Celebrating Sixteenth Year of Excellence in Promoting Education

17 NSF Centers In India*

46 NSF Chapters in USA & Canada*

Profound Thanks to all NSF Patrons, Donors and Volunteers!

North South Foundation
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Ph: 630-323-1966

Non-Profit Organization Tax ID 36-3659998 - 501(c)(3)

* Please visit www.northsouth.org for details
When North South Foundation was established in 1989, our vision was that every child should reach his or her maximum potential with money not being a barrier in attaining this goal. Consistent with this vision, the Foundation began providing scholarships in India for the academically brilliant, poor students to afford further college studies. In 1993, the Foundation began encouraging academic excellence among the children of Indo-American community in the US through educational contests such as the spelling bee.

The Foundation has come a long way in the last 16 years. The following table provides some statistics:

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<th>1994</th>
<th>1999</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005 Proj</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>India</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapters</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships*</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>390</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cumulative Scholarships</td>
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<td><strong>US</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contests</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>Chapters</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<td>Children Participating</td>
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<td>800</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cumulative Participation</td>
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<td>13,160</td>
<td>17,160</td>
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<td>Scholarships for Champions</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cumulative Scholarships</td>
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<td>43</td>
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<td>128</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

It is gratifying to know that the Foundation has been able to serve thousands of talented children both in India and in North America. All of this was made possible over the years only because of the generous hearts of thousands of donors and the dedicated efforts of thousands of volunteers, both in North America and in India. We are very grateful to Dr. N. B. Rao, founder of BREAD in India, and to innumerable BREAD volunteers who have helped bring our dreams to fruition.

The North South Foundation has recently created an organization in India under its very own name. The directory at the end of this review provides details of the new setup. We are grateful to all volunteers who agreed to help the noble cause of NSF India.

Looking beyond the short term, the Foundation would like to add human values as another dimension in its endeavor to promote excellence in education. So our new vision will be to see that every child reaches his or her maximum academic potential and, at the same time, retains and hones important moral values. Excellence without values cannot lead to a progressive society.

In closing we wish to thank all stakeholders including donors, volunteers, well wishers and beneficiaries.
**What is North South Foundation**

North South Foundation, established in 1989, is a non-profit organization in Illinois. It received tax-exempt status under the IRS Section 501(c)(3).

Our Mission is to promote excellence in human endeavor, to develop human resources, to help people achieve success regardless of religion, gender, caste, geographic origin and to give hope to those who may have none.

The Foundation is all-volunteer driven. While organizing events, we strive to get discounts from our vendors and sponsorships for our awards. These measures keep our expenses down and utilize donated funds more towards helping the needy. Our overhead is five percent or less.

The Scholarship program in India is designed to encourage excellence among the poor. It is targeted at qualified, needy students entering both professional and non-professional colleges. Over 2,400 scholarships have been awarded to date. Our plan calls for more than 150 new scholarships this year. Each scholarship is $250 per student per year. Awards are made following strict selection criteria based on merit and need. Students are selected from 17 centers in India: Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bhavnagar, Bhubaneswar, Kochi, Chennai, Hyderabad, Jamshedpur, Jodhpur, Kanpur, Katihar, Kolkata, Madurai, Mau, Pune, Sibsagar and Trivandrum. These centers are run by dedicated volunteers who are committed to the noble cause of helping those who excel among the poor go to college. Donors can sponsor designated college scholarships or sponsor awards in their alumni high school.

Educational contests in the US are designed to encourage academic excellence among Indo-American children. NSF Spelling, Vocabulary and Math Bee are conducted annually in two steps. Children initially participate in regional contests. There are more than 45 centers in the US and Canada. Please contact us if there is no regional contest in your area.

Winners of these contests are invited for the national finals. National top rankers are awarded scholarships ranging from $1,000 to $250, redeemable in the winners’ freshman year of college. Junior spelling bee is for children of 8 years or younger, while senior spelling bee and junior vocabulary is for children of ages 9 through 12. Senior vocabulary is for children of ages 13 through 16. The Foundation has added Math Bee during 2004 with 4 different grade levels. These contests help focus students’ attention on the PSAT and SAT exams. Brain bee is conducted only at the national level.

Accomplishments of NSF Children: Many NSF children have scored top ranks in the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee over the years. Sai Gunturi won the Scripps Howard Championship in 2003, while Samir Patel bagged 3rd place. Numerous NSF winners have been accepted by top colleges in the nation. More importantly, these contests help children improve their communication skills, self-confidence and empower them to become better citizens for tomorrow.

Role Model Award: The Foundation has awarded its inaugural Role Model Award, ‘Vishwa Jyothi’ to Rajiv Vinnakota in 2003 and to Nipun Mehta in 2004. It helps to showcase good human values and academic excellence to the children of Indian American community.

For further information, please contact Dr. Ratnam Chitturi at 630-323-1966 or chitturi@mail.org

“I slept and I dreamed that life was all joy. I woke and saw that life was but service I served and understood that service was joy”

—Rabindranath Tagore
The year 2004 saw several notable accomplishments in the history of NSF.

- Bhakti Nagalla, the 2003 NSF Brain Bee champion, won the International Brain Bee championship in 2004.
- NSF had an unprecedented number of 46 chapters with 10 new chapter openings during 2004; San Diego, CA; San Ramon, CA; Barrington, IL; Grand Rapids, MI; Greensboro, NC; Cincinnati, OH; Allentown, PA; Harrisburg, PA; Houston (Chinmaya), TX and for the first time in Canada at Calgary, Alberta.
- NSF introduced Math Bee for the first time in 2004 and this was a runaway success. Kudos to Dr. Krishnaiah Revuluri, Dr. Sarat Puthenpura, Venkat Batchu, MS Rao, Dr Visweswararao Durga and others in the Math Bee Core team, which spearheaded a superb start in record time.
- A staggering number of 3,160 children participated in the regional contests. We are thankful to all the new and existing regional coordinators who worked hard to make the regional contests successful.
- The best of the Spelling, Vocabulary and Math contestants (612) from the 46 regional centers were invited to the National Finals. The National Championship Finals were conducted at Arizona State University at Tempe, AZ with a record attendance of 562 contestants. A star-studded cast of past NSF champions graced the event as judges and pronouncers.
- Nipun Mehta who started CharityFocus.org was chosen as the 2nd recipient of the Viswa Jyoti award, a role model award for Americans of Indian origin. The Governor of Arizona, Janet Napolitano, graced the National Finals event and gave the Role Model award to Nipun.
- Matching Gifts: There are many companies that encourage giving for education by matching dollar-for-dollar to their employee contributions. This is a nice way to double your contributions to the Foundation. Please find out if your employer does this. The Foundation has received matching funds from several well-known companies including BP, Cisco, Compuware, Dun & Broad St, Fleet Boston, Monsanto, National Semiconductor, Omgeo, Oracle, Pitney Bowes, Pfizer, Reader's Digest, Reebok, Sun Micro Systems, Symphony Corporation, Tudor Investment, United Way, and Verizon.
The Foundation is grateful to all those who have contributed to United Way and at the same designated North South Foundation as the beneficiary of their donation. For further information, please call 630-323-1966.

Volunteers: The Foundation is looking for volunteers in many areas of its endeavor. The success of any public foundation depends on its volunteers. It is the collective efforts of volunteers that made this Foundation what it is today. Please come and join. You will get the satisfaction of promoting excellence in education among the most impoverished in India and children in our community in the US. Volunteerism is like an elastic band. You only need to spare as little as you can afford or extend as much as you love to contribute. Some corporations also encourage their employees to become volunteers by providing financial contribution. The Foundation received such contributions from Allstate and Pfizer.

The Foundation is looking for volunteers in the following areas:
- more volunteers with web & database skills to restructure the website and manage databases
- more new centers throughout USA
- more volunteers for all existing centers
- more volunteers for publicity, public relations, and strategic planning
- more volunteers for managing existing activities like online games
- more volunteers for supporting new activities like math contests
- fund-raisers to help the increased number of NSF scholarship commitments.
- more volunteers for tracking contributions, financial planning, and new initiatives

For further information, please call 630-323-1966.

How are projects funded at the Foundation?

Scholarships in India: This was the first project initiated by the Foundation in 1989. Money is raised from major events such walk-a-thon and other means. Money designated for this purpose is only used for this purpose.

Spelling Bee / Vocabulary / Math Bee Contests in the US: Dr. Murali Gavini began the Spelling Bee program in 1993. The expenses for conducting the contests are covered by registration fees and local collections. The scholarships for the National Champions are covered by contributions from individuals, non-profit organizations, and excess funds, if any remaining from the registration fees.

