ZANT NEWS
A Publication of Zoroastrian Association of North Texas

www.zant.org

April 2019

ZANT Upcoming Events

- April 27: Maidyozarem Gahambar (Fasli)
- May 11: ZANT Carnival and Food Fest
- June 8: ZANT Graduation
- June 22: ZANT Youth Group—Black & Red Night

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ZANT Address:
Zoroastrian Center of North Texas
1605 Lopo Road
Flower Mound, TX 75028-1306

We welcome and encourage feedback from our community. Please send comments or suggestions to president.zant@gmail.com or mail to ZANT, 1605 Lopo Road, Flower Mound, TX 75028-1306
MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

ZANT Board invites you to come & be part of the many celebrations we have planned for you – beginning with the Maidyozarem Gahambar & Jashan.

If you have a hidden talent, you have an opportunity to show it off & help ZANT in its annual Carnival Fundraiser! Read the article for more info….If you are looking for delicious Zarathushti food and artifacts, come to the one-stop shop at ZANT Center on the Annual Carnival & Food Fest day & shop & help ZANT in its fundraiser…

For an opportunity to get to know what our young Zarathushtis are up to, come & encourage them at the ZANT Graduation Celebration….read the article in next newsletter…. 

Our new Youth Coordinator, Panteha is also planning activities for the youth in summer – come & be part of it – enjoy, share your ideas & make it fun!

With the 2 new TT Tables now at ZANT Center, we just can’t wait to have a TT Tournament sometime soon…. So use the summer to brush up your skills & be ready…..

If you would like to see some new activity, we are always open to it – share your thoughts & volunteer with us to see it through!

GRADUATION WRITE-UPS REQUESTED

Congratulations to all Parents of ZANT Graduates!

As in the past, ZANT will be honoring our graduates. This year ZANT is honoring our graduates on Saturday, June 8, 2019 in our “Graduation Ceremony” ZANT-style!

For this, we need you to send us a short write-up on your kid (at least 4-5 lines). Please send it to Pearl Balsara at ppbalsara@gmail.com by ASAP by May 20, 2019.

Hope you all will be attending with your Graduate & family & friends!

ZANT CARNIVAL

Are you craving for ZANT’s Annual Carnival Fundraiser?

It is going to be a fun evening of games, races & tug-of-war with delicious food served all evening long!

ZANT’s Annual Carnival will be on Saturday, May 11, 2019. The carnival has been a good fundraiser and this year we want to break our own fundraising record of the past! Do you have some ideas? What types of food can you prepare & contribute for this fundraiser? Please contact Anahita Sidhwa at afsidhwa@verizon.net.
ZANT welcomes all to an evening at the Carnival for some Fun Games and Delicious Food

Saturday May 11, 2019 at 5:30pm

GAME SCHEDULE
6:00pm Egg Hunt
6:30pm Sack Race (kids/youth/adults)
7:00pm Egg and Spoon Race
7:30pm 3-Legged Race (kids/youth/adults)
8:00pm Piñata Fun
8:30pm Tug-of-War (kids/youth/adults)
9:00pm Limbo
9:30pm Bingo

YUMMIES FOR YOUR TUMMIES
5:30pm onwards:
We will have lots of snacks and dinner items on sale, such as:
bhakhras, daar-ni-pori, batasa, chutney & chicken sandwiches, cutlets & pattices, samosas, shami kebabs, healthy chewro, and many more mouth-watering goodies you cannot find in any store!

You can pack your favorites and make a gift bag for Mothers’ Day on May 12!
Zoroastrian Association of North Texas

Let us all get together and celebrate the

Maidyozarem Gahambar (Fasli)

(celebrating Ahura Mazda’s creation - Sky)

Date: Saturday, April 27, 2019  Address: 1605 Lopo Road
Time: 5:30 pm onwards  Flower Mound, TX 75028
Place: ZANT Center

This Gahambar is sponsored by few ZANT families.

Jashan followed by

Dinner consisting of:
Chicken Kabob, Khoresh Gheyme (veg and non-veg), White rice,
Veg and non-veg Dhansak (brown rice and daal), Salad,
Dessert: Sholeh zard, Baklava, Sirogh and Tea

Reservations: Please submit this form with correct amount on check. There will be a late charge of $5 per person (members & non-members) for RSVP after the April 20, 2019 deadline.

