



Bengali Association of Greater Chicago - Community Newsletter

সমাজ সংবাদ

Volume 40 Issue 4

September 2015



২০১৫ শারদ উৎসব



Sakhi
her resonance...

CHANDRABINDOO



Rajdeep

16th, 17th & 18th October at Bartlett High School

President's Message



Dear BAGC Members,

As fall approaches, it brings Durga Puja, the joyous occasion that we Bengalis await with eager anticipation. This year, as you know, we are celebrating Durga Puja at Bartlett High School on Fri, Oct 16th through Sun, Oct 18th.

BAGC EC 2015 is bringing to you 3 days of most enjoyable and fulfilling festivities. We Chicagoans take pride in conducting the worship of Ma Durga meticulously with utmost devotion and care. This is made possible every year due to the tireless efforts of our purohit Ramanuj and Subrota da. The Puja Committee is also thankful to all our member volunteers who help out by making bhog, mishti, garlands and other requirements for the puja.

This year we are also very excited to welcome our new Protimas and will be saying a fond good bye to our old Protimas. I would like to thank the Protima Committee and our Members who donated, to make this possible.

We have a scintillating line up for Cultural comprising of both our internal as well as renowned external artists. You will find details in this Newsletter, as well as our website. We look forward to you all enjoying these programs. Please share this information with your friends in Chicagoland as well as neighboring states.

Food is an integral part of any Bengali function and we are working to provide you a sumptuous fare comprising of vegetarian as well as non-vegetarian dishes.

Smooth running of registration is critical to the success of Durga Puja. The registration team is working on streamlining the process. We have also opened up online pre-registration. We strongly encourage our non-GFP members to pre-register. You will not only get an early bird discount, it will also ensure your entry into external artist programs.

This is our largest community program and we need your help to make it a grand success. Please inform your friends & family and also help us conduct it in a joyous & harmonious manner.

Our last few months have been very active and enjoyable. Annual Picnic & Children's Day were very well attended and enjoyed by all. We also had several religious & cultural functions in Banga Bhavan that were also very fulfilling and enjoyable.

Now, we can't wait to see you all at Durga Puja, an event that we will cherish with our wonderful community.

With Best Regards,

Sandeep Chaudhuri

President BAGC.

Durga Puja 2015 at Bartlett High School

Friday, Oct 16th

Registration Starts	5:00 P.M.
Puja Starts	6:00 P.M.
Anjali(only once)	7:30 P.M.
Aarati	7:45 P.M.
Dinner	7:00 - 8:00 P.M.
Cultural Program	8:00 - 11:00 P.M.
Nari, Nature and Beyond	8:00 PM
Sangeet Sandhya by Rajdeep	9:00 PM

Saturday, Oct 17th

Registration Starts	10:00 A.M.
Puja Starts	10:00 A.M.
Anjali	1:00 to 1:30 P.M.
Aarati	3:45 - 4:45 P.M.
Lunch	1:00 to 3:00 P.M.
Snacks	4:00 P.M.
Cultural Program	5:00 to 7:00 P.M.
Shakti Rupena Samsthita	5:00 PM
Triveni of Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswati	6:00 PM
Dinner	7:15 to 8:30 P.M.
Cultural Program	9:00 to 11:00 P.M.
Chandrabindoo Band	9:00 PM

Sunday, Oct 18th

Registration & Puja Starts	12:30 P.M.
Anjali(only once)	2:30 P.M.
Aarati	2:45 P.M.
Bisarjan	3:00 P.M.
Sindur Khela	3:15 P.M.
Lunch	1:00 to 3:00 P.M.
Cultural Program	4:30 to 6:15 P.M.
Baaddi Banshir Taale Taale	4:45 PM
Prasthiti : The Journey	5:15 PM
Shure Shure	6:00 PM
Dinner	6:15 to 7:15 P.M.
Cultural Program	7:30 to 9:30 P.M.
Sakhi	7:30 PM

Programs by Community Artists

Nature, Naari & Beyond

Directed by Indrani Mondal.

Can the creative force, beauty, power and grandeur of the elements of Nature be compared to the varied aspects of the essential Woman, Naari? Can all these aspects and elements be tied together, leading above and beyond them to one, all-encompassing Truth? This presentation briefly explores these ideas with an innovative twist.

Shakti Rupena Samsthita

Directed by Sabari Bhattacharya

It is said that Rama invoked Devi Durga and sought her blessings in his battle with Ravana.. Devi Durga dwells in all beings as Shakti or creative power and strength. Mythology, history and modern times bear witness to many such Durga who walked this earth fighting evils and inspiring our lives everyday . As a salute to these Devis, we will present a few shining stars from past and present through abhinaya (acting), recitations, songs and dances.

