THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
INDIAN AMERICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION PRESENTS



SANDHI

- THE ESSENCE OF HARMONY -

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

INDIAN AMERICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS



SANDHI

- THE ESSENCE OF HARMONY -

NOVEMBER 7, 2008

HILL AUDITORIUM

SANDHI

- THE ESSENCE OF HARMONY -

A passion. A religion. A tradition.

The institution of music, sangeet, has been eternally vested in the veins that embody and transcend the Indian heartland. Eons ago, the rich, fertile bosom of mother earth bore to man boons of ingenuity and craftsmanship to fashion the earliest instruments — blessed articles of boundless, enchanted might. Man carefully nurtured these seedlings of tonal bliss into bouquets of melodious symphony. He naturally absorbed this blossom and inherently birthed an instrument of individuality that endures to this day. In each one of us, there dwells an instrument whose tune sings songs of many a chord. Whether it be the sciences, whether it be the arts, innate in all of us is an instrument of potential, that when masterfully conducted, strums out the tune of the soul of India. Today, we showcase a material parallel of these instruments in this poetic symphony of music and dance. Join us today in bearing this lotus of harmony, this Sandhi — The Essence of Harmony.

Program

Indian National Anthem

American National Anthem

Hindustani Road Trip: Gaon Gaon Ka Safar

Jalsa

Naaku Nuvvu, Neeku Nainu

Aaja Pyaar Karle

Dholida Raas

~ Intermission ~

Live from the Red Carpet...Show Me Your Jalwa!

Kamar Matakte, Dil Dhadakte

Mridung ke Sang, Ek Jugalbandhi Jung

Haila! Dil Haara Re...

Nachda Tapda Hasda Punjab

Finale

Indian National Anthem

Performed By:



Maize Mirchi

Jana-gana-mana-adhinayaka, jaya he,

Bharata-bhagya-vidhata.

Punjab-Sindh-Gujarat-Maratha,

Dravida-Utkala-Banga,

Vindhya-Himachala-Yamuna-Ganga
Uchchala-Jaladhi-taranga.

Tava shubha name jage,
Tava shubha asisa mage,

Gahe tava jaya gatha,

Jana-gana-mangala-dayaka jaya he
Bharata-bhagya-vidhata.

Jaya he, jaya he, jaya he, Jaya jaya jaya, jaya he!

American National Anthem

Performed By:



Olivia Setto

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,

What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watch'd, were so gallantly streaming?

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.

O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave

Hindustani Road Trip: Gaon Gaon ka Safar





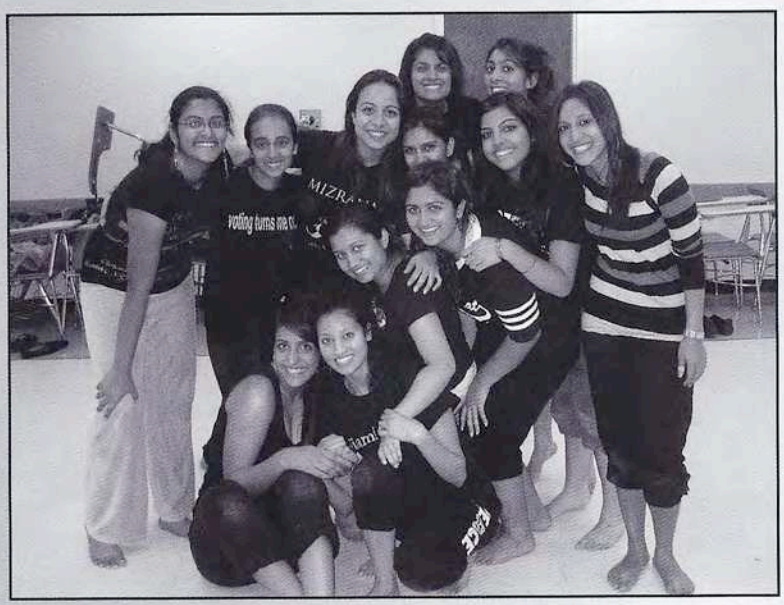
Choreographed by:

Ridhi Patel and
Avani Shah

Rising from the fertile earth of rural India, the Village dance is an eclectic depiction of the sheer vastness and incredible beauty of the Indian landscape that is often overlooked. However, this dance style is deeply rooted in the long, patch worked history of the subcontinent that portrays the life and culture of the myriad of ethnic groups that call India home. The dance features a classical style and an upbeat tempo that is tuned from the strings of the *Rawanhathha* of the Thori people, evoking the sentiments of community and unity. The bow-plucked hymns that resonate from its bowl along with the rings of *ghungroos*, or bells, fashion a humble yet powerful ballad that pulsates through the villages of India — the very same villages that Mahatma Gandhi once credited as being the "soul of India".

Atishi Aggarwal
Nidhi Agrawal
Anurag Arora
Vishal Bajaj
Vivek Behera
Meera Bhaskar
Anup Bhujle
Rinita Chakrapani
Malika Chatlapalli
Sij Hemal
Monica Kashyap
Neha Khandhadia
Zainub Naqvi
Maleena Paal
Venu Raghavan
Shashir Reddy
Parth Shah
Dave Shekar
Sushma Shiravanthe
Arjun Singaram
Sanjeet Singh
Sanjv Singh

Jalsa





Choreographed by:

Malvika Bhatia and
Niharika Chalpe

Paridhi Agarwal
Fatema Arastu
Vidhi Bamzai
Roshni Bedi
Shivani Govil
Preetraj Kaur
Salimah Mohamed
Supriya Nittoor
Samira Patel
Sandhya Simhan

The status of women in India has evolved over the past few millennia. From a largely unknown social position in ancient times through the low points of the medieval period, and to the fight for equal rights by reformers, the journey of women in India has been very eventful. The Expression dance vividly captures the emotions that all women experience throughout their lives. The dances artistically portrays feelings such as love, jealousy, seduction, and empowerment through an eclectic mix of modern, classical and fusion music. The melody of the *Shehnai*, a clarinet-esque instrument, insightfully and melodiously attempts to emulate the tale of the women of India and all over the world.

Naaku Nuvvu, Neeku Nainu





Choreographed by:

Nina Davuluri and
Natasha Rishi

Rohan Agarwal
Roop Avula
Pawan Barot
Rashmi Bhatt
Ashika David
Pooja Desai
Praneeth Katrapati
Natasha Kaushal
Tanvi Khanpara
Pranay Lagadapati
Apurva Lingnurkar
Samadhi Liyanage
Chaitanya Malla
Thomas Mathew
Anudeep Mukkamala
Joe Parel
Ashwin Ramnath
Hypatia Saucer
Nisha Sheth
Kartik Sidhar
Vina Sinnan
Eyal Suseela

The Southern alter ego of Bollywood, South Indian dance implements upbeat movie songs, an exaggerated elaboration of traditional Carnatic music, to paint the excitement and energy that pulsates through the region. Based on the graceful strums of the *Veena*, a plucked stringed instrument that resembles a lute, this dance style celebrates the eternal universe through the beauty of the body and motherhood - the basis of South Indian culture. This unique style of dance contains steps inspired from traditional folk dances, which lend to hype movements and decorated formations.

Aaja Pyaar Karle





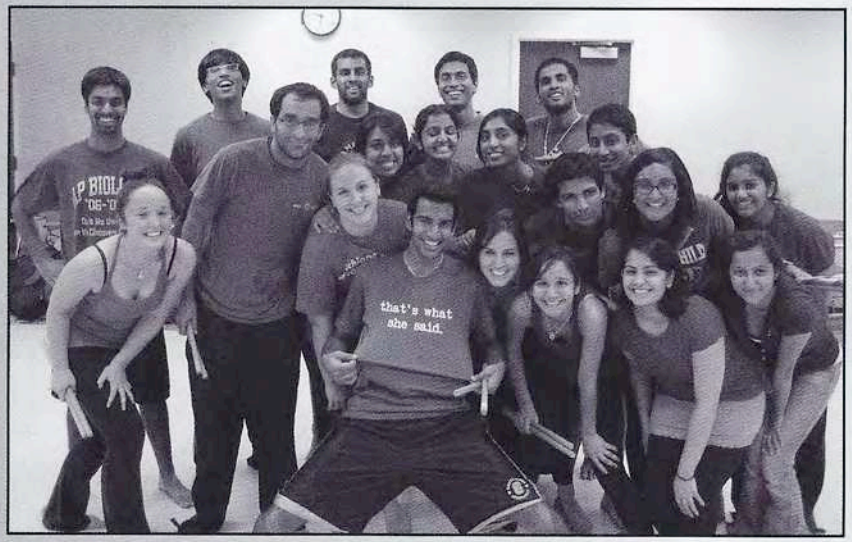
Choreographed by:

Rupa Ramadurai,
Shivani Gupta &
Priyanka Bikkina

Arpit Aggarwal
Abhas Bader
Abhinav Chordia
Meena Davuluri
Chand Guria
Sachit Harve
Syed Karim
Jasdeep Khabra
Shalini Khandelwal
Anuj Lal
Anjali Malviya
Mohit Mehan
Arathi Mohan
Faarya Niaz
Mital Patel
Nishi Shah
Aparna Shah
Sonali Sheel
Rahul Tatarbe
Devyani Upadhyaya
Kanishk Verghese

A world-renowned signature of the Indian arts is the enigma of Bollywood cinema. The song-and-dance sequence is an intrinsic attribute found in a plethora of Bollywood movies. Bollywood dance is the artistic foundation of every great Indian film, an externalization of a character's thoughts often used to foreshadow an event yet to occur. Typically, the art of Bollywood dancing incorporates embellished classical dance styles and courtesan-like actions such as singing, dancing, and recitation of poetry. The *Harmonium*, a freestanding musical keyboard instrument strikingly similar to a Reed or Pipe Organ often supports the execution of these sequences. The tunes of the *Harmonium* foster the superhit, megamasala blockbusters that garner the masses every Friday night.

Dholida Raas





Choreographed by:

Avnie Kadakia and
Ishani Mehta

Varun Aggarwal
Tara Boinpally
Kimberly Canter
Madhav Chakravarthy
Sitaram Chivukula
Payel Gangopadhyay
Manish Karamchandani
Alison MacKenzie
Palak Mayani
Vidhya Nair
Maathumai Nirmalendran
Alisha Paal
Ravi Patel
Kunal Patel
Alex Perry
Nithin Ravi
Siddharth Reddy
Hiral Shah
Neil Shah
Sharvil Shah
Akhil Shah
Debra Taylor-Dronsejko

Raas or Dandia Raas, along with Garba, is the featured dance of *Navratri*, the Festival of Nine Nights, evenings in Western India. Origins of Raas can be traced to ancient times where Lord Krishna performed Raas Lila with the village women, as cited in a number of mythological masterpieces found across the country. Tracing back to the origins of Raas, the art form did not involve many vocals; the beats of the *Dhol* and the Dandia sticks alone were more than enough to add to the spry and vibrant euphoria. The *Dhol*, a generic Indian drum, is quintessential in almost all Indian music but is most needed in Raas, without which the style would be empty and lack the entertainment value for which it universally receives acclaim.

Live from the Red Carpet... Show Me Your Jalwa!





Choreographed by:

Shruti Kumar,
Pooja Subramanian
& Ajat Aggarwal

Modern Indian fashion has been selectively inspired by countries the world over, Modern Indian fashion has been selectively inspired by countries the world over, expanding its horizon to stylistically adapt foreign cues. Similarly, Indian music has been ever-changing with a recent annexation of various Western influences. Here, we see new beats and new instruments, like the *Trumpet*, being incorporated in the vibrant company of more traditional Indian sounds. The *Trumpet's* unique acoustics harmonize with the ethnically chic *saris*, *sherwanis*, *salwar kameezes*, and *lahngas*. With its unconventional but lively feel, the *Trumpet* adds a whole a new element to the Fashion Show.

