

সমাজ সংবাদ

Volume 30 Issue 3



আশ্বিন ১৪১২

**Community News**

September 2005



**President's message**

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I thank you all for your support during the various events we organized this year. After Saraswati Puja, we celebrated Basantotsab in May, Bangamela in July (thanks to Bangamela Organizing Committee for a wonderful job!), and Annual Picnic in August. We also participated in the Independence Day celebration at Daley Plaza, FIA's Independence Day Banquet, and joined other Indian communities in the Independence Day Parade with our own float. Our next event is Durga Puja which we are going to celebrate from October 7 through October 9 in Streamwood High School. The planning for this event is well under way and we are looking forward to your help and active participation during this three-day event. A new fee schedule for registration is being introduced this year for this event and I hope this will meet everyone's needs. Our last event of this year is Kali Puja and a general body meeting which has been tentatively scheduled for October 29. The actual date will be announced as soon as we finalize the venue for this event. Thank you again for your continued support.

Sridhar Adhya

**সম্পাদকীয়**

দীর্ঘ শুষ্ক গ্রীষ্মের প্রায় শেষ। রাতের শিরশিরে ঠান্ডা জানিয়ে দিয়ে যায় দীর্ঘ কঠিন শীতের কথা। তাতে আমরা শিকাগোল্যান্ডের মানুষরা বিশেষ চিন্তিত হই না। তীব্র শীত আমাদের সঙ্গে গেছে। তার আগে লালহলুদ পাতাবরা শরৎকালে প্রতিবছরের মত অপেক্ষা করে আছে আমাদের উৎসবের দিনগুলি। পূজো এসে গেল। বর্তমান পৃথিবীর নানা সঙ্কট ও রক্তক্ষয়ী হানাহানির মধ্যে নিরীহ মানুষের জীবন প্রতি মুহূর্তে অনিশ্চিত। তাই আমাদের কাছে এই শারদীয়া পূজোর বিশেষ তাৎপর্য। অসুরদলনী মাতৃমূর্তির সামনে আমাদের যেন একান্ত প্রার্থনা --অশুভ শক্তির বিনাশ ঘটিয়ে এ পৃথিবীকে করে তোল মঙ্গলময় শান্তির নীড়।

গীতলক্ষ্মী মন্ডল , কৃষ্ণা চক্রবর্তী

Sridhar, Mita and Suman Adhya at a surprise Silver anniversary party on July 9

BAGC float in Independence Day parade on Devon Avenue on August 12



Front Cover; Arnab Datta: FALL, Acrylic on Canvas 24"x32": Back cover; envelope design, Heeah Banerjee and Reshmi Dhorchowdhuri : " Graduates, it's your time!"

**BASANTOTSAB**

Pratik Chakraborty

The traditional “Banga Sanskriti Dibas” that is organized by BAGC was renamed “BASANTOTSAB” this year. I feel this renaming is very apt, given the timing of the event, and also the fact that the erstwhile name sort of constrained the contents of the event. As we witnessed this year, there were some programs that were rich in creativity, vibrant in image, perfectly cultural with a tweak, popular in spectator appreciation, but may not have strictly adhered to the aura one associates with “Bengali Cultural Heritage”.

The key attraction to this event is the performance of the young brigade, deftly conducted by Leela Banerjee. This is the primary forum for the kids of our community to showpiece their extracurricular skills, and they did it with aplomb this year too. It was sheer joy watching these kids boldly come up on stage in front of an audience that numbered in the hundreds. The quality of their display of vocal, instrumental, and dancing/acting prowess, though important, was not the primary outlook. Yes, there were some whose performances on stage were qualitatively worse than others, but that does not mean a thing. The very fact that these young hearts were brave enough to stand alone on stage without being shy and shivery spoke highly of their mental toughness and strong family upbringing. I can only hope that each one of these prodigies continue the learning of these skills, and grow up to be superb, famous artists. With age comes pressure from scholastic education and peers; mundane pragmatism overpowers pursuit of wishful hobbies, financial

repercussions of a career path take precedence over emotional aspirations. I am not saying this is wrong, but I do wish that some or all these kids who were on stage satisfy the practical requirements, and yet, become a master in their chosen field of arts.

It will be unfair not to mention a few names here. Once again I reiterate that I wish I could write a paragraph on each of the splendid performers, but I am constrained by the real estate my editor has assigned to me! So kids, if you don't see your own name mentioned here, don't be discouraged at all; it is not your fault. You sure did an excellent job!

- Amartya Das impressed with the keyboard; a very mature performance.
- Binita Gupta and Ahona Majumdar excelled in their Odissi duet. With graceful body movements, their synchronized steps showed how much practice they put in for this show. And one cannot forget that they are only 7 and 9 years old respectively!
- Diptangshu Chatterjee and Rishi Sriram performed in a brilliant duet guitar play. They played a popular song from a Hindi movie. They were at risk of being caught at the slightest mis-tone or discordance, but they simply were perfect.
- Orko Manna played a small piece on the keyboard with a nice finish. What sets him apart is the “fearless” way he carried himself on stage.
- The same goes for Ryan Jarvis, whose solo song and keyboard performance was almost





“adult-like”. He seemed to be a real pro, testing the microphone with staccato shouts of “check”.

