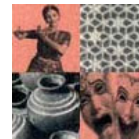


# ICS INDIA CULTURAL SOCIETY

Newsletter ■ Issue 4 ■ June 2008



Quarterly Publication of News and Events Happening in the Lansing Area

While we are still basking in the success-filled aftermath of the ICS Annual show, it is already time to start a new ICS year. Thank you for taking the time to attend the ICS Annual General Body meeting held on May 10<sup>th</sup> at the Okemos Public Library. ICS welcomes newly elected Board members - Trinadh Bonula, Amita Das, Kavita Gupta, Hina Mody, and Ira Salpekar. This diverse and capable group of members will, no doubt, bring another successful year for ICS. During the AGM, meeting rules for the annual show were presented and accepted. They are attached in this newsletter for your information.

Our outgoing Board members: Virendra Jain, Vaishali Rajput, Vamsi Polarpu, Madhav Uppuluri and Rita Ghose, will be greatly missed. Vaishali Rajput will assist and advice as an ex-officio. We applaud all of them for their diligent work and appreciate their efforts. They have helped raise the bar at ICS.

It is time once again for summer fun activities. ICS will host a "Kite Flying" event on June 28<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm at Hartrick Park. This will be a great opportunity to meet the new ICS Board, renew membership for the upcoming ICS year and enjoy some ice cream along with an array of colorful kites and maybe even witness another game of tag-football.

We hope you will encourage your children to participate in the Cricket Camp to be held from June 22<sup>nd</sup> to August 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Kinawa Middle School Grounds on Sundays from 8:00 am to 9:30 am. Please contact Vamsi Polarpu or Venu Pally.

If you are a person of Non-Indian Origin, joining ICS is a good way to learn more about the Indian culture, the people and the country. We understand and value diversity. We appreciate the opportunity to express our heritage to non-Indian members through various multi-cultural programs and other social events. We welcome you as a member of ICS Lansing and look forward to your active involvement.

## A SILENT MINORITY

A recent article in the US Indian media critiques Indians settled in the USA as passive observers of the political process. According to statistics from the current US Census, less than 30% of eligible voters of Indian origin actually exercise their votes in the USA. A handful of Indian Americans have been elected to high office around the country, but the number is quite small. A very different statistic compared to physicians....did you know that according to the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin, there are close to 41,000 Indian American doctors in US? Indian Americans own 50% of all economy lodges and 35% of all hotels in the United States, which have a combined market value of almost \$40 billion.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

For those of you who have not renewed memberships for 2008-2009, now is the time to do it! Remember that the membership period is from JULY to JUNE.

## EMAIL AND WEBSITE

Approximately 90% of the membership is receiving this newsletter as an email attachment. If you are not and would like to do so, please call **Venu Pally**. This will help with promptness and also with the cost of mailings. You can also access our website to find out more about ICS and upcoming events.



*To Promote Indian  
Culture to  
the Community of  
Greater Lansing*

## Executive Board 2007-2008

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## Mark your Calendars for Upcoming ICS Events in 2008

### **ICS Cricket Camp (6 Sessions)**

June 22<sup>nd</sup> to August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008 ■ Kinawa Middle School Ground ■ Sundays 8:00 – 9:30 am

### **Kite Flying and Ice-Cream Social**

June 28<sup>th</sup> 2008 ■ Hartrick Park ■ 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

### **ICS Annual Picnic**

August 10<sup>th</sup> 2008 ■ Lake Lansing South Park ■ 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
Followed by Cricket Match at 4:00 pm at Kinawa Middle School Grounds

### **ICS Volley Ball Tournament**

September 13<sup>th</sup> 2008 ■ Nancy Moore Park ■ 11:00 – 3:00 pm

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## ICS Cricket Camp (6 Sessions)

**From:** June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2008 to August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008  
**When:** Sundays, 8:00 - 9:30 am (6 sessions)  
**Location:** Kinawa Middle School Ground  
**Age Group:** 7+ years (no cricket experience required)  
**Fee:** \$25.00 per child



**Head Coach:** Vamsi Polarpu  
**Assistant Coach:** Satheesh Veeramachaneni

**Pre-requisite: Must be an ICS member for 2008-09**

**August 10<sup>th</sup> 2008:** Cricket match for adults after the ICS Annual Picnic

This camp will address various aspects of the game - warm up, fielding, bowling and batting. The kids will play mini matches during the camp as well.

The first parent information meeting with the coaches will be held on:  
**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2008 on Kinawa Middle School grounds at 8:00 am.**

Register on-site on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June or earlier by contacting:  
**Vamsi Polarpu** at 347-5011; polarpv@yahoo.com

**OR**

**Venu Pally** at 775-1583; pally\_reddy@yahoo.com

Visit us at [www.icslansing.org](http://www.icslansing.org)

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## Community Corner:

Mr. Jai Jaglan of Okemos has been nominated as a finalist for the 2008 Governor's Service Awards. Mr. Jaglan was nominated by the Greater Lansing Food Bank in the senior volunteer category. We applaud Mr. Jaglan's efforts and dedication. Congratulations!

