



IRCC
INDIAN REGIONAL &
CULTURAL CENTER



12th
Diwali
FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16th, 2024

BROWARD COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER,
FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA



IRCC
INDIAN REGIONAL &
CULTURAL CENTER



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DIWALI COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT LARGE



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IT Co-Chair



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Dr. Megha Gupta, MD, MBA

Cultural Co-Chair





IRCC
INDIAN REGIONAL &
CULTURAL CENTER



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COMMITTEE CHAIRS



Durgesh Thaker, DDS
Co-Chair



Sanjay Gupta, CPA
Co-Chair

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Prem Mirpuri
IRCC President



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Public Relation Co-Chair



Alok Deoraj
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Public Relation Co-Chair



Soham Vyas
Vendor Co-Chair



Co-Chair Message

Ladies and gentlemen,

Wish you all happy Diwali!

I feel privileged to be associated with the IRCC (Indian Religious Cultural Center and later changed to Indian Regional Cultural Center) since 1981. I have witnessed the IRCC going through growing phases since 1983, when the IRCC was formed by like-minded 100 to 150 individuals to celebrate Navratri and Diwali.

Later the IRCC started celebrating Kite Flying, Lohri and Republic day in January, Festival of color's Holi in March, Navratri in October and Diwali in November.

The RCC has one goal in mind to pass on our heritage to future generations & share our culture with local communities.

Since 2011, IRCC Diwali Festival moved its Diwali event location from the Broward County School to the Broward County Convention Center and provided platform to almost 1000 performers of all ages to perform on the stage. This year, we have received 10 Adult Non competition and 11 Adult competition entries. Thanks a lot to all participants you all are our celebrities on stage.

Thanks to all my Diwali committee members for working hard to make this event iconic. Also I would like to thank my family to support me to carry on for such a long time.

Finally, I request all of you to support IRCC financially by donating generously as we are a 501 (3)© Non-Profit Organization & teaching youth our traditions & culture.

Thank you all.

Dr. Durgesh Thaker, DDS

Co-Chair, Indian Regional and Cultural Center (IRCC)





Co-Chair Message

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 12th annual IRCC Diwali Festival of Lights! Each year, this festival brings us together to celebrate Diwali, share in the joy of Indian culture, and create lasting memories. It's truly special to see so many of you here, and I wish each of you a bright and joyous Diwali!

This event wouldn't be possible without the energy and dedication of our incredible performers, from children to adults, who spent months preparing for today. Through dance, music, and art, they showcase the diversity of Indian heritage with such passion. I want to thank every participant, choreographer, and family for bringing this festival to life and filling it with such enthusiasm and pride.

Our journey to bring this festival to you starts almost a year in advance. From coordinating cultural entries and vendors to gathering support from local organizations, every detail takes time and dedication. A huge thank-you goes to our IRCC Board, their families, committee members, and volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure this day is seamless and joyful.

I also want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our sponsors American Heritage School, Bank United, Patel Brothers, Jalaram Produce and BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir who has been supporting year after year. Your generosity allows us to make this celebration truly memorable.

To our vendors, thank you for bringing the colors, flavors, and style of Indian culture to this event—it wouldn't be the same without you! And a special thank-you to the Honorable Mayors and Commissioners of Broward County and Fort Lauderdale for joining us; your presence means so much to our community.

I want to say big thank you to the entire team of Broward County Convention Center for their beautiful five-star facility with all logistics under one roof, Ever last Productions for Sound, Music and Light, Vista South Convention Services for Exhibitor Booths and Edlen for Electricity who has been providing their services since 2011 to make happen Diwali event with all the required best facilities.

Lastly, I want to thank my family. My wife, Nidhi, and my sons, Dr. Harshit and Prateek, have been my constant support through every step of this journey. Their encouragement allows me to put my heart into this event year after year, and I am deeply grateful for their love.

Thank you all for being here, for celebrating, and for being a part of this community. Wishing you a Happy Diwali and a wonderful year ahead!

With warm regards,

Sanjay Gupta, CPA

Event Co-Chair



Thank You!

BankUnited is proud to support the

Indian Regional & Cultural Center

Diwali Festival of Lights

Thank you for enriching our community
through your Indian heritage and culture.





President Message

Dear Friends,

As we come together for Diwali, I feel so grateful for the strength and unity in our South Florida community. Lighting the Diwali lamps reflects our shared values—bringing light and knowledge and removing ignorance. It also reminds us of the example we set for our children, teaching them the importance of unity and community strength. This celebration not only showcases our rich culture but also strengthens the bonds between us.

A key part of keeping our culture strong is getting involved, especially when our community needs to be represented. This helps make sure our voices are heard and that our culture continues to thrive. Whether by attending events, financial donations, volunteering, supporting projects, filling out a survey or simply showing up, your involvement boosts our community's visibility and influence.

This year, Diwali has gained special recognition across the United States including Texas, Pennsylvania, New York and California. Pennsylvania became the first state to make Diwali a public holiday, showing its commitment to diversity. In New York City, Diwali was also made an official school holiday. The increased recognition of Diwali in the media and across institutions shows how Indian communities nationwide are bringing cultural celebrations into our local society. To the organizations and leaders promoting Indian culture—thank you for creating a strong foundation for our heritage.

I want to sincerely thank the city staff and elected officials from Coral Springs, Davie, Parkland, Pembroke Pines, Southwest Ranches, Sunrise, Tamarac, Weston, and Broward County for officially recognizing Diwali and Hindu Heritage Month. This acknowledgment shows the value our culture adds to South Florida.

This Diwali feels especially meaningful as we go through election season and face global challenges. These times remind us of the need for understanding, respect, and open dialogue—values that are core to our traditions. Whether it's different political views or complex world issues, the answer lies in finding common ground, respecting each other, and working for peace. The world benefits when we choose understanding and compassion over conflict.

To our friends, members, and supporters, thank you for being the heart of IRCC. Your involvement allows us to host events, youth programs, and initiatives that keep us connected. I also thank all IRCC Board members and their families for their dedication and hard work throughout the whole year - your passion and efforts continue to help IRCC grow.

A heartfelt thanks to our sponsors, donors, vendors, and advertisers. Your support makes these celebrations possible, and we couldn't do it without you.

My deepest appreciation to the incredible performers and volunteers—children and adults alike—who have devoted countless hours to bring creativity, artistry, and joy to the event. Your dedication, dance, and talent bring these celebrations to life, and without you, our festivities would be incomplete. You inspire awe and pride in our community and remind us of the vibrancy of our culture.

I am truly blessed and grateful to my family for their constant support, guidance, and love. Without their patience and understanding, I wouldn't have the strength to continue this journey.

As we celebrate Diwali, let's remember the light we bring to each other's lives and the legacy we are building for future generations.

Wishing everyone a joyful Diwali and a happy, prosperous New Year!

