

NBT INDIA REPUBLIC DAY Arts And Literary Journal 2016



“Maitrim Bhajata” Revere Friendship



**Organized By:
North Brunswick Township High School
Agraj Seva Kendra
NBT India Day Committee
www.nbtindiaday.org**

NBT INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS - 2015



NBT INDIA day celebrations from Aug 1, 2015. This event was attended by over 400 people and about 200 volunteers helped put this program a success. This event was supported by the Township of North Brunswick and the North Brunswick Board of Education. This event was attended by Senator Linda Greenstein, Freeholders of Middlesex County, the Mayor and Councilmen of North Brunswick, the Superintendent of Schools and other dignitaries. The children presented cultural program to commemorate India's Independence day.



MESSAGE



FRANCIS M. WOMACK III
MAYOR

TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BRUNSWICK
710 HERMANN ROAD
NORTH BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY 08902

FRANCIS M. WOMACK III
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January 30, 2016

Welcome to North Brunswick Township's India Republic Day celebration! We here in North Brunswick are very proud of our diversity as it has become an integral part of our community. The theme of this year's celebration is Maitrim Bhajata, meaning "Revere Friendship", and could not be more appropriate.

We welcome you to North Brunswick and to the third annual **NBT** India Republic Day Celebration! It is our honor for you all to be here!

Enjoy the Celebration!!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Francis M. Womack, III".

Francis M. Womack, III
Mayor of North Brunswick Township

NBT INDIA REPUBLIC DA 2016



NBT INDIA REPUBLIC DA 2016



**Rotary Club of
Plainsboro, North and South Brunswick**
P.O. Box. 171, Kendall Park, New Jersey 08824
www.plainsbororotary.org

January 11, 2016

Dear Govinda Rajan
NBT India Day Executive Committee

It is my great honor to extend our greetings to the 'NBT India Republic Day' Executive Committee for celebrating India's Republic Day on Saturday, January 30, 2016 at North Brunswick Township High School.

Agraj Seva Kendra is an invaluable organization dedicated to community service and charitable projects. It gives me immense pleasure to learn that being a part of the celebration allows one to motivate our youth by giving a chance to learn about governance, international cooperation, cultures of various nations, and the role education plays in achieving peace and harmony within communities.

I commend your leadership and commitment to keeping the humanity in motion. Please accept my sincerest gratitude for the superior job you and your organization members are doing to serve communities to change lives.

Whole heartedly I wish 'NBT India Republic Day' a great success.

Sincerely,

Balram Chinta
President
Rotary Club of Plainsboro, North and South Brunswick



MESSAGE



Gangadhara Rao Vakkalagadda Ph.D
Chair Person, NBT India day committee

NBT INDIA REPUBLIC DAY 2016

Namaskar,

I would like to personally welcome you to the 3rd Annual Indian Republic Day Celebrations organized by the North Brunswick Township (NBT) India Day Committee. On the 26th of January every year, we celebrate India Republic Day. India became independent of the British rule on August 15, 1947. On 26th January, 1950, India's constitution came into force completing its transition to an independent republic and Dr. Rajendra Prasad took oath as India's first president. The constitution placed the reins of governance in the hands of the citizens: a government of, by, and for, the people. It was, and still is, the foundation of democracy.

We gather here today and wave the flags not only to recall the history, but also to honor the vibrant and enduring spirit of our country. Today, we also pay tribute to many for their ultimate sacrifice and heroism that cleared the path to India's freedom.

On this occasion, I am deeply honored to kick-off the Cross-age Mentoring Program (CAMP), a service project of Agrad Seva Kendra, benefitting the North Brunswick School District. The CAMP is a structured program in which high school students provide mentoring to elementary, middle and high school students, throughout the school year. The program is

designed to serve a mix of children who will be identified based on discussion with the school administration. Cross-age peer mentoring programs are known to yield positive effects for both mentors and mentees alike.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers for supporting activities organized by the NBT India Day Committee and congratulate those receiving the presidential volunteer awards today. Thanks for devoting your time to strengthen the community and helping inculcate cultural values in children. I seek your continued support.

Enjoy the celebrations!

