



**Dear Patrons, Members & Well-wishers, Namaste!**

**भारत के ७५वे स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर आपको अनेको बधाई | Wishing you all a very happy 75<sup>th</sup> India's Independence Day.**

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**New school session is here.** With an [internal CDC document](#) revealing how easily the [highly contagious Delta variant can spread](#) among both vaccinated and unvaccinated people, please continue to extend the right measures, required to break the COVID-19 chain.

Hindus of Greater Houston has been active in leading the events while retaining the community safety as its topmost priority. Accordingly, board is staying current with infections in Greater Houston area and conducting events by following CDC/local guidelines through masking, social distancing, vaccine advocacy and prioritizing online platforms, as the situation demands.

**Hindu-Heritage-Sunday-Schools opens for registrations:**

With 2021-22 school year starting, Hindu Heritage Schools, at many temples are open for registrations. Following links to familiarize.

- [Arya Samaj Greater Houston - DAV Sanskriti School](#)
- [Sri Meenakshi Temple- Vedic Heritage School](#)
- [Chinmay Mission- Bal Vihar](#)
- [ISKCON Houston – Sunday School](#)
- [Vallabh Vidya Mandir](#)
- [Gayatri Chetna Centre – Bal Samskar Shala](#)

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**HGH plans celebrates Janmashtami at VPSS Haveli**

**HGH invites all community members to celebrate Janmashtami at VPSS**

Haveli, 11715 Village Belfort Drive on SUN, 4-Sept.,2021. With the backdrop of COVID cases increasing, organizing committee is finalizing the program and would communicate soon.

**Children's Costume contest would continue to be "Online" this year.** With the theme as **"Sri Krishna - Gokul to Kurukshetra"**,

Dress your Kids as per theme with unique and novel idea, **Send 1 Photo or Video** (max. 1 minute), in an **e-mail to [info@hindusofhouston.org](mailto:info@hindusofhouston.org)**, latest by **TUE, 31-Aug, 2021**. Please make sure to mention the following:

- Name, Age of the participant
- Parent's Name, Mail & Contact #
- Character chosen /Description

Entries would be judged in 4 different age groups. Age 0-3, 4-6, 7-10 and 11-16 Yrs. One Best among all, in each age group, will be recognized and pictures will be published in local newspapers/HGH website.

Should you have questions, Please reach out to Shital Rathi (832) 860-6934, Rachana Shah (713) 256-7242

*Note: By entering the contest, entrants agree that entries can be used by Hindus of Greater Houston for publishing in the HGH Website/Youtube/newspapers Only, All winners and Group photo of all participants and waiver of any liability.*

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### **HGH with Arya Samaj organizes blood drive**

HGH with Arya Samaj Greater Houston, **14375 Schiller Rd, Houston, TX 77082** is organizing the annual blood drive on Saturday, September 11, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. [Sign Up Here](#) , Enter Sponsor Code: V567.

Should you have questions, please reach out to Gaytri Kapoor (713) 791-7723 [gkapoor2@nmdp.org](mailto:gkapoor2@nmdp.org)

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### **Hindu Heritage Youth Camp completes its 38<sup>th</sup> year successfully**

After a virtual camp last year, the road to 2021-HHYC-in-person camp has not been easy for a multitude of reasons, yet HHYC team took on this challenge & while maintaining all COVID-10 protocols, completes the camp successfully at Victory Camp in Alvin, Texas. In the future, HHYC is looking forward to having a permanent home of their own at Texas Hindu Campsite, Columbus, Texas, it is currently in the pre-development phase but is filled with potential to become a new gathering ground for the large Hindu community in Texas for generations to come.

The directors for HHYC 2021 were Shamal Shah and Ranjan Veludandi,

former campers and counselors. Shamal, son of Nisha and Rajiv Shah, a UT Austin graduate, and this was his second year directing. Ranjan, son of Shilpi and Raju Veludandi, a senior at UT Austin and was a first year director.