- Brinda Gupta and Megan Jarvis did a wonderful Odissi dance duet. Brinda’s super-expressive countenance with large, roving eyes was worth the show. Megan’s fluid movements and balance were also a treat to watch.
- Rajat Ganguly danced to a Bollywood number in a beautiful stage-free performance.



- Another standout and offbeat performance was from Eshara Mondal, who danced Bharatnatyam with fusion music. A rather daring thing to do in front of a lot of purists, but she pulled it off really well.
- Drishti Chaudhuri’s elegant dance with a modern Bengali song was admirable. One has to commend her facial expressions.
- The elocution of “Mojat Muluk” by Darshan Chakraborty was great. Very crisp pronunciation of Bengali words, something that not all American-Raised-Bengali-Kids have.
- Reemlee Dhorchowdhury’s excellent Bharatnatyam performance with a Bengali song also was simply fantastic. As a layman who understands very little about the technicalities of traditional dances, I can almost say that I enjoyed Reemlee’s performance the best. However, that is my personal opinion, and you as a reader have every right to disagree.

A stage version of Jeopardy was organized. The hosts Shreerupa Dey and Poulomi Ghosh

worked well to get the show going. Their effort is more appreciated because they were doing the show “live on stage” without having the services of a support staff, and computerized scoring system. There were little hiccups in the setup and progress of the show, but those were minor in nature. Jeopardy is a fun event to watch, organize and participate; and the hosts will surely refine a few things to improve more the next time they do it. The participants were Nandini Roy, Avisek Datta and Annesha Banerjee. For the record, Avisek was the convincing winner, and he was presented with a \$15 Barnes and Noble gift certificate.



A daringly colorful event that reaffirmed the name BASANTOTSAB was *Melange*, the Fashion Show. Once again, the hosts and directors of this show, Shreerupa Dey and Poulomi Ghosh, are to be congratulated for bringing in original fresh ideas. Who knew the Bengali community had so many budding models? To be critical, one can argue that all of them need some more training in doing the catwalk; but how many of us ever saw a Cindy Crawford or Aishwarya Rai modeling on stage when they were 12 (or even 10) years old!

All in all, it was a brand new concept that added much needed variety to the evening. The young men who put on either a suit or a dhuti-panjabi warrants a special mention. In some places they even outshone the young ladies with their smartness and charisma! The show could have been somewhat more interesting had the “models” changed their apparel in between their stage appearances, but one has to understand that the off-stage times were quite short. In a nutshell, I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of this show, and in spite of its imperfections, *Melange*, as a whole was vivacity personified through the pulsating young bodies adorning beautiful clothes.



Not only did the children excel in their acts, so did the adults. Debkumar Mustafi's reverberating recitation of Nazrul Islam's poetry was a treat to sit and listen. A very nice collection of “Basanta songs” was presented by Sabari Bhattacharya. The evergreen Angshuman Chatterjee stole the show with his songs. He was ably supported by the other musicians: Anushree Chatterjee on the harmonium, Sriram Sitaraman on the guitar, Pintu Mukherjee on the keyboard and Prosenjit Majumdar on the tabla. Bachhu-da, as he is fondly known to some, has a charming presence on stage, whether he is the lead singer or whether he is playing the tabla. His voice is so rich! The romantic songs that he sang took us back a couple of decades in the past. Trying to describe the pleasure one feels listening to his songs is a task best left for the litterateurs. I can simply say that this

program made my evening. Just as a Kishore or Rafi could never finish their programs without the audience crying hoarse for “one more”, Bachhu-da had to comply with the same request too! And his last song “*Niley Niley Ambar Par*” was a fitting finale to end his exhilarating performance.

The guest performer of the evening was the talented Odissi dancer Gulapudi Raman Kumari. She is a renowned dancer from India, who performed the dance composition of Guru Debaprasad Das and Manoj Kumar Behera. She enchanted the audience with her dance enactment of “Nrsingha Avatar”. Her fluid movements and super-expressive lineaments made it a treat to behold her terpsichorean narration of the famous mythological story. Raman Kumari's dance included *Mangalacharan*, *Abhinaya* and *Moksha*. It is safe to assume that although the bulk of the audience cared little about the intricate technicalities of the dance; they did experience a very beautiful depiction of art. When a dancer can achieve that – i.e. please the uneducated (in dance) audience (like me) through pure serenity of dance steps – she has probably reached the *Moksha* of dancing prowess. This wonderful exhibition brought an end to the utterly enjoyable cultural programs of a renamed and reincarnated “Banga-Sanskriti-Dibas”.



BAGC cultural events are partially funded by a grant from Illinois Arts Council. All the photographs were taken by Rajeev Chatterjee.

