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NBT INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025

*Learn about India's history and
culture, serve your community, and
share your heritage*

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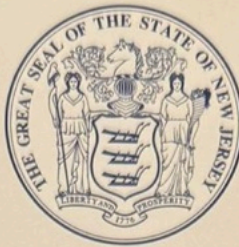


www.nbtindia.org
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New Jersey General Assembly



STATE HOUSE, TRENTON, N. J.

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION

By Assemblyman DANIELSEN

WHEREAS, The Township of North Brunswick, Middlesex County, will mark the Seventy-Eighth Anniversary of Indian Independence with a special India Day Celebration on August 2, 2025; and,

WHEREAS, The General Assembly of the State of New Jersey is pleased to join with the citizens of the 17th Legislative District upon this auspicious occasion, which commemorates India's long struggle for independence that ended on August 15, 1947, and culminated in its emergence as the world's largest Democracy, one rooted in the ideals of fairness, dignity, and peace and guided by the spirit of liberty and freedom for all, much like the American Revolution; and,

WHEREAS, This highly anticipated annual event has been brought to fruition only through the tireless efforts of the members of the North Brunswick Township India Day Committee, who have planned a variety of activities sure to delight guests of all ages; and,

WHEREAS, The strength and prosperity of the State of New Jersey and the effectiveness of our American society greatly depend upon the sterling qualities of our diverse ethnic groups, exemplified by the Garden State's Indian-American community, who share their rich culture and heritage with others in furtherance of the common good; and,

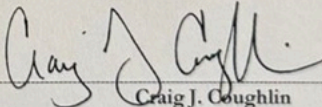
WHEREAS, It is both right and proper for this House to pause in its deliberations to honor those civic-minded individuals who have devoted their time, energies, and talents to ensure the success of the North Brunswick Township India Day Celebration; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

That this House hereby acknowledges the Seventy-Eighth Anniversary of Indian Independence and encourages all New Jerseyans to participate fittingly in this important observance; and,

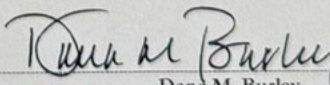
Be It Further Resolved, That a duly authenticated copy of this resolution be signed by the Speaker and attested by the Clerk.




Craig J. Coughlin

Speaker of the General Assembly

Attest:


Dana M. Burley

Clerk of the General Assembly

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE



RAJEEV SHRIVASTAVA

Dear Friends,

It gives me immense pride and joy to welcome you all to our annual Independence Day celebration in honor of India's Independence Day here in North Brunswick Township. This day serves as a powerful reminder of India's courageous struggle for freedom — a journey defined by unity, sacrifice, and the unyielding spirit of democracy. As we come together as a community today, we honor the legacy of those who paved the way for a free and inclusive India, and we celebrate the shared values that bind India and the United States.

This year, our theme spotlights “Bhasha Sangam – Celebration of Linguistic Diversity”—an essential element of India's cultural fabric. With 22 official languages and hundreds of regional dialects, India is a testament to how linguistic diversity can coexist with national unity. Each language represents a distinct worldview, literary tradition, and depth of history.

At the heart of our celebration is the NBT India Day platform — a dynamic space that goes beyond cultural festivity. This initiative offers a meaningful opportunity for young leaders and community volunteers to engage, express, and evolve. Whether through organizing events, showcasing performances, or participating in various competitions, this platform nurtures leadership, collaboration, and cultural pride among our next generation.

We believe that empowering youth today ensures a resilient, connected, and inspired community tomorrow.

On behalf of the NBT India Executive Committee, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the Middlesex County Commissioners and Agraj Seva Kendra for their continued support and collaboration. A sincere thanks also goes to the North Brunswick School District and North Brunswick Township for generously providing the venue and supporting the celebration of heritage and unity

I also offer heartfelt thanks to our organizing committee, performers, volunteers, sponsors, and every member of the community who contributed to making this event a success.

Let us continue to cherish our shared values, celebrate our cultural richness, and pass on this proud legacy to future generations. Wishing everyone a joyful, meaningful, and unifying India Independence Day!

Warm Regards,
Rajeev Shrivastava
(Chairperson)

NBT India Independence Day Committee, 2025

MESSAGES



JOE DANEILSEN
Assemblyman

I am so happy to be joining you this morning as North Brunswick celebrates India Day. I would like to thank Councilman Mehta as well as the entire NBT India Day team for inviting me to speak to you today. To celebrate Indian Independence with you all is so very special. India has in the 78 years since it achieved independence given so much to the world. All while being a beacon of democracy and hope. The struggle for Indian independence was rooted in the same desire for liberty, democracy and equality that inspired the American War of Independence. And for that reason amongst so many others, the friendship and partnership between India and the United States has been rock solid since 1947. India and her people are strong in will, never backing down from a challenge and never hesitating to do what is right. And the Indian American community which makes up a large and important part of Legislative District 17 and New Jersey as a whole has become a cornerstone in the life of our state. The contributions of your culture are endless, and we as a state are better off because of it. Thank you once again for allowing me to celebrate this special day with you. And may the United States and India remain close partners advocating for peace, equality and democracy around the world.

Best,

Assemblyman Joe Daneilsen

PROCLAMATION

By Mayor and Council – Township of North Brunswick

WHEREAS, on August 15, 1947, India gained its independence from the British Empire; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Independence Act of 1947 was approved by the British Parliament; which allowed the Constituent Assembly of India to write the Constitution of India, marking the beginning of India's independence after nearly two centuries of British rule; and

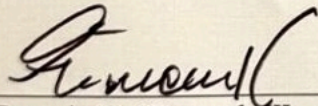
WHEREAS, the Indian independence movement was led by Mahatma Gandhi among others and through their message of nonviolence and civil disobedience, they inspired civil rights leaders from around the world, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, India's Independence Day is celebrated by 1.3 billion people across the country with flag-hosting ceremonies, kite-flying, and parades; and

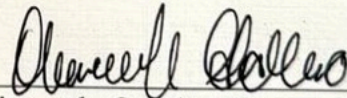
WHEREAS, diversity is one of United States greatest strengths, and North Brunswick is proud to be home to a large Indian-American population who contribute greatly to the social, economic, and civic health of our Country; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme "Bhasha Sangam: Celebration of Linguistic Diversity", emphasizes the appreciation of the rich variety of languages found around the world. This year we also remember the freedom fighters, soldiers, frontline workers, and the common people who contribute to the welfare of the country. The Township of North Brunswick proudly joins our Indian-American community in celebrating India's independence.

