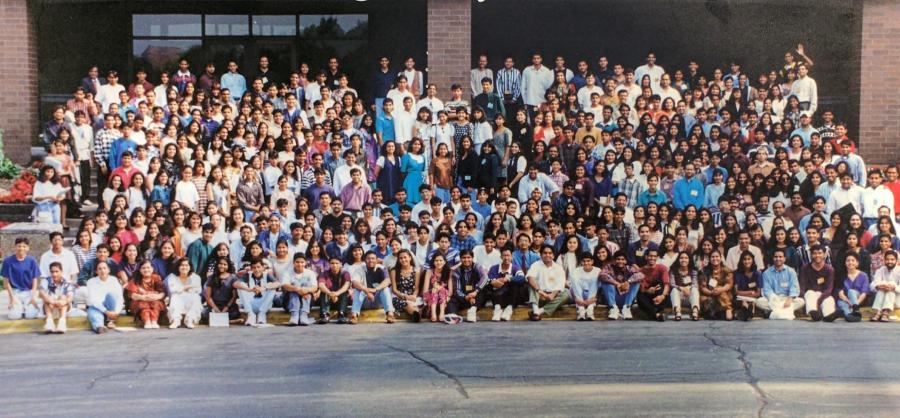




# Young Jains of America

First Biennial YJA Convention  
Chicago - July 1-4, 1994



# 2018 YJA Convention Chicago, IL

*Reconnecting With Our Roots*



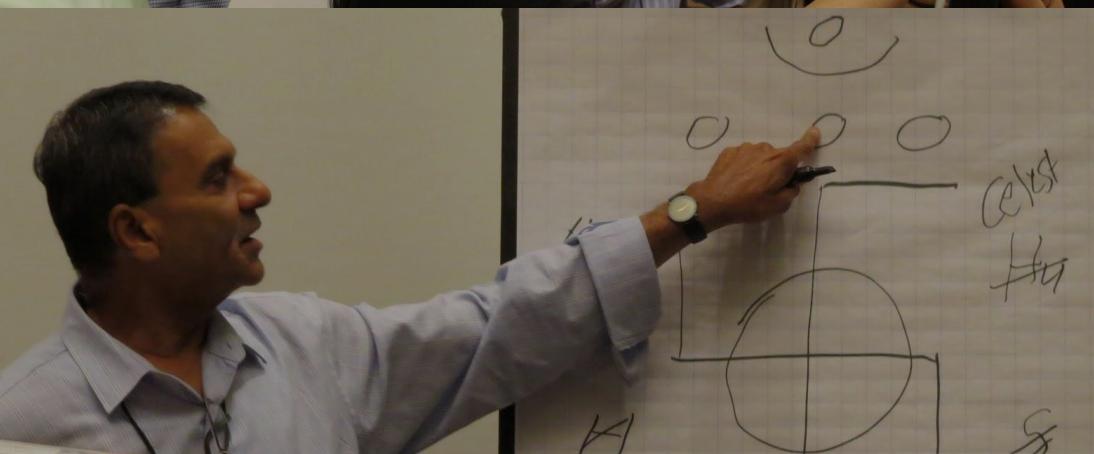


# About YJA

- Young Jains of America (YJA) is a youth organization under JAINA which emphasizes youth ***religious and social engagement*** throughout the country
- Ages 14 - 29; nationally representing over ***10,000 members***
- Various projects and events, such as regional retreats, YJA Forums, College Chapters, YJA Pathshala, and more



# Awareness & Education



- YJA looks to *raise awareness* about Jain ideals and principles in North America and the world
- YJA uses its platform to increase Jain knowledge among youth through *YJA Pathshala & YJA Forums*, and its presence in Sangh Pathshalas



# Connection & Discussion

- YJA develops friendships among the youth who follow ***Jain values***
- YJA creates a ***space*** for sharing Jain religion
- YJA wants its members to address the ***problems, difficulties, and concerns*** facing the Jain youth through its ***events, platforms, and Young Minds***