Thank you,

Gangadhara Rao Vakkalagadda
Chairperson, NBT India Day Committee

A friend is one that knows you as you are, understands where you have been, accepts what you have become, and still, gently allows you to grow. – William Shakespeare

NBT INDIA REPUBLIC DAY 2016 EVENT

NBT India Day Executive Committee

Chair Person:

Gangadhara Vakkalagadda

Co-Chair Persons:

Sudharani Kankanala,
Hemal Dhavalikar

Treasurer:

Govinda Rajan

Volunteer Coordinator:

Shuba Vellore

Program Coordinators:

Kuldeep Uppal
Naina Raina
Blisse Vakkalagadda

Media Coordinator:

Kanwaljit Uppal
Manish Pradhan

Art and Decorations:

Sonali Sinha

Art and Literary Journal:

Surendar R Revuri

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Program

- Welcome Address — Gangadhara Rao Vakkalagadda
- Prayer "Sang Chadhavam Samvo Manaan Si Janatha"— Mrs. Kuldeep Uppal
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Flag Hoisting Ceremony
- Jana Gana Mana (Indian National Anthem) — Led by Mrs. Kuldeep Uppal
- Star Spangled Banner (American National Anthem) — Aruhi, Anusha, Anjali and Sanjana
- Vande Mataram (National Song of India) — Led by Mrs. Kuldeep Uppal
- Address by Dr. Brian Zychowski, Superintendent of North Brunswick School District
- Address by Mr. Balram Chinta, President Rotary Club Of North and South Brunswick
- "Bhangra Blast" — By students of Dance4ever School
- Cross-Age Peer Mentoring Presentation
- Teknowiz Presentation
- "Friends Forever" — By Elementary School Children
- Interact Club Presentation
- "Bindas Dosti" — By Middle School Children
- "Maithrim Bhajatha"— Led by Mrs. Kuldeep Uppal
- Presentation of President's Volunteer service Awards and Volunteer appreciation awards
- "Hum Honge Kaam Yaab (We Shall Overcome)" — Led by Mrs. Kuldeep Uppal
- Vote of Thanks – By Swetcha Ananthu

Masters of Ceremony: Sara Nayyar, Khushi Arora, Siya Kakumanu and Nandana Pai

Prayer

Om sam gachhadwam, sam vada-dwam - Go forth together

Sam vo mannansi jaanataam - Let your voices unite as one, let your minds unite as one

Deva bhaagam yathaapoorve - To perform your duties, as did many ancestors in times before you

Sanjaanana upaasatee - Let your determination unite you
Samaani vah aakootih samanaa Hridayaani vah - Your hearts and minds

Samaanamastu vo mano yathaa vah susahaasati - So that you may live together in peace and harmony

Singer: Mrs. Kuldeep Uppal

Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Led By: Shakhti Rave

Flag Hoisting Ceremony

India proudly became a free, democratic nation on August 15, 1947. The constitution was adopted on January 26, 1950. The freedom movement led by Gandhi, based on the principles of "Ahimsa" and "Satyagraha", has inspired many people across the globe to bring about change in their own country.

The National Flag of India or the "tiranga", the "tri-colored" represents India, the world's largest democracy, and is hoisted to honor the country. The color saffron represents renunciation in action, the white in the center represents purity of thought, and green represents prosperity and our close connection with the earth that sustains us. The Dharma Chakra represents the Wheel of Dharma and is a reminder that it is our duty to commit to right actions in life.

Jana Gana Mana – National Anthem of India

The Indian National Anthem "Jana Gana Mana" was written and composed by the Noble Laureate Rabindranath Tagore. The poet asks Vidhata, The Creator, to bless his country, his fellow countrymen and most of all benedictions for a bright future for his country. He evokes in us a pride for the States and regions, the magnificent mountains and rivers that form the majestic land of Bharat and the people of Bharat who sing the glory of their Creator.

May my country's future rise high and may she always bask in victory captures the crescendo - Jai Ho! Jai Ho! Jai Ho!

Chorus Led by: Mrs. Kuldeep Uppal

Star-Spangled Banner

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?

And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.

Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Led By: Aruhi, Anusha, Anjali and Sanjana

Vande Mataram – National Song of India

Vande Mataram, the National Song of India is a poem from the famed novel Anandamath written by the poet Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1882.