With warm regards and deepest appreciation,

Prem Mirpuri

President, Indian Regional Cultural Center (IRCC)



Happy Diwali

WE WANT TO CONGRATULATE
SANJAY GUPTA, MOHAN GUPTA &
THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR
A WONDERFUL DIWALI FUNCTION



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<p>Monthly Local Satsang Sabha</p>	<p>Monthly local Satsang Sabha in Port St. Lucie, Palm Beach Gardens, Wellington, Coral Springs and Pembroke Pines</p>
<p>Weekly Youth Activities for Boys on Sunday</p>	<p>Ages: 5 to 13 2:30pm to 3:30pm, Gujarati Class 4:30pm to 6:00pm, Kids Sabha (Value Based Discourses) Ages: 14 to 22 2:00pm to 3:30pm, Sabha (Value Based Discourses)</p>
<p>Weekly Youth Activities for Girls on Sunday</p>	<p>Ages: 5 to 13 12:00pm to 1:00pm, Bharatanatyam Class 2:30pm to 3:30pm, Gujarati Class 4:00pm to 6:00pm, Kids Sabha (Value Based Discourses) Ages: 14 to 22 11:00am to 12:00pm, Bharatanatyam Class 3:30pm to 5:30pm, Sabha (Value Based Discourses)</p>
<p>Year Round Activities</p>	<p>Diwali, New Year, Ram Navmi, Janmashami, Holi, Sports Day, Walkathon, Health Lectures, Food Drive, Cultural Programs and More!</p>



Scan to join our Telegram Channel to receive regular updates



Happy Diwali

To IRCC for a Successful Diwali Event!

With Appreciation to Sanjay Gupta, CPA and Dr. Durgesh Thaker



Drs. Achala & Bharat Gupta

Dr. Mohit & Reema Gupta

Dr. Anmol Gupta

**Wishing everyone a
Happy Diwali
and
Happy New Year from**



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Happy Diwali
and a Prosperous New year!*



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Happy Diwali & Prosperous New Year



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Happy Diwali



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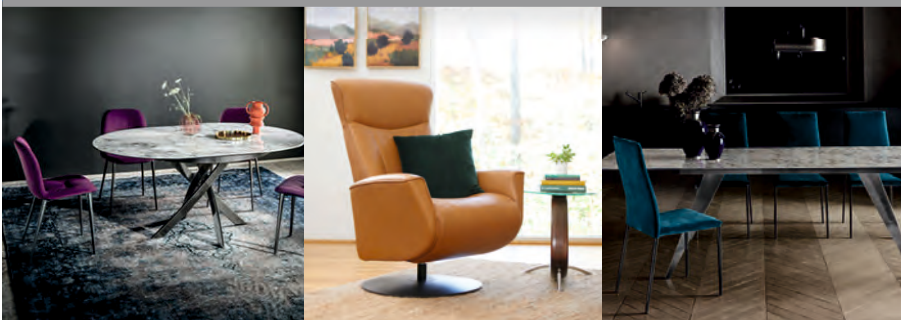
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May this Diwali bring lots of good luck & success to you!

Happy Diwali & Happy New year!

From All of us at

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"Wishing you a Diwali filled with endless blessings and light."

Happy
Diwali

Sanjay Gupta
(CPA)

Mohit Bansal
(CEO)
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*Wishing you a very Happy Diwali
and a Prosperous New Year!*


**HAPPY
Diwali**

**SHREE AANAL ARYAN EESHA
SIMBA**

To the Entire Community.....

Happy Diwali--Happy New Year

Ravi Kapila

Soneet & Prabodh Kapila

Ashish and Amol



Seasons Greetings
To the entire community from
Sanjay, Shanu, Sachet and Saanvi Paharia



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Kids' and Adults' Performance

IRCC DIWALI 2024

1 NACH TINY DIVAS

Aanya Chadha, Aarna Choksi, Aarna Chopra,
Diya Tatineni, Ira Kumar, Ira Naidu,
Naya Chadha, Rhea Jayavarapu, Sahasra
Gosetty, Sanya Arora, Tasya Nambia
Choreographed by - Avani Kandepaneni

2 KATHAK QUEENS

Aadhira Aravind, Aarna Mishra,
Alenka Gupta, Arya Mehta, Eva Joshi,
Myra Gandhi, Radha Dandekar, Saanvi
Dholabhai, Savi Gorule, Shanaya Agarwal
Choreographed by - Vedavati Joshi

3 TWINKLING STARS

Anaya Pareek, Aria Kanuganti, Kriti Pokala,
Nidhi Nookala, Saanvi Nomula
Saanvika Turlapathi, Tiana Jijo
Choreographed by - Srinika Turlapathi

4 BUMBLE BEES

Aarna Kumar, Ahana Krishnan, Anay
Srivastava, Anika Srivastava, Arishka,
Arya, Adam, Avik Jain, Jeshna,
Naysa Bhadane, Ronav Agrawal, Sanvi
Srivastava, Shanaya Chaudhary, Shreyaan
gupta, Triman Kaur, Viaan Kalra
Choreographed by - Garima Srivastava

5 SOUTH FLORIDA HOPPERS - JUNIORS

Athul Sakthivel, Kedar Veerabaku, Mahathi
Veerabaku, Naysha Kanvinde, Nyra
Karthikeyan, Pranav Prakash, Raksha Balaji,
Rakshi Balaji, Rayana Giri, Rheya Vijay,
Shravan Siva, Siddharth Kivlekar, Siddharth
Kivlekar, Vedh Arjun, Viyan Bharathkumar,
Yashika Prakash
Choreographed by - Priya Prakash

6 THE MADHURI DIVAS

Aahna Patel, Bhakti Patel,
Meera Patel, Niya Patel,
Sanvi Bhatt,
Vajra Patel, Veera Patel
Choreographed by - Soha Bhatt

7 DESI DHAMAKA

Anisha Kakkad, Ariana Chegooru,
Arisha Sirka, Jara Dave, Rey Agrawal,
Reyan Kalra, Vihaan Tirmal,
Viresh Tirmal
Choreographed by - Rakhi Dave

8 DIVINE BEATZ

Aaliyah Patel, Aarush Patel, Ayaana,
Dev patel, Eesha Patel, Ria Thanki,
Riaan Gupta, Rohan Thanki,
Saavi Saraswat, Ved Patel
Choreographed by - Jagruti Hirani

9 NACH BALLIYE

Advik Gupta, Adwita Pillai, Ahaan Agarwal,
Anagha Subramanya, Arnab Singh, Ashirya
Grandhe, Avyan Thakur, Deeza Verma,
Dhanya Kolasani, Gurseerat Ahuja Kaina
Thakur, Kavya Shah, Krishna Kumari, Rishit
Jain, Shaurya Panwar, Shreyanshi Deb,
Trinabh Jha, Yuvaan Singh
Choreographed by - Sonia Guha

10 DANCING DAISIES

Aayurda Gopireddy, Akshara Valicherla,
Anika Katakam, Anvitha Kasula,
Myra Verma, Nihira Reddy Palla,
Sarayu Chitneni
Choreographed by - Moms

11 KOOLKIDZ CREW

Abhinav Miharia, Ayansh Bhasal,
Nihith Pinjarla, Om Dandekar, Prisha Shah,
Prisha Sood, Rudra Patel, Saachi Gupta,
Sameeha Joshi, Sonika Sukumar
Choreographed by - Anamika Agarwal