## Community & Interaction

- YJA's Executive Board works with a network of *Local Representatives, local Jain youth groups, College Chapters, and interfaith organizations*
- They work across six U.S. regions to host events, develop and share resources, and build communities in Sanghs and cities

# Future of Jainism



- YJA's members are the next generation of *Jain leaders* in North America
- YJA strives to constantly bring together the knowledge and wisdom of our *global community* with the technology and opportunity of the 21st century to make Jainism relevant to their daily lives



# Accomplishments

27 YEARS

6 REGIONS

12 CONVENTIONS

131 LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

# A Year In Review

48 Page Young Minds Issue

14 College Chapters Formed

Increased Sangh Outreach

207 Retreat Attendees

152 Local Events

YJA Pathshala





# 2018 YJA Convention Update

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April 2018



Location: The Westin O'Hare

- Negotiated the **most cost-efficient contract** in the last 10 years
- Confirmed JSMC partnership in May '17
- Signed contract in September '17
- Complimentary shuttle service to & from O'Hare for attendee security
- Only group at the hotel during Convention weekend

37 youth on Convention Committee; **12 from Chicago**

49 Subcommittee Members; **18 from Chicago**

# Attendees

150 JSMC Sangh

270 High School

230 College

250 JNF (21+)

750 Total





**Unsubsidized Registration Price**

\$399 \$449

**Subsidized Registration Price**

\$325 \$399

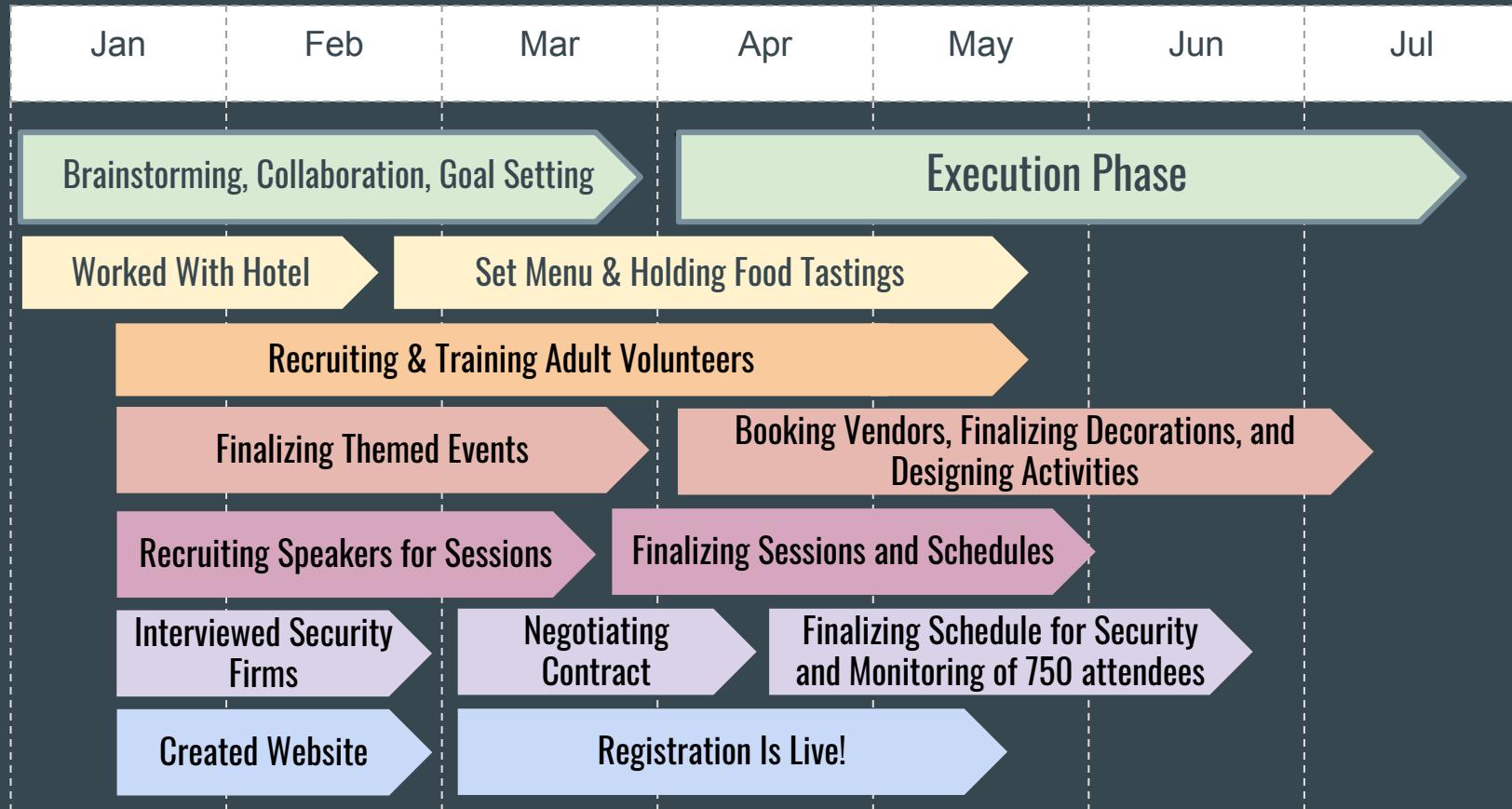
**National Fundraising Goal**

\$40,000

**Local Fundraising Goal**

\$40,000

# Timeline & Convention Plan



# Co-Chairs



## Chintav Shah

- New Jersey native and graduate from University of Pennsylvania
- Currently a strategy consultant for Fortune 500 companies at PwC



