

TRICIA



TIMES

Volume 1 | Issue 1 | April 2018

Engage.....Educate.....Enlighten

Spring Edition 2018

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Then and Now

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Amazing Talents

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50
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Counting!

Indian Republic Day Celebration 2018

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Banking Terminology

Find-the-words!

R	Z	L	O	A	I	V	D	K	K	Z	A	W	E	A	T	M	W	N	H
F	B	E	E	N	A	A	C	V	M	I	X	C	D	P	N	D	N	U	K
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N	P	F	L	K	F	D	S	P	J	T	U	N	H	M	Q	G	G	K	S
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X	S	A	V	I	N	G	S	X	A	C	C	O	U	N	T	H	V	U	H

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“Writing isn’t about using big words to impress.
It’s about using simple words in an impressive way.”
- Sierra Bailey

President's Message



Dear TRICIA Community,

Greetings! It is my great honor to announce the release of the first issue of "TRICIA TIMES," our quarterly magazine.

Tri-City India Association (TRICIA), as an organization, is growing by leaps and bounds. Established about 50 years back, TRICIA brings together Indians and people of Indian origin to strengthen cultural ties to promote our rich heritage.

I had shared my vision of starting a magazine during TRICIA's Annula Dinner held in November 2017. This magazine, I thought, would serve as a platform for our community members to share their creative work, achievements, knowledge, experiences, etc. The magazine you are perusing is the result of hard work of the TRICIA Magazine Committee (TMC) and the Editorial Board, who have toiled day and night over the last two months.

The concept of 'culture' is forever changing. It shapes and assumes new forms, as the society we live in responds to unexpected pressures and absorbs new ideas and values. We have created and nourished a culture which still has strong roots in India and yet has branched out with confidence in the USA, enriching both our mother culture and the adopted one. "TRICIA TIMES" is an expression of this confidence and it bears testimony to this living heritage with justifiable pride.

We held a competition to select the name for this magazine. We received about 50 unique names and TMC voted on to select the name, "TRICIA TIMES." Congratulations to Kavitha Muralimanohar, who was the first one to suggest this name. Then, we conducted another competition to select the masthead (Title Design) and Kudos to the winner, Manisha Kulshreshtha.

I would like to thank Annu Subramanian, the Editor-in-Chief, and editors, Dr. Paul Uppal, Dr. Vijayan Aroumougame, M.A Waheed, and Moideen Puthenchira. My special thanks to Praveen Karanjkar, the Coordinator of TMC, for arranging numerous meetings and to Kavitha Muralimanohar for designing this magazine so elegantly.

Thanks to "TRICIA Magazine Committee" (TMC) members Sia Shah, Kavitha, Shivakumar Patil, Mahesh Nattanmai and Kalyan Ghule for reaching out to the community to get the articles. Thanks to all authors for your contributions to this magazine.

I am sure this magazine will grow and get even better with active participation from all of you.

Best Regards,



(Basavaraj. Benki)
President,
Tri-city India Association, Albany, NY

"The greatest leader is not necessarily the one who does the greatest things.
He is the one that gets the people to do the greatest things."

-Ronald Reagan

Editor-in-chief's Message

Dear TRICIA Community,

Welcome to 'TRICIA TIMES', a quarterly magazine that aims to showcase the literary and artistic skills of the greater Albany community. It is also the time to introduce the first edition of 'TRICIA TIMES', with an eclectic collection of prose, poetry, photography, and illustrations. While reviewing the list of submissions, we were reminded of the history of TRICIA and our community, specifically about how we have evolved. "History of TRICIA" traces the organization's humble beginnings and its accomplishments over the last few decades. "History of the Indian Flag," on the other hand, gives us an opportunity to learn about the creation of the flag and helps us reflect on it with pride. India is home to several languages, and "Know Your Language" interestingly analyzes why it is important to learn and to communicate in the native language. Every child should be told that there are no boundaries to aspirations, and "If I Were A Mayor" is a testimony to a child's dream of making life better for those around her. "My Inner Orchestra" and "Evergreen Ashes" depict the beautiful art of writing in the form of poetry, and there is the tried-and-true Word Search to keep the readers engaged. "Cerebral Palsy and Communication Devices" succinctly enlightens us on the communication devices accessible to those suffering from cerebral palsy. Lastly, we are proud to present a stunning array of photographs and illustrations in this first edition.

Hope you enjoy the first edition of *TRICIA TIMES*. It is the time of year when we welcome spring and new beginnings, along with hopes for brighter and happier days. We wish you peace and joy in the days ahead.

Best wishes,

Annu Subramanian

Editor-in-Chief



Editor-in-chief
Annu Subramanian



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"The Art of Communication is the language of leadership."

-James Humes

Editorial Board of 'TRICIA TIMES' magazine**Editor-in-chief**
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THE COMPANY YOU KEEP

**TRICIA Magazine Committee (TMC)****Basavaraj Benki****TMC Coordinator**
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“Coming together is the beginning; keeping together is the progress;
working together is the success.”

- Henry Ford

History of TRICIA – Fifty Years and Counting!

-by: Manoj Ajmera.

TRICIA Historian, past BOD Chair and past President.

As we launch our TRICIA's quarterly magazine, it is also worthy to note and celebrate a tremendous milestone in the history of our organization. I am proud to say that we have now crossed past the 50-` mark of the founding of our Tri-City India Association. The Indian community has certainly grown tremendously since then, in terms of the numbers and our diversity, and we can all be rightly proud of the close-knit community we have forged in the Capital District area. In this essay, I will try to briefly describe the beginnings of our organization, how we came to being, how we grew in purpose and mission, and what changes have occurred in our local area over the past half a century. I hope this is informative for everyone, especially for our younger generation, as well as new arrivals to the area.

