



**IRCC**  
INDIAN REGIONAL &  
CULTURAL CENTER



13<sup>th</sup>  
*Diwali*

**FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Rick Case Arena  
at Nova Southeastern University  
SW 75<sup>th</sup> Ave, Davie, FL 33314



HAPPY  
**Diwali**



Wishing everyone a  
Happy Diwali  
and  
Happy New Year from



**Mahesh and Prafula Raolji  
Shyamal and Swati Raolji**



**Jalaram Produce Inc.,  
Homestead, Florida**



**IRCC**  
INDIAN REGIONAL &  
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**Durgesh Thaker, DDS**  
Vice Chair  
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**IRCC**  
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## IRCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS



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510-260-6540





## *President Message*

*Dear Friends and IRCC family,*

*It gives me an immense pleasure and honor to serve as a third time president of IRCC. I have been a board member since 1990, and to see the progress IRCC has made in the last 35 years is nothing short of amazing, and commendable effort.*

*I welcome you all to our “Diwali-Festival of Light” event hosted by IRCC. Every year through this event we get together and celebrate the essence of Diwali, the most important festival in Indian culture. Our goal is to keep making it larger, grander, and better than before.*

*First and foremost, we are very proud of our 1000 participants performing tonight. It has been the largest number in the history of IRCC. They have worked diligently day and night preparing for Tonight’s Show. Like they say it takes a village to raise a child, similarly, it has taken more than tri-county performers to put this show together. The amount of work done by behind-the-scenes workers is immense and with pure dedication. This would not have been possible without the tremendous effort by the parents, family members, friends, and volunteers who support IRCC.*

*I would like to thank the Co-Chairs, and Entire Board, and “Festival of Lights” Committee Members. They are all 100% volunteers and put unbelievable and selfless hours, weeks, and months to make this event successful and at the level IRCC is today.*

*My next vote of thanks goes to all sponsors, food and non-food vendors, volunteers who together, have helped the event financially and provided the Indian atmosphere that we all love to indulge in.*

*A very special thanks to my husband Ashi, son Nitin, and daughter-in-law Ruchi. It is because of their complete understanding and faith in me that I can continue serving our community through IRCC’s platform.*

*Today is an extremely historic and proud moment for me. I started with IRCC as a performer. Then my children started participating in the Diwali event. And this year for the first time my Grandson Aarish is dancing in IRCC Diwali. That’s how the story keeps going for most of us.*

*Once again, I wish everyone a very happy Diwali. May Goddess Laxmi fill your hearts and homes with a lot of love, happiness, and success.*

**Poonam Wadhwa**

*President, Indian Regional Cultural Center (IRCC)*



## *Founding Chair Message*

*Dear Friends,*

*Welcome to the 13th 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!*

*I joined the IRCC family back in January 2005 and was honored to serve as president beginning in 2010. I remember walking through the Tampa Diwali Festival of Lights and wondering if we could bring a similar large-scale celebration to Broward County. What began as a simple thought turned into a dream – and, thanks to the incredible support of the Tri-County community, that dream became a reality. In 2011, I had the privilege of serving as the founding chair of the IRCC Diwali Committee as we hosted our very first Festival of Lights in November 2011 at the Broward County Convention Center. Words cannot fully express my gratitude to our entire community for the encouragement and support that have sustained this event ever since.*

*This event wouldn't be possible without the energy and dedication of our incredible performers, from children to adults, who spend months preparing for today.*

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

*I also want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our sponsors, American Heritage School, Patel Brothers, Jalaram Produce, and BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, for their continued support since 2011, and to ICICI Bank for joining us this year. Your generosity allows us to make this celebration truly memorable.*

*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 also want to express my sincere thanks to the entire team of Rick Case Arena, and Nova Southern University board members for their beautiful world-class facility with all logistics under one roof. My special thanks to Eddie Castillo from NSU for his tireless efforts alongside our team to make this event a success.*

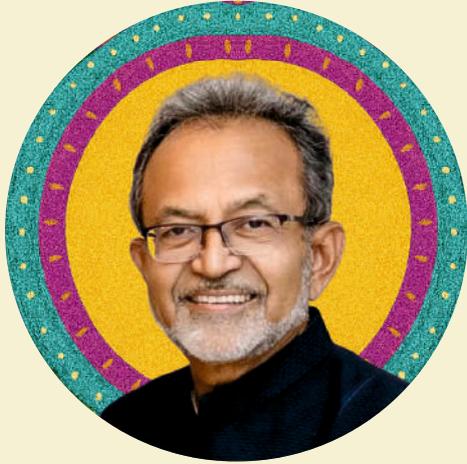
*Lastly, I want to thank my family. My wife, Nidhi, and my sons, Harshath and Prateek, have been my constant source of strength and support. Their encouragement allows me to put my heart into this event year after year, and I am deeply grateful for their love.*

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

*With warm regards,*

**Sanjay Gupta, CPA**

*Founding Chair of the IRCC Diwali Committee and Past President*



## *Vice Chair Message*

### ***A Warm Welcome from IRCC***

*Ladies and gentlemen,*

*Happy Diwali! I am so thankful to see you all gathered here for the Festival of Lights. Each year, our celebration grows brighter because of your support and love for our community.*

*When I joined IRCC back in 1987, our events welcomed just 300 to 400 guests. We shared food, laughter, and music in a small hall—but the joy was just as big. Since 2011, our Diwali Festival of Lights has become the heart of IRCC's celebrations. Today, we stand together with more than 5,000 people filling this space with light, laughter, and pride.*

*This year, over 90 performances fill our stage. From tiny four-year-olds taking their first steps in dance to elders sharing the grace of long tradition, every performer adds a spark to our night. Together, they show that our heritage lives on through every generation.*

*We thank our vendors from across states, the wonderful local restaurants, and the BAPS Temple for bringing the taste and spirit of India to South Florida. My sincere gratitude also goes out to our local mayors, commissioners, sheriff, and community leaders for standing beside us. None of this would be possible without the hard work and dedication of our Diwali working committees—the heart behind every detail of this event.*

*Through gatherings like this, we keep our Indian heritage alive even as we build our lives far from home. The colors, lights, and smiles around us remind us who we are and what we share—a culture that celebrates togetherness, kindness, and giving.*

*Every event like this takes countless hours of planning and dedication from volunteers who love this community. If you, your family, and your children have found joy and belonging here tonight, I invite you to help us keep this light shining. Your generosity keeps our programs strong and helps us bring more cultural celebrations to South Florida.*

*Please support IRCC today. Scan the QR code on this page to donate now, or visit [irccflorida.org](http://irccflorida.org) and tap the RED DONATE button or stop by the IRCC booth for help. Together, we can make next year's Festival of Lights even brighter.*



*With gratitude,*

***Durgesh Thaker***

*Vice Chair, Indian Regional Cultural Center (IRCC)*



## Co-Chair Message

*Namaste and Happy Diwali!*

*As Co-Chair of the IRCC Diwali Committee and Past President, I'm proud and grateful to see how our community continues to come together and shine brighter each year. Diwali reminds us to live with love, kindness, and hope - and to let our inner light guide the way.*

*This year is especially meaningful. For the first time ever, Broward County Public Schools recognized Diwali as an official school holiday! It was heartwarming to see families celebrating at home - lighting diyas, decorating, sharing sweets, and enjoying the day together. This milestone shows how far we've come in creating awareness and appreciation for our culture.*

*We also saw many cities and local governments issue proclamations recognizing Diwali and Hindu Heritage Month. We're fortunate to have elected officials who support and celebrate our community, showing the unity and diversity that make our cities stronger.*

