

Message From the President

The Message of IAB President, Mr. Morteza Tayerani

My dear Iranian-American friends, with the beginning of Spring I would like to wish you all a "Happy New Year". I hope the New Year will bring you much happiness, success and most importantly a healthy year away from undesirable weather related disaster and sickness.

It is my pleasure to announce that 2012 (1391) was a successful year for Iranian Association of Boston (IAB). All the members and I collectively have met our goal to serve our community, promote our Iranian culture and to bring you various programs to enjoy.

Norouz is the most important celebration for Iranians all over the world. IAB has prepared a good set of programs for you. The first event is the children's Norouz program, which has been announced several times. The committee in charge of it has prepared a series of fun activities and I am sure you and your children will have a great time.

Due to the availability of the location for the main Norouz event, this celebration will occur before Chahar Shanbeh Soori and obviously before the actual date of Norouz. This event will take place at Sheraton Boston. Helen and Rustin along with Aftab Dance Ensemble, Traditional Dance, performed by Iranian Dance Artists (IDA), and music of DJ Kamran will entertain you. We hope that you enjoy celebrating this event with your family and friends.

The Chahar Shanbeh Soori, which is the last Tuesday of the year, will be celebrated at Khaneh-ye Iran. We were able to get permission of lighting fire from the city of Watertown.

IAB offered various programs during the last season. I have summarized most of the programs in my message in the Farsi section. To name a few notable developments, I must emphasize that we have managed to get a new sound system for Khaneh Iran to deliver the programs in a more reliable fashion. This also enables professional groups to have their meetings at IAB. One of these gatherings was the annual meeting of the Iranian American Medical Association, Massachusetts branch (IAMA-MA), on February 22. Therefore, it is a pleasure to see that another IAB's goals, cooperation with professional groups, have been met. Another successful program was the preparation and the performance of our poetry nights, which started in September and was scheduled to be held on the second Friday of each month. Due to the large number of attendees, who love Iranian literature and poetry, there were a few times when we had a hard time finding seats in the Grand Hall of IAB.

Last year our Scholarship committee did a great job of reviewing and evaluating numerous applications. They recommended 3 students as the final candidates for scholarship and approval. This was approved by Shora and checks were distributed to those 3 individual students.

Wednesday gathering programs, literature nights, a concert during the last year with Shahram Shabpareh, Yalda, Mehregan, are among the important events. The reports of some programs are also provided with pictures identifying memorable times that you spent with each other. All these programs were organized with the help of volunteers and I

have already thanked all of them in my Farsi message and avoid repeating all the names again here. I just want to thank majority of restaurants and businesses for supporting IAB in various ways: Molana, Roksana, Shiraz, Fiouna, Sorentos, Sabzi, Grill Station, Super Hero's, Tabrizi, to name a few.

Another important job was the renovation of apartments next to Khane Iran and upgrading the heating system.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who renewed their membership and assisted us by financial support through the annual campaign. It is still not too late to show your support by donation or becoming a member. We have already mailed these letters to those who have made their donations. In case you do not receive your letter, please contact me directly through email prsdent@iaboston.org.

I also would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the leadership and member of fundraising committee for an excellent job in making sure that IAB stands for its financial stability.

Finally, I also would like to thank the Nashriyeh Committee for their dedication towards delivering a media for news and awareness of IAB activities towards its goals. Their effort during the last several months to make the March issue on time is truly exceptional.

I hope that our community realizes the sense of support and selfless service of our volunteers. At the same time, I would like to reiterate that the unity of our community plays an important role to have a strong organization to serve.

Morteza Tayerani