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Presents



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WOMEN'S
ACHIEVEMENT
GALA**



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from 6:00 PM onwards

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Fostering mutual understanding through its socio cultural activities - secular heritage and Indian values

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Message from the Chairperson

Today's women are playing several roles of being a professional, a housewife, a mother, a sister and of course a true friend. And across the globe, we have numerous examples of woman currently holding highest position in all aspects of Business Environment that includes Healthcare, Media, and Politics, corporate and Finance... In modern India, women have adorned high offices including that of President, Prime Minister, and Speaker of Lok Sabha and so on

March is women's History month, On Behalf of the board of Directors of Indian American Forum; I would like to welcome you to our Sixth Outstanding Womens Achievements Gala as part of Womens History Month celebration. The Board of Directors of the Indian American Forum Inc. recognizes the contributions made by distinguished members of the Indian American Community in the Tri state area. The dedication, fortitude, and compassion of our distinguished members have been an inspiration to our community. We are also introducing special recognition o our young achievers and leaders.

Congratulations to all our Honorees and Guests of Honor. My sincere thanks and appreciation for all the hard work, dedication and commitments of the coordinators of Indian American forum and Board members, supporters and sponsors, not only for this event but also for all the hard work throughout the year. We are deeply honored that you have chosen IAF as an organization worthy of your support. Without you we could not continue to offer these vital services for our seniors and other programs. I also want to thank my husband Sudhir and my whole family for their continued support.

**Indu Jaiswal RDN CDN
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Madeline Singas

Nassau County District Attorney



A deep commitment to fairness, integrity, and justice guide Madeline Singas as Nassau County District Attorney, just as they have throughout her 25 year career as a prosecutor.

Elected in 2015, District Attorney Singas serves as the chief law enforcement official serving Nassau County's 1.3 million residents. She manages a staff of more than 350 attorneys, investigators, and support staff prosecuting and investigating approximately 30,000 criminal cases annually to ensure that Nassau remains one of the nation's safest suburban counties.

As District Attorney, Madeline has focused efforts on combatting drug and gun trafficking, violent gangs and sexual assaults. Using enhanced investigative techniques, collaborative partnerships and intelligence based prosecution models, she has effectively dismantled narcotics and gang enterprises within Nassau County and beyond its borders. She has dedicated unprecedented resources to battle the epidemic of heroin and opiate abuse plaguing Nassau County, prioritizing education to prevent addiction and treatment for those abusing drugs. In addition, she is committed to aggressively investigating and combatting government corruption to protect taxpayers from those who abuse the public trust.

Madeline's priorities are driven and informed by more than two decades of experience as a courtroom prosecutor, trying and overseeing thousands of criminal cases. She began her career as an Assistant District Attorney in Queens at the height of the crack wars, working her way through the ranks prosecuting murderers, batterers, and other violent criminals. In 2006, she joined the Nassau County District Attorney's Office as chief of Nassau's newly-created Special Victims Bureau, bringing her expertise to serve the most vulnerable victims-- children, the elderly, and victims of domestic and sexual abuse.

In 2011, Madeline was appointed Chief Assistant District Attorney, and worked to design and implement specialized programs for adolescent offenders, veterans, and those who suffer from mental illness or drug addiction. She was elevated to the role of Acting District Attorney in January 2015, and elected to a four-year term in November 2015.

The daughter of Greek immigrants, Madeline grew up in Astoria. She is a graduate of the Bronx High School of Science, Barnard College at Columbia University, and Fordham University Law School. She lives in Manhasset with her husband and teenage twins.

**Congratulations and Best
Wishes
to
Indian American Forum
and
all the participants
on the success of
Womens Achievement Gala**



**from
Dr. Bhupendra Patel
Indra Patel
Board of Trustees
Indian American Forum**



Office of the County Executive
1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York 11501



March 24, 2017

Dear Friends,

Please accept my warmest greetings and congratulations as you gather to celebrate the Indian American Forum's Annual Outstanding Women's Achievements Awards Gala. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the fine work of this organization and the 2017 Award Recipients.

The Indian American Forum has established a distinguished record of excellence, working diligently on behalf of causes and ideals, which uphold the principles of human decency and brotherhood.

This wonderful organization is deserving and worthy of the esteem of Nassau County for their selfless service to the community, which has made a permanent and positive impact on us all.

This year's event gives us the opportunity to recognize the achievements of tonight's guests of honor, Kalpana Patel, Binita Shah, Vandana Sharma, Ranju Batra, Jiya Singh, Setu Mehta and to all of you who have worked toward forwarding the goals of this fine organization throughout the year.