[Read More Here](#)

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### **Houston Police Cadets Get a Primer On Hinduism**

60+ young cadets of the Houston Police Department's Class of 2021 were introduced to the core principles of Hinduism through a series of presentations and lectures recently at Vallabh Priti Seva Samaj (VPSS) in a reach-out initiative, led by Rasesh Dalal & Manisha Gandhi.

In the culturally diverse Houston community, introduction to the Hindu faith is a step forward to help HPD understand and support the members of the community that they serve.

[Read More Here.](#)

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### **Ram Navami Youth Speech Contest**

On Ram Navami, with the intent of Hindu youth reflect and learn from Ramayan, HGH organized a speech contest for participants, ages 10 to 20 years, with the theme as "Ramo Vighrahan Dharma" (Sri Ram is the embodiment of Dharma). Greater Houston temple organizations were requested to nominate young representatives and young Hindus came forward and displayed great reflections of Sri Ram's character and everything he stood for, in their speeches. Few learnings from our young dharma ambassadors:

1. Shi Ram lived a life to express not impress - *Anusha Satyanarayana*
2. Sri Ram proved how to live a perfect life in an imperfect world, without passing up on morals - *Riya Shah*
3. It's "14- years of tapas", that transformed "Prince Ram" to "Maryada Purushottam Bhagwan Ram" - *Stawya Agarwal*
4. Sri Ram spread the dharma of the soul, distinctly different form the dharma of body - *Shiv Shah*
5. Sri Ram is an "undisputed standard of ideal", according to Sanathan dharma - *Anjali Aggarwal*
6. Sri Ram demonstrated "leadership with empathy" in situations, dealing with Sugreev and Vibheeshan - *Kritika Dwarakanath*
7. Sri Ram displays how "family & friends are important in life", in situations when he receives support from Laxman & Hanuman - *Krupa Rathi*

8. Sri Ram never deviated from the ideal path either in his thoughts or action, epitomizing him as the embodiment of Dharma - *Vipashchit Nanda*

Zoom recording of all the speeches at HGH's Youtube channel [Here](#). Read more [Here](#).

### HGH Showcases Youth Yogaasana - International Day of Yoga (IDY)

IDY this year was celebrated with two events - one at Buffalo Bayou Park and the second at India House. A new initiative was launched to promote the practice of Yoga among the youth, where in young Participants were requested to send pictures of their Yogaasana pose, along with a caption notating the significance and benefits of the particular aasana. Needless to say, our young yogis didn't disappoint us. Few glimpses below. [Read more Here](#).



Yatharth Sarda- Multiple Poses- With each named with the Particular Postures - All of them benefit the body collectively

### HGH Advisory Board and Hindu Leaders Bi-monthly Meeting

A virtual meeting is held by the HGH Advisory Board once every 2 months. It is attended by many prominent Hindu Leaders in Houston. Current topics are discussed, and ideas are exchanged for the betterment of the community in Greater Houston area. These meetings are usually held on Saturdays at 10am and last 75minutes. If you are interested and would like to participate, please contact Rasesh Dalal @ 832-646-4996 [rasdep@gmail.com](mailto:rasdep@gmail.com)

**Please continue to follow State and Local guidelines to limit COVID-19 spread.**

[COVID-19 Texas Page](#) | [Texas COVID-19 Test Collection Sites Map](#) | [SEWA International Non-Medical COVID-19 helplines](#) | **Houston (281) 909-7392**,  
**San Antonio (210) 595-0717**

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**HGH is committed to bring Hindus together** and with this newsletter aims to bring you the info/services from various temples and organizations in greater Houston area, at one place. If you have a story, event info, links, you find useful for the broader community, *please write to us at [info@hindusofhouston.org](mailto:info@hindusofhouston.org). Prior Newsletters can be accessed [here](#).*

**Best Wishes:**  
**HGH Board**

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