Mother India is described in all her glory in this beautiful poem written in Sanskrit and Bengali. The beautiful rivers, plentiful fruit orchards, the cool breeze, the rich harvest, all inspire the poet to sing praises of his motherland. "I bow to you Mother," says the poet humbly as he bursts into a melodious song, his heart filled with wonder, pride and joy as he describes his country.

Chorus Led by: Mrs. Kuldeep Uppal

Superintendent Dr Brian Zychowski's Address

Dr. Brian Zychowski, Superintendent of Schools North Brunswick Township will address the gathering.

Guest Speaker: Mr. Balram Chinta

Mr. Balram Chinta, President of Rotary Club of Plainsboro, North and South Brunswick will address on this occasion.

Bhangra Blast by Dance4Ever – Putt Jatta Da, Singh is Style, Son of Sardar, and Mr. Singh

Any celebration is incomplete without Bhangra and to add the flavor of masti, dhol and drama, we have our little Sardar's performing on Punjabi melody. This performance demonstrates uniqueness, bravery of the Sikh community and how they spread happiness with their high beat music.

Adult Mentor: Naina Goel

Participants: Aarshi Goel, Shanaya Goel, Ganik Salla, Vidit Vist, Ishaan Oza, Bhavin Unnithan, Ridhi Boggavarapu and Saachi Lacit

Cross-Age Peer Mentoring Presentation

January is National Peer Mentoring Month and we are launching a new and unique service program "Cross-Age Peer Mentoring" in partnership with the North Brunswick Township High school.

Cross-Age Mentoring Program is a Federal Program and is an increasingly popular choice for youth development as it creates positive outcomes for youth. This program, in which older youth befriend and mentor younger children in a structural environment, is growing in popularity.

Teknowiz Presentation

Teknowiz is FLL team that participated in the prestigious championship award in the FLL regionals - "Hillsborough Boro Blast ", and stood 10th in the state.

Friends Forever - Kabhi Kabhi Aditi, and Jane Kyun by Elementary School Children

This performance illustrates the depth of friendship. From bonding between friends during highs and lows to sharing their feelings on how twisting-turning roads, crazy-slanting talks, will also seems straight. A beautiful performance expressing that with friends everything will just be alright.

Adult Mentors: Blisse Vakkalagadda and Naina Goel

Participants: Aruhi Vakkalagadda, Anusha Vakkalagadda, Evelyn Yeddu, Ankit Arora, Hind Nayyar and Hiya Nayyar

Interact Club Presentation

Interact is a service club of North Brunswick Township High School with a global youth network dedicated to

community and international service. Interact is a combination of the words international and action.

Bindas Dosti (Friendship ke who din) – Hain Junoon, Koi Kahe Keheta Rahe, and Velle Asi Velle by Middle School Children

A complete performance to take you back in time when all our life meant was friends and the moments spends around them. A life which means nothing but having lots of friends, having full masti, and dreaming big and bigger. It's about growing and living friendship.

Adult Mentor: Naina Goel

Participants: Sara Nayyar, Siya Kakumanu, Khushi Arora, Nandana Pai, Ruthika Narayanan and Nikhita Narayanan

"Maitrim Bhajata" Chorus

This is a benedictory song, appealing for friendship that conquers all hearts, for non-violence, and tolerance to live and let-live, requesting to eschew aggression among peoples of all the nations of the world and to forsake unhealthy competition, aspiring for universal peace, and showering blessings of prosperity for the whole mankind.

It was rendered at the United Nations on Oct. 23, 1966 on the occasion of the United Nation day, by Bharat Ratna Smt. M.S.Subbalakshmi and received a standing ovation.

Chorus Led by: Mrs. Kuldeep Uppal

Participants: Sanjana Achar, Aruhi Vakkalagadda Anusha Vakkalagadda, Anjali Gupta and Avani Gupta

"Hum Honge Kaam Yaab" Chorus

This song is the Hindi version of the famous English song 'We shall Overcome' -- a song with origins in early 1900s in America. It became quite famous there during the civil rights movement in the 1960s.

Chorus Led by: Mrs. Kuldeep Uppal

Awards

Presentation of President's Voluntary Service Award and Volunteers Appreciation awards.