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Captain Sudip Bose, who served 15 months in Iraq, accepting a plaque of recognition from BAGC president on July 23



Bangamela Opening Ceremony on July 22

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All interested individuals are invited to attend the next meeting of UNMESH, our Chicago area literary society, at the residence of Devipriya and Subir Roy in Flossmore, Illinois on October 14, 9 PM. Please RSVP and ask for directions (708-799-4772) before October 12.





DURGA by Reshme Dhorchowdhuri (8)

HEEAH ON THE STAGE  
by Heeah Banerjee (7)**POWER OF PRAYER****DevdeepBanerji(14)**

Pray to God no matter what;  
At times of peace or fret.  
To pray, there is no time or place  
There is no fear or regret.

If you're feeling lonely,  
Or if you're feeling down  
Pray to God right away  
And he will wipe away your frown.

Pray to God when filled with hate,  
And he will calm you down.  
Pray to God to celebrate,  
And he will be there to astound.

If you are feeling worried  
Or even slightly in doubt  
Just give him a holler  
He'll be there to help you out.

He has always been there to help us.  
Anytime or anywhere;  
The least we could do to thank him,  
Is say a quick little prayer.

Children playing musical chairs at BAGC picnic  
on August 12



### ***OH BABY BABY!***

**Arjo Rajen Basu** weighed in at 8 lbs 6.5 oz. and lay 19 inches long, as he arrived into this world (kicking and screaming, we presume) on July 16, 2005, making his parents Sarmistha (Buri) Banerjee and Saunak Basu very happy. The proudest of all was big brother Nikhil, as can be seen from the cute expression on his face!

**Alo Chakraborty**, daughter of Sudeshna and Dhiman and sister of Anand, had her Annaprasan on 16<sup>th</sup> April. Dr. Amalendu Majumdar gave Alo her first feeding of rice, which she ate gleefully. The happy occasion was attended by family and friends in Aurora Park District Reception Hall.

**Banisree Chakraborty**, daughter of Tanima and Amit, had her “Subho Annaprasan” ceremony held at Bharat Sevashram Sangha with the blessings of Swami Purnatmanandaji on April 9, followed by a reception on April 30 at Crown Jewel Banquet in Des Plaines. Bikramjit Dewanjee officiated as MAMA (maternal uncle) on both occasions.





**Upanayan**

**Rishi and Kiron Misra**, 13-year-old twin sons of Tapan and Lily, had their sacred thread ceremony on May 20 in their home in Wheaton. The upanayan was performed with meticulous attention and great devotion by Dr. Debabrata Mukhopadhyay of Rochester, Minnesota. The two new Brahmins greeted friends and family members at two receptions following the ceremony. .

**সন্ন্যাসগ্রহণ**

অধুনা ফ্লোরিডাবাসিনী আমাদের সদস্য শ্রীমতি ধরিত্রী মৈত্র গত বাইশে মে মায়ামির সরস্বতীমন্দিরে স্বামী পূর্ণাত্মানন্দজীর কাছে সন্ন্যাসগ্রহণ করেছেন। ধরিত্রী বহুকাল ওকব্রুকের বাসিন্দা ছিলেন এবং বিএজিসির পূজাতে ঠাকুর সাজাবার কাজে সাহায্য করতেন। শিল্পী হিসেবে ও পারদর্শিনী। ভারতসেবাশ্রমের কালিপ্রতিমা ওঁরই আঁকা। এখনো আমরা আশা করছি যে শিকাগোর ধার্মিক অনুষ্ঠানগুলোতে ওঁর দেখা পাব। এখন থেকে ধরিত্রী মৈত্র সন্ন্যাসিনী কালিকানন্দময়ী নামে পরিচিত হবেন।

**আনন্তিকের সমাজকল্যাণমূলক প্রচেষ্টা**

গত ২১শে মে হাইড পার্কের ইউনিভার্সিটি চার্চে আনন্তিক রবীন্দ্র-নজরুল সন্ধ্যার উদযাপন ও সুনামিতে ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত মানুষদের জন্য অর্থসংগ্রহের উদ্দেশ্যে এক মনোজ্ঞ অনুষ্ঠানের আয়োজন করে। রুমা মজুমদার ও ইন্দ্রাণী জোশীসহ নানা শিল্পীর সঙ্গীত, শর্মিষ্ঠা ও নমোশ্রী নৃত্য, দীপেশ চক্রবর্তীর ভাষ্য, এবং রেবা ও দেবকুমার মুস্তাফীর আবৃত্তি শ্রোতাদের আনন্দ দেয়। সংগৃহীত সমস্ত অর্থ (২১২৯ ডলার) ভারত সেবাশ্রমসংঘের স্বামীজীর হাতে তুলে দেওয়া হয় দুস্থ মানুষদের পুনর্বাসনের জন্য।

**Science Olympiad**

Congratulations to **Avishek Datta**, son of Sanatan and Sanchayita, and **Devika Ghosh**, daughter of Amitava and Chittarupa, for representing their respective junior high schools (Strafford Middle School and Daniel Wright School) in the Science Olympiad State Tournament, held at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC) on April 9, 2005. Both won awards for their school as well as individual awards. We are proud of their scientific endeavors, achievements and enthusiasm.

