



BHARATI भारती

A Publication of the India Association of Indianapolis, Inc.

Vol. 28, No. 5 A Magazine with a Mission - to Inform, Communicate and Enlighten September-October 2004

IAI Fine Arts Committee

Presents Kuchipudi Dance, Swar Taal Yatra and Hindustani Vocal Music

Kuchipudi –

A Classical Dance Form from Andhra Pradesh

**Saturday, September 18, 2004 from
6:30 to 9:30 pm at Greenwood High School**

(See attached flyer for more details.)

Like all Indian classical art forms, Kuchipudi too has its origins in the ancient past. However, as it is known today, Kuchipudi was defined in the 13th century by Siddhendra Yogi. Legend has it that there was once an orphan named Siddhapa in the village of Srikakulam. The kind villagers raised him and had him married at childhood as was customary. His education in the Vedic scriptures earned him the name Sidhendra Yogi. When returned to his wife's village, he had to cross a river. He lost all strength in the middle of the river; realizing that he could go no further, he prayed to God to give him strength. He made it; on reaching the shore he vowed to become a sanyasi and devote his life to God. He settled in Kuchelapuram (present day village of Kuchipudi in Andhra Pradesh) and started teaching Brahmin boys dance dramas of a devotional nature to be presented to God – this was continuing an ancient tradition. About 15 Brahmin families in Kuchipudi have continued to keep the tradition going for hundreds of years, with only men being allowed to dance, even the female roles. However this trend has changed, with many women artists today, thanks to modern pioneers of Kuchipudi such as Guru Vempati Chinna Satyam and Laxmi Narain Vedantam.

Kuchipudi performances are traditionally dance dramas, known as *Ata Bhagavatham*. The presentation begins with stage rituals, performed in front of the audience. Enter the Suthradhara or the conductor and the supporting musicians with a play of rhythm on the drums and cymbals. In a Kuchipudi performance, each principal character introduces him- or herself on the stage with a **daru**. A daru is a small composition of dance and song specially designed for each character to reveal his or her identity and to demonstrate the performer's skill in the art. Elegant footwork is an important aspect of Kuchipudi. Some special performances include those of dancing on brass plates and moving the plate with the feet to the tune of accompanying music. Yet another is the formation of beautiful floor patterns using efficient feet movements.

Swar Taal Yatra

*A Dazzling Interplay of Percussion, Strings and
Vocal Music in the North Indian Classical Style*
Suresh Talwalkar and Ramdas Palsule on Tabla
Sameer Dublay Vocal and Harmonium

Sudhir Phadke on Sitar

Date: Sunday, October 17th, 2004 from 5.00 p.m.
**Venue: Reilly Room, Butler University,
4600 Sunset Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46208**
Tickets: \$15.00; IAI members \$10.00; Students \$5.00
Sponsors: \$50 or \$100.00 (2 or 4 tickets)

For information and reservations contact:

Anushree Bag: 317 733 1008 M N Sabesan: 317 823 8489
Suraja Roychowdhury: 317 566 0935 Arvind Thakkar: 317 872 0740
Usha Srinivasan: 317 848 4922 or visit www.iaibharati.com

Hindustani vocal music by Nagaraj Havaladar starting 7:30 pm on September 24th (Friday) at Clarion Waterfront Plaza Hotel

Please contact Hemachandra Venkatesh at 317-578-3794 or
hemachandravenkatesh@yahoo.com for more information.

Kuchipudi costumes and make-up look like Bharatanatyam. The important characters wear distinguishing make up and the female characters wear ornaments such as Rakudi (head ornament), Chandra Vanki (arm ornament), Adda Bhasa and Kasina Sara (neck ornament) and a long braid decorated with flowers and jewelry.

Kuchipudi music is based on the *Carnatic* or South Indian system of music; the orchestra consists of the *Nattuvanar* (conductor) with his hand-held cymbals, the vocalist, *mridangam* (drum), violin, flute and *veena* (a stringed instrument). All of these elements combine to create a visually pleasing and emotionally appealing whole. Guru Vempati Chinna Satyam, who will be performing with his troupe here in Indy on Sept 18th, is one of the foremost proponents of Kuchipudi, and has choreographed several new dance dramas. 'Gopika Krishna', to be performed here, is a new dance drama choreographed by the Guru for this tour.

Looking forward to your participation at the wonderful programs coming up,

Suraja Roychowdhury, Director, FAC

Visit Our Website: <http://www.iaibharati.com>

2004 International Festival

Exposition Hall, Indiana State Fairgrounds

Date & Time

Thursday, November 4, 2004 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
 Friday, November 5, 2004 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM
 Saturday, November 6, 2004 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM
 Sunday, November 7, 2004 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Participation in International Festival is a privilege and a matter of pride for all of us. Please volunteer your ideas, material and time to make our Culture Booth informational and presentable.

Those interested in performing*, volunteering or setting up Food Booths under IAI banner contact us at rkher@iupui.edu. Please provide material for display at the IAI Culture Booth (will be returned after the event) and help our booth in educating visitors about India (culture, rituals, dance, music, advances in Science and Technology etc). We will have provisions for audio visual projections, and providing us with informational CDs/DVDs for projection will be appreciated. For details/suggestions please contact us at bsikand@yahoo.com or rkher@iupui.edu. *need to be members of IAI

Onam 2004

The Midwest Malayalee Association of Indiana cordially invites you to participate in Onam 2004 Festival and Onam Sadhya at 2:00 PM on Saturday, September 25, 2004 at Decatur Central High School, 5251 Kentucky Ave, Indianapolis IN 46221. For more information please visit www.midwestmalayalees.com

EDITORIAL BOARD

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Bharati is a bimonthly newsletter of the India Association of Indianapolis, Inc., dedicated to communicate, inform and enlighten the Community and be a forum for fostering Indian arts and culture. It reaches all the Indian American Community of Central Indiana. *Bharati* invites advertisements, articles and letters to the editor. Articles should be of general interest and not be more than 600 words. Letters to



GEETA MANDAL OF INDIANAPOLIS

Celebrates

Diwali Puja & Entertainment at India Community Center on Sunday, November 7, 2004

Puja 4:00-5:30, Dinner 5:30-7:00, Program 7:00-9:00

To participate in cultural program please contact

Hansa Dave ~ 889-7328 or

Poornima Kini ~ 570-8499

One participant can take part in only one program.