Triveni of Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswati

Directed by Rupali Chaudhuri,

Script by Alak Bhattacharya

Dazzling dances and melodious music woven together with a beautiful script, TRIVENI brings to life these three majestic rivers. Their experiences as they absorb the culture, history and beauty of the states they flow through will be depicted by various dances. Their holy union at Prayag is called TRIVENI and it heralds in a new day full of promise, hope and peace.

Baaddi Banshir Taale Taale

Directed by Aditi Datta

The ensemble draws a picture of the new generation's perception of Durga Puja with our composition of a "chhora" as a backdrop. The songs range from chhorar gaan, well-known Bengali movie songs, Rabindrasangeet to Bangla folk tunes. The kids will recite, sing, and even play the instruments to set the festive mood.

Prasthiti: The Journey

Directed by Dristi Chaudhuri

Be ready to embark on a journey like no other, of a young girl as she takes us through a cultural kaleidoscope of our beloved India. Our culture spans across the Indian subcontinent and has been influenced by a history that is several millennia old. Through our rich dance heritage, colorful costumes, and of course intense drama! we hope that this journey will continue to inspire our youth to re-create history!

Shure Shure by Preetish & Moulik

Two of our very own youth singers Preetish Chakraborty and Moulik Chatterjee who have been recently capturing hearts of all Desis across USA, plan to captivate BAGC Durga Puja audience with their melodies.

Board Of Trustees (BOT) News

Ad Hoc Re-Organization Committee : Status

Certain constitutional issues have been brought to the attention of BOT about the Re-Organization project by a number of BAGC members. It appears that it would not be appropriate for BOT to review / approve / authorize this project. In light of these constitutional issues, BOT in its special meeting on August 22, 2015, has decided that BOT will immediately disassociate itself from this project and will not be involved in any way in the future.

BOT sincerely thanks the Ad-hoc Re-Org committee members who have been working hard for last 1 1/2 years to improve the structure , efficiency, and smooth functioning of the BAGC organization. Since the task of the Ad-hoc Re-Org committee, as requested by BOT, has been successfully completed , we wish to thank the Re-Org committee members for their hard work and BOT hereby dissolves the Ad-hoc Re-org committee.

The above information was communicated to the BAGC members on August 28, 2015 and on August 31, 2015 via bagc google groups.

“Ad hoc Financial Solvency/ Sustainability Review Committee” - status

Board Of Trustees of BAGC , at its meeting on May 16, 2015, has unanimously approved the formation of an “**Ad hoc Financial Solvency/ Sustainability Review Committee**” to explore the approaches to make BAGC self-sustaining and solvent over the long run.

The Ad-hoc committee is in the process of submitting it's report/recommendations to BOT. There will be a presentation on this topic at the GBM in November 2015. These recommendations will be then forwarded to the 2016 EC for consideration.

2016 Nomination Committee Chairman & BOT Chairman Elected:

BOT at its July 18, 2015 meeting, unanimously elected Ashok Ghose Dastidar to be the Chairman of the 2016 Nomination Committee. Ashok has already formed the nomination committee and is seeking nomination applications for various vacant positions for 2016. The last date for submitting the nomination form is October 18, 2015.

BOT at its September 19, 2015 meeting, unanimously elected Ashok Ghose Dastidar to be the Chairman of the BOT for 2016. Congratulations to Ashok.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of BOT,

Dipak Ghosh (Chairman, BOT)

Banga Bhavan Corner

Summer is coming to an end and autumn is around the corner, filling Banga Bhavan with the sound of music and laughter as rehearsals start for Durga Puja. There is excitement over our new Protima. She arrived safely from Kolkata with her children and has been ensconced on her bedi, thanks to an army of volunteers who worked for four to five hours to ensure no damage occurred during the unpacking. It was difficult to part with our old Protima, but we know she is going to a home where she will be cared for by another group of devoted worshippers.

This summer we have had a number of celebrations at Banga Bhavan including Raath Yatra, where the children had a great time pulling the new Raath around Banga Bhavan and learning what the festival is about. Janmastami was also celebrated with a lot of pomp and grandeur. Our annual Banga Bhavan Anniversary celebrations followed, with a discourse by Swami Ishatmananda on Janmastami, and the melodious voice of Sandip Bhattacharya singing semi classical songs. Raath Yatra Puja and Janmastami Puja was devotedly performed by Ramanuj Bhattacharya.

