



*North
American
Bengali
Conference
2008*

December Newsletter

On behalf of the NABC 2008 Organizing committee we wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year. In a few days the fireworks, the colored lights, the balloons and ringing church bells will usher in the New Year. The excitement and reality of NABC 2008 has already started to feel much closer. Folks we are now into the home stretch of preparation for the conference and PBCA and the Organizing committee is counting on your overwhelming support for the success of this august event. We need higher number of registrations, we need donors, we need sponsors and above all we need the Bengali community in GTA to feel proud about the conference. We want to present a show that will allow Toronto to enhance its great reputation as the premier host of NABC conferences.

Since our last newsletter a major press meeting was held at the Phoenix Hall, Saturday Club in Kolkata. The meeting was well attended with significant representations by both the Press and TV media. Jaidev Sarkar and Bejoy Das made presentations, which were very well received. The meeting, which was organized by assistance from Rice Group, was attended by a number of artists who are scheduled to perform at NABC 2008. It was a pleasure to see in the audience, several members of PBCA who were visiting Kolkata.

Sanjiv Goenka, Honorary Consul for Canada in Kolkata, in a meeting with Bejoy Das and Ganadev Sinha expressed his keen desire to attend NABC 2008 and assured his support and assistance for the success of the conference.

In our last newsletter we had given you a sample of the food menu for the three days of the festival. We understand that for our vegetarian patrons, one more item has been added on each meal and all menu details are on our Website. Our food group would love to hear from you.

Our distinguished list of overseas artists continues to grow. One of the prominent additions to the list of modern vocal performers is Kumar Sanu. In the field of classical music, we are pleased to announce that distinguished Shehnai maestro Ustad Ali Ahmad Hussain Khan will be performing at the festival. His son, Haidar Hussain Khan, will accompany Ustadji.

In our last newsletter we had talked about our Youth group's special production of Tagore's *Valmiki Pratibha*. Since then, we have learnt further details about this production and we are very excited, hoping that this production will set up a new benchmark and a challenge to the youth groups at future NABC conferences.

We have recently posted on the website our first newsletter in Bengali.

We will continue to bring to you the latest information by posting all the new developments on our Website.

