

From the Editor's Desk

|| Srih ||



I am truly humbled to announce that I have been awarded the Individual Art Fellowship Award for 2025, established by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts in partnership with the Mid Atlantic Arts. After an extensive selection process involving expert panelists from diverse backgrounds, I am honored to be chosen from 937 finalists. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Isvara, my parents, gurus, and all my well-wishers for nurturing my deep connection with music. This recognition fuels my passion and commitment to advocate for the beauty of this divine art form.

Sincerely
Sandhya Anand



I'm extremely happy to have received a letter of honor from an esteemed dance exponent Smt. Thejaswini Raj.

Please learn about her works here

<https://www.shivajyothidanceacademy.com/about>



Congratulations, Sandhya Anand, on receiving the prestigious Individual Artist Fellowship Award, established by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation.

This honor comes as no surprise, as it is long overdue. Your unwavering dedication and sincerity towards the art of Carnatic singing and violin, as well as your deep commitment to your students, make you truly deserving of this recognition.

I am grateful for your exceptional talent and knowledge, especially when you composed the Slokam and Chittaswaram for Keerthanam Shayamalambika for Aakrithi Mathur's Arangetram, as well as your composition for Gaveeshapatro for Veena Nambi's Arangetram. Your generosity in sharing your musical expertise without hesitation is truly admirable. My blessings are always with you. May you continue to receive the recognition you so richly deserve.

With love and blessings,
Thejeswini Raj
Director, Siva Jyothi Dance Academy



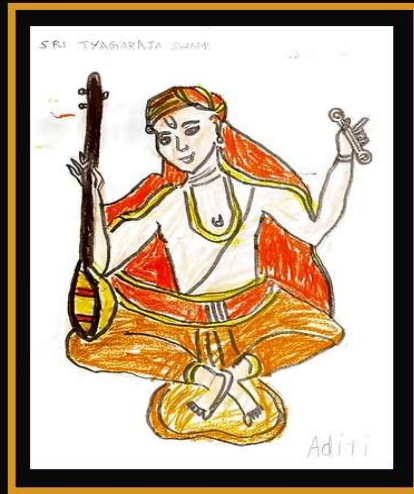
Successful completion of Quiz shorts!!!



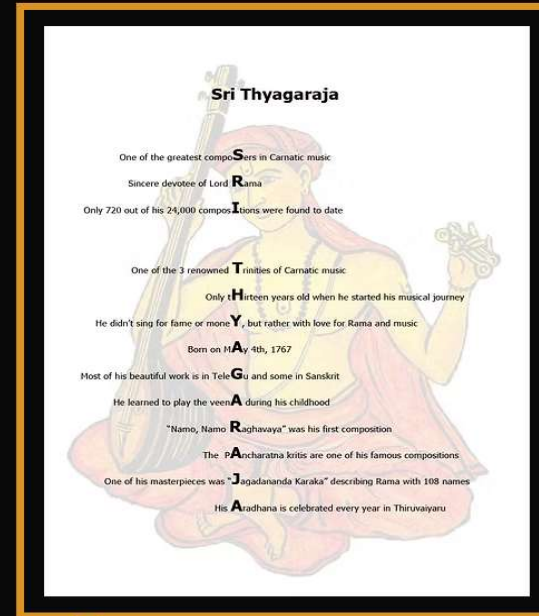
On the occasion of Thyagraja Aradhana celebrations we successfully completed the quiz series in channel! Each short of the video garnered on an average of 450 views – which is very likely as students listened to each of the quizzes to hear the song again and again to identify the raga, song, tala and composer. Such pleasant deviations from normal pedagogy of imparting Carnatic music, sustains interest in the students and more importantly, attunes the students' ears to nuances of the art. One of the primary aims of imparting Carnatic music is to nurture the rasika in the student, which I feel this series definitely achieved.



Sri Thyagaraja Art Work By Students

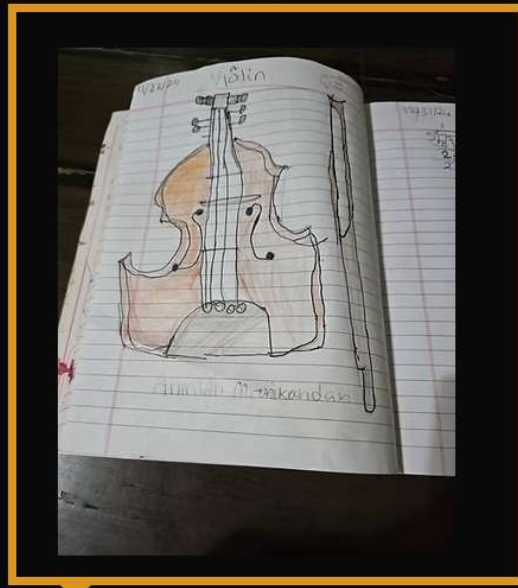


Aditi Sundaresh



Pragnya Dwarkanath





Anirudh Manikandan



Happy Thyagaraja Aradhana!!!