*It's inspiring to see more Diwali celebrations in schools and colleges than ever before. The next generation is proudly sharing our traditions and helping build a more inclusive and culturally aware community - one diya at a time.*

*This year is also exciting as we host our Diwali - Festival of Lights for the first time at Nova Southeastern University's beautiful Rick Case Arena. A big thank-you to the NSU event team and Board for helping make this dream a reality.*

*IRCC's mission is to promote and preserve Indian culture and heritage for future generations. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, we rely on the support from the community in donations and sponsorships.*

*Thank you to our donors, advertisers, sponsors, vendors, and performers - each playing an important role in making an event like this possible.*

*Thank you to the IRCC board and volunteers that work tirelessly in keeping IRCC's mission alive.*

*From planning each event, setting up before events, cleaning up after events and all that goes on behind-the-scenes - Thank you for all that you do!*

*Finally, I want to thank my family - my parents, brother/sister-in-law, wife, kids, and niece and nephews - for their help and patience. I'm truly blessed to have a family whose support, encouragement and sacrifices allows me to continue serving the community.*

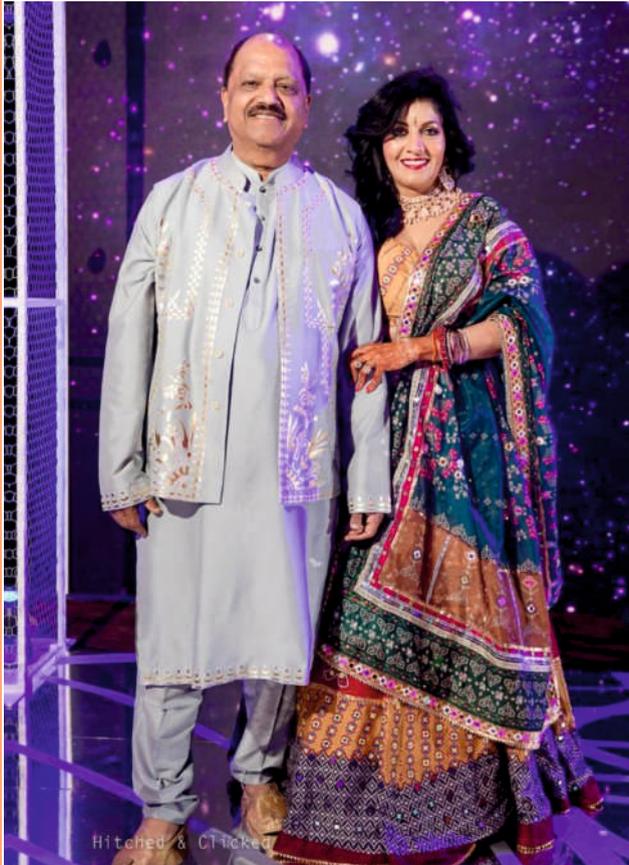
*Wishing you and your family a very Happy Diwali filled with light, love, and happiness!*

**Prem Mirpuri**

*Co-Chair, IRCC Diwali Committee*

*Past President, Indian Regional Cultural Center (IRCC)*

*Wishing you a very  
Happy Diwali and a Prosperous New year!*



***Dr. Meenu Gupta, M.D.  
Dr. Mohan Gupta, M.D.***

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PRITI MAHESHWARI

WE WISH THE WHOLE COMMUNITY A VERY HAPPY DIWALI  
AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR

MAY THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS ILLUMINATE YOUR LIFE WITH JOY AND PROSPERITY.



# HAPPY DIWALI IRCC MEMBERS



THE BANSAL FAMILY FOUNDATION

**RAJENDRA BANSAL WITH URMILA**

**&**

**ANISH • AASHA • KIYAAN**

**NIKITA • HARRY • HENRY**



# Happy Diwali



*Dr. Manavati & Family*

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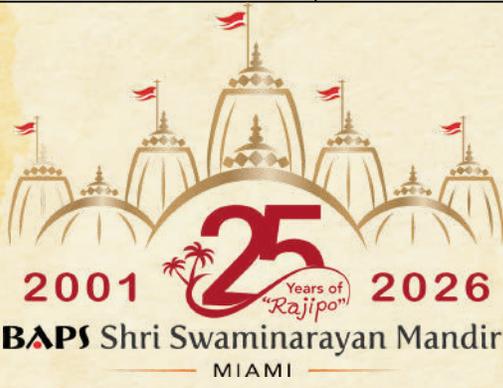


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<p><b>Weekly Satsang Sabha Sunday at 4pm</b></p>	<p>Satsang sabha for all ages, where readings of the scriptures and singing of kirtans is combined with prayers and discourses. <b>Weekly Mahila Satsang Sabha Sunday at 2:15pm</b></p>
<p><b>Monthly Local Satsang Sabha</b></p>	<p>Monthly local Satsang Sabha in Port St. Lucie, Palm Beach Gardens, Wellington, Coral Springs and Pembroke Pines</p>
<p><b>Weekly Youth Activities for Boys on Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>Ages: 5 to 13</b> 2:30pm to 3:30pm, Gujarati Class 4:30pm to 6:00pm, Kids Sabha (Value Based Discourses) <b>Ages: 14 to 22</b> 2:00pm to 3:30pm, Sabha (Value Based Discourses)</p>
<p><b>Weekly Youth Activities for Girls on Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>Ages: 5 to 13</b> 12:00pm to 1:00pm, Bharatanatyam Class 2:30pm to 3:30pm, Gujarati Class 4:30pm to 6:00pm, Kids Sabha (Value Based Discourses) <b>Ages: 14 to 22</b> 11:00am to 12:00pm, Bharatanatyam Class 3:00pm to 4:30pm, Sabha (Value Based Discourses)</p>



## SAVE THE DATE

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF HARMONY

# JUNE 20, 2026

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*Best wishes to IRCC  
on Deepawali  
Celebrations 2025!*



*Dr. Bharat K. Gupta, Nephrology, & Dr. Achala Gupta  
Dr. Mohit Gupta, Urologic Oncology, &  
Mrs. Reema Gupta  
Dr. Anmol Gupta, Dermatology  
Baby Aria Gupta, Future Physician & CEO*



*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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Ajay K. Agarwal, CPA  
Partner

Anthony B. Jacaruso, CPA  
Partner





# *Happy Diwali*

Wishing you and your family a very  
happy and prosperous Diwali!!!

FROM: UTTMA, ASHISH, ANIKA, SAANYA &  
WINSTON

*Happy Diwali!*



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Happy Diwali

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 Dr. Jayshree Mehta  
 Dr. Tina Mehta  
 Dr. Ankit Mehta  
 Dr. Arina Ankit Mehta  
 Dr. Nikita Mehta*

**Dr. Tina Mehta**  
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 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33306  
 Ph: 954-776-1877

**Dr. Ankit Mehta**  
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Diwali wishes, bright & warm



Marcus & Garg CPA  
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Best wishes to IRCC,  
A Happy Diwali and Best of the New Year to all.

