



India Community Center Newsletter

ICC Scheduling: 737-3148

Visit India Community Center Website: www.iccrochester.org

<p>2017 Board of Trustees</p> <p>Ramnik Vora, Chair ramvora@yahoo.com</p> <p>Mythreyi Srinivasan, Secretary mythre_srinii6073@yahoo.com</p> <p>Shruti Pandya, Treasurer spandya108@hotmail.com</p> <p>Hemangini Desai, Co-Treasurer deshema@gmail.com</p> <p>Baal Bhagat Director of Operations bhagatbaal@gmail.com</p> <p>Jayanti Venkataraman ICC Rental, Newsletter Editor, Education inveee@rit.edu</p> <p>Vinyas Patel, Education vinyaspatel@gmail.com</p> <p>Jose Maliekal, CMD jmalieka@brockport.edu</p> <p>Sanjiv Virdee, CMD Sanjiv.virdee@gmail.com</p> <p>Uma Gupta, CMD guptaquma@gmail.com</p> <p>Vithal Sanapala, Membership vithal1988@yahoo.com</p> <p>Asheesh Srivastava, Webmaster Asheesh.Srivastava@xerox.com</p> <p>Jyothsna Ponnuri, Communication jponnuri@yahoo.com</p> <p>Sanjay Maggirwar, Communication amaggirwar@gmail.com</p> <p>Sandhya Sarlashkar, Programs sandhyasarlashkar@yahoo.com</p> <p>Rajeev Ramchandran Professional Forum rajeevrs98@yahoo.com</p> <p>Arti Talwar, Professional Forum Arti_96@yahoo.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>BOT Chair's Report</u> By Ramnik Vora</p> <p>Greetings from your India Community Center! The 2017 Board of Trustees are ready to work for our center. They are enthusiastic and hardworking individuals. You will be able to count on them.</p> <p>I would like to specially thank Nagin Shah for his tremendous fundraising efforts and several key upgrades that he achieved for ICC. Among many improvements to the ICC building, the Audio Visual room is completely new. We will have dedication ceremony during the Banquet.</p> <p>You may have visited our new website. Although we have some growing pains, it is much improved. We will continue to improve it and make it more informative and user friendly.</p> <p>We hosted our annual chess tournament in January in which kids ranging in age from 4 to 12 years competed. As always the competition is fierce and ends with trophies, smiles and tears.</p> <p>Our Annual banquet dinner is scheduled on Saturday, March 25, 2017 with Keynote Speaker Dr. Satish Tripathi, President of the State University of New York at Buffalo (SUNY). We hope you will attend the banquet.</p> <p>Upcoming events include Mother's Day and High School Graduation celebrations. ICC has been busy with lots of activities except winter months. We will try to fill up all weekends with activities.</p> <p>ICC undertakes lots of activities for which it has separate committees. Classical Music and Dance Committee(CMD), Banquet services, Professional forum, Education committee, Book Club, Quilting Club, Kids reaching hearts through performing Arts(KRHTPA), to name the few. Please take advantage of these services.</p> <p>India community center is ours, mine and yours. We all will work together to succeed.</p> <p>We are looking forward to see you at our Annual Banquet.</p> <p>Best of regards</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Editor</u> Jayanti Venkataraman</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Advertisements</u> For information / rates please email inveee@rit.edu</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ICC's United Way Number 1137</u> ICC uses United Way funds that it receives, for charitable activities. Please consider directing your United Way donations to ICC.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>For your convenience</u> Now you can support ICC using your credit card from our website</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ICC Calendar</u></p> <p>March 25: ICC Banquet</p> <p>April 29: Saathi Banquet</p> <p>April - May: CMD Spring Concerts</p> <p>May 13: ICC Mother's Day Celebration</p> <p>June: 2, 3, 4: Kalidas Play</p> <p>June 9: ICC HS Graduation Celebration</p> <p>June 25 – July 30: HHSC</p> <p>Aug 2 – Aug 6: Vedanta Retreat</p> <p>October 14: ICC Diwali</p> <p>November 18: ICC AGM</p> <p>December 1, 2, 3: Kalidas Play</p> <p>December 31: ICC New Year's Eve Party</p>
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ICC Annual Banquet March 25, 2017

Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker

President Satish Tripathi

State University of New York at Buffalo

From the President's website:



Internationally recognized as an accomplished researcher and transformative higher education leader, Dr. Satish K. Tripathi was appointed the 15th president of the University at Buffalo on April 18, 2011.

