

Diwali: Festival of Lights



Friday, November 5, 2010
Gualala Arts Center

\$35 advance, \$5 more after October 29
For more info or tickets purchase, go to
GualalaArts.org

Diwali is an important festival in Hinduism, celebrated with great enthusiasm and happiness in India. The festival is celebrated for five continuous days, where the third day is celebrated as the main Diwali festival or 'Festival of Lights.'

On this auspicious day, people light up diyas and candles all around their house. Diya can be defined as a small earthen lamp that is specially lit on Diwali for puja and decoration purposes. A cotton wick is used in diyas, and oil or ghee serves as the burning fuel. It is basically a symbol of the victory of good over evil, brightness over darkness, and truth over falsity.

5:30 p.m. Offering
6:00 p.m. Appetizers & Dance Performance
7:00 p.m. Dinner
8:00 p.m. Dessert & Fashion Show
9:00 p.m. Dandia Ras (open dance)

Internationally reknowned performer and choreographer Jyoti Rout and her dancers will perform Laxmi Puja in the evening and seek divine blessings of Goddess of Wealth.

Jyoti Kala Mandir (mandir is a Hindi word for temple) was founded in 1993 by noted performer and choreographer Jyoti Rout to promote Odissi through classes and performances in the Bay Area and beyond. JKM's mission is to continue the spiritual essence of Odissi, originally a temple dance, in its transition to the stage. Jyoti Rout encourages her students to view their dance as an offering to the divine.

More information about Jyoti Kala Mandir can be found on www.jyotikalamandir.org.

A vegetarian dinner is planned using the spices, herbs and vegetables used in Indian cuisine and a fashion show of saris.