

Utkarsha

ଉତ୍କର୍ଷ

Fall Edition 2023



THE ODISHA SOCIETY OF THE AMERICAS

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Editor's Message

The theme for this issue of Utkarsha; Fall 2023 is, "Falling Leaves." As the seasons change from the blistering summer heat to the cool autumn air, the feeling of how quickly time passes by begins to settle in. It is important to relish in the moment and to enjoy the world around us as we go from one moment to the next. A palpable sense of change overtook the landscape as the days grew shorter and the air became crisper, signaling the arrival of the incoming fall season. A stunning symphony of reds, oranges, and yellows suddenly erupts from trees, which were once draped in vivid summer greens, as their leaves dance elegantly to the earth. The rich aroma of fallen foliage and the faint scent of distant bonfires seemed to change the entire atmosphere.

We hope that our Odia folks feel motivated to share their thoughts and feelings regarding the fall season amongst each other, and additionally what they expect for this upcoming shift. The transition from summer to fall symbolizes change and this is a concept that many struggle to come to terms with. There will be kids entering school, thus entering a new chapter in their lives; young adults entering the real world after finishing school, and parents that will be watching their kids go through these changes and wondering how quickly time passed them by. It is essential to recognize that change is the catalyst for growth, adaptation, and progress in our lives. It challenges us to evolve, learn, and innovate. Embracing change fosters resilience, broadens our perspectives, and enables us to break free from stagnation. By paving the way for new opportunities, it gives us the chance to make improvements. In essence, change is the driving force that propels us forward on the path of personal and collective development, making it an essential element of our ever-changing world.

English poet John Keats, beautifully captures the rich, melancholic beauty of the autumn season and its connection to the passage of time, in this excerpt from his poem, "Ode to Autumn,":

"Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close-bosom friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run;"

Keats sets a serene and bountiful scene by immersing us in the sight and textures of autumn. He personifies the fall season by presenting it as an active force that is conspiring with the sun to produce a bountiful harvest. This infuses autumn with life and purpose, emphasizing its role in the cycle of nature. It is evident how autumn assumes the vital role of orchestrating nature's transition from vibrant growth to introspective rest, embodying the essence of change itself.

Hopefully we are able to observe more people embracing change and understand that it has the potential to be something positive. With every falling leaf, it represents one person in the world that is experiencing a new change in their life.

Thank you,
On behalf of the Utkarsha Editorial team 2023 ~ 2025

Editorial Team



Chinmayee Devi
Illinois



Smita Suvadarsini Panda
Georgia



Sumedha Jena
New Jersey

President 's Message



Mrs. Leena Mishra

Namaskar,

Welcome to the Fall 2023 issue of Utkarsha, OSA's quarterly newsletter. This edition is dedicated to helping our readers get acquainted with the latest OSA chapter events, revisiting the highlights from the last convention, and introducing you to the new OSA executives and their annual goals for the upcoming year.

Through this message, we want to express our heartfelt appreciation to the organization's pioneers, former leaders, and members for entrusting us with the responsibility of guiding the organization forward. Our foremost mission is to strengthen the organization's foundation. During this quarter, we will focus on getting a deep understanding of our current processes, structures, and policies while actively identifying any gaps and addressing deficiencies as needed.

A larger membership base is an important aspect of an organization. In close collaboration with the membership committee and our chapters, we are actively dedicated to expanding our membership base. We request you all to join us in bringing at least one member each, collectively we can achieve our goal.

Additionally, my sincere appreciation goes to our newly appointed publication team who left no stone unturned in understanding the process quickly and staying on top of all the coordination tasks, ensuring the timely publication of this newsletter.

Finally, I am delighted to be part of this fantastic EC team, whose enthusiasm matches my own. Furthermore, I take pride in our outstanding team of BOG members and all the dedicated committee members who are ready to propel the organization forward. With your support, I am confident that we will elevate the organization to a higher level, at least one step closer to our vision.

Thank you.

Vice President's Message



Saradakanta Panda

Namaskar,

First of all, it is an honor and privilege to serve as the Vice President of OSA. I would also like to thank the 2023 Convention team and the Chicago Chapter for the successful execution of the OSA Convention.

The last 2 months have been very hectic for our team in terms of EC transition Meetings, Committee formation /updates /Meetings, Website updates, CMO team visits to SFO, and prep meetings for the upcoming OSA 2024 Convention.

I'm delighted to see the enthusiasm of the Southern Chapter team for the upcoming 2024 OSA convention in Nashville, TN.

OSA regular activities are in full swing as usual with Chapter events, financial planning, weekly EC meetings, monthly BOG meetings, etc. With all these activities, we are also working on updating convention guidelines, award guidelines, and other documents.

OSA's new membership drive is ongoing, I would like to encourage each of you to at least try to bring one new member each week. I believe "A team is not only a group of people who work together; rather a team is a group of people who trust and respect each other and work towards the common goal".

Let's join hands and support our team to make OSA stronger together and enhance OSA's ability to be a vibrant and attractive organization globally that will protect & nurture Odia culture & tradition

Secretary's Message



Mrs. Santwana Dash

Namaskar

“अल्पानामपि वस्तूनां संहतिः कार्यसाधिका तृणैर्गुणत्वमापन्नैर् बध्यन्ते मत्तदन्तिनः”

(Even small small (insignificant) things, when put together, can do great work. A rope made up of hay sticks can control a powerful elephant. Unity is power.)

The Odisha Society of the Americas (OSA) exemplifies our unity and camaraderie. As Odias residing in North America, we have strengthened our bonds through effective communication. Within our organization, we are fortunate to have dedicated chapter leaders and committee leaders who collaborate closely with the OSA National Executive Committee to foster a sense of togetherness infused with great enthusiasm.

Observing the unwavering passion of our committee members, we have charted a clear path for their work over the next two years. We are currently in the process of appointing new committee members and facilitating their integration into our organization. We eagerly anticipate their fresh perspectives and innovative ideas, which will further enrich our collective mission.

Each of our chapters is abuzz with numerous activities, all contributing to our shared goals. To showcase the impactful work being done, we have introduced a standardized reporting format for all active chapters. This format will enable us to gather comprehensive information on the activities taking place across our organization, thereby highlighting the depth and breadth of our endeavors.

With this note, I am ending here by saying the quote: **“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.”**

Thank you.

Treasurer's Message



Subhransu Mishra

Namaskar... Jai Jagannath!

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all editors, writers who contribute to this magazine and keep all of us connected.

This is Subhransu Mishra, from Minnesota land of lakes, your new treasurer. I took over the role of OSA national treasurer recently and am happy to serve you all for the next two years (2023-2025).

As an organization our vision is to bring Odia culture and connect Odia diaspora with the Odia culture and roots. This journey started in 1969, and it is going up by leaps and bounds.

Together our team goal is to bring automation to make our accounting system better. We are planning to include more NextGen for new ideas and take OSA organization to the next level. As an update, company matching has increased substantially; we also plan to define more robust processes to make the transaction between OSA national and OSA chapters seamless. Along with the above goals we are envisioning the tax filing to happen on time; obtaining chapter information on time and overall establishing a good communication channel between the chapters.

It is crucial for any organization to grow its membership in order to become stronger. We must encourage fellow Odiya to become OSA members, and I request all of you to reach out to your Odia friends to join our organization.

