



June 05, 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a member of the English-Speaking Union (ESU) and a long-standing collaborator of the U.S. Embassy, Mr. Shaun Payen has partnered effectively in training and facilitation roles in public speaking and youth development.

Over the past two years, Mr. Payen has served as a lead trainer for our flagship initiatives, including tailored public speaking workshops for twenty Mandela Washington Fellows and two dynamic five-week Public Speaking Masterclass hosted under the American Spaces program, for a total of thirty youth participants.

Through a structured and well-paced curriculum, Mr. Payen successfully introduced participants to the foundational principles of public speaking, including vocal delivery, body language, persuasive speech techniques, and impromptu speaking. His expert facilitation and commitment to individualized feedback enabled participants to overcome their initial apprehensions and develop the confidence and skills necessary to speak effectively before diverse audiences.

Mr. Payen's professionalism and engaging instructional style were key to the success of the programs, as reflected in the participants' marked improvement in confidence, creativity, and delivery. By the end of each masterclass, all participants were able to deliver structured, compelling speeches without notes—demonstrating his effectiveness as a coach and mentor.

Beyond his technical expertise, Mr. Payen demonstrated a strong alignment with the Embassy's public diplomacy objectives by fostering youth empowerment, promoting self-expression, and encouraging civic engagement. His professionalism, reliability, and enthusiasm have made him an invaluable partner in our efforts to build communication and leadership skills among Mauritian youth. The Embassy commends Mr. Payen's dedication to advancing communication skills among the youth and his continued efforts to support leadership development through public speaking.

For additional information, please contact Ms. Audrey Athave, American Spaces Coordinator E-mail: athavea@state.gov Telephone 202-4400 (Ext 4444)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Koehler".

Jonathan Koehler

Public Affairs Officer

U.S. Embassy Port Louis, Mauritius