Vote of Thanks

Vote of Thanks by Swetcha Ananthu

National Anthem of India

Jana-gana-mana-adhinayaka, jaya he
Bharata-bhagya-vidhata
Punjab-Sindhu-Gujarata-Maratha-
Dravida-Utkala-Banga
Vindhya-Himachala-Yamuna-Ganga
Uchchala-Jaladhi-taranga
Tava shubha name jage
Tava shubha ashish maange
Gahe tava jaya-gatha
Jana-gana-mangala-dayaka jaya he
Bharata-bhagya-vidhata
Jaya he, jaya he, jaya he Jaya jaya jaya, jaya he !

Meaning:

*Thou art the rulers of the minds of all people,
dispenser of India's destiny.
Thy name rouses the hearts of
Punjab, Sind, Gujarat and Maratha,
Of the Dravida and Orissa and Bengal;
It echoes in the hills of the Vindhyas and Himalayas, mingles in
the music of Yamuna and Ganga and is chanted by the waves
of the Indian Sea.
They pray for thy blessings and sing thy praise.
The saving of all people waits in thy hand,
thou dispenser of India's destiny,
Victory, victory, victory to thee.*

Maitrim Bhajatha

Maithreem Bhajatha , Akhila Hruth Jethreem,
Atmavat eva paraan api pashyatha
Yuddham thyajatha , Spardhaam Tyajata , thyajatha
Pareshwa akrama aakramanam
Jananee Prthivee Kaamadughaastey
JanakO Deva: Sakala Dayaalu
Daamyata Datta Dayathvam Janathaa
Sreyo Bhooyaath Sakala Janaanaam
Sreyo Bhooyaath Sakala Janaanaam
Sreyo Bhooyaath Sakala Janaanaam.

Meaning:

*With friendship please serve,
And conquer all the hearts,
Please think that others are like you,
Please forsake war for ever,
Please forsake competition for ever,
Please forsake force to get,
Some one else's property,
For mother earth yields all our desires,
And God our father is most merciful,
Restrain, donate and be kind,
To all the people of this world.
Let all the people, live with bliss,
Let all the people live with bliss,
Let all the people live with bliss*

Vande Mataram

Vande mātaram
Sujalām suphalām
Malayajaśītālām
Shasya śyāmalām Mātaram
Vande mātaram
Shubhra jyotsnā
Pulakita yāminīm
Phulla kusumita
Drumadalaśobhinīm
Suhāsinīm
Sumadhura bhāmimīm
Sukhadām varadām Mātaram
Vande mātaram

Meaning:

*Mother, I salute thee!
Rich with thy hurrying streams,
bright with orchard gleams,
Cool with thy winds of delight,
Dark fields waving Mother of might,
Mother free.
Glory of moonlight dreams,
Over thy branches and lordly streams,
Clad in thy blossoming trees,
Mother, giver of ease
Laughing low and sweet!
Mother I kiss thy feet,
Speaker sweet and low!
Mother, to thee I salute.*

Hum Honge Kaam Yaab

Hum honge kamyab, hum honge kamyab,
hum honge kamyab, ek din
Oh, man mein hai visvas, pura hai visvas
hum honge kamyab, ek din
hogi shanti charon or, hogi shanti charon or,
hogi shanti charon or, ek din
Oh, man mein hai visvas, pura hai visvas
hogi shanti charon or, ek din
hum chalenge sath sath, dale hathon mein hath
hum chalenge sath sath, ek din
Oh, man mein hai visvas, pura hai visvas
hum chalenge sath sath, ek din
nahin dar kisika aaj, nahin-hai bhay kisika aaj
nahin dar kisika aaj, e din
Oh, man mein hai visvas, pura hai visvas
nahin dar kisika aaj, e din

Meaning:

*A day will come
When we shall succeed and peace will descend all over the world .
A day will come
We will march forward together without any fear.*