The first international-born president in UB's history, Dr. Tripathi graduated at the top of his class from Banaras Hindu University in India. In addition to a doctorate in computer science from the University of Toronto, he holds three master's degrees—one in computer science from the University of Toronto and two in statistics from the University of Alberta and Banaras Hindu University.

In 1978, Dr. Tripathi joined the faculty of the Department of Computer Science at the University of Maryland, where his 19-year tenure included serving as chair from 1988-95. While on sabbatical at the University of Maryland, he also held visiting professorships at the University of Paris-Sud in France and the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg in Germany. From 1997-2004, Dr. Tripathi served as dean of the Bourns College of Engineering at the University of California-Riverside, where he nearly quadrupled the number of students and tripled the number of faculty at that institution and led its rise from an unranked program to a position in the upper half of

the U.S. News and World Report Best Engineering Graduate Schools rankings. Dr. Tripathi joined the University at Buffalo in 2004, serving as UB's provost and executive vice president

for academic affairs until his appointment as president in 2011. As Provost, Dr. Tripathi led the recruitment of many prominent faculty to the university and oversaw a significant increase in the number of faculty hired to develop and enhance strengths in key areas of research and scholarly activity. As a result, the university achieved substantial increases in research expenditures and federally awarded research grants, putting UB in league with the top national research universities in the United States. Under Dr. Tripathi's leadership, the academic profile of UB's undergraduate and graduate students also has improved significantly. He led a number of efforts to enrich the educational experiences of UB undergraduate students by introducing programs designed to provide them with opportunities to engage in learning and research with UB's top faculty. He also oversaw the development of innovative "living-learning environments" constructed as part of "Building UB," the university's comprehensive physical plan.

Dr. Tripathi led a strategic planning process for UB's international programs that has led to significant expansion of the university's international presence and the continued globalization of its three Western New York campuses. He signed a memorandum of understanding in 2005 with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to establish the Indo-U.S. Inter-University Collaborative Initiative in Higher Education and Research, which has led to a significant partnership between UB and Amrita University. UB's educational programs in Singapore, in partnership with the Singapore Institute of Management, also have experienced significant growth under Dr. Tripathi's leadership.

Dr. Tripathi was one of the principal creators of the UB 2020 long-range academic plan, and has led the university to achieve significant growth in research and scholarly activity, enhanced student quality and diversity, and an expanded international presence. Building on this strong foundation, Dr. Tripathi's vision for UB's future focuses on moving the university into the highest ranks of the nation's leading research

universities through expanding its reach and impact locally as well as globally.

The University at Buffalo continues to experience a remarkable era of growth, progress, and innovation under Dr. Tripathi's leadership as president. Within his first year as president, the university has celebrated a number of major milestones, including the passage of the NYSUNY 2020 legislation that has led to historic reforms for UB and the SUNY system of public higher education as a whole. Since Dr. Tripathi assumed the presidency in 2011, the university has also opened five major building projects on its three campuses, celebrated a \$40 million bequest that is the largest gift in university history, and is moving forward with a long-anticipated plan to relocate its medical school downtown into a world-class new facility that will be the hub of a thriving life sciences community in Buffalo. The university also recently received designation of a New York State Center of Excellence in Materials Informatics, positioning the university at the forefront of the rapidly expanding field of advanced materials.

An active leader in the national higher education community, Dr. Tripathi is a member of the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents Executive Committee and the boards of directors of the Association of American Universities (AAU), the Association of Public Land-Grant Universities (APLU), and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). A fellow of the IEEE and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he has published more than 200 scholarly papers, supervised more than 30 doctoral and postdoctoral students and served on program committees of numerous international conferences. Among his numerous community leadership roles, Dr. Tripathi was appointed by New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo as co-chair of the regional economic development advisory council for Western New York.

Speaking of Higher Education

"Information alone is silent and passive, until we ignite it with a creative spark."

President Satish K. Tripathi

The Board of Trustees of the
India Community Center of Rochester
cordially invites you to the

Annual Banquet Saturday, March 25, 2017 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

at
India Community Center
2171 Monroe Wayne County Line Road
Macedon, New York 14502

**Keynote Speaker: Dr. Satish Tripathi
President, University at Buffalo,
State University of New York SUNY**

Program:

- 6:00 p.m. Social Hour
- 6.45pm Welcome and AV Room
Dedication
- 7:00 p.m. Chair's address
- 7.15pm Keynote Speech
- 8:15 p.m. Dinner
- 9:00 p.m. Awards Presentation
- 9.15 p.m. **Entertainment:**
Jal-Tarang by Dr. Kishan

ICC Annual Banquet
March 25, 2017

I/We will be attending the Banquet.