Preya Adusumalli
Nikita Agrawal
Ankur Agrawal
Nikhil Ahuja
Premal Amin
Priyang Baxi
Anup Bhandiwad
Ashish Chaddha
Khushbu Chadha
Shruti Gandhi
Nitin Gandhi
Yamini Jadcherla
Mohammadali Jardaly
Teja Madhusoodanan
Sujay Paknikar
Anjali Patel
Shama Patel
Neil Patel
Parth Patel
Sandhya Rangarajan
Anish Rao
Sudeep Rohatgi
Pooja Satish
Akhila Satish
Nanditha Teegala
Mikey Thomas
Divya Toshniwal
Gorav Ved Sharma
Diya Wadhwa

Kamar Matakte, Dil Dhadakte





Choreographed by:

Manika Agarwal
& Soumya Yandamuri

Yashraj Chauhan
Smita Ekhande
Soumya Gowda
Sheena Gulati
Kamayani Gupta
Ashwin Korde
Kunal Malik
Zunail Meredia
Jahnvi Patel
Krishna Patel
Sonali Patel
Jay Patel
Aniruddha Raina
Sanjiv Rao
Ambreen Sayed
Shayan Sengupta
Anuj Shah
Pranav Shah
Shaziah Singh
Sumeet Vaidya
Kunal Varma
Vanshika Vij

Originating from the rich nomadic tradition of the *Roma* people, this distinct blend of European and South Asian pot pourri materializes in an ethnic dance involving intricate hand motions, flamboyant facial expressions and intimate partner interactions. At the heart of Gypsy theatrical art resides the *Dafli*, or tambourine, an integral source of tempo and rhythm that elevates the mood of all performances. It adds and sustains a joyous jingle to the philosophy of the celebration of life that the Gypsies dwell by. Swaying to the chimes of the *Dafli*, the Gypsy culture seeks to display and share an extravagant and multihued facet of the spectrum of the heritage of the *Roma*.

Mridang ke Sang, Ek Jugalbandhi Jung





Choreographed by:

Anjali Garg and
Geetika Sharma

Nikita Desai
Renee Dhar
Bhavna Gupta
Sravanthi Gutta
Arushi Hukku
Namitha Jassem
Jennifer Johnson
Apoorvaa Joshi
Roshni Khurana
Pooja Modi
Anusha Pabbati
Priya Patel
Nimmi Patel
Nikki Vardya

Classical is a traditional Indian dance which showcases Bharatanatyam as its predominant style. This all-girls dance symbolizes the very core of ancient India by integrating a form of *Cathir*, the art of temple dancing. The Classical dance form can be characterized by subtle but significant gestures, including highly emphasized head, eye, and hand movements. All of these motions, as well as deliberate and defined dance steps play to the beats of the *Mridangam*, a rhythmic percussion instrument that is often the sole actor that upholds the dancers. This drumming ensures that the artists keep their timing in check while also aiding in the culmination of a grand finale – a critical aspect of this dance form.

Haila! Dil Haara Re...





Choreographed by:

Neha Narula and
Pratik Narula

Karan Ahuja
Ritvika Chandra
Nikhil Chaudhri
Ashima Goyal
Rahul Goyal
Alka Khera
Baljeet Khaira
Shantanu Kumar
Riyaz Maredia
Dhruv Menawat
Sathish Mohan
Suresh Mohan
Subhratha Muthusamy
Tina Nigam
Neal Patel
Batool Raza
Farheen Rizvi
Devi Sachdeva
Nikhil Sawhney
Sonali Shah
Nevan Shokar
Pramila Sivapalan
Tasha Vardya
Arjun Venkat

Since the beginning of time, man has cultivated creativity and innovation, deriving music from Mother Nature. Just as the world's landscape and scenery allowed him to discover the arts of painting and sculpting, man has used Mother Nature to portray vivid emotions of wind, water, earth, and space. Sounds of the incoming storms, splashing ocean waves, buzzing insects, and sonic booms, allowed man to interpret his hopes and optimism by recreating and compiling melodies of natural sounds. As time progressed, these sounds came together and music was born creating a means for man to tangibly represent and reconcile divine beauty with his innermost desires.