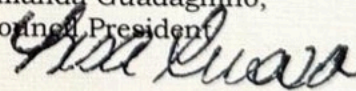
NOW THEREFORE, WE the Mayor and Council of the Township of North Brunswick, **Do Hereby Proclaim**, August 2nd, 2025 as India Independence Day and call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.



Francis M. Womack III,
Mayor
Township of North Brunswick



Amanda Guadagnino,
Council President



Lisa Russo,
Municipal Clerk

August 2, 2025



MESSAGES



FRANCIS M. WOMACK III
Mayor

TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BRUNSWICK

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FRANCIS M. WOMACK III
MAYOR



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August 2, 2025

Welcome to North Brunswick Township's India Independence 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 event is "Bhasha Sangam" which means, "Celebration of Linguistic Diversity". This theme emphasizes the appreciation of the rich variety of languages found around the world. Through this celebration, we aim to teach young leaders the importance of multilingual skills in gaining a deeper understanding of different cultures. We are also remembering the freedom fighters, soldiers, frontline workers, and the common people who contribute to the welfare of the country.

We welcome you to North Brunswick and to the 18th annual North Brunswick Township India Independence Day Celebration! It is our honor for you all to be here.

Enjoy the Celebration!!

Francis M. Womack III, Mayor
Township of North Brunswick

भारत का प्रधान कौंसल
न्यू यार्क



CONSUL GENERAL OF INDIA
NEW YORK

July 16, 2025

MESSAGE

I am delighted that India Independence Day celebration is being organized by the North Brunswick Township, NJ India Day Committee on August 2, 2025 at North Brunswick Linwood School Cafetorium. This year, the Township's theme of the program is '*Bhasha Sangam*', which means '*Celebration of Linguistic Diversity*'. The theme is a celebration of teaching young leaders the importance of multilingual skills in gaining a deeper understanding of different cultures.

This special occasion honors the enduring spirit, resilience, and cultural richness of India, while also highlighting the invaluable contributions of the Indian-American community to our shared society. Your dedication in organizing this meaningful event strengthens community bonds and fosters cultural pride for generations to come. May this celebration inspire unity, diversity, and continued collaboration across all communities. Wishing you great success and joy as you commemorate this historic day. Happy India Independence Day!

I wish the NBT India Independence Day event all success.


(Binaya S. Pradhan)



**Brian Zychowski Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools**



NORTH BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

Dear Community Members,

Returning to North Brunswick Township Public Schools brings me great professional joy as it allows me to experience cultural celebrations such as "Bhasha Sangam".

I am grateful to the India Independence Day Committee for their commitment and efforts hosting this community function. The committee's programs continue to teach our students the value of one's heritage contributing to the successes of people on a world stage.

This year's theme: "Bhasha Sangam", or "Celebration of Linguistic Diversity", will enhance the cultural and learning experience for all attendees. The program will illuminate the positive impact and the importance of multilingual skills as a conduit for appreciation and understanding of different cultures.

We, as a people of freedom with global connections, need more opportunities to learn and celebrate events that promote cultural awareness within our diverse and inclusive community.

Thank you again India Independence Day Committee for facilitating this wonderful ceremony and learning exposure.

Sincerely,

**Brian Zychowski Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
North Brunswick Township**

MESSAGES



MICHAEL KNELLER

**Principal - North Brunswick
Township High School**

On behalf of North Brunswick Township High School, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our school district for the 2025 NBT India Independence Day celebration, hosted at Linwood School this year.

I want to thank the members of the committee for hosting this educational event for our community. As a former teacher in the high school Social Studies Department, I always believe in the importance of cultural celebrations as a way for all of our students, families, and community to learn more about each other. As a Principal, I believe that at NBTHS and throughout the school district we understand that our greatest strength is the diversity that exists in our entire community. Therefore, we embrace this year's theme of "Bhasha Sangam," which means "Celebration of Linguistic Diversity." This is a powerful theme as many different languages are spoken within our school district. It is important for our community to understand that with those different languages comes insight into the different cultures that exist among us.

Therefore, I welcome you to the 2025 India Independence Day and hope that each of you have a wonderful time.

Sincerely,
Michael Kneller



RAJESH MEHTA

**Councilman
North Brunswick Township**

It is an honor and privilege to extend my heartfelt wishes to the Indian-American community of North Brunswick and beyond as we gather to celebrate India's Independence Day. This occasion is not only a tribute to the struggles and sacrifices of millions who fought for freedom, but also a celebration of India's rich cultural and linguistic heritage.

The theme this year, "Bhasha Sangam – Celebrating Linguistic Harmony," resonates deeply with the values we cherish in our own diverse community. Language, in India, is not merely a means of communication—it is a thread that weaves together traditions, stories, and identities across generations.

As a township that thrives on inclusion, mutual respect, and multicultural exchange, we find inspiration in India's model of linguistic coexistence. Our local Indian-American residents embody this spirit by contributing to education, public service, arts, and innovation—often while preserving and promoting their mother tongues.

I commend the organizers, cultural leaders, and volunteers who have brought this celebration to life. Thank you for creating a platform where future generations can learn, lead, and connect with their roots while strengthening the multicultural fabric of North Brunswick.

Happy Independence Day to all, and let us continue to celebrate the beauty of every language and every voice.

With respect and pride,
Rajesh Mehta
Councilman, North Brunswick Township

MESSAGES



Dear Fellow Citizens and NBT-India Executive Committee,

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Plainsboro, North, and South Brunswick, it is my pleasure to extend our warm greetings as we celebrate India's Independence Day.

As a resident of North Brunswick, it is an honor to work with you all, and I am deeply grateful for this connection.

North Brunswick is central to our Rotary Club and is home to one of the most vibrant Rotary Youth clubs, the Rotary Interact Club. We are thrilled to see the residents and students of North Brunswick actively celebrating "India's Independence Day" and sharing in the joy of this historic occasion.

India's independence was achieved through the sacrifices of many brave men and women. It is heartwarming to see Agraj Seva Kendra providing a platform to honor these heroes. For over ten years, our club has proudly supported Agraj Seva Kendra and the NBT day celebrations.

Our Interact club members from North Brunswick are actively involved in organizing this event and participating in various community service projects. These young leaders gain valuable experience in leadership, cultural activities, and civic engagement.

Our Rotary Club has undertaken numerous projects, such as donating food to pantries, organizing health camps, supporting shelters, and running 5K events to promote health. We have also supported international projects related to healthcare and aiding war refugees. In the coming days, we will focus on community activities, leadership development, mental health, and senior engagement.

We look forward to continuing our collaboration with Agraj Seva Kendra and wish you success in this event and all your future endeavors.