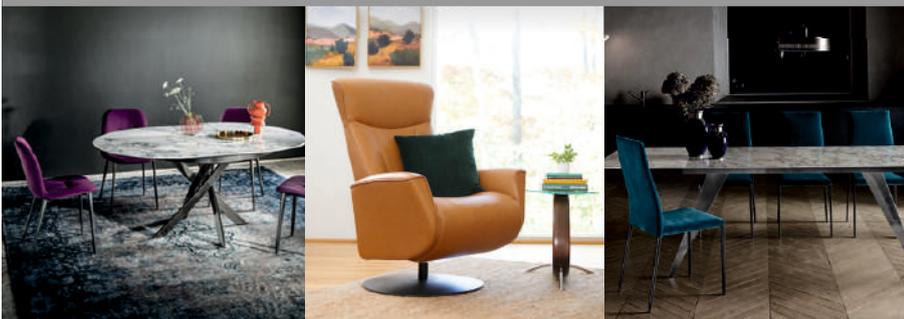
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*Wishing you a very Happy Diwali  
and a Prosperous New Year!*



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



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**Happy**  
*Diwali*  
Festival Of Lights



**Mohit Bansal**

(CEO)

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# Kids' and Adults' Performance

## IRCC DIWALI 2025

### 1 Anand Lahari

Akshita Yadav, Anagha Subrahmanya, Arjun Srivastava, Dhanya Kolasni, Gurseerat Ahuja, Krisha Kumari, Om Dandekar, Praneetansh Pran, Rishit Jain, Ruvaansh Rohit Gowda, Shaurya Panwar, Shivansh Srivastava, Yuvaan Singh, Yuvin Jain | *Choreographed by Sonia Guha*

### 2 Chota beats

Aarna Irukumati, Arjun Narsinggoju, Bani Sarbaliya, Krishna Sarbaliya, Niam Mirchandani, Nidhay Pannala, Shreyanvi Tirumala  
*Choreographed by Anusha*

### 3 Dancing Dynamites

Aadit Patel, Aadya Amin, Avyaan Patel, Jiaan Patel, Kesar Sisodia, Prisha Shah, Reyansh Patel, Rishika Shah, Romir Tulsian, Urvi Patel, Waris Chhabra  
*Choreographed by Vaibhav Patel*

### 4 NBS Tiny Dancers

Alayna Patel, Anyka Gaur, Elle Rue Hoosein Alvarez, Kiaana Rathore, Minmini Jyoro, Mounith Kumar, Pranshi Grover, Prisha Kaseera  
*Choreographed by Archana Jagarlamudi*

### 5 MJ Hoppers

Aarav Singh, Amisha Prabhakar, Anushka Prabhakar, Drija Parmar, Krishaa Mediratta, Myra Singh, Varalika Pulvarthy, Vedika Gupta  
*Choreographed by Megha Gupta*

### 6 Little Stars

Anagha Mohan, Arvin Midhun, Ilan Tolstoy, Iniyan Dilliraja, Isha Muthukumar, Milira Karthikeyan, Prajan Sundar, Yashika Prakash  
*Choreographed by Priya Prakash*

### 7 Mini Desi Divas

Aaira Ved, Akshara Pendyala, Arya Gandhi, Chaithra Katpally, Eva Deshpande, Hanvi Baikati, Krisha Amanchi, Krishna Sithara Kurra, Samaira Jain, Sreenika Malarapu  
*Choreographed by Aditi Kasula*

### 8 Rhythms - Minor Team

Ahana Krishnan, Dhvani Nikhil, Grishma Hebbar, Ivania Bhatia, Keerthi Srinivasan, Saachi Gupta, Shriya Natarajan Amruthur, Shyla Natarajan Amruthur, Vibha Krishna  
*Choreographed by Ranjana, Thangam, Radha*

### 9 Grooving Stars

Aadvika Ponnepati, Agastya Elaprolu, Arjun Nanda Maram, Ayansh Gupta, Dhyan Nikhil, Mukht Patel, Nayan Gaddam, Nihith Pinjarla, Taanvi Tripathi, Vasishta Ayyalasamayajula, Vihaan Ram.  
*Choreographed by Sammanita Pradhan*

### 10 Team Vignesh

Arjun Vishwakarma, Madhurima Paul, Rakshi Balaji, Riddhi Das, Rishabh Gupta, Sanvi Saha  
*Choreographed by Sheli Chakraborty*

### 11 Retro Revelers

Aashirya Grandhe, Aditya Satish, Deeza Verma, Dhivesh Kukkala, Kaina Thakur, Pranavi Rao, Prisha Sood, Rudra Patel, Samadarshi Das, Siddharth Satish  
*Choreographed by Sonia Guha*

### 12 South Florida Hoppers - Juniors

Aadhya Mohan, Alenka Gupta, Anagha Rao, Athul Sakthivel, Kedar Veerabaku, Leyshya Patterm, Mahathi Veerabaku, Naysha Kanvinde, Nyra Karthikeyan, Pranav Prakash, Shravan Siva, Vedh Arjun, Viyan Bharathkumar  
*Choreographed by Prakash Sugumaran*

### 13 The Twinkling Stars

Anaya Pareek, Aria Kanuganti, Kriti Pokala, Nidhi Nookala, Saanvi Nomula, Saanvika Turlapathi, Tiana Jijo  
*Choreographed by Gauravi Upadhyay*

### 14 Desi Dhamaka

Abhinav Miharia, Anisha Kakkad, Ariana Chegooru, Arisha Sirka, Jara Dave, Myra Verma, Rey Agrawal, Sarisha Verma, Vidhaan Tirmal, Viresh Tirmal  
*Choreographed by Sheli Chakraborty*

### 15 MJ Fusion Movers

Aahana Soni, Akshita Mathure, Anika Pulavarthy, Maea Iyer Grover, Prateeti Mathur, Vaanika Aggarwal, Veer Agrawal, Viaan Jain, Yatharth Jayant Bhangale  
*Choreographed by Megha Gupta*



# Kids' and Adults' Performance

## IRCC DIWALI 2025



### 16 Rhythms - Junior Team

Amaya Serasinghe, Avanthika Shenoy, Emma Shyju, Eva Shyju, Krishha Kanvinde, Saanvi Nainegali, Sameera Palasseri, Sia Gupta, Trisha Rajeesh  
*Choreographed by* Ranjana, Thangam, Radha

### 17 Rhythmic Rebels

Aadya Pannala, Aarav Pannala, Akshara Manchineella, Jaswitha Manchineella, Reyansh Tirumala, Rudima Narsingoju, Shaurya Unnam  
*Choreographed by* Anusha

### 18 Kathak Krew

Aadhira Aravind, Aarna Mishra, Eva Joshi, Myra Deshpande, Myra Gandhi, Radha Dandekar, Savi Gorule  
*Choreographed by* Shivani Lakkad

### 19 Imagine Stars

Elina Bir, Elsa Allameh, Inaya Giga, Isabella Lanfranco, Ishita Hareendran, Scarlet Gunawarden  
*Choreographed by* Isabel Bir

### 20 BumbleBees

Amara Malekar, Anika Srivastava, Arishka Tambe, Kyra Kaur Tuteja, Naysa Bhadane, Saanvi Srivastava, Shreyanshi Deb, Triman Kaur, Valetina Thakar  
*Choreographed by* Puneet Srivastava

### 21 The Showstoppers

Akshara Valicherla, Annika Gupta, Anvika Yalamanchili, Anvitha Kasula, Eesha Yaradoddi, Nihira Reddy Palla, Sarayu Chitneni, Srika Surapaneni  
*Choreographed by* Keertika Godaba

### 22 Nach Bollywood Style - Meera

Aarna Kumar, Aarushi Patel, Ira Naidu, Jia Balwani, Leela Khosa, Reeva Patel, Tanvi Raj, Vrithika Pallikonda  
*Choreographed by* Amishi Patel

### 23 Dancing Dolls

Gia John, Grace Johnson, Magilhini Sabarish, Navya Gunturi, Nia John, Nina Gunturi, Nyra Gunturi, Pravina Nair, Riva Borkar, Riya Srivastava, Ruhi Srivastava, Saishya Danda  
*Choreographed by* Diana Sequeira

### 24 Nach Bollywood Style Tiny Tots

Aanya Ambale, Aarin Misra, Myra Gaur, Myra Sanghi, Ryan Ravikumar, Soham Devadi  
*Choreographed by* Shreya Joshi