11-A HEART THROBS

Alyssa Garg, Aarav Sharma, Kaj Jagasia,
Yunay T Doulani, Yuv T Doulani, Veer Gawri,
Ziaan Gawri, Sahana Dalal, Kush Dalal,
Samyra, Kiran Wadhwa, Ishaan Mirpuri,
Siya Shahi, Prish Shahi, Ira Mittal,
Vivaan Gogineni-Vatturi, Aira Asher
Choreographed by - Tanya Jain

12 DANCING DYNAMITES

Aadit Patel, Aadya Amin, Avyaan Patel,
Jiaan Patel, Kesar Sisodia, Prisha Shah
Reyansh Barot, Rishika Shah, Urvi patel
Choreographed by - Karishma Patel

13 JWALAMUKHIS

Ajani Evans, Aria Mahesh, Deetya,
Jaasritha Mothish, Nayonika Dhilip Kumar
Saanika Gowda, Sarah Navis, Subha Shree,
Tanushka Santhosh Kumar
Choreographed by - Zehaan Anand

14 BOOM CLAPS DANCE GROUP

Aadhya Trehan, Aadisha Gundecha,
Aanya Garg, Aavya Garg, Adriaan Tayal,
Akshit Chaturvedi, Aradhya Trehan, Karthik
Babu, Lakshya Sujeesh, Neisha Thakkar Risha
Gundecha, Ryan Agrawal, Shyra Shrivastav
Choreographed by - Disha Thakkar

Kids' and Adults' Performance

IRCC DIWALI 2024

15 TEAM DIAMOND DOLLS

Aadhya Maram, Jeevika Kommanabboyina, Lakshana, Karthikeyan, Maanya Donthineni, Naavi Patwa, Niya Patwa, Ovi Madhamshettiwar, Zoya Mannuru
Choreographed by - Lavanya Vempati

16 NATYA VEDARPANA

Aashrita Keerthana Anumukonda, Avlin Ashishkumar Patel, Henny Sandip Patel, Saanvi Bhavik Patel, Tanishka Allada, Zoey Bhatt
Choreographed by - Shruti Narasimhan

17 CHAK DE PHATTE

Anvit Chaudhari, Dhvani Nikhil, Grishma Hebbar, Kanya Mageshwaran, Reyansh Srivastava, Sanvi Phadatare, Tanush Joshi
Choreographed by - Sumeet Gulati

18 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Ameya Jayaraj, Arjun Jayaraj, Dev Anand, Haridev Anand, Siddharth Nair, Siddharth Nalakath, Sri Krishna Balamurugan
Choreographed by - Jayaraj Sivasankaran

19 DANCING DOLLS

Dimple Regatti, Gia John, Grace Johnson, Nia John, Pravina Nair, Prisha Lohkare, Riva Borkar, Riya Srivastava, Saishya Danda
Choreographed by - Diana Sequeira

20 SHUB DIWALI

Aishleen, Ashwarya menghraj, Guru Menghraj, Ikroop Singh, Ishmeet Kaur, Karma Kaur, Shayla, Shriya
Choreographed by - Moms

21 IMAGINE STARS

Elna Bir, Hana Lattore, Ishita Hareendran, Scarlet Gunawarden, Valentina Escalona, Veronica Olbrich
Choreographed by - Isabbel Bir

22 GROOVING GEMS

Alondra Raine Owens, Ivania Bhatia, Moksh Pusuluri, Mukht Patel, Neev Vunnam, Samveda Rohith, Sayeesha Prajapati, Shreyas Dalai, Sonal Adarsh Meda
Choreographed by - Sammanita Pradhan

23 PALM BEACH ROCKERS

Ananya Arun Kumar, Chaitra Reddy Jammula, Dhruv Iyer, Ishaan Venkatesh, Jay Iyer, Jayani Rajan, Meghana Chelum Kunnath, Reyansh Tirumala, Riaan Khurana, Saanvi Sagun, Samarth Venkatesh, Sanvi Venkatesh, Srinethra Venkitasamy, Swara Sagun
Choreographed by - Rishi Iyer

24 THE RHYTHM DANCE GROUP

Akshara Jha, Anjani Poduri, Bhavya Kumar, Diya Bhatt, Hitakshi Garu, Khushi Shah, Maanansvi shah, Manya Singh, Merlyn Aranha, Padmini Poduri, Radhika Kotecha, Sreemanya Mamidi, Srijani Deb, Vatsala Mishra
Choreographed by - Sanchari Sarkar

25 NACH DHAMAAL

Bhavesk Kukkala, Madhav Suresh, Pranav Venugopalan, Ranveer Patel, Rishab Chittiprol, Samarth Chandra, Sathvik Maddineni, Shaurya Peddireddy
Choreographed by - Satwik Maddineni

26 MIAMI JHANKAR LITTLE CHAMPS

Aanya Manikundalam, Abinav Balamurugan, Avish Bansal, Ayansh Khasa, Krishaa Mediratta, Maea Iyer Grover, Pradhiksha Dhiwakar, Samarth Mittal, Vaanika Aggarwal, Viaan Jain
Choreographed by - Dr. Megha Gupta

27 AGNI NAKSHATRAS

Akshaya Ramesh, Akshitha Thoppae, Anvita Narasimhan, Bhavana Jayakaran, Hiren Santhosh Kumar, Negaritha Dhillip Kumar, Sakish Thayagabalu, Shakti Kannan, Shankar Kannan, Subhiksha Anbarasan, Surya Ramesh, Thejavi Srinivasan Zehaan Anand
Choreographed by - Moms

27-A TEAM DANCE AND DAZZLE

Dhivya Bommakanti, DinaDsa, Neha Shah, Parimala Rao, Pooja Karhu, Shanti Viswanathan, Sujatha Santiago
Choreographed by - Dhivya Bhommakanti

27-B NARA BOLLYWOOD DANCE ACADEMY

Deep Mehta, John Pimentel, Krushna Mehta, Krystine Pimentel, Miguel Seco, Narayani Maharaj, Olga Giraldo, Pinky Jiteshkumar, Sana Iman, Sonia Hayes
Choreographed by - Narayani Maharaj

28 BOLLYWOOD DHAMAKA

Aaradhya Vishwakarma, Aisha Bhatt, Ayati Anamza, Ishani Habbu, Kavni Gupta, Misheeta Pattani, Moureen Datta, Pearl Bhatt, Protoma Dey, Shreeya Suresh, Tanisi Modak
Choreographed by - Sheli Chakraborty

29 SOFL HOPPERS (SOUTH FLORIDA HOPPERS)

Divyyashree Sathiaseelan, Keerthana Lakshmanan, Lakshika Sakthivel, Maya Venkatesh, Nila Krishnan, Ria Iyer, Rithiha Senthilkumar, Samyutha Selvam, Sneha Kivlekar, Varshaa Venkatesh
Choreographed by - Prakash Sugumaran

30 KAHINI DANCE COMPANY

Anjana Andapally, Anya Ahire, Arya Doshi, Avani Upadhyay, Bhumi Harpalani, Diya Deepak, Eesha Shah, Laya Nambiar, Olivia Dsa, Prajna Bhadauria, Shania Srivastav, Shreya Anand, Shriya, Sardesai, Shriya Telavane, Srimayi Yeedara, Tanvi Bhide, Tanvi Sama, Vernica Pulukuri, Vinisha Gurudu
Choreographed by - Kahini Chandriani

