



GOPIO-Connecticut to honor three on third anniversary

A CORRESPONDENT

The Global Organization of People of Indian Origin's Connecticut chapter will honor three people at its third anniversary celebrations this month: Dr Priyamvada Natarajan, associate professor, departments of Astronomy and Physics, Yale University, Dr Ajay Kapur, director, music technology, California Institute of the Arts, and Stamford, Connecticut, Mayor Dan Malloy.

Natarajan will be presented the Indian-American Achiever Award for her accomplishments and contributions to astrophysics. Her recent discovery with another scientist of the existence of an upper mass limit for black holes in the universe has important consequences for galaxy formation, the chapter pointed out. A key focus of her work has been the detailed mapping of the spatial distribution of dark matter in cosmic structures with a view to obtaining constraints on the very nature of dark matter.

Kapur, who will receive the Young Person of the Year award, is professor of sonic arts at the New Zealand School of Music. He founded a multimedia consulting company, KarmetiK, which designs custom technology solutions for the entertainment industry. Using the rules set forth by Indian classical tradition, Kapur has tried to build new interfaces for musical expression. He has modified the tabla, *dholak* and sitar with added microchips and sensor systems, while building robotic musical instruments that can be programmed to perform along with the human performer, the chapter said.

Mayor Malloy will be named a 'Friend of GOPIO.' The



Stamford Mayor Dan Malloy, Dr Ajay Kapur, Dr Priyamvada Natarajan

longest-serving mayor in Stamford, throughout his tenure, 'he has earned people's respect for his genuine commitment to managing a city government that takes great pride in the citizens it serves and protects,' the chapter citation

noted.

The celebrations will be held at the Italian Center of Stamford, April 26.

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