2018 Summer Tibetan Study Program in Ithaca
The Tibet Fund in partnership with Namgyal Monastery Institute of Buddhist Studies in Ithaca, NY, hosted the 2018 Summer Tibetan Study Program in Ithaca for young Tibetan students living in North America from July 29 – August 11, 2018. This two-week program offered an in-depth understanding of Tibetan history, culture, language, and Tibetan Buddhist philosophy and practice. Some of the program courses included meditation, Tibetan Language for Beginners or Intermediate, Tibetan History and Politics, Tibetan Buddhist Philosophy and others. All student participants expressed satisfaction with the overall program and said that their goals and expectations were met.

Let’s Talk in Tibetan Online Contest
The Tibet Fund in coordination with the Office of Tibet, Washington DC hosted 2018 Let’s Talk in Tibetan Online Contest for Tibetan children ages 6 to 18 residing in North America. As part of our organizational mission to preserve the distinct Tibetan cultural heritage, this contest is aimed to encourage learning Tibetan language among the younger generation Tibetans living in the West. The competition was divided into two age categories of 6 to 12-year-old and 13 to 18-year-old students. The response received was overwhelming as 115 from all over the US and Canada participated in the online contest. Five winners each from both the age categories received $200. Four Tibetan associations in North America that recommended the winner-participants received $1000 each.

Summer Camp Grants to Tibetan Associations in North America
In partnership with the Office of Tibet, Washington DC, The Tibet Fund invited Tibetan Associations in North America to apply for funding ranging from $1000 to $2000 for the sole purpose of organizing a week-long summer program to promote Tibetan language and culture for Tibetan children in their locality. This grant supports the endeavors of the Ti-
betan associations to provide Tibetan children with an opportunity to immerse themselves in their culture, as well as to strengthen their understanding and appreciation for their roots and identity. 18 Tibetan associations received a total of $32,400 benefiting 517 children from 6 to 18 years of age. The 2018 North American Tibetan Associations Conference passed a resolution thanking TTF in appreciation of our support and contribution towards promotion of Tibetan language and culture.

Summer Study Program in India
The Tibet Fund in partnership with The Institute of Buddhist Dialectics (IBD) organized a five-week Summer Tibetan Study Program in Dharamsala for young Tibetans born or brought up in the West to learn and experience the culture, history, and civilization of Tibet. Participants enjoyed an academically and culturally enriching program by learning about Tibetan cultural heritage, tradition, Tibetan community and issues associated with Tibet through rigorous academic work, language study, contemplative practice, and cultural immersion incorporated by field trips. Besides visiting CTA and Tibetan NGOs, this year's participants had the opportunity to visit Tushita Meditation Center and interacted with the monks, took a weekend retreat at Tso Pema, and learned about Tibetan arts and culture at Norbulingka. In between, they learned to make momos with their Tibetan conversation partners from Sarah College, played evening basketball and interacted with the international students studying at the Institute of Buddhist Dialectics.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s 83rd birthday
The Gia Holistic, The Tibet Fund, and Orphans International Worldwide organized our annual celebration of His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s birthday and his vision of the world peace through compassion. The event was held at Marriott Essex House in Central Park South in New York City on 6 July 2018 from 6.30 pm to 9.30 pm. Chef, Arvol, the legendary Native America hero, and Chef Eric Ripert, a renowned chef and a philanthropist, were awarded Word Peace through Compassion award. President Lobsang Nyandak presented the message from His Holiness the Dalai Lama at the event. In addition to a dinner and reception, representatives from six major religions including Native, Buddhist, Christian, Jewish, Islam and Hindu conducted prayers for world peace.

Convention of the World Parliament of Religion
TTF President Lobsang Nyandak participated in the Convention of the World Parliament of Religion held in Toronto in November 2018. Mr. Nyandak spoke to the parliament on the importance of the Dalai Lama institution and conveyed the message of His Holiness the Dalai Lama highlighting his life-long commitment in the promotion of religious harmony, human values and the concept of universal responsibility to make this earth a better place to live for the entire humanity. He also presented the video messages of His Holiness to the attendees of the parliament. The Parliament of the World Religion was established to cultivate harmony among the world’s religion and spiritual community and foster their engagement
with the world and its guiding institution to achieve a just, peaceful and sustainable world.