Name(s): _____

Admission: \$ 65.00 per person

Full payment should accompany this card. For a full table reservation, please include the names of the guests on the back. Pay online or make check payable to ICC and mail to:

*Sandhya Sarlashkar,
9 Farm Field Lane, Pittsford, NY 14534
(Phone: 585-381-7659)*

Note: Life Members are entitled to up to maximum of 2 free admissions (non-transferable).

Contributions are welcome to offset the

2017 ICC Board of Trustees

Ramnik Vora, Chair



Ramnik Vora is a pediatrician, practicing in Rochester since 1978. He has served as a Treasurer on the ICC Board in 2008 and 2009. He is a past president of Jain society of Rochester. He has been helping Gujratati Samaj of Rochester for many years. His wife is Ila, daughter is Anuja, son-in-law is Rishi and son is Amit.

Mythreyi Srinivasan, Secretary



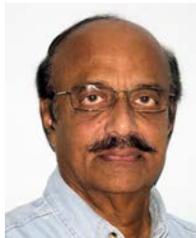
Mythreyi Srinivasan joined the ICC BOT in 2008. She served as secretary in 2008 and 2009 and as treasurer in 2010 and 2012. She has served on many sub-committees to bring changes to ICC. She is happy to serve the community. She has a MS in Geography from the University of Madras. She lives in Pittsford with her husband, TT Srinivasan and son Ananth.

Shruti Pandya, Treasurer



After attempting to run away from New York winters twice before, Shruti moved to Rochester from Southern Virginia, with her family in 2010. The family is extremely grateful to be a part of a dynamic Indian community, and ICC in particular, for all the wonderful opportunities provided. Shruti practices as an optometrist at Eyesite in Penfield and at Chili Vision Group. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends, cooking, reading and working out. She lives in Pittsford with her husband Parag and daughters Radha and Meera

Baal Bhagat, Director of Operations



After completing Masters Degree from SUNY at Buffalo in Industrial Engineering with software development in Human Factors Engineering, he became a Xerox employee for many years. Currently he is employed by H & R Block as Master Tax Advisor and involved with tax software development. He is also certified IRS Enrolled Agent, authorized to practice tax law before tax court and IRS audit. Baal is actively involved with KALIDAS, an Indo-American Community Theater group of Rochester. Since its inception, Baal has directed many plays for Kalidas.

Jayanti Venkataraman Scheduling and Newsletter Editor



Jayanti Venkataraman joined the Board of Trustees in 2003 and has served as the ICC Newsletter Editor since that time. In 2007 she established the Education Committee and served as BOT chair in 2008. She is a professor in electrical engineering at RIT. She is dedicated to education related community service. She has two children Archana and Vinayak. She lives in Brighton with her husband, Venkat.

Jose Maliekal, Classical Music and Dance Committee



Jose Maliekal was born in Kerala and moved to Rochester in 1990 to take up a teaching job with The College at Brockport. He lives in Brighton with his wife, Dr. Mary D'Souza, and son, Prashanth. He has been an ICC Board Member from 2004 to 2006, and again since 2008. He served as the BOT Secretary in 2005, Vice Chair in 2008 and Chair from 2009 to 2010. Currently, he is the Chair of the Classical Music and Dance (CMD) Society.

Vithal Sanapala, Membership

Vithal Sanapala was born in Andhra moved to Rochester in 1995 after completing his MS in Computer in Science in New York City. He lives with his wife, Swaroopa, and daughters Sowmya and Chandrika. He is a Senior Executive at Sutherland Global Services. He served as BOT a couple of times before, and now as a BOT, he is primarily focusing on the membership. He loves

every aspect of Rochester (including the snow) and calls it home!

Asheesh Srivastava, Webmaster

Asheesh Srivastava has a BS in Electronics Engineering and MS Computer Science from Aligarh Muslim University. After working in Xerox India for 5 years, Asheesh moved to USA in 1997 to work for Xerox USA. Asheesh currently works as Manager, IT Solution Delivery in Xerox's Webster facility. His wife Manisha is a Clinical Nutrition Specialist at

Strong Hospital. Their children are Ishita and Ishan. Asheesh joined BOT in February 2012. He has a keen interest in multiple sports with cricket and Tennis being really close to his heart.