No solo (single) program is allowed.

Last date to notify is October 23, 2004

For other information please contact

Kulanand Jha ~ 291-7304 • Ambat Babu ~ 879-9392

Natraj Kote ~ 299-8906 • Madhu Bhargava (day) 899-1020

FAMILY CAMP

Balgokulam at Geeta Mandal organized a Family Camp on August 20-22, 2004 at Lincoln State Park. This started on Friday evening and ended on Sunday Noon. This was well attended and was a most wonderful experience. All of us got a chance to mingle with nature and enjoy our heritage/religion. Lectures by distinguished speakers - Abhayji, Prabhuji, Sanjayji, Aswathji and great motivational lecture by Vijayji from India, Havan, excellent food, environment of extended family relationship with all the participants was unique. Thanks to organizers - Kumar & Hansa Dave, Vimal Patel, Anant & Poornima Kini, Priyesh Kheradia. Food by Natraj & Sarda Kote, Anil Bajpai, Jai Pandey, Subhash Mahajan and many Volunteers who made this a success.

the editor should not exceed 200 words. Letters should be typed double spaced and must include your name. The editor reserves the right to edit any material selected for publication.

THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING ARTICLES AND ADVERTISING FOR THE NOVEMBER-DECEMBER ISSUE IS OCTOBER 10, 2004.

The advertisement rates are as follows. Please make checks payable to India Association of Indianapolis.

	one issue	six issues
Full page	\$300.00	\$1400.00
Half page	\$150.00	\$ 750.00
Quarter page	\$ 80.00	\$ 400.00
Business Card	\$ 50.00	\$ 250.00

Business Card size advertisements will be provided free to Non-Profit Sister Organizations.

Preprinted Full Page Insert - \$220 per issue.

IAI is not responsible for ad formatting and misprint. Please provide pre-formatted ad to our publisher and verify ads prior to print by request.

Mailing Labels Printed - \$150, Mailing List on Disk \$1000

DAKSHIN DHAMAKA

*(An Indian Festival Representing
South Indian Music and Dances)*

**A Top Quality Entertainment Program For All
Indians Proudly Presented By**

India Association of Indianapolis

(Hosted in collaboration with)

Kannada Association • Tamil Association
Malayalee Association • Telugu Association

Sunday, October 3, 2004 from 3 PM to 7 PM

Venue: India Community Center

Ticket: \$2 (above 6 yrs)

**South Indian Cuisine, Music and Dance
and Tons of Fun**

YOUTH TALENT CONTEST

(For kids between 3-15 yrs) (Details on page 17)

First Prize: \$300

Second Prize: \$200 • Third Prize: \$100

(Prescreening before Finals)

For participation in the
Entertainment Program, please contact:

Madhavi Jasti (Telugu Association)

317-841-1906: jasti_madhavi@lilly.com

Kamalesh Masoor (Kannada Association)

317-815-8018: masoor@aol.com

Vijay Narayanan (Tamil Association)

317-846-8502: bhooma@indy.rr.com

Mathew Palakal (Kerala Association)

317-299-3694: mpalakal@cs.iupui.edu

Coordinator: **Krishna Dasari (IAI)**

317-251-0699: krisdasari@yahoo.com

BAPS

Swaminarayan Mandal

www.swaminarayan.org

Invites you for

Diwali Annakut

on Saturday, November 6, 2004

3:30 to 6:00 pm

Program Highlights

Bhajans, Audio-Visual presentation, Spiritual
discourses, Aarti and Mahaprasad
at India Community Center

Contact: Gajubhai Dubal 317-842-5199

Pradip Patel 243-6755 Rohit Patel 765-827-1334



Hindu Temple of Central Indiana

invites you to

SummerFest 2004

Saturday, September 25, 2004

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
3350 German Church Road

**Enjoy a day of family fun and
support the building of our new Temple**

**Admission to
SummerFest
is FREE!**

For more information,
please call

216-7254

or

786-2688

Summerfest will take place at the site
of our new Temple

~ Raffle Drawing: ~
1st Prize is a brand new Plasma TV

~ Music and Cultural Program ~

~ Food from every region of India ~

~ Games and fun for all ages ~

~ Wellness Center ~

~ Mehendi ~

~ Face Painting ~

~ Silent Auction ~

~ And much more! ~

Directions: 70 East to Post Road. North on Post Road to 30th Street.
East on 30th Street to German Church Road. North on German Church Road.
Temple site will be on your left.

Traditional Ganesh Puja

Disco Dandia & at Chowpaty

Friday, September 17th, 2004

7:00 PM – 11:30 PM

4H Grounds, Noblesville, Indiana

Admission: \$5

Authentic Chowpaty Food and Beverages sold separately

Win fabulous door prizes

Raffle every hour

Tickets can be purchased at Indian Grocery Stores

For Further Information Contact

Dinesh @ (317) 773-8638

Organized by the

Maharashtra Sneha Mandal of Indiana (MSMI)

India Community Center Recreation Club

India Association of Indianapolis will start a **Recreation Club in India Community Center** during weekdays (without interfering with other scheduled programs at ICC) from 6 PM to 10 PM (Monday through Thursday). Recreation Center will be open during weekends with limited rooms.