Sri Thyagaraja

*Thyagaraja's melodies, flow with mere rules
Songs full of spirit, shining like jewels
Every note filled of rhythm that sends a dream
Mix together to create a big stream
The music in its own way is very precise
Takes us to a world of paradise*

*Bhakti, which he shows so much
Something that came to him as such
For Sri Rama, his heart pours out
With so many feelings, up and about
Ragas mixed with emotion and love
Make the music fly up like a dove*



*The language is a beautiful way
To show how the dedicated words sway
The devotion is a huge part
To show Thyagaraja's wonderful heart
His works of art should be cherished
As his life of music was our granted wish*

*In my life, I hope to gain this amount of passion
To move from a pond to a lake to an ocean
He inspires us with the spirit to learn
Devotion, bhakti in music we earn
His blessing is truly very important to me
As I continue my musical journey*

By: Avnie Venkatakrisnan



Sri Tyagaraja Aradhana Celebrations



[*Video Link 1*](#)

[*Video Link 2*](#)

[*Video Link 3*](#)



Ganamurti Ragam



[*Video Link 1*](#)

[*Video Link 2*](#)



Sri Tyagaraja Swami

One day, in the 1700's town of Thiruvarur, a baby arrived, the little boy was named "Kakarla Thyagabhramam," nicknamed as Thyagaraja, after Thiruvarur's main deity. He learned to worship Rama every day. He always strived to love God, even past the age of eighty. Every day, he would worship and love, his prayers always thrived. Even at thirteen, his words complimenting Rama were weighty. His first song was born of compassion; his love never archived. Five years later, he married Parvati, who sadly passed away 5 years after. Later he married Kamalamba, sister to Parvati and this time a daughter arrived, and named her Sitamahalakshmi, and eventually she had a son. Through her, Thyagaraja had a grandson, whose life he was sadly deprived. Thus ended the direct descent to the Saint, whose death we will only know of to a small degree.

Yet Thyagaraja continued to love Rama, regardless of the obstacles that always seemed contrived. He would sometimes struggle to compose Bhavam, yet his words were often full of glee. His praise for Rama never-ending, full of love, it always survived Music and Bhakti were all that mattered to him, and of course Rama, which made three and so Thyagaraja wrote and wrote, dedicating his life to music, he prized His connection to Rama, God, and music, he sometimes spoke of "me." He asked for protection, criticized, and chastised. Though he would find flaws in himself, he continued to love His praise for Rama never-ending, full of love, it always survived.

Thyagaraja revered the greatest Bhaktas, and loved He composed, sang, and wrote, his love always survived. He never stopped, never gave up, always overcame, underprived.

Of his love, even till his dying breath, of which we do not know, for he is a Saint, a lover of Rama, music, and God.



STUDENTS



Origin of Carnatic Music - People started singing playing Carnatic music over 2000 years ago. It is believed to have been formed from above Vedas and rituals Saints like Sri Thyagaraja Swami, Sri Muthuswami Dikshitar and Sri Syama Sastri composed songs showing their devotion to God. Carnatic music came from South India.

Origin of Hindustani Music- Hindustani music originated much earlier than Carnatic music. It was separated from Carnatic music around the 13th/ 14th century. It was originated in North India.



Carnatic and Hindustani Music are both classical music traditions from India. Each of them has their own style and forms, but they have differences.