Warm regards,
Surendra Nath

President,
Rotary Club of Plainsboro, North and South Brunswick

MESSAGES



GOVINDA RAJAN
CEO - Agraj Seva Kendra

Dear friends,

On behalf of Agraj Seva Kendra, a NJ tax exempt non-profit and on my own behalf, I welcome you all to the NBT India Independence Day celebrations 2025. The theme for this year's celebration is "Linguistic Diversity" – Or otherwise, Unity in Diversity.

The Government of India has officially recognized 22 languages according to its constitution. In many contexts, language acts as a unifying force, helping to bridge cultural differences and create a sense of shared identity and understanding.

Shared cultural heritage: Language is intertwined with cultural heritage, carrying unique expressions, idioms, and ways of thinking. When people share a language, they share a common understanding of their heritage, which can strengthen a sense of unity.

National identity: A shared language can be a powerful symbol of national identity and unity, fostering a sense of belonging among citizens.

Bridging divides: Learning a language goes beyond communication; it acts as a tool to bridge divides and break down stereotypes between people from different backgrounds. Multilingualism and linguistic diversity promote empathy and understanding in culturally diverse societies.

The student community of North Brunswick have put together a wonderful performance developing on the theme a wonderful educative and entertaining event. I congratulate the NBT India Day Committee and its Chairperson Mr. Rajeev Shrivastava for bringing Arts to the community.

I thank the Middlesex County Board of County Commissioners for a generous grant award from the Middlesex County Cultural and Arts Trust Fund for the event. I also thank the North Brunswick Township Board of Education for their partnership and continued support in making this event a success.

Last, but not the least, I thank the parents and the community at large for their support and encouragement.

Sincerely,

Govinda Rajan

CEO/Agraj Seva Kendra



NBT INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025

NBT INDIA DAY 2025

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



NBT INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025



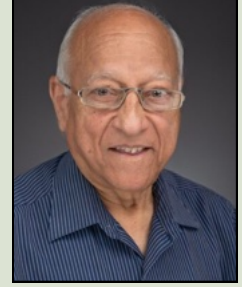
Rajeev Shrivastava



Ramnivas Singh



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Rajesh Mehta



Kanwaljit S. Uppal



Gangadhara Rao Vakkalagadda



Blisse Vakkalagadda



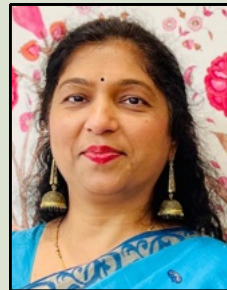
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Sonali Sinha



Naina Goel



Indu Shrivastava



Agma Chouhan



Archana Sengar



Kishore Mitikiri



Kapil Shrivastava



பாரத் மாதா
கி ஜெய்



JANA GANA MANA

Jana gana mana adhinayaka jaya he, Bharata bhagya vidhata
Punjab Sindhu Gujratam Maratha, Dravida Utkala Banga
Vindhya Himachala Yamuna Banga, uchchala jaladhi taranga
tava shubha name jage, tava shubha ashish mange
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 ruler of our minds, of all people
The dispenser of India's destiny!
They name rouses the heart of Punjab, Singh, Gujarat, and
Maratha, of the Dravida and Odisha and Bengal;
It echoes in the hills of Vindhya and the Himalayas, and
mingles in the music of Ganga and Yamuna 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 hands,
Thou dispenser of India's destiny.
Victory, victory, victory to thee.

VANDE MATARAM

Vande mataram (2) , sujalam, suphalam malayajasitalam
shashya syamalam, mataram, vande mataram
shubra jyotsna, pulakita yamini, phulla kusumita,
drumadalsobhinim
suhasinim, sumadhura bhaminim, sukhadam varadam
mataram, vande mataram

Meaning:

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

HARMONY OF LANGUAGES - BHASHAON KI SUR MALA

Hindi Song (India's Official Language)

Alag alag hai bhasha apni to bhi kya, Dil Jo samjhey vo Zubaa to ek hai - 2 times
Punjab Ho, Bengaal ho, Madraas Ho, Tiranga Hum sabhi Jano Ka ek hai - 3 times

Asamee Song (East)

Ae maati re moro motte - 2 times. Mati ke somilo, ae mati te, jeebon sobe, aki akii mosilo. Ae maati re moro motte - 2 times
Door aka haar rohon kiyunu laagey laagey e e ; Door aka haar rohon kiyunu laagey laagey
Hagor tolir manik kiyonu laagey e e; Hagor tolir manik kiyonu laagey; Aha aha Matir bukut monor molo-tee butolo ; Ae maati re moro motte - 3 times

Telugu Song (South)

Pillallara (humming), Papallara (humming), Repti Bharata pourullarra (humming); Peddalike okka daarini chupey Pinnallara , Pillallara..
Bharat deshame okate illu, Bharat matakuni meere kadllu meere kadllu, meere kadlu
jati patakam paikuni garesi, jati gauravam kapadandi badilo, bayata, anta kalisi, bhariyatulye melagandi
kanyakumariki Kashmiraniki anyo nata nu penchandi, Veedani bandam vaiyandi
Pillallara (humming), Papallara (humming), Repti Bharata pourullarra (humming); Peddalike okka daarini chupey Pinnallara, pillallaraaaaa..

Marathi Song (West)

Aata uthvu sare raan, aata petavu sare ran- 2 times; Shet-karyan-chhy rajyasathi- 2 times; Laahu panala pran,
aata uthvu sare raan, aata petavu sare ran; Shetkaryan-chhy fouz nighe, hatat tyanchya bedi pade - 2 times;
Tirangi zende gheti gati; swatantryche gaan - 2 times; Ata uthvu sare raan, aata petavu sare ran - 3 times

Punjabi (North)

Baari barsi khatan gya si - 2 times; Khat kay liyanda danda, Khat kay liyanda danda Saadey bharat da ,
utcha rhega Jhnda, Saadey bharat da, utcha rhega Jhnda, Saadey bharat da,,,,,, Balley Balley Balley Balley – Balleyyyyyy

Hindi Song (India's Official Language) - Meaning:

So what if our languages are different? The language that the heart understands is always one and same, be it Punjabi, Bengali or Madras, the tricolor (Indian flag) for all of us is one and the same.

Asamee Song (East) - Meaning:

This soil's love. I kissed the soil, in this soil- drew and erased all pictures of life. This soil's love.
Why do you need the good essence Far in the sky ?

Why do you need the pearls from the bottom of the sea? Come let's pick up the flowers of good memories from the heart of the soil

Telugu Song (South) - Meaning:

Little Children. The citizens of tomorrow, you will show the path to the elders. The full moon of hope shines in your eyes. God is in your heart. Hold high the banner of the nation and protect its honor forever. From Kanyakumari to Kashmir, unite India with ties of love. Help to build a lasting bond.