### 25 Bhangra-licious

Ashnia Bhatia, Aariv Chawla, Aarush Chokshi, Aishani Patel, Alba Li, Arnab Bhatia, Bhakti Patel, Geeta Gurbani, Krishna Gurbani, Niya Patel, Samay Arora, Malia Jacob  
*Choreographed by* Ashnia Bhatia

### 26 Fusionova Girls

Aahna Patel, Aanvi Patel, Arya Mehta, Meera Patel, Prisha Shah, Saanvi Dholabhai, Vajra Patel, Veera Patel  
*Choreographed by* Arya Doshi

### 27 Heart Throbbers

Aarav Sharma, Aira Asher, Alyssa Garg, Arik Jagasia, Ira Mittal, Ishaan Mirpuri, Kaj Jagasia, Kiran Wadhwa, Kush Dalal, Prish Shahi, Sahana Dalal, Samyra Agarwal, Sia Shahi, Veer Gawri, Veer Asher, Vivaan Gogineni, Yunay Doulani, Yuv Doulani, Ziaan Gawri  
*Choreographed by* Suhani Ranaut

### 28 Diwali Special

Amar Chhabra, Amitoj Singh, Ashlin Kour, Gurusang Singh, Ishmeet Kaur, Jugleen Kour, Rohan Chhabra, Simar Preet Singh.  
*Choreographed by* Manjinder Kaur

### 29 Little Dhoomers

Aaruhi Agrawal, Alice Singh, Anay Srivastava, Inaaya Sharma, Jigyansh Singh, Ronav Agrawal  
*Choreographed by* Sneha Agarwal

### 30 High Steppers

Aadi Harpalani, Anika Mirchandani, Ayaan Thakkar, Ishan Thakkar, Neal Patel, Nipun Duggaraju, Ram Manne, Reyhaan Thummadi, Samera Sukhadia, Srihaas Kantipudi, Tanmay Vazirani, Vishrit Agrawal  
*Choreographed by* Vaibhav Patel

### 31 Boom Claps Dance Group

Aadhya Darak, Aadisha Gundecha, Aanjaneya Singh, Aanya Garg, Aavya Garg, Hridaan Dhok, Karthik Babu, Lakshya Krishnan, Neisha Thakkar, Risha Gundecha, Ryan Agrawal, Sabraan S, Shyra S  
*Choreographed by* Disha Thakkar

### 32 Masti Ninjas

Kanya Mageshwaran, Reyansh Shrivastava, Rihaan Roy Yadav, Tanush Joshi, Shanaya Kadambala, Vihaan Shah  
*Choreographed by* Kimaya Joshi

### 33 Divine Beatz

Aaliyah Patel, Aarush Patel, Anjali Patel, Ayaana Vora, Dev Patel, Eesha Patel, Reyansh Pathak, Ria Thanki, Riaan Gupta, Rohan Thanki, Saavi Saraswat, Ved Patel  
*Choreographed by* Jagruti Hirani and Payal Patel



# Kids' and Adults' Performance

## IRCC DIWALI 2025



### 34 Fusionova Juniors

Aanshi Shah, Aarna Choksi, Aarush Doshi, Aarushi Nanavati, Dillon Hedge, Isha Bagalkotkar, Saanvi Shah, Sanvi Bhatt, Sanya Arora, Shubham Raval, Sumana Panyam, Suhani Raval  
*Choreographed by Arya Doshi*

### 35 Jwalamukhis

Ajani Evans, Aria Makes, Jaasritha Mothish, Mohithaa Yazhini Ramesh, Nayonika Dhilipkumar, Saanika Gowda, Sarah Navis, Subha Shree Anbarasan, Tanishka Santhosh Kumar  
*Choreographed by Zehaan Anand*

### 35-A Satrangi Sakhiya

Della Sequeira, Diana Sequeira, Jyoti Srivastava, Krupa Thakar, Lavisha Harpalani, Neeta Thakar, Renuka Bakthaavathsalam, Ritika Vazirani  
*Choreographed by Sanchari Sarkar*

### 35-B Bellissima

Anita Madan, Anu Alapati, Ganga Devi Patil, Jasbeer Chabbra, Padmavalli Malakapalli, Sanjana Srivastav, Sheli Chakraborty, Smitha Govardhan, Uma Sivam  
*Choreographed by Sheli Chakraborty*

### 36 Bollywood Boys

Dev Khiani, Kabir Sharma, Rian Bhatt, Rishaan Bhatt, Risheek De, Veer Sharma, Vivaan Khiani  
*Choreographed by Shachi Sharma*

### 37 Swag Step Crew

Aarav Ved, Ayaan Roy-Yadav, Ayansh Shah, Krishiva Bansal, Parth Jain, Parv Soni, Shreyaan Gupta, Viaan Kalra, Vidit Gandhi, Vihaan Jain, Vivaan Modi  
*Choreographed by Sneha Agarwal*

### 38 The Little Dhamakas

Advik Vaadakattu, Akshara Reddy Alumalla, Mahima Sara Jiju, Meghana Paladugu, Sai Arsha Tanuj Grandhe, Sloka Morrareddigari  
*Choreographed by Tanvi Vaadakattu*

### 39 Varis Punjab de

Aradeep Singh, Dhanish Chhugani, Dhilnoor Kaur, Ekam Singh Pannu, Evelyn Taneja, Guneet Singh Ranhotra, Japnoor Singh, Nivi Ghotra, Rohil Arya, Sivkan Singh  
*Choreographed by Sakshi Arya*

### 40 Bollywood Dhamaka

Aaradhya Vishwakarma, Ariana Verma, Ayati Anamsa, Kavni Gupta, Misheeta Pattani, Raksha Balaji, Shreeya Suresh, Tanishi Desai, Tanisi Modak  
*Choreographed by Sheli Chakraborty*

### 40-A Team Dancerholics

Akanksha Kumar, Jaspreet Gill, Lavanya Narasimham, Meena Mani, Meera Ramanathan, Meeta Govindarajan, Natasha Mehra, Shamala Kumar, Veena Subramanian  
*Choreographed by Meera Ramanathan*

### 40-B Beats

Anuska Mukherjee, Avijit Sah, Lopamudra Pattanayek, Mamta Devi, Noopur Sharma, Perna Singh, Souvik Deb, Sumitra Deb, Supriya Chaudhary  
*Choreographed by Sumitra Deb*

### 41 Rhythm Rebels

Aarya Ghule, Mahathi Makkena, Manogna Makkena, Melissa Jiju, Samanvitha Gadiyaram, Susmitha Gadiyaram, Tanvi Vaadakattu  
*Choreographed by Tanvi Vaadakattu*

### 42 The Dancing Iconz

Aarav Gandhi, Avyan Bejjanki, Karthik Jain, Prairith Muthina, Srihaas Baikati, Tharun Jayakrishna  
*Choreographed by Sindhu Kummari*

### 43 Grooving Gems

Gagana Pasala, Mithra Menon, Neev Vunnam, Priyanshi Grover, Samveda Rohith, Sayeesha Prajapati, Shreyas Dalai, Sonal Adarsh Meda  
*Choreographed by Sammanita Pradhan*

### 44 Punjabi aaagye oye

Avika Juneja, Ayanna Taneja, Mahir Chhugani, Niva Dhawan, Rohan Malhotra, Ronak Arya  
*Choreographed by Sakshi Arya*

