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GICC Newsletter Vol. 7

GICC NEWS

GICC students perform at Tanjong Pagar community carnival



GICC dancers performing a Thillana at the Tanjong Pagar GRC Carnival

A carnival hosted by Tanjong Pagar GRC at the Queenstown campus on 12th July, 2009 yielded a wonderful opportunity for GICC students to perform before an appreciative audience. They performed a Krishna Shabdham in the Kuchipudi style and Thillana in the Bharathanatyam style.

Kuchipudi is a classical Indian dance form from Andhra Pradesh. Originally a dance-drama tradition performed only by men, it has evolved with time to solo performances by female dancers

too. GICC students performed a Kuchipudi dance called Krishna Shabdham in which a devoted gopi courts Krishna by seeking his attention and displaying her passion for him.



Kuchipudi dance by GICC

Thillana, most often the concluding piece of any Bharathanatyam recital is full of sculpturesque movements and nritta patterns. It also has complicated Muktayyas or Sholkattu (ending of any step or aduvu). This is mainly a nritta piece which might have a charana, meaningful lyrics for which abhinaya (expressions) is shown. An item where the pure nritta combines with lasya to form a complete whole, it starts with graceful body movements. The Thillana performed by GICC dance team was composed by noted musician Dr M Balamuralikrishna.

Performance by GICC at Heritagefest by Singapore Tourism Board

The GICC students are indeed fortunate to have teachers who can train them in different dance styles. At Heritagefest organized by the Singapore Tourism Board, GICC students presented two Indian classical dance forms, namely Kuchipudi and Mohiniyattam.

Performed only by female dancers, the classical dance form of Mohiniyattam originated in Kerala. The highlight of this dance is its graceful movements. The dance piece performed by GICC students is called Chollukattu and usually it comes in the first part of a Mohiniyattam performance in which the dancer seeks blessing from Lord Ganesha, the goddesses and Lord Shiva.



Mohiniyattam & Kuchipudi Dancers at Heritagefest 2009

Odissi workshop at GICC Queenstown



Odissi dancers from GICC with danceuse Ms Sangita Dash

A mention of Odissi dance brings forth an image of graceful movements & statuesque poses. The beautiful temple dance from the eastern state of Orissa in India was brought to GICC Queenstown with a deeper significance by Ms Sangeeta Dash, the foremost exponent of the Guru Deba Prasad Das style of Odissi. Ms Sangeeta Dash is the guru of GICC Odissi dance teacher Ms Jyoti Unni.

An interactive two-day workshop conducted by her on 27th & 28th June 2009 presented a unique opportunity to learn more about the style, its nuances and techniques. The dance workshop saw students across various age groups participate with enthusiasm to hone their abhinaya skills, footwork and dance movements under the young and dynamic Ms Sangeeta Dash. The participants were divided into two groups. Each session began with warm -ups and stepping before moving onto the main dance piece. The participants got to know more about Guru Deba Prasad Das's style of Odissi, the history and origin of the style from the talk given by Ms Dash on the concluding day of the workshop.

GICC students shine in Bharatham 2009

GICC takes pride in announcing the prize winners of the Bharathanatyam Dance competition, Bharatham 2009 organised by the Toa Payoh West CC. Ankitha Rajaram and Rupa Venkatesan, GICC students for over three years, qualified for the finals. Ankitha secured the 2nd place in Category A and Rupa received a consolation prize in the competition. GICC congratulates them on their outstanding performance.



Rupa & Ankitha at Bharatham 09

Debut performance by GICC Orchestra

GICC orchestra had their debut performance at the Onam Village 2009 jointly organized by Woodlands CC, Chong Pang CC, Nee Soon East CC, Admiral Garden CC and the Singapore Malayalee Association at the Republic Polytechnic. Mr K Shanmugam, Minister for Law and Second Minister for Home Affairs was the Guest of Honour at the programme



GICC Orchestra team enthrall the audience. Also in picture, composer C N Thyagu who trains the GICC orchestra



The budding Orchestra team

GICC students performances during Navratri:

- 23rd Sep - Veeramakaliamman Temple - 9pm to 9.30pm
- 24th Sep - Veeramakaliamman Temple - 8.15 - 9.30pm
- 26th Sep - Vadabhadrakaliamman Temple - 8.45 - 9.30pm
- 27th Sep - Vairavimadakaliamman Temple - 8.45 - 9.30pm

Upcoming GICC events

- GICC Annual Cultural Festival 'GIIS Utsav' is scheduled for 29th Nov, 2009
- GICC organizes a Kathak workshop by renowned dancer Ms Renu Sharma
<http://www.giissingapore.org/gicc-images/kathak-600.jpg>

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Hindustani Vocal
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Odissi
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