**Trina Chakravarty wins Miss India USA**

Congratulations to **Trina**, daughter of Dr. Amit and Mrs. Aparna **Chakravarty**, whom some of you will surely remember. You may have even gone to Aparna's baby shower, before Trina was born.. Amit and Aparna lived in Chicago from 1985 to 1988, and then again in Naperville from 1991 to 1998. Trina was crowned Miss India USA 2005 on 20<sup>th</sup> August at the Tampa Sundome in front of 5,000 people. Trina's mother Aparna was the first Miss India New York in 1982. Trina is now 18 and a first-year student in University of Florida. She hopes to become a surgeon. Trina will go on to compete in Miss India worldwide scheduled to be held in Mumbai on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2005. All the best to you!



Kiron and Rishi accepting Bhiksha from their mother



Debkumar and Reba Mustafi reciting Karna Kunti Samba



Trina Chakravarty with parents

## In Memorium

## Gautam Kumar Roy



On May 15, 2005, Gautam K. Roy of Bowie, Maryland, passed away at the age of sixty three. He succumbed to the effects of brain cancer after a five month battle with the disease. Gautam was a devoted family man who relished spending time with his wife and children, and greatly enjoyed his work as an engineer as well. Chicago was Gautam's first "port-of-call" in the United States upon leaving West Bengal, and Gautam was a Chicagoland resident for fifteen years before moving to Maryland. He joined BAGC upon its inception in 1977 and served as the organization's Treasurer in 1981. He is survived by his wife Gopa, his daughter Renee and son Aneek. We would like to express our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Gautam Roy. We will miss him.

## নতুন দেশের নতুন দিদি

খনা দেব

পঁচিশ বছর আগে এক রাতের অন্ধকারে  
তুমি কি সত্যি পালিয়ে গেছ  
আমার নতুন দেশের নতুন দিদি?

তাহ'লে আজও কেন চোখ বুজলে  
দেখতে পাই তোমার ঘর আলো করা রূপ,  
মনের মধ্যে অনুভব করি তোমার গানের সুর,  
আর পুজোর ঘরে শিবরঞ্জনী ধূপকাঠির গন্ধে  
খুঁজে পাই তোমার সন্ধ্যা?

মনে হয় নীল রঙের ওপর হলুদপেড়ে  
জয়পুরী শাড়ী পরে বসে আছ আমার পাশে  
কানে তুলে দিচ্ছ এই নতুন দেশে,  
নতুন পরিবেশে নিজেকে মানিয়ে নেয়ার মন্ত্র।\*

\*এদেশের মাটিতে পা দিয়ে মাত্র পাঁচ বছরের জন্য  
পেয়েছিলাম এক দিদি, ১৯৮০ সালের ৩০শে মে  
আমাদের সেই দিদি পরপারে চলে গিয়েছেন, সবার প্রিয়  
সেই সীতাদির ( সীতা সেনগুপ্তের ) উদ্দেশ্যে লেখা।

## বসন্তকুমার দত্ত

আমরা অত্যন্ত দুঃখের সঙ্গে জানাচ্ছি যে আমাদের সমাজের বহুদিনের সদস্য সনাতন দত্তের পিতা বসন্তকুমার দত্ত গত ৭ই জুন, ৬৭ বছর বয়সে তাঁর নিজের বাড়িতে আততায়ীদের হাতে প্রাণ হারিয়েছেন। উনি কর্মজীবনে শিক্ষক ছিলেন এবং অবসর গ্রহণ করার পর বর্ধমান জেলার ক্ষীরগ্রামে যোগাদ্যা দেবীর মন্দির উন্নয়নের কাজে উত্তীর্ণ হয়েছিলেন। এই মন্দিরটি মা দুর্গার ৫১টি পীঠস্থানের মধ্যে একটি বলে গণ্য করা হয়। পুলিশ এই হত্যার জন্য চারজন ব্যক্তিকে গ্রেপ্তার করেছে।

## রবীন্দ্রসঙ্ঘা

রবিঠাকুরের মৃত্যুবার্ষিকী উপলক্ষে গত বারই আগস্ট নির্মাণ ও রন্টি ঘোষের গৃহে তাদের অনবদ্য আতিথেয়তার পরিবেশে কবিতা, গান ও প্রবন্ধপাঠের মাধ্যমে কবিগুরুকে স্মরণ করা হয়। বিভিন্ন শিল্পীদের পরিচিতি দিয়ে অনুষ্ঠানটি সরস মন্তব্যসহ পরিচালনা করেন পুরবী মজুমদার ও সাহাব লতিফ।



পল্লীগীতিকার প্রাণেশ সোম

## DURGA PUJA

Bengali Association of Greater Chicago (984 Hampton Park, Barrington Il 60010 ; web site, [www.bagc.net](http://www.bagc.net); Phone, 847-381-7484 ; Fax, 847-381-2968) will celebrate Durga Puja on 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October in Streamwood High School( 701 Schaumburg Road Streamwood IL 60107; Phone, 630-213-5500 ). Please come and join us!