Viswa Jyothi, NSF’s Second Role Model Award

North South Foundation, an Illinois-based non-profit organization, presented the 2004 Role Model Award, Viswa Jyothi, to Nipun Mehta. The award ceremony took place on September 4, 2004 at the Foundation’s 12th Annual National Spelling Bee Championship Finals in Phoenix, AZ. The Viswa Jyothi award is awarded to Indo-Americans who serve as role models to children.

A key criterion for this award is an individual’s innovative approach to solving persistent social ills.

Problem
The recent advances in the Internet and Telecommunications have redefined the traditional haves’ and have-nots’ as those with access to the Internet and those without. Nipun found a unique solution to bridge this gap.

Solution
In April 1999, Nipun Mehta started CharityFocus, a volunteer driven 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization to inspire IT professionals to provide free web based technological solutions to other nonprofit organizations worldwide. What started as one team of four volunteers helping one nonprofit organization to gain web presence has today evolved into 5,000 volunteers providing millions of dollars worth of website services.
I came to know about North South Foundation, only after I returned from USA in 2001. Mr. Raghavendra Paturi introduced me to Dr. Chitturi, the Founder President. Unfortunately, while touring USA, I knew nothing about these lion-hearted people. Previously, there was no chapter in the North Eastern States of India. I took some interest and established a chapter at Guwahati, Assam. Afterwards it was shifted to Sibsagar. We followed the guidelines given by NSF to identify deserving students.

My experience in reaching the deserving students is through personal contacts of like-minded people who were involved in the search of such students. In 2003, I shifted to Kolkata and observed the procedures followed by Kolkata Chapter. In the early part of 2004, I succeeded in identifying 5 students from rural areas.

Accomplishments
In April 2004, CharityFocus launched a site for ‘Enlightening Messages’ on compassion.

In January 2004, CharityFocus started a “smile” epidemic. In six months, 100,000 cards were printed.

In June 2003, cShops, started by CharityFocus, made its first sale of crafts made by rural artisans from the Gandhi Ashram in India.

Mark Jacobs, a CharityFocus volunteer says, “By creating a means for people to serve, by leading with example, by showing how service enriches the life of the giver as well as the receiver, Nipun has set an irresistible ripple effect in motion. The thousands whom Nipun inspired to serve are, in turn, inspiring thousands of others.”

In keeping with their mission of ‘Helping Others Help Others,’ in April 2002, CharityFocus acquired the struggling non-profit company PledgePage.com.

My Experience with North South Foundation
Anil Kumar Ghosh

Seeing CharityFocus’s model at work, Jayesh Parekh, the co-founder of Sony Entertainment Television decided to hand over all operations of ProPoor.com – a South Asian NGO portal of 14,000 NGOs and a well established brand - to CharityFocus.

The fundraising legend Lynne Twist who has raised over $150 million for humanitarian causes said “There is an amazing organization named CharityFocus which is somehow able to do incredible work with almost no money.”

Nipun typically runs CharityFocus on an annual shoestring budget of $5K.

The CharityFocus case model is being studied in several prestigious U.S. business schools. It has been profiled on CNN and in other international newspapers. In December 2003, Nipun received the President’s community service award at the UN.

He sits on several prestigious boards including the advisory boards of the Dalai Lama Foundation and AHIMSA. In June 2001, Nipun received the Jefferson Award in Washington DC for outstanding community service.

North South Foundation takes pride in recognizing Nipun Mehta as their choice for the 2004 Role Model Award, Viswa Jyothi.
The selection of candidates for scholarship is one of the most critical elements in NSF’s mission. The members of the selection committee who perform this task undertake an immense responsibility upon which the success of both NSF and the deserving students depends.

In order to succeed, the selection committee members must have strong credentials in the areas of Integrity, honesty, character, reputation, and leadership. They must have good contacts with service minded people in communities and with educational institutions. They must follow the procedural norms set by NSF.

The selection process is quite simple, yet the most difficult to accomplish due to complex needs and financial conditions of applicants. The selection committee screens the applicants on the basis of academic qualifications first and financial need second. The academic qualifications are determined on the basis of mark sheets and ranks in entrance tests. The financial need of the applicants is determined on the basis of family income as verified by income certificate. It is not always possible to visit all the applicants. Sometimes while visiting, observing the pitiable conditions we may become sentimental and forget the academic standard of the applicant. It is better to have two tiers.

Being a member of the selection committee is a never ending learning experience. As is said in a well-known proverb – nothing succeeds like success. Success breeds more success. From my experience in NSF, I feel that nothing succeeds like success unless you share it with others. To this end I think NSF should motivate its chapters to share their experiences and success stories. I am confident that by sharing our many accomplishments, through public relations and appropriate recognition, we will amplify and implement the scholarship program of North South Foundation.

**Kolkata Chapter**

Kolkata chapter was begun in 1993 with the help of Dr. Sahana Mazumder as the coordinator and Dr. Asok Ray as the sponsor of scholarships for 10 students. Capt G. Prakash has been a coordinator since 1996, and a team of dedicated volunteers help administer the program. See page 42 for a list of volunteers currently associated with the Kolkata chapter.

Over the years, the chapter awarded more than 100 scholarships covering more than 50 students. Indima Foundation, which Dr. Ray founded, continues to contribute $1,500 every year to help those who excel among the poor go to college in West Bengal. For a list of current recipients of scholarships, see pp. 16 - 19. Photos of the recently selected students can be found on pp. 14. The Foundation is grateful to Dr. Asok Ray and the dedicated volunteers in Kolkata in serving the needy in West Bengal.
Individual Donors List: Dec 2003 - Nov 2004

$1,000 and above

Vijaya & Srinivasa Jujjavarapu
Shantha & V Kesavulu
Vinitha & Sree Menon
Sita & Bhaskara Rao Mutyala
Popsi Narasimhan
Jayasri & Raghavendra P
Jhansi & Sury Putta
Setti S Renganachary
Joseph Sreshta

$500 to $999

Samit Bhattacharya
Sudha Rani Chalasani
Gauri Chandna
Lilarani & Sandip Dasverma
Lakshmi & Shashidhar Jasti
Vidy & Srinivas Malreddi
Madhavi & Gaugarin Oliver
Vinitha & Vijay Raghavan
Geetha & Jayachandran R
Indra & Chrish Ramdhani
B. Satyaveni Rao
Padma & Ramprasad Reddy
Varsha & Datta Sambare
Anuradha & Srinivas Sirigina
Yashaswin Treasurer
Akhileswari & C Yeswanth

$250 to 499

Lalita & Ramanand Achanta
Haritha & Naveen Akkina
Lakshmi & Ramesh B.
Shobhna & Pradeep Caplash
Ramaswamy Chandrashekar
Veena & Venkat Gade
Rema Govind
Geetha & Meledath G
Srinivas Gundu
John & Dudley Macfarlane
Kalyani & Satish Mandavilli
Rajani & Narayana Meduri
Sreelatha & J Prakash Naidu
Bharati & Eshwar Pastapur
Lalitha & Coumara Radja
Lakshmi & Viswantha Reddy
Sarveswari & K V Reddy
Syamala & Krishnahia R
Sandhya & M Shivashankar
Lakshmi & Rao Sunkavalli
Padala V Suryaprasad
Shashikiran H Tadas
Sujata & Ravi T
Suresh & Anita Velagapudi
Usha & Ramesh V

$200 to 249

Vijaya & Sadasiva Reddy
Urv & Mukesh Amlani
Hemant C Bhuskute
Rao G. Bollimpalli
Vanaja & Obayya C
Sridevi & Sanjay Chittore
G Munroe Cobey
Vrinda & Vivek Dabke
Vinandra V Dasari
Rama & Venkat Davarapalli
Sanjay P Desai
Nimisha & Chaitanya D
Vijay & Visweswararao Durga
Mani & Ravimeher Errabolu
Linda Fraas
Aparna & S Rao Gunupudi
Pooja & Anurag Gupta
Vasumathi & Gopal G
Dianne Hamilton
Premkumar Harikrishnan
Suneela & Ravindra Harsoor
Sumathi & Sridhar Iyengar
Nayana & Kaushik Joshi
Madhavi & Prakash Kailasa
Hem Kanithi
Rajani & Srinivas Karuturi
Anita & Srinivas Katragadda
Malaika & Satish Kodali
Linda & Bruce Koe
Narendra Koneru
Vijay Kudesa
Raji & Anjan Lukkoor
Vivek & Durga Vellanki
Meena & Prasad Mantravadi
Satish Maroujo
Rajani & Prakash Nadkarni
Bjorn Nielsen Nielsen
diseshu Nyshadhamb
Archana & Sunil Oberoi
Sridevi & Varadendra P.
Subhash J Patel
Sashi & Sunita Polepalle
Madhavi & Sivanandana P
Subba Rao & Parvati Potru
Srinivasan Ramadurai
Gautam Ranade
Sudhakara & Usha Rao
Veeren P Reddy
Shoba & Suresh Reginald
Ramayya & Bharathi S
John & Nancy Scranton
Gultaz & Bimal Sheth
Anirudha & Deepa Khun
Santosh & Romesh Shonek
Padmini & T Sridhar
S Srinivasan
Jayaram Subramanian
Parul & Krisha S
Nirmala & Palanisamy S
Sunitra & Chowdary T
Madhavi & Maitrey T
Prema & Natarajan T
Lakshmi & H Rao Vaitila
Venkatasai Vangala
Vasanti & Reddy Vennapusa
Radha & P Rao Vinnakota
Vasavi Veleti

