



***HOPE THROUGH EMPOWERMENT***

**Saturday, September 19, 2009**

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Celebration**

**A Benefit with a Purpose**

*“A small body of determined spirits fired by an  
unquenchable faith in their mission can alter  
the course of history.”*

**-Gandhi**

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## ***HOST COMMITTEE***

Priya & Pavan Agarwal	Kumar & Alaka Mangalmurti
Indu & Suresh Ambudkar	Arvind & Nalini Rajguru
Jyoti Athavale & Mirko Novakovic	Arjun Ranade
Rina Das	Malathi & Prakash Rao
Jahanara & Khalid Hasan	Ramona Stoltz
Seema & Robert Owen	Maya & Ajit Virani

## ***SPECIAL THANKS***

Our sincere thanks to the following organizations and individuals who contributed to making this special evening a great success:

Jayantee Paine-Ganguly      Silent Auction Donors      Jazzasaurus

Gala 2009 Volunteers:      Indu Ambudkar, Priya Agarwal, Padma Putrevu,  
Maya Virani

Movie credits:      Mansoor Ahmed, Hema Ahmed, Padma Putrevu, Rati Bishnoi,  
Dharma Donepudi, Smeeta Narang, Lakshmi Aiyappa, Arthur  
Lovelace, Ujwala Seth, Robin Fender, Kamalini Deshpande,  
Fritz-Gerald Aubin, Srikanth Bujamella

## ***PROGRAM***

- 6:30 p.m.: Registration & cocktails, silent auction starts
- 7:30 p.m.: ASHA for Women documentary
- 7:50 p.m.: Welcome address by Nalini Rajguru
- 8:00 p.m.: Address by Chief Guest Sheela Murthy
- 8:15 p.m.: Dinner
- 9:00 p.m.: Keynote address by Vanita Gupta
- 9:30 p.m.: Dance performance by Jayantee Paine-Ganguly
- 10:00 p.m.: Silent auction closes
- 10:00 p.m.: Thank you by Indu Ambudkar

*Our Mission: To Provide the Support that Empowers South Asian Women to Become Self-Reliant and Live in an Abuse-Free Future.*

## ***ASHA for Women BOARD***

Nalini Rajguru, President/Secretary  
Jyoti Athavale, Treasurer  
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**Client Services Coordinator:** Shaila Kelkar

*ASHA for Women owes its sincere gratitude to all our dedicated advocates and volunteers.*

**ASHA for Women, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2084  
Rockville, Maryland 20847-2084  
888-417-2742**

**[www.ashaforwomen.org](http://www.ashaforwomen.org)**

## *Chief Guest: Sheela Murthy*



Sheela Murthy is the founder, president, and managing attorney of the Murthy Law Firm, where she leads 70 professionals in the field of U.S. immigration law. After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1987, Murthy has been recognized many times as a legal and business leader—most recently being named among the Maryland’s Top 100 Women in 2009. In June, Murthy was also named Entrepreneur of the Year for Maryland by Ernst & Young. She is one of nine extraordinary business leaders to receive this prestigious award regionally and will go on to the national competition in November. This is the first time ever apparently that any person has been selected and voted as both the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year and the United Way of Central Maryland’s Philanthropist of the Year for the \$1 Million pledge to the United Way for their expansion work in India for MD based charities.

## *Keynote Speaker: Vanita Gupta*



Vanita Gupta is a staff attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union, where she litigates cases related to indigent defense, conditions of confinement and education. Before joining the ACLU’s national office, Gupta served as the assistant counsel for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund—a role in which she successfully helped overturn the wrongful drug convictions of 38 individuals in Tulia, Texas. In addition, the celebrated young leader was part of the legal team that helped win the freedom of Wilbert Rideau, an award-winning prison journalist who served 44 years in the Louisiana State Penitentiary.

Gupta is also the recipient of numerous awards, including the Reebok Human Rights Award in 2004 and the American Red Cross’ “Rising Star” honor in 2003. Referenced often by international and national media, Gupta serves on the Advisory Committee of Human Rights Watch U.S. Programs and activism media non-profit Working Films and frequently speaks on civil rights and social justice concerns.

## *Jayantee Paine-Ganguly of the Konark Dance School*



Jayantee Paine-Ganguly is an accomplished dancer and choreographer and the founder of the Herndon, Va.-based Konark Dance School and Jayantika Dance Company. Konark’s mission is to offer training in Indian classical dance styles and to spread knowledge and awareness of Indian culture. The dance school’s name comes from the ancient sun temple of Konark, which is built in the shape of a chariot, and features an enormous dance hall upon which are carved numerous sculptures of dancers. Ganguly also performs widely and conducts lectures about Indian classical dance across the Washington metro-area. Jayantee’s mother Julie Paine was also a former board member and helped many ASHA clients. We fondly remember Julie Paine today for her graciousness.

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CVP is honored to once again support ASHA for Women in their dedication to help empower South Asian women

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Caplin & Drysdale is pleased to support ASHA for Women in their efforts to advocate for South Asian women.