

From left, Moira McPherson, president of Lakehead University; Kevin Sidlar; Inderjit Nirdosh; David Barnett, provost and vice-president academic of Lakehead University; Rajesh Talpade; Tammy Holmes; and Carl

## 'Marvelous music' supports orchestra, students

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Raag-Rung Music Circle, vour Gateway to the classical music and dance of India, is a registered charitable organization.

Beginning in 1983 with concerts held in a director's basement to share the beauty of the highly developed

classical music and dance art forms of India, every year, the Fundraising Evening of Fabulous Food and Marvelous Music is held during the fall in the Italian Cultural Centre to raise funds for the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra (TB-SO) and post-secondary student scholarships at Lakehead University and Confederation College.

The TBSO uses the money to support its education programs and the university and the college distribute scholarships to students.

This fundraising event has become a tradition.

Over the years, Raag-Rung has arranged worldclass concerts in Thunder Bay by some of the living legends of classical music and dance of India. In its concert series, Raag Rung has presented five of the six classical dance styles of India (Bharatanatayam, Kathak, Odissi, Kuchipudi and Manipuri - only Kathakali remains to be presented) with solo as well as troupes of 15 or more dancers.

For a fundraising event, the guests are given a royal welcome as they come, with every lady presented with a rose. An authentic East Indian cuisine is prepared. More than 120 local businesses donate gifts for this fundraiser which are used to create a gift package for each table. Winners are drawn from the donors, ensuring a winner on each table, and various door prizes are also drawn from the guest ticket stubs.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Raag-Rung has not been able to hold this event

for the past two years. The event was held again on Sept. 16. It featured internationally acclaimed artists, Steve Oda on sarod and Ravi Naimpally on tabla. For Naimpally, it was a homecoming because he grew up in Thunder Bay. It was a sold-out event.

Raag Rung is pleased to make its contributions of \$15,000 to Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra, Lakehead University and Confederation College (\$5,000 to



From left, Tammy Holmes; Kevin Sidlar; Inderjit Nirdosh; Linda Penner, president of the board of directors for the TBSO; Colleen Kennedy, the TBSO's director of development: Carl Goodwin and Rajesh Talpade.

Far right photo: From left, Kevin Sidlar; Carl Goodwin; Inderjit Nirdosh; Kathleen Lynch, president of Confederation College; Tammy Holmes; and Rajesh

> each) and extends sincere thanks to all supporters and donors.

Submitted by Inderjit Nirdosh, Raag-Rung Music Circle





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Mamow Oblki-ahwahsoowin "Everyone working together to raise our children."

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