

Indian actress turned politician brings star power to South Asian Film Festival

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Vancouver businessman David Sidoo poses with Indian actress and politician Jaya Bachchan at the inaugural South Asian Film Festival on Nov. 1, 2012.

Photograph by: Malcolm Parry, Special to the Sun

Indian actress and politician Jaya Bachchan played patron on the first night of flicks at Vancouver's South Asian Film Festival.

Bachchan, who has starred in dozens of films since the 1960s, sat down for a conversation with former premier Ujjal Dosanjh Thursday. Bachchan is also a member of the Indian Parliament and the wife of legendary Indian film actor Amitabh Bachchan.

The first four films of the festival showed throughout the day Thursday at the Vancity Theatre following an opening night gala at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre on Wednesday.

Earlier this week, Superstorm Sandy threw a wrench into festival plans when renowned Indian musicians Rajan and Sajan Mishra became stranded in the U.S.

The South Asian Film Festival continues through the weekend and wraps up Sunday in three locations — Empire Granville 7 at 855 Granville St., Empire Theatre Guildford, Towne Cinema in Abbotsford and the VIFF International Film Centre. Info: www.saffcanada.org.

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