$150 to 199

Bivash & Mousumi B
Indira & Rao Donthamsetti
Sudha & Kumar Kalapattapu
Utpal & Chhaya M
Madhavi & Kasi Patudi
Aparna & Ramasundar R
Susanta K Satpathy
Yamini & Lala Srivatsan
Lakshmi & Vishnu Sunkara
Balmiki & Sumana Sur
Kamala & Prasad Tummala
Padma & Choudari V

$100 to 149

Jeanne & Prem Advani
Raju V Alluri
Geetha & Sreedhar A
Bhargavi Annaparedi
Prameela & Harinath Apuri
VenkatadaiyBalabadrabatruni
Sunita Bhadada
Rao S Bhamidipati
Renu & Daniel Bostwick
Padma & Ramamurthy C
Revathi B Danda
Anjana M. Desai
Radha & L Raju Dommaraju
S. Krishna & Anasuya D
Poonam & Sushil Garg
Sathya V Gourisankar
Geeta & Maruti Ram G
Rani & RamaReddy Guntaka
Satya V Gupta
Ravi Hardatt
Syamala & Subraminija J
John V. John
Mira & Raju R Juthani
Scholarships in India

Eligibility Criteria - 2004

Mission:
Encourage academic excellence among the poor in India.

Criteria:
1) Scholarships are offered in the science and technology fields: engineering, medicine, agriculture, polytechnics (diploma), science and mathematics.
2) NSF scholarship awards are made regardless of caste, creed, gender, religion or region.
3) Merit: Top 5% in Common Entrance Tests or minimum of 85% in Intermediate or equivalent exams with relaxation of 5% to rural and girl students.
4) Need: The applicant has to demonstrate that he or she cannot continue the desired course without the NSF Scholarship. Thus the objective is to help prevent dropouts among those who excel.
5) Income Limit: Poor is defined as any family that earns less than Rs. 38,000 per annum in urban areas and Rs. 26,000 per annum in rural areas.
6) The student must pursue the desired course in a government college or in a private college that has government fee structure.
7) Rank of first attempt and first year students are preferred.
8) Applicants eligible for other scholarships are not generally eligible.
9) Short listed candidates will be interviewed for final selection.
10) Renewals require continued demonstration of superior performance, conduct, and need.
Fund-Raising Events

*The river of giving flows again...*

People are busy running around - earning money, managing their homes, making sure that they and their family have everything and always striving to provide the best education to their kids. But, in the midst of all this mad rush, there are some who stop and look at the less fortunate and take time off to do something about it. Through such people North South Foundation is able to give the gift of Education to so many underprivileged children growing up in India. While walk-a-thons have been our main fundraising event in the past, the year 2004 saw some new ideas emerge. NSF is grateful to all the participants, contributors, and the many volunteers whose enthusiasm and tireless efforts have made these events a success. Everyone who donated in 2004 has indeed started a ripple effect, which will improve the life of more and more underprivileged children in India.

**Hopkinton, MA - June 27th, 2004:** Close to fifty families from New Hampshire and Massachusetts participated in the fundraising event held at Hopkinton state park. The event kicked off with a hike around the park. After the hike, children did art in the woods or played in the field. Even after the sumptuous lunch, donated by local restaurants, the games still continued. This year there were many more games organized for children including races, tug of war, kho-kho and even a cricket match. The best was the three-legged race, with one parent leg guiding one child leg to the finishing line. This 4th annual walk raised $7,900 including $1,430 collected by young children of ages 5 to 14 via the Dollar-A-Square (DAS) Program. All children went home with a fun T-shirt.

**Hamden, CT - July 18, 2004:** On this bright and summer Sunday morning, the CT-NSF volunteer team was up early, making sure that they had everything set up for the Walk/Bike-a-thon event held on the sprawling greens of Brooksvale Park in Hamden, CT. The day was filled with events ranging from some serious thinking to pure fun, from somewhat strenuous physical level to barely moving your fingers for the Bingo. In other words if you were just 2 yrs. old or 200 yrs. old you’d find that there was something exciting waiting for you at the event. The event was graced by the arrival of the Mayor of Hamden who appreciated the efforts of NSF giving back to India. This event raised close to $5,000.

**Downers Grove, IL – August 14, 2004:** The 14th NSF Walk/Bike/Games-a-thon of the Chicago chapter was held in the beautiful McCollum Park. There were close to 200 people who participated in the successful event, which raised a little over $10,000. Six children participated in the Dollar-A-Square program and many others were raring to go! Many local restaurants donated food for the event, and NSF organized games like Volley Ball and Tennis. The chess tournament was another popular event, which drew a lot of participants, young and old.

**Canton, MI - September 12th, 2004:** The 4th annual walk-a-thon of the Detroit Chapter was held in Canton Heritage
Park. There were close 40 people who participated in the event. The local Indian restaurants contributed delicious food items for the event. Weather was perfect for walking and games. Compuware Corporation and DTE Energy contributed $1,000 and $500, respectively, for the event. The event raised close to $4,000.

Mountain View, CA – Oct 16\textsuperscript{th} 2004: On October 16\textsuperscript{th}, 2004, local NSF volunteers organized the second Bay Area Walk-Bike-a-thon/picnic at Shoreline Park. Nearly 100 people participated in the various events throughout the day. The Jeopardy-style Harry Potter game, in which the kids were divided into four teams along the four houses of Hogwarts, was a big hit. Following lunch, those kids who have participated in prior NSF Bees sat down informally and started a conversation, sharing their experiences about how they prepared for the contests, the Dos and Don’ts, how they have benefited from these contests. It was delightful to hear from them, that not only did they learn to spell new words that enriched their vocabulary, but also that NSF contests have helped them gain a lot of confidence. Nine kids participated in the DAS program and together raised $919. Participants took a boat-ride, played football, cricket and baseball, and above all, enjoyed a relaxing day along the shores of the beautiful Shoreline Lake. The event raised $4,000. Active in this event were two past NSF-BREAD scholars who set an example of giving back.

Other events: This year chapters in CT and TX held sports events to raise money for scholarships in India. The tennis tournaments in CT and crickets matches in Dallas raised about $1,000 each. Our chapter in Rochester, MN brought music into the bag and raised money thorough a concert of morning ragas, while MA chapter members used their cooking talents and added a scholarship.

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Corporate Donors List: Dec 2003 - Nov 2004

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textbf{$1,000$ and above} \begin{itemize}
    \item American Express
    \item Chicago Tamil Sangam
    \item Compuware Corp
    \item Fleet Matching
    \item Indima Foundation
    \item J Watumull Foundation
    \item Kache Med & Educ Fdn
    \item Pfizer Foundation
    \item Portables Unlimited
    \item S Tx Wound Associate
    \item United Way
    \item World Reach, Inc
  \end{itemize}
  \item \textbf{$500$ to $999$} \begin{itemize}
    \item Allstate Foundation
    \item Community Foundation
    \item DTE Energy
    \item HSBC
    \item Lucent Tech
    \item Prizmar Enterprises
  \end{itemize}
  \item \textbf{$250$ to $499$} \begin{itemize}
    \item A-Z Rental
    \item Castle Screening Printing
    \item Fidelity Investments
    \item Gummakonda Prop. Inc
    \item Omgeo LLC
    \item Tall Grass Foundation
  \end{itemize}
  \item \textbf{$100$ to $249$} \begin{itemize}
    \item Hinsdale Bank
    \item Indian Society Of Worcester, MA
    \item Indo-American Political League
    \item Keelkamal Spicehouse
    \item Naperville Valley Ball Team
    \item Pioneer Technologies
    \item Pitney Bowes
    \item Susquehanna Intl Grp
    \item Triangle Indian Mkt.
    \item Tucson-Arizona Telugu Association
    \item Water Clinix
  \end{itemize}
\end{itemize}
Corporate Matching Gifts  
By Venkat Gade

Every one loves the idea of doubling money. Who doesn’t? We at North South Foundation (NSF) are aware of this incontrovertible truth of life.

