



On Jan 26<sup>th</sup> January New Jersey Telugu community turned out to enjoy NJTA Sankaranti Sambaralu at Kohinoor Banquet Center in Manville, NJ. Close to 300 youth/adults from Tri-State, area participated in dance and music programs. It was an amazing display of their talent. We express our sincere gratitude to parents and teachers for their tremendous hard work. This was a gentle assurance that our culture is being nurtured and will be carried to our future generations. The evening ended with a musical concert by sensational youth singers Kavya Borra, Vishnupriya and Pranav. Manoj Irvuri kept the audience engaged as the Emcee for all programs. Event show stoppers were very special - Fancy dress show for tiny tots the youngest of all was 14 months & followed by small Telugu traditional culture event of Bhogi Pallu ,

Second year in a row as its annual feature NJTA presented Youth Icon Award to Karthik Vemparala 11 years old from Somerset. Karthik was selected as one of the 12 contestants on Season 6 of Food Network's Kids Baking Championship. Karthik is a self-taught baker. He got into baking watching the show and learnt watching YouTube He applied for the kids baking championship with his brother's help and went through many interviews on Skype and phone.

Another special feature was a presentation about Uplift for Humanity by high school Senior Archit Reddy – to inspire fellow youth to volunteer and participate in summer programs designed to empower juveniles and orphans in India to break the cycle of recidivism and achieve their full potential through education.

Honorable guests who attended the event were our congress man Upendra Chivukula , Damu Gedala , Raghu Sankaramanchi , Madhu Anna, Sudhakar Rayapudi , & few other guests. NJTA President Chinna Vasudeva Reddy, Vice President Manju Bhargava and the rest of the committee would like to convey their gratitude to all the volunteers, donors and supporters for the unconditional help that they are rendering to the team. Once again true to its inception goal this was a complete youth program by NJTA.

For more event pictures click on the link below :

<http://www.jerseytelugu.org/gallery/63>