Marathi Song (West) - Meaning:

Let us awaken the forest. This song is about peasants and workers who emerge victoriously.
They fly the tricolor flag and sing the song of freedom.

Punjabi (North) - Meaning:

I have been working hard for 12 long years, and brought a stick or pole back home. this pole is our India flag that will always held high. (It's a message of pride and patriotism for the Bharat, India).

NBT INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025



NBT INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025

PROGRAM

- Welcome Address - Chairperson Rajeev Shrivastava
- Prayer - "Samgacchadhvam"
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Flag Hoisting Ceremony
- Indian National Anthem - "Jana Gana Mana"
- American National Anthem - "Star Spangled Banner"
- Indian National Song - "Vande Mataram"
- Felicitations of the Dignitaries
- Introduction of Emcees
- Instrumental Concert - "One Story, Diverse Language - Kahani ek, Bhasha Anek"
- Speech by Public Speaking Contest winners
- Dance Drama - Languages of India - A Celebration of Unity in Diversity
 - Scene 1 - The Voice of God
 - Dance - "Albela Bharat: A Graceful Tribute"
 - Scene 2 - The Bengali Encounter
 - Dance - "Blossoms of Bengal"
 - Scene 3 - South Indian Rhythm
 - Dance - "Ready. Set. Naach!"
 - Scene 4 - Meera - Beyond Devotion
 - Scene 5 - Glimpse of Indian Politics- Mantri Saahab
 - Scene 6 - Punjabi vs Bihari Pulse
 - Dance - "Bhangra Beats from India"
 - Scene 7 - Real Estate Deal - Marathi-Gujarati Style
 - Dance - "The Vibrance of the West"
 - Scene 8 - The Return of the Voice of God
 - Scene 9 - Today's Message - We are one!
 - Dance - "Final Dhamal: The Grand Finale"
- Executive Committee Felicitations
- NBT India Day Award Ceremony
- PVSA Awards
- Bollywood Dance - "Salaam India"
- Vote of Thanks - Co-Chairperson Ramnivas Singh
- Finale Song - "Harmony of Languages : Bhashaon Ki Sur Mala"



Emcees: Simran Amarnani, Arnav Chouhan, Sunidhi Mitikiri, Eva Patel, Rishab Patel, Sonia Patel, Yashvi Patel, Nishchal Polanki, Kandarp Porwal, Daivik Shah, Anish Sinha, Ojas Shrivastava, Akshita Thakur, Anusha Vakkalagadda, Nikitha Venugopal

PROGRAM DETAILS

Welcome Address: Chairperson Rajeev Shrivastava

Prayer – Samgacchadhvam

Samgacchadhvam samvadadhvam sam vo manámsi jánatám,
Let us move together, let us radiate the same thought-wave,
let us come to know our minds together,

Devábhágarñ yathápúrve samjánáná upásate.
Let us share our wealth without differentiation, like sages
of the past, so that all may enjoy the universe.

Samánii va ákútiḥ samáná hrdáyánivah,
Let our aspirations be united, let our hearts be inseparable,

Samánamastu vo mano yathá vah susahásati
Let our minds be as one mind, so that we live in harmony
and become one with the Supreme.

Led By: Mrs. Kuldeep K. 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: Ishan Shrivastava

Flag Hoisting Ceremony

India proudly became a free, democratic nation on August
15, 1947. The freedom movement led by Gandhi, based on
the principles of “Ahimsa” and “Satyagraha,” has inspired
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

Indian National Anthem “Jana Gana Mana” was written
and composed by the Nobel 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.

It 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
Hey! Jai Hey! Jai Hey!

Led by: Mrs. Kuldeep K. 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: Anusha Vakkalagadda

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.

Led By: Mrs. Kuldeep K. Uppal

Felicitations of Dignitaries

Introduction of Emcees

PROGRAM DETAILS



NBT INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025

Instrumental Band Concert: One Story, Diverse Language - Kahani ek, Bhasha Anek

Just as musical instruments produce different sounds for the same notes, languages may vary, but the emotions behind our life stories remain universal—be it a mother’s love, the courage to walk a tough path alone, or the joy of success. As an instrumental band, we present a medley of songs from North, South, East, and West India, capturing these shared human experiences through diverse regional tunes—each expressed in a different language but united in feeling. A true musical Sangam of one emotion, many expressions—“Bhav Ek, Bhasha Anek.”

'Ararari Raro' - is a lullaby in Tamil from southern tip of India, with mom blessing her child to grow up and make the world brighter and friendlier for all.

'Ekla Chalo re' - is a Bengali song from East of India, calls us to not be afraid to walk alone, speak up, work hard for the right cause.

'Hey Shubharanbh' - invites all to dance and welcome the auspicious beginning of a successful life. Ras garba is a dance form from Gujarat the western end of India.

'Bhumro' - is the peppy, stress free song to celebrate success, happiness, fun with friends and family. This Kashmiri song represents the North tip of India.

Mentor: Indu Shrivastava

Youth Leader: Ojas Shrivastava

Participants:

Clarinet: Ojas Shrivastava, Ishan Shrivastava, Sonia Patel, Sia Dixit, Sunidhi Mitikiri

Flute: Nishchal Polanki

Guitar: Arnav Chouhan, Nivesh Konjeti, Prisha Shah

Percussion: Rishab Patel, Malav Shah

Piano: Daivik Shah, Anya Chouhan, Vihan Shrivastava

Saxophone: Kandarp Porwal, Akshaj Goswami, Roberto Suarez

Trumpet: Anusha Vakkalagadda

Violin: Anish Sinha, Naman Venugopal, Vihan Shah, Yashvi Patel

Dance Drama: Languages of India - A Celebration of Unity in Diversity

We are delighted to present Languages of India - a vibrant and heartfelt tribute to the beauty of India’s linguistic and cultural heritage.

It features performers, from all ages coming together on one stage to celebrate the unity in our diversity.

