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GICC Newsletter Vol. 17

GICC Newsletter

Thyagaraja Aradhana creates devotional atmosphere at GICC Queenstown

Since seven years, the Global Indian Cultural Centre has been paying a special tribute to Saint Thyagaraja, the saint and great musician of Carnatic music, through the Thyagaraja Aradhana festival. Saint Thyagaraja was a devotee of Lord Rama and a prolific composer of numerous devotional songs, sung traditionally in every Carnatic music concert. On February 29, an august gathering of 400-plus participated in the congregational singing of Pancha Ratna Krithis at the Thyagaraja Aradhana at GIIS Queenstown Campus auditorium.

Notable musicians from Singapore joined the singing alongside GICC teachers and lead musicians— Papanasam Ashok Ramani, Smt Rukmani Ramani, Sri Neyveli Santhanagopalan, Smt Gayathri K and Sri Kallidaikuruchi Shivakumar— from India. Young music talents from GICC also joined the singing, as a special tribute to the great saint Sri Thyagaraja.

» <https://picasaweb.google.com/giccqueenstown/GICCThyagarajaAradhana2012#>

Papanasam Music and Dance Competition



The birth anniversary of Siva Punya Gana Mani Brahmashri Papanasam Sivan is celebrated every year in Singapore and other countries for the past 6 years. This year also the Sivan Fine Arts Academy, in association with GICC, Singapore, conducted music and dance competitions on January 28 from 9am to 5pm. The competitions on songs of Papanasam Sivan were for vocal, Violin, Veena, flute, keyboard, Mridangam and Bharathanatyam.

The event was attended by several popular artists like Neyveli Santhanagopalan, K Gayatri, Smt Madhuvanathi Arun, dancer and daughter of Sri Y G Mahendra, Dr Rukmini Ramani and Sri Kallidaikuruchi Sivakumar (Mridangam).

55 GICC students competed in various categories such as dance, vocal and instrumental music.

GICC students won laurels in various categories:

Name	Vocal/Instrumental /Dance	Category	Prize Won	Teacher
Nikitha Uma Baskaran	Vocal	Sub.Sr	1st Prize	Srividya Sriram
Sagarika Raman	Vocal	Sub Sr	3rd prize	Srividya Sriram
Amitesh Sivaraman	Violin	Sub Sr	2nd Prize	Srividya Sriram

Malavika Raman, Abhishek Balamurugan, Sanjana Prabhakar, Natasha Rajeev, Anvitha Rajaram, Subiksha Ganesan.	Vocal	Group	1st Prize	Srividya Sriram
Sagarika Raman, Nikitha Uma Bhaskara and Ankitha Rajaram	Vocal	Group	3rd Prize	Srividya Sriram
Adithi Naveen Bhat	Bharathanatyam	Junior	1st Prize	Srilakshmi Arun
Vidhya Ravisankar	Bharathanatyam	Sub-Sr	1st Prize	Srilakshmi Arun
Ankitha Rajaram	Bharathanatyam	Sub-Sr	3rd Prize	Srilakshmi Arun
Simrita Agrawal	Bharathanatyam	Sub-Sr	3rd Prize	Srilakshmi Arun
Akshara Maran	Bharathanatyam	Senior	1st Prize	Srilakshmi Arun
Vaishalee Rajaraman	Bharathanatyam	Senior	2nd Prize	Srilakshmi Arun
Sahana Mahesh, Meenakshy .R.Menon, Sanya Trikha, Gargi Sharma, Rughveda Charthad, Adithi Naveen Bhat, Nikitha D Prabhakaran	Bharathanatyam	Group(Jr)	1st Prize	Srilakshmi Arun
Varsha Ganesan	Bharathanatyam (Padam)	Junior	2nd Prize	Atira Venugopal
Anvitha Rajaram	Bharathanatyam (Varnam)	Sub Sr	3rd Prize	Atira Venugopal
Judi Asmitha	Bharathanatyam (Padam)	Sub Sr	3rd Prize	Atira Venugopal
Varsha Venkatesh, Videesha Ahire, Kannamma Lakshmanan, Malavika Raman, Inbaayini Anbarasan, Sneha Ravisankar	Bharathanatyam	Junior	3rd Prize	Shobinya Karthikeyan
Swathi Ramesh	Bharathanatyam	Sub Sr	1st Prize	Shobinya Karthikeyan

GICC students add sparkle to Lunar New Year celebrations

25 students of Global Rhythms under the guidance of Teacher, Ms Jennifer Peter, performed for the Lunar New Year celebrations organised by Queenstown Community Centre. MM Lee Kuan Yew was the Guest of Honour for the programme. GICC students presented a vibrant dance on a medley of popular Hindi songs.

GICC Students perform at the World Hindi Day



GICC students Subiksha, Anvitha, Varsha and Judi performed a Bharathanatyam dance, Swathi Tirunal Krithi - 'Shankara Srigiri' written in Hindustani language as part of the World Hindi Day celebration organised in Singapore on February 11. They were trained under the guidance of Teacher Ms Atira Venugopal.

Purandara Dasar Aradhana

Invitation to perform during



GICC students were invited by the Singapore Kannada Sangha to perform during the Purandara Dasar Aradhana on February 5. Students of Teachers, Ms Atira Venugopal and Ms Shobinya Karthikeyan performed on Daasaru Krithis for the occasion.

Participating in auspicious

celebrations for Maha Sivarathri



GICC team was privileged to have been invited by the organizing committee of Sri Sivan temple in Geylang, for the festival of Maha Sivarathri. The committee members had seen GICC students perform Beats of India - a dance performance based on six Indian dance styles and had conveyed a special request to the GICC team to perform the same dance during the temple's Maha Sivarathri celebrations. It was a privilege for GICC students to perform during the auspicious occasion. They also got the rare opportunity to meet and interact with Dr Balamuralikrishna, leading vocalist and composer of Carnatic music.

Performing in Singapore's national dance competition - Sanghamam

Singapore's national level dance competition, Salangai Oli, culminated in a grand finale - Sanghamam on March 4. GICC Bharathanatyam students - Akshara Maran, Swathi Ramesh and Vaishalee Rajaraman were part of Salangai Oli and Sanghamam. It was a wonderful opportunity for the young dancers to perform at Sanghamam at the Esplanade theatre along with their mentors and leading guest artistes from India. Participation in the grand event with an audience of 1500 was a superb experience for the dancers as it accorded them a chance to demonstrate their commitment and passion towards the art, especially since the preparation for the event coincided with their school examinations.

PERFORMING ARTS

Carnatic Vocal
 Hindustani Vocal
 Bharathanatyam
 Odissi
 Kathak
 Contemporary Dance
 Indian Keyboard
 Mridangam
 Tabla
 Violin

LANGUAGES

Hindi
 Sanskrit
 Malayalam
 French
 Mandarin
 Japanese

SPORTS AND GAMES

Cricket
 Gymnastics
 TaeKwonDo
 Tennis

YOGA

Hatha Yoga

FINE ARTS

Visual Arts
 Single Stroke Painting
 Rangoli

DRAMA AND PRODUCTION

Speech and Drama
 Shloka Chanting
 Public Speaking