As we are getting bigger every year, our budget is also increasing year after year. We need to be very detailed and diligent with our expenses and income to manage the growing budget. I am looking forward to all your support and guidance to do my job with the utmost sincerity and dedication.

Thank You,

OSA Committee Members (2023-2025)

OSA Advisory Committee

Bigyani Das
Ipsita Mahapatra
Gopala Krishna Mohapatra
Lalatendu Mohanty

OSA Legal Counsel

David Joseph Sullivan
Goutam Patnaik

OSA Grievance Hearing Committee

Ashutosh Dutta –(Lead)
Eva Mohanty
Sourya Mohapatra

OSA Public Relations Office

Sunil Sabat
Prashant Padhi
Pramod Mohapatra

OSA Publications team

Smita Suvadarsini Panda – (Lead)
Chinamayee Devi – (Co-Lead)
Sumedha Jena

OSA Higher Education Team

Chitta Baral-(Advisory)
Durga Misra-(Advisory)
Prashant Mohapatra-Chair
Debakanta Mishra
Debashish Sahoo
Ram Prasad Mahapatra
Chandan Samantray

OSA Convention Committee

Pradip Tripathy
Debashish Panda
Bikash Panda

OSA Membership Drive Team

Rashmita Baral – Lead
Sarhak Das – Lead
Sasmita Satpathy
Biswajita Ray Samal
Jayabrata Tripathy
Veena Gupta



In Memoriam



Dr. Ganesh Prasad Mohanty, passed away peacefully on Thursday, July 20, 2023. Dr. Mohanty was one of the founding members of OSA South-East chapter and dedicated his entire life to uplifting others. Dr. Mohanty was a Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science for over 42 years at the University of North Carolina in Charlotte.



It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing away of **Rabi Ray** on July 12th, 2023.

Rabi bhaina was born on May 9, 1945, in Chudamani, Odisha, India to the late Mr. Sarendra Prasad Ray and the late Mrs. Kumudini (Mohapatra) Ray. He was husband to the late Prabhasri (Singh) Ray for 50 years. Father to Ranjan Ray (Amanda Lee), Rashmi Wheeler (Gregory Wheeler) and Grandfather to Sienna Wheeler. Brother to Kamala Kanta Ray, Tapaswini Mohapatra, Suphala Mohapatra, Samerandra Prasad Ray, and Gyanendra Prasad Ray. Friend to many; his friends describe him as being cheerful and always willing to help others. Rabi bhaina's curiosity and desire to learn, led him to seek educational and professional opportunities in many areas. He studied metallurgical engineering at Banaras Hindu University (BHU) and Columbia University, received his MBA from NYU Stern, pursued a career in finance and asset management, and continued his career in project management. In retirement, Rabi bhaina and Prabha apa traveled the world. In addition to annual trips to Odisha, they visited Peru, Chile, Norway, Italy, and Alaska, among other incredible places. Rabi bhaina was very social among his friends, neighbors, and the Odia community. He also spearheaded the creation of a BHU alumni group which met weekly to reminisce and discuss plans to reunite. He especially enjoyed spending time with his Granddaughter Sienna and his face brightened every time he spoke about her to others. After the passing of Prabha apa in December 2022, Rabi bhaina spent much of his time focused on establishing the PrabhaRabi Charitable Trust, which would provide assistance to underprivileged students in government schools in his hometown. The trust would grant each year's top 5 graduating students a financial reward to help unlock further educational opportunity.

We take inspiration from his wonderful life and strive to be role models to our family, friends and the community at large.



OSA Convention 2023 : Chicago

54th International OSA Convention at Chicago, USA July 7th to July 9th 2023.

OSA is the single largest and structured organization of Odias outside the state of Odisha, India. Since its inception of 50+ years, Odias are working relentlessly to promote Odia culture and heritage in North America. This year the International OSA 2023 Convention at Chicago, USA had the largest gathering of Odias outside India. Convention theme ଆରୋହି, the evolving Odias was showcased with a glimpse of our language, culture, art and futuristic vision. ଆରୋହି symbolizes the evolving Odias who are progressive, upbeat, aspirational, and heroic. It stands for our historical consciousness of the struggle the people of Odisha endured for freedom and self-determination. Arohi is the quintessential modern person whose mission has been to move forward. The convention is an ode to that person.

The now Odia both in India as well as North America have been successful in co-mingling the best of our traditions and culture with the Skills, knowledge and experience to be successful in the modern age. Odias abroad have been promoting new businesses, hospitals, Education institutions, STEM students with an eye on contributing to Odisha. We have the New/Now Odiyas who have opened Hospitals, provided Ambulance services, helped in Eye and Palate clinics etc. Through philanthropy they have helped various community projects all over Odisha. They have worked to open new Higher Ed., institutions like IIT and other educational institutions etc. in Odisha. They have contributed as Scientists, Professors, Doctors, Philanthropists, Executives and Entrepreneurs in North America and other countries abroad. Using the historic greatness of our ancestors as a stepping stone, the Now Odia was reflected in the theme and context of the current convention. The 54th OSA convention, apart from showcasing traditional and modern culture through an extravaganza, conducted seminars for Odisha developments, Health Clinics, Public Libraries, Women empowerment, Odia identity, Mental health etc. For the Next Generation Odias the seminars focus on challenges facing them in the 21st century. The 54th Convention had invited Business and Social leaders from Odisha and North America to work together to raise Odias to the next level. In addition, the Now Odia has not forgotten its religious and cultural roots. There are events, symposium, and discussions of Lord Jagannath, Spirituality, Yoga, Meditation, Bhajan, Odia Language, Literature, Poetry and Religion. Kavitha Patha, Odissi, Champu/Chaanda, Pitha Competition etc. These programs highlight our roots.

The Convention brought Odisha and USA/Canada together. OSA Convention 2023. A large number of Odias from North America, India, Caribbean and other countries participated in

the 3-day Gala events. There was a mood of festivity as the Hotel Corridors resembled Bali yatra mela with decorations of the various Odia religious functions. There was a miniature Barbati fort at the entrance to the main event. Those who stayed in the hotel were served with a variety of cuisine.



Jhara Das: Convenor



Sanjya Pattnaik: Co-Convenor

The following events were conducted during the three days. From July 7th to 9th.

Day 1:

The first day kicked off after Registration and Welcome drink/Snacks on July 7th afternoon with Odisha Development which acknowledged the development work by North American Odiyas. OSA Higher Education and Public Library initiative seminars focused on building a strong connection with Odisha and OSA members. The Women's Empowerment seminar, focused on the challenges of modern Odia families - their role, responsibility in today's world. The Youth Climate change seminar presented a variety of views and solutions in front of the invited guest Andrew Panelli. Master Class sessions in Writing (- Akash Pandey) and Dancing (- Payal Parida) focused on Next Gen youth. Spiritual, Health and Wellness Seminars have become part of every convention

The highly anticipated Pitha Competition had participants who demonstrated a variety of offerings using innovative ingredients and methods.

Parallely, the general audience enjoyed the highly popular OSA Got Talent contest for young Odiyas that took place in the main conference room. A new program was introduced in this convention, Ashishara Dhara. The purpose of this program is to celebrate the glorious journey of OSA's Grandparents with their grandchildren. Six OSA grandparents shared the stage with their grandchildren - and displayed activities showing their love and bonding. Post dinner we had the OSA Musical Sensations which showcased the OSA Musical talent in North America with Suraj Patnaik, Meesha Acharya, Dillip Acharya, Pravat Singh providing an enjoyable program. The late-night programs included Comedy by "Shankara Bakara" Fame and Mehfil. The Next Gen youth had a social evening.

