



# Celebrating Their **Vision**

## **SPEAKERS**



**NILIMA SABHARWAL**  
Chairperson Home of Hope

Dr. Nilima Singh Sabharwal was born and educated in India, earning her medical degree from Bangalore Medical College in 1977. Two years later, she came to the United States and trained to become a pathologist at the University of California in San Francisco. Pathologist by profession, daughter, sister, wife, mother, author and many more roles she plays but her humanitarian outreach goals have demonstrated her lifelong commitment to service, knowing that it takes a lot more than a wish to change the world for children in need. No words or accolades can capture her essence, she believes in the Higher Power (HP) which energizes and emits her positive energy to all she attracts and connects with on her mission one child at a time. Founder of Home of Hope.

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RITA SHARMA  
President Home of Hope

Rita Sharma has a degree in Economics and Risk Management and runs Sharma Insurance Agency. She grew up in Malaysia where her parents strongly believed in community service and took on leadership roles in the community.

Rita studied at Welhams and Lady Shriram College in India where making a difference at local NGOs was encouraged. Although she has been a supporter of HOH since it began, she became more actively engaged when Saidham, a project she proposed, was added to the portfolio and is the Project Coordinator for both Saidham and MEET programs. Rita strongly believes education is the only avenue to opportunities and change in the lives of disadvantaged kids.

Rita is also a member of the Advisory Board of the South Asian Heart Center and has been an active volunteer since its inception. She has a keen interest in Vedanta and is involved with the Chinmaya Mission. She is passionate about her family and friends and loves to involve them in all her projects.

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**SCOTT BUDMAN**  
NBC NEWS REPORTER

Emmy Award-winning reporter Scott Budman reports on business and technology for NBC Bay Area. You can see his stories on the station's evening newscasts.

Born and raised in Oakland, Scott has been with NBC Bay Area since 1995. He began his broadcasting career in radio as a business reporter for KMNY radio in Anaheim. He then spent some time as a general assignment reporter and business anchor/producer at the Orange County News Channel. Before joining NBC Bay Area, Scott was a reporter and weekend anchor at KEYT in Santa Barbara.

Scott has won many awards including a national Iris Award for a documentary about gays in the military. He also received Golden Mike Awards from the Southern California Radio and Television News Directors Association.

In addition to his busy schedule at NBC Bay Area, Scott is a long-time volunteer with the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Clara County. He also volunteers for the Hip-hop chess federation offering alternatives to at-risk youth at schools like the one he attended in Oakland. He also supports the Second Harvest Food Bank. He also actively supports Home of Hope.

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**ANNIE DANDAVATI**  
**LEGAL COUNSEL - HOH**

Annie Dandavati is the founder of The Dandavati Law Group, a firm specializing in Civil Litigation and Estate Planning in San Jose, CA. Annie is a member of the State Bar of California, and is licensed to practice in California courts of law and the United States District Court, Northern District of California. In addition to her role as HOH board member and legal counsel, Annie currently serves on the Board of Trustees for Lincoln Law School. She previously served on the Board of Directors for the Santa Clara County Trial Lawyers Association and the Board of Governors for Consumer Attorneys of California. Annie has a twenty-plus year history of community service and involvement. She has served as a two-term chairperson of the SCC Commission on the Status of Women, SCC Domestic Violence Council, City of San Jose MWDBE Commission, and Volunteer Director of the Indo-American Senior Program. Annie is a Senior Fellow of the American Leadership Forum and a Founding Director of Coalition 2001- Celebration of Unity in Diversity, dubbed by the SJ Mercury News as “a powerful civil watchdog group.” Annie has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Soroptimist International - Women of Distinction, Community Warrior Award, Martin Luther King Good Neighbor Award, and the Santa Clara County Human Relations award.

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**SANGEETA RELAN**  
DIRECTOR, STRATEGIC INITIATIVES- HOH

Sangeeta Relan was born and brought up in New Delhi, India. She earned her BS in Mathematics and MS in Computer Science from Delhi University. She worked in India for few years before transitioning to the Silicon Valley in 1994. Since then, Sangeeta has been completely dedicated to the technology world, her family and serving the underprivileged.

Sangeeta is married to Rajesh Relan(serving HOH since 1999), and is proud of raising her children (Parth Relan, Nandini Relan) as compassionate individuals, who are equally committed to make a positive difference in others' lives.

Sangeeta cares deeply about equality and education for all. Home of Hope gives her a platform to make a difference to the lives of under-privileged children in those domains. Over the years, she has served in various roles - Registration Process Owner for annual gala, Operations Manager, Treasurer, PCO for Pingalwara(sign-language based education to the hearing-impaired children in the rural & poor areas in Punjab, India). She has launched partnerships with local programs in the US, to expand the impact of Home of Hope. She is a committed member of our HoH family.

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NISHANT BORDIA  
RENOWNED SINGER

Nishant hails from Jaipur, India and has a background in Rajasthani folk music. He is the winner of World Wide Indian Idol (2021), Festival of Globe Idol (2019), and Voice of Bay Area (2018). He has shared the same stage with internationally recognized artists including Ram Sampath, Shankar Mahadevan, Javed Akhtar, Abhijit Pohankar, and Tanvi Shah (first Indian woman to win the Grammys). His ultimate dream is to become a playback singer. He is also very passionate about sound/music production and engineering and wishes to open his own music studio soon. He has a band in the Bay Area by the name Raga & Blues of which he is the lead vocalist. He wishes to learn more of Hindustani classical music to go further deep into rich Indian music and is currently learning from maestros like Abhijit Pohankar, Javed Bashir, and Sheshaprasad.

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