PROPOSED GAMES AND OTHER AMENITIES INCLUDE:



**CHESS, CARROM,
PLAYING CARDS,**



**TABLE TENNIS, TREAD MILL,
SOME OTHER WORKOUT MACHINES,
TV WITH VCR & DVD, NEWS PAPERS &
MAGAZINES, CRICKET MATCHES WILL BE
SHOWN FROM TIME TO TIME**

IAI will highly appreciate donations of any of the above items in good condition or any related items which may be of use for the Recreation Club. ICC Administrator will be in-charge of the Recreation Club. He will receive the donations at ICC from 6 PM to 8 PM. In case of any difficulties in bringing the stuff to ICC, please inform the Administrator. He will be glad to make arrangements for picking up stuff from your place.

A well furnished carpeted room is also getting ready for 50 + member gathering for Seminars, Workshops, Meetings etc.

**A SNACK BAR IS ALSO PLANNED WITH
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS, COFFEE,
SOFT DRINKS & FRESH FRUIT JUICES.**

We hope the Community at large will appreciate this effort, encourage, support and make it a successful endeavor.

Recreation Club Membership Fee:

\$5 per month per Individual, \$25 per half year per Individual or
\$50 per year per Individual, \$1 per day per Guest
Children under 12 yrs. are free, but we encourage
parents to accompany them

Proposed Start Up Date: Middle of September, 2004
Advice and suggestions are most welcome

For further information and enquiries, please contact:
KRIS DASARI
ADMINISTRATOR, ICC
OFF: 317-251-0699 • CELL: 317-514-5260
EMAIL: iccadmin@sbcglobal.net

Junior Cricket Club!!



IAI 2004 Executive committee is pleased to sponsor and announce the opening of Junior Cricket Club (IAI-JCC) for children ages 8 through 16. The first season camp will begin on September 12th (Sunday) from 4pm to 6pm at the River Road Park in Carmel (located at the 'T' intersection of 126th street and River Road).

Suggested dress code:

Sneakers, White Shirt, and Blue Jeans. If you are interested in enrolling your kids in the club please call either Haresh Gangwani at (317) 803-4324 or Sunil Mohandas at (317) 946-1980 or send an email to indy_jcc@yahoo.com. For more details visit <http://www.iaibharati.com>

Note to parents: It would be helpful, if you could please go over the basic Cricket principles with your kid(s) prior to September 12th.

Haresh Gangwani, IAI Exec. Committee 2004

2004 Golf Invitational



On August 15, 2004, Indian American golfers (and their friends) came together to participate in an impressive golf outing - the **2004 Golf Invitational**. The 27 male golfers and 3 female golfers signed up for the tournament played at the centrally located South Grove Golf Course. There were three last minute cancellations. After 18 holes of golf, the players got together for light lunch - beer, soft drinks and pizza at Riverside Park. The winners were: Low gross - Arun Murali; Low net - tied by Jaswant Gidda and Surinder Dhesi; Closest to the pin - Vijay Gombar and Harji Gill; Longest Drive - Udyan Trivedi and Bijay Singh; Longest putt - Surinder Dhesi and Clyde Fisher.

It is heartening to know that there may be about 50 to 75 Indian American golfers in Indianapolis. One group (about 15 players) plays on Wednesdays at 5:00 pm at South Grove Golf Course. The objective of this group is to take a few hours during the workweek to break the monotony of the week's work, relieve work stress, exercise and come together with friends and colleagues for fun and bonding. A smaller group plays at Sunrise Golf Course on weekends. Other groups get together on an informal basis. The objective of the **yearly Golf Invitational** is to bring all the golf players together at least once a year for a friendly game of golf. M.S.Murali, Udyan Trivedi and R. Nagarajan and many other golf lovers organized the 2004 Golf Invitational. Golf lovers may look forward to **next August for the 2005 Golf Invitational**.

INDIA ASSOCIATION OF INDIANAPOLIS FINE ARTS COMMITTEE
PRESENTS

'GOPIKA KRISHNA'

A KUCHIPUDI DANCE DRAMA BY GURU VEMPATI CHINNASATYAM AND TROUPE,
KUCHIPUDI DANCE ACADEMY, CHENNAI, INDIA

Date: Saturday, September 18, 2004

Venue: Greenwood High School. 615 W Smith Valley Rd, Greenwood, IN 46142.

Time: 6.30-9.30 PM

Entry: Sponsors \$ 250 (8 tickets) or \$100 (4 tickets).

General admission: \$15; IAI members \$10; Students \$5;

Children 12 and under free



**India Association of Indianapolis Fine Arts Committee
Kuchipudi Dance (Sep 18, 2004) - Sponsorship Levels**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Date: _____