Day 2: July 8th - Had multiple parallel programs prior to Inauguration.

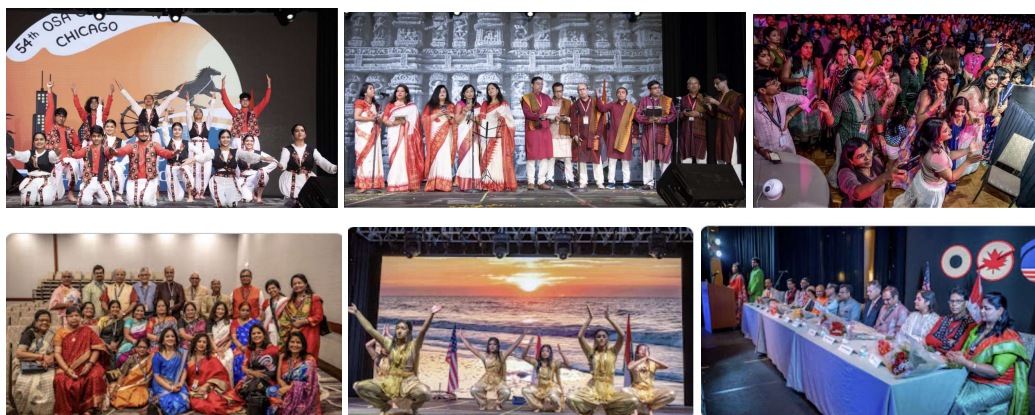
They included Morning Walk (by OSA Doctors) – a first, which was very popular and Yoga session, Bhajans and various seminars. The Inauguration and Opening programs were a dazzling and colorful show. We had Chief guest Guruji Chandrabhanu Satpathy, Dr Sitikantha Dash, Consul General of India Somnath Gosh, Mayor of Naperville Scott Wehrli along with Convenor Jhara Das, Co convenor Sanjay Pattnaik, Chapter President Manoranjan Sahu, OSA President Gyana Patnaik and members of OSA executive committee. The Convention recognized the contributions of Chandra Bhanu Satpathy and Dr Siti Kantha Dash. A colorful opening with drones, flowers, and multi chapter opening program were the highlights. This year, the multichapter opening program had the background songs and scores created using the talent of North American Odiyas. The lyrics, songs and music were composed and performed by North American Odiyas. The afternoon programs included, Subrina Biswal competition, Kabitha Patha, Chicago and BOG Drama, and Odia writers’ recognition. The evening had the Chicago Prime Time program followed by the Multichapter NextGen program. The highlight of the evening was the Musical Show by Lisa Mishra – a Chicago Odia (next Gen) who has made a successful career in Bollywood. The late-night programs included Comedy by “Shankara Bakara” Fame and Mehfil.

The final day 3: July 9th

This had the GBM and NextGen Cruise and Parallel programs of Contests and seminars. Beautiful Minds Budding Scientists competition focused on STEM based challenges for Young OSA youth. There were Bhajan and Shloka competitions, Odissi Champu Chaanda, Session with Guruji in the morning. After a sumptuous Lunch – we had Multi Chapter Odissi Performance with Live music and Songs by visiting Odissi Masters. This a first as the Odissi had live music by Sangeeta Gosain and other distinguished artists from Odisha. This was colorful and hailed as very innovative and stylish. Promode Patnaik Interchapter Drama competition followed with high quality performances late afternoon. Parallely, there were health clinics, Higher Education discussions etc. The evening program included Awards, Fashion Show, and the Grand finale Multi Chapter

Closing program:

The performing artists included M Simadre, Nazia Sayeed and Bibu Das. The late-night programs included Comedy and Mehfil programs.





Chapter Reports





OSA Georgia Chapter

Chapter Report - Utkarsha Fall 2023 Edition

Period: Jan 1 - Aug 31, 2023

As always, the OSA Georgia Chapter has been very active during the summer months. During the past quarter we hosted multiple cultural events showcasing Odia art, culture and heritage, furthering Odia Eminence in the local Indian and American community. As we are writing this report the entire chapter is actively preparing for Kumara Utsava to showcase Odia culture in a multi community cultural program hosted by us.

Here's a summary of different programs we hosted during this period.

A. AVAHANA - 2023 (January 14, 2023)

ନୂଆ ବର୍ଷର ନୂଆ ସଂକଳ୍ପ ନୂଆ ଉଦ୍ଦୀପନା, ଓ ମକର ସଂକ୍ରାନ୍ତି ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ , ଓସା ଜର୍ଜିଆ ଅଣ୍ଟୁଲ୍ୟୁରେ ଆୟୋଜିତ, ଆବାହନର ତୃତୀୟ ସଂସ୍କରଣ, "ଆବାହନ-2023" କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ , ଅତ୍ୟନ୍ତ ଆନନ୍ଦ ଉଦ୍ଦୀପନା ସହ ଗତ ଜାନୁଆରୀ 14ତାରିଖ ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟା 6:00 ଟାରେ ଆଗ୍ଲାଣ୍ଡା ,ଆମେରିକାରେ ଅନୁଷ୍ଠିତ ହେଇଥିଲା.

ଆମେରିକାର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ରାଜ୍ୟରୁ କୁନି କୁନି ପିଲାମାନେ YOGA ରେ ନିଜ ନିଜର ଦକ୍ଷତା ତଥା ନିପୁଣତା, ନିଜ ଅଭିଭାବକଙ୍କ ସହିତ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନ କରିଥିଲେ. ଆଧ୍ୟାତ୍ମିକ ଗୁରୁ , ବେଦିକ ସ୍କଲାର ଓ mind managementରେ ଦକ୍ଷତା ପ୍ରାପ୍ତ କରିଥିବା ଗୁରୁଜୀ ସ୍ଵାମୀ ମୁକୁନ୍ଦାନନ୍ଦ, ମୁଖ୍ୟ ବକ୍ତା ଭାବେ ଯୋଗ ଦେଇ "power of thoughts" ଉପରେ ଗଭୀର ଚର୍ଚ୍ଚା କରିଥିଲେ. ଆବାହନ-2023ର ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଅତିଥି ଗଜପତି ମହାରାଜା



ଦିବ୍ୟ ସିଂହ ଦେବ , ଉପସ୍ଥିତ ଶ୍ରୋତା ଓ ଦର୍ଶକ ଗଣଙ୍କୁ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଉଦାହରଣ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ, ଆମେରିକାରେ ବହୁଥିବା ପିଲା ମାନେ କିପରି ବେଷ୍ଟ of east ଓ west ହେଇପାରିବେ ଓ ବର୍ତ୍ତମାନର କିଛି ସମସ୍ୟାମୟିକ ସମସ୍ୟା, କିପରି ସମାଧାନ ହେଇ ପାରିବ, ସେ ସମ୍ପର୍କରେ ଆଲୋଚନାପାତ କରିଥିଲେ.

ମହାପ୍ରଭୁ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥଙ୍କ ଆଦ୍ୟ ଏବଂ ସର୍ବପ୍ରିୟ ସେବକ ଗଜପତି ମହାରାଜାଙ୍କର ବକ୍ତବ୍ୟ ସମାପ୍ତ ପରେ , ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ଶାଲବେଗ, ସିକନ୍ଦର ଆଲାମଙ୍କ, ସୁପତ୍ରୀ Dr Nazia Alam ଅତି ସୁନ୍ଦର ପରିବେଷିତ କରିଥିଲେ ,ଅନେକ ଭକ୍ତ ଶାଲବେଗ ଓ ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ମହାକବିଙ୍କ ଅନମୋଲ ରଚନା.