Best wishes for continued success in all your endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Mangano".

Edward P. Mangano
County Executive



Kalpana Patel -

CEO/President, Unique Comp Inc.

Kalpana Patel is President and Chief Executive officer of Unique Comp. Inc (UCI)- an award winning Information technology services firm providing IT solutions and services to federal, NY State and NY City agencies. Under Kalpana's leadership UCI and Kalpana have received many national and international awards and recognition for their performance, leadership and entrepreneurship including Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's "NYC Small Business Award of Distinction" as well as being named one of "Top Owned 50 Asian Minority Businesses" in New York. She has been also awarded "Woman Business Owner of the Year" award by National Association of Women Business Owners, "Woman Entrepreneur of the Year" award by World Business Forum Inc, IWEC's "International Woman Entrepreneurial Challenge Award" and many more.

Kalpana holds an MBA degree from Adelphi University, Garden City, New York. Over the course of two decades of working in Wall Street as Vice President, Kalpana has "hands on" experience in virtually every aspect of the business. Kalpana has managed to build her organization in to one of the most successful "Minority Woman Owned Small businesses" in the Tri-state area, providing Technology services and solutions to an impressive number of agencies within the public sector as well as several corporate fortune 100 companies. Based on her contribution to M/WBE community she is also chosen to be on Governor Cuomo and New York State's M/WBE advisory Board lead by NYS OGS Commissioner. Kalpana has been an active member/board member of many M/WBE organizations including National Minority Business Development Council, National Association of Women Business owners, Manhattan Chamber of Commerce and Women President Organization to name a few. As a President of National Association of Women Business Owners LI Chapter she has carried out programs to help women business owners to succeed in their business.

Kalpana attributes her success to her parents upbringing, Bansi Shah and her UCI team. UCI team which is with her since inception is really Unique in her opinion which has put UCI on runway to succeed.



Dear Friends -

On behalf of our North Hempstead residents and the Town Board, I am proud to salute the

INDIAN AMERICAN FORUM

on the occasion of their 6th Annual Outstanding Women's Achievements Gala.

I applaud your efforts to enhance our community through philanthropy, fundraising, and advocacy.

Best wishes,

Judi Bosworth

Supervisor
Judi Bosworth



CONGRATULATIONS

Heartfelt Felicitations to:

**OUTSTANDING WOMEN'S
ACHEIVEMENTS AWARDS HONOREE :**



Ranju Batra,
Chair Diwali
Stamp

From:

Neeta and Harish Bhasin &
Diwali at Times Square/ ASB Team





Ranju Batra is a woman driven to success and serving the public good, by working harder and always paying attention to detail. She was born in India and migrated to the United States in 1975 after marriage. Of her many accomplishments, her successful & historic 7 year journey towards a Forever Diwali Stamp is a matter of pride for generations to come: it was officially dedicated on October 5, 2016 at the Indian Consulate in New York by the United States Postal Service, and she personally sold over 170,000 stamps for Day One, making the Diwali Stamp the #1 best seller in USPS history. Then, on December 5, 2016, with

Belarus and India as co-organizers, 24 countries at the United Nations celebrated the Diwali Stamp and honored Ranju for her selfless efforts. (UN Link:)

She is a loving wife and a devoted mother of two, one of whom is a special needs miracle-daughter, Angela, and another a capable lawyer-son, Neal. She has a record of success in business, and since the 1990's has superbly served as the Administrator of The Law Firm of Ravi Batra, P.C., to assist in securing a full measure of merit-based justice in court and precedent-setting landmark victories. Working long hours is normal for her, as her dedication is beyond family and work, and includes social, civic, political and charitable activities. She has supported federal, state and local officials to help "form a more perfect union."

Ranju has excelled in the public arena and made a difference with her excellence-with-humility approach to all things. As president of AIA-NY during 2011 - 2013, she celebrated the 25th Silver Diwali in New York City, including, a history-making Gala Dinner at The Pierre when Permanent Representatives of India and Pakistan jointly participated to celebrate Diwali and her first Diwali, as president in 2011, was reported by New York Times as the largest such celebration in North America with "over 200,000" attendees. She is a member of the Board of Trustees of Hindu Center, Flushing, Queens. Among her various charitable activities include, supporting Children's Hope as part of its Benefits Committee, Arya Samaj of Westchester, and a Trustee of Hindu Center. She is also the Treasurer and member of the Executive Committee of the UN-DWC.