### 45 Agni Nakshatras

Akshaya Ramesh, Akshita Thoppae, Anvita Narasimhan, Bhavana Jayakaran, Hiren Santhosh Kumar, Neharitha Dhilipkumar, Sakish Thayagabalu, Shakti Kannan, Shankar Kannan, Subhiksha Anbarasan, Surya Ramesh, Thejavi Srinivasan, Zehaan Anand  
*Choreographed by Priya Muthuraja*

### 45-A Murattu Kalaigal

Anbarasan Rajendran, Dhilipkumar Muthusamy, Gayathri Thamilarsan, Gowthami Shanmugham, Kannan Nova, Ponnilla Srinivasan, Ramesh Subramanian Iyappan, Sakthivel Muthusamy, Santosh Kumar Sanjeevi, Senthil Velmurugan Venugopalan, Sindhu Kalyani, Sreekala Ponnambalam, Susila Subbiah, Udhaya Kumar Thoppae Jayanthilal  
*Choreographed by Santhosh Kumar Sanjeevi*

### 45-B Nara Bollywood Dance Academy

Abizer Nalwalla, Anamarica Zambrano, Carolina Lopez, Cristina Cabrera, John Paul Pimentel, Krystine Pimentel, Maria Eugenia Abrante, Olga Giraldo, Sarah Hanooman, Soubhourney Barnes, Tina Carroll-Scott  
*Choreographed by Narayani Maharaj*



# Kids' and Adults' Performance

## IRCC DIWALI 2025



### 46 Team Fire & Ice

Ava Mathew, Chitra Rane, Freya Thakkar, Meghna Kumar, Nila Narasimhan, Pragati Natarajan, Ria Pabbi, Shreya Prakash, Tushar Varanasi  
*Choreographed by Meera Ramanathan*

### 47 NBS Teen boys

Aarav Thakker, Aarish Wadhwa, Aarush Jain, Avik Jain, Bhavesh Kukkala, Bhavin Pinjarla, Ishaan Venkatesh, Krishna Mirpuri, Madhav Suresh, Ranveer Patel, Reyan Kalra, Rishab Chittiprol, Saran Lakshmana, Sathvik Maddineni, Virat Jalli  
*Choreographed by Raga S Kalapati*

### 48 MJ Thundering Teens

Aarna Jindal, Abhinav Bala, Anisha Aggarwal, Avish Bansal, Nupur Joshi, Priyal Khansa, Sakshi Joshi, Sanskutee Jayant Bhangale  
*Choreographed by Megha Gupta*

### 49 Avlokitha Kuchipudi Nrithyalayam

Aadhya Reddy Palla, Aayurda Gopireddy, Aditi Kasula, Avlokitha Thummadi, Gna Keerthika Godaba, Namaswi Nimmagadda, Sindhu Kummari  
*Choreographed by Reshma Thummadi*

### 50 Rising Star

Anna Alarado, Emly Delgado, Harleen Kour, Karman Kaur, Simran Chhabra, Sophia Delgado  
*Choreographed by Manjinder Kaur*

### 50-A Taal Tarang

Apeksha Hanmattekar, Charu Iswaer, Garima Srivastava, Jinia Basuli, Madhuri Mishra, Neeraja Ramulu, Nipa Chanda, Preeti Kaur, Priya Singh, Priya Malekar  
*Choreographed by Puneet Srivastava*

### 50-B Dazzling Divas

Jagriti Lamba, Manisha Modi, Priyanka Saxena, Ritu Manocha, Rupa Nanda, Shruti Desai  
*Choreographed by Priyanka Saxena*

### 51 NBS Teen Queens

Aanya Chadha, Aarna Chopra, Anushri Kriplani, Aadya Trehan, Aaradhya Trehan, Diya Bhatt, Hasini Praveen, Hitakshi Maru, Ira Kumar, Kashish Mirpuri, Prachi Kasera, Raavi Kadecha, Rigvedita Gupta, Riya Ravikumar, Saisha Pandita, Sayali Choudhari  
*Choreographed by Sanvi Inampudi*

### 52 Jazba Rhythms

Aanya Patel, Aanya Sheth, Ananya Zaverchand, Ishika Gadani, Ivanshi Gadani, Kasvhi Amin, Prisha Patel, Shradha Nair, Suhani Patel, Vritti Sodha  
*Choreographed by Suhani Patel*

### 53 Pines Chutties

Ashhna Senthilkumar, Asvika Prakash, Chaithanya Srinivasan, Lakshanika Prakash, Lavina Sathiyaseelan, Sahana Jayakaran, Sakshini Lakshmana  
*Choreographed by Thilagavathy Dhandapani*

### 54 Vane School of Dance

Angelina Thomas, Devika Bineesh, Janvi Jiothesh Nair, Nila Krishnan, Samyuktha Selvam, Sanghavi Ganti, Sneha Kivlekar  
*Choreographed by Harija Sivakumar*

### 55 Temple of Dance

Aleena Aji, Ananya Varghese, Angel Joseph, Daksha Padmakumar, Khushi Chandra, Raaga Deepak, Theertha Padmakumar, Tianna John, Zoe Kuruvilla, Zunairah Syeid  
*Choreographed by Reshmi Sunil*

### 55-A MJ SUNRISERS

Aparna Mishra, Bandana Kumari, Garima Anand, Jeenu Mittal, Renu Singh, Savita Agarwal, Sheetal Joshi, Sonal Patel  
*Choreographed by Megha Gupta*

### 55-B Grooving Jewels

Arpita Tripathi, Forum Chapatwala, Hema Swarupa Jagarapu, Nidhi Gupta, Priya Verma, Sai Jaganathan, Sammanita Pradhan, Sangeetha Rajan, Shriya Behera  
*Choreographed by Sammanita Pradhan*

### 55-C Nrityangana/Nrutyangana

Kulmanali Khilare, Poornima Lohkare, Pradnya Kudav, Priya Holkar, Priyanka Patil, Shradha Acharya  
*Choreographed by Poornima Lohkare*

### 56 The Warriors

Ayan Anand, Bhav Jain, Daksh Jain, Hritvi Agrawal, Ishaan Garg, Kabir Gandhi, Pavitra Soni, Samana Rao, Siddharth Gupta, Siyona Parashar, Vishnu Shivakumar  
*Choreographed by Shivani Lakkad*

### 57 Rythmika

Akshara Jha, Daniela Dsouza, Janavi Sahajwani, Manya Singh, Prisha Lohkare, Srijani Deb, Vaidahi Sahajwani, Vatsala Mishra  
*Choreographed by Poornima Lohkare*

### 58 Desi Warriors

Anika Mishra, Anushka Miharia, Anushka Bhasal, Arah Agarwal, Eva Damani, Ishita Damani, Kyra Agarawal, Sanvi Pandya, Shivanshi Pathak, Siya Gupta, Sunehi Pandya  
*Choreographed by Anamika Agarwal*



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## ADULTS' COMPETITION IRCC DIWALI-2025

1

### MIAMI JHANKARS

Allisha Prabhakar, Chanchal Rana, Desika Pesara,  
Himani Mody, Neelam Joshi, Priyanka Jindal,  
Remu Bansal, Rimpi Khurana, Shruti Gupta, Tejal Panchal  
Choreographed by Shruti Gupta

2

### NRITHYA NAKSHATHRAM

Archana Selvam, Aswathy Mathew, Chintu Stanley,  
Dhanya Paul, Rakesha Dhiwakar, Shraddha Darda,  
Thanmai Nerella  
Choreographed by Rakesha Dhiwakar



3

### SHAKTI

Amrutha Chitlur, Anusha Srivari, Deepa Mallapareddy,  
Kavya Gangadhar, Preetha Rajarajan, Priya Muthuraja,  
Priya Anand, Priyanka Angal, Reshma Mahendroo, Sirisha Mallula  
Choreographed by Priya Muthuraja



