

## NETWORKING GALA NIGHT

# A NIGHT WITH PURPOSE: ROOTS, ROUTES & RENEWAL

FROM REFLECTION TO  
TRANSFORMATION  
2083

EVENT REPORT



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## 1. Executive Summary

The [Nepal-U.S. Alumni Network \(NUSAN\)](#) successfully hosted its Networking Gala Night, "**A Night with Purpose: Roots, Routes and Renewal 2083**," on Thursday, 16 April 2026, at Silver Oak Banquet and Events, Gairidhara, Kathmandu. The event brought together **over 200 distinguished participants** from across Nepal's professional landscape, celebrating the Nepali New Year Bikram Sambat 2083 in a spirit of reflection, connection, and renewal.

The evening featured three structured segments: *a formal opening and felicitation ceremony, an Alumni Creativity Showcase, and an open networking session*. Mr. Scott Urbom, Chargé d'Affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Nepal, and his wife, Mrs. Sonia Urbom, graced the occasion as Guests of Honor, accompanied by diplomats from the U.S. Mission in Nepal.

The event successfully achieved its core objectives of networking, celebration, partnership, and talent showcase, while reinforcing NUSAN's commitment to sustainability through a self-sustaining financial model supported by ticket sales and private sector partnerships.

## 2. About NUSAN

The Nepal-U.S. Alumni Network (NUSAN) is a national network of **U.S. exchange and graduate alumni** from diverse professional backgrounds across Nepal. Established in 2017 and registered as a non-governmental organization in Nepal, NUSAN works in close collaboration with the U.S. Embassy to engage alumni through meaningful programs, leadership initiatives, and community-based development efforts.

NUSAN operates across a wide range of thematic areas, including entrepreneurship, community development, women's empowerment, youth leadership, education, emerging technologies, digital rights, and innovation. The organization serves as a platform for alumni to **connect, collaborate, and contribute** their expertise to Nepal's social and economic progress, while reinforcing people-to-people ties between Nepal and the United States.

## 3. Event Overview

Building on the success of the Nepali New Year 2082 alumni meet and greet, a closed-network gathering of 45 alumni at Level 3, Pulchowk, NUSAN elevated the tradition into a full-scale networking gala. The event was designed to create a purposeful and inclusive space for alumni, professionals, diplomats, and changemakers to converge, celebrate, and connect.

The gala was structured around the theme “**Roots, Routes and Renewal**,” inviting participants to pause and reflect on where they come from, honor the journeys that have shaped them, and look ahead with renewed purpose. The evening stood as a meaningful convergence of ideas, connections, and cross-sectoral collaboration, reflecting both the depth and diversity of NUSAN’s membership and network.

## 4. Programme Highlights

The program was thoughtfully structured into three segments to ensure a seamless flow of engagement, dialogue, and networking among participants.

### 4.1 Formal Opening and Felicitation Ceremony

The program was opened by Emcee Kavita Shrestha, Executive Member of NUSAN, who set a welcoming and professional tone for the evening. Opening remarks were delivered by **Mr. Nikesh Balami, General Secretary of NUSAN**, who warmly welcomed all esteemed guests, diplomats, sponsors, and participants, expressing sincere appreciation for their presence and support.



**Mr. Scott Urbom, Chargé d’Affaires**, delivered a thoughtful address highlighting the vital role of the alumni community in strengthening the bilateral relationship between Nepal and the United States. He emphasized how alumni networks serve as important bridges for dialogue, collaboration, and mutual understanding across sectors.

**Ms. Swarna Tamrakar, President of NUSAN**, delivered a heartfelt Vote of Thanks, expressing appreciation to all participants and sharing a forward-looking vision for the organization, reaffirming NUSAN’s commitment to strengthening professional ties and fostering meaningful cross-network engagement.

A special Felicitation Ceremony was held to honor distinguished individuals connected to the U.S. exchange alumni community. NUSAN recognized four guests who achieved remarkable success in the most recent parliamentary elections:

- Hon. Ganga Chhantyal, Member of Parliament (*Sports Exchange Program Alumni*)
- Hon. Ashish Gajurel, Member of Parliament (*International Visitor Leadership Program Alumni*)
- Hon. Rahar Bar Ansari, Member of Parliament (*International Visitor Leadership Program Alumni*)
- Hon. Yogesh Gauchan Thakali, Member of Parliament



## 4.2 Alumni Creativity Showcase

The Alumni Creativity Showcase celebrated the artistic, cultural, and creative talents of NUSAN’s diverse membership. The segment provided a dynamic platform for alumni to express themselves through comedy, dance, music, and visual arts, bringing energy and cultural richness to the evening.

- Hip-Hop Dance Performance by **Ms. Jenisha Maharjan (IVLP Alumni)**, founder of Nepal Hip-Hop, whose breakdancing captivated the audience.
- Stand-up Comedy by **Mr. Aayush Shrestha (IVLP Alumni)**, whose sharp social commentary entertained and engaged the audience throughout his performance.
- Hip-Hop Music Performance by Mr. Itish and Mr. Witty of Raw Barz, a creative platform founded by **Mr. Kolin Bikram Rana (IVLP Alumni)**, whose performance fused Nepali roots with a global sound.
- Artisan Showcase by **Mr. Gorkhana Dhugana (Sports Exchange Program Alumni)**, featuring an impressive display of Thangka paintings and Nepali handicrafts, highlighting the richness of Nepal’s traditional art and heritage.