Banga Bhavan is serving its purpose really well as a religious and heritage center. We celebrate the different religious events but at the same time we have singers and musicians of repute performing. They love the ambience and frequently tell us they love our audiences.

Banga Bhavan is also open for rental for parties, Pujo's and any other life events.

Our next event at Banga Bhavan is Mahalaya, on October 10th, 2015 at 6pm. Our new Protima will be formally opened with the rendition of Mahisasur Mardini. The program is presented by Mangolik, Directed by Dipali Banerjee, with Chandipath recitation by Subrota Mukherjee. A big thank you to all the Mangolik members, sponsoring the dinner for October 10th, 2015.

BAGC Members, friends and families are cordially invited to attend the event.

“Investing is Simple, but not Easy” - Warren Buffet

Are you investing successfully for the long term?

Despite making enough money, most people struggle to achieve their long term financial goals. They employ trial and error investment strategies, trying to pick the next hot stock or mutual fund. Lacking a clear investment plan and execution strategy, they often assume more risk than necessary and thereby diminish their chances of achieving their goals.

What does it take to invest successfully?

Successful investors have a well thought out investment plan and strategy, which they execute consistently over the long haul. Just as successful athletes have a plan and strategy in place and achieve success with the help of a coach, successful investors need a good investment plan and strategy that they can execute with the help of a good investment adviser.

V2 Financial Group, an Independent fee-only advisor, provides sophisticated advice and manages your investment accounts on your behalf

Our Services

Portfolio management (manage your IRA's, 401(k)'s and other investment accounts)
Planning (Insurance planning, Retirement & College projections and planning)

Why V2?

Fiduciary (unlike brokers), operating with your best interests in mind
Individualized portfolio management
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www.v2financialgroup.com

Please contact us for a no-obligation consultation

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All investment strategies have the potential for profit or loss. Changes in investment strategies, contributions or withdrawals may materially alter the performance and results of your portfolio. We only transact business in states where we are properly registered, or are excluded or exempted from registration requirements.

BAGC THANKS ITS PLATINUM SPONSOR



Mr. Gopi Addanki

President, Media Systems Inc,

869 E. Schaumburg Rd, Ste #274,

Schaumburg, IL 60194

Contact Phone Number : 847-882-0321

Email: info@mediaus.com

URL : www.mediaus.com

#dada's dadagiri #not bhaigiri- ##dada is always right

Inspired by a very popular & entertaining TV show of Zee Bangla which is hosted by former Indian cricket team captain Sourav Ganguly, our very own Shouvik Saha and Ananya Bhattacharya were indisputably able to bring an equally thrilling and fun-filled evening with their power-packed questions and mind-boggling quizzes.

The contestants were chosen after rigorous elimination rounds that were locally organized in various suburbs of Naperville like Aurora, Lisle, Schaumburg, Palatine etc. (pun intended) to name a few. Eminent personalities from city council also participated in order to raise funds and immensely appreciated the effort and hard work put into organizing it. Voila! How many actually raised their eyebrows and dropped their jaws while reading these lines? Quite a few I guess. Aha gotcha! Well nothing of that sort happened but the hosts were gracious enough to let everyone contest, all those who came just to cheer their loved ones were suddenly contending. But oh boy, what a ball it was! There were 11 teams each consisting of 2 members. The quiz kick started with an ice breaker question that definitely got the momentum going, it was open to all and instantly fired up the sportsmanship spirit among all the participants.

Shouvik and Ananya conducted the show in a very entertaining and engaging fashion. Shouvik handled the over-confident ones with just the right amount of disdain and the tad bit shy ones with just the right amount of chumminess that effortlessly made him the Dada of BAGC. He gave away hints as if we were going out of fashion but didn't forget to sneer ("Etao parlen na?"). But in case of unsettled matters he didn't shun off in saying ##Dada is always right. Not only did he lead as the quiz master but also helped the scorers by indicating points, errors, fouls, bonuses, technical hiccups and time outs. The eloquent mannerisms, the turns of the phrases and the fan-boy reactions were all part of the package and very genuinely reflected as the evening unfolded.

Ananya was extremely professional in maneuvering the flow of proceedings and effectively guiding the audience with her crisp and impressive voice. The two anchors went hand in hand without any slip-ups.

Now to give you a pint sized insight into the quiz. The questions were nicely topical and very contemporary. For example, ##There are two sculptures at the Gateway of India in Mumbai. One is Shivaji; who is the other one? ##Which Sport uses Black Card? ##What is Tepidophobia? ##What human activity causes a bridge in Paris almost broken? Baffling huh! And who would have thought that "Chiles en nogada" is the most patriotic dish of Mexico because it represents the colors in a Mexican flag. There were also great twists and twirls in various rounds wherein the questions were a mixed bag of audio and visual clips. Live vocal added a whole new dimension to the contest. There were some tricky questions that followed the singing where the singer had to be identified or the music director or the original version of the song. Bonus point if you could sing the original lyrics.

