



**TELUGU FINE ARTS SOCIETY  
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS  
Nominations/Election Committee**

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Members: Murty Bhavaraju, Rao Dasika, Uma Makam, N.S. Sasidhar

November 17, 2017

Dear Member,

Greetings from the Nominations/Elections Committee! We are in the process conducting elections to fill nine (9) trustee positions for term May 1, 2018 – April 30, 2020.

The purpose of this letter is to invite nominations for the above trustee positions. See a blank nomination form enclosed separately. Nomination form can also be copied or downloaded from the TFAS website (<http://www.tfes.net>). See the Bylaws and the Election Manual posted at the TFAS website for detailed election rules.

TFAS has, throughout its 33 year history, enjoyed the good fortune of having volunteer trustees bringing their passion, energy and talents to serve the Telugu community and advance the objectives of the organization. The N/E Committee has confidence that the new Board of trustees to emerge from this round of the election process will be no different than their predecessors in their commitment.

The N/E Committee in its obligation to perform due diligence would like to request the nominees to consider the following factors before accepting the nomination. This is to ensure that the nominees, when elected to serve, are fully aware of the demands placed on their time and resources, any potential conflict of interest through their current or past tenure as office-bearers of some other organizations.

- Do your job and professional responsibilities including frequent travel leave you the time and commitment needed to work for TFAS for the two-year period?
- Can you attend the committee meetings which can sometimes be called at short notice?
- If you are actively involved in other Telugu organizations like TANA, NATA, NATS etc. or other religious, charitable or other organizations, does that leave enough time for involvement in TFAS?
- Do you have any experience in working for other non-profits? Is there any potential overlap/ mismatch or conflict with the objectives of TFAS?
- If you or your spouse worked on the TFAS committee before, how was your experience, were you able to discharge your duties adequately?

**Eligibility to contest to be a Trustee per TFAS Bylaws:**

1. Any person who is a general member of TFAS for more than two years on November 1, 2017 shall qualify for the position of a trustee.
2. Trustees shall be able to speak and communicate in Telugu.
3. No member shall serve as a trustee for more than two consecutive terms. After a minimum break of one term (2 years) following two consecutive terms of service, a member from that trustee family will be eligible to serve for up to three more terms again as trustee.
4. A couple (husband and wife) cannot serve concurrently as trustee and/or advisor.
5. The lifetime maximum for any family to serve on the board of trustees individually or husband and wife together is 10 years.
6. Trustees during their tenure shall not hold any official position in another community based non-profit organizations.

Current trustees must have attended at least 50% of the trustee meetings in the current two year term to be eligible to contest.

The Proposer and the Secunder must be *general members for a minimum of two years* as of November 1, 2017 (but cannot be the spouse of the Nominee). If the Nominee, Proposer, and Secunder are all qualified, please send the completed nomination form, along with one passport size photograph in color and Nominee's statement not exceeding 150 words and a check for \$250 payable to TFAS, to **TFAS Nominations/Election Committee, 8 Norton Road, East Brunswick, NJ 08816-1704**, so as to reach **by December 8, 2017**. Email address: [ramaeleswarapu@gmail.com](mailto:ramaeleswarapu@gmail.com) Please review the TFAS Election Manual 2017 posted on the TFAS website for general understanding of the election process and the key dates.

**Required with the Nomination:**

- (1) A check for \$250 payable to TFAS
- (2) One passport size photograph in color
- (3) Nominee statement not exceeding 150 words in English or Telugu (single spaced; Times New Roman font 10 text [not bold] and Font size 14 heading [bold]). The Nominee statement describes (a) past contributions and service to TFAS; (b) if elected, what special skills and organizational experience do you like to bring to TFAS during the next 2 years; (c) other relevant information including community service; (d) your general expertise (e.g. financial, accounting, legal, IT). **The photograph and the Nominee statement will be posted on the TFAS website for the benefit of the voting members.** Please note that the committee may request the candidate to revise the statement if it is too long. Also, please email an electronic version (Word file) of the nominee statement with the photo to the election chair.

All Nominees are requested to attend (not mandatory) a meeting with the Nominations/Elections Committee at the location to be informed later to find out if there are any deficiencies with their Nomination Form.

The official membership list, as finalized by November 1, 2017, is the list that will be used to send ballots in January 2018. **Members should update their addresses before December 31. Correct mailing address is important to assure timely delivery of ballots.**

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### 2017 ELECTION SCHEDULE

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Owner</b>
11/17/17	Mail Call for Nominations	N/EC
12/8/17	Nominations due date	Members
12/22/17	Validate the Nominations/Reject Invalid Nominations	N/EC
1/15/18	Last Date to Withdraw Nomination	Nominee
2/1/18	Prepare and mail ballots on, mailing, ballot counting, recounting if necessary, and announcing results	N/EC
3/1/18	Ballots due date	Members
3/15/18	Complete ballot counting and recounting, if requested; Declare election results	N/EC
April 2018	Election of officers and committee chairs Introduce new trustees to the membership at the Ugadi function	N/EC