful in his country. Most importantly, Zantaria said he wants to help others to recognize the importance of open-mindedness in resolving conflicts.

“The most important thing in resolving conflicts is tolerance,” he said. 🙌

Program. “For three elections in a row, post-election violence has erupted due to the dissatisfaction of one of the two major parties. Those ethnic divisions indicate a lack of consolidation of a functional and genuine democratic system. Guyana’s system of governance tends to produce a ‘winner take all’ result that doesn’t allow the minority party an effective voice in influencing policy.”

In Guyana, as in Peru and Venezuela, democracy requires more than elections that meet international standards for fairness, Carroll said. Democracy at its best addresses the interests of all people in a society. 🙌

Pipe Filters Renew Hope

The Carter Center, along with its partners—Health and Development International (HDI), Hydro Polymers of Norsk Hydro, and Norwegian Church Aid (NCA)—is blanketing Sudan with more than nine million pipe filters: one for every man, woman, and child at risk of Guinea worm disease in Sudan.

“The Sudan Guinea Worm Pipe Filter Project is a positive story coming out of Africa, and unfortunately there are not enough of these,” said former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. “We are grateful for this opportunity to aggressively attack Guinea worm in Sudan. We also are encouraged by the eagerness of all interested parties to participate in the fight to eradicate this debilitating disease.”

Guinea worm disease cripples victims, leaving them unable to work, attend school, care for children, or harvest crops. Eradicating, or at the very least, reducing, the incidence of Guinea worm in a country improves the status of life for all people. The Carter Center leads the global eradication effort against Guinea worm and has reduced worldwide incidence of the disease by 98 percent, from 3.2 million cases in 1986 to fewer than 75,000 in 2000. After smallpox, Guinea worm will be the second disease to be eliminated from the world.

Sudan is the greatest challenge to Guinea worm eradication, accounting

for 73 percent of all reported cases. In 2000, the Sudan Guinea Worm Eradication Program (SGWEP) reported more than 54,000 new cases of Guinea worm disease (actual number of cases in Sudan is unknown) from 3,386 villages. The regions



R. Moltubak/NCA

A young Sudanese named Drikke demonstrates how to use the Guinea worm pipe filter. The nylon cloth attached at the bottom filters out Guinea worms, allowing Drikke to access safe drinking water wherever he goes.

with the highest incidence of disease are in the south Sudanese territories. Since November 2000, 10 northern states have reported zero indigenous cases.

Use of pipe filters prevents individuals from consuming contaminated water, thus interrupting disease transmission. The pipe filters are an adaptation of the household nylon filter cloth, placed over jars to strain water. Nomads came to hold a piece of the cloth over the end of a reed, while they drank through it like a straw.

An adaptation of that idea has been found to be effective in response to

circumstances in Sudan: the continued conflict and the adverse effects on the population; the number of displaced and nomadic persons; the difficulties of accessing safe drinking water and delivering household filters to every endemic home; and the high rate of Guinea worm disease.

“An effort of this magnitude would not be possible without the strong collaboration and continued support of our partners from the community to the international level,” said Dr. Donald Hopkins, associate executive director of The Carter Center’s Health Programs.

The SGWEP was established through a unique collaboration, which also made the Sudan Pipe Filter Project possible. HDI, NCA, Hydro Polymers, and The Carter Center have joined forces with more than 39 implementing agencies; 16 working groups, composed of more than 1,300 people in Nairobi; and many supporting industries. Together these groups are working to produce, assemble, and distribute the pipe filters throughout Sudan before the rainy season begins and disease transmission peaks. More than 9.25 million pipe filters have been produced; 8.25 million of those have been distributed in the most endemic areas of Sudan.

“The massive Pipe Filter Project has the potential to greatly reduce the number of new cases in Sudan in 2002,” said Dr. Hopkins. “However, we must remain aware that the continued conflict leaves many parts of the country inaccessible or difficult to reach, making the prevalence of disease and the actual number of Guinea worm cases unknown.”

“We believe the Pipe Filter Project is the quickest and most effective solution at this time to eradicate Guinea worm disease in Sudan, given the constraints of the environment and the costs associated with providing clean water. This solution gives the Sudanese people a better quality of life without Guinea worm disease,” said Mr. Mikkel H. Storm, public affairs manager, Hydro Polymers, after visiting Sudan. 

“The massive Pipe Filter Project has the potential to prevent many new cases of Guinea worm in Sudan in 2002.”