### Subscription ( GFP Members FREE)

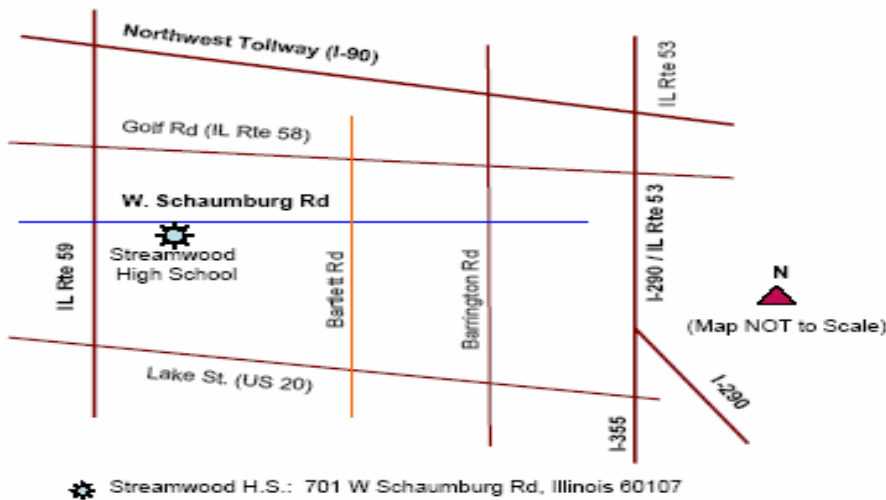


Members (nonGFP) Registering on	Fri (incl. Sat & Sun)	Sat (incl. Sun)	Sun	Nonmembers registering on	Fri (incl. Sat & Sun)	Sat (incl. Sun)	Sun
Adult (13+)	\$40	\$35	\$20	Adult	\$50	\$45	\$25
Senior(65+)/ self support. student	\$30	\$25	\$15	Senior(65+)/ self support. student	\$35	\$30	\$20
Children (5-12)	\$20	\$15	\$10	Children(5-12)	\$25	\$20	\$15

### Schedule of events

Oct 7, Fri	Registration and Puja মহাষষ্ঠী - দেবীর বোধন, আমন্ত্রণ, অধিবাস	6PM 6-7 PM.
	Dinner	7-8 PM
	Sitar and Guitar Jugalbandi	8-8:10 PM
	Bengali Cinema	8:15-10:15 PM
Oct 8, Sat	Registration and Puja মহাসপ্তমী ও মহাষ্টমী পূজা	10 AM 10 AM –1 PM.
	পুষ্পাঞ্জলি	1 - 2 PM.
	Lunch	1:30 - 3:30 PM
	Bhaktigeeti in front of Pratima(open to all)	3:30 - 6 PM
	Bengali Cinema(in the auditorium)	3:30 - 6 PM
	ভোগদান ও সন্ধ্যারতি	6-6:30 PM.
	Durga Bandana (Medley of dances)	6:30-6:40 PM
	Folk Songs by Utpalendu Chaudhuri	6:45 - 8:30 PM
	Dinner	8:30 –10 PM
Oct 9, Sun	Registration and Puja মহানবমী পূজা, দেবীহোম, দশমী পূজা, পুষ্পাঞ্জলি, বিসর্জন, শান্তিপাঠ, সিঁদুরখেলা	11AM. 11 AM-2PM
	Lunch	2 - 3 PM
	Modern Songs by Rajyasree Banerjee	3 – 4:15 PM
	Shrutinatak	4:30-5 PM





### Directions to Streamwood High School:

From I-88, take IL 59 North, make a right turn on Schaumburg Road OR From I-90, take IL 59 south, make a left turn on Schaumburg Road: the school is on your right. If you are traveling west on Schaumburg Rd., the school is on your left, after the traffic light of Bartlett Road, one block **before** the traffic light at Rt.59.

The form to nominate next year's committee will be available at the Puja site and as an insert of the Sharodiyo Samaj Sambad magazine. A condensed version appears below.

To the Nomination Committee:

I hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)

Of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

For the position of: Slate: \_\_\_\_\_ President \_\_\_\_\_ Vice President \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer

One of the eight members at Large (Check one of the following)

Cultural Food Newsletter Puja Facility Sports Youth Web/Email

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Acceptance of the Nominee to serve, if elected: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

Please return this Nomination Form duly filled in and postmarked by **October 15, 2005** to Sridhar Adhya.

Printers: *Sir Speedy* 334 E. St. Charles Road. Villa Park IL 60181 630-832-6225  
www.sirspeedy.com/villapark email: sspeedy6115@earthlink.net

Supporters: Bakul/Subrata Banerjee, Swati/Prithviraj Banerjee, Kaberi Chakrabarty, Anita/Subrata De, Jayashree/Basudeb Dey, Braja Mandal, Indrani/Jyoti Mondal Photographers: Rajeev Chatterjee, Dibyendu Mukherjee, Aninda Roy and all parents and family members who sent us pictures. The editors gratefully acknowledge all contributions to and for this newsletter. Please send us your comments and contributions at [kchakrabarty@comcast.net](mailto:kchakrabarty@comcast.net) and [gitamand@comcast.net](mailto:gitamand@comcast.net). The Puja issue, printed in Kolkata, will be available in Streamwood High School during Durga Puja. See you there!

