



THE HINDU TEMPLE SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

Śri Mahā Vallabha Ganapati Devasthānam



December 2024

Dear Devotees & Well Wishers

Happy Holidays and best wishes for the New Year 2025. All the major festivals including the 47th Anniversary of the Temple, *Śri Sudaršana Mahā Yajnam*, *Śri Rāghavendra Swāmy Ārādhana*, *Deepāvali* and *Devi Navarātri* were celebrated well. Ganesh Chaturthi Celebrations were once again grand and thousands of people participating in all the functions. Ratha Yātra was very well participated by devotees, well-wishers and elected officials.

Several cultural programs were organized during the year. Significant among them was: Grand Music Concert for the 47th Anniversary of the Temple and presentation of Music and Dance for Śri Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations, Ras Garba during *Devi Navarātri* and Annual Health Fair in June as well as several others. Canned food drives are conducted every week and the collected cans are delivered to City Harvest. Monthly Learning Series continues to take place virtually. Young Professionals Group - 'Akshayam' had organized an annual conference 'Anubhava' and the topic was "Application of Traditional Teachings in Modern Life" – participation was excellent.

Temple participated in various community events and significant among them was participation in the annual Breast Cancer walk in October 2024 and \$7,400 was raised towards this cause. Temple also participated in several *Deepāvali* functions organized by various city officials and local community leaders. The Temple continues to play a significant role in promoting Interfaith and participated in several interfaith gatherings including: Queens Interfaith breakfast hosted by NY Governor Kathy Hochul, NYPD Community Affairs Bureau - Clergy Outreach Unit's Faith & Blue event, FDNY interfaith breakfast and Mayor's Office of Faith & Community Partnership Monthly NYC Clergy meetings and others.

My sincere thanks and gratitude to all the devotees for the continued support and contributions to the Temple. My humble appeal to you all once again for generous donations towards various projects. In order to encourage various Outreach Activities such as Educational Activities (*Patāśāla*), Senior Activities, Youth Activities, Music and Dance classes, Yoga & Meditation, our goal is to build an Outreach Center in the vacant lot located opposite the Temple and adjacent to the existing staff quarters. Please contribute generously towards this project and this will provide space for all Outreach activities.

You may please donate online: nyganeshtemple.org and in person or by calling the Temple directly at: (718) 460-8484 ext.112. All donations are tax deductible.

Sincerely,

Dr. Uma Mysorekar
President