ଆବାହନ-2023ର ଅନ୍ୟତମ ଆକର୍ଷଣ ଥିଲା, ସମଗ୍ର ଆମେରିକା ମହାଦେଶର ବିଭିନ୍ନ କଣ୍ଠଶିଳ୍ପୀଙ୍କ ଦ୍ଵାରା ପରିବେଷିତ ଭାବପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭଜନ । ଏପରି ଭଜ କୋଟିର ସଂଗୀତ ପରିବେଷଣ, ପ୍ରବାସୀ ଓଡ଼ିଆଙ୍କ ପ୍ରେମ ଓ ନିଶ୍ଚାର, ଏକ ଗୌରବମୟ ଅଧ୍ୟାୟ ଉନ୍ମୋଚିତ କରିବା ସହିତ , "ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ଐତିହ୍ୟ, ସଂସ୍କାର ଓ ସଂସ୍କୃତି"ସହ କିପରି ସମସ୍ତେ ଓଡ଼ଃ ପ୍ରୋତ୍ସାହ ଭାବେ ଜଡ଼ିତ , ଡାହାର ସାକ୍ଷୀ ଓ ପ୍ରମାଣ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରିଥିଲା .

<https://www.youtube.com/live/3MWUaJoo4k?si=sPDWRp1QKa3wIO0P>

B. Kalyan Jyoti 2023 - 1 (January 21 2023)

On January 21st OSA Georgia volunteers participated in the first Kalyan Jyoti, our community service event, of the year at Books for Africa (BFA) , a non-profit organization committed to helping improve literacy and education in Africa by providing books to them. Our chapter members donated 1000+ books for all age groups. Our volunteers collected the books, transported them to the BFA warehouse. They also donated their labor to work alongside the BFA team for well over 4 hours to unload books from the containers, sort those by type and age group and help the team in making those ready for shipping to Africa. All our volunteers, especially kids, highly appreciated the event and are looking forward to doing more to give back to the community.



<https://youtu.be/SFJ3y5NIVEU>

C. Dekha Sakhyat 2023 (February 12 2023)

We had our 3rd edition of Dekha Sakhyat, our annual meet and greet event on February 12, 2023. The weather, although not ideal, was nice enough to allow many of us to join the event and make it hugely successful. The event leadership team (Reetwik, Ranjit, Saphalya, Soumya and Satyaban) planned and executed everything to perfection right from food, Zumba, kids games and Pitha Utsava.



Reetwik and Smitha were fantastic in making sure all of us (new or long timers) got to introduce ourselves to the community. Madhu, Liza and Samikya planned the kids event so we'll and made sure our little ones had a fun time as well. Ananya made us dance to Zumba steps and lose some of the calories we got from the yummy breakfast brought to us by our excellent ELT. Our Pitha judges Smita Nani and Sudhanshu Bhaina's expert comments added a new flavor to all the wonderful Pithas prepared by participants. We also had a

couple of announcements. Our local Odia School (Barnabodha Shikshalaya) led by Smita Nani, Micky Acharya, Rani and Ranjita, shared their plans for the local Odia school.

D. Kalyan Jyoti 2023 - 2 (March 26 2023)

OSA Georgia collaborated with Vibha for a community service event involving youth for our second edition of Kalyan Jyoti. Over 40 volunteers from our chapter spent a good 3+ hours at Meals by Grace packing food and supplies and delivering those to the families in need in the local area. Our youth liked it and learned a lot from it. Here's a quick snippet under 3 min capturing our activities this afternoon.



<https://youtu.be/CbxOS4sRWGc>

E. Utkala Dibasa (April 22 2023)

The Georgia Chapter of the Odisha Society of Americas (OSA-Georgia) celebrated UTKALA DIBASA with a lot of fanfare on a sunny spring afternoon of April 22nd, 2023. On this occasion over 300 Prabasi Odias came together with their families to celebrate the 88th foundation day of Odisha at the Auditorium at Lanier High School in Sugar Hill.

Over 130 enthusiastic participants, with equal involvement from adults and kids of all ages, put together this splendid production. The audience were actively enjoying, applauding and cheering the performers. The timely ending of the show was commended by the guests who were



glad to do ଗପ ଶୁଣ and chat while enjoying the sumptuous Odia dinner. Everyone loved to get a flavor of their favorite Odia food with “ଝେନା ଢରକାରି”, “ଆଳୁ ପୋଟଳ ରସା”. The non vegetarian folks were seen enjoying “Chicken ଢରକାରି”.

This year OSA-GA also welcomed a few postgraduate students who were delighted to find Odisha right here , home away from home.

https://youtu.be/30wE2H5ch98?si=tJfNxzjE_vltf6ME

F. Kalyan Jyoti 2023 - 3 (July 22 2023)

Keeping with our tradition of giving back to the community through our Kalyan Jyoti initiative, we had our third community service event of the year at ‘Save the Horses’ on July 22, 2023. They are a non-profit organization run by volunteers, funded by



donations, that adopts animals (horses, donkey, pigs, goats, chicken, turkey, peacock and much more - many of them dropped off at their location because of disabilities) and takes care of them giving them a good life. Our own Odia community members actively participated and witnessed first hand how these animals receive love and care just through sheer volunteering work and love for animals.

Our volunteers joined hands with the Save the Horses team to clean their shelters, clean animal droppings, cut and clean trees, fix windows in their shelters and much more. Many children joined the event too and they loved getting close to the animals, petting them, grooming them,

taking pictures with them etc. There were about 30 of us including kids and our contribution was visible in accomplishing a lot of work in just half a day.

Here's a little video capturing the activities and insight from today!

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=UT4ahnBZBw8&feature=share>

G. Festival of India by IACA (August 13 2023)

OSA Georgia Chapter participated in the Independence Day celebrations in the Atlanta area hosted by India American Cultural Association (IACA) on Sunday August 13th. Over 5000 people attended the event throughout the day and enjoyed the celebrations. Our folk dance presentation had a creative combination of Chaiti Ghoda dance coupled with Nabarangpur dance. Our dancers' elegant moves in colorful costumes stole the hearts of the audience. Our Chaiti Ghodas were the attraction of the event and many people were lining up to take pictures with them. The Ghodas were made by our chapter members locally in Georgia, and with key input and guidance from Ullasini Apa from the South East chapter. This goes to say, how strongly we are bonded as an OSA family across chapters and how we support each other for collective growth.

We also had an OSA Georgia booth where we displayed artifacts and videos about Odisha and its significance. Many people stopped by, gathered information and showed interest in visiting Odisha, India's best kept secret.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rgTv5XFI7TM>

H. Regional Drama Festival (RDF) (August 26 2023)

OSA Georgia hosted our first event involving our neighboring chapters along with us. We had 5 wonderful dramas accompanied by some solo and group performances as well as live singing by our invited artist, Dr Nazia Alam! We had a power packed 4 hours of complete entertainment, with the audience giving rave reviews on all the performances. The dramas came for special praise from everyone. Here are the 5 dramas



- ମାତ୍ର ହାଣ୍ଡି କଥା - by Southern kids
- ମୋ ସ୍ତ୍ରୀର ବାହାଘର - by Georgia adults
- ଶ୍ରୀ ଗଣେଶ - by Georgia kids
- USA vs India lifestyle - by Southern adults
- ସାନ ସିନା ସିଲେ, ଦାନଟା ମହାନ - by Southeast adults and kids

The Southern Chapter team took the opportunity to invite everyone to the convention in Nashville.