Shubho Mahalaya will be celebrated on October 1 (6-9 PM) in Indo-American Center (6328 North California Avenue, Chicago IL 60659) with a cultural program including recitations, dances, and songs by children, songs and dances by accomplished performers and a short play. Charge \$10 per family. For details, call Anjan Roy (815-372-2772) or Partha Majumdar (847-963-0139)

## বঙ্গমেলা

গত ২২,২৩, ও ২৪ জুলাই শিকাগোতে বেঙ্গলি এসোসিয়েশনের উদ্যোগে সপ্তম বঙ্গমেলা উদযাপিত হলো। শহরতলির উইনডহাম হোটেলে এই তিনদিন পূর্বের ভেলা ভেসেছিল। অনুষ্ঠান পরিচালনার ভার ছিল কলকাতার মধুমন্তী মৈত্রের ওপর। মধুমন্তীর বলার ধরন পরিচ্ছন্ন, সুন্দর উচ্চারণে প্রতিটি শব্দের অর্থকে লক্ষ্যে পৌঁছে দেয়ার ক্ষমতা তিনি



রাখেন। শুক্রবার রাতে কলকাতা থেকে আমন্ত্রিত শিল্পী দের মধ্যে প্রথম মঞ্চে উপস্থিত হন ইন্দ্রনীল সেন। সুরে, অভিযাজ্ঞিতে, কণ্ঠগুনে এবং প্রাণে ভরে ওঠে গান। ইন্দ্রনীলের গানের ভঙ্গিতে এমন একটি স্বাভাবিক সৌন্দর্য আছে যা তাঁকে সহজেই বিশিষ্টতা দেয়।



শুক্রবার রাতের শেষ শিল্পী ছিলেন শ্রাবণী সেনের সুরেলা, দরদি কণ্ঠ পরিবেশিত রবীন্দ্রসঙ্গীত সকলের মন কেড়ে নেয়। একই সঙ্গে রবীন্দ্রসদন, নজরুল মঞ্চে চলছিল প্রাণেশ সোমের পল্লিগীতি,



মধুমন্তী মৈত্র, ঋতুপর্ণা ও বিশ্বনাথনের



শ্রুতি নাটক, অরিজিৎ দাসের সেতার। আমেরিকার প্রখ্যাত লেখিকা চিত্রা বনার্জি দিভাকরনির সাহিত্য আলোচনা সভায় বাবা, মা দের সঙ্গে দ্বিতীয় প্রজন্মের যুবক যুবতীরা সমান তালে অংশগ্রহণ করেন।



এই আলোচনা সভাটি হয়েছিল অত্যন্ত উচ্চমানের। চিত্রার অমায়িক ব্যবহার ও সাবলীল ব্যক্তিত্ব ছোট বড় সকলকে মুগ্ধ করে। শনিবার রাতের শেষ শিল্পী ছিলেন নচিকেতা চক্রবর্তী। নচিকেতা গানের সঙ্গে সঙ্গে নানা রকম রসিকতা

করে দর্শকদের মাতিয়ে রাখেন।



কলকাতা থেকে আমন্ত্রিত শেষ গায়ক ছিলেন রাঘব চট্টোপাধ্যায়। রাঘব তাঁর ভরাট গলায় বাংলা ও হিন্দী গান শুনিতে শ্রোতাদের মনোরঞ্জন করেন।



শিকাগোর স্থানীয় শিল্পীদের নিবেদিত শেষ অনুষ্ঠান "উচিৎপুরের তিন পুরুষ" নাটকটিতে প্রবীণ ও নবীন প্রজন্মের দ্বন্দ্ব সুন্দর ভাবে প্রস্ফুটিত হয়।



বঙ্গমেলার শেষ অনুষ্ঠান ছিল নান্দীকারের নাটক "বাপ্পাদিত্য"। এই একক নাটকে সোহিনী হালদারের অনবদ্য অভিনয় অতুলনীয়।



সোহিনী বিভিন্ন চরিত্রের আনন্দ, ব্যর্থতা, ক্ষোভ, অসহায়তার স্তর গুলি স্পষ্ট ভাবে ফুটিয়ে তুলতে সক্ষম হয়েছেন। দীর্ঘ দু'বছরের অক্লান্ত পরিশ্রমের ফসল এই সাফল্যমণ্ডিত বঙ্গমেলা, যাকে বিদেশে বাঙালীর মিলনমেলা বলে অতৃপ্তি করা হবেনা। সুদূর পশ্চিমে এক বালক পূর্বের হাওয়া এনে আমাদের তৃষণার্ত মনকে ভরিয়ে দেবার জন্য বঙ্গমেলার কর্মকর্তাদের অসংখ্য ধন্যবাদ।