Each scene takes us through different regions of India, blending humor, storytelling, and cultural flavor, brought to life with music, movement, and traditional costumes

Mentor: Naina Goel

Youth Leader: Daivik Shah, Simran Amarnani

Participants: Arnav Chouhan, Akshaj Goswami, Sourabh Porwal, Suguna Raju, Shashi Mehta, Sia Dixit, Mahima Singh, Disha Dunant, Anya Chouhan, Prisha Shah, Siddhant Shankar, Mahima Singh, Jinal Shah, Anish Sinha, Siddhant Shankar, Nishchal Polanki, Sanjeev Dixit, Vivek Bajaj, Kandarp Porwal, Akshita Thakur, Ishan Shrivastava, Ojas Shrivastava, Rishab Patel, Daivik Shah, Rakesh Amarnani, Sourabh Bajaj, Anurag Bajaj, Vihan Shrivastava, Neelaksh Polanki, Disha Dunant, Anya Chouhan, Mahima Singh, Kuldeep K. Uppal

Scene 1: The Voice of God

A powerful question guides our journey: “What role does India’s many languages play in shaping our identity?”

A soulful Kathak performance by young dancers using diya props opens the show with grace and tradition. (Song: Albela Sajan Aayo Re)

Kathak Dance: Albela Bharat - A Graceful Tribute

In a celebration of India’s vibrant heritage and classical legacy, participants will present a mesmerizing Kathak performance to the soulful composition “Albela Sajan Aayo Re” from the film Bajirao Mastani. This piece blends intricate footwork, swift spins, and graceful hand movements. Rooted in the regal courts of northern India, Kathak is a classical dance that weaves rhythm and narrative into elegant motion. Through this performance, our young artists pay tribute to India’s cultural freedom—honoring the beauty of tradition, unity, and expression.

Youth Leader: Anusha Vakkalagadda

Participants: Anya Chouhan, Sunidhi Mitikiri, Mahima Singh, Ashna Sinha, Prisha Shah, Akshita Thakur, Anusha Vakkalagadda, Aruhi Vakkalagadda

Scene 2: The Bengali Encounter

A witty scene with a sabziwali, a Bihari man, and poetic Chatterjee Babu celebrates Bengal’s charm.

PROGRAM DETAILS

Elementary Dance: Blossoms of Bengal

This delightful Bengali performance by our youngest dancers celebrates the rich heritage of Bengal through joyful movement and music. Set to Komola Nirto Kore and Rangabati. Rooted in the artistic traditions of West Bengal, this Bengali dance draws inspiration from classical forms like Rabindra Nritya known for their grace, expression, and storytelling.

With colorful costumes, the children capture the beauty of rural Bengal, bringing to life its vibrant festivals, nature, and cultural charm. A sweet and spirited tribute to Bengal's timeless traditions!

Youth Leader: Sunidhi Mitikiri

Participants: Anurag Bajaj, Saurabh Bajaj, Disha Dunant, Neelakash Polanki, Dev Nichani

Scene 3: South Indian Rhythm

Chaos unfolds in a Bharatnatyam class led by Sridevi Teacher - full of giggles, late arrivals, and filmi mischief.

Middle School Bollywood Performance: Ready. Set. Naach!

This dynamic two-part act begins with the powerful and mysterious energy of "Illuminati", a song that explores hidden truths, self-discovery, and the courage to think beyond the obvious. It sets the stage for a journey of questioning, awakening, and strength.

The performance then shifts into the high-energy beats of "Naatu Naatu" - a bold celebration of culture, freedom, and joy. With spirited choreography and unshakable enthusiasm, these young performers express what it means to dance with pride, unity, and confidence.

Together, these songs capture a powerful message: that even at a young age, voices can challenge, celebrate, and inspire.

Youth Leaders: Sunidhi Mitikiri

Participants: Siddhant Shankar, Prisha Shah, Naman Venugopal, Mahima Singh, Anya Chouhan

Scene 4 : Meera - Beyond Devotion

Meera floats in poetic devotion while a street-smart jhadoowali keeps it real. A fun, dramatic interlude filled with laughs and heart.

Scene 5 : The South Indian Twist

A dramatic politician, a visitor from the South, and bold Shetty Uncle bring hilarious neighborhood chaos with classic desi flavor.

Scene 6 : Punjabi vs Bihari Pulse

When Punjabi passion meets Bihari wit, expect laughter, energy, and full-on masti - followed by a Bhangra performance celebrating freedom and joy.

Grown-Ups Dance: Bhangra Beats of Bharat

This Bhangra performance, presented by a group of enthusiastic grown-ups, celebrates Indian Independence Day with high-energy dance moves, infectious rhythms, and vibrant costumes.

The traditional dance style, originating from Punjab, features dynamic footwork, freestyle hand gestures, and powerful movements - all set to lively music and dhols beats. The performance showcases the spirit of Indian independence and joyful celebration, transporting the audience to the fields of Punjab where Bhangra dance form originated.

Youth Leader: Akshita Thakur

Participants: Agma Chouhan, Aruna Patel, Bhavana Singh, Blisse Vakkalagadda, Jinal Shah, Leena Balusamy, Rajya Lakshmi, Shubhada Maru, Siri Chakrapani, Suguna Raju, Swapna Polanki, Rakesh Amarnani, Sanjeev Dixit, Sourabh Porwal, Vivek Bajaj

Scene 7 : Real Estate Deal - Marathi-Gujarati Style

A dramatic land deal turns into a cultural clash between Marathi sales person and Gujrati buyers with few interesting characters. But ends in harmony.

High School Dance: Vibrance of the West

This vibrant performance celebrates the folk spirit of Maharashtra through high-energy songs like Dhagala Lagli Kala and Zingat. The dance is inspired by Maharashtrian folk traditions, featuring strong, rhythmic footwork, expressive hand gestures, and festive group movements that reflect the lively street and village celebrations of the region.

The second part showcases Gujarat through the traditional styles of Garba and Dandiya Raas.

PROGRAM DETAILS

Set to festive songs like Dakla and Dholida, this dance showcases graceful twirls, rhythmic claps, and stick patterns performed in unison.

Youth Leader: Kandarp Porwal

Participants: Arnav Chouhan, Rishab Patel, Kandarp Porwal, Daivik Shah, Nikitha Venugopal, Sunidhi Mitikiri, Akshita Thakur, Anusha Vakkalagadda

Scene 8: The Return of the Voice of God As Bharat Mata steps forward, she reminds us: our languages are not just words — they are the soul of who we are.

Through each scene and dance, we celebrate not just our differences, but the beautiful unity they create.

United Grand Finale: Gallan Goodiyan & India Wale

“Ek Saath, Ek Josh, Ek Bharat!”

As we come to the final moments of our journey, it's time to bring everyone together - every dancer, every culture, every region - on one stage.

This grand finale performance is a vibrant celebration of unity.

NBT India Executive Committee Felicitations

NBT India Day Competitions Award Ceremony

Healthy competition helps children learn important life skills for the real world and all age groups come together to learn and compete in a relaxed manner. The awards presentation for the various competitions are conducted as a part of NBT India Day celebrations, and is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Plainsboro, North and South Brunswick.