Sandhya Sarlashkar, Programs

Sandhya Sarlashkar is a Registered Dietitian with a Master's in Health Systems Administration from RIT's Executive Leadership Program. She is employed at St. Ann's Community. She is presently the secretary on the board of the Genesee Dietetic Association. She is active

in the Marathi Mandal of Rochester. Sandhya lives in Pittsford with her husband Avinash who works for Lockheed Martin and daughter Radhika. She enjoys music, cooking, loves to bake and work on creative projects. Sandhya is looking forward to working with the BOT focusing her efforts to provide members an enriched experience at India Community Center.

Jyothsna Ponnuri, Communications

Jyothsna has been living in Rochester with her husband Rao and daughter Nidhi since 1997. She has been practicing geriatrics for the last 10 years and finds great pleasure and gratification in taking care of the elderly and chronically ill. During her spare time she likes dancing, listening to music, helping the community in whatever capacity she can

and having fun with friends and family.

Sanjay B. Maggirwar, Communications

Sanjay Maggirwar lives in Brighton with his wife Asawari, son Nishad and a golden retriever, Bliss. He is Professor of Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Rochester Medical Center. He was raised in Aurangabad, India and moved to Rochester in 1997. He is qualified as a

biomedical researcher (Ph.D.), business administrator (MBA) and a stage artist (dramatics). He has been a member of ICC for several years, during this time he participated in the plays performed by Kalidas. Sanjay likes Indian classical music, literature, and food.

Rajeev Ramchandran, Professional Forum

Rajeev Ramchandran grew up in Henrietta and Pittsford and has seen the growth of ICC from its earliest days. Having been raised in a family that has supported and benefited from ICC since its inception, Rajeev knows the value ICC provides

Rochester in preserving and promoting Indian culture and heritage. As a ICC BOT trustee, he seeks to ensure that the second generation Indian perspective is represented in ICC's activities and BOT discussions. Rajeev is a vitreoretinal surgeon at the Flaum Eye Institute at the University of Rochester Medical Center where he champions Indo-US relations a part of medical center's India Initiative.

Vinyas Patel, Education

As a BOT, Vinyas Patel aims to be part of the support network for Americans of Indian origin, weaving Indian culture and traditions into contemporary American life. Now, a Rochesterian for more than a decade, she made her way Upstate from her youth in NYC via Syracuse. She

formerly served on hospital PA, child advocacy center, and Gujarati samaj committees and currently works with Victor Schools Partners in Education. Her life is otherwise encompassed by her dual-employment as PA at Unity and Highland Hospitals, her husband Ketul, and her children Parth and Payal.

Photographs and Biosketches not available for the following Trustees at the time of publication.

Arti Talwar, Programs and Professional Forum**Hemangini Patel, Co-Treasurer****Sanjiv Virdee,
Classical Music and Dance Committee****Uma Gupta
Classical Music and Dance Committee**

**A Donation Appeal:
Food Insecurity
Among College Students**

By Uma Gupta

The Board of Trustees of the India Community Center is delighted to inform you that Dr. Satish K. Tripathi, President, State University of New York at Buffalo has graciously consented to be the keynote speaker at the ICC Annual Banquet on March 25, 2017.

As a goodwill gesture, the ICC Board of Trustees invites its members to consider making a donation to assist students at UB who face hunger and poverty. While the notion that college students may go hungry catches many by surprise, food insecurity, or lack of reliable access to food, is unfortunately a growing national challenge and UB is no different. Buffalo is the third poorest city in the nation with a staggering 54% poverty rate among children. You can find more information on this issue by clicking on this link:

[Food Insecurity Among College Students](#)

Fortunately, many of us were blessed with abundance in our early years. However, many of us also have personal stories of courage and determination as to how we overcame poverty and extraordinary obstacles to pursue our dreams of a good education and a meaningful life. Today, we have the opportunity to stretch a helping hand to the next generation. As the beautiful words of Rumi reminds us, "Only from the heart can you touch the sky."

We invite you to make a tax-deductible donation to support this worthwhile cause. Please make your checks payable to University at Buffalo (not ICC). You will receive a letter of acknowledgement from UB.

Kindly mail your check to:

Dr. Uma G. Gupta
8 Mile Post Lane,
Pittsford, NY 14534

If you have any questions, please contact Uma Gupta at uma@umagupta.com or call (585) 489-4606

Thank you for your generosity.