**Conversation with Sakya Trichen and Richard Gere**

The Tibet Fund hosted “Wisdom and Compassion for Challenging Times: A Conversation with HH the Sakya Trichen and Richard Gere” at the Community Church of New York on 20 April 2018. Participants sent questions for the Q and A session before the event. In addition to the large number of attendees who were present at the venue, the event was also live streamed through our Facebook page. The live streaming generated more than 18,000 views and nearly 400 shares on Facebook.

**CTA’s Five Fifty Conference**

Six-member delegation of TTF, including two board members – Joe Wood and Tsewang Namgyal attended the “5-50 Development Forum: Towards a Resilient Tibetan Community” organized by the Central Tibetan Administration from September 13 to 16. Over 200 people took part in the conference, including donors such as USAID and PRM. While in India TTF representatives also met with Kalons of different CTA Departments and Tibetan civil society organizations.

**Tibetan Family Buddhist Retreat Program in Connecticut**

The Tibet Fund, in collaboration with Do-Ngak Kun-Phen Ling (DNKL), organized a three-day Buddhist retreat from June 15 – 17, 2018 in Redding, CT for Tibetan families residing in North America. Led by Geshe Lobsang Dhargyal, the retreat benefited the 17 Tibetan adults from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut who learned about Tibetan Buddhism, Buddhist philosophies and also engaged in different kinds of meditation.

**Tibetan Scholarship Program**

TSP Program Coordinator Mr. Tenzin Choephel successfully secured the admission of seven TSP students into prestigious universities in the US and undertook all the logistical arrangements including picking up, dropping off and providing lodging for the students during their two-day orientation in New York. Experts and officers from US State Department, Institute of International Education, Office of International Affairs, Pratt Institute, International Students and Scholars Service and TESOL and Applied Linguistics of Columbia University led the orientation. Among other topics, the orientation covered topics such as life as an international student, managing cultural adjustments, academic reading and writing strategies for US graduate schools, and optimizing opportunities in US universities. The students also had the opportunity to go for local sightseeing including a guided tour of the Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) and the Empire State Building.
Tibetan Cultural Festival in Connecticut
Do Ngak Kunphenling Tibetan Buddhist Center for Universal Peace in Connecticut organized a Tibetan Cultural Festival on 20 October 2018. The festival was an occasion to experience Tibetan culture including sampling Tibetan food, demonstrating Tibetan craftsmanship of wood carving and thangka painting, conducting prayer flag ceremony and performances of traditional and contemporary Tibetan music and dance. Invited as the chief guest of the festival, President Lobsang Nyandak spoke on His Holiness the Dalai Lama and his middle-way policy.

2018 TTF Annual Gala
The Tibet Fund held its 9th Annual Gala at Le Bernardin Prive in New York City on 10 October 2018. Co-chaired by Richard Gere and Dr. Kazuko Tatsuura, 150 guests attended the event, including those who attended the cocktail reception. This year, we honored Ann Down, a philanthropist and founder of The Good Works Institute; Sharon Salzberg, author, and meditation teacher; and Eileen Fisher, a philanthropist and a founder of Eileen Fisher Inc. Chef and co-owner of Le Bernardin, Eric Ripert; Chef Laurent Manrique, Chef Bernard Guillas, Chef Chetan Shetty and Thomas Raquel, lent their culinary talents for the evening. The gala also featured a silent auction of art and photography and Tibetan musical performances. We have raised a total of around $436,636 at the Gala including $112,161 from the auction of arts and live auction.

Special Fundraising Event in California
The Tibet Fund held a special fundraising event in California on 18 November 2018 to support and strengthen the capacities of the Tibetan Civil Society Organization in India to make the greatest impact on the local Tibetan communities. Initiated with the help of our board member Dr. Thupten Jinpa la, and hosted by our former board member Tom Sargent who also contributed $60,000 in addition to paying all expenses of the event, the event raised a total of $111,008. The event included an intimate dinner with about 30 friends and supporters of The Tibet Fund, remarks and compassion meditation led by Dr. Thupten Jinpa, and traditional Tibetan songs and dances by former professional Tibetan artistes from Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts.

TTF Fundraising Workshop
TTF Consultant Dawa Dem led a workshop on “Fundraising Capacity Strengthening” for TTF fundraising team at our New York headquarters from 22-24 August 2018. The workshop covered topics on fundraising techniques and tools including communication for fundraising; starting Major Donor Program including qualifying major donor for caseload, strategies to connect with major donors, and event for major gift fundraising; planned giving program; and assessing TTF fundraising strategies, current donors and current income through SWOC, PESTLE and Boston Matrix.