NBT India Republic Day Executive Committee 2016

NBT INDIA REPUBLIC DA 2016



Gangadhar Vakkalagadda
Chairperson



Hemal Dhavalikar
Co- Chairperson



Govinda Rajan
Treasurer



Sudharani Kanakanala
Co- Chairperson



Surendar Revuri
Art/Journal Editor



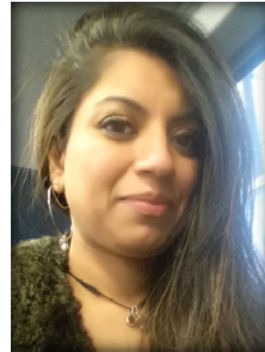
Shubha Vellore
Volunteer Coordinator



Kuldeep Uppal
Media Coordinator



Blisse Vakkalagadda
Program Coordinator



Naina Goel
Program Coordinator



Sonali Sinha
Art and Decor



Kanwaljit Uppal
Media Coordinator



Manish Pradhan
Media Coordinator

Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into friend. - **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

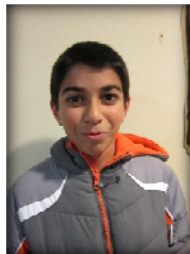
NBT India Republic Day Participants 2016



Aarshi Goel



Anjali Gupta



Ankit Arora



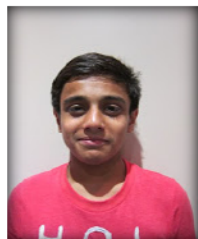
Anudeep
Revuri



Anusha
Vakkalagadda



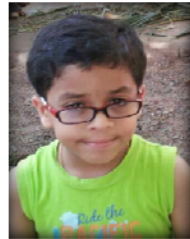
Aruhi
Vakkalagadda



Ashwin
Gokhale



Avani Gupta



Bhavin
Unnithan



Evelyn Yeddu



Ganik Salla



Hind Nayyar

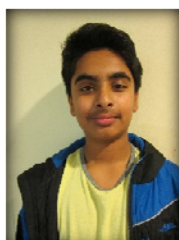
NBT INDIA REPUBLIC DA 2016



Hiya Nayyar



Ishaan Oza



Ivan Yeddu



Khushi Arora



Nandana Pai



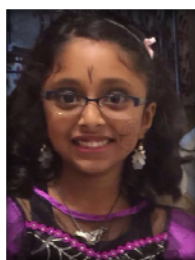
Nikhita
Narayanan



Ridhi
Boggavarapu



Ruthika
Narayanan



Saachi Lacit



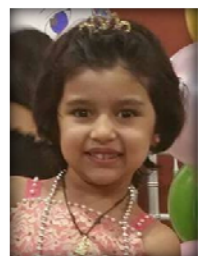
Sanjana Achar



Sara Nayyar



Shakthi Rave



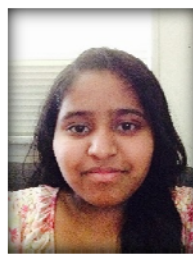
Shanaya Goel



Siya Kakumanu



Sreeram Rave



Suhani
Baranwal



Surya Ananthu



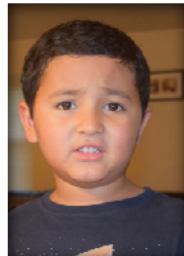
Swetcha
Ananthu



Shaili Likhari



Ishita Likhari



Vidit Vist



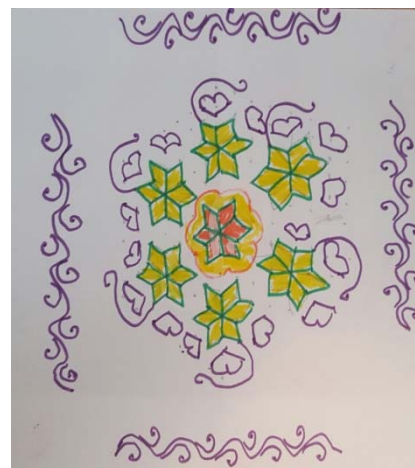
Amir Khan

Harvest Festivals of India: Pongal and Lohri

By Shakthi Rave

Lohri is a cause of great celebration in Punjab, as it is more than just a festival, it is also a way of life. During Lohri, men and women perform popular folk dances to the beat of the dhol, which is a traditional Indian drum. Family and friends all gather around to watch the dances around a large bonfire. Around the bonfire, they give prasad or offerings of peanuts, puffed rice and sweets and pray to Lord Agni for prosperity and abundant crops. It is also an auspicious day to celebrate the birth of a newborn or the arrival of a new bride in the family. A traditional feast ends the day which celebrates and thanks God for care and protection.