Kids' and Adults' Performance

IRCC DIWALI 2024

31 DESI GIRLS

Aditi Kasula, Anaika Kunduru, Ashu Aloori,
Gia Viradia, Gna Keerthika Gobada,
Kavitha Sreekumar, Risha Kunduru,
Shaun Kumar Kotha, Siana Kotha
Choreographed by - Moms

31-A TEAM DYNAMIC DANCERS

Anusha Velaga, Dharsana Dilliraja,
Fouziya Mannuru, Lavanya Vempati,
Monica Udayakumar, Priya Pabbhathi,
Priyanka Kodumuri, Rajitha Rajeshakaran
Choreographed by - Fouziya Mannuru

31-B TAAL TARANG

Apeksha Hanmattekar, Arunima Roy,
Garima Srivastava, Jinia Basuli, Madhuri
Mishra, Nipa Chanda, Pawan Preet kaur,
Priya Malekar, Priyanka Lad, Shobhnam
Bhandari, Shradha Acharya, Tanvee Jain
Choreographed by - Arunima Roy

32 BEAT BREAKERS TWEENS

Aadhya Palla, Annika Gupta, Areesha Joshi,
Ariana Verma, Arjun Kama, Avalokitha,
Khushi Ganeriwala, Krishna Mirpuri,
Ridhaan Joshi, Sarisha Verma,
Shivaan Patel, Vishan Habbu, Vivaan Modi
Choreographed by - Reshma Thummadi

33 NACH DANCING DIVAS

Aanshi Shah, Anika Mishra, Anushka
Miharia, Arah Agarwal, Eva Damani, Ishita
Damani, Ivanshi Gadani, Kashish Mirpuri,
Kyra Agarwal, Nethra Chittiprol,
Raavi Kadecha, Saisha Pandita,
Sanvi Pandya, Sayali Choudhari,
Simonne Kumar, Uma Hedge
Choreographed by - Neha Miharia

34 PALM BEACH BOLLYWOOD ROCKERS

Diya Shandalingam, Adhira Maia,
Aditi Seetharaman, Aditya Babji Rao,
Advaita Karlapudi, Anvita Kumbham,
Eva Basnet, Harsita Sathiyam, Kirthana
Mutukuru, Mabruk Alam, Nethra Reddy
Jammula, Rishi Iyer, Riya Karthik, Taroon
Muthuswamy, Trisha Babji Rao, Yuvan
Shandalingam
Choreographed by - Deepa Iyer

35 MJ DANCEHOLICS

Aarna Jindal, Anisha Aggarwal,
Mannat Mittal, Mihika Yadav, Nupur Joshi,
Priyal Khasa, Sakshi Joshi
Choreographed by - Rakhsha Dhiwakar

35-A SATRANGI SAKHIYAN

Della Sequeira, Diana Sequeira,
Jyoti Srivastava, Krupa Thakar
Neeta Thakar, Sneha Agarwal,
Vijita Kondapalli
Choreographed by - Neeta Thakar

35-B TEAM DANCERHOLICS

Akanksha Kumar, Bhavna Baranwal, Jaspreet
Gill, Lavanya Narasimhan, Meena Mani,
Meera Ramanathan, Meeta Govindarajan,
Natasha Mehra, Rama Suresh
Choreographed by - Meera Ramanathan

36 DESI RIZZLERS

Ashnia Bhatia, Gauri Chopra,
Inica Kaushal, Isha Bagalkotkar,
Roma Agarwal, Suhani Raval
Choreographed by - Inica Kaushal

37 FUSIONOVA DANCE

Aanya Patel, Aarush Doshi,
Aarushi Nanavati, Anushka Parikh,
Dillon Hedge, Kashvi Amin,
Prisha Patel, Saanvi Shah
Choreographed by - Arya Doshi

38 DANCE DEEWANE

Aaryan Shah, Kabir Sharma,
Krishiva Bansal, Rian Bhatt, Rishaan Bhatt,
Risheek De, Rohan Shah, Veer Sharma
Choreographed by - Shachi Sharma

39 THE LEZHIM GANG

Arpita Wari, Avanti Bhide, Ayan Anand,
Daksh Jain, Kabir Gandhi, Samana Rao,
Siyona Parashar, Vishnu Shivkumar
Choreographed by - Snehal Kasodekar

39-A COOL DADS

Abhishek Joshi, Manoj Harpalani,
Pravin Vazirani, Satyam Thakar,
Vikalp Gupta, Vikas Gupta, Vishal Tiwari
Choreographed by - Priyanka Saxena

40 TEAM CELEBRATION

Alba Li, Arnav Bhatia, Arush Chokshi,
Ashnia Bhatia, Inica Kaushal, Malia Jacob,
Samay Arora
Choreographed by - Priyanka Grover

41 BOLLY BOYZ

Aarav Ved, Ayaan Roy-Yadav, Ayansh Shah,
Deva Dixit, Laksh Thakkar, Parth Jain,
Parv Soni, Rihaan Roy-Yadav, Sanay Lunavat,
Vidit Gandhi, Vihaan Jain, Vishwa Dixit
Choreographed by - Aarushi Bavdekar

42 THE HIGH STEPPERS

Aadi Harpalani, Aanya Amith Ambhal, Anika
Mirchandani, Ayaan Thakkar, Dev Khiani,
Ishan Thakkar, Neal Patel, Nipun Duggaraju,
Reyhaan Thummadi, Tanmay Vazurani, Vishrit
Agrawal, Vivaan Khiani
Choreographed by - Vaibhav

42-A DYNAMIC DANCERS

Amarjeet Hundal, Mamta Kumar,
Pinal Kotech, Prescilla Barboj,
Rakhi Chaudhary, Sweta Tewary
Choreographed by - Mamta Kumar

42-B DAZZLING DIVAS

Garima Sharma, Jessy Miot, Marilyn Hu, Poornima Lohkara, Priyanka Saxena, Samantha Bagot
Choreographed by - Poornima Lohkare



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ADULTS' COMPETITION IRCC DIWALI-2024



1. REVA Dance Group

Aanchal Mathur, Anita Naik Satam, Anjali Konjalwar, Anushkha Godse, Archana Joshi, Chaitali Barve, Gauri Chaudhari, Pooja Joshi, Priyanka Kulkarni, Roshani Jaiswal, Sachin Chavan, Swati Dhokhade
Choreographed by - Chaitali Barve

2. Nach Meri Jaan

Amishi Patel, Barti Idnanni, Preetha Rajarajan, Prema Bhalerao, Sathvika Reddy Palvai, Shailaja Alluru, Shailaja Mali, Vanitha Vasudevan, Vinatha Rao
Choreographed by - Adults Competition

3. Miami Jhankars

Archana Selvam, Chancel Rana, Desika Pasera, Hema Sharma, Neelam Joshi, Niru Sinha, Priyanka Jindal, Rakesha Dhiwakar, Remu Bansal, Renu Singh, Rimpi Khurana, Sharan Seshadri, Shruti Gupta
Choreographed by - Hema Sharma

4. Shakti

Amrutha, Bindhu, Haritha Jillellamudi, Kavya Gangadhar, Meghana Padiginati Priya Muthuraja, Reshma, Sripriya Anand
Choreographed by - Priya Muthuraja