### 4.3 Open Networking Session

The open networking session created an informal and engaging space for meaningful interaction. NUSAN members, sponsors, diplomats, and distinguished guests came together in a relaxed setting that encouraged open dialogue and spontaneous connection. The session served as a valuable platform for participants to exchange ideas, share professional experiences, and explore potential avenues for collaboration across diverse sectors.

## 5. Programme Schedule

Time	Description	Focal Person
5:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Registration & Snacks	NUSAN Secretariat
<b>Formal Session</b>		
6:30 PM – 6:35 PM	Program Opening	

6:35 PM – 6:40 PM	Opening Remarks	<b>Nikesh Balami</b> <i>General Secretary, Nepal-U.S. Alumni Network</i>
6:40 PM – 6:45 PM	Remarks from the Guest of Honour	<b>Scott Urbom</b> <i>Chargé d’Affaires, U.S. Embassy Nepal</i>
6:45 PM – 6:50 PM	Closing Remarks	<b>Swarna Tamrakar</b> <i>President, Nepal-U.S. Alumni Network</i>
6:50 PM – 6:55 PM	Group Photo	
<b>Alumni Creativity Showcase</b>		
6:55 PM – 7:05 PM	Hip-Hop Dance Performance	<b>Jenisha Maharjan</b> <i>Hip-Hop Dancer (IVLP Alumni)</i>
7:05 PM – 7:20 PM	Stand-up Comedy	<b>Aayush Shrestha</b> <i>Stand-up Comedian (IVLP Alumni)</i>
7:20 PM – 7:30 PM	Hip-Hop Rap Music Performance	<b>Itish &amp; Witty</b> <i>Raw Barz</i>
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Networking with Snacks, Drinks & Dinner	

## 6. Partners and Sponsors

The gala night was made possible through the generous support of nine esteemed private sector partners. Their contributions played a vital role in the successful execution of the event and in fostering a meaningful platform for connection, dialogue, and engagement among participants.

The event was proudly supported by **Laxmi Premium Motors Pvt. Ltd., Jawalakhel Group of Industries (JGI), Himalayan Distillery Limited, Bottlers Nepal Limited, Probably, Khalti, Raw Barz, Emazing, and Purnata Handcrafted.** Their generous support contributed significantly to the quality and overall experience of the evening, and reflected a shared commitment to investing in platforms that connect professionals, alumni, and changemakers across Nepal.



NUSAN extends its sincere gratitude to all partners for their enthusiasm, generosity, and continued belief in the mission and vision of the network.

## 7. Key Takeaways and Outcomes

The gala night achieved its intended objectives and delivered meaningful outcomes across multiple dimensions. The event successfully brought together over 200 participants from diverse professional sectors, exceeding the breadth of previous NUSAN gatherings and reflecting the growing strength and reach of the network. Through direct engagement with Chargé d’Affaires Scott Urbom and diplomats from the U.S. Embassy, the event meaningfully reinforced people-to-people ties between Nepal and the United States, reaffirming NUSAN’s role as a bridge between the two nations.

The celebration of Bikram Sambat 2083 was carried out in a spirit of reflection, connection, and renewal, staying true to the event’s theme of **Roots, Routes and Renewal**. The Alumni Creativity Showcase provided a vibrant platform for NUSAN alumni to express their artistic talents, reinforcing the depth and diversity of the network’s membership. The event also held special significance through the Felicitation Ceremony, which honored U.S. exchange alumni for their achievements in the most recent parliamentary elections, recognizing the civic leadership and public contribution of NUSAN members.

Overall, the gala night stood as a testament to the breadth and depth of the NUSAN community. It brought together professionals, diplomats, artists, and changemakers under one roof, creating a space for genuine dialogue, cross-sectoral collaboration, and shared celebration. The event further strengthened NUSAN’s visibility and positioning as a leading alumni network in Nepal, with active engagement from stakeholders spanning the public sector, private sector, civil society, and the diplomatic community.

## 8. Acknowledgements

The Nepal–U.S. Alumni Network (NUSAN) extends its deepest appreciation to all individuals and organizations whose generous support and valued partnership made the Networking Gala Night 2083 a resounding success.

NUSAN is sincerely grateful to all partners, Laxmi Premium Motors Pvt. Ltd., Jawalakhel Group of Industries (JGI), Himalayan Distillery Limited, Bottlers Nepal Limited, Probably, Khalti, Raw Barz, Emazing, and Purnata Handcrafted, for their generous contributions, which were instrumental in bringing the event to life and ensuring a high-quality experience for all participants.

Special gratitude goes to Mr. Scott Urbom, Chargé d’Affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Nepal, and his wife, Mrs. Sonia Urbom for graciously dedicating their time to personally engage with alumni and participants, adding distinction and warmth to the occasion. NUSAN also extends its heartfelt thanks to the Public Affairs Section (PAS) team for their strategic guidance and for fostering strong alumni participation and engagement from U.S. Embassy representatives.

NUSAN warmly acknowledges all participants for their enthusiasm, energy, and continued commitment to the growth of the network. Sincere appreciation is also extended to Silver Oak Banquet and Events for its exceptional venue management, and to the dedicated volunteers, NUSAN staff, and Executive Committee members, whose tireless efforts and unwavering commitment were instrumental in bringing this event to fruition.