Our local Indian community began to informally function as an association back in the late Sixties. It was a very different scene compared to today. There were only about thirty Indian families at that time. There were no Indian restaurants and, of course, no Indian motels. First-class postage was 5 cents, a loaf of bread cost 19 cents and gas sold at around 30c/gallon. However, a call to India was \$5/minute (in 1965). There was no Indian grocery store in this area; we had to travel to New York City to buy from a store, Kalustyan's on Lexington Avenue, owned by a non-Indian.

A few years later, in 1970, we had our first election of the president and an executive committee. This was a friendly process, taking place in the summer as part of our annual picnic or at the annual community dinners which we later begin to have. Our first president was Ramaiya Mulukutla. The president's term ran from middle of a year (summer) to the following summer. I had the honor of serving as president in 1973-74. Around this time, we also began to convert our officers' terms to a calendar year for ease, and in 1975 we formally incorporated and adopted our by-laws and constitution. Our organization's name also had evolved. In the early years, we called our group the TRICIA, Tri-City India Association. During my term, I came up with an easier-to-remember name, TRICIA, to use in that year, and it has existed ever since.

In the meantime, our community was growing by leaps and bounds. I conducted an informal survey of our community in 1973 and found that about 50% worked in the engineering field, and 25% were in the medical field. People also began to travel back and forth to India, due to steadily decreasing airfares, which had gone down to \$450 roundtrip by 1972. We also began to arrange bus trips to New York City for shopping or to see entertainment shows. I arranged the first such trip in 1973 to a concert featuring Talat Mehmood, combined with

with shopping at saree and grocery stores and having lunch. Cost of the bus and the show was \$15. I also arranged the very first show of a professional artist from India in the Capital District in 1973, none other than Bollywood legend, Manna Dey. Over the years since then, TRICIA has organized and arranged visits and programs featuring many Bollywood luminaries, including Jaya Bachan, Paresh Rawal, Anupam Kher and S. Sinha. The very first Indian restaurant, Maharaja, opened on Central Avenue in 1976, run by eight local professional Indian men.

By the mid-1970's, TRICIA had also begun to screen Hindi movies about once a month, either at RPI or at SUNY. They were hugely successful showings and became our primary community gatherings. They eventually faded from the scene in the early Eighties after the invention of VHS cassette tapes and later on due to DVDs. Our local Indian population kept growing tremendously, with the influx of motels, businesses and IT professionals. It became hard to keep count, but I can surely say that now we have several thousand families in the area. Although TRICIA has reduced offering a number of events, three or four events every year are still very popular, including Republic Day, Independence Day Picnic and our highest attended Spring Festival which was first organized in 2000.

The TRICIA organization also broadened its appeal and focus over the recent years to keep in step with the changing times. For example, in 1996, a number of volunteers launched the TRICIA Support Group, a channel for immediate personal assistance and support for critical problems and issues. This also became a highly successful vehicle for encouraging and facilitating interaction among our vibrant community. A number of other TRICIA-affiliated groups came on the scene to cater to the needs of our growing and diverse community. These include the TRICIA Sixty Plus Group and TRICIA Youth Organization (TYO). Our membership has grown steadily and tremendously over the years, and we have been recognized by our local political leaders as the premier Indian association in the capital region. We have also developed a comprehensive and easily navigable website, and a state-of-the-art community email communication and outreach system. Through these efforts and technological tools, our community can, and does, stay in constant touch and enjoys the benefits of sharing our cultural values, engaging in patriotic and social activities, and forging strong bonds to benefit ourselves and our upcoming generations. As we cross the first half-century of TRICIA, let us keep expanding our horizons and making our community strong and flourishing.

“A guru is not someone who holds a torch for you.
He is the torch.”

TRICIA Republic Day- 2018

By: Shiva Kumar, Colenie, NY

A Musical Extravaganza

East or West, India is the Best! Albany, Jan 28, 2018. The Indian community witnessed a colorful event, filled with great speeches, patriotism, music, and electrifying group-dance performances featuring patriotic, Bollywood, and folk songs. The events represented the rich diversity of India's culture and its traditions in celebration of the 69th Republic Day of India. The events warmed up the audience from a chilly weather to enjoy the three-hour musical bonanza. And together, we celebrated the Indian National Day. TRICIA organized a FuNTAsTiC event which has created a unique footprint to make it a very memorable event for the year 2018.

New York, was the place to visit on



The event started with the National Anthems of India and USA. This awakened patriotism in the audience present at the auditorium. In spite of having goosebumps, every one of the 300+ individuals at the gathering was singing the National Anthems to embrace the occasion. The lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries, as per the Indian tradition, marked the beginning of the Musical event. The glow indicates a new ray of hope, direction, and enlightenment. Exciting and interesting speeches by the dignitaries encouraged collaboration, friendship, humanity, togetherness, and peace amongst the people.



A well-organized felicitation ceremony for the office bearers of TRICIA 2017 marked the occasion with mementos given to all the contributors. It was a moment to appreciate the community service efforts of the past year. "The Men in Black" and the "New Office Bearers" for 2018 were a treat to watch. A dynamic new team was excited about the new role, looking forward to serving the community under the leadership of the new President, Mr. Basvaraj Benki.

