

Bhangra in the Burgh 2008

Registration Packet
Exhibition Acts



Carnegie Mellon®



BHANGRA IN THE BURGH '08



Dear Prospective Exhibition Act,

Thank you for your interest in Carnegie Mellon University's annual Bhangra competition: Bhangra in the Burgh 2008. The competition is scheduled for November 8th, 2008 at Soldiers and Sailors Museum and Memorial Auditorium in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Bhangra in the Burgh is an opportunity for premier Bhangra teams from all over the country to showcase their talent and compete for over \$5000 in prize money. This event hopes to raise a considerable donation for the Homeless Children's Education Fund of Allegheny County, (more information attached) and give back to the community through the energy of Bhangra.

Additionally, Bhangra in the Burgh hopes to showcase several Exhibition Acts throughout the show. We are looking for performances that will add cultural flair, unique talent, and exciting variety to the evening. The opportunity to be considered as an Exhibition Act is open to all individuals and groups with a talent to share with the community.

Please complete the following registration packet and ensure that we receive the packet and all supporting materials (audition video), by **September 30, 2008**. If you choose to submit the audition video electronically, please notify us by phone or email.

After receiving your registration materials, we shall inform your act of its participation status no later than **Monday, October 6, 2008** by e-mail. Registration applications received after the above-mentioned date shall not be considered for participation. Please contact us by **September 15th, 2008** if you require an extension due to extenuating circumstances.

After receiving your registration materials, we shall inform your act of the audition process and the date and time for a live audition no later than **September 30th, 2008**, by e-mail. You shall have 24 hours to confirm your participation in the event.

Thank you for your interest in Bhangra in the Burgh. More information about the venue, the committee, and the event shall be online soon at www.bhangraintheburgh.com. In the meantime, feel free to contact us at registration@bhangraintheburgh.com.

We look forward to reviewing your application, and hope to see you on November 8th, 2008!

Best Regards,
Bhangra in the Burgh 2008 Executive Committee

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BHANGRA IN THE BURGH '08



I. Bhangra in the Burgh

Bhangra in the Burgh 2008 is Carnegie Mellon's second annual Bhangra competition, organized by Mayur – The South Asian Student Alliance. With this event, we hope to appeal to Pittsburgh's diverse student and local community and expose them to the energetic performing art that is Bhangra. We expect an attendance of 1500+ people at the event, due to its proximity to major universities, such as Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh, and our major outreach to the local community publicizing this event. Our main goal is to utilize the popularity and entertainment value of Bhangra to raise money for the Homeless Children's Education Fund of Allegheny County. We plan to use the energy and enthusiasm of the advantaged youth to help the disadvantaged youth in their classroom needs.

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II. Philanthropy

Homeless Children's Education Fund of Allegheny County

The Homeless Children's Education Fund of Allegheny County (HCEF) was established as a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity in 1999. Its mission is to serve as a voice for the homeless children of Allegheny County and to ensure that they have equal access to the same educational opportunities and experiences as their peers. HCEF pursues this mission by (1) taking advantage of community and government resources to serve the needs of homeless children, primarily through the establishment of Learning Centers and Libraries in area shelters; (2) raising money through individual contributions to fund innovative educational practices in the shelters; and (3) advocating for systemic reform at the national, state, and local levels.

Donations received from individuals and community groups fund yearly Mini-grants for Educational Innovation to applying agencies serving homeless families. These grants make possible sound educational programming and materials specific to the children a shelter serves. Donations also fund Summer Educational Field Trips. Through these and other initiatives, HCEF has had a significant impact on the lives of thousands of Allegheny County children over the years.