Over the years many people have donated their hard-earned dollars to the noble cause of helping the poor children in India pursue their dream of obtaining college education. A donation of $250 will send one such youth in India to go to college for one year.

Wouldn’t it be wonderful, if we can somehow double the power of each donation of $250 and send two children to college? In fact it is being pursued by many hard working donors all across the US. The procedure is simple and is possible for all donors who work for employers having a “Matching Gifts” program.

Many corporations match donations of their employees dollar for dollar as long as the money is going to charitable causes. As you may be aware, North South Foundation is registered with the IRS under section 501(c)(3). This not only ensures that all donations are tax-deductible, but also helps with matching funds from corporations.

You can double your money towards helping the poor youth in India or in funding NSF Championship scholarships in the US. Please check with your benefits department about matching gifts program and procure their matching gifts form. You fill the top portion and forward the form along with your donation to the North South Foundation at 2 Marissa Ct, Burr Ridge, IL 60527. The Foundation will take care of the rest. If you have any further questions, please contact NSF (donation@northsouth.org).

Thank you for your generosity and please help us double your money with corporate matching gifts program for the noble cause of helping worthy but financially challenged youth in India afford college education.

2004 DAS Kids

MASSACHUSETTS
Harika Kandukuri
*Ramesh Govindan
*Mallika Govindan
Shreya Divatia
Kosha Divatia
Priyatham Vennapusa
Prashanth Vennapusa
Sindhu Sreedhar
*Ullas Rao
Swetha Raman
Nivedha Ram
Naveen Ram
Iris Oliver
Ethan Oliver
Bridgit Kodenkandath
Abhinav Narayan
Rishi Narayan
Rohith Krishna
Maya Jay
Vrinda Agarwal

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Samrath Desai
Ishita Tyagi

CALIFORNIA
Debnil Sur
Sanjana Laxmi
Ramya Auroprem
Cyonee Mukhopadhyaya
Kshithij Srinath
Arihan Shah
Mayank Ganesan
Varun Mohan
Rishabh Shah

ILLINOIS

FLORIDA
*Sameer Kailasa

KANSAS
*Aishwarya Pastapur
*Kavya Shivankar
*Vanya Shivashankar

OREGON
Roopa Ramanujam

* Raised one Scholarship
The Dollar-A-Square (DAS) kicked off its second year with more Indian children growing up in USA trying to help their counterparts in India. Children as young as 6 years old from across the country have been collecting donations and checking off squares in their ‘Dollar-a-Square’ pledge sheets. More than 40 kids participated in the program raising over $4,000. Your child too can be a part of this great program!

What is DAS? Each child gets a pledge sheet that has 100 squares on it. They fill one square for every dollar they raise. By going around the neighborhood, asking family friends and classmates’ parents, children can easily fill in the squares. They can ask for as little as a dollar and usually donors come up with at least $5 once they comprehend the cause. One completed sheet provides nearly half a scholarship. For those children who complete one sheet, NSF offers free access to an online educational game. So this is something educational and fun, but most of all it develops a giving heart in your child.

Why they did it? Children, who have participated so far, have not only asked from others but have also given from within. Many children have given up their pocket money, tooth fairy money and even accepted donations in lieu of birthday gifts. There have been some innovative ones who collected cans and did double duty – help the earth and help a child! Ask the question, “What can your child do for another poor child?”

How to begin? Here is how you can help: If you have heard about DAS but have been procrastinating, just register your child on the NSF website. If the Dollar-A-Square is new to you, read about it at [http://www.northsouth.org/dollarasquare.asp](http://www.northsouth.org/dollarasquare.asp). There are tips and quotes from participants and parents. Then, register your child.

All registered children can update their pledges as they collect them and immediately see the grand total grow. Two pledge sheets gets you access to both spelling and vocabulary games. But best off all, it helps one poor child in India go to college for ONE whole year.

DAS coordinators: There are several adult DAS coordinators motivating children in various chapters. A DAS coordinator helps publicize DAS at events like spelling bee, walkathon and other celebrations where NSF sets up information tables. This year Bharati Pastapur from Kansas has volunteered to coordinate DAS nationally. We still need local coordinators to help her. If you are interested in being a DAS coordinator for NSF, please contact Bharati Pastapur at 913-780-2617 or bharati_pastapur@yahoo.com
NSF Scholarship Recipients In India

Ajnan Saha, WB
Anindya Nandy, WB
Arnab Kumar Biswas, WB

Aryan Kumar Das, WB
Asif Maity, WB
Deba Jyothi Mitra, WB

Sampa Bairaga, WB
Sri Bas Roy, WB
Alapati Kalyan Susanth, AP

Dandutkar Ramesh, AP
Kolli Muralidhar, AP
NSF Scholarship Recipients In India

- KVKSV Prasada Rao, AP
- M. Chandra kala AP
- N. Srinivasa Rao AP
- Pariki Aruna AP
- P. Ratna Kumari AP
- R. Naseeruddin AP
- S. Raghuram AP
- S. Prasanna AP
- T. Ramya Sri AP
- Farah Naaz, AP
- Y.V. Lakshmi AP
### Recipients of NSF Scholarships in India - Current

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<td>Pritesh Gadihya</td>
<td>BA 87%</td>
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<td>K. Ramya</td>
<td>BS 88%</td>
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<td>I Fatima Begum</td>
<td>BS 88%</td>
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<td>K. Geetha</td>
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<td>A. Shanti</td>
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<td>G Arun Kumar</td>
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<td>N. Mohan Raj</td>
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<td>Debasish Behera</td>
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<td>P Panigrahi</td>
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<td>Subash Mahapatra</td>
<td>Eg 983</td>
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<td>Manasa Ranjan Das</td>
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<td>Shivaji Behera</td>
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<td>Arup K Mohanty</td>
<td>Po 1555</td>
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<td>Suryan Kanungo</td>
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<tr>
<td>S Ganesh</td>
<td>BS 90%</td>
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<td>Electrician</td>
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<td>Labourer</td>
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<td>P Deepa</td>
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<td>VRSubramaniam</td>
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<td>SShahjahan</td>
<td>Eg 1905</td>
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<tr>
<td>PChinnathai</td>
<td>Po 93%</td>
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<td>D Krithika</td>
<td>BS 94%</td>
<td>04</td>
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<td>P Thenmozhi</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Sharmila</td>
<td>BS 88%</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>Coolie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R Brindapriya</td>
<td>BS 89%</td>
<td>04</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Lakshmi</td>
<td>BS 84%</td>
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<td>BRAmarnath</td>
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<td>G Prasanna</td>
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<td>DebjajotiMitra</td>
<td>Eg 278</td>
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<td>04</td>
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<td>Eg 216</td>
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<td>AK Susanth</td>
<td>Po 274</td>
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<td>Po 830</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>Kooli</td>
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<td>Po 1211</td>
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<td>ChSriRama Reddy</td>
<td>Po 1320</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>Kirana</td>
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<td>M.Anupama</td>
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<td>S.K.Jaleel</td>
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<td>K.Sateesh</td>
<td>Po 2826</td>
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<td>Farmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shaik Gousiya</td>
<td>Po 3142</td>
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<td>J.Nageshwar Rao</td>
<td>Po 3734</td>
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<tr>
<td>M.Srinivasulu</td>
<td>Po 72%</td>
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<td>A.V Kumar</td>
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<td>04</td>
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<td>K.RamaKrishna</td>
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<td>N.SitaRamaMurthi</td>
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<td>T.Venkateshwarlu</td>
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<td>R.Naseeruddin</td>
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<tr>
<td>D.RamMohan</td>
<td>Ag 85%</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>Report</td>
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</table>
My father being a farmer couldn’t have fulfilled my needs, had your scholarship not been there to help me. As it hasn’t rained for the last 4 years in Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan, the economic condition of my family was in bad shape. At such a time, your scholarship really removed the burden of my college fees from my father’s shoulders. I promise you sir, when I get a job after my study is over, I will put all my efforts in helping NSF, be it financial or any other requirement, because this scholarship is helping me, when my family is in an economic crisis.” - Rajinder Sihag, MNIT, Jaipur.

