

INDIA **New England**

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Indian-American comedians laugh it up for New Eyes for the Needy

Comedian Dan Ahdoot made a special appearance on Saturday, Oct. 16 at 7:00 p.m. at The Stockbridge Theatre in Derry, N.H., along with comedian Tarun Shetty, in a fund-raiser for the nonprofit New Eyes for the Needy.

The event was hosted by the Jim and Bethany Show of 106.3 Frank FM and it was sponsored by the Nestlé Very Best in Youth Foundation.

The fundraiser occurred two days after World Sight Day (October 14, 2010) to raise awareness about the 670 million people around the world who are blind or vision impaired simply because they do not have access to an eye exam and a pair of glasses.

The event was one of 20 around the country by the Nestlé Very Best in Youth Foundation to benefit New Eyes for the Needy.

Other sponsors include: InterfaceFLOR, Shetty Ophthalmology, Changents.com, 106.3 Frank FM, Spectrum, The UPS Store in Derry, Maryann McFarland Photography and The Stockbridge Theatre. The event was organized by Lil' MDGs — An Initiative of Jayme's Fund for Social Justice.

Lil' MDGs is a nonprofit organization founded by New Hampshire's Dylan Mahalingam in 2004. Its mission is to leverage the power of the Internet, digital, and social media to educate, engage, inspire, and empower youth in all corners of the world to work together to meet the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals.

Ahdoot went to college at Johns Hopkins University and graduated with honors as a pre-med student. Shortly thereafter, he decided to take the secure route and ditch medicine for comedy. He has been featured on "The Jay Leno Show" and "Comedy Central's Premium Blend" and was a guest at the Comedy Central South Beach Comedy Festival. He was a finalist on Season 2 of NBC's "Last Comic Standing." He has written for MTV's "Short Circuits," Comedy Central's "Crank Yankers," and A&E's "Roast of Gene Simmons." He has opened for Lewis Black, Jay Mohr, and Patton Oswalt. He has been featured on ABC's 20/20, the 98.7 KISS FM Morning Comedy Special, and he is a regular on Jim Brueur's radio show "Unleashed," on Sirius Satellite. In addition, he is one of the highest booked college acts in the country — performing at well over 300 colleges. He also performs at corporate events for a variety of companies and organization. Shetty developed his craft in Boston and New York's top comedy clubs where he performed on Nickelodeon and CBS. Soon after, he moved to Hollywood and served as one of the hosts for the global South Asian Entertainment program, "Showbiz India." He co-founded Raising Desi Productions, a production company specializing in film/TV production. He wrote and acted in the Web-series "Desi OC" and the feature film "Bobby Khan's Ticket to Hollywood," due out later this year. He continues to perform at clubs and colleges around the country in his free time.