



ChaatMasala

Your guide to local events and news. Please send an email to info@citymasala.com and have your next event listed in our ChaatMasala column.



Experience the Peace of Sri Chinmoy's Music in Songs of the Soul Concerts, April 19 & 21

Performers from around the world will celebrate the music of Maestro Sri Chinmoy at the Songs of the Soul concerts in Florida. The concerts will be offered free of charge on Monday, April 19 at the Paladium Theater in St. Petersburg at 7:30 pm and on Wednesday, April 21 at the Miramar Cultural Center in South Florida at 8:00 pm. The depth of Sri Chinmoy's music invites each listener on a meditative journey to realms of beauty and peace. Song of the Soul concerts have enchanted capacity audiences across the Americas, Canada, Europe and Asia. Tickets are free, but due to limited seating reservations are required.

Please call 727-725-0013 in Tampa Bay and 786-207-9100 in South Florida.

www.srichinmoy.org

Sri Chinmoy, an internationally acclaimed musician, composer, artist, author and athlete, captivated audiences worldwide with inspired performances of his own lyrical melodies. He composed 21,000 songs and offered more than 770 Peace Concerts in venues from Carnegie Hall to London's Royal Albert Hall, always free of charge. For four decades, Sri Chinmoy served humanity's aspirations for peace and oneness through his creativity.

In Sri Chinmoy's words, "It is through music that the universal feeling of oneness can be achieved in the twinkling of an eye."

The Power of Participation

Two boys started life in different locations, under different circumstances. But because both came from dysfunctional families unable to care for them, they arrived at the same place: the Henderson Mental Health Center (HMHC) Charlee House for youth.

For more than five years, both young men have experienced ups and downs. As a result of the services they've received from HMHC, today they are poised to strike out on their own. And they've decided to take this next step as roommates.

"Success stories like these are what it's all about," said Dr. Steven Ronik, CEO of Henderson Mental Health Center, the oldest and largest nonprofit, community-based behavioral healthcare system in South Florida "To see how these two young men have developed is a testament to their perseverance, as well as the hard work and dedication of our staff. Without accurate data from the census, it would be infinitely more difficult for us to help people with mental health issues in Broward County."

Since 1953, HMHC has provided a variety of services to the community, including crisis outreach, residential living and foster care, employment services, outpatient treatment and psychosocial rehabilitation, as well as many youth and family programs. Dr. Ronik said census data are used by the federal government to distribute block grants, which are based on population. "Nearly 25 percent of the HMHC operating budget comes from the State of Florida, which derives those funds from federal allocations," he said. "Broward County is a large area and any under reporting would significantly lower our funding."

Additionally, census information is important because it reflects the true numbers and demographics of the people served by HMHC. The understanding of the community makeup derived from Census data informs program creation and staffing, according to Dr. Ronik. "One in five Americans suffers mental illness to some degree, and every culture and age cohort experiences mental illness differently," he said. "For us to best serve the mental health needs of Broward County, we have to be culturally competent, as well as culturally diverse. A complete and accurate census count puts us in position to be both."

For more information on the 2010 Census and how your participation can make Broward County a better place to live, visit

www.broward.org/census2010.

Bayside Bhangra 2010

Location: Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 N. McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater, FL

Date: Saturday April 24th, 2010.

Time: Starts at 6:00pm, Doors open at 5:00pm

The 1st Bhangra Dance Competition to come to the Tampa Bay Area.

8 of the BEST Teams from across the NATION come under one roof to put on a show you will never forget.

LIVE PERFORMANCE: To Be Announced & 3 Additional Exhibition Teams

This event is made possible by: First Desi Alliance & The India Cultural Center of Tampa (ICC)

Tickets will be available soon, stay tuned for the April Issue of CityMasala or check out:

www.BaysideBhangra.com

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