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLgJD2FM3uGC5cdPpVZglPhXHTBH5D_9uK&si=todxJ6g1pHQyBs5

I. Barnabodha Shikshalaya :

ଓସା ଜର୍ଣ୍ଣିଆ ଆନୁକୂଲ୍ୟରେ ଉତ୍କଳ ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ବିଗତ ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚ 18 ତାରିଖରେ ବର୍ଣ୍ଣବୋଧ ଶିକ୍ଷାଳୟର ଉଲ୍ଲୋଚନ ହେଇ ଥିଲା , ଜର୍ଣ୍ଣିଆ ବାସିନ୍ଦାଙ୍କ ସହ ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ରାଜ୍ୟରୁ ପ୍ରାୟ 30ଜଣ ଛାତ୍ର ଛାତ୍ରୀ ଅତ୍ୟନ୍ତ ଉତ୍ସାହ ଉଦ୍ଦୀପନା ସହ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଶିକ୍ଷାଲାଭ ସଙ୍ଗେ ସାହିତ୍ୟ ସଂସ୍କୃତି ଐତିହ୍ୟ ଏବଂ ପରମ୍ପରା ବିଷୟରେ ଅବଗତ ହେଉଛନ୍ତି. ସ୍ମୃତା ନାନୀ ଏବଂ ମିଳି (Jyotshnamayee) , ଅତ୍ୟନ୍ତ ଆନନ୍ଦର ସହ ଏହି ଶିକ୍ଷା ଦାନର ଭୂମିକା ନିର୍ବାହ କରିଛନ୍ତି . ଗତ ଗଣେଶ ପୂଜା ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ ଆୟୋଜିତ ଚିତ୍ରାଙ୍କନରେ ସମସ୍ତ ଛାତ୍ର ଛାତ୍ରୀ ଅଂଶଗ୍ରହଣ କରି ନିଜ ନିଜର ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ କଳ୍ପନା ଅତ୍ୟନ୍ତ ସୁନ୍ଦର ଭାବେ ଚିତ୍ର ମାଧ୍ୟମ ରେ ଉପସ୍ଥାପିତ କରି ଥିଲେ.

"Om Namo Ganeshaya Namah" Art by students of Barnabodha Shikshalaya, Atlanta,USA

https://youtu.be/JMF0NY1YrCk?si=fow8xtmlqH_7Ofef

J. Youth Activities

OSA Georgia launched a youth activity group during Utkala Dibasa celebration under the leadership of Likun Mishra, Nitai Misra and Taruna Panda. Over 18 families with young children have signed up for the initiative. The goal is to have our youth



(and the parents) get to know each other, participate in fun activities, cultivate skills, education and character traits like leadership & STEM. They have been meeting regularly and planning the activities together. There was a great engagement in a recent activity where our kids participated in a rock climbing activity and had fun together.



OSA South-West Chapter Report and Glimpses in Last Few Months:

Dear readers, as you all may be aware that OSA Southwest spreads across 4 states and many major cities. Since I (Smaranika Rout) took office, it's been my constant attempt with many regional volunteers to do various cultural programs and recognize and promote many culture bearers. Those include some virtual programs and in-person both.

APRIL 2023

UTKALA DIBASA (ODISHA DAY) AND REGIONAL DRAMA FESTIVAL (RDF)

It was a wonderful post-pandemic in-person celebration for OSA_SW Chapter. Many folks all across participated in this event held in Dallas on April 1st, including Houston, Austin, San Antonio and Arkansas with different Odia Cultural programs and creatively articulated dramas. It was an All-day event and celebrated with many volunteers, cultural coordinators and attendees. This event was Chaired by Jagannath Rath, Niranjan Tripathy and Saroj Mohapatra from Dallas. No of folks in attendance well exceeded over 400 people all across OSA Southwest cities with 7 dramas, that included 2 kids drama as well.



ଭଲ ଚଳାଉଅଛୁ . OSA SOUTHWEST CHAPTER ତରଫରୁ ଏଠାରେ ଉପସ୍ଥିତ ସବୁ ବନ୍ଧୁ ମାନଙ୍କୁ ଆମେ ସ୍ୱାଗତ କରୁଛୁ, Houston Austin Arkansas ରୁ ଆସିଥିବା ବନ୍ଧୁମାନଙ୍କୁ Dallas ଓଡ଼ିଆଙ୍କର ବିଶେଷ ଧନ୍ୟବାଦ ଆଣିବ ଏ ଦିବସ ଆମ ସହିତ ଉପଲୋଗ କରିବା ପାଇଁ.

1936 ମସିହା April ଏବଂ ଚାରିଶ ଦିନ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଏବଂ ସ୍ୱତନ୍ତ୍ର ରାଜ୍ୟ ଘୋଷିତ ହୋଇଥିଲା. ଆଜି 86th ଉତ୍ସବ ଦିବସର ଆପଣ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ.

କର୍ମକ୍ରମ ଜାତୀୟରେ ବନ୍ଧା , ଆମେ ସମସ୍ତେ ପ୍ରବାସୀ ହେଲେ ମଧ୍ୟ ,ଆମ ଭିତରେ ଥିବା ଓଡ଼ିଆ ପ୍ରୀତି ...ଖାସ କରି ରାଜକ ଆର ଚାନ୍ଦିନୀଙ୍କ ଚାହିଦା, ଆମକୁ ଆଜି ଏକାଠି କରିଛି OSA SW ତରଫରୁ ଆୟୋଜିତ Regional Drama Festival ଉପଲୋଗ କରିବା ପାଇଁ. ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଭାଷାଭାଷୀଙ୍କୁ ପ୍ରୋତ୍ସାହନ ଦେଇ କଳା ପାଇଁ ଆମେ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ଚିତ୍ତଦୃବ କରୁଛୁ କିଛିଟା House rules ଉପରେ ଧ୍ୟାନ ଦିଅନ୍ତୁ ଆଉ ପାଳନ କରନ୍ତୁ।



May 2023

PARAMPARA PRASANGA 4: A program designed to promote Odisha's Art and Artists from Odisha:

This was a virtual event coordinated and led by Surath Rath from Houston which highlighted our Odia music. Here is a note from Surath Rath:

ବନ୍ଧୁଗଣ
ପରମ୍ପରା ପ୍ରସଙ୍ଗ ଚତୁର୍ଥ ଅଧିବେଶନ ର ଆମ ସଂଗୀତ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ବଢ଼ିବା ପୂର୍ବରୁ ଗୁରୁ ରବୀନ୍ଦ୍ର ନାଥ ମିଶ୍ର ଭଜନ ସମ୍ରାଟ ଭିକାରି ବଳଙ୍କର "ମୁଁ ତ ବଡ଼ ଦେଉଳର ପାରା ରେ" ଭଜନ ଚି ଗାଇଥିଲେ । ଓଡ଼ିଆ ପରମ୍ପରା ରେ କିଛି ସୁରେ ନାହିଁ, ଖାଲି ବସୁନ୍ତ ବୋଲି ମିଲନ ଘଟୁଆରୀ ବୁଝାଇ ଦେଇଥିଲେ। ସେ ପାରାଟି କାହିଁକି ବଡ଼ ଦେଉଳର? ତା ମନରେ ଏତେ ଖୁସି କାହିଁକି? ସେ ନିଜକୁ କାହିଁକି ଏତେ ଭାଗ୍ୟବାନ ମାନେ କରୁଛି? ମିଲନ ଆମର ସ୍ରୋତା ମାନଙ୍କୁ ଭଜନ ଚି ଆରମ୍ଭ ଆଗରୁ ବୁଝାଇ ଦେଇଥିଲେ । କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ର ସବୁ ଗୀତ ପରିବେଷଣ ପୂର୍ବରୁ ମିଲନ ବାବୁଙ୍କର ବିଶ୍ଳେଷଣ ଗୁଡ଼ିକ ଅତି ହୃଦୟସ୍ପର୍ଶୀ ଥିଲା । କେତେକ ସ୍ଥାନରେ ତ ମୋର ଆଖି ଲୁହଭରା ହେଉଥିଲା । ଏହି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମରେ ଆମ କଳାକାର ମାନେ ଭଜନ, ଓଡ଼ିଶୀ, ପଲ୍ଲୀ, ସମ୍ବଲପୁରୀ, ଆଧୁନିକ ଇତ୍ୟାଦି ଗୀତ ପରିବେଷଣ କରିଥିଲେ । ଆମ ସାଂସ୍କୃତିକ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ଏବଂ ଓଷା ଦକ୍ଷିଣ ପଶ୍ଚିମ ଶାଖା ତରଫରୁ ରବୀନ୍ଦ୍ର ନାଥ ମିଶ୍ର କୁ "ଉତ୍କଳ ସୁରଭି" ଓ ଅନ୍ୟ ସମସ୍ତ ସହଯୋଗୀ କଳାକାର ଏବଂ ମିଲନ ଘଟୁଆରୀ କୁ "ଉତ୍କଳ ପ୍ରତିଭା" ସମ୍ମାନର ମାନପତ୍ର ଦେଇଥିଲୁ । ଏହି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ର ଗୋଟିଏ ସଂକ୍ଷିପ୍ତ ବିବରଣୀ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସମ୍ବାଦ ରେ ଆସିଛି ।

କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ର ଭିଡ଼ିଓ ଯୁଟୁବ ମାଧ୍ୟମ ରେ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ । ପରେ ପରେ ଆମେ ଆମ ଓଷା ଦକ୍ଷିଣ ପଶ୍ଚିମ ଶାଖା ର ଯୁଟୁବ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଦେବାକୁ ଚେଷ୍ଟା କରିବୁ ।

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wwGeJ00SKxo>

ସମ୍ବାଦ

ସଂଗୀତ ଗୁରୁ ରବୀନ୍ଦ୍ରନାଥ ମିଶ୍ରଙ୍କୁ ଆମେରିକା ସୋସାଇଟି ପକ୍ଷରୁ ସମ୍ବର୍ଦ୍ଧନା



କଟକ, ୨୯।୫(ଉମିସ): ଆମେରିକାର ହୃଷ୍ଟନ୍ ସହରସ୍ଥିତ 'ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସାଂସ୍କୃତିକ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର' ଓ ଆମେରିକାର 'ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସୋସାଇଟି ଦକ୍ଷିଣ ପଶ୍ଚିମ ଶାଖା' ତରଫରୁ ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱରରେ ସହିଦନଗରରେ ଏକ ସଂଗୀତ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଅନୁଷ୍ଠିତ ହୋଇଯାଇଛି। ଏହି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମରେ କଣ୍ଠଶିଳ୍ପୀ ଗୁରୁ ରବୀନ୍ଦ୍ରନାଥ ମିଶ୍ର, ପ୍ରାଚିନତା ପରିଡ଼ା, ସାଗରିକା ପଣ୍ଡା ଓ ସହଯୋଗୀ କଳାକରମାନେ ଭଜନ, ଓଡ଼ିଶୀ, ମୁଗ୍ଧମ, ଆଧୁନିକ ସଂଗୀତ ଓ ସମ୍ବଲପୁରୀ ଲୋକଗୀତ ପରିବେଷଣ କରିଥିଲେ। ସହଯୋଗୀ କଳାକାର ଜବାହର

ମିଶ୍ର, ବିଲ୍ଲାପ କୁମାର ଜେନା, ସାରଦା ପ୍ରସନ୍ନ ସାହୁ, ରଞ୍ଜନ କୁମାର ପଣ୍ଡା, ବାଚସ୍ପତି ଜେନା ଓ ରଞ୍ଜିତକାନ୍ତ ମିଶ୍ର ଏଥିରେ ସାମିଲ ଥିଲେ। ତତ୍ତ୍ୱର ଶ୍ରୀନିବାସ ଘରୁଆରୀ (ମିଲନ) ପରିଚାଳନାରେ ଅନୁଷ୍ଠିତ ଏହି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମରେ 'ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସାଂସ୍କୃତିକ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ଓ ଆମେରିକାର ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସୋସାଇଟି ଦକ୍ଷିଣ ପଶ୍ଚିମ ଶାଖା ତରଫରୁ ଗୁରୁ ରବୀନ୍ଦ୍ରନାଥ ମିଶ୍ରଙ୍କୁ 'ଉତ୍କଳ ମୁରଲି' ସମ୍ମାନ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରାଯାଇଥିଲା। ଅନ୍ୟ ସମସ୍ତ ସହଯୋଗୀ କଳାକାର ଓ ତତ୍ତ୍ୱର ଘରୁଆରୀଙ୍କୁ 'ଉତ୍କଳ ପ୍ରତିଭା' ସମ୍ମାନ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରାଯାଇଥିଲା।

CUTTACK Edition
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JULY-AUGUST 2023

SURAVI – Annual Music Festival of OSA South West Chapter (HOUSTON)



This year we hosted the annual music festival "Suravi" on behalf of OSA, South-West Chapter at the Orissa Culture Center (OCC), Houston on August 05, 2023. One of the objectives of Suravi is to bring together our local talented artists who are seriously pursuing a passion in music of different genres including Hindustani classical and Odissi. The other objective is to provide a platform where artists, particularly the next generation can showcase their talents in music in an environment and ambience that Indian music deserves. Last but not

the least, Suravi is aimed at providing an opportunity for the music lovers to encourage the artists to further their skills in music.

The three segments of musical presentations consisted of Saptaranga, a session on classical music and Odissi, Indradhanu, a session on light genres of music and Krushnachuda, an after dinner Mehfil. Dr. Jayadev Misra, Professor Emeritus of Computer Science at the University of Texas, Austin, joined the festival as the chief guest along with his wife Mrs. Mamata Misra. On behalf of SouthWest Chapter, we recognized both of them as long-time members of the Odia community having significant contributions in socio-cultural-charitable initiatives. Dr. Gopal Mahapatra, president of OCC, presented both with a plaque with "KALA O SAMSKRUTI SAMMANA ". Dr. Niranjan Tripathi of Dallas handed over certificates on behalf of South-West Chapter to the 6 younger artists of the evening. The music festival is available on OSA South-West YouTube link. Our heartfelt gratitude to all our guests, artists, participants, volunteer workers, contributors and major sponsors without whom the event would not have been possible.