Nachda Tapda Hasda Punjab





Choreographed by:

Jaskiran Kaur &
Simrat Singh

Anish Abrol
Raghav Ahuja
Nidhi Chaudhary
Ronak Chhaya
Siddharth Dev
Kanchan Garg
Kunal Hiranandani
Anant Jain
Varun Kabra
Neel Kachalia
Balreet Kahlon
Ayushi Kawatra
Amandeep Kullar
Surabhi Pandit
Ankur Patel
Shruti Saran
Divya Satyapriya
Meelap Shah
Nirmish Singla
Reema Thitha
Nina Vachhani
Ruchika Vij

Bhangra is a lively form of music and dance that originated in the region of Punjab. It was initially perceived as a folk dance farmers enjoyed as a way to celebrate Vaisakhi, or the coming of spring and the new *Bhang* harvest. The dance has, today, reached far beyond the lush fields of Northwestern India gaining popularity the around the world for its upbeat style of music and dance. At the soul of folk music in Punjab, is the *Tumbi*, a high-pitched, single string plucking thunderstorm that is essential to maintaining the spirited movements of the dance. With the passionate and exuberant sounds of the *Tumbi*, Bhangra today has widened its reach globally and has been incorporated into a multitude of different genres, including pop music, film soundtracks, and even collegiate competitions.

Manav Sadhna

Dedication to Mankind

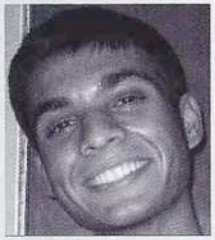


Inspired by Gandhi's principles of truth, non-violence, uplifting the poor and oppressed, promoting health and sanitation, and educating the poor masses, Manav Sadhna has begun a movement to adapt these ideals to the current and complex issues facing not only India but the world. Manav Sadhna wishes to plant the seeds of hope and inspiration among all people, especially those neglected by society. They serve more than 4,500 children and women via 38 different projects. The projects are created based on the needs and participation of the community which indirectly touch the lives of 4,000 more individuals. Manav Sadhna's projects cover an array of social issues including community development, health and hygiene and education. In the coming year, they look forward to strengthening current projects, further expanding their reach, and undertaking new projects that work towards their mission.