For more information, visit www.homelessfund.org

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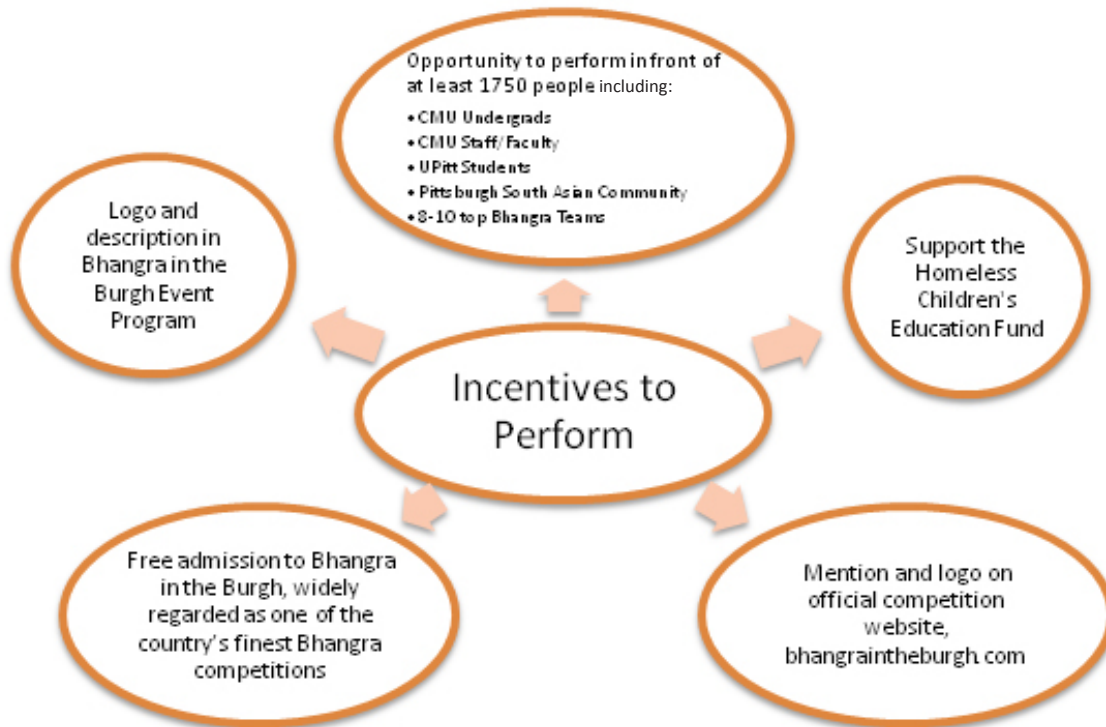
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III. Incentives to Perform



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IV. Application, Selection and Notification

Application:

- Complete the Basic Information on page 5 and be sure to accurately list all group members' names and signatures. On the day of the competition, all members will be asked for valid photo IDs matching the names listed (unless an updated roster is later submitted).
- Enclose an audition video no shorter than 3 minutes and no longer than 5 minutes of your group's routine. Your group's video must be taped after **January 1st, 2008** and must present an accurate representation of the act you intend to showcase on **November 8, 2008**. If your group cannot mail in a videotape or DVD, please contact us at registration@bhagraintheburgh.com for other options.
- All group members are subject to sign a release form. Please note, all exhibition acts, unless otherwise specified, will be no longer than 4.5 minutes during the actual show on November 8.

Selection:

- The Bhangra in the Burgh Executive Committee will review only fully completed applications that are received by **September 30, 2008**. The judging criteria used for teams, which is included in this packet on pages 7 and 8, will be used to select exhibition acts.

Notification:

- On **October 6, 2008**, groups will be notified of their participation status via e-mail. Within 24 hours, groups will be expected to confirm participation and will then receive supplemental information within 5 business days.
- In the weeks that follow our team selection, our website (www.bhagraintheburgh.com) will have a listing of the confirmed acts who will perform at Bhangra in the Burgh 2008.

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V. Basic Information

Group Name: _____

University Representing (If Applicable): _____

Act Leader's Contact Info:

Name: _____

Email: _____

Primary Phone: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

List of all participants, managers, and instrumentalists (Note that on day of competition, all participants will be asked for photo IDs which must match names on this list unless updated in the final group roster due after selection):

NAMES:	EMAIL:	T-SHIRT SIZE:
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____
11.	_____	_____
12.	_____	_____
13.	_____	_____
14.	_____	_____
15.	_____	_____
16.	_____	_____
17.	_____	_____
18.	_____	_____

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VI. Competition Rules and Regula-

1. The competition is open to any group with a talent to showcase.
2. The Bhangra in the Burgh Executive Committee reserves the right to refuse the registration of any group.
3. Final group rosters must be submitted after the audition and selection. Any new additions to the group must submit a photocopy of a valid photo ID.
4. On the day of the competition, each member of the group must present their photo ID in order to enter the venue and perform.
5. All music must be on one continuous track. Any breaks, pauses, or blank time must be pre-recorded into the track.
6. Bhangra in the Burgh Executive Committee will allow only one additional person for each group to serve as the group manager. Only those listed on the registration roster will be given free admission.
7. No group will be allowed to view another group's performance under any circumstances, prior to the actual competition.
8. No individual will be allowed to perform for more than one group.
9. On the day of the competition, all groups must be dressed and backstage by 5:45 pm; otherwise, the group will suffer a point deduction.
10. Consumption of alcohol or illegal substances at the competition venue will not be tolerated. Violation will result in the disqualification and expulsion of the group. Furthermore, no smoking is allowed at the competition venue.
11. No group will be permitted to use any props that will alter the stage in any manner. The Bhangra in the Burgh Executive Committee reserves the right to deny the use of any props. A complete list of the venue's rules will be sent to accepted groups.
12. A prop list must be sent to the Executive Committee no later than October 15, 2008.
13. Dances cannot be longer than four and a half minutes, unless otherwise specified. Any group that exceeds this time limit will suffer a point deduction.
14. Each group can have no more than 10 members, unless otherwise specified.
15. The Bhangra in the Burgh Executive Committee reserves the right to add new or updated rules upon their discretion with regards to the venue and the competition. All groups will be notified via email of changes.
16. All group members and group managers are responsible for rules outlined.