Pongal, like Lohri, is celebrated to worship and honor multiple gods for good harvest and prosperity. However, unlike Lohri, Pongal is celebrated throughout four days. The first day of Pongal, Bhogi Pongal, is celebrated to worship Lord Indra, who is the god of good harvest and rain. On this day, people destroy old clothes into a bonfire, draw kolams or rangoli in front of their homes, perform dances and sing songs celebrating gods, spring and good harvest. The second day is known as Thai Pongal, or Surya Pongal, and honors the sun god Surya. On this day, the sweet porridge, called pongal, is made and offered along with a pooja to the sun god to seek his blessings. Maatu Pongal (Cow Pongal) is the third day of Pongal where prayers are offered to cattle and other farm animals that are used in agriculture. Farmers bathe cattle, paint their horns and decorate them with beads and garlands. The cattle are worshipped and are fed Pongal by people to thank cows for giving the milk that feed everyone. There is also an event called the Jallikattu, or the taming of the bull, held during Maatu Pongal. Finally, Kaanum Pongal, the fourth day of Pongal, also known as Thiruvalluvar day, is the occasion for relatives to visit each other and exchange gifts.





INTERACT CLUB

Interact is a service club with a global youth network dedicated to community and international service. Interact is a combination of the words international and action. True to its name, Interact focuses on connecting people from around the world, inspiring action. Interact clubs are self-governing and self-supporting. Although backed up by a Rotary Club, Interact members are allowed to run their club and do what they believe will help the club grow and prosper. Interact is unique in that it focuses more on major projects that will profoundly impact the community and hopefully help many people.

Interact was introduced to North Brunswick Township High School in 2015 by Sapna Mehta, the President, and Swetcha Ananthu, the Vice President, with the support of the Rotary Club of Hillsborough/North and South Brunswick. The club's advisor is Mr. Jonathan Pitt, a teacher at North Brunswick Township High School.

Interact has already conducted and participated in many volunteering opportunities. In September 2015, the club, along with the Rotary Club, collected toys, arts & crafts materials, and more to donate to the Children's Specialized Hospital in New Brunswick. In addition, the club has participated in a beach clean-up and the Veteran's Day Event at the Hillsborough airport. In terms of future projects, Interact has many possible ventures in mind. We have been planning on putting together backpacks with school materials for children in need. The club is also planning on partaking in sandwich-packing event to donate sandwiches to the soup kitchen.



Teknowiz Robotics Team

This year in FLL Competition, 233,000 children over 80 countries have explored the fascinating world of trash, from collection, to sorting to smart production to reuse. FLL has asked each team to choose a piece of trash, follow its entire life cycle and find a solution that adds the value to the society by improving something that exists or innovating something totally new. In this context Teknowiz Team chose Keurig Coffee cups as their project.

K-cups are made with no:7 plastic, which is nearly impossible to recycle. Every year 9 billion K-cups are sent landfills, becoming a burden to the Mother Earth and environment. The main focus of the research is to prevent the K-cups reaching the landfills

Teknowiz has come up with a design, which can work with Keurig Coffee machine or can work standalone. The proposed solution is to break the K-cup into 4 parts; aluminium lid, plastic cup, metal ring, the filter. This makes them easy to recycle. The team has sent their proposal to Keurig company and received the response back from Keurig

The team also worked with CP-Group (the biggest manufacturer of recycling sorters). The team asked the CP-Group to sort the K-cups separately. The proposed solution is to see "if the presence of coffee grinds can transmit a different wavelength than the regular no:7 plastic". The CP-Group has agreed to change their software logic on optical sorters, to capture the K-cups separately.

The team has also worked with Middlesex waste management. Sent a proposal to MWM to enforce all the recycling companies in NJ to sort the K-cups separately and send them to companies like Terracycle, which makes useful articles like benches, chairs and cut-broads with K-cups.

