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HAMPTON ROADS MALAYALEE ASSOCIATION



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HRMA Virginia



EDITORIAL BOARD

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President's Message

Namaskaram,

HRMA Executive Committee will transition to new leadership by completion of our annual event - WinterGala 2023.

HRMA Executive Committee (2021-2022) will be stepping down with immense gratitude of serving the Hampton Roads Malayalee Community for the past two years. During the tenure, we were able to do all planned events despite having to overcome multiple challenges including the COVID pandemic.

We hope the changes and the new ideas implemented will strengthen HRMA as a community. Our significant collective achievements include the Youth Club, Malayalam Classes, Tennis Tournaments, Blood Drive, Food Drives, Bay Cleanup, Website and Covid Relief Fundraiser. We're incredibly proud of the evolution of our Youth Club (HYC) and its profound influence on creating a connected community. Youths are our future, and we look forward to learning from them.

We have many more ideas for the future, which we will turn over to the new Committee. We promise to stand by the new committee and offer the full support and help they may require in planning and executing the future roadmap for HRMA.

Let us all stay together strongly bonded as a community, support each other and be there for one another when it matters the most. Holiday greetings to all. On behalf of HRMA, we wish everyone a happy and prosperous 2023!

HRMA Onam Celebration

HRMA community and family members celebrated this year's Onam on September 17, 2022. Hosted at the Hindu temple of Hampton Roads, the HRMA community, with the help of volunteers and our Youth Club, coordinated and arranged a beautiful venue from seating to stage. HRMA members and guests who attended the function were treated to cultural programs, including singing, dancing, and skits (performed by all age groups). HRMA community members worked together to create a one-of-a-kind Onam Sadya, served on a traditional banana leaf that will be a memory to cherish for a lifetime.



HRMA Picnic

HRMA conducted this year's annual picnic on October 15, 2022 at Bayville Farms Park Shelter. It was a day of fun filled activities and yummy food from "Thattukada". A huge shout-out to all the wonderful volunteers who invested great energy and time to ensure we had a memorable day. We would also like to congratulate each of the winners on their awards for games conducted as part of the picnic.



HRMA Malayalam Class

As we've moved into our second semester, HMC has focused on Malayalam fluency for both Junior and Senior students. Over the semester, Junior students have learned "kootaksharangal, vyanjanaksharangal " and started structuring words and sentences in Malayalam. Our senior students started with "Kuttikavithakal & kathakal". Our student assistants were an integral part of the learning process and helped with catch-up classes and other creative ways to support learning as a fun process. HMC also participated in the HRMA Onam event and performed an "Onapattu" which was well appreciated by the community. We're proud of what HMC has achieved this year and wish all students fantastic holidays.



Achievements

Congratulations to Thomas Daniel John, who was commissioned to rank of Ensign.

Congratulations to Thomas Daniel John for accelerating his navy career to a Limited Duty Officer (LDO). He was commissioned to rank of Ensign from Chief Petty Officer. HRMA proudly congratulates Thomas Daniel John on this outstanding achievement and wishes him the best in his future endeavors.



Ann Elizabeth Cherian honored with the title - Environmental Ambassador

Ann Elizabeth Cherian, D/O Vishakh Cherian, and Anu Thomas has recently been recognized and honored by Mr.Sam Pitroda (Father of India's Computer & IT Revolution, Digital Telecommunication) with the title "Environmental Ambassador" as part of 24News USA's Sea2Sky national initiative.



Congratulations to Rejith Raveendran for participating and winning the Guinness World Records title for online singing video relay

Congratulations to Rejith Raveendran for participating and winning the Guinness World Records title for online singing video relay. Around 300 former students of the College of Engineering, Thiruvananthapuram (CET) have displayed their singing prowess in an endeavour that has landed them a Guinness World Record. The College of Engineering Trivandrum Alumni Association (CETAA), which has nearly 50,000 members spread over several chapters worldwide, has bagged the title for 'the most people in an online singing video relay' .

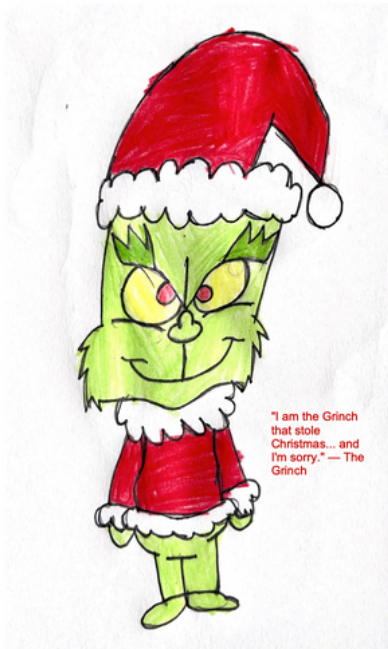


Kids Corner

(Theme: Christmas)



Aadya Panachikkuth
Grade 4



Vasudev Selvakumar
Grade 4



Maria Rose
Grade 6



Nitha Nithin
Grade 5

HRMA Youth Club - Upcoming Event

HRMA Youth Club will hold a special fundraiser to support Operation Smile, a fantastic organization that helps children around the world born with cleft lip and palate. We need your help spreading awareness for Operation Smile and our fundraiser to as many people as possible.

Every three minutes, a child is born with a cleft lip or cleft palate, and many families can't afford the surgery they desperately need. In many places, children with cleft conditions are abandoned or abused. Many times they have trouble eating and drinking and can struggle to survive. Those that do can face a lifetime of shame and torment.

For as little as \$240 and in as few as 45 minutes, Operation Smile can provide life-changing surgery and renewed hope for children worldwide. So please, consider making your tax-deductible gift today and take a moment to share our page with your Friends. It will take a minute, and it'll mean the world to many.

Please use the below link to share or donate to Smile Fund!

http://support.operationsmile.org/site/TR/SmileFund/SmileFund?px=3071415&pg=personal&fr_id=2642

We will be accepting donations for this special fundraiser at the Winter Gala event and the fundraiser will remain open until 14th January, 2023. Please help transform a child's life by joining us for this fundraiser.



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