—Dr. Donald Hopkins

Johnson & Johnson Provides Boost to Guinea Worm Program

The Carter Center's Guinea Worm Eradication Program recently received a huge boost from Johnson & Johnson with a donation of 6,000 health kits valued at more than \$500,000. On March 24, Home Depot employees volunteered their Saturday morning to assemble 3,000 of the kits for treatment of Guinea worm disease in Nigeria and Ghana. The assembled kits and supplies for the remaining 3,000 kits are being shipped with the support of Bell Logistics Services and the United Kingdom.

The kits are being distributed in African villages to help treat individuals with lesions caused by emerging Guinea worms. Bandaging the lesion can significantly reduce transmission of the disease by alleviating pain, so patients are less likely to immerse painful sores and emerging worms in drinking water sources.

"These kits contain high-quality supplies that are much needed in the field," said Dr. Donald Hopkins, The Carter Center's associate executive director for health programs. The health kits, which contain Tylenol®, Nu-Gauze® sponges, Sof-Kling® gauze, scissors, forceps, and specially printed bags, will



Emily Howard

Mr. Gossou, head Guinea Worm Program supervisor in Haho Prefecture in Togo, admires medical supplies for treating patients.

be restocked periodically with gauze and sponges over the next two years. Dr. Hopkins added, "This corporate support provides critical momentum in a final push to eradicate Guinea worm." 

River Blindness Marks 30 Million Treatments

The Carter Center's Global 2000 River Blindness Control Program recently celebrated the delivery of its 30 millionth treatment of the drug Mectizan®. This represents 17 percent of the estimated 200 million treatments delivered since Merck & Co. began donating the drug.

In 2000 alone, the program assisted in treating more than 7.2 million people. Since 1996, the program has treated people in 11 countries in Latin America, Africa, and Yemen.

River blindness (onchocerciasis) is a debilitating disease spread by the bite of blackflies. Disease symptoms, which include blindness and severe skin itching, can be controlled by an oral dose of Mectizan® once or twice a year.

In June, The Carter Center's International Task Force for Disease Eradication determined that there is the potential to eradicate river blindness in Central and South America. A conference supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will take place in January 2002 at the Center to map out an eradication push in the region.

In addition, in March, a new effort was launched in Ethiopia, where the Center assisted the Ministry of Health in beginning to provide annual Mectizan® treatments to people in the Kaffa and Sheka zones of the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples Region. By May, the ministry already had reached 85 percent of the 239,500 people targeted for treatment this year.

Congratulations to the ministry, the Lions Club-Carter Center Sight First Initiative, and the African Program for Onchocerciasis Control on this successful collaboration! 

Justice System Confronts Mental Health Issues

Georgia's juvenile justice system is unequipped to handle the mental health care needs of children entering its system, although more than two-thirds of the children who enter Georgia's juvenile justice system have a history of mental health treatment, experts said at the 2001 Rosalynn Carter Georgia Mental Health Forum at The Carter Center.

Mental health and correctional professionals joined consumers and family members at last week's forum,

"Georgia at the Crossroads: Children in the Juvenile Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Systems," to address the issues surrounding these systems and what can be done to improve them.

"Incarceration is not the place for the mentally ill child, but the reality is that they are coming into the system," said keynote speaker Orlando Martinez, commissioner of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice. "Correctional institutions are not designed to handle

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Council for Ethical Business Practices Founded

Continuing its work to promote transparency, the Latin American and Caribbean Program and several Atlanta-based multinational corporations have founded The Carter Center Council for Ethical Business Practices.

Corruption is a widespread problem throughout the world, and although the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, signed by President Carter during his term in office, prohibits U.S. companies from bribing foreign government officials to win concessions, many other countries allow bribes and inappropriate “transaction fees.” These companies recognized the need for the business community to take the lead in urging ethical practices, particularly internationally.

“For all companies, regardless of their size, conducting business in accordance with the highest standards of ethical business conduct must be a priority,” said José Creamer, chair of The Carter Center Council for Ethical Business Practices. “Even an inadvertent mistake can cost the company not only profits but also can do irreparable harm to its reputation. Moreover, the citizens of the countries in which we work suffer greatly, through deferred foreign investment and decreased public confidence, when ethics are compromised.”

The Council, composed of corporate leaders such as United Parcel Service, Delta Air Lines, BellSouth International, Mirant, and Invesco and leading law firms, including King & Spalding, Alston & Bird, and Troutman Sanders LLP, discussed such issues at its inaugural conference “International Business: The Realities of Dealing with Corruption” in June.

The Council hopes to lead the business community in educating and assisting other companies worldwide in drafting corporate codes of conduct and promoting engagement in ethical business practices. 



