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In September, Akshaya Patra USA soared to new heights with a series of impactful Galas. These galas across various cities not only showcased our supporter's unwavering commitment to ending classroom hunger but also brought together like-minded individuals dedicated to making a difference in the lives of underserved children in India.

A Journey of Support: Chef Sanjeev Kapoor

We are happy to share that our very own Master Chef Sanjeev Kapoor, an esteemed advisory board member of Akshaya Patra, graced an incredible series of 9 events in our Houston, Austin, Cleveland, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Seattle, Las Vegas and Portland Chapters in 10 days across the United States.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Chef Sanjeev Kapoor for his exemplary culinary odyssey, all for a heartwarming cause that's close to his heart - Akshaya Patra. With his culinary prowess, Chef Kapoor has not only delighted palates but also touched hearts. His relentless dedication and passion for our mission to eliminate classroom hunger have taken a new turn with this trip, helping us provide nourishment and hope to 50,000 children for an entire school year. A sincere thanks to Sous-Chef Miti Patel for her time and support.

This wouldn't have been possible without the unwavering support of our remarkable Chapter Chairs, who helped us orchestrate these events. Their boundless enthusiasm and tireless efforts have played a pivotal role in making this tour a resounding success.



GALA GALORE

AUSTIN



The Akshaya Patra USA Gala season took off with a vibrant and inspiring evening in Austin, featuring renowned keynote speakers **Deepak Chopra** and **Chef Sanjeev Kapoor**. Their insightful words left an indelible mark, setting the tone for an exciting season ahead. We thank our generous sponsors, **Shop LC** and **American Ventures**, whose support empowers us to make a meaningful impact towards our mission. In addition, we applaud the relentless efforts of our Austin Chapter Advisor & Chairs- **Sunil Agarwal**, **Michelle Long**, and **Ruchi Gagrani**, who played a pivotal role in making this event a resounding success.

LAS VEGAS

The Las Vegas Gala was an evening of grace and generosity, made possible by the dedication of Chairs **Drs. Gautham and Sandeep Reddy**, along with **Drs. Himansu and Lopa Shah**. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Las Vegas community and our sustaining donors for their unwavering support and commitment to our cause. Your contributions are creating a brighter future for underserved children, and we thank you for your invaluable support.



WEST FLORIDA



The West Florida Gala was a truly memorable night dedicated to furthering our mission. We express our gratitude to our esteemed keynote speakers, **Amit Gupta** and **Nagendra Raina**, whose inspiring messages touched everyone present. **Sorboni Banerjee** gracefully hosted the event, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to the entire West Florida Chapter team for their unwavering dedication. A special shout-out goes to our Chapter Chairs, **Dr. Sheila Sagar** and **Dr. Snehal Parikh**, whose steadfast commitment ensured that Akshaya Patra's mission deeply resonated with the Tampa community.

SO CAL GALA

The SoCal Gala was an amazing evening filled with our supporters. It was an honor to have **Navneet Chugh** as our keynote speaker, joined by our talented celebrity guest, **Omi Vaidya**. The event was truly mesmerizing, with captivating performances by **Sandeep Kulkarni and his team**. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated organizing team, passionate volunteers, and our exceptional chapter chairs, **Sonnal Laddva** and **Parul Mehta**, for their tireless efforts in making this gala a grand success.



GALA GALORE

SEATTLE GALA



The inaugural Seattle Gala was a splendid evening of celebration and philanthropy. **Chef Sanjeev Kapoor** graced the occasion as the keynote speaker, adding culinary charm to the event. It marked a significant milestone as the chapter's first-ever gala, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the entire chapter team for their relentless efforts in making it a grand success. A special commendation goes out to **Manisha Advani and Bhaskar Gangipamula**, and our amazing volunteers whose vision played a pivotal role in bringing this gala to life.

BAY AREA GALA

Our gala this year was in partnership with Share Our Strength, an organization that shares our ideals and aspirations. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our keynote speakers, **Sumir Chadha and Barron Segar**, for sharing their insights and vision. Barron's moving gesture of dedicating a conference room in the World Food Programme office in memory of Arnav Aggarwal, our Youth Ambassador, touched all the attendees. We express our thanks to our dedicated chapter chairs, **Varkha Chellani and Nari Narendranath**, **Volunteers** and our Vice Chairman of the Board, **Srivatsan Rajan**, for their unwavering support in making this event a resounding success.



