



May 2016

**NEWSLETTER**

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**Assam Foundation of North America**

## 55 Scholarships awarded to high school students in Assam

AFNA just awarded scholarships and financial assistances to 30 resident students of Tapoban in Pathsala, Assam. Based out of Pathsala, run by Students Welfare Mission, TAPOBAN is providing services in the field of disability, abandoned child, orphan child and underprivileged child. Tapoban has been a long partner of AFNA working towards our shared goal of spreading education and finally making them ready for life and livelihood. We are happy to provide \$3000 under our Support A Child (SAC) program that will help Tapoban to provide professional physiotherapists for these students in need.

AFNA is happy to be part of the Homeswar Dev Choudhuri Memorial Scholarships provided to students of Patacharkucchi Girl's High School in Patacharkucchi, Assam. Initiated and coordinated by Rathin Dev Choudhury of North Carolina, we selected 25 students on recommendation of the Head Mistress of the school based on merit and financial need; AFNA has funded a total of \$625 for the scholarships under our SAC program.

## Join our summer fund raising initiative: Work-An-Hour



**Donate TODAY!**  
An hour of your income can bring  
smiles to so many children

AFNA is counting on you to work for an hour for us by donating at least an hour of your income to our Work-An-Hour initiative. Please see our video for this initiative at the link below and help!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OPdEeHxh5LA>



AFNA would like to thank talented Shreya Pujari, daughter of Sibashish Pujari and Mayashree Baruah Pujari from San Francisco Bay area for singing the background song "Heal the World" by Michael Jackson for this initiative.

**AFNA is engaging young generation of Assamese children growing up in America to learn about Assam and its growth through our Annual Essay Competition. Check our flyer on the next page and encourage your child/children to participate! Deadline is June 15<sup>th</sup>!**

### **Get Involved:**

**Monthly volunteer call:**  
First Sunday, every month,  
10am - 11am PT  
Dial in: 641-7153272  
Access Code - 457920#

*We need active volunteers to run our projects. Please reach out to us (contacts above) or join our monthly volunteer meetings to know more.*

[Learn about AFNA](#)

### **Donate:**

**By check (Pay to: AFNA)**  
Mailing address:  
SARFARAZ TAHER,  
TREASURER, AFNA  
4391 MCMENEMY ST  
VADNAIS HEIGHTS, MN 55127



Assam Foundation of North America



# Essay Competition

Essay Topic:  
"How can the North  
American youth of Assamese  
origin contribute to Assam?"  
(max 1500 words)

**Open for Students:  
8 to 12 grades**

**Submission Deadline:  
June 15th 2016**

- Open for Assamese origin students residing and studying in USA, Canada, or Mexico
- Must be typed in English, and submitted as a Word (.doc) or PDF file
- One entry per student, and each entry must be the work of only one student
- Entries cannot have already been published elsewhere

Email to  
[afnaessaycontest@gmail.com](mailto:afnaessaycontest@gmail.com)  
with the following information:

**Contestant's Name:**  
**Parent's Names:**  
**How are you connected to Assam?:**  
**Grade:**  
**School Name, City, State:**  
**Current address of residence:**  
**Contact phone:**

- Winner(s) will be announced in the 37th Assam Convention
- Cash Prize(s), Trophy(s), and Certificate(s)
- Winning essay(s) will be published in Pronaam

## Engaging local communities with AFNA at Bridgetown, NJ

Last year AFNA started a Fall Tree Planting ceremony in the town of Bridgewater, NJ in honor of Padma Shri Jadav “Molai” Payeng. He is known as the Forest Man, one- man creator of some 1400-plus acres of sprawling forest to prevent land erosion in the river island of Majuli in Assam, India. The tree planting and its maintenance is a sustainable effort done with the co-operation of the township of Bridgewater in New Jersey, USA. As a continuation of this project AFNA participated at the Eco-Blast Sustainability Fair at Bridgewater, New Jersey on May 7, 2016; this Fair has been a trademark for the township to mark the sustainability aspect of the town. AFNA was invited by the Township of Bridgewater to participate at the fair and our volunteers Niren Choudhury displayed our projects and inform people of Bridgewater about our work in Assam and work related to sustainability like the Tree Planting ceremony. Eco-Blast fair included exhibits and interactive environmental and sustainable displays from businesses, clubs and non-profit organizations, eco-friendly children’s craft, live music and exhibit of eco-friendly electric cars along with taste of local mouthwatering foods. A good number of local people including the mayor of Bridgewater visited our booth and showed interest in our ongoing projects giving AFNA some visibility among the local communities. We were happy to have new volunteers signed up to work for AFNA’s work related to the environmental causes. This kind of engagement with the local communities will help AFNA to continue our Fall Tree Planting ceremony. We were happy to see several local Assamese families join our booth during the fair.



**Coming up soon** – AFNA is launching its new website in the beginning of June! Our website team is working very hard to bring us a new interactive website that will work well with all the new smart devices and make the website more up to date with all our projects. Stay tuned!

We are looking for articles/news/updates about AFNA related work for our June/July combined newsletter. If you are interested in writing for our newsletter please contact Lipika Deka at [lipika.deka@gmail.com](mailto:lipika.deka@gmail.com) by the first week of June. The deadline to submit is June 10<sup>th</sup>. Please check all our previous newsletters at [http://assamfoundation.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=50&Itemid=75](http://assamfoundation.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=50&Itemid=75)

### Volunteer Email DL:

Subscribes to  
[afna-vols@freelists.org](mailto:afna-vols@freelists.org)  
at  
[freelists.org/list/afna-vols](http://freelists.org/list/afna-vols)



[Donate online](#)

### Newsletter team

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