5. Ruby Royalty

Jhanvi Khatri, Lavisha Harpalani, Ritika Vazirani, Ruchi Joshi, Sakshi Arya, Shachi Sharma, Shalini Singh, Sweta Soni, Tarika Sagar
Choreographed by - Tarika Saagar

6. Divine Dancers

Anamika Agarwal, Nipa Doshi, Priti Joshi, Priya Alvadi, Priya Dixit, Snehal Kasodekar, Sreedevi Guntupalli, Vedavati Joshi
Choreographed by - Shivani Lakkad



7. Satrangi

Anshika Singh, Heena Bhatt, Jagruti Patel, Kreena Amin, Minal Upadhyay, Monika Ghelani, Parita Patel, Rinku Patel, Della Sequeira, Diana Sequeira, Jyoti Srivastava, Krupa Thakar, Neeta Thakar, Sneha Agarwal, Vijita Kondapalli
Choreographed by - Minal Upadhyay and Parita Patel

8. Bellissima

Anita Madan, Anu Alapati, Jasbeer Chhabra, Nisha Bhatt, Padmavalli, Sheli Chakraborty, Smitha Manjunatha
Choreographed - by Jasbeer Chhabra

9. BoomClaps Dance Group

Aavya Chaturvedi, Disha Thakkar, Lithika T, Nikki Mann, Pooja Jhavar, Reetika Tayal
Choreographed by Reetika Tayal

10. Nrityasurabhi

Beena Pandhare, Chaitrali Paripatyadar, Deepika Inarkar, Disha Mankame, Gauri Mankame, Jae Potade, Pranjali Choudhari, Sara Vaidya
Choreographed by Aparna Matange

11. Team Dhvani

Aisel B, Bincy R, Delvia J, Jasmine M, Jisha J Rani Arancherry, Rinu J, Ritty M, Siji
Choreographed by Rani Arancherry



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IRCC PATAKA HIGH SCHOOL DANCE COMPETITION AND PERFORMANCES

FUSION TEAMS

1. Rhythms Warriors

Choreographer: **Radha, NSU Maasti and Swarali**

Anjali Nori, Ann Abhilash, Anugraha Pereppadan, , Ashna Zacharias, Avnithaa Shree Thoppae, Darshana Vikas, Disha Krishna, Diya Dipuraj , Gia Joseph, Harshita Karumuri, Hridya Govind, Jesna Thomas, Justina Shibu, Kimaya Joshi, , Mahatthi Premkumar, Mahitha Gundre, Nandita Gopisetti, Rishita Vijay, Riya Bora, Seira Eldho, Yashika Masuram

2. The Five Tatvas

Choreographer: **Jigna M. Shah**

Aarushi Devidas Bavdekar, Adrika May Hierholzer, Anushka Atmaram, Anya Mody, Chitra Somshekar, Mayni Chikara, Siya Gupta, Syamala Sravani Pulugurtha, Tanisha Srivastava, Anamika Agarwal

3. Jazbaa

Choreographer: **Parita Patel**

Aanya Sheth, Ananya Zaverchand, Anya Khosa, Heer Bhavsar, Ishika Gadani, Jeeya Patel, Mahi Dadia, Mithil Khosa, Pia Patel, Prisha Patel, Rudraksh Modak, Shatabdi Shetiya, Soha Bhatt, Suhani Patel, Tanish Thakar, Yash Upadyay

BHANGRA TEAM

4. Fire and Ice

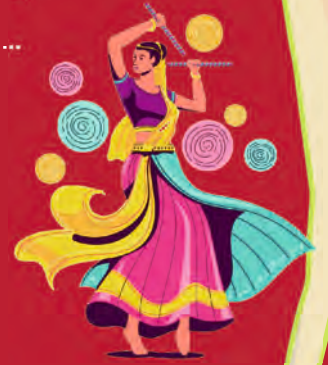
Choreographer: **Uma Thiagarajan**

Kaavya Thiagarajan, Meghna Kumar, Nila Narasimhan, Pragati Nagarajan, Sahana, Shreya Kempuraj, Shreya Prakash, Sruti Narasimham

5. Bhangra Raptors

Choreographer: **Tania Handa**

Manya Handa, Saanvi Handa, Navraj Dhillon, Yuvraj Dhillon, Millan Sawhney, Sofiapreet Sawhney, Vidhya Gupta, Sohni Sethi, Sehaj Grewal, Amaan Mahtani





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DIWALI DHAMAKA

INTERCOLLEGIATE COMPETITIONS
AND PERFORMANCES

FUSION COMPETITION

1. Team Name: **Desi Bullz** | University/College Name : **University of South Florida** | Choreographer: **Mizhgan Malik**
"Ahana Ellasetty, Amisha Shah, Anjali Mukkamalla, Fariha Mohammad, Gloria Rodriguez, Iman Ahmed, Abdul nafeh,
Mansi Jariwala, Mimansa Dahiya, Mizhgan Malik, Mridula Singh, Sahanya Mampearachchi, Sandhya Santhana,
Saranya Nallamothu, Saranya Polavarapu, Shubhi Verma, Sneha Sahoo, Yana Vora"

2. Team Name: **NSU Maasti** | University/College Name : **Nova Southeastern University** | Choreographer: **NSU Maasti**
"Aashi Shah, Akhil Kalapatapu, Ankrishik Sardar, Anushka Pandya, Ashley Abraham, Esha Surana, Jaanvi Patel, Jay Vakil,
Jonathan Lukose, Krish Gondhi, Mahalaxmi Some, Mahi Desai, Mahi Nomula, Olivia Quinones, Risha Bhagat, Sam Vinesh,
Saravan Padala, Shiven Neelkant, Shree Diora, Siya Amin, Sophia Paz, Sri Tanvi Chirumamilla, Srilaasya Nedunori,
Tara Taju, Adlakha Sanya, Meghadree Jasneen"

3. Team Name: **Miami Ujhoom** | University/College Name : **University of Miami** | Choreographer: **Sahiti Koganti**
Anika Venugopal, Anisha Ghandi, Cora Cook, Lisha Voruganti, Lyfe Daniel, Morgan Leo, Nikita Desai, Olivia Nolt, Raiya Khan,
Roselyn Morales, Sahiti Koganti, Shreya Kumar, Simi Patel

4. Team Name: **NSU VEERA** | University/College Name : **Nova Southeastern University** | Choreographer: **Harshitha Surisetty**
Priyanka Prasanna, Harshitha Surisetty, Harani Athwale, Sreejani Jonnalagadda, Sreekari Samudrala, Sri Konagalla,
Laasya Buddharaju, Srika Talanki, Sruthika Talanki, Shagun Arora, Chandralekha Mekala, Swara Chindhade, Divya Potta,
Ananya Gotttumukkala Gomahi Dutta, Veda Pesala, Shruthi Senthil, , Pragna Roopireddy

BHANGRA COMPETITION

1. Team Name: **Gator Bhangra** | University/College Name : **University of Florida** | Choreographer: **Mihir Gulati**
Aayna Bhatheja, Anna Sodhi, Bhavika Guntuku, Deven Mistry, Diya Raj, Harman Bindra, Mihir Gulati, Mit Patel, Shaan Mistry, Valli Kuruganti