The President himself is a poet, cartoonist, and an impressive project manager. Mr. Basavaraj Benki introduced the new Office Bearers and the BOD for 2018 and shared a high-level vision to serve the community. The programs proposed were new initiatives, which focused on bringing out new talent and other exciting upcoming events to bring the community together.



The cultural events started with our favorite childhood song "Mile Sur Mera Tumhara."



Colorfully dressed children showcased and replicated the dramatic moments of the song with ease. The audience got a glimpse of India's rich culture, with kids sporting different dress codes. This was truly mesmerizing. This great national-integration song brought back our childhood memories. "Swag Se Swagat," a dance performance, was performed by a group of dancing angels to welcome the audience. This dance kept the viewers tapping their feet for every beat of the Bollywood musical that enthralled the crowd. The Kannada song "Bangla Habba" created a festive mood in the minds of the audience, as they all enjoyed the song to the fullest.

A speech on the Indian National Flag by a teenager took us back to the 19th Century. This speech gave us a good insight on the origin of the National Flag, the contributors, the changes the flag went through, the current national flag, and the meaning of each of the colors, including the Ashoka Chakra in the center. A scintillating high-energy dance performance by the Indian and American group took us back to the 17th and 18th centuries of Rajput and Mughal Empires in India.

The unique dance style of the "Ghoomar" dance performed by the group



"A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the souls of its people."

- Mahatma Gandhi



was fantastic to watch. The star attraction of the ceremony was to facilitate the real heroes for their outstanding community service. Some of the war heroes were also facilitated for their contribution to the nation. This was followed by a felicitation of ten Indian regional association leaders, which was an indicator of integration, collaboration, respect, and unity. It was a representation of Mini India. All the leaders extended their cooperation and support to serve the community.

An interesting Hindi song medley was played by a group of enthusiastic musicians. The medley was a display of melodic songs, which encouraged the crowd to start singing along with the musicians and singers and also to enjoy every song. This was truly a memory to cherish. In addition, there were very interesting patriotic songs and regional songs during the medley, group, and individual performances. Each of the performances represented and reflected India's cultural diversity. A small group of young children recited the difficult "Bhagavad Gita Shlokas" which was breathtaking. There were special dance performances from Tamil and Guya-



nese groups and an enthralling medley of Shubharambh" songs. For some of the group-dance performances, the crowd found themselves some space in the auditorium and were also found tapping their feet to the dance steps of the performers. It was fun as well as a treat to watch.

There were two dance performances that stole the show. One was a performance of the Malhari song, which means a victory dance dating back to 18th century. This was a highly energetic, exciting performance, showcasing celebration. The performers ensured that the audience was really celebrating the Republic Day 2018 in Albany. The other performance was a folk song from Karnataka showcasing the day-to-day culture and tradition of the villages. The performance by beautiful ladies dressed in colorful sarees highlighted some of the general activities of the ladies in the villages of Karnataka. This performance ended with a big round of applause and repeated encores of 'once more' from the audience.

The musical evening came to close with a vote of thanks from the Secretary of TRICIA. Not to forget the MC's of the event, who kept the crowd on the edge of the seat throughout the event. They motivated the crowd, and involved the crowd very well in the event; ensuring crowd enjoyed the MOST throughout the event.

Big Congratulations!! to all the Organizers, Office Bearers, Volunteers, Distinguished Guests and Audience who participated to celebrate 69th Republic Day of India in Albany on January 28th.



It was TURLY A WELL ORGANISED AND SPECTACULAR EVENT!!! this has already been added to the History!!!

Kudos to the TEAM!!!! Best of Luck for the NEW team of 2018!!! Thank you for a GREAT EXPERIENCE!!! .

"A great nation is a nation that respects the services of the hero."

- Soekarno



A Trip to India - Then and Now

By Sudhir S. Kulkarni

Our TRICIA community presently consists of many generations of Indians. Those of us who are long-time members recall a time when planning a trip back home required months of preparation and saving to cover expenses. For our younger generations who have grown up here, my narration below reflects on how traveling to India has evolved over the past several years. Indeed, if you are one of the younger set, my narration may bring you back to your own childhood of watching your parents get ready for these trips. For those who have settled here more recently, you will appreciate the changes I will note that have made these journeys easier. For those of my own generation, you can re-live these changes with me.

When anyone thinks of traveling to India, preparations generally fall into four parts: Airline Tickets; Passport/Visa/Gifts; Air Travel; and Domestic Travel within India. Let us look at each of these parts and go over changes and improvements over the past fifty years or so.

Airline Tickets. I came to the U.S. in 1966 to pursue a Master's degree. The process of finishing my degree, getting a job, saving money and accruing vacation time took a few years, and so my first trip to India was not until December 1970. Traveling on a commercial flight for a family of three in those days was very expensive, so we chose a chartered flight, which had reasonable fares at \$875 per person for a roundtrip ticket. The idea of a chartered flight may sound exciting, but it meant going and returning with the same group of people on the same dates. There was no flexibility. With the introduction of the Boeing Jumbo Jet in 1973, round-trip airfares to India fell dramatically to a low of \$450 per person. Boeing 747s had a capacity of over 400, so supply and demand were reflected in the price. Later on, airlines started selling blocks of seats to travel agents to fill their planes. Competition among travel agents arose and became more and more cut-throat. That, in turn, resulted in additional discounting by mostly "desi" agents to sell tickets to India. One had to be very careful, however, in purchasing tickets because some fly-by-night travel agents promised cheaper tickets, but they never delivered the tickets. By contrast, now in the internet age, passengers can book tickets directly through the airlines, thereby eliminating the middleman and even forcing many travel agencies to fold their businesses.

