



Hum Sub Diwali 2023 Cultural Program Guidelines

Objectives:

- Showcase India's rich and splendid heritage to the community
- Promote family events that celebrate inclusivity and diversity and aim to build a stronger foundation for our youth

If you are looking for a platform to showcase your talents, sign up for Hum Sub Diwali 2023!!

Theme – Shagun An Auspicious start:

Welcome to yet another edition of Hum Sub Diwali! Our theme for 2023 is Shagun - an auspicious start. Loosely translated as a blessing, every wedding ceremony in India begins with the "shagun," an exchange of a token sum of money, jewelry, or sweets, and serves as confirmation of the coming together not just of two individuals, but also of two families. It symbolizes the beginning of all that is ennobling and empowering of an impending life event and expresses a prayer for its success. Join us on Oct 14 for an immersive cultural experience that will feature an award-winning singer, songwriter, music composer, and producer in the evening headliner segment and talented youngsters from area dance and music schools who will take to the performance stage to entertain you with both traditional classical as well as Bollywood-style moves. Save the date for a family day out and bask in the warmth of an autumnal afternoon that promises to please the senses through a wonderful display of color, verve, and vigor!

We invite you to give your creativity full play and encourage you to explore all genres – from folk to Bollywood to classical – as you submit your applications for Hum Sub Diwali 2023.

Please read the requirements and guidelines carefully before submitting your application. We look forward to your participation and contribution to a wonderful program.

General entry requirements:

- **A maximum of 3 items, and no more than one item from each age group,** will be accepted from the same choreographer/coordinator. This is to allow everyone to have the opportunity to perform on the Hum Sub Diwali stage. Your cooperation in this matter is very much appreciated.
- Items performed between October 1st, 2022 and October 8th, 2023 cannot be re-staged for Hum Sub Diwali 2023. The selection of any repeat items will be at the sole discretion of the Cultural Committee. Any such selection will be based on the quality of the performance.

Dance Drama:

- Dance Dramas will be restricted to very few for the program and as such, we encourage you to keep this in mind as you pick your performance category. Entry forms must have a detailed description of the item and story line.
- We are looking for very high-quality entries in this category and one of the criteria for selection will be conformity with the theme of Hum Sub Diwali 2023.

Music requirements:

- You may choose up to a maximum of three songs for a medley. More than three songs in a medley will be subject to approval by the cultural committee.
- Songs chosen in one medley cannot be repeated in another medley, either wholly or partly, by the same or any other choreographer, and not even if it is just for a few seconds.
- You can, however, repeat a medley song if you are going to use it for a full performance. This applies to the group that has chosen the medley as well as any other group.
- A remix is also considered a repetition.

Songs will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. If a song has already been taken, you will be asked to pick a different song. Please select songs that are appropriate for the performers' age group and Hum Sub Diwali's family audience. Music will be accepted online in MP3/MP4 format and it should be submitted along with the cultural entry detail form **by July 31, 2023**.

Age requirements:

- The minimum age for the participant is 7 years. The performer should have turned 7 on or before August 20th, 2023
- Suggested age groups are as follows:
7-12;
13-16; &
17 and above
- Mixing of age groups will be acceptable if the item requires it and the group is cohesive in terms of quality and appearance.

Item Type	Minimum number of participants	Maximum duration
Classical	6	4 minutes
Folk/Fusion	8	4 minutes
Bollywood	8	4 minutes
Vocal/Instrumental	10	4 minutes
Dance Drama (Limited entries)	12	8 minutes

Note: Performance time includes announcements, entrance and exit.

Points to note:

1. Please bear in mind that the Hum Sub Diwali stage is a big stage and having fewer number of participants the minimum mentioned against each category will take away much from the performance's visual impact. We encourage you to use the size of this stage to your best advantage, while keeping in mind the overall composition of the group.
2. Given that we are going with three broad age categories this year, make sure the performers you pick, who, in certain age groups, may be at different stages of physical maturation, blend well as a group.

3. Since there is a time limit of 4 minutes for the Classical dance category, we suggest you use the colors of classical dance costumes to make up for the shorter performance times.
4. "Fusion" here includes film dance/music inspired by non-filmi genres. Think "Folk Bollywood," "Classical Bollywood" etc.
5. **Cultural program will begin at 10:30am and end around 4pm (exact timings will be known after the auditions). Cultural committee will schedule each item based on audition results and other considerations. We cannot accommodate any subsequent requests for schedule changes.**

Costumes:

- We encourage you to be creative with your costumes, while keeping it appropriate for a family audience.
- Please try to avoid black tights with tank tops.
- Costumes should be appropriate to the dance style.
- The Cultural Committee has the final say on the appropriateness of costumes.
- In case of any costume changes after the audition, please get the Cultural Committee's approval.

Waiver requirements:

- Please make sure all participants use their "official" names.
- This year, we are moving a lot of our documentation online and this makes it even more critical that we get all names right the first time!

Audition:

- Items will be selected based on the originality, creativity of the choreography, coordination, energy, performance, quality and overall presentation. Auditions will be held on **Saturday, August 19, 2023** at Cary Arts Center, 101 Dry Ave, Cary, NC 27513.
- Items are selected based on your performance during auditions.
- A sample costume or a picture of the costume should be presented to the cultural committee on the day of the auditions.
- All groups/items **must** attend the audition in order to be selected and the choreographer/coordinator who can give all the required information regarding the performance should be present in person for the audition, stage rehearsal and the main event.

It is also your responsibility to let us know by **audition time** if any of your participants are performing in more than one item in Hum Sub Diwali. We cannot guarantee spacing of items to accommodate time needed for costume changes, after the audition.

Event:

- **It is mandatory for all groups to attend stage rehearsal and your absence will disqualify your entry.**
- **Rehearsal will begin at 3pm on Friday. Cultural programs will begin at 10:30am and end at 4pm on event day.**
- Each group must check in with the stage manager 45 minutes before the performance time in the area assigned by the Cultural Committee.
- It is the choreographer's responsibility to be present with the group backstage, ready to perform 30 minutes before the scheduled performance time.
- Hum Sub will not entertain requests for performance sequence change and will not wait if one of the performers has not arrived.

Cultural Committee:

The Cultural Committee is responsible for selecting items that meet the objectives listed above while conforming to the theme, and also for ensuring quality and compliance with guidelines. The committee is available to advise and assist as needed. For assistance, please contact committee members at cultural_programs@humsub.net

Important Dates for Hum Sub Diwali 2023 Cultural Program Participation:

- Application deadline: Sunday, June 18, 2023
- Audition date: Saturday, August 19, 2023
- Stage rehearsal: Friday, October 13, 2023 (**begin at 3pm**)
- Hum Sub Diwali: Saturday, October 14, 2023 (**Cultural program will begin at 10:30am and end at 4pm**)

Where do I apply?

Please fill out the cultural application form at the Hum Sub [portal](#) (**Note:** New users must register first and sign a waiver. Existing users can log in with their credentials) and submit it by Saturday June 18th, 11:59pm.