Level: _____

Amount: \$ _____ Check#: _____

Platinum \$250+ _____ 8 tickets

Gold \$100+ _____ 4 tickets

General Seating

IAI member \$ 10 x _____ persons = _____ tickets

Non-IAI member \$ 15 x _____ persons = _____ tickets

Student \$ 5 x _____ persons = _____ tickets

Child 12 and under free = _____ tickets

(for preferred seating with parents)

~~~~~ PLEASE SEE BACK FOR MORE DETAILS AND MAILING INFORMATION ~~~~~

For more information, visit [www.iaibharati.com](http://www.iaibharati.com) or contact:

|                      |                                    |                                         |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Indianapolis:</b> | Anushree Bag: ----- 317 733 1008   | Suraja Roychowdhury: ----- 317 566 0935 |
|                      | M N Sabesan: ----- 317 823 8489    | Usha Srinivasan: ----- 317 848 4922     |
|                      | Arvind Thakkar: ----- 317 872 0740 | Vidyasagar Tumuluri: ----- 317 844 5489 |

**Anderson:** Ranjan Patel ..... 765-649-3295  
**Bloomington:** Sudhakar Koneru ..... 812-331-0854  
**Cincinnati:** Sheela Mehta ..... 513-733-3306  
**Columbus:** Swadesh Kalsi ..... 812-379-9686  
**Crawfordsville:** Ravinder Surakranti ..... 765-364-1716  
**Danville:** Jagannadha R. Brahmamdam ..... 217-443-5245  
**Kokomo:** Anita Singhal ..... 765-455-1349  
**Lafayette:** Vaijayanti Subaramaniam- ..... 765-497-2473  
**Marion:** Dhan Raj ..... 765-662-3279  
**Muncie:** Melkote Shivaswamy ..... 765-289-5095  
**Terra Haute:** Krishna Vedala ..... 812-299-5808  
Sudipa Kirtley ..... 812-232-2486

|                                                                                 |         |               |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------------|------------|
| Platinum                                                                        | \$250+  | _____         | 8 tickets  |
| Gold                                                                            | \$100+  | _____         | 4 tickets  |
| <i>General Seating</i>                                                          |         |               |            |
| IAI member                                                                      | \$ 10 x | __ persons =  | __ tickets |
| Non-IAI member                                                                  | \$ 15 x | __ persons =  | __ tickets |
| Student                                                                         | \$ 5 x  | __ persons =  | __ tickets |
| Child 12 and under free = _____ tickets<br>(for preferred seating with parents) |         |               |            |
| Amount: \$ _____                                                                |         | Check#: _____ |            |