I am extremely thankful to you for awarding me the scholarship of excellence to pursue my studies in B.Sc. (math) in Sourashtra College, Madurai. Your help was timely and only because of that I am able to continue my studies. In first semester, I secured 78.3% marks. I am sure I shall score much more in second semester and be proud to you.” - K. G. Priya

“I am extremely grateful to you for the award of scholarship of excellence to pursue my studies in B. Sc. (Physics) at Thiagarajar College, Madurai. Your assistance was a boon to me as I am fatherless and with the meager earnings of my mother I was unable to continue my studies. I had scored 64.6% of marks in first semester. But I am confident that I shall score much more marks in the second semester. I shall do my best to do justice for your timely help. I am also an acting participant in N.S.S. programs.” - P. Prabu

“I am highly indebted to you for awarding me North South Foundation scholarship of excellence to prosecute my studies in B. Sc. (Chemistry) at Thiagarajar College, Madurai. I hail from a very poor family and your timely help is a great source of support and encouragement to me. I am glad to inform you that I scored 80.00% in the 1st semester. I am confident that I shall improve upon this performance in the 2nd semester.” - K. Janani

“I got my results i got 79% in my exams. I am from a poor family so that my study was a question mark in my life. I saw god in people like you so that I got my lifetime education.” - Karthick Kumar R, Coimbatore

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Recipients of NSF Scholarships in India -Current

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>SP Rank</th>
<th>Yr</th>
<th>Parent</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>SP Rank</th>
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<tr>
<td>P Rajesh</td>
<td>BS 87%</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>S Chandramouli</td>
<td>BS 90%</td>
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<td>Labour</td>
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<td>B Madhavi</td>
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<td>Business</td>
<td>G T Reddy</td>
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<td>G Keerthi</td>
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<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Ashwani Ekdote</td>
<td>BS 91%</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>Driver</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eg = Engg, Me = Medicine, Po = Polytechnic, BC=BCA

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NSF Scholars Corner…
The North South Foundation High School programs are currently in operation in four High Schools in Andhra Pradesh. These programs are instituted by NRIs in memory of their beloved departed souls. A selection Committee consisting of representatives of the donor, Head Master and NSF India make the selections. To ensure fairness in selection, awardees are selected on the basis of best academic results achieved in the public examinations conducted by the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh in 7th and 10th grades. Details of designated school level scholarships are given below.

**Kallur High School in Chittoor District:** Dr. Surya Putta funds these awards in memory of his parents, Putta Ramakrishnaiah and Pushpalamma. Awards are not only given to students based on outstanding performance in public examinations conducted in 7th and 10th grades, but also, more importantly, to provide scholarships to those who move on to pursue Intermediate and Diploma in Polytechnic courses. This year 19 students were given awards valued at Rs. 40,250.

**Relangi High School in West Godavari District:** Dr. Yerramsetty Narasimha Rao has created an endowment of $5,000 in memory of his mother, late Smt. Sitha Mahalakshmi. Apart from awards to students with excellent performance in 7th and 10th grade public examinations, assistance is also rendered to students of this High School joining Govt. Polytechnic Colleges and Intermediate course in deserving cases based on economic criteria. This year 9 students were given awards valued at Rs. 14,000.

**Brahmanakoduru High School in Guntur District:** Dr. B. Prasada Rao Makkapati is one of the two donors who funds these awards in memory of his father-in-law, Dr. Uppala Purnaiah Choudary. Dr. Sambasiva Rao Chigurupati is the other donor supporting this program. Annual awards are presented to the best students of grades 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 based on academic performance. This year 11 students were presented awards valued at Rs. 4,800.

**Chelluru Elementary and High Schools in East Godavari District:** Mrs. Sita Devi Mutyala has created an endowment of $2,000 in the memory of her sister, Chundru Bharamareswari Devi. Awards are given to the top rank boy and the top rank girl in 5th, 7th and 20th. This program was begun in 2004 with 6 awards valued at Rs. 9,000.

What is most credit worthy is that all the donors cherish the memory of not only their beloved ones, but also their roots. All the schools are Govt. schools and so the significant cash awards are also of considerable use to the awardees.

**Swabhiman for Disabled Children in Bhubanewsar:** Shri Sandip K. Dasverma, funds Anjali scholarships to disabled children. The awards this year amounted to Rs. 21,000.

**Spelling Bee Contest in Cuttack:** Shri Sandip DasVerma is also supporting a spelling bee program initiated in 2003. He provided Rs. 30,300 towards this effort in 2003.

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**Designated NSF India Scholarships**

**College Level**
- Dr. Satya Sagar Jandhyala
- Dr. Asok Kumar Ray (10)
- Dr. Ashok Kache (10)
- Dr. Venugopal Kesavulu (15)
- Dr. G. Ranganath (5)
- Dr. Anjaneya Reddy Puppala
- Mr. Sreenivs Golkonda
- Mr. Sivananda Poreddy
- Ms. Himabindu Vuppala
- Mr. Chrish Ramdhani
- Dr. Subba C. Rao (3)
- Dr. Ramachandra Rao Kanuri
- Dr. Umamaheswararao Varanasi

**High School Level**
- Dr. B. Prasad Rao Makkapati
- Dr. Narasimha Rao Yerramsetti
- Dr. Surya Putta
- Dr. Sambasivarao Chigurupati
- Dr. Venaka Ramana Pulavarthi
- Mr. Vasa Srinivas
- Mrs. Sita Mutyala
- Mr. Sandip DasVerma
How are the Candidates Selected for Scholarships in India?

This is a question often asked by many potential donors. They want to know that their hard-earned money is helping the most deserving pupil, not just any deserving. They know the need is there everywhere. They also know that everyone can’t be helped because of limited resources. So they want their contribution go to the very best.

In 2004 ten centers participated in giving scholarships: Bangalore, Bhavnagar, Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Hyderabad, Jodhpur, Kolkata, Madurai, Pune, and Sibsagar. Here is a brief synopsis of the entire process at a typical center.

Get Ready: Each center monitors their local entrance examination schedules. Shortly after the examinations have taken place, the local NSF center (or the NSF USA at the request of the local center) prepares a formal announcement about the scholarship program for the upcoming academic year.

Go to Press: The aim is to get the word out to all eligible students. The announcement is sent to local newspapers, and other media including TV and radio. The content is disseminated both in English and in the local language. The media does this free of charge as a community service. This announcement normally is made between June and July to coincide with the examination results. All eligible students are encouraged to write to the local center for applications. Students have two to four weeks to send in their applications, along with their academic scores and documents on their financial status.

Form a Selection Committee: While the applications are being received, a Selection Committee gets established. Selecting the right people to be on this Committee is one of the most crucial elements in the process. Committee members within each center are selected based on their credentials and respect in the community. Usually three to five members are appointed based on their respective integrity, honesty, character, trust, and reputation.

Selection Process: The Selection Committee screens all applications based on academic qualifications first, and on the financial need second. To be eligible, a student must score among the top five percent, which is relaxed to ten percent in the case of rural and girl students. The annual family income should not exceed Rs. 38,000 in urban areas and Rs. 26,000 in rural area. Of those eligible, a short list of the most deserving candidates is made for an in-person interview. Each student and a parent are interviewed and verifications are made as to the genuineness of their application. Candidates are reimbursed for one-way travel to the local NSF center. The interview process and the verification process are quite extensive, as every effort is made to be sure the aid is going to the most needy and deserving among the poor.

Communication with Central Office and NSF USA: After a center finalizes its choice of candidates, the information is sent to the national coordinator. Here, the list is further verified to ensure the norms are being uniformly implemented across all centers, and the information

(continued on page 24 ...
Contribution Form

Please Make Your Tax Deductible Contribution to North South Foundation.
No amount is too small. Please give generously. Tax ID: 36-3659998

Please select one of the options:
___ $250 Full Scholarship  ___ $125 Half Scholarship  Other $ _______
By Check# _____ Credit Card ___ Check one: VISA__ MC__ DISC__ Am Exp__

Name on card: __________________________________________________________
Number: ______________________________ Expires on: ______
You can also contribute online at www.northsouth.org
( ) $250 to sponsor a scholarship for one year
( ) $1,000 to sponsor a student for a full 4-year college
( ) $4,000 to sponsor a scholarship every year in perpetuity+
+ Using interest generated from this fund, a scholarship is given from the following year.

Please specify your choice:
( ) Scholarship in India (Help a needy child go to college)
( ) Scholarship in USA (Spelling / Vocabulary / Math / Brain Bee Contests)
( ) Fellowship in Public Health and Sanitation In India

First Name: ______________ Last Name: ______________________
Street: ______________________________________________
City:  ________________________  State:  ______  Zip:  __________
E-mail: ______----_____________ Phone: ______________________
Employer: __________________________Has matching gift: Yes __  No __

To designate in honor or memory of a loved one at an institution of your choice, please provide the details below (only for amounts $4,000 and over):

In honor or memory of ____________________________________________
Institution Name __________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________

Please mail to: North South Foundation, 2 Marissa Ct., Burr Ridge, IL 60527-6864 (630) 323-1966. Please visit www.northsouth.org for the NSF Website.
You can also find this pledge sheet at
www.northsouth.org
(Article on Page 13)
is in turn relayed to NSF USA. Following the confirmation of the finalists, funds are disbursed to the selected candidates. Return receipts for the funds received by the students are sent back to the central office. Finally, an award ceremony is often scheduled where the press is invited. This not only helps the student in being recognized, but also makes more people become aware of NSF.

