

Volume 12

Issue 6
December 2016

Maya Puwath

BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF MGCAANA



In This Issue

- Page 1: Greetings from the Editor
- Pages 2: Message from the President
- Page 3: New Year Resolutions by Mrs. Werake
- Page 4: Sirasa Pentathlon Finalists
- Page 5: Children's Corner, Poem by Thisara Jayasinghe
- Page 6: Scholarship Announcement



Mahamaya Girls' College
Alumnae Association of North
America

Dear Members,

Happy holidays to everyone!!! I hope everyone had a restful and joyful time during the holidays, had an opportunity to spend time with loved ones and recharge for the challenges and opportunities in the year ahead.

There has been a slight change in the leadership of MGCAANA and the current leadership is listed below. I wish them a productive year.

New Executive Committee and the Board Of Directors (2016-2017)

Nelum Dorabawila (President and Director)
Supipi Auwardt (Secretary and Director)
Vihara Dharmaratne (Vice president and Director)
Subhashinie Kariyawasam (Treasurer and Director)
Tharoshani Kasthuriarachchi (Web Master and Director)
Sriyani Dissanayake (Director)
Sudharma Upamali Ratnayake (Director)
Geethanjali Wickramanayake (Director)

I wish them all a successful term.

Wishing you a happy new year!!!

Vajeera Dorabawila
Issue Editor

Message from the President of MGCAANA

Dear fellow Mayans,

Happy New Year!!!!

I am truly humbled and honored to accept the invitation by the current Board of Directors (BOD) to assume the position of President of MGCAANA for the next six months. I would like to take this opportunity to convey my heartiest gratitude to former President Indrani Gunawardena for her time and efforts rendered to support/enhance our beloved organization, and all members who have contributed at their best to make MAGCANNA what it is today.

We were privileged to be daughters of mother Mahamaya, where we were nurtured to thrive on enhancing the sense of belonging and sisterhood. So, let us strive to work as closely as possible with all of our members to assiduously improve our organization.

As a very hopeful president at present, with the rest of our sisters in the board of directors, Executive Committee, and most of all, our active membership, I strive to serve and strengthen MAGCANNA further.

I look forward for your suggestions, comments and opinions to improve our services wherever possible. Thank you all for the care and support you have always offered to our Association.

Wishing you a prosperous, happy and healthy year,

Nelum K Dorabawila
President 2017

Class of 1988 Save the Date

What: Advanced Level 1988 class 3rd get together on August 7, 2017

Where: Venue in Kandy (TBD)

Some New Year Resolutions

In a Nutshell

By Sujatha Werake

Exercise more.

Start eating healthy.

Eat less.

Start meditation and improve your concentration.

Solve problems.

Practice kindness and patience towards yourself and others. Stop procrastinating.

Meet new people.

Become more active.

Become more polite.

Be self-reliant.

Reduce and manage your stress.

Learn to be happy.

Learn to find joy in little things.

Do not let your problems bring you down.

Get more quality sleep.

Watch less TV.

Read more.

Spend more time with people that matters more to you.

Enjoy nature.

Learn art, music, and dance. Learn a new game.

Enjoy friends.

Be more creative.

Write a novel.

Become more positive.

Start saving.

Learn a new language.

Earn more money.

Travel and see the world.

Adopt a pet. Learn to cook new foods.

Reinvent yourself.

Learn to let go of anger and hate.

Practice forgiveness.

Get out of debt.

Volunteer and give more to charity.

See your doctor more often.

Mahamaya College Sirara Pentathlon Finalists!!!! **Congratulations!!!**

Sirasa Pentathlon is a reality style television show that identifies and showcases talented school children, aged 13 to 15 years, in Sri Lanka. The competition targets presentation skills, intuitive skills, general knowledge, intelligence quotient (IQ), team spirit and mathematical skills.

The finals are live on January 15, 2017. Hope you all can watch it on Sirasa Channel. Mahamaya team will be competing against Royal College, Museums College, and Rahula College.



From left to right: Chathumi Herath, Samidhi Munasinghe, Amandi Wimalaweera, Ama Premasiri, and Janani Dissanayake .
Photo courtesy of Nilmini Ratnayake.

Good Luck on January 15, 2017. Go Mahamaya!!!

The Good Boy

She held my hand and laughed
Her eyes crinkled and her body settled
“Do you know my boy?”

Yes ma’am

“He was a good boy,” she sighed

The colors changed
orange, red, yellow
Dancing on the melodies of the whistling wind

She held my hand

Softer and warm

And asked through her toothy smile

“Do you know my boy?”

“He was a good boy,” she choked

White powder dusted the great oaks

Like the talcum on her feathery cheeks

She held my hand

And whispered a hoarse cry

Like the tender crack of a burning log

“He was a good boy, he was my boy.”

Then birds sang, and grass peeked out its head

I held her hand

Cold and unforgiving

Hands that belonged to someone

Who didn’t recognize the stranger by their side

The walks in the dancing colors

Laughter in the yard of her tiny home

That were now fading to nothing

By Thisara Jayasinghe,

10th Grade

Andover High School

Andover, MA

MGCAANA UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2016-2017

The Selection Committee of the MGCAANA Undergraduate & Graduate Scholarship Program is looking for Mahamaya alumnae who demonstrate outstanding academic achievements, leadership and active participation in extracurricular activities and also a significant level of financial need. Intended to cover the cost of textbooks for a semester, scholarships of **\$500.00** each will be awarded to two (2) candidates.

APPLICATION PERIOD & EXTENDED DEADLINE: January 31, 2017

Award Notification: By February 28, 2017

Please visit our website at www.mahamayaalumna.org to view and download the scholarship application. If you have any questions about the MGCAANA Undergraduate & Graduate Scholarship Program, please e-mail us at mahamaya_alumnae@yahoo.com.

We look forward to receiving your applications!



Acknowledgement: We greatly appreciate assistance given by Medha Bulumulla in compiling this issue. Medha is a Grade 10 student at Niskayuna High School, Niskayuna, New York.

A PUBLICATION OF THE MAHAMAYA GIRLS' COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Vajeera Dorabawila and Sriyani Dissanayake