~~~~~  
Please make checks payable to IAI Fine Arts Committee and mail this form to:
Mandak N. Sabesan; 11334 Manitou Court, Indianapolis IN 46236
Ph: 317-823-8489
~~~~~

**Directions to Greenwood High School:**

- From I-65** - Exit 99 west to Emerson Ave. (2nd stoplight). Left on Emerson (South) which turns into Smith Valley Road when road turns west. Go through 3 stoplights. School is on left at first caution light. (615 W. Smith Valley Road)
- From US 31S** - South of I-465 to Smith Valley Road. Right on South Valley and left at caution light to school.
- From Ind.37S** - South of I-465 to Smith Valley Road. Left on South Valley and right at caution light to school.

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**This cultural dance drama program needs your full support. We need to raise funds up to \$10,000 to pay for the 25 performers, the facilities, catering and marketing. Please become a sponsor to underwrite the expenses of this exciting cultural performance and pass the information on to your friends.**

**All sponsors will have preferred seating.  
All other reservations with full payment received by mail will also have assigned seats.  
Tickets with seat assignments will be mailed.**

Please make checks payable to IAI Fine Arts Committee and mail this form to:  
Mandak N. Sabesan; 11334 Manitou Court, Indianapolis IN 46236  
Ph: 317-823-8489

# INDIA ASSOCIATION OF INDIANAPOLIS

Proudly Presents



## “Deepawali”

*A Festival of Lights*

*A Celebration with Family & Friends  
An Evening of Joy, Splendor and Togetherness*

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13th, 2004**

**THE MURAT THEATRE  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204**

### SCHEDULE

5:30 PM Meet and Greet  
7:00 PM Dinner  
9:00 PM Entertainment



### TICKET PRICES

Members - \$22  
Non-Members - \$32  
Students with ID - \$12  
Children (5-12) - \$12  
Children (0-4\*) - \$10  
\* children needing a seat

*Back on popular demand*  
*An Exclusive Curtain Raiser: A mesmerizing 'DEVIDAS' by*  
**THE GREGORY HANCOCK DANCE THEATRE**



*Featured Entertainment By*  
**THE TARANG GROUP**

*Dances, Tambola & Tons of Fun for Adults & Children*

*For sponsorship opportunities please contact  
Haresh Gangwani at [haresh.gangwani@aprino.com](mailto:haresh.gangwani@aprino.com)*

**TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE GATE**

*For more details, please visit [www.iaibharati.com](http://www.iaibharati.com)*

Please see page 11 for Diwali tickets and also the nomination form

## Celebration of Indian culture in Indianapolis

This is the most wonderful time in India and the people of Indianapolis are going to have an opportunity to share in this wonderful time. Think back and remember how the whole country is agog with celebrations of the Independence of India from British rule and then comes the time to prepare and celebrate all the festivals from late August through November. The weather gods make peace as well and the rains start abating, as does the oppressive heat. Presents for the family, sweets and good food and blessings make it a magical time. Speak not of the smells of burning leaves and incense.

Well the magic has come to our own Indianapolis. The show started with the CELEBRATE INDIA FESTIVAL on August 14<sup>th</sup> at the Garfield Park. This event was jointly organized by IAI and the Indy Parks Arts Service. They displayed many facets of Indian culture in modern India. We hope you had joined the rest of the greater Indianapolis community and demonstrated the talent and strength we bring to Indianapolis and how we Indians treasure the most coveted of all human rights – Independence. The United States and India have struggled for their Independence and this brings our nations and peoples closer together. This was a rare opportunity for all of us to show our unity and I want to congratulate the Executive Committee for providing us with this opportunity.

The show is now taken over by the Fine Arts Committee. They have an outstanding event planned for September 18<sup>th</sup> with the Kuchipudi Dance Drama. The troupe is a world famous exponent of one of the finest dance styles in India. In the past we have had throngs of enthusiasts as well as the uninitiated and we hope there will be a record crowd this year as well. The tickets are a steal! A special thanks to Dr. Tumuluri for helping the FAC in this program. Please note the change in the date of the program from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>. This is to accommodate your hectic week schedules and the 18<sup>th</sup>, a Saturday, allows all of us to enjoy this event. Many thanks to Prakash Joshi and the Marathi Mandal for rescheduling their Ganapathi Puja from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup>. They did this with the best interests of the community in mind and we greatly appreciate this gesture.

The very next week brings to town Hindustani classical vocal music by Nagaraj Havaladar and then on

October 17<sup>th</sup> Indianapolis can revel in the brilliant instrumentalists at the Swar-taal yatra – the musical journey. Again, my congratulations to the FAC for bringing into Indianapolis the likes of Pandit Kashalkar in April and then these programs. They have also applied and received a grant from the Indiana Arts Council. This is a noteworthy achievement for IAI, since it is the first time we have been able to secure such a grant from governmental sources – kudos to FAC.

Between all these musical programs, we have the Dakshini Dhamaka on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at ICC. This event will provide glimpses of the rich and diverse culture of the southern states of India. IAI has teamed up with its four regional sister organizations representing South Indian states to present a quality variety program to a crossover Indian population. Efforts are underway to organize a competition “Outstanding Young Person of the Event”. This talent show is open to all the kids of Indian origin. This event will also feature delectable South Indian Cuisine. Such events are planned to be held in future as well. Music and dances from other regions of India will be featured in similar programs from time to time henceforth.

As with each year, the International Festival at the Indiana Fairgrounds, will be a gala event – with lots of things to do, eat and enjoy. IAI will be hosting a booth and the executive committee is already working hard to make this a great showcase of our Indian culture, society and people. As with each year, the children will be entertaining the guests and I would encourage everyone to attend and share in this experience which is quite unique to Indianapolis. Finally, the coup de grace is the Diwali get together at Murat on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November. The executive committee is planning a gala evening for all of us. Judging by the previous years’ experience please be sure to purchase your tickets ahead of time.

Finally an appeal. IAI is dependent on contributions both in cash and kind from the community. The membership fees are quite insignificant, but the effect of your becoming a member is significant for IAI. Please support IAI by becoming a member or renewing your membership and better yet, consider becoming a patron or a grand patron. Your generous contributions keep the lights on.

Enough said, let’s celebrate and enjoy.

Rajeshwar Rao, Chairman IAI

## Let us live like the Romans do

**Ram S. Ravindran**

I have been meaning to write about this topic for sometime. My attendance at the last wedding made me to pen these thoughts. Most of us have settled in this country on a permanent basis. Having been born and raised in India we can't forget certain Indian customs, and traditions we were used to. However we can change our Indian attitudes somewhat. I want to write about weddings and how nice if we could change some of our attitude around being good guests at a wedding. I have been on both sides of wedding arrangements ..being the host as well as a guest. At the last Indian wedding reception I attended, I was shocked to see that there were almost 60 guests (30 reception cards were unclaimed) who had signed up to participate in the reception event, and for some reason only know to them, did not show up.

