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Sabrina Nooruddin Crowned Ms India GA 2009; Eshani Brambhatt Is Teen Ms India GA



Photo by Vinod Devlia.

Atlanta: Sabrina Nooruddin was crowned Ms India Georgia 2009, while Eshani Brambhatt won the Ms Teen India Georgia 2009 title at a glittering ceremony held at the Gwinnett Performing Arts Center in Duluth recently. The pageant, now in its twentieth year, was organized by the India America Cultural Association (IACA).

The winners will represent Georgia in the Ms India USA and the Ms Teen India USA pageants later this year.

Aparna Mehra was first runner-up and Rita Tiwari came in third in the Ms India GA segment. Poorna Rajeevan was first runner-up and Jennifer Ahsan second runner-up in the Teen Ms India GA contest. In the superlative categories, five titles were awarded. Miss Beautiful Smile and Miss Photogenic were both given to Eshani Brahmbhatt, and Best Talent was awarded to Poorna Rajeevan. Miss Beautiful Eyes was presented to Jennifer Ahsan. The final title, Miss Congeniality, was the only title not determined by a panel of judges but rather by the contestants themselves. The girls voted Priyanka Hossain for Miss Congeniality.

Close to 500 people attended the annual pageant, which is as much a showcase of talent, as it is of beauty, poise and confidence. The young women were judged for poise, grace, talent, confidence, style and talent. There was an evening gown segment, a talent segment, and an Indian outfit round.

Five participants from each pageant were selected to move on to the finals. These ten top scorers then moved to the Q&A round.

IACA chairman Paddy Sharma put the show together under the able direction and choreography of Shivani Gandhi and Roshni Devlia, who also doubled as emcees for the evening. Suvrat Bhargava was the other emcee.

Stand-up comedian Ash Chandler regaled the audience with some rib tickling comedy and English songs. Dance performances were presented by Megha Purohit of Dream Connection and Shivani Bhatnagar of Kriti Dance Academy.

Paddy Sharma and President Dr. Ananth Kamath did the honor of lighting the Festival Of India flame on the stage.

This year's winners took over the crown from last year's Ms India GA winner Shivani Gandhi and Ms Teen India GA winner Avanti Patel.

Indian Educationist Is CBS Atlanta 'Cool Teacher'



Atlanta: Sridhar Rao More, a math teacher at the Mount Zion High School in Clayton County was recently featured on CBS Atlanta as 'cool teacher' in its 'Cool School' segment. More is in Atlanta through the Global Teachers Research and Resources Inc. (GTRR) run by Dr. Paddy Sharma.

More, who has been teaching math at this school for two years, says he had push his way through several hurdles to win the trust and love of his students.

"I am proud to say that I am an Indian who can teach students of the number one country in the world," he says. "The 'cool teacher' honor is proof of the fact that Indian teachers can make miracles happen in American classrooms."



Jai Srimannarayana

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