



Chinmaya Mission Phoenix Family Membership Overview and Guideline 2010 - 2011

Mission Statement: To provide, to individuals from any background, the wisdom of Vedanta and the practical means for spiritual growth and happiness, enabling them to be positive contributors to society.

Motto: To give maximum happiness to maximum number for maximum time.

Chinmaya Mission Phoenix

The 2010-2011 year of Chinmaya Mission Phoenix (CMP) will start on Sunday August 8, 2010. All classes will be held on Sundays at Sierra Vista Academy, 7501 E. Oak Street, Scottsdale, Arizona 85257.

This material includes the philosophy of the CMP program, and the etiquette we expect the children and adults to follow once enrolled. Please read the information carefully before you sign the registration form.

CMP is an all volunteer run organization. As a member of the *Chinmaya Mission Family*, we invite you to be actively involved in one or more of the many activities/duties of running and growing the organization. Please indicate your willingness to one of the committee members who will help you with specific assignments.

Philosophy of the *Bala Vihar/Yuva Kendra* program

CMP conducts *Bala Vihar* classes for children as part of the comprehensive program of self-development of the individual, the family and the community. In reality, CMP is only a facilitator; the real growth of the family and the community happens due to the efforts of its members. The classes are structured on the teachings of ancient Indian Scriptures as interpreted by *Pujya Gurudev Swami Chinmayananda*, the founder of *Chinmaya Mission*.

As *Swami Chinmayananda* once said: "**Children are not vessels to be filled, but lamps to be lit.**"

In an atmosphere of love, children in *Bala Vihar* are imparted ethical and cultural values through the *Itihasa* and *Pauranic* stories, chanting of *slokas*, and other fun-filled activities such as arts & crafts, devotional music, and games.

The motto of the *Chinmaya Yuva Kendra* is "**Harnessing youth potential through dynamic spirituality**".

Through the study of the scriptures, young people are made aware of their potential. As they gain this awareness, their potential is directed towards creative channels. They are encouraged to organize and implement cultural, social and spiritual programs. This helps unfold their individual capacities and brings out superior abilities latent in them – abilities that they previously had not even realized existed within themselves.

The comprehensive syllabus is set centrally by experienced *Acharyas* of Chinmaya Mission. This includes age appropriate lessons, discussions and chanting of verses from Hindu scriptures (in *Sanskrit* and other languages).

Adult *Vedanta/ Bhagawad Geeta* classes

Vedanta is the core of Hindu philosophy. In fact, it is a **Universal Science of Life** - a science that is relevant to all people everywhere, whatever their faith may be. The *Bhagawad Geeta* (the essence of *Vedanta*) is a manual for right living through active resistance to everyday temptations, and a heightened vision of ourselves and the world around us, thereby leading us to be positive contributors to society through **Conscious Right Living**.

Parental Involvement

In order for the children to benefit fully from the program, it is necessary for the Sunday classes to be supported and enhanced by complementary activities at home. Parents are expected to spend a minimum of one to two hours per week working with the child. Twenty minutes each day would be ideal and would make a tremendous positive impact on the whole family.

- **AT LEAST ONE PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST ATTEND ADULT STUDY CLASSES AT THE LOCATION DURING THE SUNDAY SESSIONS. PLEASE DO NOT DROP-OFF/PICK-UP YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN OUTSIDE THE CENTER. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN OUTSIDE THE CENTER.**
- All classes and CMP events are organized and conducted by a dedicated group of *Sevaks* and *Sevikas*. In order to share the efforts needed, and to further personal growth through active participation, every member of the *Chinmaya family* is encouraged to contribute their time and talent by signing up for suitable volunteering opportunities.

Sunday *Bala Vihar* and Adult Sessions

- Assembly: 9:15 AM – 10:00 AM in Main Assembly Area. Please arrive and be seated by 9:20AM.
- BV sessions: 10:10 AM – 11:10 AM
- Adult discussion groups: 10:10 AM – 11:10 AM in Main Assembly Area
- Hindi Classes: 11:15 AM – 12:00 Noon
- Clean-up: 12:00 Noon – 12:15 PM

Guidelines

- Everyone is encouraged to wear appropriate Indian clothing for all sessions and functions of CMP
- Hair must be neatly groomed and tied away from the face
- All children are expected to be in their class for the specified time
- Teachers maintain an attendance record of the students
- Most material will be provided to students, but some books may have to be purchased separately
- Homework will be assigned from time to time to supplement the lessons taught

Supplemental Programs

- *Bhagawad Geeta* video talks by *Pujya Gurudev*
- Family Spiritual Camps and Youth Camps
- *Gnyana Yajnas* conducted by visiting *Acharyas*

Please visit <http://www.chinmayaphoenix.org> for further details.



Chinmaya Mission Phoenix

3903 E. Mountain Vista Drive
 Phoenix, Arizona 85048
 480.759.1541
 www.chinmayaphoenix.org

Volunteer Sign-up:

Description	Please indicate your selection by placing 'X' in appropriate column	Comments
Bala Vihar Teacher / Assistant		
Hindi Teacher / Assistant		
Bhajan Teacher / Assistant		
Sunday Setup / Clean-up		
Event Coordinator		
Food Coordinator for Events		
Event Volunteers		
Webmaster		

Please initial here if you have read the Chinmaya Mission Phoenix Family Membership Overview and Guideline and agree to comply with it. _____

If you have any questions regarding the registration, please contact us or send an email to chp@chinmayaphoenix.org.

In consideration of your acceptance of my family's participation in the above program, I hereby, for myself and my family, waive and release Chinmaya Mission from all liability or claims arising from any injury to myself, my child or my property. This release shall include, without limitation, all claims for negligence. I hereby give permission for my family to have their picture taken while participating in activities associated with Chinmaya Mission. Said pictures become the sole property of Chinmaya Mission and will be used only for recruiting/information-sharing purposes.

I, on behalf of my family, and myself, have read and understood the guidelines of *Chinmaya Mission Phoenix* and agree to abide by them.

Parents Signature: _____ Date: _____

Chinmaya Mission is a non-profit organization. Please be advised that the Membership Dues are tax deductible. CMP will issue a tax receipt in the amount of Membership Dues. The cost of books, magazines and CDs are not tax deductible. Please note that Membership Dues are non-refundable.

*Please make checks payable to **Chinmaya Mission Phoenix**. Please check with your employer if they make matching grants to non-profit organizations.*

Office Use Only _____

Dues	\$
Magazines	\$
Donation	\$
Total	\$

For New Students	
Bag	
Handbook	
New Member Gift Pack	

Check #	
Cash	
Date	
Amount	