Boyhood Farm Named National Historic Site

President Carter’s boyhood farm in Archery, Ga., just outside of Plains, was recently dedicated as a national historic site. He and Mrs. Carter joined hundreds of people, including Carter Center staff, at the November dedication of the farm.

The boyhood farm is part of the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site, which includes a museum in the restored Plains High School and the old Plains railroad depot that served as Jimmy Carter’s 1976 campaign headquarters. For more information on the site, call (229) 824-4104. 

APA Honors Mental Health Program

The Carter Center received the American Psychiatric Association’s Distinguished Service Award for its efforts to address key public policy issues and develop initiatives to reduce the stigma of mental illness.

Dr. John Hardman, the Center’s executive director, accepted the award at the APA’s 154th annual meeting in May on behalf of the Center and Mrs. Carter.

“Mrs. Carter and the Center are among the strongest and most important advocates for those members of society who suffer from mental illness and face continued discrimination,” said Dr. Daniel Borenstein, APA president. “Their work has stimulated improvements in the quality of mental health care, society’s understanding that mental illnesses are treatable, and in the realization that people with mental illnesses can live normal lives.”

The Mental Health Program also partnered in June to sponsor “The Business Case for Mental Health Care” conference, which examined the impact of quality mental health care on worker productivity, disability, absenteeism, employee turnover, and the corporate bottom line. 



Charles Plant

Congressman Ralph Regula (l) and Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman joined President Carter for the dedication of his boyhood farm as a historic site.

Juvenile Mental Health

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mentally ill children.”

Georgia has a problematic history of addressing children’s mental health care needs within its justice system. In 1987, Georgia developed a four-year plan to provide mental health services to children. But to this day, the plan has been funded only at 50 percent of the 1987 figures. Estimates on funding to fully implement the plan run as high as \$50 million. In a scathing 1998 report by the U.S. Department of Justice, Georgia’s juvenile detention facilities were found to be unconstitutional and dangerous, including failing to provide adequate mental health care to mentally ill youths and using mechanical and chemical restraints on mentally ill youths. Commissioner Martinez was appointed in 1999.

According to its own case studies, The Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice found:

- 67 percent of children entering the justice system are on psychotropic medications
- 32 percent have a history of psychiatric hospitalization
- 80 percent of girls in the system with drug addictions and mental disorders have been sexually and/or physically abused

■ 69 percent are charged with non-violent offenses, and

■ 83 percent of the children have had prior experience with the justice system.

Many participants said the juvenile justice system is seriously underfunded, and Americans only pay “lip service” to correcting the problem.

“We have a history of national ambivalence toward adolescents,” said Bart Lubow of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. “It’s improbable—downright dishonest—that the juvenile justice system is a therapeutic system. We rely on courts to change behavior. We think 10 minutes a month in a probation officer’s office is intervention.”

When asked what is needed to improve the juvenile justice system, Lubow and other participants said laws on handling juvenile offenders and funding for intervention programs, including community-based mental health care services. 

President and Mrs. Carter joined teens from Future Force for a weekend of fun and leadership training in Crested Butte, Colo.

Crested Butte Auction Tops \$1.25 Million

This year’s Carter Center auction in Crested Butte, Colo., raised \$1.28 million, more than doubling last year’s proceeds. The auction was the highlight of The Carter Center’s 9th annual Winter Weekend in February.

Another auction record was set this year—the highest bid of \$310,000 for a photograph of Presidents Carter, Bush, Reagan, Ford, and Nixon signed by each of them.

The Winter Weekend was made possible thanks to Delta Air Lines, The Coca-Cola Company, United Parcel Service, Club Med Crested Butte, Georgia Crown Distributing Company, AAA Auto Club South, Environmental Resources Management, and SAAB Cars USA. 



Tom Stillo

Intern Program Makes Top Grade

For the eighth consecutive year, The Princeton Review has ranked The Carter Center Internship Program as one of America’s best.

Matthew Frazier, an intern from Princeton University, has been monitoring political and economic news in the West African nation of Mali to assist with the creation of a National Development Strategy.

“I am spending a summer in a program that focuses on implementation and effects on the ground,” said Frazier. “I am planning to write my senior thesis on the very issues I am learning about this summer, so I’m combining practical experience with research. So far, that combination has left me quite satisfied.”

Internships are offered to undergraduate juniors and seniors, recent graduates, and graduate/professional students. The current 44 participants represent nine countries and collectively speak 20 languages. Since 1982, more than 1,500 students have interned at The Carter Center in programs that seek to prevent and resolve conflicts, enhance freedom and democracy, and improve health.

Applications for the internship program may be downloaded from the Center’s Web site at www.cartercenter.org. The application deadline for spring internships is Oct. 15.