For more information, please visit: www.manavsadhna.org

IASA Show Core 2008


Kunal Varma


Premal Amin


Anant Jain


Dhruv Menawat


Venu Raghavan




Farheen Rizvi

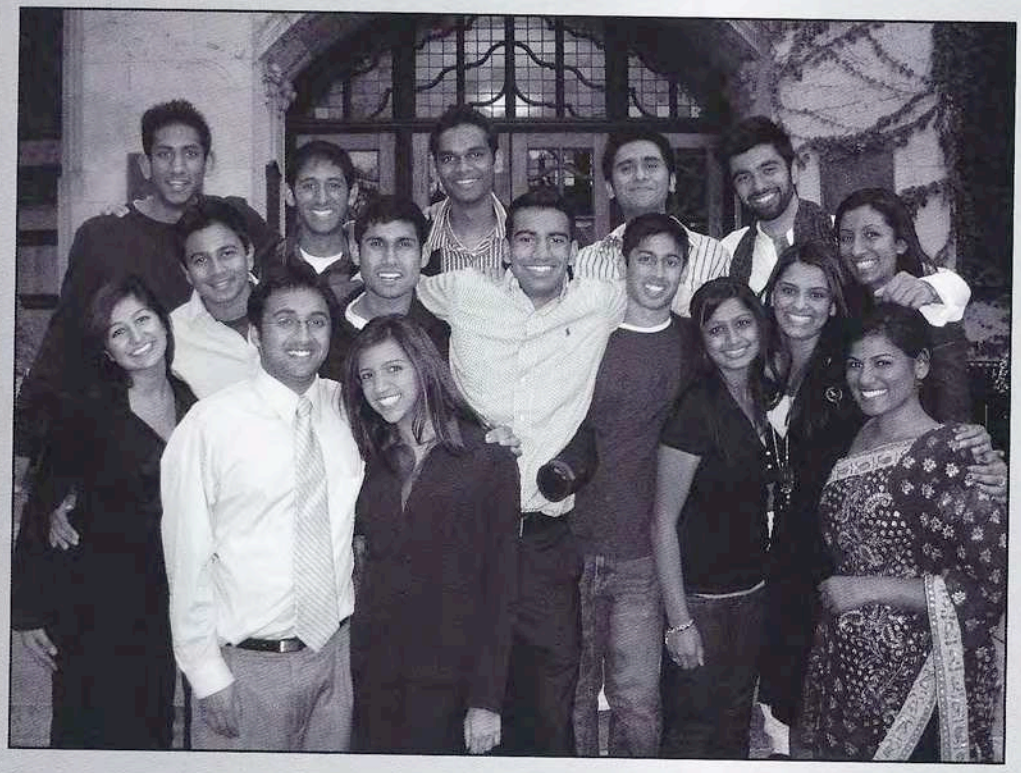

Apama Shah


Rahim Merchant


Arpit Aggarwal


Meena Davuluri

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Tasha Vardya - Vice-President

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Ashwin Korde - Community Building

Shantanu Kumar - Community Building

Shayan Sengupta - Public Relations

Sonali Sheel - Public Relations

Arjun Venkat - Political Awareness

Zainub Naqvi - Political Awareness

Natasha Rishi - Community Service

Monica Patel - Community Service

2008 IASA Community Service Core

This year, Service Core aims to offer unique service opportunities to the U of M campus through various types of community service events.

Monica Kashyap
Palak Mayani
Ishani Mehta
Krishna Patel
Monica Patel
Neal Patel
Natasha Rishi
Ambreen Sayed
Nikki Vardya

2008 IASA Political Awareness Core

Through its initiatives, PA Core educates IASA members and the broader U of M community on a spectrum of social and political issues.

Shawn Gulati
Apoorvaa Joshi
Thomas Mathew
Zainub Naqvi
Nikhil Sawhney
Arjun Venkat



Indian American Student Association

The Indian American Student Association (IASA) was formed in 1983 by a group of students who aimed to create a voice for the Indian-American community. Through the years, the goals of IASA remain unchanged despite the continually changing composition of its membership. IASA aims to preserve and increase awareness of Indian and Indian-American heritage through the ideals of cultural, political and social awareness, and community service. This organization provides opportunities for students to connect with each other, while building bridges with other student groups and the University community.

In 1997 IASA established the Gandhi Day of Service, an event credited with mobilizing University students and allowing them to partake in community service acts throughout the Detroit area in the name of unity. This day is now a national day of community service observed in over 35 states. It is one of the most impactful community service events held by IASA. Along with Gandhi Day of Service, IASA holds an annual charity basketball tournament, political awareness events and social activities. IASA is an organization that holds the interests of its members at heart, and strives to actively create a genuine sense of community.

Cultural Show Coordinators

Dhruv Menawat and Meena Davuluri



A cold evening back in March we walked into a room in the Michigan Union to meet with our eight Show Core members for the first time. From the minute we walked in the doors, the two of us were confident of the unique contributions each member would make in our journey to this day. With every passing day since then, we have found that our strengths compliment each other completely and have provided us with the strongest possible combination to produce the 21st annual IASA Cultural Show. As we look back on this remarkable experience, we realize that the decisions and obstacles overcome created the cohesive group we are today. This power combination, mixed with the dedication of our eight Core members, has allowed us to bring to you Sandhi - The Essence of Harmony, complete with long lasting memories, today.



The participants in this evening's performance have played key roles in bringing our hope and vision to life. We have provided you a glimpse into the vibrant Indian Culture through the lens of musical interpretation. The unique synthesis of these sounds resonates within each of us as we pass on our Indian heritage. We thank you for joining us today in this showcase of our vision and sharing this joyous moment with us.