Renewals: The student must maintain high academic standards for the scholarship to be renewed for each year of study. The scholarships currently cover 100% of tuition fee. The student and family are expected to cover the remaining costs either through their own funds or other scholarships.

NSF is growing every year. The average award is about $250 per student per year. In order to establish a new NSF center, it is necessary to be able to support 10 scholarships. Therefore, if the award is given for four years, then at least $10,000 per year is needed to establish and maintain a new center.

In a nutshell this is the entire NSF scholarship process. The Foundation welcomes any new ideas or thoughts for improving this process.

Financial Highlights
Fiscal Year: May 1, 2003 to April 30, 2004

Scholarship Account - India

Income
Contributions from Walk-a-thons  25,900
Other Donations  71,253
Total Contributions  $ 97,153

Expenses
Allocated Expenses  2,820
Grants: 113 new scholarships  22,600
Grants: 237 renewal scholarships  41,475
Designated Scholarships  3,000
Total Scholarship Grants  67,075
Total Grants & Expenses  69,895
Balance carried forward ++  27,258

Spelling Bee Account - USA

Income
Registration Fees  96,295
Contributions  4,000
Total Reg Fees & Contributions  $ 100,295

Expenses
Contest/Other Expenses  48,670
Scholarship Endowment+  14,000
Total Grants & Expenses  62,670
Balance carried forward++  37,625

+ to cover '03 scholarships awarded
++ to cover past short falls / future endowments
Financial Highlights
Fiscal Year: May 1, 2003 to April 30, 2004

Scholarships in India

Overhead ('03-'04)

Contributions to Scholarships in India
I participated in NSF’s Junior Spelling Bee national finals in Phoenix this year and had a great time. The best moment was when I won the second place. Though I was a little sad that I couldn’t get the first place, I felt happy to be among the top three. Last year, when I finished in 8th place, I made up my mind to be in top three places this year.

I love to read, and I read most of the time. I started noticing the spelling of the words I didn’t know. I think this helped me a lot. Though I didn’t prepare much for the regional bee, it gave me a lot of confidence to win it for the second consecutive year. I practiced twice a week, and my mom made sure I went through the published list at least once. For the national finals, we couldn’t start preparing sooner because we went to India for 7 weeks. After returning I practiced twice a day for about 3 weeks and spelled about 100 words in each session. My mom or dad would pronounce a word and I would either spell it out loud or write it down. I liked everything about the preparation except that it took a long time. When I got to the finals, I was really tense. The written and verbal rounds were easy, but the verbal elimination round wasn’t. I got through some hard words such as ‘squalid’. It was quite okay until it was down to two people, myself and a girl from Kansas, Kavya Shivshankar. I knew the next word would be tough as I went up. I had to spell the word ‘noosphere’. I got it wrong as I spelled it ‘noesphere’. Kavya spelled the word ‘monastary’ to win.

The things I felt good about were that I spelled about 35 words correctly and knew the winning word and most of all that I accomplished my goal. The spelling bee has really helped me increase my vocabulary and the great thing I learnt was that I could collect money from people through the DAS program to help a child go to college in India. I’ve been trying to do this whenever I go to parties or meet people.

Amma, I do not want to go

Adarsh Jayakumar, Vernon Hills, IL

“But Amma, I do not want to go’, I whined in the early spring of 2002. My mom had just announced to me that there was this North South Foundation Spelling Contest she wanted me to compete in. What is the point of going to a spelling bee, I wondered to myself. Anyway, I grudgingly agreed to compete in the regional spelling bee contest – after all, it was still a month away. I figured that preparing for it would be a breeze! After two weeks of studying the practice list of spelling words, I began to realize how tough the words really were. I worked very hard that month studying up to twenty words a day until ‘judgment time’ – the spelling bee contest date.

On my way to the venue where it was being held, I felt a sudden sense of nervousness. What if I do not do win? Well, I was about to find out. When I entered the contest room, I saw many faces looking almost as scared as me. I
felt a bit better and settled down to do my best in the contest. After the first half, the judges called out the names of those who had advanced to the final half of the contest. I was one of them. Twenty five minutes later, the names of the winners were being announced. The judges went through the third place, then the second place and finally for first place, they called out my name. I was overjoyed! As I ran up to receive my trophy, I admitted to myself that my parents were right - hard work does pay off in the end.

Looking back now, I am glad that my mom convinced me to go to my first NSF Bee. I still participate in the Bees regularly and, today, I am a stronger speller than ever before.

**Benefits of participating in NSF Math Bee**

*Dr. Sarat Puthenpura and Dr. Krishnaiah Revuluri*

The well known saying, “Home is the best school” is appropriate to the present generation. All parents should encourage their children to develop problem-solving skills at home. Parents should have the patience to answer children’s questions, which could be often challenging.

There is a vast difference between a classroom setting and a contest setting. In general, during classroom testing, children know beforehand about the material they are being tested on. So their minds are tuned to that material. When they participate in a contest, similar to NSF Math Bee, the scenario is quite different. They have to identify the problem and its background. Then they have to apply the appropriate tools to solve the given problem. In this process, children develop and engage connectivity skills.

When students participate in these contests, their attitude changes from “What is the answer?” to “How do I solve this?” In our opinion, this ability to change focus from the answer to solution is the greatest gift we can offer to our children at an early age. Also, a given problem can be solved in different ways. So they need to develop skills of applying the best method available. By sharing their solution with their peers and adults (teachers and parents), they learn that there is more than one way to solve a problem. Subsequently they develop tolerance and appreciation to others’ opinions and thinking process. By participating in these contests, they share and multiply their knowledge.

Another important aspect associated with these types of competitions is that students will have an opportunity to widen their knowledge on various topics in mathematics, over and above their regular curriculum. This is especially important, as it will give an edge over others as they progress through their grades. With that, their learning experience in classrooms will be more efficient.

We all should approach this competition as a tool to grow our learning, rather than with the attitude of winning a prize. By participating in the competition, a student is already a winner!
2004 National Spelling Bee Winners

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<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
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<td>Kshithij Shrinath</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Nandhini Sundaresan</td>
<td>Akshayraj Aitha</td>
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<td>Ramesh Govindan</td>
<td>Sanjay Kannan</td>
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<td>Rajiv Alluri</td>
<td>Anjali Nagulpally</td>
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<td>Rohit Thummalapalli</td>
<td>Ramya Auroprem</td>
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<td>Aishvvar Radhakhrisnan</td>
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<td>Sanat Sethi</td>
<td>Vineet Murukuti</td>
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2004 National Vocab Bee Winners

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<td>Anand Oza</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Ami Parekh</td>
<td>Krithika Varagur</td>
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<td>Pranav Mahadevan</td>
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<td>Divya Krishnan</td>
<td>Gayatri Surendranathan</td>
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<td>Shalini Ramachandran</td>
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<td>Mangala Iyengar</td>
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2004 National Brain Bee Winners

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<tr>
<td>Awhley Thakur</td>
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<td>Liny John</td>
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### 2004 National Math Bee Winners

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<td>Aditya Kotecha</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Neel Mehta</td>
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<td>Prasant Ghantasala</td>
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### Proud to Bee!

*Rohith Lukkoor, Saratoga, CA*

I participated in the Junior Spelling Bee in April. I studied the practice words with Varun who is my friend and we studied together every Friday. I also studied at home every other day. My mom would pronounce the words and offer us clues on how to spell them. I would then quickly write them down. Then we would correct what we wrote. We would then decide on a new set of words for the following meeting.

I didn’t enjoy studying because the words sounded crazy and they exhausted me. I was not even familiar with many of the words from the list such as “infructuous” and “meticulosity” and many more. That made me feel very nervous about the Spelling Bee. I wondered if I would do well, but I concealed my feelings from my mom.
When the Bee day came, my other friend Sameer arrived too. I was very excited, but very nervous. In the Spelling Bee, I got two words wrong. I was surprised that the Bee concluded so quickly. When the Spelling Bee was over, all the kids received a certificate and medal. Even though I didn’t win, I felt very proud of myself for trying. My mom and dad were proud too. I would like to learn more words and feel more confident next time. Also, I want to add another certificate and medal to my collection. So, I am looking forward to participating again in 2005.