Name: ________________________________
ZANT Members: $12/person contribution _____ × $12 = ______
(No. of Vegetarians _______ )
Kids / Youth: $5/person contribution _____ × $5 = ______
Non-members: $18/person contribution _____ × $18 = ______
(Children under 5 yrs. - FREE) Total Payment ___

RSVP by April 20, 2019 to Pearl P. Balsara at
Tel: (972) 519-0373 or Email: ppbalsara@gmail.com
Mail: ZANT 1605 Lopo Road Flower Mound, TX 75028
Boy Scouts “Good Life” Badge:

Congratulations to Cyrus Buhariwalla for earning his Zoroastrian Religious Emblem Award in scouting. During the April religion class, Cyrus was presented with "The Good Life Program" award. Cyrus has earned this award by completing the program and also by giving service to ZANT. In April 2018, Cyrus upgraded the old sprinkler system and added drip irrigation to the front garden beds and surrounding shrubs. In addition, he also participated in various community service projects at ZANT throughout the year. This program is designed by ZAGNY and the award is also endorsed by the Boy Scouts of America.

Additionally, we have several other scouts working actively to complete their award as well.

For questions regarding "The Good Life Program" award, email Armin Daroona: adaroo@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S RELIGION CLASS AND VOHU MANAH GROUP

Our next Children's Religion Class will be held on Sunday, September 8, 2019. Please be at the ZANT Center by 10:45 a.m. so we can have the Prayers & Tandarosti for kids in the Prayer Room at 11 a.m. For further details about the class please contact Pearl P. Balsara.

The Vohu Manah Group will meet on Sunday, September 8, 2019 at 1:30pm at the ZANT Center Library. For further details about the Vohu Manah Group, please contact Anahita Sidhwa.
Black & Red Night

Come and dance all night & Group dance contest
Talent Show
3 x $30 Prize

Sat, June 22nd
8:00 - 11:00pm
Age: 17 - 40
Fee: As You Wish
Dinner included

RSVP required - ZANTYouthGroup@gmail.com
INTERFAITH COUNCIL CELEBRATES NOURUZ IN DALLAS

ZANT was invited to be a participant in the NouRuz celebrations in Dallas organized by the Interfaith Council of Thanks-Giving Foundation which aims to educate the Dallas community about the diversity of cultures in the city and create opportunities to share and appreciate the many traditions that exist in a large metropolitan city. Since many faiths and cultures celebrate the spring equinox, it was an ideal opportunity for the Zoroastrians to show case their unique NouRuz traditions and practices.

The NouRuz event on March 11, 2019 was the first in a week-long celebration of Equinox and Earth Day, held at Thanks-Giving Square which is a multi-faith chapel in downtown Dallas. In addition to the Zoroastrians, the Bahais, Shia Ismailis and groups from Afghanistan and Turkey also participated to share their NouRuz traditions. Each group laid out a beautiful table with traditional offerings, delicious food, and colorful costumes. It was interesting to see the similarities between the various groups and recognize the many ways in which we are connected.

The event started with a brief presentation by Anahita Sidhwa on the astronomical significance of the equinox. This was followed by short remarks from each group about their particular traditions. ZANT was fortunate to be represented by a large group of teenagers, and Sascha Shroff and Cyrus Buhariwalla made the remarks for ZANT, accompanied by other teenagers demonstrating the good wishes for Haft-Seen.

Our thanks to Panteha Soroushpoor for setting up the table, and Arnava Vakharia, Saghar Javanshir and Panteha for the food, Nina Kalianivala for coordinating the teenage group and the many parents who brought their kids.
Dear Family and Friends,

I am thrilled and honored to announce that I will be biking 4,500 miles from Austin to Alaska as a part of the longest annual charity bike ride, Texas 4000, in 2020. Please help me by supporting Texas 4000 for Cancer by helping us fundraise for our campaign:


This cause means a lot to me because: Fulfilling my dreams began a long time ago with my childhood experiences in my family. Today, it continues to grow as I start this journey riding for my high school science teacher and science fair sponsor, who suffers from an advanced form of lung cancer that has spread to other organs. My passion for science began in my childhood with simple robotics, but now I know one day I want to push the boundaries of human capabilities by integrating robots into the lives of those who have suffered great losses through cancer and many other immobilizing diseases. I can only strive for these goals with the support of family, friends, and most importantly, my teachers along the way.

My science teacher’s battle with cancer began in 2017 with her diagnosis of Stage IV Leiomyosarcoma right around Thanksgiving. After one round of failed chemo, she had surgery and was free of the tumor in February 2018. Unfortunately, with the reoccurring fight against cancer, the tumor returned in May 2018 along with more failed chemo regimen. After a second major surgery in August, she has been placed in a clinical trial for a new drug. Her battle continues as you read this today.

I owe it to her and each cancer victim, past and present, to ride.

So first and foremost, I ride for CHARITY that funds cutting-edge cancer research to give individuals a fighting chance against this debilitating disease. Second, I ride for HOPE because I love meeting new people and ensuring those affected by cancer that I will ride for a cancer-free world. Lastly, I ride for KNOWLEDGE by advocating for the dissemination of life-saving cancer prevention information to communities along the way from Austin to Alaska.

