



## 7th Annual Meeting

featuring

### Sujeet Desai

Thursday, March 22, 2007

Kachmann Auditorium—Lutheran Hospital campus

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

An accomplished musician who plays six instruments including violin, piano, and alto sax, 25-year-old Sujeet Desai was born with Down syndrome. In June 2001, he graduated from high school with Honors, and in May 2003, he graduated from the Berkshire Hills Music Academy in Massachusetts after a two-year residential post-secondary study in Music and Human Services. Sujeet travels around the world to perform his inspirational solo performances and present self-advocacy workshops.

In addition to his musical talents, Sujeet has a second degree Black Belt in martial arts (Tae Kwon Do). He's won gold and silver medals in swimming in the World Games 1999 Special Olympics and also has numerous Special Olympics medals in alpine skiing, cross-country running and bowling. Since establishing his web site in 1997 during a computer graphics class, [www.sujeet.com](http://www.sujeet.com), over 104,000 people from around the world have visited the site with rave reviews.

In July 2006, Sujeet married Carrie Bergeron, who also has Down syndrome. Sujeet and Carrie have been featured in articles appearing in The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times. They have also appeared on national TV shows such as "The View," "20/20" and "Oprah." In many of Sujeet's performances, Carrie now joins him to share their inspiring story, accompanied by a musical Power-Point workshop. Sujeet and Carrie live independently in an apartment in Rome, New York.

Sujeet has worked very hard throughout the last decade trying to become the finest musician he can be, given the limitations of his disability. With his musical versatility, he has become an international role model and brought inspiration and hope to individuals with disabilities, their parents, and educators. Sujeet's *MISSION* is to send a message across the world that, given opportunities for their abilities, individuals with disabilities can "Make It Happen!" Sujeet's music is more than just entertainment. It's educational, inspirational and focused to make his *MISSION POSSIBLE!*

**Join us as the Down Syndrome Association of Northeast Indiana hosts this extraordinary musician and self-advocate at the 7<sup>th</sup> DSANI Annual Meeting. The evening will begin with a reception, including a social time with Sujeet and DSANI families. During the evening, Sujeet will perform, and along with his mother, share his life story.**

**In addition, DSANI will discuss the past year, present the annual DSANI Star Awards and make a special presentation to the National Down Syndrome Society.**





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