Am I Part of the NSF Family?

As typical parents do, all we focused on is to have our children participate in the North South Foundation contests. Initially it was about the tangible prizes that a potential contest winner brings home. A better understanding of the Foundation’s mission has led us to align our goals with the far-fetched goals and objectives of NSF. We have since realized that being part of the NSF family brings more joy in many different ways than just the contest prizes, which now seem frivolous.

When we learned about the Foundation’s Dollar-A-Square (DAS) program, we felt that we should try it out. The reason for this is many folds. First and foremost - the resulting contribution provides an opportunity to a deserving child among the poor to fulfill his or her lifetime dream of getting a college education, which will permit the family to overcome the very distress the lack of education in the family has created.

We, inclusive of our children, unequivocally decided to participate in the DAS program and contribute towards the scholarship of at least one needy student every year. Through the DAS program, a scholarship for one student for one year costs only $200, a paltry amount for a lot of us living in the US. But it is certainly a boon for a needy student.

“How many (birthday) presents do you see?” is a children’s rhyme that is played during some birthday parties when the child (host) finds joy in counting the gifts. In contrast, in India, there are many children that cannot afford to go to school, let alone celebrating birthdays. On the occasion of our children’s birthday parties, we planed to raise a good portion of the DAS contributions by providing an option to the guests to contribute to DAS in lieu of gifts. From our standpoint, the benefits for the needy student outweigh the joy that the birthday presents bring to our children. If you really think about it, this option benefits the guests as well. The guests no longer need to go and spend time looking for a gift, instead they can write a check for a similar amount as that of the cost of the intended gift. Needless to say, the guests also become contributors to a worthy cause - a WIN-WIN situation.

Can you become part of the NSF family? We know we have. We feel good about it.
TEMPE, AZ: Kavya Shivashankar, an 8-year-old from Olathe, KS and Aamani Paturi, a 10-year-old from Barrington, IL won the 12th Annual North South Foundation Junior and Senior Spelling Bee Championships, respectively. Anand Oza from North Potomac, MD won the Junior Vocabulary contest, while Keshav Pillai who just moved from Ohio to Virginia took the senior crown.

In the inaugural Finals of the Foundation’s newest contest - Math Bee, two contestants from California, Divya Sidharth from Encino and Ganesh Ajjanagadde from Union City won the first places in Level 1 and Level 2 contests, respectively, while two contestants from Glastonbury, Connecticut, Aditya Rajagopalan and Kiran Pendri swept the top ranks in Level 3 and Level 4 contests, respectively.

The Foundation held its 12th annual national finals at Arizona State University, Tempe on Saturday, September 4th and Sunday, September 5th. The spelling and vocabulary were held in 3 phases with the last phase consisting of elimination rounds, which made it quite exciting. The Math Bee was held in two phases, one written and another, a lightning round with questions displayed on a screen for 60 seconds.

This is the 5th year for the NSF Brain Bee, a neuroscience contest. Ashley Thakur, a precocious 11-year old from Long Island, NY won this year’s Brain Bee Championship and became the youngest Brain Bee champion in the contest’s 5-year history. Ashley will be representing North South Foundation in the 2005 International Brain Bee conducted by Prof. Norbert Myslinski of the University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD in March 2005.

This year, the North South Foundation presented to Mr. Nipun Mehta, the Viswa Jyothi award, a role model award to identify and recognize individuals who, through their noble deeds and sacrifices, have made significant impact on the society by enriching lives of people with no hope and in turn can stimulate a sense of social responsibility and volunteerism in present day youth. Nipun Mehta, at the age of 23, started CharityFocus, a volunteer driven nonprofit organization in April 1999 to inspire the young generation of IT professionals to provide web based technological solutions to other nonprofit organizations worldwide for free. For more about Nipun, an article appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

The Governor of Arizona, Janet Nepolitano, was the chief guest at the Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening. She gave an inspiring speech to the children and parents, and gave away the Viswa Jyothi award to Nipun Mehta. The Awards Ceremony was held at the famous Gammage Auditorium on the ASU campus, the same place where the last 2004 Presidential Debate took place on October 13, 2004.

This year’s National Finals championships were co-sponsored by the Tempe/ASU chapter of Association for India’s Development (AID). The
contests were the largest in the Foundation’s 12 years of contest history with four hundred sixty finalists from 45 NSF centers throughout the US participating in the event. The National contest categories consisted of Junior and Senior Spelling Bees for children below 9 and 13 years, respectively. The Junior vocabulary (word-meaning) contest is meant for children below 13 years, while the Senior Vocabulary contest is for children below the age of 17. The Math Bee that was introduced this year has been a spectacular success as it attracted massive registrations throughout the regional contests. The Level 1 in Math Bee is meant for Grades 2 and lower, the Level 2 for grades 3-5, the Level for grades 6-8 and Level 4 for Grades 9 and 10. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners of all these contests will receive North South Foundation scholarships of $1000, $500 and $250 respectively, redeemable in the freshman year of their college.

For more information please call Dr. Samit Bhattacharya at 860-446-1445 or Dr. Murali Gavini at 301-947-2702 and check out the website www.northsouth.org.

2004 Scholarship Sponsors

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2004 Winner Bees

Junior Spelling Bee Winners

Kavya Shivashankar is 8 years old and was born in Boca Raton, Florida. Kavya is in fourth grade and goes to Regency Place Elementary School in Olathe, KS. She is in the special education program offered for exceptional students by the State. Her extra curricular activities include ballet dancing, ice-skating, bharathanatyam and swimming. She loves reading and math, and is ambitious on becoming a neurosurgeon and a figure skater. She loves reading Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings and other adventure books. Through a Dollar-A-Square (DAS) program, Kavya raised $200 for the Foundation to help a child go to college in India by allowing an option to the guests at her birthday party to donate money in lieu of gifts.

Kshithij Shrinath is an 8 year old 4th grader at Challenger School, Sunnyvale, CA. Born in Bangalore, India, Kshithij moved to US with his parents when he was 2. He has been a straight A student at school and has received many awards and scholarships for that. History is his favorite school subject. He is also very much interested in sports and music. He plays basketball and baseball for the Sunnyvale Leagues. He has received the National Fitness award from the President’s office. Kshithij is learning Carnatic classical music and light music and is an avid reader. Though he loves mysteries and is a great Harry Potter fan, he loves to read anything he can lay his hands on. He is also learning Kannada and Hindi regularly.

Akshay Aitha is a 2nd grader at Dougherty Elementary School in San Ramon, CA. He developed a special interest in reading books from his early childhood. He started reading at the age of two. Amazingly he has read thousands of books so far. Incidentally, he likes reading non-fiction books over fiction books. At this young age, he has published an article on “Reading” in Balagokulam, a Hindu monthly magazine. Akshay has participated in several competitions and won many awards.

Senior Spelling Bee Winners

Ten year old Aamani Paturi is in 4th grade at Marion Jordan in Palatine, IL. Aamani is an avid reader and her interests include tennis, chess and swimming. Her favorite
books are those in the Harry Potter series. She tied for 4th place and the youngest in IL state Scripps sponsored by Chicago Tribune in 2004. Aamani was placed 8th in the Jr. Spelling Bee in 2002. She plays Chess and has won several trophies in Chess. Aamani likes art (she designed the new NSF walk a thon T-shirt), and likes watching TV, Telugu and Indian movies. Aamani has been a DAS volunteer for NSF and a student Ambassador for her school in Palatine.

**Rajiv Tarigopula**, an 8th grader, is an honor student in the Program for Exceptionally Gifted Students at Sperreng Middle School. He is editor of his school newspaper, and has placed high ranks in many science and math competitions. Rajiv won a first place prize in a website competition sponsored by the Junior Academy of Science in St. Louis. He enjoys working with computers and the internet, playing the violin, and reading books. When he grows up, he would like to become either a neurosurgeon or a police officer.

**Nandhini Sundaresan** is a sixth grade gifted student at Webb Bridge Middle, Alpharetta, GA. She is a voracious reader and a big fan of Harry Potter. She aspires to be an author and a poet and enjoys writing short stories and poems. She was a finalist at the North American Student Science Fiction and Fantasy Contest, Boston 2004 for her short story. She won the regional spelling bee from Santa Clara last year and was placed fourth at the NSF Final in Baltimore, 2003. This year she qualified for all three finals - Senior spelling, Junior Vocabulary and Math Bee II from the Atlanta regional, winning the second spot in the spelling and first place in Math. She won the third place in the Senior Spelling and Junior Vocabulary contests at the NSF Finals, Phoenix 2004.