Passports/Visas/Gifts. The second part of the process was to obtain passports, visas, and the requisite gifts. Back in the 1970s, we had to travel to New York City to do all of this, and it was a whole day event. We drove early in the morning to NYC to submit our application to the Indian Consulate in Central Manhattan before 10:00 AM, and then had to return to collect our approved passports and/or visas in the afternoon after 4:00 PM. In the interim, we shopped for gifts of 220V small appliances (toasters, blenders, etc.) at shops on Canal Street in Lower Manhattan.

We would also purchase saris, dress and suit cloth, bags of almonds, tins of saffron, and other spices to give to every relative we might visit. As our family grew to five people, we traveled to India with ten suitcases to accommodate our clothes, appliances, gifts, kids' games, and school books for our children who would miss a few weeks or months of school. Now, when we travel, we go as lightly as possible. Gone are the toasters, almonds and vegetable

peelers. Instead, we take a few gifts for our nieces and nephews and their kids.

In the old days, going through customs in India was a real hassle. Indian customs agents tended to treat every passenger like a smuggler of foreign goods. They checked each and every bag thoroughly. Eventually, later on, Indian merchants in Jackson Heights, Queens, and Edison, New Jersey, started selling the coveted 220V appliances and ended the monopoly of the merchants on Canal Street. Indian manufacturers in India also started making their own 220V gadgets, so the craze for imported goods ended for certain items. Indian customs practices also improved over the years as the government implemented the green (Nothing to Declare) and red channels. U.S. passports, as well as OCI cards (life-long Indian visas), can now be obtained by applying online.

Air Travel Choices. Since we live on the East Coast, traveling over the Atlantic is the faster and more logical route. In the old days, we generally traveled to JFK Airport in New York City by car/bus/train to catch international flights to India. Air India, PanAm, and a few European airlines flew to India in those days, either to Mumbai or Delhi. Air India flights stopped on the way at places like London, Paris, Frankfurt, Rome, Cairo, and Beirut. Passengers could get off the plane for a cup of coffee at these airports, with the courtesy of airline vouchers. This nice feature stopped once terrorists started hijacking planes in the 1980s, and security was tightened. There were also more and more choices of airlines on which we could travel. PanAm declared bankruptcy in 1991, but Delta bought their India route and started flying to Mumbai. After Continental merged with United Airlines, they started a non-stop flight (14 hours duration) from Newark to Mumbai to cater to the Desi population of New Jersey. Like Air India, Jet Airways has also started flights from Newark to Mumbai. Other major Middle Eastern country airlines like Kuwait, Emirates, Etihad, have also jumped into the competition for market share of the US-India segment. Some eastern Asian countries like China (including Hong Kong), South Korea, Malaysia, etc., have also started air service to India from some West Coast cities. Now, we NRIs have plenty of choices to fly to India.

Domestic Travel within India. During the 1970s and through the 1990s, domestic air travel within India was dominated by Indian Airlines which had a monopoly serving the major urban centers. However, over the past 15-20 years, a number of domestic airlines, such as KingFisher, Spicejet, IndiGo, GoAir, and Vistara, have emerged to cater to travelers to major Indian cities. Indian Railways has added more train routes, and the trains have become more comfortable with added features such as air-conditioned (AC) chair cars as well as AC sleeper coaches for long-distance travel. One can now also reserve train tickets and seating online, even before leaving for India. For innercity travel in Mumbai, where I am from, the classic "Kali Peeli" (Black & Yellow) taxi is still running and is readily available. But now, with the addition of smartphones, you can also hail a fleet taxi service like Uber or Ola to get around and be nearly guaranteed that these cars will have AC and allow you to avoid outdoor air pollution.

As you can see, over the years, traveling to India has improved tremendously. Our journeys back home have become much easier, more comfortable, less expensive, and with more options to choose from. Let us all be thankful for these changes.

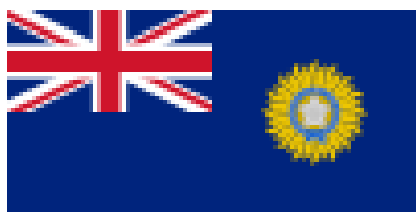
History of the Indian Flag

By Tanisha Muralimanohar-5th grade

You know that our Indian Flag is a tri-color flag, but do you know the history of our flag? This article will tell you how our flag evolved into what it is today.

A number of flags with various designs were used in the period preceding the Indian Independence Movement. The idea of a single Indian Flag was first raised by the British Rulers after the Rebellion of 1857. The first flag, whose design was based on Western Heraldic Standards, had a blue field with the Union Flag in the upper-left quadrant and a star of India capped by a royal crown in the middle of the right half.

In the early twentieth century, William



Coldstream, a British member of the Indian Civil Service, campaigned the government to change the heraldic symbol from a star to something more appropriate. The nationalist opinion within the realm was leading to a representation through religious traditions. Lokamanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak voted for the symbol of Ganesh. Aurobindo Ghosh and Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay voted for Kali. Cow or Gau Mata was also suggested. All the ideas were not received well by the government.

The Indian Independence Movement, popularly known as the Swadeshi Movement, had come up with Vande Mataram Flag.



It was a tricolor flag. The upper green color had eight lotuses representing the

lotuses representing the eight provinces. The yellow color in the center had Vande Mataram. The bottom red band had a crescent and a sun. Despite the multiple uses of the flag, it failed to generate enthusiasm among Indian Nationalists.

