



Ananda Mandir

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2017 AWARD WINNERS

Gayatri GaMarsh Memorial Awards For Literary Excellence

These winners will each receive a cash award of \$500 and a citation plaque

BENGALI: Uddalak Bharadwaj (Houston, TX)



Uddalak received his high school and college education in West Bengal and his PhD degree from Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. He now resides in Houston, Texas. As an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center, he is involved in anti-cancer drug development and allied research. However, he still finds time to write poems (and translate poems from other languages to Bengali). He has published many poems in Bengali publications such as DuKool, Sharad Arghya, Orchid, Prothom Alo, and Bhashabandhan. Uddalak's poems mainly dwell on love in its varied forms -- and the frictions and upheavals it often causes. Apart from reading, writing and translating poems, Uddalak enjoys cooking and watching detective movies and shows. The award recognizes him for his imaginative and heartfelt rendering of human emotions.

BENGALI: Suvro Datta (Seattle, WA)



Suvro was born and brought up in Kolkata, and came to the States for higher studies in the mid-eighties. He received his MS degree from Carnegie-Mellon University, and his PhD degree from the University of Washington. Although trained as a physicist, he has changed profession several times. He has worked as a space scientist, a camera merchant, a biomedical engineer and a robotics engineer. But he has always loved to write. He has written short stories and poems in Bengali whenever he has found free time in his busy life. Suvro has published short stories in DuKool and other magazines and is the founder/editor of a popular website dedicated solely to limericks in the Bengali language. An avid photographer, Suvro captures the subtleties of daily life with precision and beauty in his short stories. The award recognizes Suvro for his short stories that focus on the rich textures and values of family life and social interactions.

ENGLISH: Satya Jeet (Sparta, NJ)



Satya Jeet was born in Kolkata and received his early education there. As a result of his father's lecture tours and visiting professorships, he also received an early exposure to European languages and western music and arts. Following a year at IIT-Kharagpur as an Architecture major, Satya Jeet came to the US to complete his undergraduate studies. Moving on to graduate studies in film, he joined the TV industry. Honing his photographic skill across the US at small television stations, he was picked by CBS Television in New York as a cameraman for their documentary and news division. Satya Jeet shot numerous episodes of the CBS news magazine '60 Minutes'. He was awarded an Emmy for cinematography for Public Service Programming. Later in life, Satya Jeet went back to the University of California for formal studies in western music. Currently he is working on a musical called, House of Dreams. The musical, in the English language, is inspired by the dance drama, Shyama, by Rabindra Nath Tagore. He has also published a seven-part series of narratives, My Life in Media, that has artfully captured the intoxicating conflicts between restlessness and determination, between ambition and indifference, between life and the images one creates of that life on TV. The award recognizes Satya Jett's unusual abilities to write about life's ups and downs with grace, humility and candor.

We wish continued success to all the winners in their future literary activities