Dhwani: Layare Saptasura ଧ୍ୱନି - ଲୟରେ ସପ୍ତସୁର (DALLAS)

For these musical journeys we have had artists from our homeland; artists who carry with them the melody and the rhythms of our land that we have grown up in; so many across OSA-SW chapter came together to relive, remember, reminisce and reinvigorate the soul with a heavy dose of music and Melody. From various artists, we had Adyasha Das and Dr Nazia Alam who are an accomplished artist renowned in the literature and music scene in Odisha with the history of their famous parents, accompanied by Prem Shankar Dash (Kabu) who many of us know from his prior jaunts here from Odisha on July 21st and August 2nd respectively. We also featured many local artists during the programs.

Our Coordinators for two series DHWANI events were: Pravat Singh and Dr Sibarjan Mohapatra from Dallas.





Dr. Nazia Alam Concert (AUSTIN) - An evening of soulful music from Odisha



On Sunday, September 3rd this year, Austin Odias and a few members of the greater Austin area Indian community had the wonderful opportunity to be immersed in beautiful music by Dr Nazia Alam & Sri Prem Shankar Dash in the multi-cultural hall on the premises of Austin Hindu Temple on Decker Lane. Visiting artists from Odisha have graced Austin audiences with their art for many years now. As recently as June this year at this same Austin Hindu Temple, we had another accomplished singer from

Odisha, Dr Adyasha Das accompanied by Sri Prem Shankar Dash offer kalarchana to the Jagannath deities before they set out on the annual Ratha Yatra. It is also by divine grace that the opportunity for Austin to host the Nazia program fell on the exact day that the Odia community organized a Chhappan Bhoga for the Jagannath paribar. The program was made possible by organizers of the Nazia tour as well as individual sponsors in Austin and the OSA SW Chapter & the Dallas & Houston programs in the same long weekend.

Dr Alam (Nazia) & Sri Dash (Kabu bhai) rendered beautiful Odissi compositions, Ghazals, popular Hindi & Odia songs, engaging and entertaining the audience. The program of two hours ran over with the audience extending farmaish and ladies getting up to dance to the rhythms. Nazia's switching between different genres effortlessly, coaxing the tunes through the harmonium and command over both diction is amazing. Kabu bhai's accompaniment with the tabla added all energy and charm. Sometimes thunderous, sometimes gentle sensational, his percussion elements and personal touches the whole musical experience.



audiences. more versatility in matching and notes the more and always enhance



A live rendition by artists not just masters of music but also preservers of Odissi music, which is part of the Jagannath culture is an experience to remember. After the Jagannath puja and the dinner prasada consisting of the Chhappan Bhoga delicacies prepared by Austin Odia families, the musical program was like a continuation of divine experience. In this age of digitized world music at

our fingertips, I hope audiences in Austin and other cities which this tour touched will agree that participating as an audience to such a live program of dedicated musicians is, in itself, connecting with divinity & humanity on a different level.

Dr. Nazia Alam Concert (HOUSTON) - An evening of enthralling music from Odisha

Nazia Alam concert was held at Orissa culture center , Houston on 4th September. She along with Prem Shankar Dash on tabla enthralled a crowd of more than hundred people with her melodious voice. She started with poems from Gita Gobinda by poet Jayadeva, followed by a repertoire of popular Jagannath bhajans, old Odia movie songs and modern songs. She and Prem Shankar kept the audience glued to their seats for about two hours on a nostalgic trip down the memory lane. Nazia herself felt very emotional singing her late father's (Md Sikandar Alam) songs and bhajans right in front of Lord Jagannatha. She thanked HOUSTON OSA members, OCC management for hosting her program. On behalf of OCC, chairman Dr Aditya Samal, president Dr Gopal Mohapatra, both lifelong OSA members thanked and honored Nazia and Prem Shankar. The event was followed by a sumptuous dinner. Tapan Behera and his team of volunteers conducted the event successfully and made it a memorable night for everyone in attendance.





OSA Minnesota Chapter Report:

Greetings everyone! As we celebrate another remarkable year of community gatherings and celebrations, we want to take a moment to reflect on the events that brought us closer together. From the vibrant traditions of Ratha Yatra and Bahuda to the fun-filled moments at our annual Community picnic, this year has been marked by the spirit of unity and celebrations. These events not only enriched our cultural heritage but also strengthened the bonds that make our community truly special. Let us revisit the highlights of these cherished moments and appreciate the joy and gratitude they brought into our lives.

Ratha Yatra (6/25/23): This year's Ratha Yatra was a resounding success following key events like Akshaya Tritiya, Snana Purnima, Netrostav, a testament to the collective dedication within our community. Over 900 devotees on Ratha Yatra were served with a delicious lunch, our cultural program drew a packed auditorium and the energy & enthusiasm displayed by everyone in the community was exceptional.



Bahuda Yatra (7/2/23): In the divine grace of Lord Jagannath, we rejoiced in the triumph of our Bahuda Yatra celebration. Our Ratha team played a vital role in the smooth transition of

the chariot, and the Bahuda food sponsors delighted over 400 devotees with a sumptuous meal. The day continued with an enchanting Odissi dance performance by Smt. Aruna Mohanty & team, showcasing our rich cultural heritage.



Community Picnic (8/10/23): Bana Bhoji, the much anticipated event with a turnout of 145 attendees was a day of fun, and it was heartwarming to witness the camaraderie and joy shared by all. Special attractions like the cotton candy stand, couple games, and face painting added extra delight to the festivities along with the delicious bhoji.



India Fest (8/12/23): The sight of our lively community coming together to celebrate India Fest was truly uplifting. This event was made even more memorable by the dedication of our numerous volunteers who contributed in diverse roles, from adorning our booth, sharing our rich culture with others, participating in the parade, engaging in cultural activities, and culminating the day with the Nazia Alam concert.



Upcoming events:

Durga Puja Dates: October 20 (Shashthi); October 21 (Saptami); October 22 (Ashtami); October



23 (Nabami); October 24 (Dussehra)

Stay tuned for more information about further upcoming events!

Thank you for taking your time to read our newsletter!

Your editor,

Shaivi Tripathy



Chapter Report

Chapter Name: OSA – South-East

Date From: 01-July-2023

Date To: 31-Aug-2023

Chapter Officials:

President	Sanjeeb Rout
Vice president	Sourav Parida
Secretary	Dipali Das
Treasurer	Bhupalendra Behera

OSA Activities:

Summer Picnic in Raleigh: 30-July-2023



Summer Picnic in Charlotte: 19-Aug-2023



OSA-SE All hands meet: 12-August-2023

This was the annual meeting with Chapter members to present on various activities taken care by OSA and OSA-SE throughout the past one year and update on the financial updates on chapter accounts.

Upcoming Activities:

Labor Day Weekend Beach Party: 01-Sep-2023 to 04-Sep-2023

Adopted Road Cleanup: 09-Sep-2023



Chapter Report

Chapter Name: OSA NYNJPA

Date From: April 2023

Date To: Sept 2023

Chapter Officials:

President	Nagesh Rajanala
Vice president	Jigisha Biswal
Secretary	Nilasundar Jena
Treasurer	Nilasundar Jena

OSA Activities:

1. Utkal Dibas Charity Fundraiser

The families of OSA NYNJPA dedicate Utkal Dibas to charity. Every year volunteers organize a food event to raise funds for charitable contributions in the USA and in Odisha. OSA members in the chapter may nominate organizations in the USA and in Odisha to receive charitable contributions.