The Teknowiz team consists of 2 coaches and 6 kids. The kids names are 1) Aarushi Rathaur 2) Lahari Rani 3) Revanth Ragineni 4) Shaili Likhar 5) Sreeram Rave 6) Srikar Viswanatha. All the kids belong to North Brunswick school district. The team has won the prestigious championship award in the FLL regionals - "Hillsborough Boro Blast ", and stood 10th in the state.



NBT India Day Awards 2016

THE PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS



Sonia Amarnani
Gold



Rashmi Ananth
Gold



Surya Ananthu
Gold



Swetcha Ananthu
Bronze



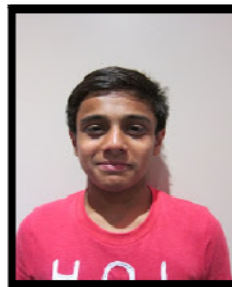
Varun Chari
Gold



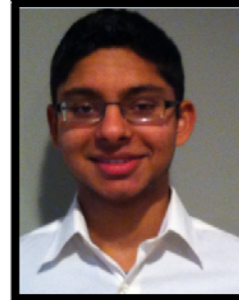
Akshaya Dinesh
Gold



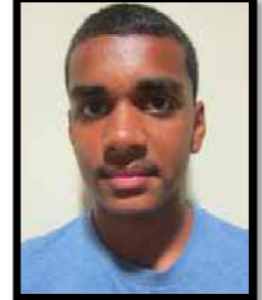
Varsha Garla
Bronze



Ashwin Gokhale
Gold



Pranav Kotilingam
Gold



Ashwath Krishnan
Gold



Sunit Pradhan
Gold



Ananya Malagi
Gold



Rohini Malagi
Gold



Pramod Mitikiri
Silver



Vaishnavi More
Silver



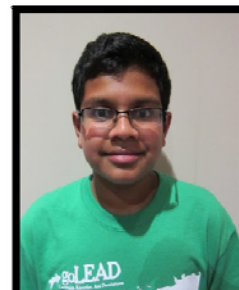
Shakthi Rave
Gold



Sreeram Rave
Gold



Anudeep Revuri
Gold



Cavin Saravanan
Gold



Shravan Subramanian
Gold

NBT India Day Awards 2016

THE PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

NBT INDIA REPUBLIC DAY 2016



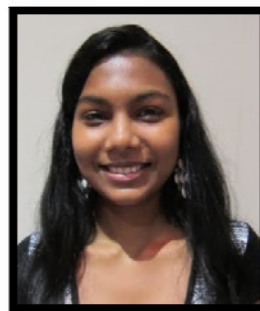
Meher Sukhija
Gold



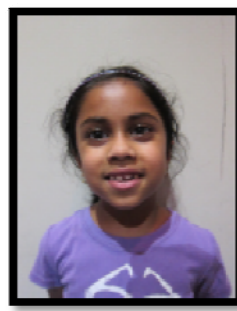
Aayushi Vyas
Gold



Shivani Vyas
Gold



Joanna Weilson
Bronze



Anusha Vakkalagadda -
Gold



Aruhi Vakkalagadda
Gold



Sanjana Achar
Bronze



Neha Komatreddy
Bronze

Thanmayee
Maddipaati
Gold



Uthara Yelugala
Bronze



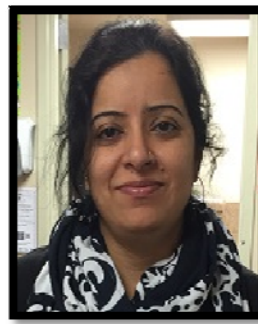
Blisse Vakkalagadda
Bronze



Hemal Dhavalikar
Silver



Shubha Vellore
Gold



Darshana Amarnani
Silver



Naina Goel
Silver



Surendar Revuri
Gold



Kanwaljit Uppal
Silver



Kuldeep Uppal
Gold



Gangadhara
Vakkalagadda
Gold

NBT India Day Awards 2016

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION AWARDS

NBT India Committee appreciates the efforts of the following volunteers.