2. Team Name: **Florida Bhangra Crew** | University/College Name : **Florida International University** | Choreographer: **Nabeel Markatia**
Adeel Markatia, Amer Khan, Aryaan Verma, Eric McCord-Snook, Harveer Singh Bains, Hussan Khan, Irfan Hashimie, Krish Patel,
Nabeel Markatia, Namrata Palsule, Sajeev Sarkar, Srujan Miryala

3. Team Name: **Hurricane Bhangra** | University/College Name : **University of Miami** | Choreographer: **Parth Agarwal and Josh Patel**
Josh Patel, Parth Agarwal, Ashwini Prasanna, Aditto Showkat, Hridya Eipe, Dhruv Kantamsetty, Sahara Partap, Maya Naik,
Rishi Patel, Manu Thota, Aarav Patel, Suhasini Simlote

GARBA EXHIBITION ITEM

1. Team Name: **Gator Garba** | University/College Name : **University of Florida** | Choreographer: **Sanjana Dundigalla**
Riya Patel, Palak Desai, Nihitha Madem, Snehi Patel, Sanjana Patel, Neena Binoy, Palak Shukla, Mahika Balaraju,
Anushka Raviprasad, Sreeveda Nagulu, Elsa Mathew, Himani Patel, Krisha Patel, Puja Patel, Akshara Joshi, Melin Alex

Diwali wishes, bright & warm



Marcus & Garg CPA
Coral Springs Montessori School



WESTSIDE DENTAL CENTER
WISHES YOU A VERY HAPPY, HEALTHY
& PROSPEROUS DIWALI

Westside Dental Center
CHANGING LIVES, ONE SMILE AT A TIME!

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Life Membership
Fees **\$750**

Annual Membership
Fees **\$75**

**The IRCC was founded as Non-Profit Organization on September 22, 1983.
It's the Cultural Hub of Indian American Community of South Florida.**

IRCC Mission

IRCC's mission is to keep the rich culture and traditions of India alive and passing on the torch to the younger generation. We also bring our rich culture of acceptance and unity with us. It is our duty to showcase our rich culture and traditions which will further bring Americans and Indians together for the betterment of the society and lay a strong foundation of friendship.

IRCC - 2025 EVENTS



GRAND NAVRATRI CELEBRATION

Saturday, September 20th 2025 &
Saturday, September 27th 2025

Time: 8.00 PM to 1.00 AM

At: Coral Springs High School
Entrance on Rock
Island Road

ANAND BAZAR

REPUBLIC DAY
KITE FLYING • LOHRI
Sunday, January 26th, 2025
TIME: 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

At: Miramar Regional Park
16801 Miramar Pkwy
Miramar, 33027

HOLI CELEBRATION

Sunday, March 16th, 2025
TIME: 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

At: Miramar Regional Park
16801 Miramar Pkwy
Miramar, 33027



DIWALI- FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Saturday, November 8th, 2025
Time: 12.00 Noon to 10.00 PM

At: Broward County
Convention Center



ANAND BAZAR

At: Miramar Regional Park 16801 Miramar Pkwy
Miramar, 33027

Sunday, January 26th, 2025
Time: 11.00 am to 4.00 pm



REPUBLIC DAY

26th January 1950 is one of the most important days in Indian history as it was on this day the constitution of India came into force and India became a truly sovereign state. In this day India became a totally republican unit. The country finally realized the dream of Mahatma Gandhi and the numerous freedom fighters who, fought for and sacrificed their lives for the Independence of their country. So, the 26th of January was decreed a national holiday and has been recognized and celebrated as the Republic Day of India, ever since. Today, the Republic Day is celebrated with much enthusiasm all over the country and especially in the capital, New Delhi where the celebrations start with the Presidential to the nation. The beginning of the occasion is always a solemn reminder of the sacrifice of the martyrs who died for the country in the freedom movement and the succeeding wars for the defense of sovereignty of their country. Then, the President comes forward to award the medals of bravery to the people from the armed forces for their exceptional courage in the field and also the civilians, who have distinguished themselves by their different acts of valour in different situations.

KITE FLYING

Kite flying is a festival of India that comes on January 14 every year festival or kite festival in many parts of India. Gujrat and Jaipur in Rajasthan is famous for their kite festivals. Jaipur organizes international kite festival every year. Makar Sankranti is a popular word in Rajasthan where as Utran (derived from Uttarayan in Sanskrit language) is in Gujrat. Basant Panchami is also popular for kite festival in some places of India. Kolkata celebrates kite festival on Vishwakarma Puja but not on Makar Sankranti. Kite is called Patang in Hindi language. Hence the festival is also referred as Patang utsav in India. Patang is also called Guddi in many places in northern India. Special type of thread is used to fly kites and that is called Manjha.



LOHRI

India is the "Land of Celebration and Festivities". According to the Hindu mythology, there are 3.3 million gods and goddesses. Lohri is one of the most important Hindu festivals celebrated to honour Agni (the Vedic god of fire) at the beginning of the year. Every year, on 13th of January (as per the Gregorian calendar), Lohri is celebrated with great pomp and grandeur mainly in Punjab, Haryana, parts of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu. Amidst the freezing temperature accompanied by dense fog and icy winds, North Indians seem to be getting busy with preparations for enjoying the long awaited bonfire festival "Lohri" with traditional folk songs and dances.





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The days of celebration and the rituals.

The festival of Holi begins on Duwadashi - on the twelfth day of the waxing moon of the month of Phalgun. Spirits run high as the preparations for the festivities begin, as a custom, mothers make new clothes for their married daughters. Coloured powder (Gulal) is bought and prepared, long syringes called 'pichkaris' are made ready and water balloons are bought and filled. Preparations are made to cook the special food items that exclusively meant for this festival.

Three days before the full moon, 'Rang Pashi' brings Holi into all households. The families get together in the evenings when people visit each other to perform the formal sprinkling of colour. In the past 'the household purohit' or priest was invited to begin the celebrations, but this task has been taken over by the eldest male member of the family. A 'thali' or plate is arranged with coloured powders and coloured water is placed in a small brass container called a 'lota'. The eldest male member of the family begins the festivities by sprinkling coloured water and powders on each member of the assembled family. It is then the turn of the younger ones to do the same. In this unique way, affection and blessings are shared by all in the family. The celebrations on this day end with the partaking of food specially cooked for this occasion - gujjia, papri and kanji ke vade. Sometimes, meat dish like kofta curry is also served. It is customary to serve drinks before the meal.

The next day is known as 'Puno'. On this day, Holika is burnt in keeping with the legend of Prahlad and his devotion to lord Vishnu. In the evening, huge bonfires are lit on street corners at the crossroads. Usually this is a community celebration and people gather near the fire to fill the air with folk strains and dances. Sheaves of green gram and wheat are roasted in the bonfire and eaten.