How can we forget about the scorekeepers? A very integral part of the quiz contest, Shompita Chatterjee and Arpita Chakrabarti were meticulously keeping track of the scores. They made the appropriate markings as the quiz progressed, recorded the scores and announced the team tallies after completion of milestone rounds, halftime and at the end of the quiz. The audience didn't leave any opportunity to woo the scorers to get some additional points in their kitty but nothing worked. Darn it! They were good.

After several elimination rounds the 2 teams that made the top slots were comprised of Debashis Gooptu and Manatosh Banerjee securing 1st position and Arjo Bhattacharya and Arpan Chaterjee at the second spot.

Like all good things must come to an end, we were also at the tail end of a highly entertaining evening. It was indeed, not just a quiz contest but a show well put together, a unique platform that was shared by all: Baby boomers, Gen X, Millennials and Gen Z.

In anticipation of many more, ##dada is always right, evenings!!

Humble Reporter
Manisha Bandyopadhyay

Seeking Nominations for 2016 BAGC Positions

Dear BAGC Members,

2016 BAGC Nomination Committee is seeking nominations for the following committees:

1. 2016 BAGC Executive Committee: The Executive Committee nominees shall be identified as a slate (elected in whole, not individually) headed by the Presidential nominee. The nominee chooses Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chair Person for Banga Bhavan, and various Members at large. The term of the office is one calendar year (January 1 to December 31). The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Association. All members shall be in good standing.

2. Board of Trustees: There are two (2) vacancies with term of office for three (3) years. BOT is an oversight body of the Association directly representing the General Body. Candidates shall be at least 35 years of age and a member in good standing a minimum of 10 consecutive years. They shall also have served at least one term as an elected officer position in BAGC or have demonstrated sustained, documented activity and leadership in BAGC for at least 15 years.

3. Special Fund Committee: There are two (2) vacant seats in the committee. The term of office is for two (2) years. This is an advisory committee that considers projects and events that require special funding. The nominees shall be a member in good standing.

4. By-Laws Committee: There are four (4) vacancies for this committee and the term of office is two years. The committee proactively reviews the Association's constitution and by-laws and when appropriate prepare amendments for presentation to the General Body for consideration and ratification. The candidates shall be a member in good standing.

We strongly recommend all those who want to submit nomination to visit our web-site (bagc.net) and click 'Constitution' where all the requirements are explained in great details (copy attached below as well).

The deadline for submitting the nomination is October 18, 2015.

Nomination forms for the offices have been distributed to the members (via this e-mail on September 2, 2015). Forms are also available in the BAGC website (www.bagc.net) under a new folder "2016 Committee Forms".

Best Regards:

2016 BAGC Nomination Committee

Mahua Chakraborty

Sauparna Sarkar,

Debu Chakravarti

Arpita Chakrabarti

Ashok Ghose Dastidar (Chairman, Nomination Committee)

Announcements

- Dr. Amalendu Mazumdar premier OB/GYN surgeon and a distinguished member of BAGC community left for his heavenly abode on August 7th 2015. He is survived by his wife Purabi Mazumdar and daughters Pritha and Aditee.
- Mr. Satyansu Chattopadhyay, another long standing member of BAGC passed away on Aug 15th, 2015. He is survived by his wife Suchitra, son Sudeb, daughter-in-law Andrea and grandchildren Parker and Lukas.
- Biswa Nath Datta, Professor of Mathematical Sciences and Distinguished Research Professor at Northern Illinois University has received the 2015 Fulbright-Nehru Distinguished Chair Award by United States Department of State Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs with Indian Institute of Technology-Kharagpur (IIT-KGP).
- Prith Banerjee, Managing Director of Global Technology R&D at Accenture, joined Schneider Electric early September 2015 as Chief Technology Officer.
- Ritwik, son of Basanti and Manatosh Banerji, PhD scholar at UC Berkley in Ethnomusicology, completed Fulbright Scholarship as Journalist at Berlin Free University, Germany, this July to continue till 2017.



