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Lights of Diwali Festival

Jersey City, NJ: Jersey City based nonprofit, **Surati for Performing Arts** will host its tenth annual **Diwali festival** on **Sunday October 29, 2017** at **Exchange Place, Jersey City** from 12:00 pm - 9:00 pm. The tradition continues with support from sponsors Carepoint Health Medical Group, New Jersey City University (NJCU), BCB Community Bank, The City of Jersey City, Hudson County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, New York Life, Buyrite and community partners and supporters.

The event expects to attract 5,000+ visitors and attendees throughout the day with attractions for both kids and adults. It will feature Surati's original rendering of **The Ramayana and the Story of Diwali**, an original musical (6 pm) directed by Founder and Artistic Director Rimli Roy with a cast and crew of over 25 from different ethnic origins around the world, **traditional and contemporary performances** by the Surati for Performing Arts professional company, instructors and guest artists, a **children's and youth open mic / talent show, rangoli making workshops, henna tattoos, diya painting, sparklers, food stalls, arts and crafts, food, drinks, clothing and craft vendors** as well as **live music and DJ**. As with all of its endeavors Surati's Founder and Artistic Director Rimli Roy hopes to educate and entertain the audience with Indian inspired global influenced performances. Surati's goal is to educate the community about Indian culture and provide a platform for new and aspiring works and artists to be showcased.

Here are some quotes from some of our sponsors:

"On behalf of our physicians and over 4500 employees, CarePoint Health is honored to support this year's Surati Diwali festival. Diwali symbolizes good health, hope, luck and prosperity and signifies the triumph of good over evil. We are proud to be involved with organizations like Surati that support the betterment of our community. We wish the South Asian community, and all who observe, a very joyous Festival of Lights"

Dr. Sue Henderson, President, NJCU: "New Jersey City University is pleased and honored to serve as a sponsor for this wonderful celebration of Indian culture and art. The Diwali festival is the perfect way to learn about and enjoy the heritage of India and the event truly reflects the great diversity of Jersey City's citizenry, as well as the NJCU community."

As the most diverse city in the entire country, we cherish every culture which is woven into the fabric of Jersey City," Mayor Fulop said. "We join the South Asian community in celebrating Diwali, the festival of lights, and express our best wishes and hope the celebration brings a new beginning, much joy and happiness to those observing."

About Surati: Surati's mission is to educate and enrich communities globally in the diverse cultural heritage of India through classes, events, performances, educational projects, workshops and lecture-demonstrations. For more information visit www.suratiinc.com