2. Chapter Summer Picnic

The 2023 picnic was attended by 400+ people and we had organized a delicious and long menu of Odia dishes.

Apart from great food, we organized picnic games that were enjoyed by all:



Annual Summer Picnic 2023

Save The Date:

Saturday,
10th June 2023

Venue:

Princeton Country Club
1 Wheeler Way,
Princeton, NJ 08540





3. Graduation Day Celebration

OSA NYNJPA celebrates High School and College Graduates every year. All High Schools graduates received a \$100 Gift Card and all College Graduates received a Life membership for OSA. In 2023 the following chapter students graduated:

<p>High School Graduates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎓 Aadvik Parhi 🎓 Ananya Pradhan 🎓 Anisha Senapati 🎓 Anish Pradhan 🎓 Ankita Mallik 🎓 Anwasha Mishra 🎓 Archiit Rajanala 🎓 Ayush Pathy 🎓 Gyan Mohanty 🎓 Mourya Khandai 🎓 Nilesh Mahapatra 	<p>College Graduates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎓 Aaryana Rajanala 🎓 Adarsh Patra 🎓 Alisha Senapati 🎓 Aman Mahapatra 🎓 Amlaan Parida 🎓 Surabhi Panda 🎓 Anshul Mahakud 🎓 Kareena Mohapatra 🎓 Neerajan Behera 🎓 Priyanka Choudhury 🎓 Shivani Prusty 	<p>Graduate School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎓 Durgesh Prusty 🎓 Manoranjan Das 🎓 Pratik Pradhan
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prapti Tripathi Pritam Pattnaik Shreejita Satpathy Shrutika Padhy Sheya (Sia) Singha Soham Panigrahi 		
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Our own star Lisa Mishra was the Keynote speaker and shared valuable thoughts, candidly. The complete discussion can be viewed at - <https://youtu.be/GeLA8wcluG8>



4. OSANYNJPA ARTISTS MEET CHEF VIKAS KHANNA AND PERFORM IN TIMES SQUARE

In late August we experienced a once in a lifetime event when out of the blue, Chef Vikas Khanna reached out to OSA NYNJPA inviting us to participate in the unveiling of a 4000 Lb replica of the Konark Chakra and celebrate the Arts and Culture of Odisha.

We had no idea what to expect, but were very pleasantly surprised with his love for Odisha and its Art & Culture.

Artists from OSA NYNJPA performed the Odissi dance on Times Square and the social media posts are reaching a Quarter million views. It was a fantastic experience for us – About 2 Million people saw the stone carving of the Konark Chakra during the time it was on display.

We met hundreds of people when we were there who wanted to know what is Odisha, Konark and Odissi. What an opportunity to live out OSAs objective of promoting Odisha Art and Culture.

On our second visit, our artists performed Odissi for Guruji Sri Sri Ravi Shankar. The famous Kiku Sharada also did some steps with our artists. Truly a once in a lifetime experience for us.





Please see the following videos/posts to appreciate the full story :

OSA NYNJPA Meets Chef Vikas Khanna Intro - <https://youtu.be/XcmEKMmSD38>

OSA NYNJPA Interviews Chef Vikas Khanna - <https://youtu.be/rVQ5UEOfbwA>

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/CwJsulkN1hV/?igshid=MTC4MmM1Yml2Ng==>

OSA NYNJPA Meets Chef Vikas Khanna_2nd Day - <https://youtu.be/Lw2D9I3ZELE>

<https://twitter.com/TheVikasKhanna/status/1693477951705125046?s=19>

FINAL INSTA POST

- <https://www.instagram.com/reel/CwLdTIIdNL9P/?igshid=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==>

5. OSA NYNJPA Participates in the 4H Fair of Somerset County

The 4 H organization in New Jersey organizes a county fair every year that is attended by thousands of residents in Somerset county.

4H offers a lot of fun things to children:

- They can pet animals such as: goats, sheep, chickens, horses, pigs and see dog shows
- They can see large excavation vehicles, climb in fire trucks
- They can see robotics, toy trains, etc.

And so much more! OSA NYNJPA sets up a food booth in the fair as a fundraiser for the chapter. This year we sold about 2000 meals and realized a strong profit for the chapter. More details on the activity can be seen in this video:

Visitors to the OSA Food Booth - <https://youtu.be/XmnEMF7sxlA>







Chapter Report

Chapter Name: OSA Rocky Mountain - Colorado

Date From:
May-01-2023

Date To:
Sep-14-2023

Chapter Officials:

President	Deepak Jena
Vice president	Bismoy Beura
Secretary	
Treasurer	

OSA Activities:

1. Picnic:

We had 3 Picnics (June, Aug, and Sep) this year and everyone, including Kids enjoyed it a lot. Apart from fun activities during the Picnic, we prepared food on site for various reasons including fresh food, variety of selection, Cost-effective, healthier choice and more over fun to cook with the help of our Master Chefs. We just finished our last Picnic of the year on Sep-10(Sunday) with a range of appetizers and main course options which were prepared on site.



2. Volunteer Activity at Food Bank of Rockies:

We had organized 2 Volunteer events at Food Bank of Rockies (<https://www.foodbankrockies.org/>) this year where our members donated their valuable hrs in FBR main warehouse for various activities including packing food, organizing food items, etc. These are great opportunities for us as well as Our Kids to learn a lot including teamwork, commitment to social responsibility, become more generous, show kindness, giving back to the community, etc. We do have one more Charity event coming up in Oct-07.





3. Manitou Hiking – Aug-19

Maintaining a good Health is very much essential in our life and many of our members are Fitness savvy who often plan and lead such efforts (Running, Biking, Mountain climbing, etc.) in our community. We had a Hiking day at Manitou Incline (<https://manitousprings.org/where-to-play/manitou-incline/>) on Aug-19 and many of our members (including Kids) were able to finish the Hiking and reached Manitou Incline Summit. Kudos to our Hikers as it was never easy to hike stairs (Average grade is 41% & Steepest grade is 68%) on a day when the Avg. The Temperature was 90F+. Facts about Manitou Incline Hiking: Total Stairs: 2744, Difficult Level: Extreme, Summit Elevation: 8,550ft,



4. Meet & greet with Mr. Sudarsan Pattnaik

We got to know that the eminent sand artist Mr. Sudarsan Pattnaik is in Denver for his planned events between Aug-21 to Aug-25 and leaving the city on Aug-26, such information came to us

at the last min, however, we got into action right way and planned to meet him on Aug-25. We got the opportunity to spend some quality time with him and talked about his journey.



Upcoming Activities:

- 14er Hiking – Sep-16-2023
- Ganesh Puja – Aug-23-2023
- Volunteer Activity at Food Bank of Rockies – Oct-07-2023
- Diwali Celebration – Nov-12-2023



Chapter Report

Chapter Name: Seattle /Pacific NW

Date From: June 2023

Date To: August 31st 2023

Chapter Officials:

President	Amulya Das
Vice president	Ms. Nirmala Dash
Secretary	Rakesh Patnaik
Treasurer	Subhashree Nanda

OSA Activities:

Sri Jagannatha Ratha Yatra & OSA Picnic

Upcoming Activities:

OSA Durga Puja on October 28th 2023

Additional Message:

Ratha Yatra 2023:



OSA Picnic 2023:





Thank you
for
tuning in