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### We want to hear from you

To inspire our readers and to recognize your accomplishments, we would like to feature you in upcoming newsletters. Please send us a personal story, poem, joke, comments, feedback at

arora@iasjc.org

## Diwali Show 2013

Our 19th Annual Diwali show was a huge success. We would like to thank all the participants, teachers, and parents for their enthusiasm and talent. We had a great audience! The trophies were popular with the kids as usual. If someone left early and did not get one, please contact us at [administrator@iasjc.org](mailto:administrator@iasjc.org)

A heartfelt thanks to McNair High School staff especially Brian Harrower for all his work! Another thanks goes to the 20 students from the Key Club who volunteered their precious time in various activities including food distribution, stage help etc.

[Please click here to read the coverage of this event in the Stockton Record newspaper!](#)

You can now purchase DVD or Blue Ray DVD for the show online at <http://www.iasjc.org/store/>

PS: IASJC is a nonprofit organization and your purchases are tax deductible.

## Diwali Show Reviews

"Those costumes were gorgeous.." says Ms. Mary Inez Pope, Piano Instructor and winner of the 2013 Outstanding Achievement in Arts Education, award presented by the Stockton Arts Commission. She says, a few friends accompanied her to the show for the first time and said "Inez, you have opened up a new world for us! I was also impressed by the musical box (harmonium) and the drums (tabla). It is wonderful to see the traditions passed onto the future generations!"

"I enjoyed watching and listening as some of my former and current students performed their music, songs, and dances. These boys and girls should be proud to come from such a rich heritage". Nathan Maloy, 5th grade Teacher, Brookside Elementary School.

"My kids have been performing at Diwali event for past 4 years and enjoyed it. The event has diverse cultural dances from different parts of India. Overall, it is a well organized event that allows an opportunity for young generation to stay in touch with their cultural heritage" Rani Dhillon, Tracy, CA

"Thank you for including my child to the program. he had a blast!" VM, Stockton, CA

"The show was great!" WS, Stockton, CA

" This is our 4th year of participating in the Stockton Diwali Show. To date we have had an outstanding experience. as a coach I appreciate the support offered by the organizing committee. Everyone involved is very professional and helpful. above all, love the fact that this is all about and for the children, giving them an opportunity to explore their culture and have fun at the same time. Looking forward to next year. Kindest Regards to all the members of the committee". Paven Judge, Tracy, CA

Happy Thanksgiving

Thank You

To all our readers and contributors to the newsletter.

For questions, comments, quiz answers, or to unsubscribe please email [arora@iasjc.org](mailto:arora@iasjc.org)

## Perspectives: "Lincoln's Homecoming: From the Eyes of a Princess"

**Author: Sheila Sharma, Senior, Lincoln High School**

I never understood what the football players meant when they spoke of the "Friday Night Lights." As I nervously waited in the end zone of Lincoln's football field, I finally realized what they meant. It was nothing short of magical; the bright, white lights flooded over the stadium and onto the field. My eyes scanned from left to right—there were my peers, all in white and bedazzled in glitter, then my mother and friends' mothers, and finally the alumni from 1988 and the band. I whispered to my dad to hold on tightly, as I was terrified I'd slip under these majestic lights. Hand in hand, I paced with my laughing and calm father, passing the cheerleaders and jazz band to wait under a colorful arch in the center of the field. As I stood nervously, my escort shook my father's hand and offered me a rose while on one knee. Together, we walked into the line of the 2013 Homecoming princesses, waiting for the results and smiling at our companions who had supported us.

The experience of homecoming as a princess is indescribable. Each day, as I put on my crown and sash, I quietly thanked each person who had brought me here. Sure, the past few weeks had been a little crazy and stressful. Every Wednesday and Sunday night was spent choreographing and teaching 20 non-dancers a fusion dance. I still was captain on the tennis team, and I still had to keep up with my difficult class schedule and college applications. However, through the experience, I learned just how strong my personality and some of my friendships were. During the week, my friends came together to dress up for each spirit day and to support me at the night rally, day rally, and crowning ceremony. They painted their cars and t-shirts with the slogan "Year of the Indian," which was both humorous and witty. Wearing the sash and crown was oddly humbling, as I realized that the crown and sash were a representation of all the people who had shaped me into the mature and confident person I had become.

I will never be able to forget this experience. The process was rigorous, but worth it. I may not have become queen, but I do know that I have developed skills that will aid me in my future endeavors. Through homecoming, I learned that I enjoy opening up about my life to inspire others. I enjoy helping others on campus and motivating other students. I hope to continue to be seen as a positive influence on my campus, as I know this will aid me in my pursuit to better the world.

### *"Baat Chet With Chai"*

Our second "Baat Chet with Chai" was an insightful meeting where Ms. Kamini DelBarba talked about the "Art of Listening" and its benefits. What a wonderful presentation! Thanks It is a monthly event now..every 3<sup>rd</sup> thursday from 530-630pm. Our next topic is "How to get a strong will power" .

Share your strategies over some "Garam -Garam Chai" **on Nov 21** , 530pm@ Girja Raina residence, 2378 Pheasant Run Circle, Stockton, CA 95207. Contact Girja @ Ph.(209)323-9096 for more information. For a synopsis of last meeting please contact Girja Raina.

*Our own support group!*

### Quiz Corner

Q. What is the name given to the first day of Diwali Festival?

Correct Answer: Dhanteras

Thank you Manisha Vasavda & Anirudh Lakhotia

IRS Enrolled Agent (Enrolled to Practice Before IRS)  
Lakhotia Tax & Accounting Services Inc.  
Phone: (209) 832-7177 Fax: (209) 832-7128

Answer this!!

what is the next scheduled event organized by Indian Association of San Joaquin County?

### Community News:

"Krishh 3" now playing in Regal 16 cinemas, Stockton,CA. Support the event so more movies can come to Stockton Cinemas! [click here for showtimes.](#)

# The IASJC Newsletter 2013 November

Photos courtesy Mr. Sastry Vemperala



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