CHICAGO GALA



A vibrant gala in the heart of Chicago, emceed by **Aric Diamani and Samir Patel**. The evening was graced by our distinguished keynote speakers, **Raghuram Rajan and Navjot Singh**, who shared their invaluable insights, wisdom, and support for our cause. Our heartfelt appreciation goes to the entire chapter team, led by our chapter chairs **Dipak Kapadia, Saroj Patel, Jigna Shah, and Pankaj Parikh**, for orchestrating the gala with finesse. The entertainment quotient soared to new heights with a captivating performance by the **Funkadesi band**.

UPDATES FROM OUR CHAPTERS

Diya Painting workshop by San Diego Chapter



Youth Ambassadors of our San Diego chapter showcased their creativity, teamwork, and compassion by organizing a **diya painting workshop**, to raise funds for children in need. We are very proud of our Young Ambassadors.

Walkathon by Tristate Chapter

We express our gratitude to the Tristate Chapter for orchestrating a **walkathon** in New Jersey. Our heartfelt thanks go out to **Biren Shah** for spearheading this initiative.



Golf to feed by Boston Chapter



Boston Chapter's **Golf to Feed** is not just a golf tournament; it's a complete day of golf followed by a delightful supper event. **Our heartfelt appreciation goes to the dedicated Boston Chapter team and Mr. Rakesh Kamdar** for their efforts in promoting this event and making it a success!

Dinner with Chef Kapoor by Houston Chapter

A dinner with Chef Sanjeev Kapoor was hosted by **Upma Ji**, during which a millet-based sweet recipe was demonstrated by the chef. We thank the Houston Chapter team for organizing this event.



Minneapolis chapter's first event



Our newest chapter in Minneapolis organized its first ever **event with Chef Sanjeev Kapoor**. We are truly grateful to **Saraswathy Chandrasekhar, Mona Laghuvaram, and Uma Balaji** for their commitment towards the cause.

Ganesha Idol Making workshop by San Diego Chapter

The **Ganesha idol making workshop** organized by San Diego chapter not only celebrated artistry but also exemplified the spirit of generosity, providing nourishment for 125 children throughout an entire school year. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for our chapter's inspiring initiative and dedication.



An evening with Chef Kapoor by Kansas Chapter



A heartfelt thank you to the Kansas chapter for their **proactive initiative in organizing this event with Chef Kapoor** in Kansas City. Their efforts have played a pivotal role in **raising awareness and funds, supporting 2500 children** for an entire school year.

Rapid Networking event by Young Professionals

Rapid Networking, organized by AP Young Professionals, brought together a diverse crowd, who share a passion for our mission, for an evening of connection and camaraderie. The event was hosted by **Jessica Shah, Kate Chichikashvili, Andrew W. Chung, and Sid Muralidhar.**



Fashion and Trunk Show in NY City



Upon discovering the Foundation's mission, Rohit Verma, a trailblazer in India's fashion industry decided to organize a **fashion and trunk show in New York City** as a gesture of his endorsement for Akshaya Patra

Paint and Sip

A night dedicated to unlocking our inner creativity. **Dr. Suprabha**, inspired by Akshaya Patra's mission, opted to organize a **silent auction and an art workshop.**



Melodies of Hope: A musical evening by Cleveland Chapter



The Cleveland Chapter orchestrated a mesmerizing **night filled with musical delight**. The occasion showcased remarkable artists, namely Tanmay Chaturvedi, Shobhana Shankar, and Varsha Joshi, who immersed the audience in captivating melodies that went beyond borders, all driven by a meaningful cause. Also, our two YAs, **Krivam & Nikhil**, also organized a **"Miles for Meals"** event to raise awareness for the cause. A huge shout-out to our **Youth Ambassadors** and the **Chapter Dream team** which is turning AP Cleveland into AP Believe Land for organizing the event.

Long Island Holiday Luncheon

Mrs. Meenakshi Khanna arranged a **luncheon** at her residence to spread awareness about Akshaya Patra and acquaint her friends with the organization's mission.



Upcoming Events

- OCTOBER 14TH **ATLANTA GALA**
- OCTOBER 21ST **DC YOUNG PROFESSIONAL PANEL**
- OCTOBER 26TH **NATIONAL YOUTH AMBASSADOR MEETING**
- OCTOBER 28TH **DFW GALA**
- OCTOBER 29TH **DIYA MAKING WORKSHOP IN BAYAREA**
- NATIONAL YOUTH AMBASSADOR'S TEACHING INITIATIVE**

The final quarter of the year marks the season of generosity, with corporations conducting **Give Drives and matching their employees' charitable contributions**. Don't forget to inquire with your employer about doubling your impact. For further information, feel free to contact us at geeta@apusa.org