Rachita Boggavarapu

Pooja Chitalia

Padma Garla

Srini Garla

Priyanka Gokhale

Pallavi Jagtap

Neeru Jhengan

Sudharani Kankanala

Amir Khan

Lija Lacit

Trupti Likar

Kinjal Maniar

Swapna Pradhan

Velumani Rave

Hetal Shah

Sonali Sinha

Arpita Vyas

Nehal Vyas

Manasi Warik

NBT INDIA REPUBLIC DAY 2016

NBT India Day Committee

(A service project of Aagraj Seva Kendra)

Cross-Age Mentoring Program (CAMP)

January is National Peer Mentoring Month and you will be glad to know that we are launching a new and unique service program "Cross-Age Peer Mentoring" in partnership with the North Brunswick Township High school.

Cross-Age Mentoring Program is a Federal Program and is an increasingly popular choice for youth development as it creates positive outcomes for youth. This program, in which older youth befriend and mentor younger children in a structural environment, is growing in popularity.

What can Cross-Age Mentoring Program achieve?

Cross-Age Mentoring Program produces a range of positive outcomes for both the peer mentors and their younger mentees.

- For mentees, this program has shown a positive impact on
 - Connectedness to the school and peers.
 - Feelings of competency and self-efficacy.
 - Grades and academic achievement
 - Pro-social behavior and attitudes
- For mentors, there have been reported improvements in
 - Connected to school
 - Self-esteem
 - Empathy and moral reasoning
 - Intrapersonal communication and conflict resolution skills
 - Relationship with parents.

Research indicates that Cross-Age matches often meet for more time and more frequently than adult-youth mentoring relationships, and there is some evidence that they may have a great impact on mentees' feelings of connectedness to school than adult-youth mentoring.

Each Mentor will also be awarded Volunteer Hours and could be eligible for the Presidential Volunteer Awards.

NORTH BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
North Brunswick, New Jersey

BE IT RESOLVED by the North Brunswick Township Board of Education that the following resolution be approved:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education would like to recognize the *North Brunswick Township India Independence Day Committee* for promoting the district's initiative of cultural awareness by creating a platform that connects the history of India's Independence movement and its contribution to our district;

WHEREAS, the *North Brunswick Township India Independence Day Committee's* celebration encourages youth to engage in research and present their thoughts through performances, exhibits, art and writing, and other creative outlets while fostering leadership among youth and encourages them to organize and participate;

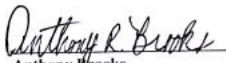
WHEREAS, this encourages the youth in North Brunswick to take active leadership roles in the community;

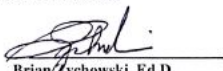
WHEREAS, The August 1, 2015 event "*Unity in Diversity*" highlighted the roots of conflict, explored ways to enhance harmony in the community and continue the progress that has been made towards building the "perfect union" for our nation and our world.

WHEREAS, the event celebrated an important event in world history, bringing to life the culture and history of India and highlights India's cultural connections with United States and the world;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that public acclaim be given to the *North Brunswick Township India Independence Day Committee* for its wide-range of activities that highlight India's cultural connection with the United States and the world while fostering cultural awareness among and between students, staff, and the community of North Brunswick;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the *North Brunswick Township India Independence Day Committee* shall be recognized appropriately and that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the permanent minutes of this Board.


Anthony Brooks
President, Board of Education


Brian Zychowski, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Colorectal cancer education and screening of South Asians in New Jersey

Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ) is dedicated in improving the detection, treatment and care of patients with cancer and serves as an education source for cancer prevention. They are currently working on improving colorectal cancer education and screening rates of South Asians in New Jersey, who are known to have much lower screening rates compared to the general public.

CINJ would like to partner with the NBT India Day committee in achieving their goal of reducing cancer disparities in local South Asians communities.

A workshop for the benefit of seniors of age 50 and above will be conducted by Usman Khan, Health Educator of Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey in the near future.



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NBT INDIA DAY

Commemorates a Historic World Event – Independence Day of India

“REVERE FRIENDSHIP”



August 6, 2016

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**North Brunswick
Township High School**

Explore Cultural Connections Learn
about Principles of Governance
Role of Education and Ethics

Build peace and harmony in your
community, nation, and the world!

Organized By

North Brunswick Township High School
Agraj Seva Kendra
NBT India Day Committee

nbtindiaday.org

732-801-4814

nbtindiaday@gmail.com