

Message from Convener of TFAS 25th Anniversary Function

Dear TFAS friends



It is a great honor and privilege at the same time very nerve-racking to undertake this “mega” event. It is an honor given the rich history and reputation of TFAS and to be a part of this historic event in bringing the best blend of cultural, literary, fine-arts and entertainment on this occasion. As a Convener of the event, it is my privilege to lead a team of dedicated individuals who have spent countless number of hours and days from their busy schedule to plan and pull-off this event. Obviously, when undertaking an event of this magnitude, it is very nerve-racking and the anticipation of hosting a two-day event with the largest crowd to ever attend a TFAS event.

By the time you read this message, either the Silver Jubilee Celebrations are well underway or certainly hope that they are successfully completed. None of us involved in these celebrations are professional event planners, but we are doing the best we can to meet the expectations of many. We have tried our best to keep the event open and transparent for anyone to make suggestions and get involved. However, at the end this is only a one-day event that we put together to balance everyone’s expectations and desires.

Several committees were formed and each committee chair, co-chair and members have worked diligently to bring an excellent program to you. We are planning to have an awards dinner on May 23rd night to recognize those individuals who have selflessly contributed not only to the organization but also to the community. We are also recognizing individuals from our community who have attained greater heights in their respective fields.

On the day of the main event (May 24th, 2009) we have a full day program packed with a variety of events to meet the tastes of various attendees. We are planning to start the program with a prayer in which over 100 kids will participate and then with a spiritual lecture by H H Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamiji. There are several local teachers who are dedicated to training our youngsters in classical dances and singing. We will be providing them with an opportunity to showcase their talent. In addition, we have hari katha, drams, singing, music concerts, and movie actors singing and entertaining. In addition, we are trying to bring items that are timely and important to our community. We have three parallel track programs: a *business seminar* that is focused on the current financial situation, job security and real estate investment; a *health seminar* to provide CME credits for physicians and a health awareness seminar for woman and men; and a *literary session* for Telugu literature lovers.

We have invited Governor Jon Corzine to grass our event during the primetime. In addition, several local elected officials are invited to come and share their thoughts on the role of the India-American community in the society and contributions we continue to make. We are giving an opportunity for the youth to showcase their talent during the prime time followed by the performance by movie stars. The overall main event is expected be about 14 hours long, including one-hour breaks for lunch and dinner each. The fine-arts program will be for over 9 hours while the Tollywood artists program and awards will be for 3 hours.

We have worked very hard to keep the entry donation to a minimum. For the members of the TFAS, we are charging only \$40 for the entire day on May 24th that includes lunch and dinner, the 25th anniversary special edition souvenir, entry into the program and vendor area and a DVD. Thanks to the donations and sponsorships made by many generous individuals to keep this cost low. A non-profit organization like the TFAS relies on these generous individuals to bring quality and timely programs to the membership.

As the TFAS enters into the new era, the current Executive Committee is planning to look at the past and learn from it; assess the current to see if we are heading in the right direction; and look into the future to modify the course to make sure that the organization reaches above and beyond the existing membership and becomes a organization of choice for the Telugu community.

I certainly hope that you enjoyed your participation and hope that you can get actively involved to promote our culture, heritage and arts to our younger generations and contribute to the society now we call home.

With regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anand Paluri'.

Anand Paluri, P.E., PTOE
Convener of the 25th Anniversary & Secretary TFAS