Carnatic Instruments	Hindustani Instruments
Structure - has more structured and fixed composition. Singers can be creative in rhythm and melody, but they follow a set pattern.	Structure - allows you to be creative in making up parts of music. Singers can stretch and change the music in their way during their performance.
Veena : A plucked string instrument with a pear-shaped body and a long neck. Known for its deep sound.	Sitar : A long-necked string instrument with a gourd-shaped body. Known for its rich sound.
Mridangam : A double-headed drum made from jackfruit wood and goatskin. Provides rhythmic support with deep bass and sharp sounds.	Tabla : A pair of hand drums consisting of a larger drum (bayan) and a smaller drum (dayan). Known for intricate rhythmic patterns.
Venu : A bamboo flute with a simple design but complex playing technique. Known for its sweet and melodious sound.	Sarangi : A bowed string instrument with a short neck and a rectangular body. Known for its rich and expressive sound sounding like the human voice.
Raagas - Shankarabharanam, Kharaharapriya, Bhairavi	Raagas - Yaman, Bhimpalasi, Bageshree

Saketh Narayanan

Scribe



Uttara Mudumbi



Achievements



Congratulations on your
accomplishments!



Koushya & Divya



Veenadhari Institute

**Swara Natya Sambhrama 2K25 -
Congratulations!! You have been
selected for the Finale Round !!**



Veenadhari Institute

10:13 AM

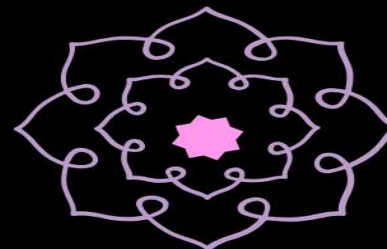
To: Veenadhari Institute & 1 more



Namaste,

Greetings from Veenadhari Institute of Music and Fine
Arts!!

Hearty **Congratulations** for being selected to the Finale
Round of Swara Natya Sambhrama 2K25 - International
Level Music & Dance Competitions!!



It's Play Time

by





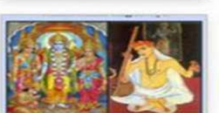



Vedanth Sundaresh



Please click the play time button to access the website.

Play Time

Previous Month's Play Time

<p>Bantureethi Koluva Kriti in Hamsanadam</p>	<p>of all bliss in the universe. It highlights Sri Rama's divine qualities and attributes, and his profound role as the source of universal joy and happiness. Additionally, this kriti</p>		<p>Jagadanandakaraka Kriti in Nattai</p>	<p>guaru to always be in his presence. Symbolically, it reflects his wish to always remain close to Sri Rama, and mentions the Arishadvargas, which are the 6 enemies of the mind: Kaama (desire), Krodha (anger), Lobha</p>	<p>This is the musical instrument that Sri Thyagaraja Swami played throughout his life.</p>
		<p>Veena</p> 	<p>This is a raga which Sri Thyagaraja Swami used in a multitude of his compositions.</p>	<p>Rivers in India, which flows through Sri Thyagaraja Swami's residence in Thiruvaiyaru, and is reflected in his kritis, inspired by the river's serene environment and</p>	<p>Ni Padapankajamula Kriti in Begada</p>
<p>Begada</p>	<p>The Utsava Sampradaya Kritis</p>	<p>Ganasudharasapana Kriti in Nattai</p>	<p>Nee Dayarada Kriti in Vasantabhairavi</p>	<p>This kriti is a tribute to all the great devotees and saints who have sung praises of Sri Rama throughout their lives, and it acknowledges their contributions and the timeless nature of their devotion.</p>	<p>Samajavaragamana Kriti in Hindolam</p>
<p>This was the first composition that Sri Thyagaraja Swami composed when he was 13 years old.</p>	<p>Rama Ramana Bharama Kriti in Vasantabhairavi</p>	<p>This is a difficult and too troublesome. He recounts instances where the Lord had safeguarded his other devotees, but wonders why he isn't being protected. Despite this, this, he resolves to keep chanting.</p>		<p>and pompous Carnatic Music festival which is held every year in Thiruvaiyaru, in the Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu. It takes place during Margazhi month in Sri Thyagaraja Swami's</p>	
 <p>PANCHRATNA KRITI</p>	<p>This composition expresses the deep devotion and love for Lord Rama, describing how the mere thought of Rama brings peace and joy to the devotee's heart.</p>	<p>Thyagaraja Swami. He imagines Him as being born from Narada Maharshi, who is considered as one of the greatest musicians. This song highlights the significant impact of Sri</p>	<p>In this kriti, Sri Thyagaraja Swami praises the divine beauty and grace of Lord Rama, and compares it to the preciousness of gold.</p>	<p>Sadhinchane Kriti in Arabhi</p>	<p>In this composition, Sri Thyagaraja Swami asks Lord Rama to be ever merciful and forgiving towards him.</p>
<p>Guruleka Etuvanti Guniki Kriti in Gourimanohari</p>		<p>This deity was whom Sri Thyagaraja Swami saw in real form during his lifetime.</p>	<p>Dudukugala Nanne Kriti in Gaula</p>	<p>Kanakana Ruchira Kriti in Varali</p>	<p>This eminent composer is part of the Trimurtis (trinity) in Karnataka Sangeetham, and His Aradhana is coming up!</p>
<p>These are festive, treasured compositions by Sri Thyagaraja Swami, that are often sung to accompany temple rituals and Divya Nama Sankeerthanas.</p>	<p>This composition lists Sri Thyagaraja Swami's own life's mistakes and shows how he seeks redemption from Lord Rama, acknowledging his own imperfections and the need for His divine blessings.</p>	<p>In this composition, Sri Thyagaraja Swami pleads for Sri Rama's grace, blessings, and mercy.</p>	<p>These 5 Gems of Sri Thyagaraja Swami are very popular and are still extremely significant and commonly listened to today.</p>	<p>The Pancharatna Kritis</p>	<p>complexities and challenges of life without the wisdom imparted by a capable and pious teacher. This guidance helps to overcome the inner afflictions of the heart, much like a medicine cures physical</p>
		<p>Endaro Mahanubhavalu in Sri</p>	<p>These are the 5 Gems composed by Sri Thyagaraja Swami</p>		



