



Bichitra Celebrates Durga Puja Beer Middle School, Warren MI, October 10th-12th, 2008



Message from the President

Dear Friends,

We welcome you and your family to attend the Durga Puja which will be held on October 10-12, 2008, at the Beer Middle School, 3200 Martin Road, Warren, MI 48092. The Durga Puja Chair Sudipta Datta with the help of many others have arranged a Grand Puja Ceremony with excellent cultural program as well as sumptuous food. Under the current economic condition of Michigan we are pleased to let you know that we have been able to maintain the same registration fee as last year. Please review more information on the Puja in this newsletter.

August 16-17th Path Bhaban, the Bengali learning center of Bichitra celebrated 25 years. There were presentations and discussions on challenges and opportunities. There were cultural programs by the students of Path Bhaban, and there was obviously great food.

The Social Services Unit is organizing two fundraising events. The first one is during the Puja, where you are encouraged to get your family portrait taken. The second one is in November, where the Social Services Unit is organizing a cultural program for one evening.

Well, I won't take much of your time. But I ask you to read this newsletter carefully, as we have all the news of the Durga Puja. Also visit our website www.bichitra.org for more information.

Schedule for Durga Puja:

Friday

Bodhan 7:30pm
Dinner 8:30pm to 10:00pm

Saturday

Puja 9:30am
Anjali 10:30am to 11:30am
Prasad & Lunch 11:00am to 12:30pm
Cultural Program 12:30pm to 5:20pm
Puja & Arati 5:20pm to 6:00pm
Dinner 6:00pm to 7:30pm
Cultural Program 7:30pm to 10:45pm

Sunday

Puja 10:00am
Anjali 11:00am
Prasad & Lunch 11:30am to 1:00pm
Cultural Program 1:00pm to 5:00pm
Arati 5:00pm to 6:00pm
Bisarjan 6:00pm
Dinner 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Please take advantage of the Early Registration Plan, for Durga Puja. But your payment must be post marked by September 26, 2008. After that date Regular Registration plan applies.

Please Mail your Payment to:

PO Box 4874 Troy MI 48099-4874 by 9/26/2008.

Durga Puja Subscription Schedule	Early Registration By 9/26/08	Regular Registration After 9/26/08
Saturday-Sunday		
Member Family	\$115	\$125
Member Single	\$80	\$85
Non Member Family	\$135	\$145
Non Member Single	\$90	\$95
Student Family	\$65	\$65
Student Single	\$50	\$50
Saturday Only		
Member Family	\$70	\$75
Member Single	\$55	\$60
Non Member Family	\$90	\$95
Non Member Single	\$65	\$70
Student Family	\$50	\$50
Student Single	\$30	\$30
*Friday/Sunday Only		
Member Family	\$65	\$70
Member Single	\$50	\$55
Non Member Family	\$80	\$85
Non Member Single	\$60	\$65
Student Family	\$45	\$45
Student Single	\$25	\$25

* Registration for Friday is gratis with at least Sat or Sun registration

Directions to Durga Puja Location:

From West, North or South

Take I-75(N or S)/ I-96 to 1-696 East,
Exit 20 (Dequinder/Ryan Rd)

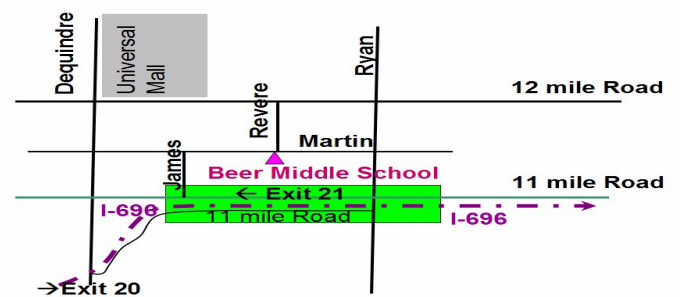
From exit ramp continue on 11 Mile road (1.2 Mile) to take left on Ryan Rd. (0.5 mile)

