



MEDIA RELEASE

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Grand launch of 'Namaste America'

Indo American Association for Art and Culture

Mumbai, January 19, 2011: 'Namaste America' Indo American Association for Art & Culture was launched today with a mega event at the US Consulate Lawns. The mission of this Association is to promote Art, Culture and Trade between the two great nations- India and The United States of America.

Atul Nishar, President, Namaste America and Paul A. Folmsbee, U.S Consul General, Mumbai co-hosted the event. The Guest of Honor for the evening was the charming Indian actress **Vidya Balan**. The evening was a glitzy affair which commenced with an enthralling musical concert "*Jazz Ensemble*" by the students of the American School of Bombay. This was followed with a classical dance performance by the iconic personality, **Ms. Hema Malini** and her beautiful daughters **Esha Deol** and **Ahana Deol** portraying "*Parampara - the harmony of two generations in unison*".

The evening was attended by the crème de la crème of Mumbai including Industrialists, Corporate CEO's, Film personalities, Celebrities, US Consulate Staff, numerous other Consul Generals and the Media. Seen enjoying the celebrations were **David Tyler, Anne Grimes, Niraj Bajaj, Alka Nishar, Sheriff of Mumbai – Dr. Indu Shahani, Miss India Manasvi Mangai, Shiamak Davar, Rocky S, Niranjan Hiranandani, Narendra Kumar, Arti & Kailash Surendranath, Mona & A. N. Roy, Ananya Dutt & Bharat Dabholkar, Madhu & Satish Shah, Chhaya Momaya, Nayan Patel and Raman Maroo** to name a few.

"**Namaste America** has been conceptualized as a platform for cultural exchange between The United States of America and India. This joint initiative supported by the U.S.Consulate is perhaps the very first such endeavour in India which aims to bring America and India in concert by celebrating the cultural heritage of our countries, as well as to promote business in the areas of Art, Education, Sports, Media, Entertainment, Science and Technology" said **Atul Nishar**, President, Namaste America.

"On behalf of the U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai, I congratulate Namaste America on its inauguration. They will contribute to the richness of the U.S. – Indo relationship through its programs and activities. The strength of the bond between our two countries is demonstrated not only through political and economic ties, but also through cultural and educational connections. I wish Namaste America all the best for success" said **Paul A. Folmsbee**, U.S Consul General, Mumbai.

Members on the Advisory Board

Hon. Chairman. Paul A. Folmsbee	US Consul General Mumbai
Habil Khorakiwala	Chairman – Wockhardt Ltd
Dr. Indu Shahani	Sheriff of Mumbai & Principal, HR College
Niraj Bajaj	Director, Bajaj group
Pramit Jhaveri	CEO, Citibank India
Shiamak Davar	International Performer & Choreographer
Vidya Balan	Film Actor

Members of the Managing Committee

President. Atul Nishar	Chairman, Hexaware Technologies Ltd.
Nayan Patel	ED, Patel Extrusion Group
Raman Maroo	MD, Shemaroo Entertainment
Anne Grimes (Invitee)	Director, American Center
Angela L. Gemza (Invitee)	Cultural Affairs Officer, U.S. Consulate
Trudy D'Souza	Executive Director, Namaste America

About Namaste America

Namaste America Indo American Association of Art and Culture is committed to promote and foster goodwill between the people of the United States of America and India by providing a platform for their cultural and trade exchange particularly in the areas of Education, Media, Entertainment, Science & Sports. For more information visit www.namasteamerica.in

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