



অসম এছ'চিয়েচন অফ নর্থ আমেৰিকা

Assam Association of North America (AANA)

AANA REGIONAL SPOTLIGHT – April 2026

Michigan

The Michigan Assamese community, known as **AAMI**, embodies the spirit of 'we', standing for togetherness, belonging, and community. It is a diverse group for anyone who loves Assam or wishes to be part of its rich culture and heritage. Though small, AAMI is a strong, close-knit community, united through cultural events and shared traditions.

M.B.A. Performs at World of Winter 2026 Opening Weekend, January 2026

JALSA 2.0, a three-hour musical showcase, was presented on January 11, 2026, as part of the opening weekend of the World of Winter Festival in Grand Rapids, widely recognized as the largest free winter festival in the United States. Following the successful debut of JALSA in 2025, the event returned under the initiative of Vishal Sharma in collaboration with MBA (Music Beyond Aspirations). The program featured a live performance by the MBA band, comprising Chiranjit Bordoloi, Sudipta Mukherjee, Vishal Sharma, Pallav Deka, Angana Borah, and Anjori Dutta. The ensemble presented multilingual pop selections in Assamese, Bengali, Hindi, and English, blended with elements of folk, rock, and reggae. Held as an open event beneath the iconic Calder Plaza structure, the program drew strong community participation. Attendees responded enthusiastically to foot-tapping Bollywood numbers as well as to soulful renditions of Celine Dion songs in freezing temperatures. A tribute to our beloved artist Zubeen Garg served as a central highlight of the event, it was heartwarming to see the audience engaging and dancing to popular Zubeen Da numbers like 'Kar porox'. Curated food stalls further complemented the program. The food event was organized by Vishal Sharma along with Kanika Kedia, reinforcing its focus on cultural diversity and community engagement.



JALSA continues to play a significant role in expanding the festival's multicultural offerings, providing a platform for artists while promoting broader cultural outreach.

<https://worldofwintergr.com/event/jalsa-festivity-of-food-culture/>

https://youtu.be/GaHlfWHDAuw?si=d_z1oJhGMDKnp1rH

<https://youtu.be/o3NFAeG1qTo?si=qj4-75g97lxPFOvC>