

Genius Kids School, Andaaaz TV on Sony bring Shining Stars

PALO ALTO

Bay Area witnessed an impressive competition, Discovering Shining Stars 2013, in which over 90 children and their families participated. The competition was produced by Genius Kids in collaboration with Andaaaz TV on SONY Entertainment TV and Media Sponsor local Radio Station Desi 1170 AM.

Hosted on the new Palo Alto Genius Kids campus to celebrate its grand opening, the auditorium was packed by 11am. Contestants in the age group of 3-15 competed in various categories.

It was conceived by Rennu Dhillon, the founder of Genius Kids. She has been producing competitions for women and children for over 26 years. The contest was collaborated with the founder and producer of Andaaaz TV, Sarika Batra, a former pageant winner from Rennu's show in 1993.

Rennu said, "I am delighted that one of my former winners has achieved such strides. Today we are collaborating global events together. This goes to show that providing a platform to young adults inspires them to fulfill their dreams."

Sarika Batra, Andaaaz TV on Sony producer, said, "The kids are talented, so it has been fun Judging talent in various categories. The winners of each segment will be featured on Andaaaz TV aired on the SONY Entertainment networks worldwide. This will give these winners exposure to further showcase their talent."

Segments included Group and Solo Dance, Public Speaking, Singing, Drawing and Painting, and a special Unique Artistic category that featured Hula Hoop dancing, playing musical instruments and gymnastics. This is an annual event, one of several produced by Genius Kids. The purpose is to showcase local talent, and most importantly, develop leadership and confidence.

The winners of Discovering Shining Stars were awarded trophies and certificates.

"The response from the families has been overwhelming. What we take pride in is always starting and finishing on time, ensuring that each child is recognized for their abilities," said Rennu Dhillon.

A lot of emphasis was placed on the importance of educating girls after the recent tragic events in India. This was also reflected in many of the topics the public speakers chose. The most popular subject was "The World Would Be a Better Place if" and Art themed on "A Peaceful World". Genius Kids is and was the first center to stress the importance of speech and in-



Four-year-old Arjun Nair participates in public speaking



Winners with organizer Rennu Dhillon and judges



Andaaaz TV producer Sarika Batra judging Lego competition. The contestant is Anirudh Bharadwaj



Judge Nyna Caputi with Advay Sharma in Lego competition and Nishka Sharma in Arts and Dance contest



Rhythmsteps founder Sudha Mudra Binani with her academy performers and Rennu Dhillon

corporate public speaking in their daily curriculum. Dhillon will be organizing the largest public speaking communication workshop for children during the spring break.

The judges included Nyna Pais Caputi, local filmmaker known for her Endangered Indian Girls documentary "Petals in the Dust", Ritika Malik, a financial advisor of a local bank, Leslie Martison, the associate casting director at Theatre Works in Palo Alto, Sameer Khera, host of the well-known radio show Gaata Rahe Mera Dil, and Sarika

Batra, founder and producer of Andaaaz TV.

The sixth new Genius Kids franchise campus located on the grounds of the recently opened Athena School for Dyslexia in Palo Alto has huge playgrounds and a beautifully decorated campus. Franchisee owner Carol Karer is excited to open the doors to the campus on February 1, offering programs from toddlers, preschool, pre-K, and afterschool grades K-6. The programs will also include sports and music.