### Congrats to the Graduating Students!

ICS would like take this opportunity to congratulate all the Graduating students and wish them all the success for the future.

### A note from the Asian Indian Endowment for the Education of the Underserved Children

Established in 2006 at MSU, Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement (CSLCE), this endowment helps provide funds to MSU for educational support to children attending Boys and Girls Club of Lansing (BCG). MSU is to help provide the teachers and the organization needs help from the Indian community to fund this cause. Donations are tax deductible.

Please send your donation to **Asian Indian Endowment**

**Address:** AB101, Michigan State University Development,  
300 Spartan Way, East Lansing, MI 48824.

**Contact:** Please call Mrs. Saroj Kapur at (517) 351-4781 for more information.

**A visit is being organized to BCG for the community to get a first hand view of the working of this future Endowment;**

**Date:** Sept 20<sup>th</sup>; **Time:** 2-4 pm is being planned.

Please block the date and make an effort to visit.

Please encourage our children to visit also.

BGC is located at 4315 Pleasant Grove, Lansing MI about 20 minutes car drive from MSU. If a larger number of people from the community are planning to visit BGC then, a big coach/bus can be arranged for group transportation.

## ***Events Sponsorship***

*ICS Board is looking for sponsorships for several events. We would appreciate individuals and organizations that would like to sponsor any event in any form. Please contact one of the board members for further detail.....*

*Place your Ad in the newsletter & Annual Show Brochure.*

*¼ page, ½ Page, full page, front page, back page ads, and banner displays at events. Call us to get more info....*

## **RULES FOR ICS ANNUAL SHOW - MILAP**

In order to ensure quality performances and in an attempt to be fair to participants, the Board has compiled a set of rules which will be applied from the ICS Year 2008-2009.

### **Registration of items:**

Please **E-MAIL** your entry for MILAP 2009 participation to the Responsible Board Member between January 1st and January 15<sup>th</sup> or any other deadline date given if different from this.

Name(s) and E-mail address(es) of the ICS Board members registering entries will be given in the email announcements sent by the ICS admin and November/December newsletter

Entries will not be accepted before January 1<sup>st</sup> and after January 15<sup>th</sup> or ANY OTHER ANNOUNCED deadline.

Verbal and phone entries will not be accepted at any time.

Note: This deadline does not apply to Board invited individuals/groups.

Please include the below information in your email when registering for your item:

Fill the ICS Registration form with:

- Name of the performance (Example: Dance / Song / Instrumental)
- Category of Performance: Indian Folk, Indian Classical, Bollywood, Ballet, etc.
- Name, email and phone number of the choreographer

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- Number of participants
- Names and Ages of all participants
- India Cultural Society membership status of choreographer and all participants
- Duration of performance with setup time
- Props if any and individuals volunteering to help with props or stage cleaning
- Please note on the form and discuss via email with specifically assigned Board members should you have special requirements such as time needed, special sound setup, props, cleaning arrangements, setup arrangements, auditorium info, mikes, lighting, etc.

## Participation Rules

1. Choreographers and participants must be current members of ICS.
2. All memberships must be validated at the annual show auditions or earlier. The item will not be registered until all the performers and choreographers are valid members.
3. Invitee performers (invited by the ICS Board) are not mandated to be members or to audition.
4. Only two (2) performances per participant. This does not include singing the National Anthems.
5. Choreographers can register more than 2 items with different participants in each item.
6. Participants in 2 items must notify the Board at the auditions so that the items can be spaced out based on quality & category of the items and the time required for changing. Participants must accommodate the requests of the Board regarding the sequence of the 2 items in the show.
7. Items with 4 or more participants will be given priority.
8. Please limit each Dance performance time to 6 min or under and Skits to 10 minutes or under, including any setup time. Depending on number of entries and quality of item, ICS Board may request a reduction or allow increase in the duration of your item. The time allotted MUST be followed. The item is subject to removal from the show if the allotted time limit is not maintained.
9. Auditions are mandatory for all except invitees.
10. Rehearsal is mandatory for all including the national anthems.
11. Final selection of the item will be decided by the Board, a few days after the auditions. Decision of the Board regarding acceptance of your item is final. All decisions will be emailed only. Please do not call Board Members regarding the decisions made.
12. Change requests in the registered item will not be entertained unless there is an emergency or valid and reasonable explanation.
13. The ICS Board will try to accommodate individual requests for your item in the show itinerary. However, the Board cannot guarantee a specific spot for your item.
14. After receiving email notification regarding the acceptance of your item (following auditions); you are required to email your mp3/drop off your CD (preferred)/ tape to the specific Board member in-charge of creating the Master CD for the Show. The Board will notify the address/email of the specific Board member in advance.
15. CD or tape should be in a cover with **item title, time and choreographer's name + phone number** written with sharpie on CD / tape and cover. CD / tape should be set ready to play. The music of your item must be received no later than the SET deadline.
16. Failure to submit your CD / tape by the due date will result in elimination of the entry.
17. ICS retains the right to remove any program, which does not abide by the rules mentioned in this newsletter.
21. The photos and videos of the show will be shot/taken by ICS. By participating in the Annual Show, the participants automatically agree to being photographed and videotaped.

