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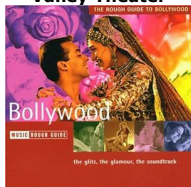
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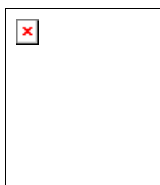
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## SRI MATA AMRITANANDMAYI DEVI TO RECEIVE DOCTORATE OF HUMANE LETTERS FROM STATE U

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SRI MATA AMRITANANDMAYI DEVI TO RECEIVE DOCTORATE OF HUMANE LETTERS FROM STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

1 April 2010

The State University of New York (SUNY) will present spiritual leader and humanitarian Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi (Amma) with an honorary doctorate in humane letters at a special ceremony to be held on May 25 at its campus in Buffalo. As part of the award ceremony, Amma will deliver an address on values-based education.

SUNY is bestowing the doctorate upon Amma in recognition of her tireless efforts on behalf of global peace, for her commitment to education and for the far-reaching impact of her charitable organizations in relieving poverty and human suffering in India and around the world.

SUNY confers honorary degrees to "recognize excellence and extraordinary achievement in the fields of public affairs, the sciences, humanities and the arts, scholarship and education, business and philanthropy and social services which exemplify the mission and purpose of the University; to honor meritorious and outstanding service to the University, the State of New York, the United States, or to humanity at large; to recognize individuals whose lives and significant achievements should serve as examples of the University's aspirations for its students."

SUNY is a renowned public university with 64 campuses across the state of New York. Its four main centers are in Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo and Stonybrook. Its total student body is 440,000 students.

Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, the university in India of which Amma is founder and chancellor, has been partnered with SUNY since 2006 to offer dual-degree programs at the master's level in management and computer science, with additional programs in medicine, social work and photonics in development.

Others receiving honorary doctorates from SUNY this year include MapQuest founder Barry Glick, pioneering AIDS/HIV- researcher Dr. Robert Vince, and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Steve Reich.

Previous accolades bestowed upon Amma include: the James Parks Morton Interfaith Award (New York, 2006), the Philosopher Saint Sri Jnaneswara World Peace Prize (Pune, 2006) and the Gandhi-King Award for Non-Violence (Geneva, 2002), among many others.

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