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VII. Judging Criteria

Judges will evaluate teams with the following criteria:

Technical and Team Elements (40%)

Choreography ___/15

*How complex is the choreography? Is it dynamic or repetitive?
Does the choreography express different styles throughout the dance?*

Creativity ___/10

Does the team have any elements that make them unique with respect to a bhangra routine?

Enthusiasm ___/10

Is the team energetic? Do they have confidence? Are they having fun?

Extras ___/5

Is there a live dholi? Is there a live singer? Are appropriate props, such as katos, sups, and khundas, being used?

Rank: ___

Artistic Elements (40%)

Synchronization ___/15

Does the team dance as a unit? Is the team graceful?

Formations and Movements ___/10

*Are the formations creative? Are the dancers proportionally spaced?
Are transitions between formations smooth?*

Opening/Closing ___/5

Does the team create a memorable and lasting impression?

Overall Performance ___/10

*Has the team put in effort for this performance? How well was the execution of their performance? Has the team appropriately choreographed a Bhangra routine?
Is the team exciting to watch?*

Rank: ___

Traditional Elements (20%)

Overall traditionality ___/10

How traditional was the choreography of the dance? Does the team show knowledge of bhangra, jhummer, sammi, dhamal, etc.? Is the team respectful of Punjabi culture, tradition, etc.?

Authenticity of costumes ___/10

Are the dancers appropriately dressed?

Rank: ___

Deductions (subtract five points to final overall score for each violation)

Performance exceeds 8 minute maximum length

Violation of competition venue rules

FINAL SCORE: _____

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VII. Judging Criteria

Scoring

In order to ensure that no category is weighted differently than stated and no one particular judge has the power to drastically influence the final scores of the teams, the winner of this competition will be determined by a standardized rankings system established by using each judge's individual rankings.

Each judge will evaluate each team's performance by using the guidelines in each category. Every team will then receive a ranking in each of the three categories. A team that receives a rank of one in a category will receive ten points, and a team that receives a rank of ten in a category will receive one point. The points awarded from the three rankings will then be multiplied by the percentage by which the category is weighted and summed to determine the judge's final score for a team. All of the final scores of the judges will then be summed to determine the final overall score of a team. The team with the highest final overall score will be declared the winner. An example of how this will work is outlined below:

Team A receives a rank of 4 (7 points) in Technical and Team Elements, a rank of 6 (5 points) in Artistic Elements, and a rank of 2 (9 points) in Traditional Elements from one of the judges. The final score awarded by that judge is calculated by:

$$7 * 0.4 + 5 * 0.4 + 9 * 0.2 = 6.6$$

If Team A receives a final score of 6.8, 6.9, 6.2 and 6.1 from the four other judges, the final overall score that the team will receive is 32.6. If Team B receives a final overall score of 35, Team B will be declared the winner.

Judges have complete authority in determining the rankings of this competition and their decisions are final. A Bhangra in the Burgh Executive Committee member will be in charge of ensuring that teams do not exceed the allotted time, or violate any of the competition or competition venue rules while performing.

If the committee member determines that a violation has occurred, he or she will subtract 5 points from the **final overall score** for each **violation**. The Bhangra in the Burgh Executive Committee has no other influence or role in the rankings of this competition.

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VIII. Reminders and Checklist

Checklist:

- Videotape submission of 3 to 5 minutes in length taped after **January 1, 2008**.
- Completed Basic Information.

Reminders:

The deadline to enter as an exhibition act is **September 30, 2008**

If submitting the Registration Packet electronically:

- Completed Basic Information and Audition Video must be electronically submitted by **September 30, 2008** via registration@bhagraintheburgh.com.

If Submitting the Registration Packet via post mail:

- A complete package must be received by **September 30, 2008**.
- Please mail all materials to:

Subha Patibanda
Bhangra in the Burgh, Co-Chair
Carnegie Mellon University
SMC 2866
Pittsburgh, PA 15289-2866

You can also arrange for physical drop-off, by contacting the Bhangra in the Burgh Executive Committee at registration@bhagraintheburgh.com

After the Bhangra in the Burgh Executive Committee receives your group's completed registration packet, your group's contact person will be contacted via e-mail by **October 6, 2008** regarding your group's participation status in Bhangra in the Burgh 2008.

If you have any questions regarding the registration process please contact registration@bhagraintheburgh.com.

**Thank you for your interest in Bhangra in the Burgh 2008.
We look forward to reviewing your application.**

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