The actual festival of Holi takes place the day after this. This day is called 'Parva'. Children, friends and neighbours gather on the streets and a riot of colour takes over. Coloured powders called 'abeer' or 'gulal' are thrown into the air and smeared on faces and

bodies. 'Pichkaris' are filled with coloured water and this is spurted onto people. Water balloons are thrown at friends and neighbours in the spirit of fun. Sometimes, mud baths are prepared and people are 'dunked' into this amidst much laughter and teasing. The visitors carry 'abeer' or 'gulal' to pay their respects to elders by sprinkling some on their feet. The younger crowd is drenched with buckets of coloured water and pummeled with water balloons. 'Dholaks' or Indian drums are heard everywhere and the songs of Holi are carried by the voices of these merry-makers.



HOLI CELEBRATION

Sunday, March 16th, 2025

Time: 11.00 AM to 4.00 PM

At: Miramar Regional Park

16801 Miramar Pkwy Miramar, 33027

**Snacks, Lunch and Pizza will be served
along with Colors, Games, Music & Dance
and Many Prizes.**

**Garma-Garam Chai
with Ganthias**

11.00 am to 12.00 pm





Grand Dandiya Celebration

'Nav' means 'nine' and 'ratri' means 'night'. Thus, 'Navratri' means 'nine nights'. There are many legends attached to the conception of Navratri like all Indian festivals. All of them are related to Goddess Shakti (Hindu Mother Goddess) and her various forms. It is one of the most celebrated festivals of Hindu calendar, it holds special significance for Gujratis and Bengalis and one can see it in the zeal and fervor of the people with which they indulge in the festive activities of the season. Dandiya and Garba Rass are the highlights of the festival in Gujarat, while farmer sow seeds and thank the Goddess for her blessings and pray for better yield. In older times, Navratri was associated with the fertility of Mother Earth who feed us as her children.



**SATURDAY,
September 20th, 2025
and
SATURDAY,
September 27th, 2025
Time: 8.00 PM to 1.00 AM**

**At:
Coral Springs High School
Entrance on Rock
Island Road**





IRCC
INDIAN REGIONAL & CULTURAL CENTER



Presents

Diwali

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Saturday, November 8th, 2025

Time: 12 Noon to 10.00 PM

At- Broward County Convention Center

Diwali is celebrated on a nation-wide scale on Amavasya - the 15th day of the dark fortnight of the Hindu month of Ashwin, (October/November) every year. It symbolizes that age-old culture of India which teaches to vanquish ignorance that subdues humanity and to drive away darkness that engulfs the light of knowledge. Diwali, the festival of lights even to-day in this modern world projects the rich and glorious past of India.

Every year on the dark nights of Diwali the sound of firecrackers announces the celebration of the **favorite festival of Indians**. Homes are decorated, sweets are distributed by everyone and thousands of lamps are lit to create a world of fantasy. Of all the festivals celebrated in India, Diwali is by far the most glamorous and important. Enthusiastically enjoyed by people of every religion, its magical and radiant touch creates an atmosphere of joy and festivity.

The ancient story of how Diwali evolved into such a

widely celebrated festival is different in various regions and states of India. In the north, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Bihar and the surrounding areas, Diwali is the day when **King Rama's** coronation was celebrated in Ayodhya after his epic war with Ravana, the demon king of Lanka. By order of the royal families of **Ayodhya** and **Mithila**, the kingdom of which Sita was princess, the cities and far-flung boundaries of these kingdoms were lit up with rows of lamps, glittering on dark nights to welcome home the divine king Rama and his queen Sita after 14 years of exile, ending with an across-the-seas war in which the whole of the kingdom of **Lanka** was destroyed.

On the day of Diwali festival, doorways are hung with torans of mango leaves and marigolds. **Rangolis** are drawn with different colored powders to welcome guests. The traditional motifs are often linked with auspicious symbols of good luck. Oil diyas are arranged in and around the house. Because of these flickering lamps, the festival has acquired its name: Dipawali or Diwali meaning '**a rows of lamps**'. On this day, people buy something for the house or some jewelry for the women of the house. It is auspicious to be buy something metallic, such as silver.

Whatever may be the fables and legends behind the celebrations of Diwali, all people exchange sweets, wear new clothes and buy jewelry at this festive time. Card parties are held in many homes. Diwali has become commercialized as the biggest annual consumer spree because every family shops for sweets, gifts and fireworks. However, in all this frenzy of shopping and eating, the steady, burning lamp is a constant symbol of an illuminated mind.



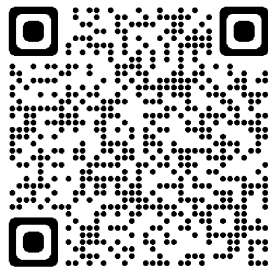
IRCC Youth Club

IRCC Youth Club provides opportunities to youth Ages 12-17 from our community to get together, interact, volunteer at IRCC events, and earn community service hours. Participation in the IRCC Youth Club helps members to learn organizational and leadership skills. They learn social/people skills, bond with each member to develop lifelong friendships, and become team players. IRCC Youth Club IRCC YOUTH CLUB helps members learn about the culture, traditions, and heritage of India. These opportunities allow them to give back to society.



JOIN IRCC YOUTH CLUB TO

- *Serve the community*
- *Earn Service Hours*
- *Social Skills/Make Friends*
- *Leadership Skills*
- *Get Togethers / Hangouts*
- *Emcee Opportunities*
- *Public Speaking Skills*



<https://irccflorida.org/youth-club/>

HINDU HERITAGE MONTH PROCLAMATIONS DIWALI CELEBRATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

THANK YOU TO OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS CITY GOVERNMENTS AND MUNICIPALITIES FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

The vibrant celebrations of Hindu Heritage Month and Diwali in South Florida owe much to the support and dedication of our local elected officials and city staff of various local governments and municipalities across South Florida. Local leaders are fostering unity and cultural understanding in South Florida by ensuring Hindu Heritage Month and Diwali are celebrated and recognized. Their support makes Hindu Americans feel valued, encourages community-wide appreciation of Hindu culture, and inspires future generations to connect with their heritage. These efforts exemplify inclusivity and the power of cultural celebration in bringing communities together.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to inclusivity and by acknowledging and honoring Hindu culture within the broader South Florida community.

■ CITY OF CORAL SPRINGS

Mayor Scott Brook and Vice Mayor Shawn Cerra

■ CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

Mayor Dean Trantralis and Vice Mayor Steven Glassman

■ CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES - Mayor Angelo Castillo

■ CITY OF PARKLAND

Mayor Rich Walker and Commissioner Simeon Brier

■ CITY OF SUNRISE - Mayor Mike Ryan

■ CITY OF TAMARAC - Mayor Michelle Gomez

■ CITY OF WESTON

Mayor Margaret Brown and Commissioner Chris Eddy

■ BROWARD COUNTY

Commissioner Steve Geller and Commissioner Michael Udine

■ STATE OF FLORIDA

Representative Christine Hunschofsky and Representative Dan Daley

Thank you to the city staff for your hard work in coordinating schedules and crafting beautifully worded proclamations. We truly appreciate your help and support in making this happen.







CORAL SPRINGS
Special Proclamation

Hindu Heritage Month and Diwali

WHEREAS, there is an estimated one billion Hindus worldwide, and approximately 2.5 million Hindu Americans live across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Hindu Americans represent one of the world's oldest civilizations as well as one of the fastest growing communities in the country.