4

### RANGEELI RAAGINIS

Alka Ranjan, Nisha Yadav, Prachi Chaudhary, Rekha Singh,  
Rupa Kumari Jha, Shailja Thakur, Sneha Ahuja,  
Sonia Guha, Sonia Ghosh  
Choreographed by Sonia Guha

6

### THE NRITYANGANAS

Ishita Raje, Monali Nakhate, Priti Joshi,  
Priya Dixit, Rashmi Telavane, Shailaja Mali,  
Snehal Kasodekar, Vedavati Joshi  
Choreographed by Shivani Lakkad

8

### DANCING DIVAS

Anu Divya Karunaharan, Anuradha Davit,  
Deepthi Manikonda, Dhanalakshmi Gurusamy,  
Sathya Konda Chendil, Sharda Gaikwad, Spoothi Amanchi  
Choreographed by Deepthi

5

### RHYTHMS & ROOTS

Bharti Idnani, Jhanvi Khatri, Khushali K, Mayuri Patel,  
Shachi Sharma, Shalini Singh, Taarika Sagar  
Choreographed by Taarika Sagar

7

### REVA DANCE GROUP

Chaitali Barve, Gaurvavi Upadhyay, Gauri Chaudhari,  
Mandar Dombe, Priyanka Balikai, Rupkatha Banerjee,  
Sachin Chavan, Sneha Gattu  
Choreographed by Chaitali Barve

9

### TEAM SATRANGI

Anshika Singh, Heena Bhatt, Jagruti Hirani, Kreena Amin,  
Minal Upadhyay, Parita Patel, Rinku Patel, Sejal Mistry  
Choreographed by Parita B Patel



10

### ADIYOGI

Rajesh Surve, Nicholas Vazquez, Phanindra tirumalasetty,  
Radhika Patil, Sanjana Rajesh, Sri Vaishnavi Vemulapalli  
Choreographed by Radhika Pati



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# IRCC PATAKA HIGH SCHOOL DANCE COMPETITION AND PERFORMANCES

## FUSION

### 1. Rhythms Warriors

Various Schools | Choreographer: Ranjana, Thangam, Radha

Crown Fall - Ladies and gentlemen, get ready for a high-voltage Bollywood Fusion from Rhythms Warriors! Tonight's piece blends Hip Hop, Indian Classical, Free Style, Bhangra, South, and Contemporary in one thrilling ride.

Our story follows an evil queen determined to divide and conquer her people.

Will her subjects fall prey to her manipulation and schemes or rise together and triumph over her?

Alaina Pereppadan ,Aleisha Biju ,Ashna Zacharias, Athulya George, Darshana Vikas ,Disha Krishna, Diya Dipuraj, Gia Joseph ,Harshita Karumuri ,Hridya Govind ,Jesna Thomas, Julia Pulimootil, Lakshika Sakthivel, Leah George, Madhula Madhan ,Mahatthi Premkumar, Mahitha Gundre, Seira Eldho, Yashika Masuram

### 2. Kahini Dance Company

Various Schools | Choreographer: Kahini Chandriani

Prepare yourselves for a battle like no other! Earth is under attack, a supervillain has unleashed his army of AI to dominate humanity. But tonight, heroes rise! The Kahini Dance Company takes the stage as two rival forces who must set aside their differences, unite, and fight to save the world.

This is not just a battle , it is a dance revolution. Will they overcome the enemy and reclaim Earth? Let the story unfold. Give it up for Kahini Dance Company!

Aarushi Bavdekar, Anisha Kusuma ,Anjana Andapally, Anya Khosa, Arya Doshi, Avani Upadhyay ,Bhumi Harpalani, Chandni Narang, Diya Deepak, Eesha Shah, Laya Nambiar, Mikael Ghadiali, Pareshe Bansal, Prajna Bhadauria, Rahil Ghadiali ,Sanvi Badanidiyoor, Sayesha Lakkad, Shania Srivastav, Shreya Anand, Shreya Joshi, Shriya Telavane,Tanisha Srivastava ,Vennela Chinta ,Vernica Pulkuri ,Vidhya Gupta, Suhani Ranaut

## BHANGRA

### 1. BHANGRA RAPTORS

Various schools

Choreographer: **Tania Handa**

Next, coming with energy, are a group of dancers ready to set this stage on FIRE... the Bhangra Raptors!

Amaan Mahtani, Aryana Sahai, Manpreet Chhabra, Manya Handa, Millan Sawhney, Navraj Dhillon, Nethra Chittiprol, Roshan Kusuma, Saanvi Handa, Sehaj Grewal, Sofia Sawhney, Sohni Sethi ,Yuvraj Dhillon





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

Life Membership  
Fees \$ 750

Annual Membership  
Fees \$ 75

### 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 - 2026 EVENTS

### GRAND NAVRATRI CELEBRATION

Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> 2026 & Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> 2026  
Time: 8.00 PM to 1.00 AM  
At: **Coral Springs High School**, 7201 Sample Road Coral Springs, FL 33065

### ANAND BAZAR

REPUBLIC • DAY KITE FLYING • LOHRI  
Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 | TIME: 11.00 am to 4.00 pm  
At: **Miramar Regional Park** 16801 Miramar Pkwy Miramar, 33027



### HOLI CELEBRATION

Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026 | TIME: 11.00 am to 4.00 pm  
At: **Miramar Regional Park** 16801 Miramar Pkwy Miramar, 33027

### DIWALI-FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 | Time: 12.00 Noon to 10.00 PM  
At: **Rick Case Arena at Nova Southeastern University**  
Southwest 75th Avenue Davie, FL





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# DHAMAKA

INTERCOLLEGIATE COMPETITIONS AND PERFORMANCES



## FUSION COMPETITION

Team Name: **NSU VEERA** | University/College Name : **Nova Southeastern University** | Choreographer: **Harshitha Surishetty**

NSU Veera is a premier Indian Classical Dance team founded six years ago at Nova Southeastern University. Dedicated to preserving and promoting the rich heritage of Indian classical dance, Veera showcases styles such as Kuchipudi, Bharatanatyam, Kathak, and more, while striving to celebrate and share this vibrant cultural art form with the community.

Amala Vadukumcherry, Ananya Gottumukkala, Gomahi Dutta, Hansika Vusikamalla, Harani Athwale, Harshitha Surisetty, Irine Biju, Janhavi Tonge, Parnavi Sonar, Pragna Roopireddy, Samagna Kiran, Samrita Duvvuri, Shagun Arora, Shruthi Senthil, Swara Chindhade, Veda Pesala

Team Name: **SOUTH FLORIDA SHARKS** | University/College Name : **Independent** | Choreographer: **Shree Diora**

South Florida Sharks is a premier collegiate Bollywood-fusion dance team that competes nationwide in the DDN circuit, striving for a spot at Legends. They embrace a wide spectrum of dance forms, including hip-hop, kuttu, bollywood, contemporary, classical, bhanga, and raas, pushing the boundaries of creativity and skill. Beyond the spotlight and competitions, South Florida Sharks is a family bound by their love for dance and culture. They foster unity and cultural understanding on campus by promoting the rich heritage of Bollywood dance. Through their performances, workshops, and community outreach, they share the joy of dance and connect with diverse audiences. Please welcome South Florida Sharks!