## Dharmi Shah

- Alabama native
- Currently a 3rd year pharmacy student at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy



## Jinen Shah

- Alabama native and currently completing 4th year rotation in Atlanta
- Graduating in May to become an eye doctor



## Siddharth Shah

- Houston native
- Sophomore majoring in chemical engineering at Texas A&M University

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- YJA Director of Projects '16-'17
  - JAINA Youth Activities Lead 2017
  - YJA Director of Education & Daytime Co-Lead '15-'16
  - Jain Academic Bowl 2007-2015

- JAINA Convention Board '18-'19
- YJA Director of Events '16-'17
- YJA Security Co-Lead '15-'16
- JAINA Lead 2015

- JAINA Lead 2015
- YJA Southeast Regional Coordinator '13-'14
- YJA Social Co-Lead '13-'14

- South Regional Coordinator '16-'17
- President of Houston Youth Group '15-'16
- Jain Academic Bowl 2011-2017

# Committee Updates

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## Adult Volunteers



- 85 Volunteers Signed Up
- Recruiting at all JSMC local events
- Engaging with adults to accommodate their needs at the AV Lounge at Convention
- Hosting in-person and online Volunteer training sessions



## Hospitality & Souvenirs

- Determining snacks for attendees and volunteers
- Finalizing and purchasing souvenirs including T-Shirts, water bottles, pens, and more for both attendees and volunteers
- Creating the **digital souvenir book** with session and sponsor details



## Site

- Set up the **Convention Menu** (Italian, Indian, etc.)
- Held multiple food tastings at the hotel
- Researching and speaking with local caterers

## Security

- Signed a **Security Contract** with a local company
- Designing Security Packet with safety/security guidelines
- Setting up RAs (Residential Advisors) for each floor