বঙ্গমেলার মতন জমকাল কার্যক্রমবহুল অনুষ্ঠানের সম্পূর্ণ বিবরণ দেওয়া আমাদের এই ক্ষুদ্র সমাজ সংবাদ পত্রিকায় সম্ভব হল না। **খনা দেব** বিভিন্ন পত্রিকার জন্য একটি রচনা লিখেছেন সেইথেকে কয়েকটি কথা উদ্ধৃত করা হোল আমাদের তোলা কটি ছবির সঙ্গে। আগামী সংখ্যাগুলোতে এবং অন্যান্য বাংলা পত্রিকায় আরো অনেকের লেখা বঙ্গমেলার গল্প পড়ার সুযোগ পাবেন। সূমিত রায়ের অতি সুন্দর অলংকরণের নিদর্শন অনেক ছবিতে দেখা যাচ্ছে। সম্পাদিকাঙ্ক



**CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE IN OUR COMMUNITY** who received a degree or a diploma from high school, college, university or professional school in 2005. Here is a list of 12 recent graduates. The pictures are on the back cover (clockwise, starting from graduate #1, Jishnu, at one-o'clock).

1. **Yugarshi (Jishnu)**, son of Jyoti Prakash and Indrani Mondal graduated from Illinois Math and Science Academy in Aurora on June 4. He won individual awards as a swimmer, saxophonist and member of Olympiad teams and conducted research in Alzheimer disease. He will be attending Case Western University in Cleveland, Ohio.
2. **Pritha**, daughter of Partha and Ruma Majumdar graduated from William Fremd High School on June 5 as an honor roll student. She will be attending University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign where she will be studying accountancy.
3. **Novjal**, the only son of Drs. Sakti and Nakshatra Roy, graduated from Evanston Township High school in June. He is planning to attend University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC) in the fall, and will be majoring in premedical sciences. We will miss him at the Rogers park soup kitchen where he regularly volunteered.
4. **Anuj**, son of Asim and Alpana Gangopadhyaya, and “anuj” (younger brother) of Ananya, graduated from Hinsdale Central. He is a high honor student and an Illinois State Scholar. He is planning to go to Loyola University in Chicago.
5. **Prodeep**, the youngest son of Monisha and the late Dr. Jagat K. Datta, graduated from University of Illinois Urbana Champaign (UIUC) School of Business, on May 14. At UIUC, he attended the prestigious Industrial Distribution Management (IDM) program which integrates both business strategy and industrial engineering. He won first place in a Case competition sponsored by the Ford Corporation. He has joined IBM Business Consulting in Chicago.
6. **Dave Deep**, the only son of Dilip and Manika Dhar graduated on May 7 from Indiana University at Bloomington. Dave graduated with honors, majoring in Finance and Management with a minor in the Business Foundations Program from the Kelley School of Business. He has been nominated to the National Dean’s List. Dave is working as an investment banker/financial consultant with ABN AMRO Financial in Chicago. ABN AMRO stands for Algemene Bank Nederland (ABN Bank) and Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank (AMRO Bank). Locally, they own LaSalle bank and hold their greatest presence internationally.
7. **Anirban**, son of Drs. Alak and Anjali Bhattacharyya, graduated from University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC). He majored in Political Science and Philosophy and his honors include being a James Scholar and the Dean’s list. He will be teaching at the Gateway Institute of Technology, St. Louis, as part of the *Teach for America* program. He will also prepare for graduate or law school.



8. **Anita**, daughter of Dipak and Nelly Chatterjee, graduated from DePaul University with high honors. She was the recipient of Outstanding Senior Leader award and the Rev. Ben Richardson Humanitarian Award. She was the founder of the Chicago Chapter of Sankara Eye Foundation. She was also the chairperson of Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority, president of the multicultural Greek Council and the president of South Indian Student Association. Presently she is working for WGN TV.

9. **Sayon**, son of Samir and China Dutta, received his M.D. degree from Loyola University at Chicago. He will start his four-year Emergency Medicine Residency Program at Harvard University Hospitals in Boston, Massachusetts.

10. **Pratima** Patil-Dutta, wife of Sayon and daughter-in-law of Samir and China, received an M.A. degree in Anthropology from the the University of Chicago and plans to pursue a Ph. D. program in Anthropology in the Boston area. She is a member of the Midwest Regional Advisory Committee for Amnesty International. She currently heads the Human Rights Education Program in the Midwest region.