Story of the 2016 ICC Water Damage and Making "ICC Whole Again"

By Nagin Shah and Baal Bhagat

2016 was an unfortunate year in the history of India Community Center (ICC). This is the first time ICC has



Burst Pipes

suffered a major disaster in 31 years of ownership but it has given ICC BOT an opportunity to improve on facility. You may have heard about the massive damage sustained by the ICC this past winter. On February 17, the mercury dipped to minus 11 degree F for one day. One of the water pipes above the ceiling in the kitchen froze and burst. Due to heavy snowfall (18" plus) next day we did not found the severity of effect of pipe burst until two days



Damaged Kitchen Ceiling

later. A large amount of water flowed out in kitchen and made its way through the auditorium into the lobby and to the lower level. While the damage upstairs was primarily to the flooring, the water destroyed the ceiling, the floor and the walls at the lower level.



Adult Lounge

Gatti Plumbing was called and pipes were repaired. Incident claim was file immediately with Ontario Insurance Company, on suggestion met with owner, Jim Wandtke of ServPro, a fire and water damage cleanup and restoration company and contracted for drying and the clean-up work. It took ServPro over seven day, 25 heaters and as many blowers to complete clean-up at the costs of over \$ 44000. Repair and renovation quotations were obtained and the work was started immediately. In this process, we discovered that many of the supporting studs (which supported the floor of the main lobby) had deteriorated significantly over the years. These were replaced and strengthened. Carpeting in auditorium and upstairs lobby were

replaced and the dance floor was enlarged. The entire lower level flooring including the Meditation Room,



Auditorium now

was replaced with a new laminated flooring by Bills Carpet at the costs of \$32000. Most of the drywalls at the lower level had to be replaced. We

had to purchase all (23) new Murphy beds. In the

kitchen, the old worn out wooden shelves were replaced with the stainless steel shelves. In addition, all the lights in the kitchen and the lounge downstairs have been replaced with beautiful LED lights. We also



Kitchen now

rerouted the pipes (which caused the problem) from the kitchen ceiling through the heated portion of the kitchen. This ought to prevent such accidents happening ever again. A new electric water fountain has been installed in the auditorium. The driveway, lower parking lot and front ground light will be replaced with LED lights. We can proudly say that we now have 'a new and improved ICC'.

However, this has come with a cost.

Clean-up, Renovation and Upgrades: \$186,000

Reimbursement from Insurance Company: \$136,000

On this front, we have some good news to share. The Hindu Heritage Summer Camp has kindly pledged \$15,000 toward this fund-raising effort to meet shortfall. Our heart full thanks to Dr. Padmanabh Kanmath for his continue valuable direction in making the "ICC Whole Again". We, ICC, are thankful to team members involved in planning cleaning, and reconstruction work in making "ICC Whole Again", They are David and Willie, (Custodians), Gatti Plumbing, Jim Wandtke (ServPro team), Sean Keller, Ted Lemkiewicz (Insurance Adjuster), Frank and Jim Sudore (American Builders), Brient Conley (Outdoor Lighting Perceptive and William Auten (Ontario Insurance).

ICC Annual Chess Tournament

By Vinyas Patel

On a cool January 21 Saturday, area 20 children took part in a warm friendly chess tournament at our India Community Center. These chess enthusiasts ranging in age 4 years to 12 years exercised their skills in three rounds of play. The participants were divided into three groups and trophies were awarded to top winners for each grade, and to the overall champion. It was ICC's eleventh collaboration with the Rochester Chess Center (RCC), organized by Jayanti Venkataraman. While most of the children were local Rochesterians, one determined child made the trip from Buffalo, NY. The participants enjoyed pizza and gleefully walked away with trophies and participation prizes. Many of the parents expressed their appreciation of ICC's community service. We, at ICC, look forward to continued engagement with our community and thank Ron Lohrman and Ken McBride from RCC for conducting this tournament each year.

Tournament Results

Grades K-2: Nathan Shafer -top overall, Julian Shand - top kindergartener, Alex Bondar -top 1st grader, Dominic Shand -top 2nd grader

K-2 Top Team: Thornell Road

Grades 3-5: Chris Gargan - top overall, Sathya Mandava -top 3rd grader, Vlad Bondar - top 4th grader, Mimi Ugalde – top 5th grader

Grades 3-5 Top Team: Mendon

Grades 6-8: Tommy Gargan – top overall, Ashton William – top 6th grader

ICC Trophy: Rihanshi Agrawal



2016 Diwali Photo Album



2016 Diwali Photo Album