Ranju has distinguished herself with boundless energy to make a difference with her civic, cultural and political activities. Her support has been sought by national, state and local politicians, as well as cultural and religious organizations dedicated to the Indian-American community. Ranju's exemplary service to society has been duly recorded and celebrated with numerous awards, citations, proclamations and Congressional Records.

Ranju's diligence and goal-oriented "grassroots" philosophy has made her a strong and worthy bridge between United States and India, bringing both nations and both peoples closer together.



Congratulations
to
Indian American Forum
and
all the Honorees
on the success of
Womens Achievement Gala



Dr. Azad Anand
Dr. Nutan Anand
Board of Trustees
Indian American Forum



ANTHONY J. SANTINO
Supervisor



OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR

TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD
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March 24, 2017

Dear Friends:

As Supervisor of America's largest township, I am proud to extend warm greetings and hearty congratulations to you and to all the dynamic members, friends, and supporters of the sixth Outstanding Women's Achievements Awards Gala as the Indian American Forum celebrates National Women's History Month.

Tonight's sixth annual gala continues a meaningful tradition of recognizing the contributions made to our communities while celebrating women of character, courage, commitment, and accomplishment. We are strong through our own achievements; however, we are even stronger as we reach out to and understand other cultural backgrounds.

I'd like to applaud this evening's honorees: Ranju Batra, Chair Diwali Stamp; Kalpana Patel, CEO Unique Comp Inc.; Binita Shah, MD, FAAP Distinguished Professor; Vandana Sharma, Regional Director Air India; and two young women, Jiya Singh and Setu Mehta, who exemplify the values of the Indian American Forum.

As our friends at the Indian American Forum gather to celebrate, the Town of Hempstead is privileged to share in this evening's festivities.

Again, please accept my sincere best wishes.

Sincerely,

ANTHONY J. SANTINO
Supervisor

Congratulations

Dr. Binita Shah

from your Loving Family !

You are a Role Model to your

Children and Grandchildren !

You are a Trailblazer for Women Physicians !

You are an Inspiration for Women Everywhere !

Love

**RP, Toral & Vikas, Ronak & Kunal,
Ariya, Roshni, Kailen & Saachiv**





Dr. Binita R. Shah

Dr. Binita R. Shah was bestowed upon the highest academic rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor of Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics in 2013 by the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees; Albany honoring her mastery of teaching. Dr. Shah was the only physician among the 5 professors chosen for Distinguished Teaching Professorship that year out of all 64 SUNY campuses. After completing pediatric residency and ambulatory care fellowship at SUNY Downstate in 1980, she served as a Director of Pediatric Emergency Room for 21 years at Kings

County Hospital Center; one of the largest city hospitals in NYC.

Dr. Shah has earned a national and international reputation through her highly acclaimed Pediatric books (5 books so far--). These books include: Atlas of Pediatric Clinical Diagnosis published in 2000 and Atlas of Pediatric Emergency Medicine (currently in its 3rd edition to be published in 2018). Her books are also translated into Portuguese and Spanish. Throughout her career, Dr. Shah has been an avid photographer, and over 2000 clinical photographs taken by her during her pediatric practice are published in these books. These books have been described as "classics" in their field and serve as a keystone of pediatric education both in the USA and abroad. Dr. Shah has received numerous prestigious awards for her contributions in the medical field including being inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society.

Dr. Shah's quest for improving the quality of care delivered to critically ill and injured children globally has led her to travel to countries like Turkey, Brazil and India where she has tirelessly delivered powerful presentations at various medical conferences. In 2013, through All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS); New Delhi and INDO-US EM collaboration, Dr. Shah has played a monumental role voluntarily starting an online course for physicians interested in learning Pediatric EM to improve their skills serving critically ill children. Physicians from different countries (e.g. India, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, UK) have successfully completed this on going course. Dr. Shah now regularly travels to reinforce their learning by organizing conferences in different cities in India.

Binita also has a passion for performing arts. In the early 1980s after settling in New Hyde Park, Binita and her husband Dr. Rajni P. Shah became ambassadors of Indian culture by organizing the first Indian Cultural Program at the Herrick's Community Center.

This program included presentation of Indian dances, a slide show entitled "Incredible India" and offered free Indian food tasting to all the attendees. Binita herself has performed in several prize winning performances in the FOGANA dance completions, at the International Dance Festival at Lincoln Center sponsored by the Gujarati Samaj of NY, and a dance ballet at Town hall, NYC sponsored by the Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan. She has also performed in several plays written and directed by her husband. Her signature performance as a motel owner housewife "Maniben" won her the best acting award in a drama competition hosted in NY.