## Registration & Tech

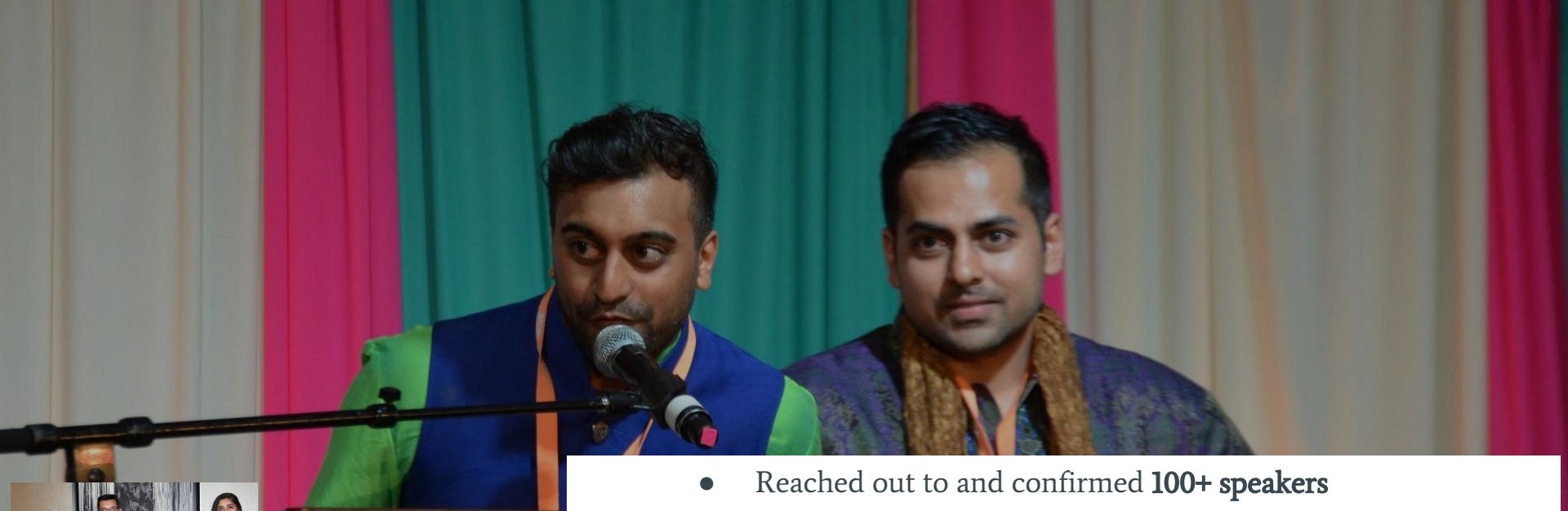
- Set up Convention website at [convention.yja.org](http://convention.yja.org)
- Integrating QR Codes on Attendee Badges
- Signing Audio-Visual contract
- Updating website with Session, Speaker, and Sponsor Information



## Public Relations

- PR'd Reg to have the **fastest sellout** in YJA Convention History
- Sending attendee Convention updates and newsletter
- Designing Convention event graphics and materials
- Working with JSMC for Photography & Videography



