The FEZANA Awards Committee is delighted to announce that the 2012 North American Zarathushti Community Awards will be presented during the XVI North American Zarathushti Congress in New York from August 2-5, 2012.

The awards will be presented to North American Zarathushtis selected by an independent panel of judges. The judges will select those Zarathushtis who have made substantial contributions to the promotion and advancement of the knowledge of Zarathushti history, theology, culture and heritage, who have achieved excellence in their chosen business or profession, and who have given of themselves through outstanding humanitarian service or philanthropy. Awards will also be given to youth who have shown outstanding leadership and educational achievements.

Awards will be presented in the following categories:

Category A: Rohinton Rivetna Outstanding Zarathushti Award
Category B: Excellence in Business or Profession Award
Category C: Jamshed Pavri Humanitarian Service Award
Category D: Excellence in Performing Arts, Painting or Literature Award
Category E: Outstanding Young Zarathushti Award
Category F: Outstanding Young Zarathushti Student Award

The North American Mobeds Council (NAMC) will also sponsor an award, “NAMC Community Services Award” for services rendered by a young Mobed/Mobedyar of 35 years of age or under. The award is sponsored by NAMC and the selection of the candidate will be made by a committee appointed by NAMC. However, the FEZANA Awards Committee will be collecting the nomination forms on behalf of NAMC. Therefore all nominations for this award should be sent to the FEZANA Awards Committee as well.

The Awards Committee invites nominations of deserving and qualified Zarathushtis for each of the above categories. The complete Nomination package, including the rules governing the awards, details on each award category, and the evaluation criteria that will be applied by each judge, will be sent to all FEZANA member associations shortly for distribution to their membership.

The nomination deadline is March 15, 2012. All entries must be received or postmarked by this date.

We encourage each and every one of you to recognize those individuals who have made substantial contributions in any of the above categories and look forward to receiving your nominations.

Shehernaz Joshi Verahrami
Navroz Gandhi
FEZANA Awards Committee Co-Chairs
13th Zoroastrian Games to be held in Toronto

The Zoroastrian Society of Ontario (ZSO) and the Zoroastrian Sports Committee (ZSC) cordially invite you to join us for the 13th Zoroastrian Games in Toronto, ON Canada. We look forward to seeing you for yet another memorable event of sports, competition, socializing and meeting with new and old friends beginning on June 29th through July 3rd at York University. Details of registration will be coming your way soon. For more info, go to: http://www.zso.org/

What: The 13th Zoroastrian Games
When: June 29 - July 3, 2012
Where: York University

If you have questions, please contact: ZGames2012@yahoo.ca

FEZANA to Revisit the 2004 World Demographic Survey

In commemoration of its 25th Anniversary, FEZANA plans to revisit the demographic survey that we had conducted in 2004 [see “The Zarathushti World - a Demographic Picture”, FEZANA Journal, Winter 2004]. The 2012 findings will be presented at the North American Congress in New York, August 2-5, 2012.

Assistance for gathering the data will be sought directly from representatives (Individual or Small Group or Association) of each country as well as of each state/province in USA, Canada and Australia. Survey questionnaires will shortly be sent out to the representatives by Roshan Rivetna, who will be coordinating this project with the assistance of FEZANA Administrator Zenobia Damania. After the data is collected, we hope to have it analyzed by statisticians/demographers, to aid our community leadership in forecasting trends and formulating appropriate action plans.

2012 PEACE ESSAY COMPETITION FOR STUDENTS. The Academy for International Conflict Management and Peacebuilding runs the National Peace Essay Contest based on the belief that questions about peace, justice, freedom, and security are vital to civic education. First-place state winners receive scholarships and are invited to Washington for a five-day awards program. This year, students’ essays should answer the question: How can new media best be leveraged to help build peace and prevent conflict? Deadline is February 1, 2012. Visit www.usip.org for more info. Or call 202.457.1700.

NOWRUZ GREETING CARD COMPETITION. Design a Nowruz 3750Z Greeting Card with the wording 'Happy Nowruz 3750Z' and send it in TIFF format by end of January 2012. All items would be published on the site and the winner shall receive $500 gift. info@3750Z.com

HUMAN RIGHTS ARTICLE COMPETITION. How is each Human Right article out of 30 articles mentioned in Universal Declaration of Human Rights (http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/) addressed in Gathas? Send your articles (English or Persian) in Word format by end of January 2012. All items would be published on the site and the best shall receive $1,000 gift. info@3750Z.com

SEASON’S GREETINGS

Best Wishes to all for a Happy and Prosperous New Year!
— from all of us at FEZANA