



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Foundation For Excellence hosts Indian Dance Exposé**

**Santa Clara, Calif., February 6, 2006** – Foundation For Excellence (FFE), a tax-exempt, non-profit public charity, is proud to present an Indian Dance Exposé as its first fundraising event for the year. The event will be held on Saturday, February 11, 2006 from 4–7 PM at the Anthony Soto Theatre, Center for Employment and Training, San Jose, CA. The event is co-sponsored with MeeraMasi, a publishing company.

This vibrant Dance Exposé will showcase performances by talented students from prominent Indian dance schools in the Bay Area. Ticket prices are \$15 and \$20. All proceeds from the event will go to support FFE.

FFE's mission is to bring about a transformation in the lives of brilliant and underprivileged students in India through a Scholarship Program. The scholarships enable brilliant and needy students to meet the rising costs of higher education in India, continue and complete their studies, stand on their own feet and make contributions to the well being of their families and society at large.

To qualify for scholarships, applicants should rank among the top 15% of their class. Often, they are the first in their families to pursue higher education. They come from families with daily incomes of \$4 or less. The students' parents are occupied as drivers, housemaids, rickshaw drivers, farm labor and other lower occupational groups.

Since its inception in 1994 and until end of 2005, The Foundation has provided 18,306 scholarships for an amount of \$3.65 million to students from all over India. 40% of the scholarships have been awarded to female students.

About 35% of the Foundation's scholarships are awarded to high school students, 45% to students pursuing engineering and medical studies, 15% to students in arts, science, commerce and diploma courses, and 5% to post-graduate and other courses. Every FFE scholarship recipient takes a pledge to support two other eligible and deserving students when the scholar completes his/her higher education and starts earning.

More than 2,000 students have completed their higher education with the help of the Foundation's scholarships. Many of them are employed with reputed companies such as Infosys, WIPRO, TCS, HCL, Reliance and others. Several medical students are serving as doctors in rural areas while others are engaged as teachers, nurses or in other professions. For additional information about the Foundation, visit [www.ffe.org](http://www.ffe.org)

The corporate sponsor, MeeraMasi ([www.meeramasi.com](http://www.meeramasi.com)), is committed to providing Indian parents with tools to encourage a sense of curiosity about the language, culture and traditions of India. MeeraMasi will be unveiling its first collection of children's books at the FFE Dance Exposé and will donate a portion of all sales to support the FFE mission.