Acknowledgements

IASA would like to extend a special thank you to the following people:

Isaac Kim

Jonathan Hoard

Keith Jefferies

Dilshan Dhillon

Robbie Dhillon

Nayana Patel

Kavitha Kandagatla

Bill Pierson

Vijay Alexander

Nicholas Peters

Kala Modi

Julie Morgan

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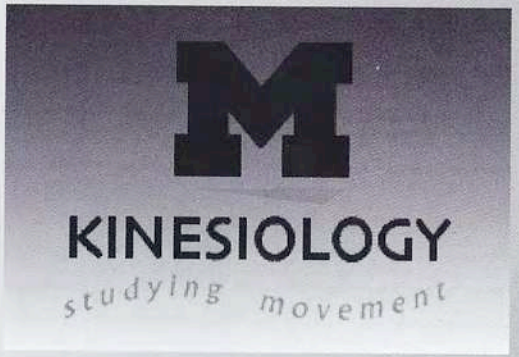
We would like to thank the following University of Michigan Colleges and Schools for their generous support to the Indian American Student Association.



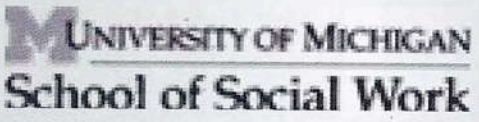
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WE LOVE YOU MANIKA AND SOUMYA!!!
THANKS FOR EVERYTHING!!!
- GYPSY 2008



Hey Jas and Ritu!

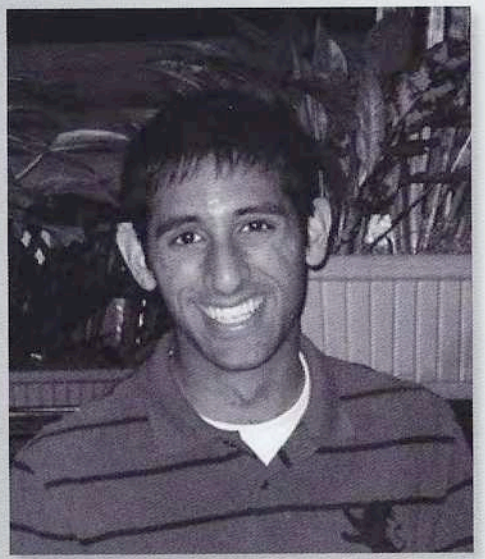
Thanks for being baller Bhangra choreos! You *kudis* are amazing and we love you so much! We'll always remember our Nachda Tapda Hasda Punjab!

P.S. I'm so h****.


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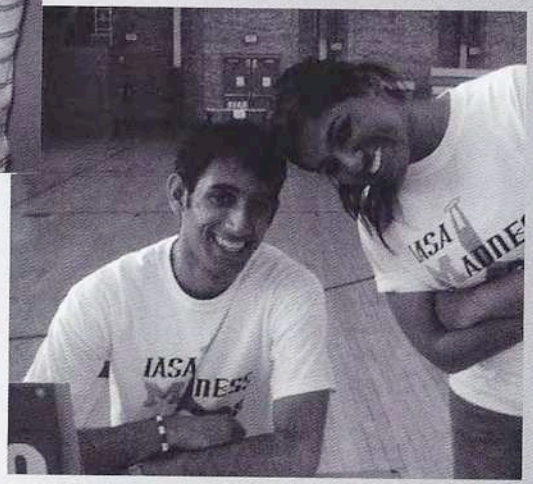
Congratulations IASA

Dhruv,
You have done an excellent job as
Cultural Show Coordinator.
We are very proud of you.
Are you free to come home for dinner
now?

Lots of love,
Mom, Dad, Radhika,
Dada & Dadi



CONGRATULATIONS DHRUV AND MEENA!!!!!



You just put on the most stunning cultural show IASA has ever seen.

