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| **MUSIC & DANCE FESTIVAL****(MUSICAL RAMANAVAMI UTSAVAM)** |

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|   ***ramaand sita******You are cordially invited to attend, with family and friends, a Music and Dance Festival (20th Ramanavami Utsavam) in Austin. Here are the details:******Date: Saturday, April 4, 2015*** ***Venue: Gloria Delagado Theater, St. Michael’s Catholic Academy, Barton Creek blvd. Austin*** ***Talented vocalists, dance teachers and students will perform. Although the program is open to the public free of charge, we will appreciate liberal donations to defray organization costs. Snacks will be available during the duration of the entire program.***  ***This year also, we have essay competition - we invite submissions for a write up on the themes selected from Ramayana. There will be 2 categories of submissions - ages 7 to 11 and ages 12 to 16. The article should not exceed 500 words. The details of the topics for the age groups and registration form can be found in the IFA web site*** [***www.austinifa.org***](http://cts.vresp.com/c/?IndiaFineArtsInc/43431fa9cb/9e406b0b5d/fcac749141)***. The last day for entry is Jan 25, 2015. The chosen articles will be published in the IFA Website, in the prestigious Katha foundation newsletter, cash awards and appropriate personal recognition will be given.***  ***If you have any questions, please contact IFA (512-918-1351) or*** ***indiafinearts@hotmail.com*** ***We hope you will attend this fantastic cultural and community-based program and receive Lord Rama's blessings.*** **Ramanavami  Utsavam** **(Event sponsored by Austin India Fine Arts)*****Essay Competition Registration Form***  *Rules and Guidelines**Registration is mandatory to participate in the essay competition (please use the registration form attached below – you may also find this registration form on the IFA website –www.austinifa.org – and at the Austin Hindu Temple)* 1. *Registration fee is $10.00 per entry and should accompany the registration form*
2. *There are two categories for participants:*
	* *Group I: Ages 7-11*
	* *Group II: Ages 12-16*
3. *The essay should be about Lord Rama and should be written relevant to the titles below:*
4. *Group I:* In Ramayana, there are beautiful stories of animals and birds showing their absolute devotion to Lord Rama (such as monkeys, squirrels and many other birds). Bring out story of such a character and how did Lord Rama reward them

*Group II:* Describe and analyze the role played by Kikaye in the great epic Ramayana. Include virtues and nonvirtues in Your Essay with your own analysis of her character in the story of Ramayana1. *The essay should not exceed 500 words* *The essay should be in the participant’s own words. Non-original work will be disqualified (No Picture Illustration Allowed)*
2. *Deadline for registration is January25, 2015 All registration materials must be received by this date to qualify* *Final essays must be submitted no later than March 15, 2015. Registration can be done through “austinifa.org” or mail them to: 9917 Spicewood Mesa, Austin, TX 78759* . Soft copy of the Essays should be emailed to “rama.essay2015@gmail.com” or jnagarajan@aol.com
3. *Please note that we \*will\* need soft copies in Microsoft Word format to enable us to send to our judges.*  *First and second prizes will be awarded in each category. These will be cash prizes. Prizes will be awarded at the Ramanavami Utsavam. Participants must be present.  Please contact Janaki Nagarajan (512-918-1351) or Jayanth Shreedhara (512-779-4847) in case you have any questions. You may also email us at: rama.essay2015@gmail.com*

 REGISTRATION FORM:

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|  Age  |  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  Parent/Guardian’s Name  |  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
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|  Category (Group I/II)  |  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

  Signature of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Registration Deadline: January 25,2015**Please remember to mail your registration to: 9917 Spicewood Mesa, Austin, TX 78759. Do not forget to attach your registration fee ($10.00) with your registration. Please make all checks payable to “India Fine Arts”. You may also make this payment using PayPal. |

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