

# MY LOHANA NEWS



## UNITY IS STRENGTH

[www.mylohana.com](http://www.mylohana.com)

LCFT - Lohana Charitable Foundation of Toronto

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# WELCOME INTRODUCTION

Dear Community Members,

Namaste and welcome to our fifth edition of the LCFT newsletter. This newsletter will be published periodically to provide news about the Lohana Charitable Foundation of Toronto. Please ask your Lohana family and friends to subscribe as members.

This has been a very hot and humid Summer and we hope everyone enjoyed the vacation time off with their families and friends. With Fall just round the corner, you're likely getting back to work routine and the kids are now back to school or University. We wish you all every success as this new chapter begins.

As a community, we have a few wonderful upcoming events to look forward to, namely Navratri, Laxmi & Chopda Pujan, Diwali Gala Dinner & Dance, and our New Year's Eve Party. On behalf of every member of the LCFT Executive Board, we personally invite and welcome you, your family and friends to attend each of these auspicious events.



## Meet & Greet at These Events!

### Navratri

October 20<sup>th</sup> (Sat)  
(Dance the Night Away)

### Laxmi & Chopda Pujan

November 7<sup>th</sup> (Wed)  
(For all – Start the new Chapter with Prayers)

### Diwali Gala Dinner & Dance

November 10<sup>th</sup> (Sat)  
(Celebrate a fun filled Festival of Lights)

### New Year's Eve Party

December 31<sup>st</sup> (Mon)  
(Celebrate the New Year with Us)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NAVRATRI – GARBA WITH DISCO DANDIYA



- Date:** Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 (save this date in your calendar)  
**Time:** 7:30pm - Midnight  
**Location:** Meadowvale Secondary School  
**Address:** 6700 Edenwood Dr., Mississauga, ON, L5N 3B2  
**Dress:** Recommended to dress in white or colorful traditional Indian outfit and please bring your own dandiya  
**Entry:** Members - Free  
Non-Members - \$5 Per Person

Get dressed in traditional style to join us this Sharad Purnima, for the best of your favorite garba and dandiya! This year we will be presenting New Music with Goonjan Entertainment presenting vocalist Kirit Bhai Mistry and his wonderful band, as well as a special half-hour of Disco Dandiya with DJ Bhagirath Raichada.

**Mithai Competition:** We welcome young and young at heart to prepare mouth watering sweets for our Mithai Competition. Show our judges your creativity and what tasty treats you can make as there are prizes on the line to be won!



# MITHAI COMPETITION RULES

Get ready this year to prepare mouthwatering sweets for our Mithai Competition which will take place during the Navratri Sharad Purnima Garba day. Get creative and impress our judges with prizes to be won. Below are the details for the Competition:

## *Competition Rules*

- ❖ Mithai should be one item home made by the single participant only
- ❖ Vegetarian & eggless
- ❖ Dry (i.e. no raso or liquid milk, etc.)
- ❖ Give your Mithai a Unique Name to provide on entry
- ❖ Present in a decorative manner on a single plate

## *Competition Categories*

- ❖ 15 Years & Above
- ❖ Under 15 Years

## *Prizes*

- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> Prize for Taste & Presentation in both Categories
- ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize for Taste & Presentation in both Categories

## *Entry Deadline*

- ❖ All Mithai entries to be brought to the Navratri event and submitted between 7.15pm and 8pm cut off time.



For more information contact

**Kajal Gadhia** at 647-878-0978

# Diwali Laxmi & Chopda Puja



- Date:** Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 **(save the date in your calendar)**
- Time:** 7:10pm arrivals to set up. 7:30pm Sharp – Puja will commence
- Location:** Avani Event Centre
- Address:** 8400 Jane St, Vaughan, ON, L4K 4L8
- Dinner:** Delicious meal catered by Avani Asian Indian Bistro will be served after the Puja.
- Entry:** Members - Free  
Non-Members - \$10 Per Person

Come join us and begin your Diwali and New Year celebrations with the blessings of Maa Laxmiji and Lord Ganesha. Diwali - the Festival of Lights is celebrated over Five days (Dhan Teras, Kali Chaudas, Diwali, Bestu Varsh and Bhai Dooj). Laxmi Puja is conducted on the Diwali day. Puja is offered to Maa Laxmiji, Lord Ganesha and Lord Kuber. **Through this puja devotees are blessed with Prosperity, Wealth, Health and Longevity.**

The Puja will be offered with Kishor Bhai Jani

***This Puja can be done by everyone and not just business owners conducting Chopda Puja***

We therefore warmly welcome everyone to participate, including children, young families, employees and business owners to come and participate in the Puja and have your New Year begin with blessings and continued success in a colorful way!