In India, invitations are sent out to just about everybody, be it a distant relative through marriage or a casual friend in the office. The host has no idea as to how many will show up. They somehow guess how many will show up and miraculously manage to feed many unexpected guests. In India the weddings are more like carnivals. The children play around in the wedding hall, guests talk loudly among themselves, some even play cards. The wedding party is the only one that is serious about the ceremony. The priest is the only one who knows what goes on. He recites the Vedic mantra and performs the rituals in Sanskrit with occasional exhortations to the couple to do this or say something. The only thing that takes place on time, is the most important defining event about the wedding. That takes place at the appointed Muhurth time. It can happen at any time of the day. I know when one of my nieces got married it happened at 0200.

Here in the US, we follow what the dominant culture does and we adapt our wedding to it. We attend some American weddings and our children attend their American friends' weddings and we are all impressed by the orderliness that is present in most of the American weddings. In the past few years the Indian-Americans have also arranged their weddings in a more organized way. Yet we have a long way to go. I have seen some American guests are amused by the casual way we carry on in a wedding event. I have a feeling that it is so because some of us are unaware of the expectations in a wedding in the US. Here are some.

1. Please note that the wedding is an expensive event. Many Americans only invite about 100 guests. Many

can't afford to invite everyone they know. Several of my co-workers who have known me rather well for years don't invite me to their family weddings. Why, they don't even invite me to their own weddings. They may want to have a small wedding that includes only their relatives. We should not consider not being invited to a wedding as an ego issue. Just because you don't get invited to a wedding don't assume that you have become less of a friend.

2. If you do get invited to a wedding please RSVP as soon as you can. That way the host can invite others if you can't make it. They may not have invited everyone on their list out of monetary or space consideration.
3. Generally the kids are not expected to attend the wedding ceremony or the reception unless you are a very close relative of the hosts. It is generally assumed that way. That is why they don't print it in the wedding invitation card. So just because it doesn't have the tacky request "don't bring kids", don't assume it is ok to take your kids to a wedding.
4. If you attend the wedding, please be at the wedding hall at least 30 minutes before the start of the ceremony. When the wedding party walks into the hall, don't try to go in with them.
5. Please wear the best clothes that you have, to the wedding. When everyone is formally dressed it is distressing to see someone in casual clothing.
6. A wedding ceremony is a solemn affair, hence, don't engage in a loud conversation with your "long time no see" guests and disturb others who are more intent on witnessing the ceremony and listen to the priest.
7. Each reception dinner plate costs around \$50-75. If for some reason you can't attend the reception after having sent in your RSVP, please call the host let them know even if it is 3 days before the reception. Don't make the mistake of not calling them by thinking that they would feel bad or you are embarrassed by your action. It is possible that you can save them lots of dollars by letting them know ahead of time than not showing up at all.
8. If the hosts offer you the services of a free bar, enjoy the drinks but don't waste them. Your hosts get charged a lot of money for the drinks wasted and they can't dispute with the bartender over how many drinks were supplied and how many were wasted.
9. At the reception, please wait till your table is asked to go to the buffet table.
10. Please put in a separate gift card inside the wedding present package. That way the bride and bridegroom would know as to whom to send the thank you note to. If there were only one card stuck on to the outside of the gift box, it might be accidentally detached during transportation. ■

## Congrats Graduates -

**Risheet**, son of Raj & Shobhna Patel, graduated from Albany Medical College, Albany NY in May 2004. He began his residency in Indianapolis on June 21st 2004.

**Reisha**, daughter of Raj & Shobhna Patel, graduated from IU Bloomington, with a Bachelor of Science. For her postgraduate studies she will start MD degree program at medical school in New York on August 25th 2004.

**Anand Shah**, son of Subhash & Paushika Shah, graduated from Pike High School as National Honor Society in Top 10. For graduate studies he is joining Indiana University, Bloomington for Pre Medical/BioChemistry.

**Meghal**, daughter of Mamta & Himat Patel, graduated from Zionsville High School. She will go to IU in Bloomington to pursue Bachelor of Science and will major in Biology.

**Deipan**, son of Rekha and Bhartesh Shah, graduated from Hamilton Southeastern High School. He will join IUPUI for Bachelor of Science degree program.

**Shreya**, daughter of Kailash and Jitu Patel, graduated from IU Bloomington. She joins IU School of Dentistry in Indianapolis this fall.

**Shenil**, son of Shilpa & Paresh Shah, graduated in the top 25, from Hamilton Southeastern High School. He will go to Wabash College for pre-med studies.

## Letter from Indiana University Foundation

### Thankyou IAI

Like the sturdy building stones that characterize all great undertakings in our society, your recent gift to the Gerald J. and Claire Larson Scholarship/Fellowship from India Association of Indianapolis is an important resource to Indiana University. I want to express our sincere appreciation for your generosity and for entering, through your philanthropic commitment, a partnership that will continue to assure the exceptional quality that has come to distinguish IU since its founding in 1820.

Through the benevolence of corporations, charitable foundations, and organizations like yours, Indiana University confidently builds for its future and the future of our state and our nation.

Thank you for your gift.

With best wishes,

Susie Blair

Vice President for Development

Indiana University Foundation

Bloomington, IN

## March of Dimes

The IAI is proud to announce that as an organization we were placed among the top 10 walkers who participated in the March of Dimes walkathon.

Two of our members were included among the top Four individuals who collected the largest amount of funds for this cause. We salute Dr. Vidyasagar Tumuluri and Mr. Madhusdan Suchak who earned this credit.

## IAI Membership

We would like to thank Grand Patrons and Patron for the year 2004. Here are some new...

Grand Patron: R. and Alice Nagarajan  
Ravinder and Rani Surakanti  
Patron: Suhrid and Raksha Shah

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**Nominations for officers to serve INDIA ASSOCIATION OF INDIANAPOLIS (2005)**

1. Board of Trustees: 4 positions (4 year term)
2. Executive Committee: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Joint Treasurer, Six (6) joint secretaries
3. Fine Arts Committee: Director, Treasurer, Secretary, two (2) Joint Secretaries

For further information, please contact any of the following "Nomination Committee" members:

Subhash Mahajan (317 823-8032), Debasish Roychowdhury (317 566-0935), Rajeshwar Rao (317 843-0159)

Please complete the form and mail it by October 4, 2004 to Subhash Mahajan, 7741 Bayhill Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46236

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Position being nominated for: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**INDIA ASSOCIATION OF INDIANAPOLIS  
Diwali Ticket Request Form**

**Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2004 at The Murat Centre**

**TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE GATE**

Seating will be assigned as per the receiving date of the filled in form and the payment

***We will post the seat numbers (updated weekly) on our web site <http://www.iaibharati.com>***

***PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: India Association of Indianapolis***

***AND MAIL TO - Rajesh Kher, 9584 Valley Springs Blvd., Fishers, IN 46038***

***Please post your inquiries to the web master on our web site***