I hope you can consider supporting me in this endeavor by donating. Every little bit counts.

Thank you,

-Burzin P. Balsara
weekendwonders4kidz

Making weekends wonderful ... one kid at a time, one bag at a time, one week at a time

HAPPY Birthday!!

Weekend Wonders 4 Kidz celebrated 3 years of feeding hungry children on the weekends! We became a 501(c)(3) organization on February 1st, 2016.

Our steady growth over the past few years and the number of food-insecure kids we have been able to serve would not be possible without our dedicated volunteers, school counselors, corporate partners and donors.

Please do continue to help us succeed by supporting our cause in any way possible - large or small, from volunteering, remembering us for girl/boy scout badges, collecting grocery bags, buying an extra can of vegetables, or asking your employer to match your donation. We really do appreciate all that you do.

On behalf of Weekend Wonders 4 Kidz, thank you all for your support of our mission!

“Helping a person will not change the world, but it will change the world for that one person.”

….. thatonerule.com.
Past Events: Nowruz at Thanksgiving Square, March 11, 2019
Past Events: ZANT NouRuz Celebration, March 11, 2019
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Happy NouRuz
Dear Parents,

Due to popular demand and positive feedback from parents, North South Foundation is offering a series of targeted ONLINE workshops for college admissions. College Admissions Planning (CAP) process is not well known to many of the NRI parents. Getting into college has never been more competitive. With tens of thousands of qualified candidates, every aspect of an application is critical for success. Guide to Pre-Med Admissions is a highly sought after workshop from NSF parents.

Please register online by selecting “Register for Online Workshop” on the Parent Functions page after logging into NSF as a parent. Do not use the link “Register for Onsite Workshop”, which is a different tool.

2. Guide to Pre-Med Admissions, choose one from April 13 or April 14 @ 1 pm EST (Deadline without late fee April 6th)

Pre-med programs, and combined BS/MD programs are some of the most competitive in the United States. In this webinar, you will learn:

• The various types of pre-med programs offered and the advantages of each
• Specific requirements - academic, extracurricular and otherwise - for pre-med applicants
• How to improve an application through certifications and volunteer programs

3. How to Gain Admission to Ivy League Universities, May 11 & 12 @ 1 pm EST

Ivy League universities are among the most rigorous, selective and coveted in the United States. Most now have acceptance rates in the single digits. In this webinar, you will learn:

• What Ivy League admissions officers are really looking for in applicants
• Why essays are often the key to admission - and how to write essays with impact

4. Writing a Standout College Essay, June 22 & 23 @ 1 pm EST

The college essay can be the determining factor for admissions officers in deciding whether applicants should be admitted or rejected. In this webinar, you will learn:

• How the essays are evaluated by admissions officers - and what they are looking for
• The way to select a topic that will enable applicants to stand out from the pool
• Examples of truly exceptional application essays as well as common mistakes to avoid

5. Tips & Tricks to Completing the Common Application, July 27 & 28 @ 1 pm EST

Whether your child is applying to college this year or in several years, it is beneficial and helpful to view and understands the college application. In this webinar, you will learn:

• About each section of the application and how students should approach completion
• Why the order in which students list their extracurricular activities is so important
• How a student’s declared major plays a critical role in the admissions process
6. Building a Standout Extracurricular Profile, September 21 & 22 @ 1 pm EST

Admissions officers seek applicants with the most compelling and interesting extracurricular profiles. Leadership is critical, too. In this webinar, you will learn:

- The importance of a student extracurricular profile in the college admissions process
- Activity recommendations: academic, competitions, pre-professional, travel, athletic
- Which activities have the most impact and when students should get started

1. Planning Early for College Admissions, March 9 & 10 @ 1 pm EST (Completed. recording available for a fee)

Freshman or sophomore year is the right time to lay the foundation for a successful college admissions process. Earlier is always better! In this webinar, you will learn:

- How students can narrow down and identify an academic area of interest/future major
- What extracurricular, summer and leadership activities have the most impact
- Why the key to gaining admission to highly selective schools is starting early

For more details, visit: [https://www.northsouth.org/public/uscontests/workshops/workshop.aspx](https://www.northsouth.org/public/uscontests/workshops/workshop.aspx)

Since these workshops are online, you can be anywhere as long as you have a desktop/laptop with high speed Internet connection and a headphone.