Sister Nivedita, a Hindu reformist and a disciple of Swami

Vivekananda also came up with a proposal of the flag with the slogan of Vande Mataram. This also failed to gain the attention of Indian Nationalists.

In 1916, Pingali Venkayya, a freedom fighter and an educationist, proposed 30 designs of the flag in the form of a booklet. This booklet just helped the flag movement stay alive for a little more.

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi pro-

posed a flag with the spinning wheel.



Gandhi commissioned Pingali Venkayya to design a flag. The flag with the green and red color, representing the two major communities of the society with the spinning wheel in the center, was supposed to be delivered to the Congress Commission in 1921. Due to its delay, it was rejected. Gandhi later wrote that the delay was fortuitous since it allowed him to realize that the other religions were not represented. He then added white to the banner

colors to represent the other religions.



Swaraj Flag, with the spinning wheel in the center--was proposed in 1921 during

flag movement managed by Sardar Vallabhai Patel. It became an official flag of Congress in 1931. This flag was the symbol of the independence movement. With the Ashok Chakra replacing the spinning wheel, a new flag which resembled the Swaraj Flag was proposed by Pingali Venkya and approved for Independent India

The three colors of the Indian flag are saffron which stands for sacrifice and

Indian National Flag Designer-Pingali Venkayya



renunciation; white which stands for peace; green which stands for courage and immortality. Navy Blue Ashok Chakra, with 24 spokes radiating from the center, represents righteousness, justice and forwardness. Chakra also represents progress and repels stagnation. green which stands for courage and immortality. Navy Blue Ashok Chakra, with 24 spokes radiating from the center, represents righteousness, justice and forwardness. Chakra also represents progress and repels stagnation.

Once Mahatma Gandhi said, "A flag is a necessity for all nations; millions have died for it. The national flag is the banner that imports a nation its own unique identity, proclaims to the world of its sovereignty and announces the principles on which lies the country's foundation." This is the interesting history of the flag of our beloved country, India.

References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag_of_India



"When you set a good example for the world, you become a flag waving on the skies of the entire world."

- Mehmet Murat

If I were a Mayor

By : Sanjana Jirankali –8th grade

If I were the Mayor, I would make a community center for the people in the neighborhoods to have more fun and to relax. I would also fix any damages that were made by any natural causes.

A community center near Menands would give people time to relax and have fun. I think it would give them a nice place to hang out with friends and maybe also do some studying. I think kids should have a different place for games, so they can enjoy them. They should also be provided with healthy snacks, so that way they wouldn't be hungry. This way, kids will be happy and focused, eating and working at the same time. Many kids like video games/ board games, so this would give kids something different to do other than homework. It is important to have a whole different place for kids where they can play games to have fun. Kids can be encouraged to work on homework here. There should be parent volunteers to help and make things go smoother.!

In addition, I would fix any damages made to the village by any natural causes. In the winter the roads will become very cracked, bumpy and hard to drive because of snow storms and cold weather. I would fix the roads or make new roads, so it would be better and safer to drive. I would also fix any damages made to the buildings and make them more durable. I want to do these things because I want to make the village a better place by making the people in the village feel good. So Menands will get a good name and more fame.!

I would undertake such actions by informing the people around the society. I would tell the workers to build new roads and fix the buildings that need to be repaired. For the Community Center, I would ask people in Menands to vote and give suggestions on what to do. I would spread the word around by making newspapers, pamphlets, advertisements, and by covering the local news, etc. Now, people will admire Menands and talk about it. That is what I would do if I were the mayor to help make the village become a better place.

Cerebral Palsy and communication devices!

By: Kadambari Suresh - 5th grade

There are many communication devices for people with Cerebral Palsy. The most common device is the communication board where a person points to a picture showing what he or she wants to do. The second device is a Medi-Talker where a person types the word out just like a regular computer, and the computer says the words out loud. A Medi-Talker can also save everyday phrases like 'What homework do I have today?!' and 'what's lunch today?'

Last but not least, there is a device called Minspeak, an online website as well as a digital device. The digital device is almost the exact same as the communication board. All you have to do is 'right click' a picture and it will say what the figurines! in the pictures are doing. The website shows you pictures and surrounds them with words that describe them. In conclusion, there are many different types of communication devices for people with Cerebral Palsy. I've named three of the devices that!



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"We are all connected by the internet, like neurons in a giant brain."
-Stephen Hawking

Evergreen Ashes

By : Suhana Kiran -5th grade

If I were a phoenix, I would dance at the break of dusk, emitting my fiery glow of soothing grace.

I would be floating up in the sunset sky, above a dark evergreen forest. I would make a soft swish, like the rustle of leaves on a bright Autumn day.

I would perform my dance for nobody except the swallowing sky, which seems to lift me as if I were a Blue Monarch butterfly sticking out its nectar-yellow tongue.

My glow would consume me, like my own gleaming sun of oranges, reds, and yellows.

The evergreens sway along. The moaning melody of the wind compliments me, as I continue my dance till the stroke of midnight.

When midnight shows its shallow face, I depart, my narrow wings shimmering with mysterious beauty. The soothing wind calms the evergreens, and they all seem to stare at me.

But then I am gone

now reborn,

in the ashes.



