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**Foundation For Excellence event raises a record \$100,000!**

**Milpitas, CA, November 16, 2008:** Foundation for Excellence held their annual fundraising event at the Jain Temple in Milpitas on Nov 16, 2008. Despite the state of the economy the evening proved to be a success even before the event commenced, with all thirty tables sold. There were 230 people present that evening and the event was well represented by various community leaders, entrepreneurs and social givers, including James Foster, a prominent Silicon Valley investor. Through the evening, the Giving Bar Chart climbed and soared to finally settle on close to \$100,000.

"We have an obligation and a responsibility to be investing in our students. We must make sure that people who have the grades, the desire and the will, but not the money, can still get the best education possible." These were Barack Obama's words that were used to highlight FFE's goal to raise money to educate deserving students in India. The donations collected will go directly to fulfill the anticipatory dreams of bright and talented yet underprivileged youth in India.

Several past Foundation for Excellence scholars made heart-wrenching presentations that detailed their journey of hope and realization through the underbellies of poverty in India to the privileges of life in America. "My father's income of Rs. 1800 a month barely took care of our family expenses as my eldest sister was mentally challenged. We did not have even electricity at home for two years. Then one day, my father lost his job," said Vidyasagar, an FFE scholar, who now works for Cognizant Technologies here in the Silicon Valley. Vidyasagar and the other FFE scholars gave credibility to FFE's cause and success story. They are all individuals who are now ready to give back to the organization that gave them the possibility to reach their potential.

Two comedians, Brian Marlow and Daniel Nainan, further enlivened the evening. Brian Malow brought the largely "techie" crowd down with his science based humor and Daniel Nainan, who has performed for the UN and Tony Blair related to the select group he was entertaining being partly of Indian origin and having worked at Intel as an Engineer.

Foundation for Excellence's mission is to bring about a transformation in the lives of academically brilliant and economically underprivileged students in India through a Scholarship Program for high school, college and professional studies. Foundation for Excellence is a non-profit organization located in Santa Clara, California.

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