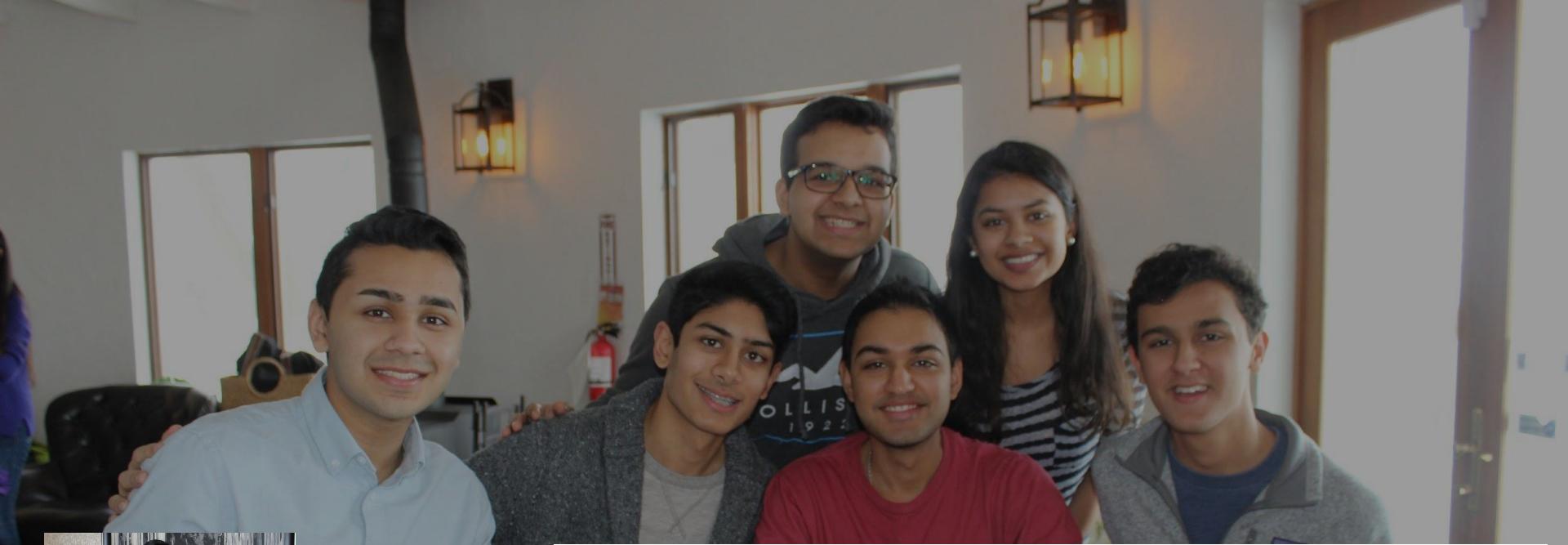


## Daytime Programming

- Reached out to and confirmed **100+ speakers**
- Creating interactive sessions and presentations
- Inviting dignitaries and local political leaders to Convention
- Jain Academic Bowl @ YJA
- Essay Contest

## Jain Networking Forum

- Networking Event & Onsite Team-Building Activity
- **Jains In Action @ YJA**
- Planning engaging nighttime social events



## Social Programming

- Planning and organizing evening events
- **Garba & Raas, Talent Show, Ice Breakers, Carnival Night, and Formal Night**
- Purchasing decorations and Dandiyas for all attendees



## Fundraising

- Collaborating with JSMC for **Pre-Convention Dinner & Pledge Drive** to update and interact with the local Sangh
- National Sangh and Entrepreneur Outreach for Sponsorships



# Thank You

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***JSMC Board of Trustees***  
***JSMC Executive Committee***  
***JSMC Members and Guests***  
***Our YJA Members***  
***Volunteers***  
***Food Services & Staff***





# 2018 YJA Convention Update

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# YJA Convention Sponsorship Opportunities

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# Sponsorship Levels for #YJA18

\$5,001	Gold	\$1001	Bronze	\$201	Donor
\$2,501	Silver	\$501	Sponsor	\$101	Contributor

*Reconnecting With Our Roots*



# Sponsorship Details

## Gold Sponsor

\$5,001

- Public Recognition during opening and closing ceremonies
- \*Highlight! – Speaker Session (3) or Breakfast
- Full page ad in the Souvenir Booklet
- Recognition on the YJA Convention Website
- Copy of the Souvenir Booklet

## Bronze Sponsor

\$1,001

- ½ page ad in the Souvenir Booklet
- Recognition on the YJA Convention Website
- Copy of the Souvenir Booklet

## Sponsor

\$501

- ¼ page ad in the Souvenir Booklet
- Recognition on the YJA Convention Website
- Copy of the Souvenir Booklet

## Silver Sponsor

\$2,501

- \*Highlight! – Speaker Session (1)
- ½ page ad in the Souvenir Booklet
- Recognition on the YJA Convention Website
- Copy of the Souvenir Booklet

## Donor

\$201

- Recognition on the YJA Convention Website
- Online Copy of the Souvenir Booklet





Q&A