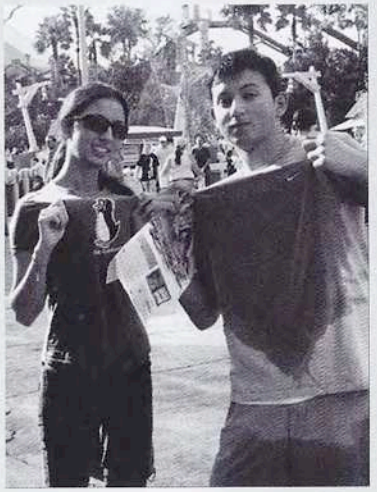
Love,
enCOREage and IASA Board

Neha and Sunny,



AWW
You're the awesome
Barsaat choreographers
AWW

Thank you so much for
such a wonderful and
unforgettable experience!





Get pumped! Get hyped!
WE'RE GONNA MAKE IT
RAIN TONIGHT!

Loads of Love,
Your Barsaatians





Dear Tasha and Nikki,

We are so proud of all the hard work and dedication that you have given to IASA.

Congratulations!!!

Lots of Love,
Mommy and Daddy

Omega Gamma Pi

F R A T E R N I T Y

Omega Gamma Pi is a new fraternity formed at the University of Michigan by twelve founding fathers in 2007. We strive on four main ideas: the promotion of *brotherhood*, service to the *community*, pride in our *principles* and members, and most importantly the enhancement of *education*.

Pride

Humanity

Principles

Opportunity

Brotherhood

Strength

Philanthropy

Contacts

Generosity

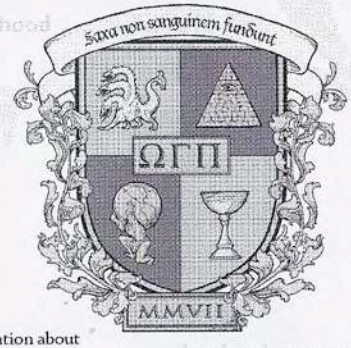
President
Nikhil Chaudhri
(734) 644-3023

Vice President
Ram Narayan
(606) 422-3974

Good Times

Public Relations
Anupam Kathpalia
(516) 503-3941
Riyaz Maredia
(409) 718-1369

Education



For more information about rushing, expanding, or any general inquiries, please contact us at info@OmegaGammaPi.com.

Academics

Merit

Community

Intellect

Charity

Prestige

Life

Service

Generosity

www.OmegaGammaPi.com

BALLELEIKA! Who are WE?

V-I-L-L-A-G-E



To: Avani and Ridhi

The greatest, craziest, weirdest, funniest, and most
vertically diverse choreographers of all time.
We love you, thanks for every thing you've done.
Fashoo!

WE LOVE YOU SHIVANI, PRIYANKA, AND RUPA!!!!!!!

Thanks for all the laughs and all the great times!!!!
BOLLYWOOD '08 will live in our hearts forever J

LOVE,
YOUR LITTLE LAKDHIS

COMMUNITY SERVICE CORE 08-09

Krishna Palak Monica P. Natasha Ishani Ambreen Monica K. Nikki Ankur Neal

servicelove@umich.edu





WE LOVE YOU MUNCHKINS!!! - Tash and Mon



A true co-chair is someone who becomes one of your closest friends.

COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRS 08-09

Madhuri Dixit

One Step at a Time-Jordin Sparks

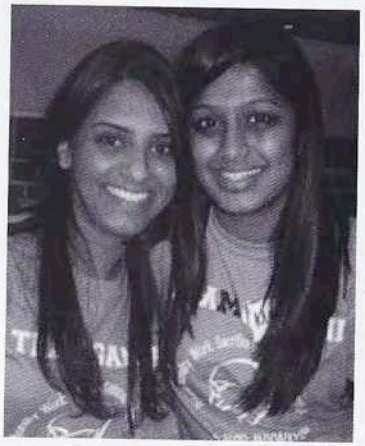
CSL4L/PPL4L...Shizzle!

ONE great decision

24 Hour Starbucks

Dhaka Dhak

Monica Patel and Natasha Rishi





Delta Theta Psi would like to congratulate enCOREage, IASA Board, and all of the participants for their hard work and dedication to make Sandhi - the Essence of Harmony - a tremendous success!!

Delta Theta Psi is U of M's only South Asian Interest Sorority
E-mail dtpsi.all@umich.edu





IASA Cultural Show 2008