

# ISKCON Naperville Raises Over \$1 Million at Gala Fundraiser Celebrating Community, Culture, and Spiritual Values

NAPERVILLE, IL, UNITED STATES, June 9, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [ISKCON Naperville](https://www.einpresswire.com/news/1000000/ISKCON-Naperville-successfully-hosted-a-grand-fundraising-gala-on-May-18-2025-at-the-DoubleTree-by-Hilton-bringing-together-over-500-community-members-spiritual-leaders-and-well-wishers-in-a-heartfelt-celebration-of-devotion-culture-and-service-the-event-raised-over-1-million-underscoring-the-strong-support-for-ISKCON-Naperville-s-mission-to-serve-as-a-spiritual-and-cultural-anchor-in-the-region) successfully hosted a grand fundraising gala on May 18, 2025, at the DoubleTree by Hilton, bringing together over 500 community members, spiritual leaders, and well-wishers in a heartfelt celebration of devotion, culture, and service. The event raised over \$1 million, underscoring the strong support for ISKCON Naperville's mission to serve as a spiritual and cultural anchor in the region.

The evening began with a moving audiovisual presentation that traced ISKCON Naperville's journey, its growing role in the local community, and the spiritual transformation it inspires in countless lives. The fundraiser was graced by Smt. Hema Malini, renowned actress, parliamentarian, and classical artist, and His Grace Gauranga Das, spiritual leader and global advocate for value-based living.

## Community Impact Through Spiritual Vision

In his keynote address, HG Gauranga Das captivated the audience with a profound message about the role of temples in today's world. He described temples as "hospitals for the mind,"



Smt Hema Malini and Gauranga das



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offering relief from the emotional and spiritual turmoil of modern life through practices like meditation, devotional chanting, and sacred wisdom. "When society is confused, we don't just need more information — we need transformation," he said.

He highlighted ISKCON Naperville as not just a place of worship but a living institution of values. Through festivals, youth programs, educational seminars, and food distribution, the temple

serves the community with compassion and purpose. "Temples like ISKCON Naperville are preserving culture, building character, and creating a space where families can grow together in harmony," he added. He urged the community to continue supporting the temple — not as a building, but as a living movement of love, service, and spiritual elevation. "We are not donors," he said, "we are participants in a divine mission."



Fundraising event

#### A Night of Culture, Devotion, and Generosity

Smt. Hema Malini praised ISKCON's global contributions and its impact on society through its promotion of Indian culture and spirituality. She shared her appreciation for the values ISKCON embodies and called upon attendees to continue supporting such noble efforts that enrich the moral and cultural fabric of society.

The evening concluded with a delicious prasadam dinner, lovingly prepared by the Govinda's at the temple, accompanied by live soothing instrumental music that created a serene and reflective atmosphere.

#### About ISKCON Naperville

ISKCON Naperville is part of the global International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) movement. It serves the greater Chicago area by offering spiritual education, cultural festivals, vegetarian food relief programs, and youth outreach initiatives. The funds raised from the event will support the temple's expansion and completion initiatives and expand its community services and educational efforts.

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