



Sri Lanka America Association of Las Vegas Celebrated Sri Lanka's Independence Day for the First Time in Las Vegas.

The Sri Lankan community living in Las Vegas USA, along with Sri Lanka America Association of Las Vegas (SLAALV) celebrated Sri Lanka's 70th Independence Day on Saturday February 3rd at the Clark County Library Auditorium, 1401 East Flamingo Road Las Vegas, NV, 89119 in grand style. Dubbed "Independence 70", the event comprised of a grand performances of traditional fine arts before a large gathering representing many communities living in Las Vegas, elected officials, diplomats, and other dignitaries. Chief of the event was the consul general of Sri Lanka for the western states of the USA Mrs. Swarna Gunaratne. Congresswoman Dina Titus – Co-Chair Sri Lanka Caucus - House Foreign Relations Committee was the guest of honor.

Highlights of the event

- It marks a historical event to all Las Vegans as it is the first time Sri Lankan independence was celebrated in Las Vegas
- **There are three city councils governing the greater Las Vegas area, Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, and Henderson. All three City Councils proclaimed February 4th as Sri Lankan Independence Day.**
- **Everyone of Sri Lankan decent as well as other communities attended the ceremony**
- **An art/ essay/ digital-media competition was organized in parallel to mark 70th independence. Sri Lankan and non-Sri Lankan kids participated.**
- **Both the Consul General and the Congresswoman praised community service rendered by Sri Lanka America Association, and noted that the Sri Lankan community a vibrant group in the city.**
- **The program was full of cultural presentations, and was conducted in Sinhala, Tamil, and English**

SRI LANKA AMERICA ASSOCIATION OF LAS VEGAS