By: Shreya Sharata, 8 years



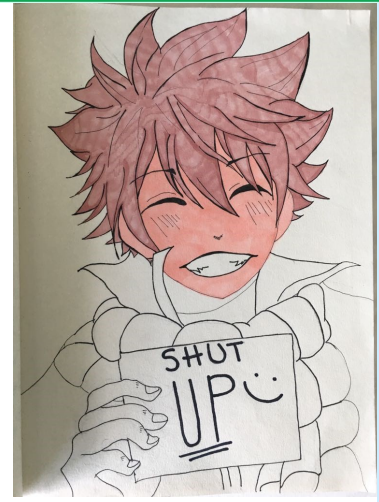
By: Shreya Sharata, 8 years



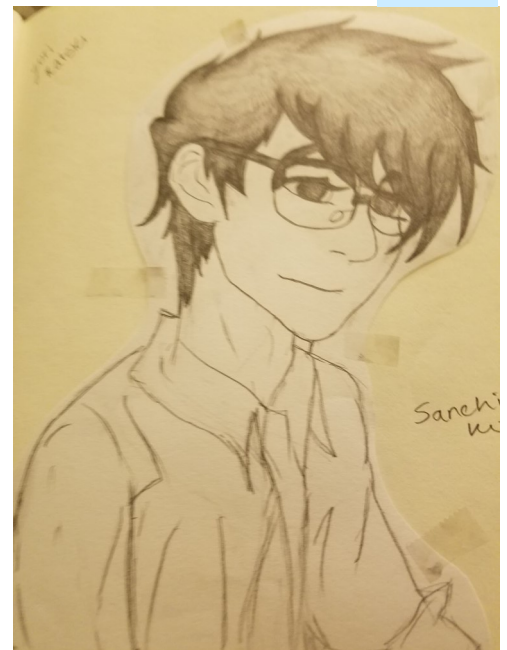
PC: Nilam Kumar

“Painting is silent poetry, and poetry is painting that speaks.”
- Plutarch

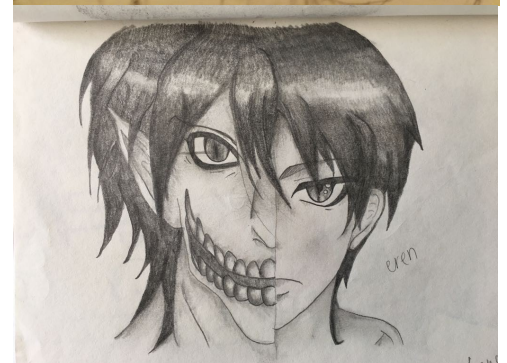
Drug Awareness poster—By: Sanvi Jaju 10yrs



By: Sunchita Kumar



By : Shreya Jirankali 12yrs



"I dream of painting and then I paint my dream."
-Vincent Van Gogh.

By:Nityasree Kaki 8yrs



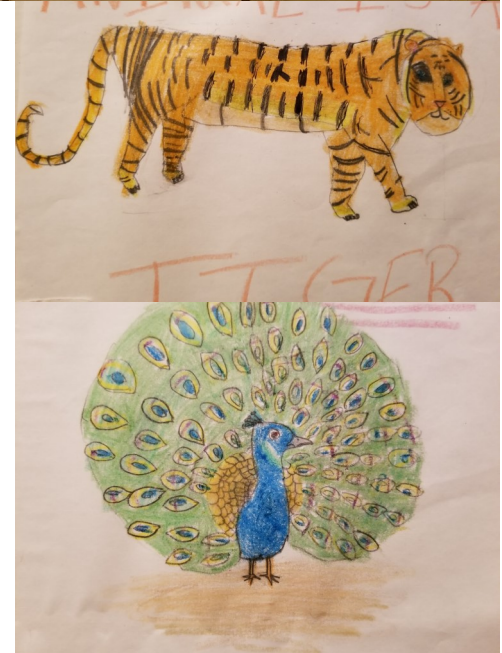
By: Vinishasree Thumilan 8 grade



By: Meghana Ramprasad 9 yrs



"India and its Accomplishers" -by Jeevika Benki, 10 years



"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up."
- Pablo Picasso

My Inner Orchestra

Poem by : Suhana Kiran -5th grade

If I were a piano, I would play "Smooth Sailing," sending peace throughout the world.

If I were frustration, my outrage would be strummed by the soulfull cello, emitting the deep timbre of its rich sound, to express my inner fury.

If I were sadness, the flute would gently play me, at the stroke of midnight, where the sky and sea collide, echoing Suhana's song.