Bengali Association of Greater Chicago

1148 N. Main Street
Glendale Heights, IL 60139
www.BAGC.net

2015 DURGA PUJA REGISTRATION FORM

Here are the annual membership fees and Durga Puja rates for 2015. In order to avoid inconveniences and long delays at the front desk, we encourage you to please log on to your account at www.bagc.net and complete the on-line registration form. Alternatively, you may complete this paper form and mail it to the following address, along with a check payable to BAGC:

Uditt K Mukherjee
1525 Baytree Drive
Romeoville, IL 60446

Annual Membership Fees per family: \$95

First time family membership special: \$60 (available only to families that have never been BAGC members)

2015 Durga Puja Rates	MEMBERS/	NON-MEMBERS	THRU OCT 13	MEMBERS/	NON-MEMBERS	ONSITE
	Adult	Child	Self-Supporting student*	Adult	Child	Self-Supporting student*
Friday	\$30/ 35	\$20/ 25	\$25/ 30	\$35/ 40	\$20/ 25	\$25/ 30
Saturday	\$55/ 65	\$35/ 40	\$40/ 45	\$60/ 70	\$35/ 40	\$40/ 45
Sunday	\$40/ 45	\$25/ 30	\$30/ 35	\$45/ 50	\$25/ 30	\$30/ 35
Fri & Sat	\$75/ 90	\$55/ 65	\$60/ 70	\$85/ 100	\$55/ 65	\$60/ 70
Sat & Sun	\$85/ 100	\$60/ 70	\$65/ 75	\$95/ 110	\$60/ 70	\$65/ 75
3 Day Rate	\$110/ 130	\$75/ 90	\$90/ 105	\$125/ 145	\$75/ 90	\$90/ 105

*To qualify for the rates of Self-Supporting Student, you must satisfy all the following criteria.

- You are a full time college student
- You pay all your college expenses (Tuition and Lodging) without any help from your spouse or parents.
- For the purpose of tax returns, you are not claimed by anybody as a dependent.
- You do not file joint tax returns with your spouse who is gainfully employed.

Primary Member Information

New/ Changed Address ☐

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State / ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Alternative E-mail _____

ADDITIONAL REGISTRANTS

Name	Relationship	Category	Rate	Amount
Annual Family Membership Fees		Annual Membership	\$95/60	\$95/60
TOTAL AMOUNT				
Check # / Bank			Date	



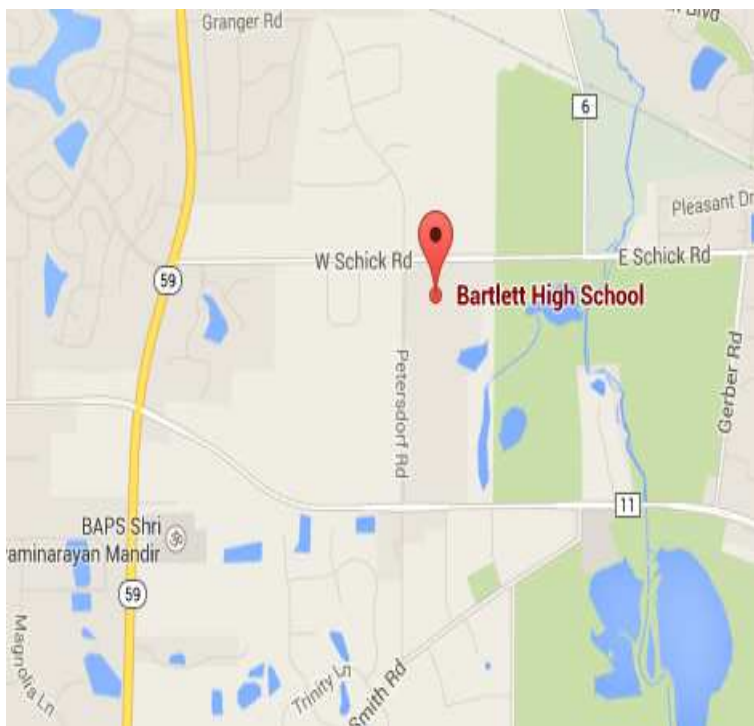
<http://www.bagc.net>

1148 N. Main Street, Glendale Heights, IL 60139

To:

Mark your calendar for upcoming event:

"Durga Puja Friday–Sunday, Oct 16-18th 2015"



Bartlett High School
701 W Schick Road,
Bartlett, IL, 60103

Direction :

From I-90

- Head south on IL-59 N;
- Turn left at Schick Rd;
- Turn right at Petersdorf Rd
- Turn left to School.

From I-88

- Head north on IL-59 N,
- Turn right at Schick Rd,
- Turn right at Petersdorf Rd
- Turn left to School.

Next Event

BAGC Kali Puja

Date: November 7th, 2015

Venue: Streamwood High School.