

...is social, support and political group that provides a safe and supportive environment, promotes awareness and acceptance, and fosters positive cultural and sexual identity for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning (LGBTQ) and additional gender or sexual minority South Asians in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area.

KhushDC Times

East Coast Asian-American Student Union Workshop

On February 15 and 16 Shiva and Ayush will attend an East Coast Asian-American Student Union (ECAASU) workshop at GWU.



Shiva will be the representative for KhushDC.

Their involvement will take place as part of a panel discussion with AQUA and APIQS, other local LGBTQ Asian/Pacific Islander groups. Workshop Title: Asian and GLBT: Who are they and where is the support in the community? Representatives from the local A/PI LGBTQ (Asian/Pacific Islander Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning) organizations come to discuss the community support available in the metro D.C. area. Each organization will choose to present their organization in a creative way

that allows the students to share and discuss the lives of A/PI LGBTQ individuals. The panel discussion will be done in a fish bowl question and answer manner. Participants write questions and place them in a bowl for facilitators to answer.

Proposed Session: So, you may know (or be!) lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning A/PI...

Continued on page 4

Membership Drive in '06

KhushDC began accepting membership applications and dues on May 15, 2005. The intention was to develop a core of individuals willing to offer support and guidance to the organization to ensure the organization continues to thrive and grow, while continuing to support the community. Member-

ship grew quickly in the beginning, but has now slowed drastically. Membership has its privileges. Current members are the only individuals with the ability to vote in the board elections which will be held again this summer. As membership grows members could receive additional

perks as well, such as discounted admission fees to KhushDC events, etc. Theron brings membership forms to nearly every event. The form is also printable from the website at www.KhushDC.org.

Current Statistics:
 KhushDC Members: 43
 Listserv Members: 364

Inside this issue:

Events	2
KhushDC-Girls	2
Crossword	3
Recipe	3
Op/Ed	3
Pride & Heritage	4
From the Board	4

Atul, Mark, Ayush, Theron, Rob, and Paresh at "Spicy Asian Crunch"



Upcoming Events (for additional info visit KhushDC.org)

Thursday, February 2
- "Pride and Heritage" meeting

Saturday, February 4
- KhushDC's February "Chutney Saturday."
(details to be announced)

Tuesday, February 7
- "Spicy Asian Crunch" Happy Hour at "halo," hosted by AQUA, APIQS, A:Y, and KhushDC

Saturday, February 11
- KhushDC-Girls Meet

Saturday, February 18
- "Chat 'N' Chai" movie discussion

Saturday, March 4
- KhushDC Board Meet
- KhushDC-Girls Meet
- KhushDC's March "Chutney Saturday."

Tuesday, March 7
- "Spicy Asian Crunch" Happy Hour at "halo," hosted by AQUA, APIQS, A:Y, and KhushDC

Saturday, March 18
(tentative)
- KhushDC By-Laws Discussion and Vote: Article III, Section 4.
- KhushDC Potluck

Workshop (cont. from page 1)

Here's a chance to challenge yourself and engage yourself about our lives. How do they deal with parents? What's it like being the only A/PI person in a gay bar or coffee shop? What about religion? Come hear the stories and experiences

of this panel, composed of A/PI LGBTQ activists.

Please thank Shiva and Ayush for the donation of their time and effort.



The Board

- President —Paresh
- Vice President—Dip
- Secretary—Theron
- Treasurer—Prasad
- Outreach —Urooj

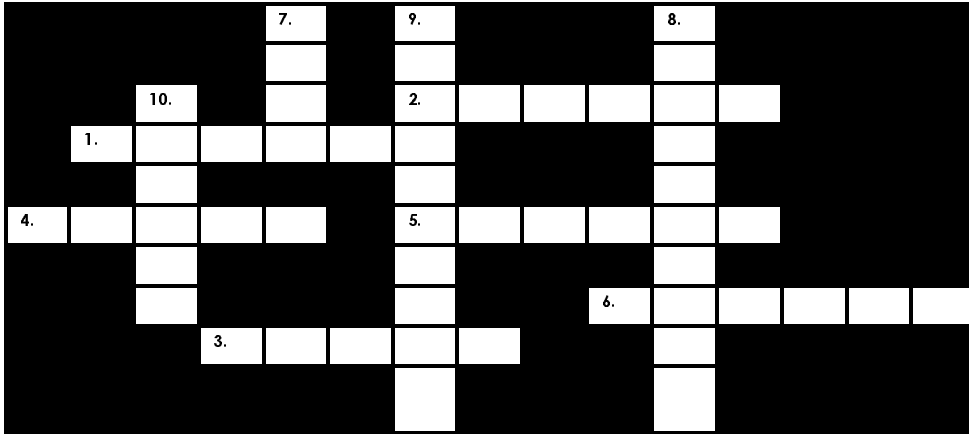
KhushDC—Girls

KhushDC is proud to announce the creation of KhushDC-Girls, a support and political group for self identified South Asian lesbian, queer, bisexual, transgender and same gender loving women living in the metro D.C. area including Maryland and Vir-

ginia. Visit the KhushDC-Girls Listserv at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KhushDCGirls>. Urooj is a 29 year old queer culturally-identified-Muslim South Asian woman. She was born and raised in Karachi, Pakistan and immi-

grated to the states when she was 17. Urooj works for a national not-for-profit in Washington D.C. on issues of comprehensive sexuality education. She is an aspiring fashionista and lives with an adorable miniature poodle named Rocket.