~~~~~

Grand Patrons are entitled to 4 free Diwali tickets & Patrons are entitled to 2 free Diwali tickets. Grand Patrons & Patrons must mail in this form to receive their tickets. Preferred seating will be reserved for Grand Patrons and Patrons.

~~~~~

If you prefer SEATING with someone please send in one (COMBINED) request for total tickets. THIS NAME WILL BE USED FOR RESERVING SEATS FOR THE GROUP AND ALL TICKETS WILL BE MAILED TO THIS ADDRESS ONLY.

~~~~~

DEADLINE FOR MAILING IN THIS FORM IS October 23rd, 2004 to be assured of tickets.

India Association Diwali 2004, November 13

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

TICKETS

Adult (member) \$22.00 x _____

Adult (non-member) \$32.00 x _____

College Student w/ ID \$12.00 x _____

Children 5-12 \$12.00 x _____

Children 0-4 (who need a seat) \$10.00 x _____

Grand Total: _____

Names of other members (if any) of your group requesting tickets:

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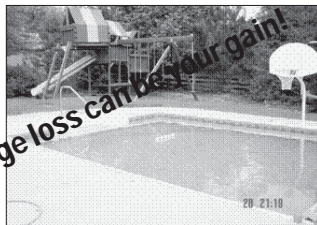
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DAKSHIN DHAMAKA

Youth Talent Contest

(Open to all kids of Indian Origin)

Guidelines for the contest:

Kids between 3 yrs to 15 yrs of age are eligible. Preliminary round will be conducted to screen and shortlist 5 candidates for the Finals to be held on October 3rd, 2004

Preliminary round of screening:

2 min speech (topic will be given 2 hr prior to the event)
2 min exhibition of their talent (singing, dancing, mimicry, instruments, etc of their choice)

1 min response to a question from the judges

First prize : \$300
Second Prize : \$200 Consolation I : \$50
Third Prize : \$100 Consolation II : \$50

Entry Fee for each contestant is \$5
A jury of 3-5 will be the Judging Panel
Judging panel's decision is final

Preliminary contest tentatively fixed for Sept. 18th & 19th, 2004 depending on the number of the contestants
Date, time and venue will be announced after the last date of receiving applications.

Application should contain the following: 1. Name of the contestant 2. Date of Birth 3. Address 4. Phone number (and preferably email address) Application with \$5 check payable to IAI should reach the following address before September 15th, 2004.

Address:

Kris Dasari, Srikreations Inc
5356 Hillside Ave, Indianapolis IN 46220
Ph: 317-251-0699 (off) :: 317-514-5260 (cell)
krisdasari@yahoo.com OR VISIT <http://www.iaibharati.com>

India Association of Indianapolis

PRIZE WINNERS for the 'Discover India' poster display created by our youth for the Celebrate India Festival held on August 14, 2004

- 1st prize: Radhika Agarwal -
H.P. Digital Camera with Photo Printer
- 2nd prize: Aashit Sutaria -
Creative 128 MB Digital MP3 Player
- 3rd prize: Payal Pandey -
\$50 Gift Card to Office Depot

All other participants received a \$10 Blockbuster Gift Card and 'Certificate of Participation' signed by the Mayor of Indianapolis, Mr. Bart Peterson

- All the posters will be displayed at the upcoming International Festival
- Details can be found in this issue.

Rohit Dalmia, Youth Group Advisor, IAI Executive Committee, 2004



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India Association of Indianapolis *Celebrate India Festival.... Thank You*

Celebrate India Festival commemorating 58th Independence Day of India was truly a show of India's Unity in Diversity principle of existence. The event, organized by IAI in partnership with the City of Indianapolis (Indy Parks Arts Services), was a huge success both in terms of the aims it had set out as well as the number of people who attended the festival. The first and foremost aim of IAI when we first conceptualized the event was how to get the whole community involved irrespective of their regional or religious affiliations. We can proudly say that the event completely served the purpose. We had a record participation of more than 175 artists (excluding the artists from Gregory Hancock's Dance Theater) coming together on a single platform and representing different dances from different regions of India. We are sure that participation and involvement from our community members in IAI events will not only continue but also increase manifold in future as well. This event was widely publicized in Indiana, and we are glad we were able to showcase our rich and varied cultural heritage to more than 500 people from outside the Indian community who attended the event on August 14th. We heartily thank our community members (more than 1400) who joined us in celebrating the festival and thus contributed to the tremendous success of the program.

The event was conceptualized way back in February and in presenting the event in the final format many people, organizations and businesses helped us along the way. In particular IAI wants to thank:

Mr. Bart Peterson, Mayor, City of Indianapolis for his patronage; Mr. Robert Clifford for graciously representing the Mayor; Natyacharya Guru MC Vedanta Krishna for his brilliant curtain raiser Kuchipudi performance with his shishya Ms. Moumita Das; Panel speakers for Discussion Forum, India Today: Trade and Economic Development Viz., Dr. Sumit Ganguly, Dr. Millind Thakar, Mr. Jayanta Banerjee and Ms. Jessie Mills; Dr. Jaipal Singh for moderating the proceedings of the forum and Mr. K.P. Singh for giving very helpful advice about the discussion forum; Drs. Vidya Sagar Tumuluri, Girdhari Lal Ahuja and Ram Ravindran for judging the Discover India Poster Competition For The Youth; Mr. Kumar Ranjan, who traveled all the way from Louisville

and enthralled the audience with a soulful rendering of a Mohd. Rafi oldie; Mr. Baljit Oberoi for helpful suggestions; Mr. Narayan Raman for help with publicity for the event, Dr. Ajay Kher, Mr. Sanjay Fotedar and Mr. Sumit Thakar for all the computing help and Mr. Rashmin Barmeda for help with the trophies; Food vendors, all exhibitors and not for profit organizations who set up booths.

Our special thanks are to the volunteers from Child, Relief and You (CRY) for setting up a food booth and help IAI on its water and beverages booth. The volunteers included Priya Mohan, Vijay Gupta, Sahana Shetty, Pradnya Deshmukh, Sucheta Karoor, Shonali Jog, Kalyani Rajopadhaya and Indra Lingam.

We gratefully want to recognize and thank our main sponsors University of Indianapolis for supporting our mission. Our special thanks to Mrs. Neeta and Mr. Yogen Parikshak, Mrs. Sandra and Mr. Jim Cadwalder for their generous donations towards the trophies for the participants. The sponsorships helped us keep the ticket prices low and also made it possible for us to expand our Youth Group Activities.