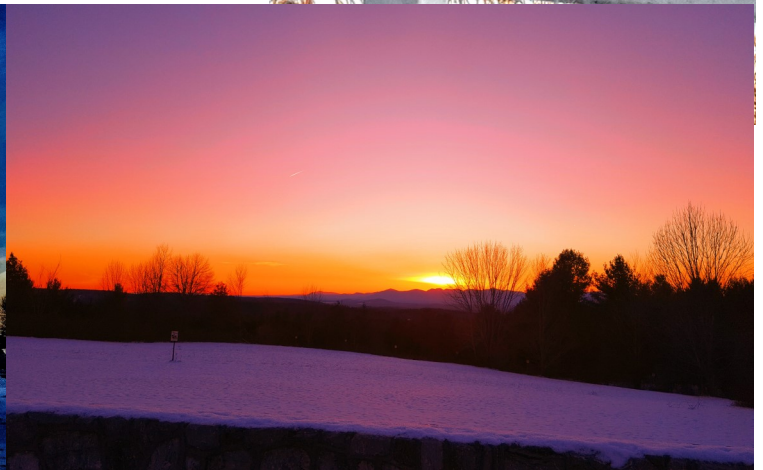
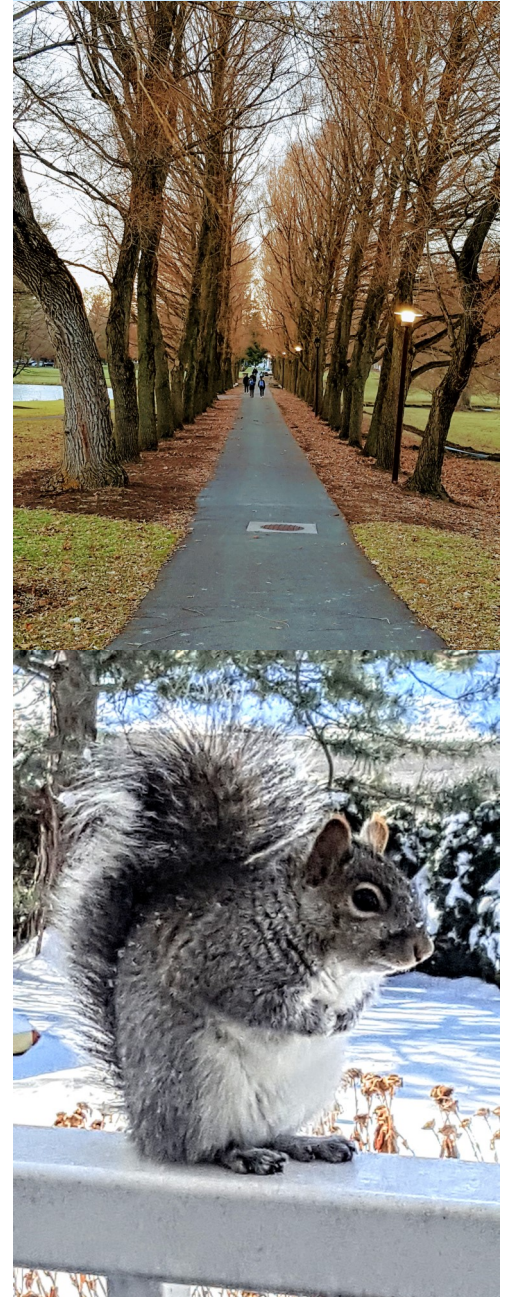
If I were wildly hyper, I'd be a xylophone, playing "Ice Cream" at the tip of noon, firing away all my rebellious energy.

If I were a sitar, my strings would vibrate "Welcome to New York," spreading medium-fast happiness, with the calming buzz of jawari, harmonizing the world through my 7 strings.

I have every feeling,
expressed by the power
of my inner
orchestra..



PC: Nilam Kumar



"Poetry is when an emotion has found its thought and the thought has found words."
- Robert Frost

Know your Language

By: Kavitha Muralimanohar, Albany.

Know your Language: When I say this, I simply mean that you talk in your mother tongue at home.

Why? What is the use of it when everyone around you is comfortable using some other language? How does this help you in building your personality? How does knowing your language help if you don't want to go back to your country? These are all common questions that often arise in our minds.

But before I answer your questions, let me take you to the small home where you and I belong.

Of the world's population of 7.6 billion, India has about 1.3 billion who speak nearly 1600 languages.

While 150 of these 1600 languages has a sizable speaking population, 21 are official languages and 13 of them are written in their own scripts. If your mother tongue is one of these 13 languages, you are very special. You have a treasure that cannot be stolen or destroyed. It can only grow bigger. You and I belong to this small and unique home.

Let me now answer those initial questions. You need to know and speak in your language because:

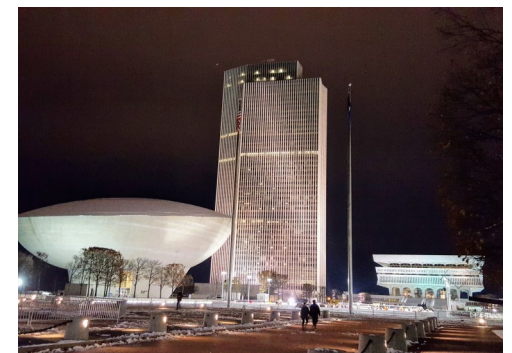
- You are among that 2% of the total population on this planet who has a direct and flawless access to your language through parents and grandparents.
- You know your language better than many around you.
- You need to know your ancestors and their persona better.
- You need to know your origin better.
- You need to know your native soil, tradition, and culture.
- You spread the essence of your language by speaking it.

The only responsibility you have is to speak the language. All the above reasons are given because language is a part of your identity. More importantly, I would say 'Know your language; talk your language' for one main reason and that is: "you connect to your people with heartfelt pride and emotions".

Now, what made me write this article?

Two years ago, we relocated from Bengaluru to Albany. My nine-year-old daughter came back from school one day and as usual, our conversation was about how the day went. In the middle of the conversation, she said, "Let's speak in Kannada at home." I thought she was not happy with my English accent. She then continued, "It is only at home where I can speak in Kannada daily." I sensed that she was missing a part of life which she wanted to decorate in her own language. So now we speak in our language at home. She puts all her emotions in the "bindas" way.

PC: Nilam Kumar



"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head.
If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart."

– Nelson Mandela

Same spot at the Crossings of Colonie,
but at different "**TIMES**" of the year!