Events Extravaganza



SriArts
Presents



Violin Concert

by

Violin: Sandhya Anand
Mridangam: Srihari Raman

March 15, 2025
Saturday, 5:00 PM

Location:
7 Iverson Ct, Rockaway, NJ 07866

RSVP
Dhamo: +1 201-562-5734
Sudha: +1 815-585-0009

Sangeetha Samarpanam

presented by students of Smt. Sandhya Anand
of Samskrtsangitam School of Music

Deepthi Suri
Bhuvaneshwari Shriram
Dhruva Anand (Violin)

Venue: 215 May St, Edison, NJ 08837 Shri Krishna Vrundavana

Timing: Sunday February 23rd, 6 PM - 7:30 PM

DETAILS

Date:
Saturday, February 22 2025 7:00 pm EST

Time:
7:00 pm EST

Cost:
\$25 - \$35

Event Category:
Events

VENUE

Peggy R. McConnell Arts Center of
Worthington

777 Evening Street
Worthington, OH 43085 + Google
Map

ORGANIZER

Dhvani - India Performing Arts
Society of Central Ohio

Phone
614 537 7574

Email
dhvaniho@gmail.com

Unique Carnatic Concert by America-Born Women

Saturday, February 22 2025 7:00 pm EST \$25 - \$35



Unique Carnatic Concert by America-Born Women

Ananya Ashok - voca/
Sandhya Anand - violin
Shubha Chandramouli - mridangam

Tickets: \$35
\$25 for Members of the McConnell Arts

[BUY TICKETS](#)

FREE FOR ANNUAL SUBSCRIBERS

ANANYA ASHOK **SANDHYA ANAND** **SHUBHA CHANDRAMOULI**



Sandhya Anand is an All India Radio-graded Carnatic music violinist and vocalist, with over 3000 concerts in India and abroad to her credit. She has learnt her art from some eminent gurus. The list includes the likes of Suguna Varadaachari, Sangita Kalanidhi TVGopalakrishnan, S. Krishna Iyer, R Swaminathan (violin) and KS Suryanarayana (flute).

Her vocal and violin performances under the auspices of reputed organisations in Chennai and the USA have won her several awards and accolades. An awardee of Government of India national scholarships and a distinguished scholar with post graduate qualifications in music and Sanskrit, Sandhya is a regular performer on All India Radio, Doordarshan and other Indian TV channels.

Sandhya has been a violin soloist as well as an accompanist to several top-notch artists across generations including a few Sangita Kalanidhis. She is known to collaborate with eminent artistes from a variety of disciplines including dancers and artistes from other genres while giving Violin solo performances as well.

Sandhya is the founder director of the Samskrtsangitam School of Music where she trains aspiring students- inculcating in them the passion for music and Sanskrit. Added to an emphasis on strong fundamentals, this approach of the school has prepared students to perform full fledged concerts.

[Add to calendar](#)

“



Classical music is a perennially flowing river and nothing can affect its flow. No one needs to worry about Indian music. It is forever.

M. Balamuralikrishna

quotestree.com

”

Stay tuned until our
next news letter.....