- After you register, you will see the Join Webinar button on the View Status for Online Workshop & Download page after you login into NSF as a parent. You will also receive a Video/Audio link to join the workshop a few days prior to the workshop.
- There will be a chat line and a whiteboard for the teacher to write on.
- A workshop booklet will be made available a few days before the date of the workshop. You can review it before joining the workshop.
- Your child and you can use the question panel to communicate with the presenter.
- There will be an interactive Q&A session at the end of the presentation.
- Recording of the session will be available to registered users for about a week after the session.

All inquiries regarding Online Workshops should be sent to workshops@northsouth.org
Register for the 2019 Zoroastrian Youth Congress

Who: 18-35 year old Zoroastrian Youth from around the world
What: Sign up for the World Zoroastrian Youth Congress today!
When: July 1-6, 2019
Where: Los Angeles, CA USA
Why: Learn about the Zoroastrian religion, network with peers and other professionals, and make new friends from around the world!
How: Click on this link: https://wzycongress.org/register/details/

In precisely 4 months from today, nearly 600 Zoroastrian youth from all over the world will gather for the opening of the 7th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress. Organized by the youth of California Zoroastrian Center (CZC), the Congress shall be held at the beautiful Pacific Palms Resort in City of Industry in the greater Los Angeles area. CZC is a member association of the Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America (FEZANA).

7WZYC Schedule

Speakers: The initial first set of speakers for the Congress is:
- Dr. Mickey Mehra: *Humata Hukhta Hvarshta: Wellness, Wellbeing, and Healing*
- Rosheen Kabraji: *Home and Belonging: Reimagining the Global Zarathushti Youth*
- Arman Ariane: *The Future God: An Introduction to Zoroastrianism*
- Ervad Jimmy Madon: *Practical Zoroastrianism: The way of Life for Our Generation*
For the First Time Ever at a World Zoroastrian Youth Congress!!

**WZCC YOUTH Wing along with 7WZYC bring you**

**ZOROASTRIAN SHARK TANK 2019**

**Are you a young entrepreneur?**

If yes, are you looking to get that extra capital to catapult your business into success? Apply now to the first ever WZCC Zoroastrian Shark Tank 2019 held at the 7th World Zoroastrian Youth Conference in Los Angeles, July 2019.

To Apply

Fill in the application form here: https://goo.gl/forms/4iX3XcbB5PXrjB622

[Please upload relevant documents through the above form]

Stand a chance to pitch your idea in front of a panel of investors at the 7th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress in Los Angeles in July!

**Don’t let this opportunity slide!**
IN LESS THAN 2 MONTHS THE GLOBAL WZCC COMMUNITY & FEZANA ORGINIZATIONS WILL BE MEETING FOR A FIRST EVER JOINT AGM

DON’T MISS THIS ONCE IN A DECADE OPPORTUNITY

It will be a perfect environment to net work & hob nob with “movers & shakers” from all over the world resulting in cross fertilization of ideas and collaborative synergy.

FOR REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM, HOTEL & OPTIONAL OUTINGS VISIT:  http://www.wzccandfezanaagm.cf

VIEW DETAILED PROGRAM AT:  https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Kdt0UCmp8DkQOamLa7bjizNrlq_vv8uG-IbXE23miqUI/edit?usp=sharing

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

Pre AGM Events: Dance Movement Therapy by Ms Dilshad Patel-USA; Kinder Trust Activities by Diana Bharucha-India.

Outstanding Speakers/Workshops: Dr. Rashna Writer-France; Mr. Danny Khursigara-Hong Kong; Dr. Zubin Sethna-UK; Mr. Chuchi Arevalo-USA; Dr. Mahzarin Banaji-USA; Ms. Afreed Mistry-Canada.

Inspiring Panels:
- Zoroastrianism & Entrepreneurship: Dr. Zubin Sethna; Ervad Arda Minocherhomjee; Dr. Daryush Mehta, Mrs. Spenta Kandawalla moderated by Ervad Xerxes Dastur.
- Youth Entrepreneurship: Mr. Dustyn Shroff; Dr. Jennifer Silva; Dr. Jeanie Kenkare; Ms Khush Italia.
- Gala Awards Dinner Key Note Fire Side Chat: Mr. Ajay Banga, President & CEO of MASTERCARD, Moderated by Mr. Dinny Devitre.

OPTIONAL OUTINGS LINK:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ag9ck3R4yQNaPfN93aQ_jFYqBx0eEvaC/view?usp=sharing

DONATION, SPONSORSHIP & ADVERTISEMENT OPPORTUNITIES:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1P00zasAU3x4Hg_judhRgPx80NoHz0ANK/view?usp=sharing

We would be delighted if well wishers would help the Central Florida Chapter to make the AGM a grand success. The Central Florida Team is working hard to make your visit an added value, enjoyable and memorable event.

Edul Daver - WZCC Global President
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