Binita considers herself fortunate as her both children and their spouses are practicing in the field of medicine. She hopes that her 4 grandchildren one day will also carry forth the family's legacy of serving humanity through the practice of medicine.

Binita R. Shah; MD
488 Old Court House Road
New Hyde Park, NY 11040
Tel # 917-500-4129

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March 24, 2017

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to join the Indian American Forum in celebrating its Sixth Annual Outstanding Women's Achievement Awards Gala and honoring this year's distinguished honorees.

For the last two decades, members of the Indian American Forum have worked tirelessly to showcase Indian traditions and promote better cultural understanding in our local communities. Through countless charitable and educational activities, this outstanding organization has consistently provided residents of Long Island with the opportunity to celebrate and learn more about Indian culture and heritage.

Last month, I had the opportunity to travel to India myself, and it was an unforgettable experience. As a member of the House Caucus on India and Indian-Americans, it's important to me to help strengthen the critical alliance between our countries and build relationships with our thriving Indian-American community on Long Island, and I'm grateful to the dedicated members of the Indian American Forum for all of their efforts to preserve Indian customs at home and abroad.

On behalf of the residents of New York's fourth congressional district, I would like to again applaud all of this evening's honorees and extend my best wishes for the continued success of the Indian American Forum.

Sincerely,

KATHLEEN M. RICE
Member of Congress





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OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK
NASRIN G. AHMAD
Town Clerk

One Washington Street Hempstead, NY 11550
Tel: (516) 812-3046 email: nahmad@tohmail.org

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to recognize the achievements of the Indian American Forum and to celebrate all of their fantastic work on the occasion of this year's Outstanding Women's Achievements Gala. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize your fine work in organizing this event that showcases the positive impact of the Indian-American community.

I am privileged to salute all of tonight's honorees for their continuous efforts to educate others and help our community. Their efforts, supplemented by the support and commitment of all those in attendance for this event, are worthy of the highest praise and admiration for the positive impact they have on each of us.

I would like to thank Chairwoman Indu Jaiswal and her entire Executive Team, the IAF Committee, and all the Chairs, for their unwavering commitment to the Indian-American community. Also, I would like to congratulate and thank all the honorees for their community service.

Once again, I thank you for your hard work and dedication. Best wishes for a wonderful Gala Dinner.

Sincerely,

NASRIN G. AHMAD
Hempstead Town Clerk

We are proud to support the
Indian American Forum

Congratulations to
All The Honorees of
the 6th Outstanding
Women's Achievement
Awards Gala



Expect extraordinary.

Munesh Verma, SVP
Senior Managing Director

290 Broad Hollow Road
Melville, NY, 11747

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Jiya Singh

About Me

My name is Jiya Singh. I am seventeen years old and a senior at Jericho Senior High School. In my free time I enjoy traveling globally where I can immerse myself in new cultures through tasting new foods, exploring new sights, and taking photographs. I have also surrounded myself with a group of close-knit and well-

rounded friends. To expand our knowledge, we often spend time in New York City shopping and going to museums. I recently have explored my interest in contemporary art and am constantly inspired to expand my education. Next year I will be attending Washington University in St. Louis to do so.

Outside of school I have participated in community service activities such as Project Dignity, an organization that aims to build bathrooms for women in small Indian villages to reduce abuse and rape rates. Through promotion in school and fundraising, I raised \$2000 for the organization. Although I have a passion for helping others I have also been career focused as I interned at the Time Hotel NYC over the past two summers where I worked in accounting and reservation departments and shadowed many meetings.

Sports are a large part of my life. Playing both golf and tennis since the age of five, I have developed a passion for the games. In high school I was a member of Varsity Tennis and Varsity Golf since my freshman year. Through years of practice I placed third in the county for tennis and qualified to the New York State tournament. I developed leadership skills through the sports by being named captains of both teams. Under my leadership, the golf team placed first in the county as well!

My growth as a leader has been developed through many school programs such as Model UN and Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). As President of the Model UN club for two years, I have built a strong debate team and lead groups in many conferences. Furthermore, as treasurer of FBLA I helped underclassmen form projects and work on public speaking skills. I have considered FBLA one of the strongest experiences in my life so far in forming my character and teaching me motivation. In FBLA I formed an E-Commerce website for an eco-friendly banquet hall called "EcoEvents". After weeks of editing the website and going over lines, the website placed first in the nation—one of my proudest achievements.

