

తెలుగు కళా సమితి సభ్యులకు మరియు మిత్రులకు నా నమస్కారములు.



This is wonderful time of the year when the temperatures begin to be comfortable, fall is in the air and leaves start turning color. Typically, I enjoy this time of the year with road trips to apple and berry pickings and pumpkin patches, and hosting people. This year is different; for someone who has not seen death closely in his life, I was forced to learn it the hard way and when I lost my mother in September. Although we won several battles with lung cancer for her, we lost the war against it at the end. I had to make several trips to India and got close and personal with our customs and rituals that made me realize how hard it is to lose a loved one. I ask all of you to take a minute and kiss your mom for everything she has given for your entire life. I wish I had one more chance to do the same.

Even with the loss, the life must go-on and so does activities at TFAS. We had a very busy summer. Immediately following the TFAS Annual Picnic, we embarked on several projects. As you may recall, we had a clothing drive at our picnic and all the proceedings were donated to Red Cross. TFAS assisted in conducting a workshop by Ramachari garu, where several youngsters and grownups have enjoyed learning from him. TFAS Executive Committee worked extremely hard in coordinating and conducting a singing workshop and concert by Padmasri Dr. Sobha Raju garu. Over 40 students attended a week long workshop and thoroughly enjoyed learning devotional singing from this world renowned singer. The participants of the workshop were given an opportunity to showcase their talent at the concert conducted at the Sri Krishna Temple on September 10th. Over 350 people attended the event and made it a grand success. On October 2nd, TFAS collaborated with one of the national Telugu organizations and conducted cultural program with visually impaired students from Sri Ramana Maharshi Academy for Blind. Eight students from the school gave a visual spectacle to 250 audience who love art and cultural. It had such an effect on the audience that over \$12,300 was collected in donations at the event site. All the collections were given back to the Academy in Bangalore, India. This was the largest amount that was collected by these students at any of their other venues during their trip across the USA.

We have been extremely fortunate in receiving support from our community at all of our events. I certainly hope that we will continue this trend in the future. I would like to take this opportunity to especially thank some of the key supporters at our recent programs. They are:

- Sri Ravindra Thota at the Dr. Sobha Raju gari program;
- Dr. Prem Nandiwada at the Ugadi function;
- Ms. Swathi Gundapaneedi for help with singing workshop; and
- Sri. Mani Akella for providing audio at the October 2nd event free of charge.

Without support of some of these folks and other volunteers, it would be very difficult for us to conduct

programs and I look forward to your active participation and contributions.

Our EC is currently planning 2010 Deepavali program. After much deliberations and avoidance of potential conflicts, we have decided on conducting this year's Deepavali program on **November 20th at the Plainfield High School**. Tennis tournament is already underway under the guidance of Dr. Ramakrishna Seethala and Mr. Vijay Saradhi Nara. Dance and singing competitions are scheduled to take place at the Bridgewater Temple on October 31st. We are putting together a good combination of literary, cultural and entertainment program that is aimed to please all. Any suggestions you may have are welcome. However, keep in mind that we will not be able to accommodate all suggestions within the limited timeframe we have.

We have notified all of the vendors who place an advertisement in our Telugu Jyothi of the associated fees. It was disappointing that we did not get the response we were hoping for. We need your support to keep this bi-monthly publication alive and self-sufficient.

As the Telugu community continues to grow in New Jersey, so do groups and associated events. Although we do the best we can, some date conflicts are unavoidable. Our EC is confident that given the rich history and quality of the programs TFAS has conducted, we can count on your continued support and cooperation. We are trying to keep the event entry fees to a minimum. We can accomplish this only through generosity of those who are able. Please feel free to call me or Suresh Makam (our treasurer) if you are interested in giving a donation, sponsor an event or need a vendor spot at our upcoming events.

Looking forward to seeing you at Deepavali celebrations on November 20th at the Plainfield High School. Until next time

Your President Anand Paluri

Dr. Sobha Raju Workshop and concert Proceeds:	
Workshop Collections	\$4,000.00
Pay Pal Tickets	1,407.90
Gate Collections/ Sponsor	8,087.00
Total Collections	\$13,494.90
Expenses	
Artist Fee	\$6,300.00
Hall Rental	1,150.00
Train fare for artists	248.40
Food for artists	191.64
Supplies	138.71
Total Expenses	\$8,028.75
Net Proceeds	\$5,466.15