



## About the Film Festival of Hope

Every year Asha San Francisco endeavors to present "breakthrough films" (breakthrough from the song-dance films of "Bollywood") and provide a window into the real India, her children, and her people through the eyes of talented documentary film makers.

Besides films, this year, the festival will also feature photographs taken by children who participated in workshops run by the NGO, Lines of Grey (LOG). Lines of Grey seeks to take photography to the doorsteps of marginalized children in communities around the world. The result is a fascinating insight into their thought processes and the joys of artistic discovery.



## About Asha for Education

Asha for Education was founded in Berkeley in 1991 with the goal of providing basic education to underprivileged children in India. In the years since its inception, the organization has grown to having chapters all over the US and in other countries as well.

Asha-SF is a chapter of Asha for Education based in San Francisco and is comprised of members that are residents of San Francisco and nearby areas. It was started in June 2007 and works closely with the Asha Silicon Valley chapter.

The primary focus of the Asha-SF chapter is to fund a number of educational projects in India and maintain a close personal involvement with them. In addition, the chapter will also be involved in fund-raising and community outreach activities.

## Sponsors and Supporters 2008



Saturday, June 21 2008  
1 PM - 9:30 PM  
Bollywood Café

# Schedule of Events

**Raju And I (30 min)** 1:00 pm -1:30 pm  
*Dir: Gayatri Rao, Aseema*  
 "Raju and I" explores the issue of child rights in India through the lives of two friends, Atul and Raju, one from a privileged background while the other from a poverty-stricken family. Things dramatically change when one day Raju goes missing.

**Introduction to Asha For Education** 1:30 pm -1:50 pm

**I want my father back (89 min)** 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm  
*Dir: Suma Joseph, Saltfilms*  
 A critical investigation of the mass suicides of farmers in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. The documentary exposes the geo-politics of agriculture and the links between farmers' debts and government policies while attempting to find solutions to the looming food crisis.

**Discussion and break** 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

**The New Heroes: India with Robert Redford (53 min)** 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
*Dir: Carl Byker and Mitch Wilson*  
 Kailash Satyarthi is determined to free millions of children from bonded labor, a form of child slavery. Inderjit Khurana has established schools on crowded train platforms to reach poor children with no other access to education. Dr. Govindappa Venkataswamy and David Green make it possible for over two hundred thousand people a year to access free eye-surgery to prevent blindness. In India today, these four people demonstrate the philosophy that a person with an innovative idea and the drive to implement it can bring about change in the lives of the poorest members of society. (Sponsored by 3rd i.)



**Introduction to Asha-San Francisco** 5:00 pm - 5:20 pm

**Child-in-Law (20 min)** 5:20 pm - 5:40 pm  
*Dir: Bharat K. Subrahmanyam*  
 A 20-Minute sensitive portrayal of the problem of child labor in India.

**Discussion and break** 5:40 pm - 6:00 pm

**Patta Patta Akshar Hoga (60 min)** 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

*Dir: Stalin Kurup, Drishti Media Collective/Earthcare Productions*

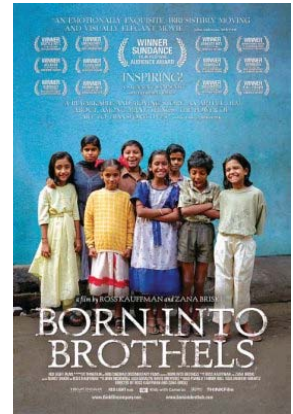
A documentary that follows a very successful education movement in the Dumka district of Bihar. Through extensive commentary and interviews, Patta Patta Akshar Hoga reveals how community empowerment and partnership enabled a group of NGOs to change the prevailing dynamics in an impoverished district of one of India's most backward states.



**Introduction to Asha-San Francisco** 7:00 pm - 7:20 pm

**Born Into Brothels (90 min)** 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
*Dir: Zana Briski and Ross Kauffman, THINKFilm*

A tribute to the resiliency of childhood and the restorative power of art, Born into Brothels is a portrait of several unforgettable children who live in the red light district of Calcutta, where their mothers work as prostitutes. Zana Briski, a New York based photographer, gives each of the children a camera and teaches them to look at the world with new eyes. Winner of the 2004 Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature.



**Discussion** 9:00 pm - 9:30 pm

**After-party**

**Lines of Grey Exhibition**