Across:

- 1. His pro-active volunteering helped a lot at KhushDC Pride Parade 2005
- 2. Donated the largest sum to KhushDC in 2005
- 3. Founder of KhushDC-Girls
- 4. KhushDC's Bhangra Bollywood Party
- 5. South Asian gay movie about my brother

6. Remembering the _____, usually frequented on our Chutney Saturdays

Down:

- 7. KhushDC's Chat 'N' _____ event
- 8. Self _____ South Asian
- 9. Ex-President moved to this state
- 10. Held the KhushDC January 2006 Potluck

Garam Masala
North Indian Warm
Spice Mix

Makes about ¼ cup

- 1 (3 inch) stick cinnamon, broken into small pieces
- 1 teaspoon coriander seeds
- 1 teaspoon cumin seeds

- 1 teaspoon cardamom seeds, green or black
- 1 teaspoon whole black peppercorns
- ½ teaspoon whole cloves
- 1 small or ½ large bay leaf
- ¼ teaspoon fennel seeds
- 1 blade of mace (optional)
- 1/8 teaspoon freshly ground nutmeg (optional)

1. Place all the spices except mace and nutmeg into a heavy frying pan and place over medium heat. Toast the spices, stirring and shaking, until the spices release a smoky aroma and turn several darker, 6 to 8 minutes. Transfer the roasted spices and blade of mace, if using, to a bowl and cool.

2. In a clean spice or coffee grinder, grind the mixture to a fine powder. Stir in the optional nutmeg. You may, if you like, pass the mixture through a fine sieve. Store in an airtight container and use within 3 months.

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Opinions and Editorials

Dear Editors,

Do others also feel that the KhushDC Listserv has fallen slowly and steadily into decline? This forum is now even used for personal conversations which neither serve the greater purpose of KhushDC nor interest the greater Listserv Membership.

The Mission of KhushDC is generally to connect and support LGBT South Asians in the Washington D.C. area. However, many peo-

ple have turned away from KhushDC the Listserv and the organization because of Listserv conduct. Is this what we want from our Listserv? Yes, we want Freedom of Speech, but maintaining a safe and supportive environment is the very goal of the KhushDC Listserv.

I would implore all KhushDC Listserv members to consider the Mission Statement of KhushDC when using that forum. Ask yourself this

question: "Will this message I am sending through this Listserv support and connect LGBT South Asians, or will it alienate them?"

Let us please strive to keep the KhushDC Listserv atmosphere friendly, supportive, and generally of interest to the greater Listserv Membership.

-Theron, KhushDC Secretary/Publicity

Who am I?



Answers for
crossword and "Who
am I?" on page 4.

**Theron and Ayush at the
2005 Gay Pride Parade.**



"Pride & Heritage" 2006

Paresh reported that he had met with leaders of other local LGBTQ Asian/Pacific Islander groups concerning "Pride and Heritage" 2006. He also reported that had also been in contact with Harish and Daniel, who expressed interest in volunteering as KhushDC representatives. The "Pride and Heritage" committee being formed expressed a desire to showcase more cultural events, and Daniel suggested a Bollywood dancing workshop through his organization Dakshina/Daniel Phoenix Singh & Company.

It is likely that the format of P&H 2006 will be similar to that of P&H 2005, with constituent organizations hosting separate events, perhaps one or two joint events, and each organization sponsoring and attending the events of the others. One joint event may take the form of a "Meet and Greet" potluck, whereas the other may be a large "JALWA"-type dance party.

It was reported that KhushDC is getting a reputation of being apathetic to other local LGBTQ Asian/Pacific Islander groups. It was decided that Theron would again begin advertising the first-Tuesday-of-the-month joint AQUA/APIQS/KhushDC Happy Hours at "halo" to encourage KhushDC members to take an interest in similar organizations.

From the Board

At the outset, we would like to thank all the active members of KhushDC, the board members, and especially those who have spent their time and efforts in making KhushDC a channel for self-identified LGBTQ South Asians and friends in the Washington, D.C. area. For this quarter, we would like to see the following goals met in a timely manner. Over the past few months there has been much discussion on the KhushDC listserv that indicates a need for improved communication. To meet the needs of our member community, the following efforts are being undertaken:

1. Board Meeting minutes will continue to be published in a timely manner.
2. The KhushDC Newsletter was re-introduced on January 31, 2006. (This will be the first installment since September 2004 and with YOUR support, our intent is to make this a quarterly publication.)
3. Events will continue to be updated on our website www.KhushDC.org. If you have question about upcoming events please continue to visit the website.
4. Expand KhushDC's presence and membership.
5. Registration as a 501 (c)3 Nonprofit Organiza-

tion was researched by the Board and was resolved to be a hefty undertaking. KhushDC Board Members will succinctly summarize Board Meeting Minutes in a "Goals and Visions" statement. KhushDC is also seeking individuals willing and able to assist with the organization's website. We continue to seek input from our members to benefit, improve, and serve the KhushDC community. If you can contribute in any way to KhushDC please feel free to contact any of our board members.



Contact Info:

Website: www.KhushDC.org

Group Listserv— <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/khushdc/>
KhushDC Girls listserv— <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KhushDCGirls/>

Board email:

khushdc_board@yahoo.com

Thank you.

Rupen and Rob would like to thank everyone that submitted information to help get this newsletter off to a new start. We sincerely hope that you enjoyed the mix of information and fun. We look forward to hearing from the members as to what they liked and what they would like to see in the upcoming quarterly issues.

Answers for page 3:

Crossword: 1. Harish 2. Sameer 3. Urooj 4. Jalwa 5. Nikhil 6. Titans 7. Chai 8. Identified 9. Washington 10. Taylor
 Who am I? Mark Adarlo (resident belly dancer)