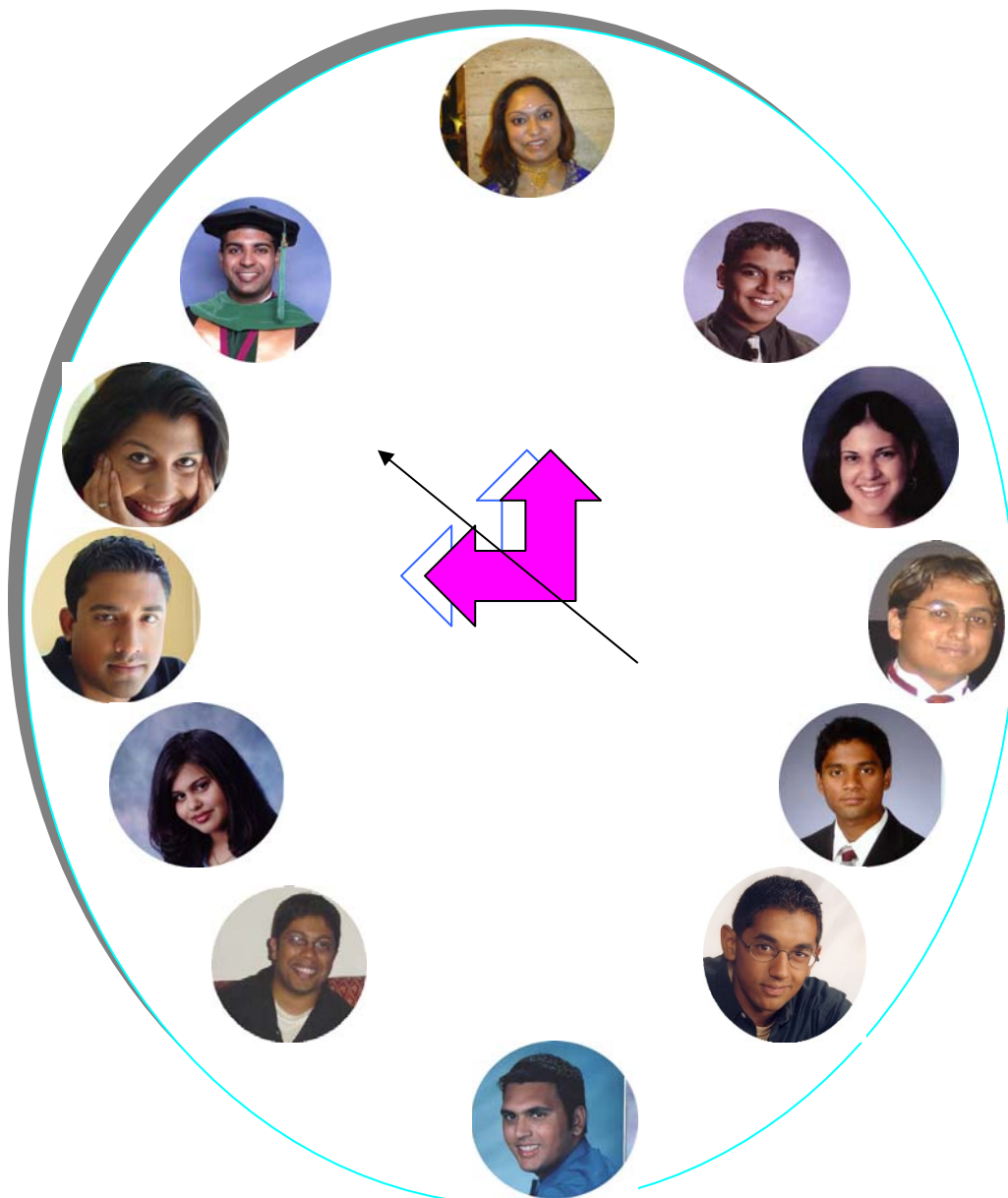
11. **Deepak**, son of Drs. Pradyot and Sanjukta Mitra and older brother of Kanika and Rakhee, received his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) on May 6. He is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha (ΑΩΑ) Honor Medical Society. He had received the Leonard Kotin Award for “Excellence in understanding the concepts of Physical Chemistry” as an undergraduate at UIC. He has started his residency program in Internal Medicine at Mayo Graduate School of Medicine in Rochester, Minnesota and hopes to become a cardiologist.

12. **Kumarika**, daughter of Santi and Mekhala Banerjee, received her Ph.D. degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) College of Medicine on May 6. Her thesis title was “Molecular Targets of Chromosome 8 Mediated Suppression of Malignancy”. She is continuing her studies at UIC.

### ***Bharatanatyam Arangetram***

**Monica**, daughter of Dibyen and Rupa Majumdar gave a spellbinding performance at the Richard Burton Performing Arts Center on August 27. Her dance repertoire consisted of 9 dances, starting with Pushpanjali and ending with Mangalam. Besides her esteemed Guru, Shreemati Hema Rajgopalan, the artistic director of Natya Dance Theater, three leading musicians from India, Suseela Ramaswami (vocal), T.S. Sankaran (flute) and G. Vijayraghavan (Mridangam) created beautiful music together, as they accompanied her. The songs were sung in four languages. The narration by Krithika Rajgopalan was most eloquent and memorable. We hope to see Monica, a senior at Oak Park River High School, in many future performances, as a dancer and a choreographer, as we have done with other dance graduates in our community. Way to go, Monica!





CONGRATULATIONS!

**Bengali Association of Greater Chicago**  
**984 Hampton Park, Barrington, IL 60010-3160**