# Diwali Gala Dinner & Dance

LCFT welcomes you to an explosive night of Music & Masti. Join us this Diwali with Family and Friends to celebrate our very own amazing Festival of Lights in true Indian style!

*The evening is on a Saturday night, at a new venue, and introduces Live Music, Celebrity Magician & Illusionist, Indian Dances, Finger-Licking Indian Cuisine, and a Fabulous World Class DJ to dance the night away!*

Don't miss out on this event – Tickets will be made available to purchase on a first come first serve basis, from October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. Look out on our website for further information from this date.



**Date:** Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (save the date in your calendar)

**Time:** 6:00pm - 6:30pm- Meet & Greet

6:30pm – Onwards - Gala Function of entertainment, dinner and dance

**Location:** Avani Event Centre

**Address:** 8400 Jane St, Vaughan, ON L4K 4L8

**Dinner:** Delicious full course cuisine catered by Avani Asian Indian Bistro

**Dress:** Dress smart to impress!

**Entry Fee:** LCFT Members - \$50 Per Person

Non-Members - \$60 Per Person

Children under 12 - \$25 Per Child

(Please appreciate that we have kept the ticket costs as low as possible with increasing overheads and labor costs of suppliers, to book a hall for a Saturday night, provide top class entertainment, and high-quality full course cuisine meals – we trust that you understand this and will make every attempt to join us).



## RECENT CULTURAL EVENTS –

### JANMASHTAMI



Janmashtami is celebrated with all fervor and heightened spirits throughout the country. It marks the birth anniversary of **Lord Krishna** who is believed to be an incarnation of Lord Vishnu as per Hindu religion.

The festival celebration takes place on the eight day of the dark fortnight of the month of Shravana (August-September) as per Hindu calendar. Krishna was the eighth son of Devaki and Vasudeva. King Kansa ruled the Yadava province “Mathura” and a prophecy predicted

the death of the king by the eight sons born to his sister. Kansa killed all the six children given birth by Devaki after imprisoning the couple. The seventh one, Balarama was secretly handed over to Rohini. The eighth child was Krishna. Vasudeva escaped from the prison the night Krishna was born and he was handed over to his foster parents, Yasoda and Nanda in Gokula.

The incarnation of Krishna marks the end of darkness and rooting out of the evil forces dominating the earth. It is said that he was a true Brahmin who had reached Nirvana. Krishna is known to be blue in color where blue like the sky marks the infinite potential and power of the Lord. His yellow clothes represent the color of earth when introduced into a colorless flame. A pure, infinite consciousness was born as Krishna to eliminate the evil and revive the goodness.



*Happy  
Janmashtami*

**The enchanting music of the flute played by Krishna is symbolic of divinity**

Hindus celebrate the festival of Janmashtami over two days at temples, homes and community centers. A fast is kept by the devotees 24 hrs prior to celebrations that begin at midnight. The occasion is marked by placing a statue of the deity in the cradle and bathing it in panchamrit made up from milk, ghee, honey, gangajal and tulsi leaves. This panchamrit is distributed as prasad to the devotees.

Often a procession of a baby placed and rocked in a cradle is carried through the crowd. Chanting of Kirtans, Aartis reciting verses and presenting flowers is a common sight in the temples and other places where worship is going on. Decoration and the waving lights that cover the temples is a marvelous scene in the night.

## RAKSHA BANDHAN (RAKHI)

The bonding between a brother and a sister is simply unique and beyond description in words. The relationship between siblings is extraordinary and is given importance in every part of the world.

This relationship is signified by the festival of "Raksha Bandhan" dedicated for the sibling love and care of a sister and brother.

This is a special Hindu festival which is celebrated all over the world to symbolize the close bond between brothers and sisters. The occasion of Raksha Bandhan is celebrated on the full moon day of the Hindu lunar-solar calendar in the month of Shrawana which typically falls in the month of August.

The festival is made up of two words, namely "Raksha" and "Bandhan." As per the Sanskrit terminology, the occasion means "the tie or knot of protection" where "Raksha" stands for the protection and "Bandhan" signifies the verb to tie.





# ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES



Your membership dues for the entire year are only \$50 per family household (Jan 1<sup>st</sup> to Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018\*)

We humbly request you subscribe for your annual membership to support your community, and to take advantage of all the benefits.

**Membership dues are payable annually** by everyone who wish to receive LCFT communications, reduced event rates, and member benefits as outlined on our website including the upcoming benefit of the Digital Lohana Members Phone Directory App.

Annual membership dues are requested also by Lifetime Members who traditionally were required to pay only 50 % of the annual dues. Following a Special General Meeting on 25th March 2018, it was approved by the majority, including Lifetime Members, that for this year only Lifetime Members pay the full amount to enable us invest the funds in new technology.

Note that annual dues were traditionally collected at Diwali, towards the end of the year, which made it very challenging for the committees to budget and manage events. In order to make it easier and more feasible to organize our community events, we have changed the system so that annual dues are now collected at the beginning of the year (Post AGM), hence the **Membership Year runs from Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2018**(\*Sorry - Error in past newsletter).

Annual dues are required to cover the costs of communications, event management, our membership directory, new technology, bereavement support, and more. As a member, you are privileged to discounted rates and many subsidized rates for our events, which we encourage you to attend to sustain a level of community spirit and belonging.

**We request the support of all Lohanas and friends to pay their membership dues in a timely manner.** Kindly register your current contact and household details using the form on the membership page of our website, or by clicking on the “Member Directory” button below and completing the form to verify your membership this year and current information for our new 2018 digital directory:

**MEMBER DIRECTORY**

# ANNUAL SPONSORS

**A Big “Thank You”  
to our sponsors and donors for their support to the community**



## PLATINUM SPONSORS AND DONORS

- ❖ 1 x Anonymous, (Toronto, Canada)



## GOLD SPONSORS AND DONORS

- ❖ ArcPro Media Inc., Ramesh & Meena,  
and the Kantaria Family, (Toronto, Canada, & London, England)

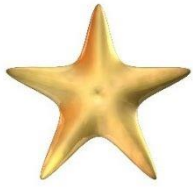


## SILVER SPONSORS AND DONORS

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- ❖ Madhu and Ila Lakhani, (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Amar & Anjana Popat. (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ State Farm, Nina Ramano Insurance Inc., (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Hardeep Rehal, Epic Health & Beauty, (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ 3 x Anonymous, (Toronto, Canada)



# ANNUAL SPONSORS



## BRONZE SPONSORS AND DONORS

- ❖ Ashit and Deval Chandarana & Family, (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Goonjan Entertainment & E-Motion Photography, Kirit Mistry
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- ❖ Arun & Rashmi Raja, (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Bhanu, Leena and Neil Raja, (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Remax All Stars, Chandrakant and Kokila Sachdev, Shretan Sachdev & Family, (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Grand Oaks Orthodontics, Dr. Mandeep & Rohini Sood, (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ 4 x Anonymous, (Toronto, Canada)



## MEDALLION SPONSORS AND DONORS

- ❖ Amar and Kajal Gadhia, (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Dinesh and Nita Jobanputra (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Bipin and Kinnari Lakhani (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Purvi Rajani (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Nima Rajani (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Kiran and Krupa Rajdev (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Narendra and Anjana Sachdev, (Toronto, Canada)
- ❖ Gujarati Foods, Viral Patel, , (Toronto, Canada)

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**To support the LCFT community, kindly consider sponsoring or donating with one of the programs on the next page.**

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# ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

The current annual sponsorships are available for corporates, individuals or families to contribute towards supporting our community

Annual Sponsorship runs from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 to 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019.

SPONSORSHIP LEVEL	PLATINUM	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	MEDALLION
SPONSORSHIP	\$5,000+	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
INCLUDED IN PLAN	\$1,350+ value	\$950+ value	\$450+ value	\$270+ value	\$181 value
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP	Yes \$50 value	Yes \$50 value	Yes \$50 value	Yes \$50 value	Yes \$50 value
FAMILY BOWLING PASSES	4 \$100 value	4 \$100 value	2 \$50 value	-	-
LCF DIWALI GALA DINNER	20 tickets \$900 value	10 tickets \$450 value	4 Tickets \$180 value	2 Tickets \$90 value	-
HANUMAN JAYANTI & ARTI SPONSORSHIP	\$51 value	\$51 value	\$51 value	\$51 value	\$51 value
PICNIC FAMILY 4 PASS	\$40 value	\$40 value	\$40 value	\$40 value	\$40 value
YOUTH DAY (Transferred)	2 Diwali Tickets	2 Diwali Tickets	1 Diwali Tickets	-	-
NAVRATRI FAMILY PASS	\$40 value + \$20 Snacks	\$40 value + \$20 Snacks	\$40 value	\$40 value	\$40 value
NEW YEARS EVE	2 Tickets \$100 value	2 Tickets \$100 value	-	-	-
WEBSITE LOGO PLACED	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
WEBSITE ADVERT PLACED	500 words	250 words	100 words	50 words	-
NEWSLETTER LOGO PLACED	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
EVENT BANNER LOGO PLACED	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
LCF FACEBOOK ADVERT PLACED	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-