Aashi Shah, Aashi Shah, Ananya Saridena, Anika Varma, Anishka Vora, Jiya Koithara, Dhruva Mote, Diya Sonth, Gregory Davy, Harshini Seenivasan, Ishan Vadalia, Jaanvi Patel, Lakshmi Guthikonda, Maalav Patel, Maanvi Bajaj, Mahisvi Vemulapalli, Mitali Athwale, Navtresh Gatti, Ranae Roy, Rhea Hede, Rishi Nadimpalli, Riya Patel, Serena Abraham, Siya Amin, Siya Thakkar, Sri Tanvi Chirumamilla, Suhani Pandya



## BHANGRA COMPETITION



Team Name: **NSU BHANGRA** | University/College Name : **Nova Southeastern University** | Choreographer: **Kabir Deol**

Give it up for the fastest crew on stage- make some noise for NSU Bhangra "Revving up from the hearts of tradition, shifting gears with every beat.. coming in hot- it's NSU bhangra"

Brihathi Krishna, Devika Vikas, Laasya Vemparala, Leisha Somipalli, Nitya Punjal, Pujitha Jain, Ranvir Singh, Rayna Parikh, Revti Dharmadhikari, Siyona Sapathy, Srija Inampudi, Tanvi Rudrangi

Team Name: **FLORIDA WARRIORS** | University/College Name : **Florida International University** | Choreographer: **Sajeev Sarkar**

We are Floridas premier all state bhanga team! We are bringing a unique performance with the utmost creativity and choreography! Under the palm trees and disco lights, we are excited to bring some Florida Heat and share with you guys our Florida magic!

Dhruv Chinta, Frank Devore, Hussan Khan, Sajeev Sarkar, Sriya Nallala, Srujan Miryala, Syed Hassan, Tanishq Malhotra, Vansh Shetty, Viswa Kurapati

Team Name: **GATOR BHANGRA** | University/College Name : **University of Florida** | Choreographer: **Mihir Gulati**

Gator Bhangra is the premier co-ed Bhangra team at the University of Florida. After their revival in 2021, they are looking forward to their fourth competitive season together and are so excited to put on a show for you all.

Anjali Emandi, Armeet Kaur Gahra, Ashveen Saini, Chhavi Pokharna, Harman Bindra, Harveer Singh Bains, Krisha Choksi, Mehar Chhabra, Mihir Gulati, Mit Patel, Prithika Bose, Sahana Saravanan, Sahana Srinivasan, Samarth Muralidhara, Shaan Mistry, Shubhangi Maitra, Srinav Nekkanti, Tamara Bhardwaj, Valli Kuruganti

Team Name: **HURRICANE BHANGRA** | University/College Name : **University of Miami** | Choreographer: **Prateek Gupta**

Founded in 2003, Hurricane Bhangra is the premier co-ed collegiate dance team from Miami, Florida. The team strives to showcase its love of bhanga, a Punjabi folk dance, through participating in University of Miami events and other events around the city of Miami. Hurricane Bhangra has also made a presence on the competitive scene, competing in competitions across the nation. Ever since, the team has traveled nationwide every year, captivating audiences with each move. This team is a family, and the collective passion and love for this dance shines through in every performance.

Prateek Gupta, Parth Agarwal, Hridya Eipe, Dhruv Kantamsetty, Maya Naik, Aditto Showkat, Jay Datla, Jivan Patel, Raveena Cherry, Arya Jathal, Sahara Partap, Mahek Grewal

# ANAND BAZAR

At: Miramar Regional Park 16801 Miramar Pkwy Miramar, 33027

Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 | Time: 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

## REPUBLIC DAY

26<sup>th</sup> 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.*

**T**he 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 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**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**





'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,**  
**October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
and  
**SATURDAY,**  
**October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
**Time: 8.00 PM to 1.00 AM**

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





**IRCC**  
INDIAN REGIONAL &  
CULTURAL CENTER



# DIWALI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS



Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 | Time: 12 Noon to 10.00 PM

At: **Rick Case Arena at Nova Southeastern University**  
Southwest 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue Davie, FL



**D**iwali 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.



# 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 J Brook and Vice Mayor Nancy Metayer Bowen*

### CITY OF FT LAUDERDALE

*Mayor Dean J. Trantalis and Vice Mayor Steven Glassman*

### CITY OF WILTON MANORS

*Mayor Scott Newton and Vice Mayor Chris Caputo*

### BROWARD COUNTY

*Commissioner Steve Geller*

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**  
EVERYTHING UNDER THE SUN

*Special Proclamation*

**Diwali "Festival of Lights"**

The City of Coral Springs recognizes the religious and historical significance of Diwali and its message of tolerance, compassion, and victory of good over evil which resonates with the American spirit and encourages all its residents to join in recognizing the significance of this day.

Therefore, we, the City Commission of Coral Springs, proclaim October 20, 2025, as "Diwali Festival of Lights" in the City of Coral Springs.

October 15, 2025



  
Steve H. Geller  
Commissioner

  
Nancy May  
Mayor

  
Scott J. Bank  
Mayor

  
Joshua Stearns  
Commissioner

  
Joseph McHugh  
Commissioner

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

**WHEREAS**, IRCC Diwali Festival of Lights is one of the largest ethnic cultural programs held in South Florida; 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, which will further bring Americans and Indians together for the betterment of the society and lay a strong foundation of friendship; 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, Raga, 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 13<sup>th</sup> Diwali Festival of Lights is scheduled for Saturday, November 8, 2025, from noon until 10:00 p.m. at the Rick Case Arena at Nova Southeastern University.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS** that November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 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 affixed 20<sup>th</sup> day of October 2025.

  
SCOTT NEWTON, MAYOR  
The City of Wilton Manors

*Proclamation*

**REQUESTED BY  
COMMISSIONER STEVE GELLER  
BROWARD COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, Diwali, known as India's biggest and most important holiday, is a festival of lights that celebrates the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil, and the human ability to overcome adversity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Indian Regional and Cultural Center hosts the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Diwali Festival of Lights at the Broward Convention Center with more than 1,000 performers and 60 vendors in place to welcome residents and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the Diwali Festival of Lights offers a vibrant, colorful, and immersive cultural experience that showcases rich Indian heritage through dance, music, art, and exquisite cuisine; and

**WHEREAS**, this event features captivating performances ranging from Bollywood to traditional folk dances, with high school and inter-collegiate dance competitions spotlighting local talent; and

**WHEREAS**, the Festival is designed for all ages, offering a variety of activities including rangoli competitions that provide an interactive experience for attendees; and

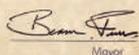
**WHEREAS**, visitors can savor a diverse array of authentic Indian cuisine prepared by skilled chefs and explore numerous vendor booths showcasing Indian clothing, jewelry, and accessories; and

**WHEREAS**, the Diwali Festival of Lights serves as a platform for cultural exchange, fostering understanding and appreciation of Indian traditions; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:**

That the Board hereby designates **November 8, 2025**, as "**DIWALI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS APPRECIATION DAY**" in Broward County, Florida with special recognition to the Indian Regional and Cultural Center for their dedication to promoting Indian culture and heritage in our community as we encourage all residents and visitors to participate in this extraordinary celebration of light, unity, and culture.