By: Obla Vishvesh



“I didn’t choose photography, photography chose me.”
- Gerardo Suter

Winter Collections PC: Nilam Kumar



By : Nietu Marigowdara



By : Riya Karadge, 8yrs



By : Shreya Jirankali 12yrs



“The single most important component of a camera is the twelve inches behind it.”
-Ansel Adams

Who am I, Where am I?

By: Tanisha Muralimanohar

Down

1. I export silk to the world
2. I am known as the Hawkeye state
3. My name in Spanish means "snowcapped"
4. I am located in northwest Goa
5. The dance form of kathak took form in me
6. My name is based on the hindu goddess "Kali"

Across

1. My name means "Place of Kings"
2. I am physically away but united
3. The place where this magazine took birth
4. I am the garden city of India
5. I am the business center of this country
6. I am small but I rock

Challenge

I am the country most Asians want to explore

Q	K	A	L	B	A	N	Y	D	S	K
R	A	K	I	C	R	E	P	A	H	A
F	R	L	O	R	E	W	A	V	I	R
D	N	A	W	U	L	A	N	E	M	A
R	A	J	A	S	T	H	A	N	L	J
X	T	D	R	A	K	L	J	E	A	A
L	A	E	E	R	T	O	I	V	A	J
U	K	T	A	F	A	K	N	A	L	A
C	A	C	D	I	L	H	E	D	S	O
K	L	O	A	L	A	S	K	A	K	I
N	E	W	Y	O	R	K	C	I	T	Y
O	B	E	N	G	A	L	U	R	U	N
W	L	I	T	T	L	E	R	O	C	K

Challenge : U.S.A

Down: 1. Karnataka 2. Iowa 3. Nevada
4. Panaji 5. Lucknow 6. Shimla
Across: 1. Rajasthan 2. Alaska 3. Albany
4. Bengaluru 5. New York City 6. Little
Rock

Answers:

The more of them you take, the more you leave behind.

What are they?

Answer : footsteps.

TRICIA upcoming events**TRICITY INDIA ASSOCIATION***invites you to**Spring Festival of India***VENUE:**

Convention Center
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY

TIME & DATE:

10 AM to 7 PM Sunday
June 10, 2018

TICKETS:

\$3/Members
\$5/Non-Members
Kids under 12 are free



*Dances,
Music,
Food*

*Jewelry,
Clothes,
Booths*

For more information, please contact:

Event Coordinators: Basavaraj Benki, President: 518 522 0108 & Manoj Jain, Vice President: 518 961 3327

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Cultural Chair: Kalyan Ghule: 518 649 6883; Souvenir Chair: Venugopal Gunji: 703 459 8520

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✉ contact@triciany.org

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“There is no higher religion than human service.
To work for the common good is the greatest creed.”

- Woodrow T. Wilson



TRICITY INDIA ASSOCIATION

TRICIA PING PONG TOURNAMENT 2018



Saturday, May 12 & Sunday May 13, 2018

Register online at: www.triciany.org
Deadline to register May 5, 2018

VENUE:
Guilderland YMCA
250 Winding Brook Dr., Guilderland, NY 12084

Singles & Doubles in
Boys 12 & Under ; Girls 12 & Under
Boys 18 & Under ; Girls 18 & Under
Women's Open ; Men's Open
Mens 55+

TIME
May 12th: 8 am - 7 pm
May 13th: 8 am - 1 pm

ADMISSION FEE
Members: \$10/player/category
Non-Members: \$20/player/category




For more information, please contact:

TOURNAMENT COORDINATORS
 Ashok Adikoppula: 479 381 9554; Alim Samad: 518 488 7542; Haresh Bhatia: 518 878 8384;
 Geetha Srinivasan: 650 353 0765; Doug Gejay, YMCA: 518 456 3634; Minfeng Xu, CCC: 843 270 7499

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Kalyan Ghule



Venugopal Gunji



Praveen Karanjkar



Abdulrahman Moideen



Amrithesh Singh



Ravindra Vuppala

Precepts of Magazine:

What are the proposed release dates of this magazine?

The TRICIA Magazine will be released on last Sunday of every quarter.

The dates for this year 2018 are April 15, Jun 24, Sep 30 and Dec 30.

What are the proposed contents for this magazine?

Editorial | Short stories | Articles | Reports on recently completed events of TRICIA | Upcoming Events | Poems | Cartoons | Crosswords | Pictures | Paintings/Sketches | Achievers | Kids' Corner: Creative work by kids, Great achievers among kids will be appreciated | Women Forum | Youth Forum | Health, Wellness | Technology Corner | Indian Business Corner | Guest Articles | Letter to Editors | Ads from business will be used as fillers | Recipes | Travel experiences, Travelogues, Travel tips

What's the language for this magazine?

As of now, we are starting with only English language.

What are the deadlines to submit the contents for this magazine?

The deadline for submitting the content is 15th of last month of every quarter.

They are March 15, Jun 15, Sept 15 and Dec 15.

Your article should be max 2 pages or less than 1000 words.

Do you publish Ads of businesses? What are the prices for Ads?

Yes. You can promote your local business through our magazine.

The prices for Ads are \$50/quarter page, \$100/half page and \$150/full page.

What are the guidelines for articles?

The content must be nonpolitical and nonreligious. The author owns the responsibility for the content and TRICIA does not necessarily subscribe to the views expressed in the content. Please note, there is no compensation for contributing written material.

Please send your articles/short stories/poems/paintings/pictures/cartoons etc., to magazine@triciany.org, Visit <https://triciany.org/magazine/>

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“Leadership is not about the next election, it's about the next generation.”

- Simon Sinek