



**MINNESOTA Sri Lanka**  
Friendship Foundation

## The Village

*A gift from the people of Minnesota to the People of Sri Lanka*

MNSLFF RECEIVES CAPM'S 2008 HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Volume 4 Issue 1

June 2008



From left : TV Journalist Fred de Sam Lazaro, Jodi Tanaka, Amy Nafzger, Kay Shimek, Virendra Ratnayake, Udi Perera, Nevanka Goonewardena, Becky Guneratne, Prassana Gunerantne, Mithula Perera and Ananda S. Liyanapathirana at the Council for Asian Pacific Minnesotans Annual Heritage Month Ceremony, receiving the 2008 Humanitarian award. May 16, 2008 (Photo: Lanka Liyanapathirana)

### 2008 HUMANITARIAN AWARD DEDICATES FOR SYDNEY

### *Rhythm of Sri Lanka*



"I am delighted and honored to be here to recognize the outstanding achievements of MnSLFF...It is through their courage, boundless energy and ambition to undertake difficult charitable causes that we are here tonight ..." Dan and Kay Shimek



"We want to dedicate this award to the memory of our good friend **Sydney Seneviratne** who dedicated his final days in this world in volunteer work supervising the construction of the community learning center in Sri Lanka " - Founding members of MnSLFF



Sydney admired and appreciated our commitment to the motherland. He found ways to make our life less complicated during our extremely busy and short stays in Sri Lanka. Sydney became a good friend and a man whom we came to admire greatly for his commitment to family, his community and his country.



Elaborate costumes and chiming bells on dancers' feet mixed with rhythmic drumming are the sights and sounds the Sri Lanka State Dance Troupe brought to the audience. In an effort to bring two cultures together, The MnSLFF hosted "Dance and Rhythm of Sri Lanka" at the University of Minnesota St. Paul Student Center theatre Photo: Paul Bangasser,

#### Special points of interest:

- MnSLFF receives the CAPM 2008 Humanitarian Award
- Sri Lankan Cultural Dance Group visits Minnesota
- Appreciation:  
Sydney Seneviratne
- New Office Bearers
- Work in Progress
- Visit [www.mnslff.org](http://www.mnslff.org) for more information

Children from the MnSLFF housing Project in Sri Lanka.  
Photo by: Richard Koechlein



#### Donations:

We rely on the generous donations of people like you to accomplish our work. You can contribute to MnSLFF on line via PayPal, by hosting a fund raiser, or by mailing a check to:  
MnSLFF, 8235 Marsh Creek Rd. Woodbury MN 55125  
All donations to MnSLFF are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. MnSLFF is a registered 501 (C) (3) organization with tax ID No: 11-3737913

#### Special thanks to:

The India Center, and the Sri Lanka Student Association of University of Minnesota  
Sambol Restaurant, Egan  
Sri Lanka Embassy in USA  
For their generous support for making this event possible.