All my accomplishments and hobbies have worked to shape who I am today, and I am looking forward to thinking larger and accomplishing more as I move into the future.

Indian American Forum Senior Program





Fostering mutual understanding through its socio cultural activities - secular heritage and Indian values

Founding Member

Bobby Kumar Kalotee

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Mr. Mohinder Singh

Taneja

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Indu Jaiswal, RDN

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Mr. Sunny Thakkar

Mrs. Shammi Singh

Indian American Forum is non for profit organization for Asian Indians in America to promote cultural, secular heritage values of India as well as the furtherance of friendship and understanding with people of other cultural backgrounds. Since 1997 IAF is striving to provide a forum for fostering a mutual and better understanding through socio cultural activities and enjoys a very cordial relationship among local associations and communities

IAF hosts various activities such as

> India Republic Day Celebration in Town of Hempstead, Town of North Hempstead and Town of Oyster Bay

>Outstanding Womens Achievements Awards Gala Celebrating Womens History Month

>Indian American Night and Kite Festival at Eisenhower Park

>Indian Independence Day Celebrations in Nassau County Executive Building and Parade in Hicksville

>Diwali Program at Nassau County Executive Building

>Programs for seniors at Bethpage Senior Community Center, Bethpage, LI

>Thanksgiving Day > Collections and Donations for US Veterans

>Starting and initiating support for children in need in shelters

On behalf of Indian American Forum, we thank everyone for supporting and participating. Please share with your friends and family and encourage them to attend these useful programs



Congratulations

Indian American Forum

&

all the Honorees

for their

achievements

FROM

K L SARDANA AND FAMILY

ROSLYN HEIGHTS NY

CONGRATULATIONS!

Honorees of Indian American Forum
Outstanding Women's Achievement Award- 2017
Held on March 24, 2017

Ranju Batra, Chair DIWALI STAMP

Kalpna Patel, CEO Unique Comp Inc

Binita Shah, MD, FAAP Distinguished Professor

Vandana Sharma, Regional Director AIR INDIA

Best Wishes From
Surinder Rametra
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Setu Mehta

Setu Mehta is fun-loving, caring, and kind, with a talent for making others around her smile. She is a senior at Herricks High School and is the valedictorian of her class. Her passions include playing the viola, which she has been playing for the past 10 years. Through her viola, she has performed at the stages of Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and the Adelphi Performing Arts Center. In addition to playing the viola, she has been dancing from a very young age. She loves all types of dance, especially Kathak, a classical Indian dance form. She has expressed her love for dance on a variety of stages, most notably at

Madison Square Garden for the Prime Minister of India. Playing on her varsity tennis team for the past 4 years has allowed her to remain physically fit as well as maintain a close bond with her fellow teammates, a bond which she developed as team captain this past tennis season. Her dedication and skills for tennis have not gone unnoticed, as she was awarded Coaches Award, Sportsmanship Award, as well named as All-County and All-Division athlete throughout her tennis career.

In addition to being named as a National Merit Commended Scholar and a member of the National Honor Society, Setu is actively involved in her school through various clubs and organizations. She is the president of the South Asian Student Association, as well as the secretary and treasurer of the Herricks Tri-M Music Honor Society. She enjoys being a part of the Mock Trial Team, as well as the Science Olympiads Team. Additionally, she has been elected to represent her grade as senator, as well as secretary of her class, for the last 3 years. Through her selection to participate in select committees, as well nominations to leadership programs such as the Hugh O'Brien Leadership Program and the Rotary Youth Leadership Program, Setu has helped spearhead change in her school and community, developing a penchant for helping those in need. As an Ambassador Girl Scout, Setu also makes an initiative to help impact her community. She is currently working on her Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can earn, hoping to create an effective drug education program in her community. Setu's self-driven work ethic and compassionate demeanor allows her to constantly challenge her boundaries. Setu also frequently visits her local library, and is the Vice President of the Teen Advisory Board at her library.

Setu is also a passionate explorer of the sciences. She readily explores the world and seeks out opportunities to expand her knowledge and understanding of unknown concepts. Her curiosity and penchant for research has led her to work with pioneers in the field of cancer research at the Icahn Mount Sinai School of Medicine, as well as the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research. She has presented her work at many different competitions, most recently being recognized in the Regeneron Science Talent Search Competition as a Regeneron Scholar, as well as being named as 1st in her category of Biology at the Junior Science and Humanities Symposia.

Setu is known by her friends as someone who is approachable, and ready to help out. She loves the outdoors, cooking and reading, and is always having fun no matter what she does.

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