Take left on Martin Rd (0.4 mile) to 3200 Martin Rd (on your Left)

From East

Take I-696 West to exit 21 towards E 11 Mile Rd (0.3 mile)

Turn right on James St (0.5 mile) then turn right on Martin Rd (0.1 mile) (School is on your right)





Durga Puja Chair Sudipta Datta and his team members are working hard to present a Grand Puja Ceremony with excellent cultural program as well as sumptuous food. The Team sincerely welcomes your help with any of its activities. Please remember that the organization and its well being depend on the active participation of its members and there is no better way to be involved than volunteering for Durga Puja. To make the entire Puja event a grand success, you can help in the kitchen area - arranging and helping in the preparation of the food, serving dinner and cleaning up. Help is also needed for preparation of Puja Bhog, coordination of 'Pujor Jogar' and 'Eta, Seta'. You can also help as a stage hand during the entertainment programs. And, most importantly, you can help Bichitra in the Sponsorship and Fund-raising Activity. Your participation in the Puja committee and the Puja celebrations is the key to the success of the Durga Puja event. Please contact Sudipta Datta at (248) 528-0626 (Sudipta_datta@yahoo.com) for volunteering activity.

Durga Puja Itemized Sponsorship

Bichitra encourages patrons to sponsor various Puja items and events. Individuals may singly or jointly sponsor the flowers used for Puja, the fruits for the Prasad, an item on the dinner, part of cultural program and/or building rental. Each sponsor will be gratefully and properly acknowledged.

Sponsorship helps to ease the financial impact and enhance the overall quality of activities. Your help is extremely important to make the Puja celebration a success. All contributions will be tax deductible. The following is the cost distribution for the sponsorship items:

Protima Transportation \$300; Protima Decoration \$300; Puja Fruits \$300; Puja Flowers \$300; Children's Pizza \$450 Saturday Lunch \$2000; Saturday Dinner \$4500; Sunday Lunch \$1500; Sunday Dinner \$3000; Brochure Printing \$1500; Cultural Program \$4000; Building Rental \$6000.

Please visit www.bichitra.org for more information on the Durga Puja.

Path Bhaban Silver Jubilee News

Path Bhaban the Bengali Learning Center of Bichitra celebrated its Silver Jubilee during the weekend August 16-17, 2008. On August 16th, Bichitra President Pranab Saha opened the Ceremony, followed by US, India and Bangladesh National Anthems. A Minute of Silence was observed in the memory of Path Bhaban past student Soumitra Chakraborty, who lost his life in a tragic accident at a Metro Park, last year.

Path Bhaban hosted a seminar on Values and Challenges of Establishing and Maintaining Bengali Learning Centers in North America. Chief Guest Mekhala Banerjee opened seminar and talked on Bengali Center in the Chicago Area. Pulak Chakraborty provided an update on the Canton Center and Nilotpal Bhattacharyya discussed about the Ann Arbor Center. Satyen Basu, Shampa Ghosh, Shampa Mukherjee, Maityeyee Paul, Mousumi Majumdar, Suranjita Dhar, Suparna De, Sudipta Datta, and Pranab Saha discussed different aspects of Path Bhaban's success and challenges in operating the Bengali Learning Center. All Speakers talked on various challenges.

Path Bhaban Alumni held a Discussion on Golden Memories and Incorporation of Positive Improvements. Avik Basu, Deepa Nandy, Rishi Bhattacharyya, Sagnik De, Saikat Mukherjee and Amar Basu participated. Invited Agneesh Banerjee provided his viewpoints also. Avik moderated the discussions. The alumni expressed their pride to be in Path Bhaban and gave various viewpoints on enjoyable and difficult situations. They suggested on various improvements. Amar gave a final synopsis. This portion of the program was very interesting.