- Note: LCFT reserve the right to change event pricing and/or to cancel events. Therefore, the value of each event may change without any refunds being offered.

For further details or to order a sponsorship package, please [visit our website](#), email us at [info@mylohana.com](mailto:info@mylohana.com) or contact one of our Executive Committee members (see last page).

# BASEBALL – HOW WELL DO U KNOW THE BLUE JAYS?

Another season of the Toronto Blue Jays is just about to finish with some great baseball having been played!! Let's look back over the years and find out a thing or two you may or may not have known.

**Okay Blue Jays, LET'S! PLAY! BALL!**

## 1. FIRST GAME

Founded in 1977, the Toronto Blue Jays (or simply the Jays) have been around for 38 years. They played their first game on April 7, 1977 against the Chicago White Sox at Exhibition Stadium in Toronto before a crowd of 44,649 sports fans. The Jays won that game 9-5 even though there was a bit of a snowstorm that started right before the game did!

## 2. BACK TO BACK CHAMPIONS

The Blue Jays were back-to-back World Series champions in the 1992 and 1993 seasons. Since then the Jays haven't been able to qualify for the playoffs (that's 21 consecutive seasons) until recently when they secured their spot in the 2015 playoffs!

## 3. GO CANADA

The Blue Jays are the first and only team outside of the USA to appear in, and win, the World Series

## 4. BLUE JAYS MASCOTS

BJ Birdy, the first Blue Jays mascot, made his first appearance in the 1979 season. He remained the team's mascot for 20 years but was replaced in 1999. Late in the 2000 season Jays fans were introduced to a new pair of mascots named Ace and Diamond - until 2003 when Diamond was removed by the team. Ace has remained the mascot ever since.

## 5. A BLUE JAY IN THE HALL OF FAME

Former Blue Jay and second baseman, Roberto Alomar, was the first Major League Baseball player inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame because of his service as a Blue Jay. His retired number 12, which is also the first number to be retired by the Blue Jays, hangs above the video board in the Rogers Centre in Toronto.

## 6. THE TORONTO BLUES?

When Toronto was awarded a baseball franchise in 1976 they needed a name for their new team. They decided to hold a "Name the Team" contest and were swamped with over 30,000 entries that produced over 4,000 individual team names. The Board of directors narrowed down the list to the best 10 and in the end, they picked the "Blue Jays" even though the most popular choice was the "Blues." But since the University of Toronto already had a "Blues" sports team, the Blue Jays it was! We can all thank Dr. Mills of Etobicoke, Ontario for submitting the name of the team that we still scream out at games - **"Let's go Blue Jays!"**

# LOHANA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION OF TORONTO

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**Adelaide Post Station**

**Toronto, ON**

**M5C 2K3**

**CANADA**

**E-MAIL:**

**[info@mylohana.com](mailto:info@mylohana.com)**

**WEBSITE:**

**[www.mylohana.com](http://www.mylohana.com)**

## **MEMBERSHIP & SPONSORSHIP CONTACTS:**

President	Mitesh Kantaria	T: 905-965-6869
Vice President	Deval Chandarana	T: 905-924-3060
Treasurer	Sheetal Dave	T: 416-818-8741
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Communications	Sejal Thakrar	
Board Officer	Alka Panchmatia	
Board Officer	Amar Gadhia	
Board Officer	Hetal Kara	
Board Officer	Mehul Panchmatia	
Board Officer	Sharmil Mithia	

## We're on the Web!

See us at:

**[www.mylohana.com](http://www.mylohana.com)**



**LOHANA CANADA**



**@LOHANACANADA**

Special thanks to **Sanjay Dave** for our Newsletter Photography, and to **all our spouses and children** for their continued support and seva.

For comments and articles, please contact our Newsletter Editors, **Amar Gadhia or Mitesh Kantaria**