WHEREAS, guided by a belief in promoting knowledge and education through dialogue, discourse, and debate, Hindu Americans have made significant contributions to all aspects of our society – from science and medicine to business, politics, and industry – all while working towards a more peaceful, diverse, and inclusive world for all; and

WHEREAS, Hindu Americans share values of tolerance, non-violence, pluralism, religious freedom, and respect for diversity of all faiths; and

WHEREAS, the culture, history, traditions, achievements, and contributions of Hindu Americans are recognized and celebrated throughout the United States and in Coral Springs.

WHEREAS, Hindu heritage, culture, traditions, and values, including Yoga and Ayurveda, can provide solutions to many of life's challenges and often serve as a source of inspiration, reflection, and contemplation for the millions of individuals who look to the spiritual teachings of Hinduism for guidance; and

WHEREAS, Diwali festival is a time for Hindu, Sikh, Jain, and Buddhist American families to gather to light small lamps around their homes and pray for knowledge, peace, and universal well-being; and

WHEREAS, Hindu Americans throughout Coral Springs celebrate Diwali, celebrating the victory of good over evil and knowledge over ignorance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Coral Springs hereby proclaims the month of October 2024 as Hindu Heritage Month in Coral Springs.

**Office of the Mayor
City of Wilton Manors
Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the Indian Regional and Cultural Center was founded in 1978 by a small but culturally passionate group of Indian immigrants; and

WHEREAS, the IRCC was one of the first Indian organizations in South Florida, dedicated to preserving and promoting their rich Indian Heritage; and

WHEREAS, the IRCC is a formal non-profit organization under code section 501 (c) 3, and their main objective is to instill the next generation with a strong appreciation of Indian heritage and rich Indian traditions; and

WHEREAS, IRCC has partnered with other organizations to host joint events and raise funds for various charities, such as the American Red Cross, Haiti Earthquake Relief, and the Earthquake in Kutch, India; and

WHEREAS, The IRCC Diwali Festival of Lights is a major cultural event in South Florida, featuring performances of Indian music and dance by children, teenagers, and adults. The program includes traditional styles like Bhangra, Rassa, Garba, and Folk, as well as modern Bollywood and Fusion.


WHEREAS, present at the Diwali Festival of Light will be numerous vendors and top Indian restaurants with all types of delicious food; and

WHEREAS, the Diwali Festival of Lights is scheduled for Saturday, November 18, 2023, from noon until 10:00 p.m. at the Broward County Convention Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS that November 18th, 2023 be recognized as:

"DIWALI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS"

The City Commission encourages the citizens of the City of Wilton Manors to attend the cultural event, savor delicious cuisine, and enjoy the music and dance performances.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the City of Wilton Manors, Florida, to be hereunto affixed.

**CITY OF WESTON
Proclamation**

HINDU HERITAGE MONTH 2024

WHEREAS, The City of Weston, FL, recognizes and celebrates Hindu Heritage Month, honoring the rich cultural and spiritual contributions of the Hindu community, highlighting the importance of the Hindu community's role in enriching the cultural diversity of the City of Weston and all Broward County; and

WHEREAS, Hinduism is the third largest religion in the world with over one billion followers worldwide, representing 15% of the global population; and

WHEREAS, Approximately four million Hindu Americans live across the US, and Broward County is home to a significant Hindu American population representing diverse ethnic backgrounds. Hindu Americans have particularly excelled in the areas of education, business, law, politics, information technology, medicine, and science, contributing to our nation's economic vitality, growth, and wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, During this month, the city acknowledges the significant Hindu festivals, including Diwali, the Festival of Lights, which symbolizes the victory of light over darkness, tolerance, and good over evil. Diwali, a cherished celebration observed by millions around the world, brings families, friends, and communities together to share joy, kindness, and gratitude; and

WHEREAS, Weston is proud to support and celebrate this vibrant festival and the values it represents. In honor of Diwali, the city encourages all residents to join in the festivities, reflecting on the shared values of unity, peace, and mutual respect; and

WHEREAS, Through this proclamation, the City of Weston continues to embrace its commitment to cultural inclusivity, recognizing the importance of celebrating the traditions and heritage of our diverse population.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Margaret Brown, as Mayor, and on behalf of Commissioner Byron L. Jaffe, Commissioner Mary Molina-Macfie, Commissioner Chris Eddy, and Commissioner Henry Mead do hereby proclaim the month of October as Hindu Heritage & Diwali Festival Month in the City of Weston.

Margaret Brown
Mayor Margaret Brown

October 21, 2024



**THE CITY OF TAMARAC, FLORIDA
Proclamation**

Requested by Mayor Michelle J. Gómez

WHEREAS, There are an estimated one billion Hindus worldwide, and approximately 2.5 million Hindu Americans live across the United States; and

WHEREAS, Florida and our nation have greatly benefited from Hindu Americans, especially through the Vedanta philosophy, Ayurvedic medicine, classical Indian art, dance, music, meditation, yoga, literature, and community service; and

WHEREAS, Hindu Americans have greatly enriched the Broward County school and higher education systems by teaching numerous students, especially in the academic fields of astrophysics, computer science, engineering, law, planetary science, psychology, and neuroscience, and the majority of Hindu Americans are in high-skill occupations; and

WHEREAS, Hindu Americans share the entrepreneurial spirit of America and contribute to Broward County's economic vitality, growth, and well being; and

WHEREAS, Hindu Americans have also contributed to many of Broward County's economic sectors and have particularly excelled in the areas of business, law, politics, information technology, medicine, and science; and

WHEREAS, Hindu Americans now serve in various levels of government across the state and nation; and

WHEREAS, Hindu Americans share values of tolerance, non-violence, pluralism, religious freedom, and respect for diversity of all faiths; and

WHEREAS, the festival of Diwali is a time for Hindu, Sikh, Jain, and Buddhist American families to gather to light small lamps around their homes and pray for knowledge, peace, and universal well being; and

WHEREAS, Hindu Americans throughout Broward county celebrate numerous holidays and festivals, including Diwali, which celebrates the victory of good over evil and knowledge over ignorance; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle J. Gómez, Mayor of the City of Tamarac, Broward County, Florida, do hereby recognize and acknowledge the significant contributions of Hindu Americans to our community, and encourage all residents and citizens to increase their awareness and understanding of Hinduism and the Hindu American community, and proclaim the month of October 2024 as

"HINDU HERITAGE MONTH"

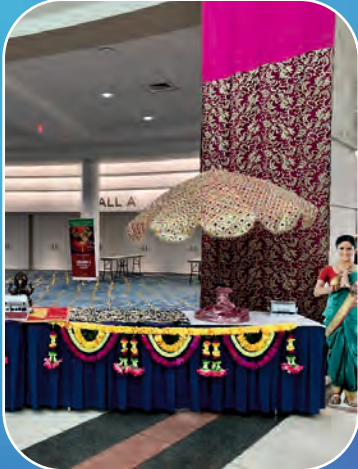
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Tamarac to be affixed this 9th day of October, 2024.

Michelle J. Gómez
Michelle J. Gómez, Mayor



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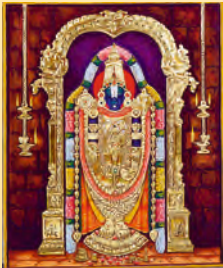
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