**Junior Vocabulary Winners**

**Anand Oza** is enrolled in the 7th Grade Science and Math Magnet Program at Takoma Park Middle School, Silver Spring, MD. At the Johns Hopkins University Talent Search 2004, Anand was ranked first and second in the sixth grade math and verbal respectively in Maryland. Anand received Certification of Recognition for Innovative Achievement by US patent and Trademark Office in association with the Cold Spring ES “Be an inventor week” in December 2001. Anand won the Maryland State Chess Championship Trophy for rating below 900 in the K-8 grade Group in March 2002. Anand has competed in the North-South Foundation Bees for four years, since he was in the third grade. In 2003, Anand was placed 5th in the national
Junior Vocabulary bee. He is an avid reader, plays video games, table tennis, and basketball. He has a keen interest in computers and enjoys doing math puzzles.

Krithika Varagur was born in Australia and came to the US when she was 15 months old. Krithika is starting a 6th grader at John Adams Middle School, Edison, NJ. While she was in elementary school, Krithika took part in enrichment programs such as PEG (Program for Exceptionally Gifted children) and AT (Academically Talented) programs. She was a Junior Spelling Bee national finalist in 2002. She was a national finalist in the Senior Spelling Bee and Junior Vocabulary Bee categories in 2003. Besides studies, Krithika plays the trumpet in the School Band and has been learning Carnatic Vocal and Bharata Natyam for the past 4 years. In addition to English, Krithika can speak, read and write in Tamil and Spanish. She plays Soccer and is a keen swimmer.

Senior Vocabulary Winners

Keshav Pillai is a 9th grader at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Virginia. Keshav enjoys reading and travel and is learning Carnatic music and violin. Besides winning 1st place in North South Foundation Regional Vocabulary for the last two years and Regional Spelling Bee for 4 years, Keshav’s achievements also include being placed in the 8th rank for the 2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee competition, and being a 2004 Ohio state finalist for the National Geographic Bee competition. Keshav was a third place award recipient for ACT reading in the 2004 Northwestern University talent search and was the 2nd place winner in the Northeastern Ohio Science and Engineering Fair in the Physics category. This year at NSF finals, Keshav was placed 1st in Senior Vocabulary and 5th in the Brain Bee.

Ami Parekh, is an 11th grader from Glen Allen, Virginia. She represented New Jersey state at the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee at Washington DC in 2000. She also claimed 8th place at the North South Foundation National Vocabulary Contest in 2003. Ami is an accomplished figure skater who claimed the North Atlantic Junior Figure Skating Championships in 2001 and 2002. Ami moved on to the Junior National Championships and claimed 7th rank in USA.

Megha Raghavan is in 8th grade at John F Kennedy Middle School in Cupertino, California. She was born in New York and moved to California at the age of 4. She plays soccer and badminton and takes violin lessons.
**MATH BEE LEVEL 1 WINNERS**

*Divya Siddarth* is a fun-loving, intelligent and imaginative 8 year-old student at the Mirman School in Los Angeles, CA. Her favorite subjects at school are math, computers and art. Divya is also an aspiring poet ad two of her poems have been published recently in the Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans and in A Celebration of Young Poets. Divya loves to read and think of new games to play with her friends. Her other hobbies are sailing and Bharathanatyam.

Born in Phoenix, Arizona, *Aditya Kotecha* is a 2nd grader at Challenger School in Newark, CA (Ardenwood Campus). Math was his passion early on as he started learning 1-12 tables at the age of 4. Aditya has been participating in Challenger School Math Bee competitions for the last 3 years (KG to 2nd Grade). He has been a first prize winner in 1st and 2nd Grade Math Bee at Challenger School. Besides math, he enjoys swimming, basketball, soccer and chess. He lives in Union City, CA with his proud parents Kavita and Lalit Kotecha and little brother Anuj.

*Neel Mehta* is an 8-year old in 3rd grade at Audubon Elementary School, Audubon, PA. Neel is in the Gifted program and the Math Enrichment program offered by the Methacton School District. Neel’s hobbies include poetry writing, reading (Harry Potter, American history, Geography, and different weather phenomena), soccer, swimming and learning to play the violin. Neel would like to be a doctor, a research scientist or a professor. Neel worked on various research projects as a part of his gifted program curriculum. He did a power point presentation on Lego™ in first grade. Some of the projects he worked on in second grade were: Optical Illusions, the Planets and Ancient Rome. Neel also won the story-writing contest at school in the past year.

**MATH BEE LEVEL 2 WINNERS**

*Ganesh Ajjanagadde* is a 5th grade student at Challenger School, Ardenwood, CA. Ganesh loves Math and hopes he gets more time to spend on his most favorite subject. He also has deep interests in Science, Geography, and History. The only other things that come close to his interest in Math are sports and Indian desserts! He plays a number of games including basketball and cricket, and also enjoys long distance running. He lives in Union City, CA with his parents, Vijaya and Venkat, who are from Mangalore area in Karnataka.
Krishna V. Hegde is a 10 year old, 5th grader in Eads Elementary in Munster, IN. His interests are in math, chess, baseball and soccer and reading is his main hobby.

Virup Gubba is a 10 year old, 5th grader at Murdock Portal Elementary School in Cupertino, CA. His academic interests are in Math and Reading. Virup loves to play tennis, ping-pong and chess.

**Math Bee Level 3 Winners**

Aditya Rajagopalan, is an 8th grader at the Smith Middle School, Glastonbury, CT. Aditya has natural problem solving skills and comes up with solutions to complex problem without formal training. Aditya scored the highest in the American Math Challenge (AMC8) in 6th grade in the North East and secured the highest score in school in 7th grade. He enjoys playing tennis, baseball, ping-pong and basketball. He has a keen acumen for reading and music and enjoys playing the piano and violin. His computer skills are outstanding and he enjoys setting up computer networks and playing with the latest in technology.

Mahadev (Dave) Nair is a 8th grader at Pembroke Hill School in Kansas City, KS. Mahadev has won in other math competitions as well. His hobbies include music, chess, tennis, video games and art.

Arka Mallela is a 7th grader at Elkins Pointe Middle School in Atlanta, GA. He loves karate, violin and is into coin collecting. He was in the Principal’s Honor Roll in his school and has won several awards in music and math competitions.

**Math Bee Level 4 Winners**

Kiran Pendri is an 11th grader at Choate Rosemary Hall and a Deans-list honors student. He has been an elected representative of Choate Rosemary Hall judiciary committee, and a member of math varsity team and crew JV team. He scored in the top 99% in the nation in PSAT 2003. Kiran enjoys listening to music, running and computer programming.

Yasaswi Raparla is a 10th grader at Thomas Jefferson High School in Rockville, MD. Yasaswi received the President Award for Excellence in his middle School. He is President of National Junior Honor Society and has contributed to local
newspapers. He enjoys debating and essay writing and has won many awards. Yasaswi learns the Indian classical violin (student of legendary Lalgudis). Yasaswi is a nationally rated chess player and was the captain and champion of Chess team in middle school.

**Aman Nalavade** is a 11th grader at Wissahickon High School in Philadelphia, PA. He has received many awards. In 1999-2003 he participated in John Hopkins Center for Talented Youth Program. In 2002 he was part of first place team in Chapter MATHCOUNTS Competition. Aman has a strong interest in computers, and loves to play computer games. He likes learning about how computers work and likes to program.

### BRAIN BEE WINNERS

Eleven year old **Ashley Thakur** was recently featured in the New York Newsday for her extraordinary talent and accomplishment in violin leading her to being chosen as the concert-mistress at the 2004 All County Music Festival in Long Island. At age 7, Ashley became the youngest National Spelling Bee champion of NSF. Ashley was recognized by the American Society of Poetry for her literary talent. She is a black-belt in martial art and enjoys ballet which she has been performing since the age of two and half years. Ashley became the youngest Brain Bee champion at the NSF Finals this year.

**Liny John** is a 12th grader at Parkville High School in Rockville, MD. She received state recognition award for SAT scores in the Johns Hopkins Talent Search and a President’s Award for Educational Excellence. She is a straight-A student (rank 1 in class) and a member of American Mensa. Liny plays field hockey and tennis for her school teams. She has been learning Bharatnatyam, piano, tap, ballet, and roller skating (all for approximately 8 yrs) and is a singer.
## 2004 Educational Contests

NSF conducted contests this year in the following centers around USA and Canada with the help of coordinators and sponsors.

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<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
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<th>Sponsor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Calgary</td>
<td>AL</td>
<td>Narayana Murthy Nadella</td>
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<td>AZ</td>
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<td>CA</td>
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<td>Portland</td>
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<td>Ananda Murthy/ Venky Subramanian</td>
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