Mentor: Sonali Sinha

Youth Leader: Anish Sinha

PVSA Award Holder Recognition

Bollywood Dance: Salaam India

A team of students will present a vibrant dance celebrating Indian unity and culture on India's Independence Day. The performance will showcase a blend of classical and modern dance styles from different regions of India, symbolizing the diversity and togetherness of the nation. Dressed in colorful traditional attire, the students will dance to patriotic songs that honor India's freedom and unity in diversity.

Mentor: Trupti Kotian

Youth Leader: Araina Kotian, Sonia Patel

Participants: Sonia Patel, Saanvi Reddy Aluri, Araina Kotian, Saanvi Murugaraj, Manya Elugoti, Suma Evany, Somya Daga

Vote of Thanks: Co-Chairperson: Ramnivas Singh

Group Theme Song: Harmony of Languages - Bhashaon Ki Sur Mala

Introducing 'Harmony of Languages - Bhashaon Ki Sur Mala', a patriotic song medley in various Indian languages. Starting with Hindi, we blend Assamese, Telugu, Marathi, and Punjabi songs, showcasing love for the motherland, empowering kids, and celebrating culture and traditions. These songs unite India's diverse regions, symbolizing pride for the tricolor and love for the nation.

Led By: Mrs. Kuldeep K. Uppal

Decorations: NBT India Day Event Decorations

Preparation and coordination of final day's decoration, planning and coordination with NBT India Day team. It reflect the event's purpose and mood, making it memorable and engaging for kids, participants, NBT volunteers and attendees. Our team closely ensures we align our decor with NBT India vision, theme and preferences.

Mentor: Agma Chouhan

Youth Leader: Arnav Chouhan

Participants: Sonia Patel, Anya Chouhan, Naman Vanugopal, Sunidhi Mitkiri, Anusha Vakkalagadda, Sia Dixit, Anurag, along with parents volunteers

Journal Design: NBT India Day Journal

This journal imbibes the event's theme in every way possible, including cover page. It compiles all activities of the event. It is a memorable sovenior handed to all attendees on the day of the event to take home, browse through and smile!

Mentor: Indu Shrivastava

Youth Leader: Nischal Polanki

Participants: Isha Shrivastava, Rajeev Shrivastava, Ram Niwas Singh, Kuldeep K. Uppal, Gangadhara Vakkalgadda, Ram Niwas Singh, Rajesh Mehta, Sonali Sinha, Agma Chouhan, Archana Sengar, Blisse Vakkalgadda, Kanwaljit Uppal, Naina Goel, Surender Revuri, Kapil Shrivastava, Kishore Mitikiri