I specifically want to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of my committee members in near perfectly micromanaging the presentation of this mega event; the Youth Group Committee who despite being on the committee for less than a month worked very hard in organizing the highly acclaimed Discover India Poster Competition; and Ms. Manjusha Prasad who was outstanding as our MC. I also want to express my thanks to Ms. Archana Thakar, who worked tirelessly for the last six months in coordinating the entertainment program. The Executive Committee also appreciates the hard work put in by coordinators, choreographers and volunteers in making the program a success. We would particularly like to thank Shivam Parikshak, Vikas Singh and Julie Qian for their voluntary work. Lots of other volunteers helped us in many ways. Please accept my apologies for any inadvertent omissions.

Thank You

Rajesh Kher and IAI Ex. Committee 2004

P.S. The dance Bhoomanjali was choreographed by Ms. Preeti Vasudevan. We apologize for the printing error in the program.



Karva Chauth

Maang bharke sitaro say
 Maang laye Ma Baba say humay
 Esee khush gavar zindgi
 ka aisas na tha
 Bhar diya daman
 khushiyo say hamaara
 Kayee khushiya aae
 Kayee gam aayai
 Kaati zindgi kee
 dhoop- chavo ek saath
 Chahate jan sa zada tumhay
 Yeh kahanay kee bath nahi
 Na reh paaogay hum bin tum
 Yeh jante hum yeh jante tum
 Aaj rakh kay Karva Chauth
 Maang lee lambhi umar tumhari
 Saath nebhaya iss janam
 aur janam hum ho ek saath
 Iss Ebadat sey karte yeh varth pura hum
 Aathaa rahey yeh Mubark din
 Saalo saalo

... Uma Gupta

To Realize

1. To realize the value of a sister... ask someone who doesn't have one.
2. To realize the value of 10 years... ask a newly divorced couple.
3. To realize the value of 4 years... ask a graduate
4. To realize the value of 1 year... ask a student who has failed a final exam.
5. To realize the value of 9 months... ask a mother who gave birth to a stillborn.
6. To realize the value of one month... ask a mother who has given birth to a premature baby.
7. To realize the value of one week... ask the editor of a weekly newspaper.
8. To realize the value of one hour... ask the lovers who are waiting to meet.
9. To realize the value of 1 minute... ask a person who has missed a train, bus or a plane.
10. To realize the value of 1 second... ask a person who has survived an accident.
11. To realize the value of 1 millisecond... ask a person who has won a silver medal.
12. To realize the value of a friend... loose one!
Time waits for no one. Treasure every moment you have. You will treasure it even more when you can share it with someone "SPECIAL".

Submitted by Dr. Mohini Ahuja



Membership Application for the year 2004 (January-December)

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Patron \$125

Family \$25

Individual \$15

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Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

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FOR GRAND PATRONS AND PATRONS

India Association of Indianapolis, c/o Sneha Mascarenhas, 8258 Cloverdale Way, Indianapolis, IN 46256, (317) 578-4312

FOR FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL

India Association of Indianapolis, c/o Haresh Gangwani, 3709 Gould Drive, Carmel, IN 46033, (317) 815-1235

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Mohammad Khan	317-297-4640	2003-2006
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Archana Thaker	317-297-9470	2004-2007
Manjit Trehan	317-228-9997	2001-2004

ICC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Administrator: Kris Dasari..... 317-514-5260

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Treasurer:	Soni Dhesi	317-786-8518
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	Rita Devnani	317-573-9662
	Manoj Sutaria	317-240-2722
	Mamta Barmada	317-782-0402
Youth Group Advisor:	Rohit Dalmia	765-532-4737

IAI FINE ARTS COMMITTEE

Director:	Suraja Roychowdhury	317-566-0935
Treasurer:	M.S. Sabesan	317-823-8489
Secretary:	Arvind Thakkar	317-872-0740
Joint Secretaries:	Usha Srinivasan	317-848-4922
	Anushree Bag	317-733-1008

YOUTH GROUP COMMITTEE

President: Shilpa Rao	Secretary: Neil Ramchandani
Vice President: Tanya Devnani	Treasurer: Lakshmi Nemani

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Upcoming IAI events

- September 18th (Saturday): **'Gopikrishna' a Kuchipudi dance drama** at Greenwood High School starting 6:30 pm
(The Fine Arts Committee is sponsoring this internationally renowned Kuchipudi Dance Troupe led by Padma Bhushan Vempati Chinna Satyam.)
- September 24th (Friday): **Hindustani vocal music** by Nagaraj Havaldar at Clarion Waterfront Plaza Hotel starting 7:30 pm
- October 3rd (Sunday): **Dakshin Dhamaka** (South Indian Mela) at India Community Center
- October 17th (Sunday): **Swar-taal yatra (musical journey)** at Riley Room, Butler University starting 5pm
- November 4th to 7th: **International Festival** at the Indiana State Fairgrounds
- November 13th Saturday: **Diwali Celebration** (Festival of Lights) at Murat Temple from 5:30pm

Upcoming Other Group Events

- September 7th (Tuesday): **Krishna Janmashtmi** from 9 to 12 pm at India Community Center
- September 11th-12th: **Akhand Ramayan Patha** from 10am, starting Saturday at India Community Center
- September 17th (Friday): **Ganesh Puja and Disco Dandia** from 7:30 to 11:30 pm at 4H Grounds, Noblesville
- September 25th (Saturday): **Summerfest - HTCI** from 10am to 4pm at 3350 German Church Rd.
- September 25th (Saturday): **Onam, Malayalee** at 2:00pm at Decatur Central High School
- November 6 (Saturday): **BAPS Annkut/Diwali** at India Community Center
- November 7 (Sunday): **Geeta Mandal Diwali/Puja** from 4:00pm to 9:00pm at India Community Center