November 8, 2025  
Date


  
Mayor

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION TO OBSERVE THE HOLIDAY OF DIWALI**  
OCTOBER 20, 2025

**NO: 25-22**

**WHEREAS**, Broward County is enriched by unparalleled diversity of its residents, Broward County Public Schools takes great pride in supporting individual religious freedoms and is strengthened by the many varied cultural traditions of its diverse population, including those of American Hindus; and

**WHEREAS**, Diwali is one of the most important and ancient holidays celebrated by over 1 billion Hindus and people of different cultures and religions across the world and has been in existence for more than 3000 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Diwali falls on the fifteenth day of the eighth month in the New Moon Day in the month of Kartika of the Vedic lunar calendar, which occurs during October or November, and celebrates the triumph of good over evil and of knowledge over ignorance, and is a time of peace, joy and new beginnings where people of all ages, especially young children, light oil lamps (diyas), paintings (rangoli) sacred art, decorate their homes and distribute sweets; and

**WHEREAS**, there are over 50,000 plus people in Broward County, Florida, and millions of Americans, who observe Diwali every year, as a time for Dana (giving of charity) and Seva towards our fellow human beings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Asian American and Hindu community looks forward to the recognition of their school culture, to receiving equitable treatment and outcome and that The School Board of Broward County respects a broad range of faith and cultures and recognizes the holiday of Diwali.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that The School Board of Broward County, Florida in connection with parents' groups and local organizations, hereby declares our support of October 20, 2025, as

**DIWALI**

Given at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this 22nd day of July 2025

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA**

APPROVE:   
Debra Hixon, Chair

ATTEST:   
Dr. Howard Hightower, Superintendent of Schools

Educating Today's Students to Succeed in Tomorrow's World  
Broward County Public Schools is an Equal Opportunity Employer  
This Resolution is compliant with State and Federal Laws







# GLIMPSES OF IRCC 12<sup>TH</sup> DIWALI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS





# 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*
- *Leadership Skills/Make Friends*
- *Emcee Opportunities*
- *Public Speaking Skills*



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





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**Happy Diwali**

*Wishing everyone a happy and prosperous new year!*

*The Anand Family*

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**Happy Diwali**

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**Happy Diwali**

*Ashish, Sonali,  
Aarya & Ayush Gujarathi*



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• Meeting, Meditations  
• & Yoga Meetings



**Lunch Buffet:**  
11:30 AM to 3:00 PM

**Dinner**  
Sunday - Thursday:  
5:30 PM to 10 PM

Friday & Saturday:  
5:30 PM to 11:00 PM

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16690 Saddle Club Road Weston, FL



**Happy Diwali**

From Deepa & Mohit Malkani, and Family!

# KHAASBAAT

A PUBLICATION FOR INDIAN AMERICANS IN FLORIDA

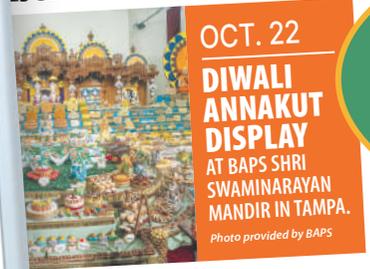


Now in its 21st year, Khaas Baat is a monthly publication that presents exclusive information and relevant news about the Indian American community in Florida.

In addition to community news and events, Khaas Baat informs readers with regular columns on health, money matters, immigration, education, astrology, parenting, motoring, plus other features.



Attendees - took part in the first annual Florida Diwali Mela CraftShip - Complete Family Shop - represented by the event yearly on an even larger scale. Photo provided by UrbanCraftShip



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**Tandoor Events**

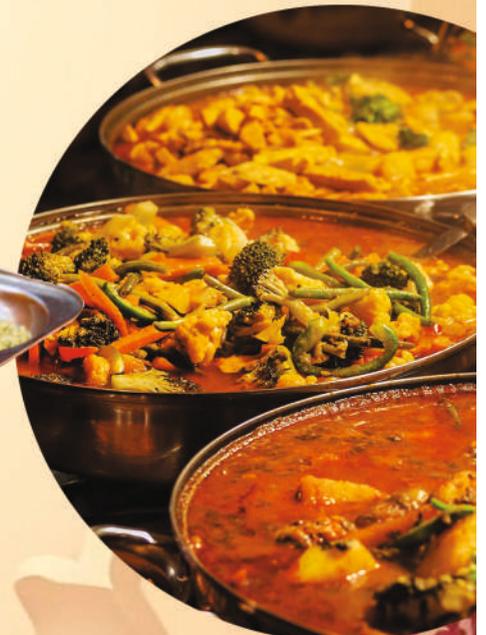
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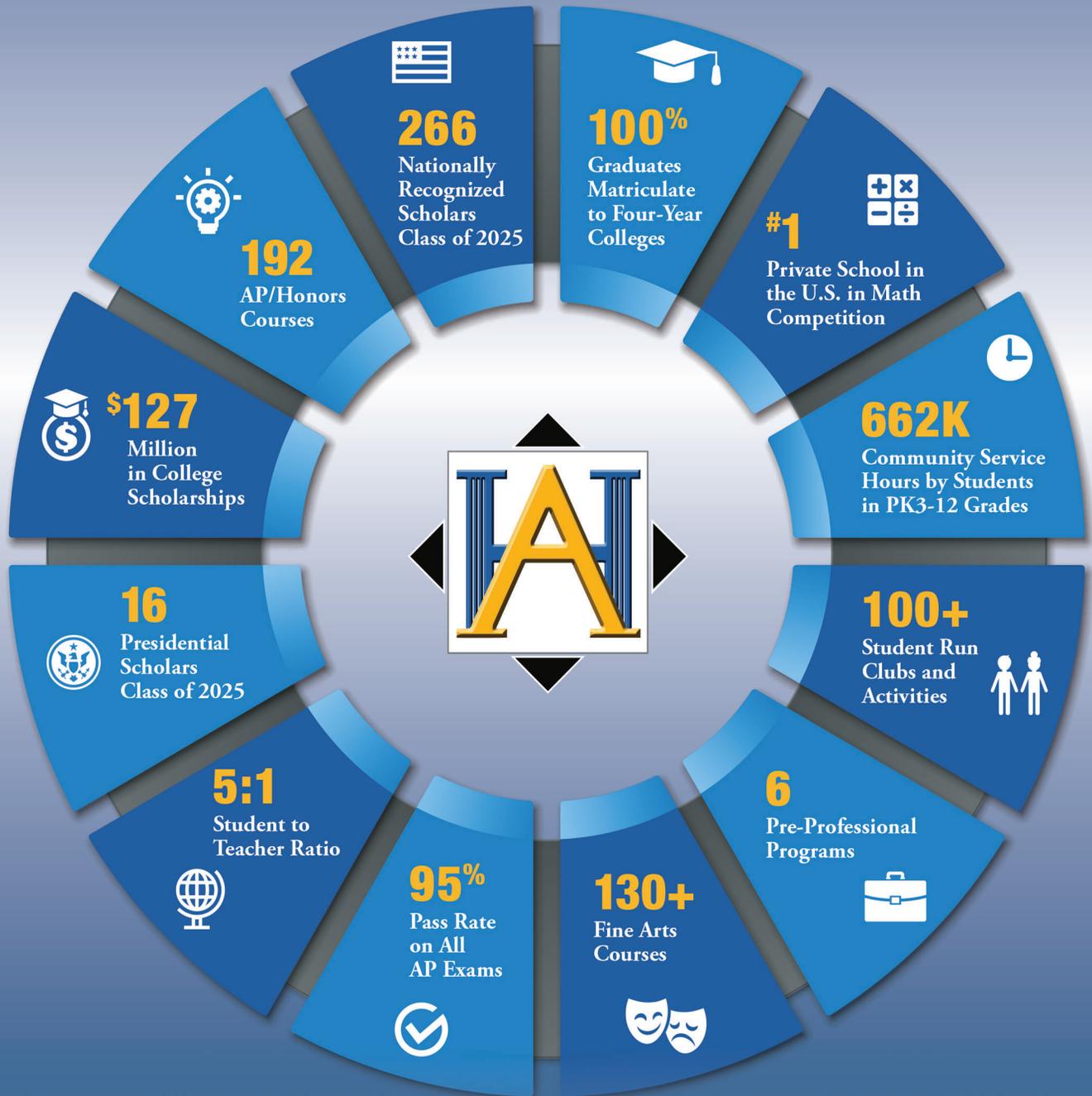
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