

# Google Charitable Giving Fund Grants \$20,000 to Promise World Wide

SAM RAO  
Saratoga

Jaya Basu, President of Promise World wide is a pleased woman. After years of trying to establish he fledgling non profit Promise World Wide, the hard work and deserving students benefiting from the charitable work received a major boost when Google Charitable Giving awarded a grant of \$20,000 to Promise World Wide.

The funding was through Tides Foundation and directed to disadvantaged children in Kolkata, India children "The Tides Foundation, on the

recommendation of the Google Inc. Charitable Giving Fund, has awarded Promise World Wide (PWW) a \$20,000 grant to expand their efforts to enrich the education and quality of life of the underserved children in Kolkata, India." Said Mr Basu, a resident of Los Gatos in the SF Bay area.

Promise World Wide is a United States 501 c 3 non-profit dedicated to bring nutrition, clothing and education to children living in the extremely poor rural area on the outskirts of Kolkata, India, a city called Nawabpur. Currently, the school serves over 200 children,

and there is a long waiting list. In addition, Promise World Wide sponsors a program to encourage self-sufficiency for the women of Nawabpur.

Over 60 women receive seed monies and education to knit and sell dishcloths, called Toockies, in India.

"With this remarkable grant from Google we can further grow our school," said Jaya Basu, founder and president of Promise World Wide.

"We are in discussions for a larger, more sustainable school. With the

gift of land and grants like these, we can begin to envision our goals becoming reality. We are most grateful to Google, and the Tides Foundation."

Grants from other corporations, like Juniper Networks and Xilinx, and service groups like Los Gatos Noon Rotary, have spurred the planning for expansion, and an awareness of other ways the Silicon Valley-India connections can optimize the results Promise World

Wide can achieve. PWW formulated an Advisory Council this year to further its activities.

"One of our Board members was instrumental in securing this grant," said board CFO Pompy Bhattacharjee.

"It is a show of confidence of the impact we can have in our area of origin-and why these partnerships benefit all in the long run."

The Promise World Wide school in Nawabpur provides children with nutrition, basic life skills, balanced meals, clothing, lessons in personal hygiene, medication, inoculations, augmented education in their Learning Centers, computer skills, and after-school tutoring.

## Mrinalini Mata named as New President of Self Realization Fellowship

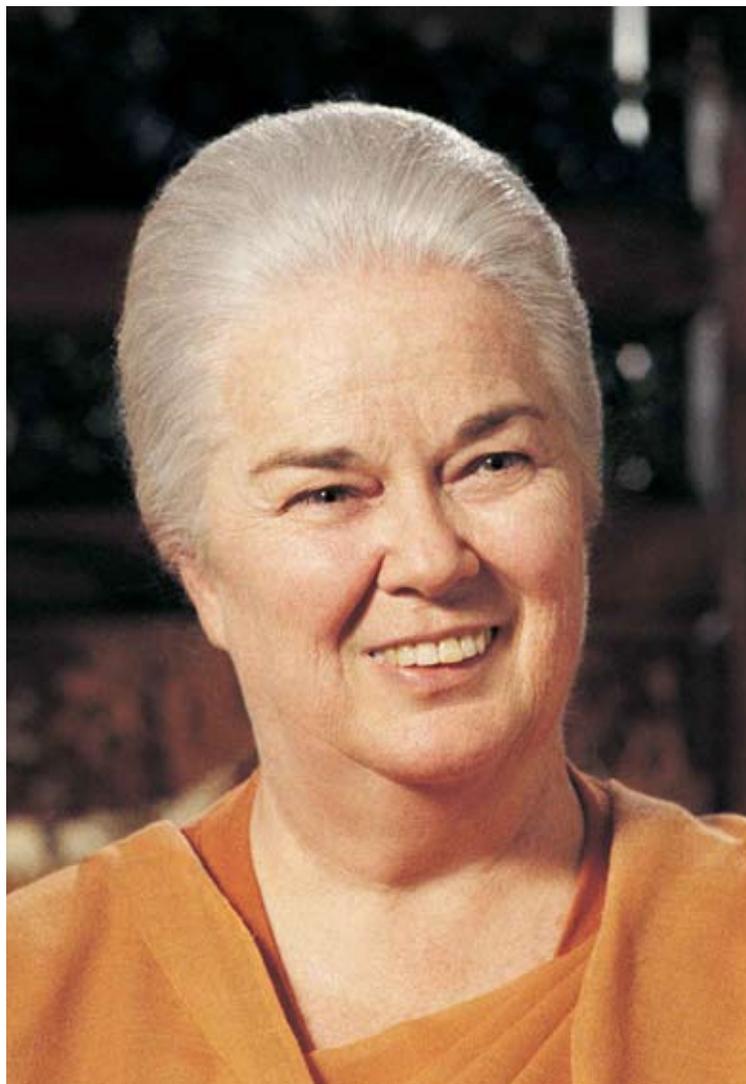
SAM RAO  
Los Angeles

The Board of Directors of Self-Realization Fellowship, the non-profit international society founded by Paramahansa Yogananda in 1920, has announced the election of Sri Mrinalini Mata to the position of president of Self-Realization Fellowship/Yogoda Satsanga Society of India.

She succeeds Sri Daya Mata, one of Paramahansa Yogananda's foremost disciples who, after 55 years of serving as the society's president, passed away on November 30, 2010.

Born Merna Brown in Wichita, Kansas in 1931, Mrinalini Mata was a close disciple of Paramahansa Yogananda and one of those chosen by him to help guide the Self-Realization Fellowship (SRF) work after his passing. She entered the SRF monastic community in 1946, at the age of 15.

In reflecting on the purpose of SRF, she said, "We have to change ourselves because we have to change the world. It is not going to be possible for any human being to survive if man continues in his present trend....Unless man becomes more spiritual, unless God and God's divine laws, principles, and ideals are brought back into this world, the forces that are drawing humanity into conflict, one with another, will destroy man and his world.



Mrinalini Mata, President of Self Realization Fellowship

This is the message of Self-Realization Fellowship...it is possible, here and now, to make a divine kingdom of God within yourself. And as our Guru said so beautifully, 'Finding God within, you will find him without, in all people and in all conditions.'" According to Mrinalini Mata, the way to begin to spiritualize one's life is through Raja Yoga, the science of knowing God through its techniques of yoga meditation and principles of right living.

Prior to assuming the presidency, Mrinalini Mata had served as vice president of the society since 1966. She continues to also serve as editor-in-chief for the society's publications.

In her new position, Mrinalini Mata is responsible for the overall guidance of the society's monastic order; the operations of its more than 600 temples, meditation centers, and retreats around the world; its publications division; and the many spiritual and humanitarian activities and services the society implements each year.

Paramahansa Yogananda personally trained Mrinalini Mata to prepare his manuscripts and talks for publication after his passing, and to oversee their translation into other languages.

She has served for many years as editor-in-chief of Self-Realization Fellowship books, lessons, and periodicals.

Sri Yogananda's masterful commentary on the four Gospels (entitled The Second Coming of Christ: The Resurrection of the Christ Within You); his critically acclaimed translation and commentary on the Bhagavad Gita (God Talks With Arjuna); several volumes of his poetry and inspirational writings; and three anthologies of his collected talks and essays have been published under her direction.

Mrinalini Mata—whose name refers to the lotus flower, an ancient symbol of spiritual unfoldment—has made a number of visits to India to assist Sri Daya Mata in guiding the spiritual work of Sri Yogananda's society there and has lectured on his teachings in principal cities of the subcontinent.

Her talks on a variety of subjects have been published in Self-Realization magazine as well as released in audio and video formats.

