



# The Tibet Fund News

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The Tibet Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1981 under the auspices of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The Tibet Fund is the primary funding organization for the health, education, refugee rehabilitation, cultural preservation and economic development programs that enable Tibetans in exile and in their homeland to sustain their language, culture and national identity.

Please help secure a bright future for the Tibetan people. Make your tax-deductible gift today!

Donate online or mail a gift. Go to [www.tibetfund.org/donate.html](http://www.tibetfund.org/donate.html) for instructions.

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## Tibet Fund Anniversary Gala, 30 Years of Service, a Great Success!

On Thursday, April 28, The Tibet Fund celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a gala dinner at The Pierre Hotel. The event was hosted by Chef Eric Ripert, television personality and co-owner of Le Bernardin restaurant. We honored three cherished friends of the Tibet Fund: actor Richard Gere for his dedication to protecting the people's Tibetan cultural identity and human rights, and Shelley and Donald Rubin for their devotion to the preservation, study and enjoyment of Himalayan art.

The event was a great success and we raised more than \$225,000, which will enable The Tibet Fund to continue its humanitarian assistance to Tibetans in exile and in Tibet, and ensure that Tibetan language, culture and identity remain a vibrant part of our global community.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama sent a greeting for the event, read by Lobsang Nyandak, Representative of His Holiness for the Americas:

*"Through The Tibet Fund's steadfast efforts and the generosity of its donors, Tibetans in exile and in Tibet have been able to create programs and strengthen institutions that are essential to the preservation of our unique and rich cultural heritage and national identity."*



As he did for last year's gala, Eric Ripert recruited some of the best chefs in New York to donate their time and talents to the gala: Stephane Becht, April Bloomfield, David Chang, Tom Colicchio, Scott Conant, Dan Kluger, Mark Ladner, Anita Lo, Laurent Manrique and Joseph Realmuto. Also, many generous

artists and photographers donated their work for the successful silent auction: Francesco Clemente, Robert Wilson, Louise Fishman, Lynn Davis, Joni Sternbach, Jason Florio, Brian English and Sean Perry.

This was a team effort that would not have been possible without Ripert and the other amazing chefs, extraordinary honorees, the stunning Pierre Hotel, generous event and auction donors, dedicated committee members and other volunteers, and countless others.



According to Ripert, "The dinner we hosted for the past two years is very special. It's rare that we get to do this and I love the convivial atmosphere it creates."

(Photos © Herman Velez)

## US Ambassador Launches New Reception Center in Dharamsala

On February 23, U.S. Ambassador to India, Timothy J. Roemer, inaugurated a new Tibetan Refugee Reception Center in Dharamsala, India. The project was funded in part under a US State Department Humanitarian Assistance grant to



The Tibet Fund. Roemer was welcomed at the reception center by Tibet Fund President Rinchen Dharlo, the Hon. Kalon Tripa Samdhong Rinpoche, senior members of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), and more than 100 newly arrived refugees. The CTA provides services and financial support to the center and its temporary residents.

Roemer, Dharlo, and Samdhong Rinpoche addressed the crowd and then toured the reception

center's facilities and met with newly arrived refugees. The Ambassador was pleased with the quality of the newly constructed facility, which can accommodate 500 people and will provide a healthy and healing environment for the refugees.

According to Rinchen Dharlo, "We are grateful for US support of critically needed programs that benefit newly arrived Tibetan refugees."

## Dreams for Tibet Fundraiser with Ngawang Khechok and Gina Sala



*Dreams for Tibet* was held again on April 30 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Seattle, Washington, and organized by Tenzin Norzom, Quang Bui, Tim Feetham, Betty Feetham, Susie Cantor and Derek Johnson. Rev. Stephanie Parker of St. Stephen's and Rinchen Dharlo, President of The Tibet Fund, joined nearly 300 guests,

volunteers, and performers.

Over \$14,500 was raised through donations and silent auction bids. Funds will support educational projects for Tibetan refugees in India.

The program included Tibetan children entertaining the audience with singing, dancing and reading essays. The evening ended with performances by internationally known artists Ngawang Khechok,

Gina Sala, Gary Stroutsos and David Revelli.

Last year's event supported the Tsering Elders Home and a solar lighting system for Srongsden Bhrikuti Boarding High School in Kathmandu, Nepal. We thank the *Dreams for Tibet* team, artists auction donors, volunteers and event attendees for their dedication and support of The Tibet Fund.

## Musical CDs Benefit The Tibet Fund

Two new CDs, *Thundril* (Unity) and *Dhodma* (Origin), were released by BFM Digital and conceived by producers Joshua Jacobs, President of Synaptic Fusion Entertainment, and Steven Weber,

President of BFM Digital, along with Rinchen Dharlo, President of The Tibet Fund.

*Thundril* is a collection of contemporary songs and music from

Tibetan artists in exile, such as Dadon, Jamyang Yeshe, Karma Lama, and Tenzin Kunsel. *Dhodma* is a compilation of 14 traditional songs performed by artists from the renowned Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts.

Both albums follow the success of *Jamste – Love & Compassion*, the first album created by the group to raise funds for The Tibet Fund.

100% of net proceeds from the sale of *Thundril* and *Dhodma* will go to The Tibet Fund. We thank BFM Digital and Synaptic Fusion Entertainment for their continuing generosity.

The CDs are available on Amazon.com. To preview or purchase *Thundril* on iTunes, go to: <http://bit.ly/Thundril>.

For additional information please visit [www.synapticfusion.net](http://www.synapticfusion.net) or [www.bfmdigital.com](http://www.bfmdigital.com).

Another CD, **Tenzin Kunsel's *Nangma Toeshay***, released by Laughing Buddha Music, will also benefit The Tibet Fund. Captivating audiences with her beautiful

voice and unique versatile singing, Kunsel was born in in a refugee camp in India and sings in Tibetan, English and Hindi. *Nangma* and *Toeshay* are forms of classical Tibetan music. Lyrics of these traditional Tibetan genres are poetic and often spiritual.

10% of net proceeds will benefit the Professional Scholarship Project, and we are grateful for their support.

As Kunsel writes, "I hope to introduce genres in Tibetan music that are truly Tibetan and worth saving at all costs".

To buy this CD visit [www.laughingbuddhamusic.com/shop.html](http://www.laughingbuddhamusic.com/shop.html).

For information write [info@laughingbuddhamusic.com](mailto:info@laughingbuddhamusic.com).



### Words of Wisdom from His Holiness the Dalai Lama

*"Today, more than ever before, life must be characterized by a sense of Universal Responsibility, not only nation-to-nation and human-to-human, but also human to other forms of life."*

## Yushu Earthquake: The Tibet Fund Supports Recovery

In April 2010, The Tibet Fund's donors generously expressed their support for the victims of the tragic earthquake in Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture. The Tibet Fund raised more than \$122,000 to aid recovery efforts after the 6.9 magnitude earthquake leveled the town of Jyekundo (Kyegudo). Approximately 2,700 people died and an estimated 12,178 were injured.

With these funds The Tibet Fund helped to support various projects, including: immediate recovery efforts, reconstruction of a school completely destroyed in the earthquake; construction of a new health clinic and related operating costs; construction of new milling facilities and the first residential kindergarten in Yushu County; the purchase of water heating units and diesel generators, and a school bus; assistance to nomads who subsist on herding, farming and harvesting caterpillar fungus, and establishment of guidelines for a small business micro-loan program to benefit local Tibetan business owners.