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NBT INDIA DAY 2025

YOUTH LEADERS



NBT INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025



Anusha Vakkalagadda
Dance Lead



Eva Patel
Emcee Lead



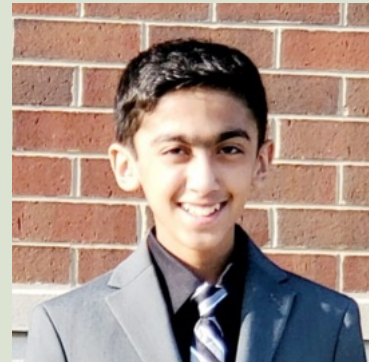
Sunidhi Mitikiri
Dance Lead



Yashvi Patel
Emcee Lead

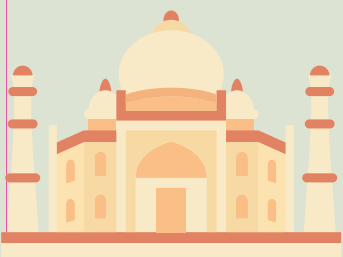


Akshita Thakur
Dance Lead



Anish Sinha
Competitions lead

भारत माता की जय



Nikita Venugopal
Volunteer Hours Lead



Daivik Shah
Skit Lead



NBT INDIA DAY 2025

ਭਾਰਤ ਮਾਤਾ ਕੀ ਜੈ

YOUTH LEADERS



NBT INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025



Ojas Shrivastava
Instrumental Lead



Simran Amarnani
Skit Lead



Vihaan Shah
IT Lead



Arnav Chouhan
Decoration Lead



Kandarp Porwal
Dance Lead



Nishchal Polanki
Journal Lead



Rishab Patel
Singing Lead



Sonia Patel
Dance Lead



Glimpses of NBT India



Chairperson : Rajeev Shrivastava

Chief Guest : Mayor Frances .M .Womack

Theme : Shramev Jayate



Singing Group



Competition & Awards



Emcees

Independence Day 2024



Instrumental Band



Skit



Dances





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Roberto Suarez



Araina kotian



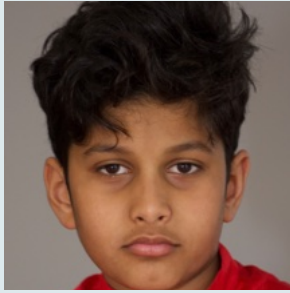
Ayush Sharma



Mahek Sharma



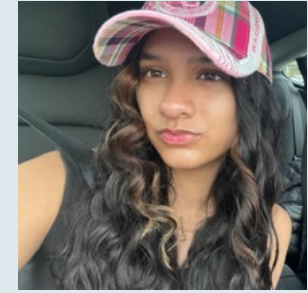
Akshaj Goswami



Avaneesh Verma



Nivesh Konjeti



Sia Dixit



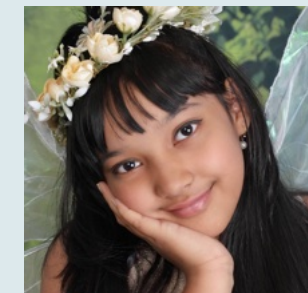
Mahima Singh



Prisha Shah



Udant Shah



Anya Chouhan

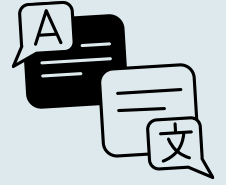


भारत माता नी जय

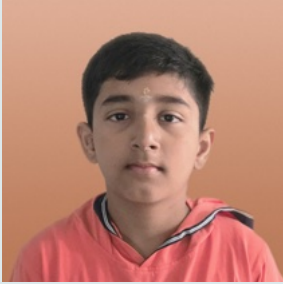


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PARTICIPANTS



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Divyansh Sharma



Ishan Shrivastava



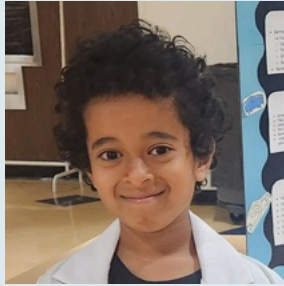
Nityam Porwal



Haarini Konjeti



Malav Shah



Naman Venugopal



Siddhant Shankar



Vihan Shrivastava



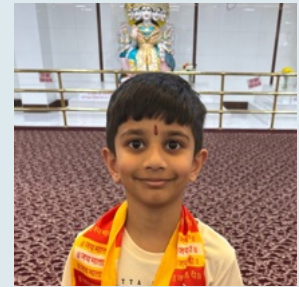
Rudra Sharma



Anurag bajaj



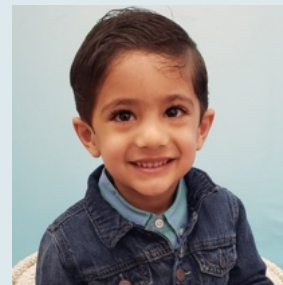
Dev Nichani



Neelaksh Polanki

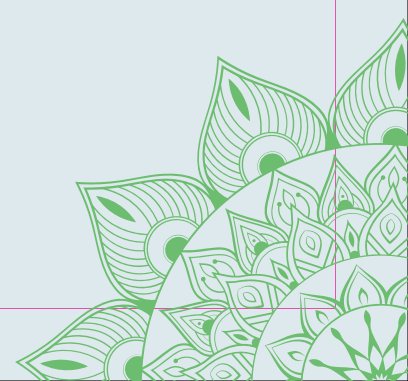


Disha Dunant



Saurabh Bajaj

ভারত মাতা কি জয়



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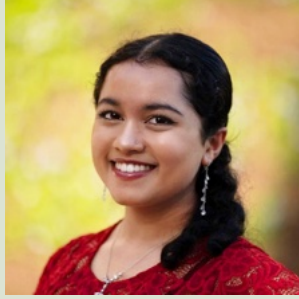
ADULT PARTICIPANTS & VOLUNTEERS



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Anuja Shah



Aruhi Vakkalagadda



Aruna Patel



Ashna Sinha



Bharath Polanki



Bhavana Singh



Darshna Amarnani



Hetal Shah



Isha Shrivastava



Jagruti Patel



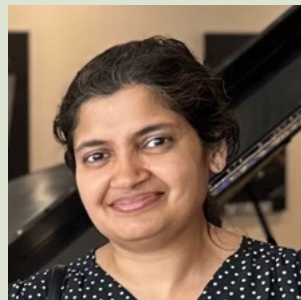
Jinal Saraiya



Leena Balusamy



Manish Singh



Neha Shrivastava

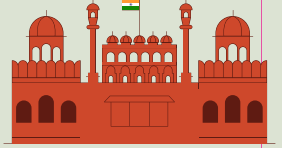


Radharani Chouhan

श्री श्याम कर्तव्य
रारहोष्य
रौचक अकायो
कर्तव्य

NBT INDIA DAY 2025

ADULT PARTICIPANTS & VOLUNTEERS



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Rajyalakshmi Konjeti



Rakesh Amarnani



Sanjeev Dixit



Sapna Porwal



Shashi Mehta



Shubha Maru



Siri Chakrapani



Sourabh Porwal



Suguna Shankar



Swapna Polanki



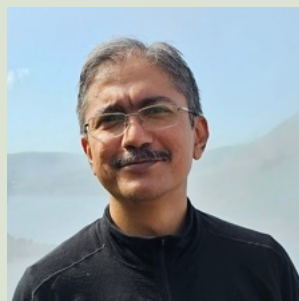
Trupti Kotian



Venugopal Sathyanarayana



Vikram Patel



Vivek Sinha



Vivek Bajaj



हरी
जकेवा
डा रबाप्रब
लसु
मे बतेस
सुबाव
इम

Competitions Awards

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of PN&SB

Art Competition

Category	Winner	1st Runner Up	2nd Runner Up
Elementary	Anurag Bajaj	Vihan Shrivastava	Disha Dunant
Middle	Sia Dixit	Ishan Shrivastava	Nivesh Gupta Konjeti
High	Rishab Patel	Sonia Patel	Nishchal Polanki

Public Speaking Competition

Category	Winner	1st Runner Up	2nd Runner Up
Elementary	Vihan Shrivastava	Dev Nichani	Disha Dunant
Middle	Naman Venugopal	Ishan Shrivastava	Uddant Shah
High	Ojas Shrivastava	Anusha Vakkalgadda	Sonia Patel

Quiz Competition

Winner	1st Runner Up	2nd Runner Up
ISHAN VIHAN - SHRIVASTAVA FAMILY	SIA - DIXIT FAMILY	ANUSHA ARUHI - VAKKALAGADDA FAMILY

Rangoli Competition

Winner	1st Runner Up	2nd Runner Up
ANUSHA ARUHI - VAKKALAGADDA FAMILY	DISHA - DUNANT FAMILY	SONIA - PATEL FAMILY

Cover Page Competition

Winner	RISHAB - PATEL FAMILY	As The Journal Cover
Runner Up	ANYA ARNAV - CHOUHAN FAMILY	As The Journal Page

Thanks to all the judges who contributed to making this a success!
Debate Moderator: Anish Sinha. Competitions Emcees: Anusha Vakkalgadda and Sonia Patel



