1. Size - Large Group of 600 audience (adults, teens, children)
2. Group - Family, Friends, Colleagues, Invited Guests
3. Event - held in Arts & Performance theatre
4. Speech – Funny, Sentimental, Heartwarming
5. Key person – Harshitha Surisetty

My 15-year-old daughter (raising 10th grader) is graduating in Indian Classical Dance (called Bharatanatyam). She will be performing solo dance recital for 2 and ½ hours for various traditional songs varying 5 minutes to 20 minutes, with intermittent breaks. She is an excellent soccer player too.

1. I would like to mention all about Harshitha (performer), my wife (performer’s mom), younger brother and guru (dance teacher) and finally audience/guests that attended to wish and bless Harshi.
2. Audience should have a pleasant feel of the Harshi’s dance performance, and how she reached to this point.
3. Below is the content I came up with...

Link for the video invite (*to get an overall idea of how the event is going to be*):

<https://inviter.com/h/event/1fcf9224f1f09a97ad293c680a215696>

Also attached the invitation card copy (*for you to know better how /what it is*)



*Here is my draft….*

**My Speech (Parent’s speech)**

Adressing Audience

I would like to thank you all for coming all the way to bless and shower your blessing and wishes to Harshi. I humbly say that everyone seated here made my day. This makes us bold and strong. While, I am very glad and highly excited about the achievement, I would like to share few words with you.

I have an emotional attachment with the city, as my Queen Harshi was born in Charlotte. Being a first time dad was exciting and challenging. Each dad’s experience could be different but the journey is same, once started it never ends.

Not sure, where to start but let me begin with ….

My Daughter “Harshi” - It is just not a name, it is My Life.

I am not sure what I did to deserve her in my life, but I thank God every day for her. She is wonderful, loving, caring and forgiving. My wife Sri and I could not imagine our lives without her. We love her so much. A daughter is a gift of love. A daughter may outgrow your lap, but she will never outgrow your heart. That is DAUGHTER!

Harshi’s Dedication

She is very committed. She being a good soccer player and a classical dancer, both to do with legs and feet. I know how tired they should have been. Just to bring up some statistics, Harshi had so far given 65 dance performances and played more than 200 soccer games in past few years. She has to go through hurdles to reach this point. She had to hang on her boots and bells for more than a year.

Harshi asked me once “Dad – will I be able to play soccer and continue my dance?”

I just said YES boldly, but that night I could not hold my tears. It was a nightmare. However, after a year, she stunned us running on the field, playing for her school and club soccer teams. She has NOT lost her agility or speed. As well, I see moving her feet wearing dance bells. 6 months of dedicated dance classes, a great deal of commitment.

Coincidentally tomorrow Sunday the August 11 is celebrated as “Daughter’s Day”. I dedicate that to my sweetheart Harshi and to the entire Daughter’s here ☺

My Wife… my better half… Sri

Believe me without her I am nowhere. Truly, I never expressed it but this is what I really mean. She is the key person in nurturing Harshi throughout. Just saying Thank You is not enough, maybe I will have to thank her in a best possible way touring across cross-country☺.

My LitteOne … Vaibhav

He is the one who has enjoyed a lot during this summer. As we there were so busy in these preparations, he got plenty of time to play on his Computer games. Just teasing him☺. He is the one who was taking care of Harshi all the time. He supported a lot throughout the process.

Teacher’s Commitment

Guru Radhika. She runs on her toes. Teacher commitment is a key factor influencing Harshi. You are an inspiration. I cannot imagine how you could pull up all such energy to make events happen back to back. Every dance is unique. Every Arangetram stands by itself.

Harshi was introduced to you and the Bharatanatyam at the age of 4 years. Since then till date she never stopped. It has been 12 years. I still remember 7 years ago Harshi was in 2nd grade, awarded Nrityam Scholarship for her consistent effort in Classical dancing.

There are no simple words to describe you Radhika. I know you have been doing this for more than a decade. I wish your legacy were continued.