## Participant Rules:

- 1) Please arrive 15 minutes early at the rehearsals and show day.
- 2) Please maintain silence in the auditorium when the rehearsals are on. For discussions please take your group outside the auditorium.
- 3) Please do not go in and out of the auditorium when a group is performing. Wait for the performance to be done.

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- 4) Please make room for others in the dressing rooms as soon as you are done.
- 5) ICS is not responsible for any lost items/jewelry/clothing, etc. All participants/ parents/ choreographers must carry their belongings with them at all times.
- 6) No food or drinks are allowed on stage, backstage area, auditorium and dressing rooms.
- 7) All participants and choreographers must maintain a code of good conduct. There should be no unwanted aggression or abusive language.
- 8) Collect your participant/ member tickets from the ICS Board members coordinating the participants before you leave the rehearsals.
- 9) Keep your ticket stubs for the dinner later.

## **Stage and Performances:**

- 10) Please be ready in the corridor that leads to the backstage door, 2 items before your item. One person from your group must go inside the backstage and report to the ICS Stage Coordinator (who is assigned backstage) upon arrival.
- 11) If you do not arrive for your performance in the sequence assigned to you, your item may be cancelled.
- 12) Please do not talk, walk or laugh backstage when a show is on. Especially participants wearing jewelry that clink, **MUST** be seated backstage in assigned areas.
- 13) Please do not peep out of the stage wings when the show is on. Stay clear off the wings by at least 6 feet.
- 14) Please do not go across the main stage to go to the opposite side of the stage wings. Use the rear stage passage behind the backdrop curtain. Stay away from the back drop curtain at all times. During your show, if you have to re-enter the stage from the opposite stage wing, do not walk through the backdrop space such that the curtain shakes when a show is in progress.
- 15) Please stay clear of the stage decorations put up in the rear 3'-0" of the stage when performing your item.
- 16) Choreographers/ group leaders must inspect the stage quickly before beginning their performance, to ensure that the stage is clear of any obstructing item that may cause hindrance during their performance
- 17) Props used in your item must be kept safely in the backstage only and removed from the stage immediately when your item is done.
- 18) Please bring your own volunteers if your props are heavy or require special handling.
- 19) Please prepare appropriate exiting for your item. The curtains in OHS close at mid stage area and performers need to be clear of this area when the item is done.
- 20) When your item is done, please leave the backstage area immediately and allow other participants who are up next to enter
- 21) Any props, pots, dandias, flowers, etc. used in the performances shall be brought on stage by volunteers chosen by the Item Choreographer. Upon completion of the performance, the choreographer and the item's designated volunteers are responsible for removing all props. Any confetti, flowers, petals, etc. shall be swept off the stage immediately. *Note: Brooms shall be requested ahead of time or brought by the Choreographer. At least 2 volunteers assigned by the choreographer will help clean the stage.*
- 22) Regular Duct Tape, chalk and markers shall NOT be used for marking positions on stage. Request special stage tape from Auditorium Techs or ICS Board members at the rehearsals. Markings will not be allowed on Show Day. Tapes must be removed by Choreographers at the end of the show and not when their item is done.
- 23) Damages to the stage will be charged to the choreographers unable to follow these rules.

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## Membership Reminder:

**Annual membership is from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009**

If you have not paid your membership dues for the Year 2008-2009, please fill out the form below and mail your payment at the address given below. If you become a member you can enjoy the benefits of free events hosted by ICS throughout the year. See our attached Calendar of Events Schedules. If you have paid your membership fees, we thank you for renewing your membership.

## India Cultural Society Membership Form

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
E Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Annual Single (\$15) Life Single (\$150) Annual Student \* (\$10)  
Annual Family (\$25) Life Family (\$250) Organization (\$150)  
Annual Senior Citizen \*\* (\$10) Life Senior Citizen\*\* (\$150)  
Optional: Other Members in the Immediate Family (Family Membership)  
Name: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

\*For full-time students only, with non-voting rights \*\* Age 65 and above

Please make check payable to ICS and mail to ICS, P.O. Box 90, Okemos, MI 48805-0090

**Act Now! Become a member or renew your membership. Be a part of ICS!**



**India Cultural Society**  
P.O. Box 90  
Okemos, Mi 48805-0090



*To Promote Indian  
Culture to the  
Community of  
Greater Lansing*

***Become a  
member today!***