NBT INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025

Journal Cover Page Competition
Runner Up Design



Rangoli Competition



**ANUSHA ARUHI -
VAKKALAGADDA
FAMILY**



DISHA - DUNANT FAMILY



SONIA - PATEL FAMILY



**VIHAN, ISHAN -
SHRIVASTVA FAMILY**



**ANYA ARNAV - SINGH
FAMILY**



**OJAS ISHA -
SHRIVASTAVA FAMILY**



RISHAB - FAMILY



**NISCHAL NEELAKSH -
POLANKI FAMILY**

Art Winners



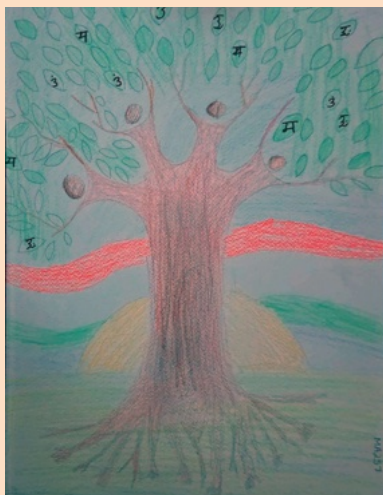
Anurag Bajaj



Vihan Shrivastava



Disha Dunant



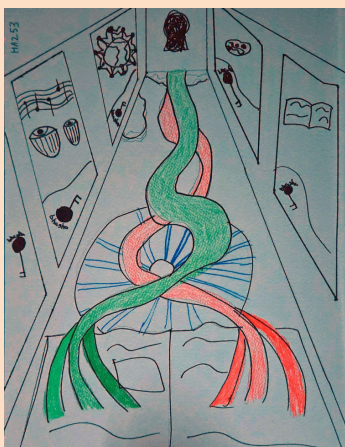
Sia Dixit



Ishan Shrivastava



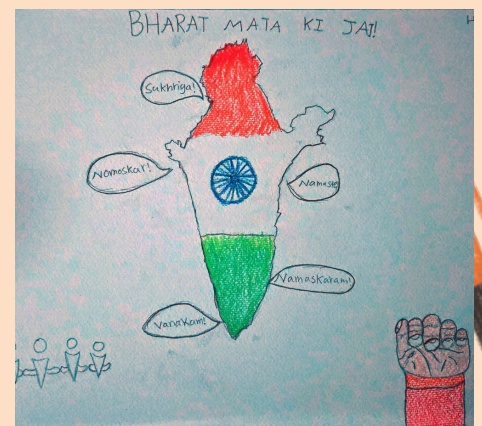
Nivesh Gupta Konjeti



Rishab Patel



Sonia Patel



Nischal Polanki

PVSA Recipients 2024 - 2025

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NBT INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025



Anusha Vakkalagadda



Sunidhi Mitikiri



Yashvi Patel



Akshita Thakur



Kandarp Porwal



BIKANERVALA

Bikanervala Kendall Park

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Ph:7327986281

Bikanervala Iselin

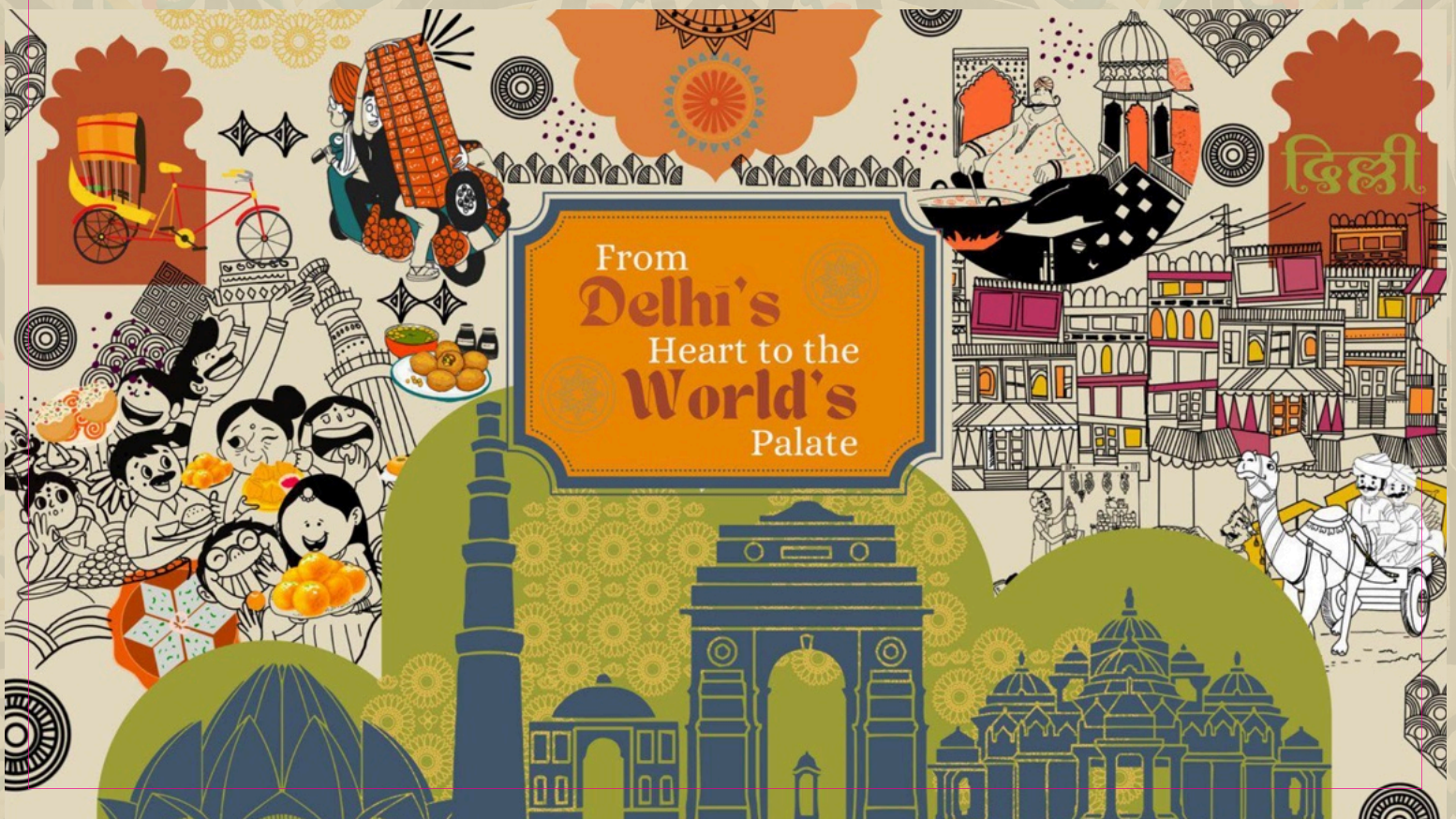
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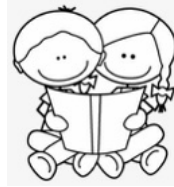
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- ❖ HindiUSA is a Non-Profit Organization running Hindi classes in the USA for **25 years** from now and has more than **4000 students** in various states mainly NJ (30 Branches), Connecticut, California, Missouri, Maryland, Georgia, North Carolina, and Massachusetts.
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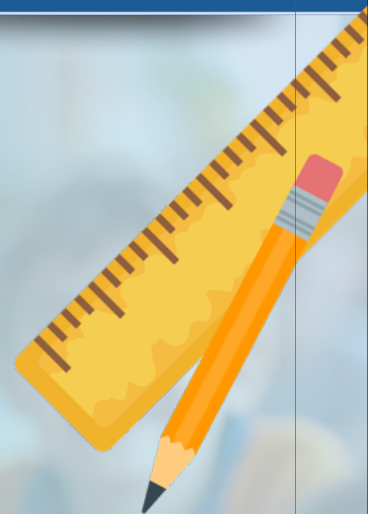
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