Path Bhaban Students Parents Teachers [SPT] Groups summarized Seminar and Alumni Discussions. The SPT Groups as well as Bichitra Education Committee accepted the challenges and pledged to incorporate the suggestions as much as possible.

The cultural program was coordinated by Swati Chakraborty, with the help of many parents. All Troy and Novi students participated in Stotra, Song, Dance, Recitation, Drama and others. Song Offering "Ananda Loke" was performed in respect of the founder Late Manju Basu. Riaa Dutta, Amika Nandi and Sarit Dhar were special performers.

Saturday program ended with a sumptuous dinner followed by an Award Ceremony. The dignitaries, guests, students, alumni, teachers and directors were recognized and tokens of appreciation were presented. There were Displays of project and art work from past and present students. Closing remarks and vote of thanks was conducted by Pranab Saha.

Sunday was the Clinton River Boat Cruise day – Path Bhaban's field trip. A total of 61 Path Bhaban persons enjoyed the Cruise. Good food and Songs were part of it. The program ended with promise to continue.

Go to www.bichitra.org for more on this.

Bichitra Social Services Unit News

Bichitra Social Services Unit (BSSU) has always been committed to helping those less fortunate. In past years, Bichitra has donated to projects designed to assist underprivileged young girls living in Kolkata. The funds have been used for their education, nutrition, cultural and vocational training. We wish to continue this tradition and our target is \$7000 for the year. We have already collected \$2100 and need your generosity to raise the rest.

During Durga Puja, BSSU will be setting up a photography booth. Please come ready to have your picture taken with family and friends. The proceeds from your purchase of such pictures will be donated dollar-for-dollar to charity.

Also during Durga Puja, you will hear more about a fundraiser we are planning for November 15th. Please mark your calendar and plan on spending this Saturday evening at the Troy Community Center. Again, revenue from ticket sales will be given dollar-for-dollar to charity.

Donations to BSSU remain tax deductible. Only through your participation can Bichitra continue to work toward a better community, both here and abroad.

Thank you.

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visit <http://bichitra.org/> for details

Traditional Durga Puja, delicious Bengali & Indian food, musical extravaganza and more ...



Santoor Recital by Maestro Pandit Tarun Bhattacharya
(<http://tarunji.com>)

Tabla accompaniment and various percussion solo
by Abhishek Basu a disciple of Pandit Shankar Ghosh
and Bikram Ghosh (<http://abhishekbasu.com>)



North Indian classical vocal by sensational
Sounak Chattopadhyay—an exponent of Kirana
Gharana (<http://sounak.com>)

Light classical, modern and pop songs by Sumana
Chakrabarty—a disciple of Pandit Ajay Chakrabarty
(<http://dreamzindia.com/sumanachakrabarty>)



A hilarious Bengali play, Naatjamai
— by Sudha Bhattacharyya (director) and his team





The 2008-09 Durga Puja Cultural Program at a Glance

Saturday (October 11th) afternoon:

Noted Jokes with words of wisdom and wit by Parom Bonnerjee

Dance by Rachna Kumar's group

Performances by Troy and Novi Path Bhaban students

A hilarious Bengali play "Naat Jamai" – directed by Sudha Bhattacharyya

Saturday (October 11th) evening:

Aagomoni – Celebration of Goddess Durga's arrival among us by Jhankar

(lead vocalist – Bani Mittra)

North Indian classical vocal by Sounak Chatterjee

Different percussion solo by Abhishek Basu

Santoor Recital by Maestro Pandit Tarun Bhattacharya

Sunday (October 12th) afternoon:

An exciting debate on a current topic by high school students

Dance by Sharmistha Deb

Recitation by Uday Shankar Das and Uchchhas Group

Variety of songs by Susanta Sarkar, Antara Group, and Riaa Dutta

Songs by Tapanprovo Dey

Light classical, modern and pop songs by Sumana Chakrabarty