

NDA Goes to the NBA!



On Wednesday Night, November 4, 2009 yet another milestone for the Iranian-American community was achieved.

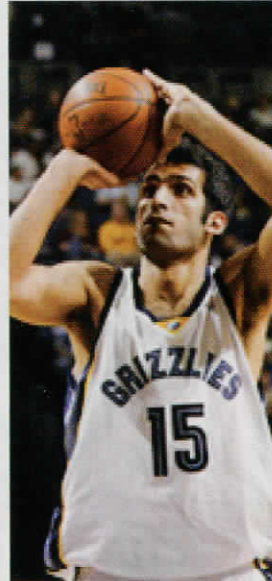
Thanks to Hamed Haddadi our best Iranian NBA player in history, who has been actively spreading the good vibes of basketball and Iranian-heritage through his personal appearances and camps for kids, the NBA's Golden State Warriors, hosted the Memphis Grizzlies at the Oracle Arena in Oakland.

The event was made even more spectacular by the fact that the evening was called Iranian Heritage night and more than 600 Iranians attended the event. The opening entertainment was none other than our very own local Niosha Dance Academy, who put on an entertaining dance performance for the audience in advance of the game.

As usual, there were beautiful dancers of all ages, in beautiful costumes, spinning and flying around the hardwood to wonderfully hard beat-driven Persian music, just like the Persian Pares of yore!

Niosha Dance Academy has been actively producing beautiful dances and costumes while training hundreds of students in 4 different studios in the Bay Area of Northern California. Niosha Jamali is the director and founder of NDA, a woman who has an unbelievable amount of passion and energy for what she does. She is naturally a very compassionate and positive person, the kind of person who magically transfers her positive energy to her students.

At the NBA game all of the NDA dancers and families were wearing light blue t-shirts with the inspiring words on the front:



“ Dream ,
R e a c h ,
B e l i e v e ” and in the back of the shirt the very cute slogan, “NDA goes to the NBA” When I asked Niosha what the idea behind the shirt was, she said: “My Dream has come true, I always w a n t e d

to perform at a large venue like the Oakland Coliseum, I always wanted to showcase the beautiful art of our traditional and modern dances, to show our true heritage and culture to as many people in an audience as possible, so that they can see the beauty and softness of our culture. I wanted to always give this opportunity to my students to be proud of being Iranians, and to be proud of their hard work and talent. To perform at an NBA game is just a start, so everyone now knows that if we dream and reach for it and believe that will happen on its own right, with the right timing, and a bit of luck, the sky is the limit. We can do anything! A popular slogan of the NBA is “The NBA is where it happens!”, we like to say “NDA is where it happens!!!”

