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GICC Newsletter Vol. 12

GICC NEWS

GICC UTSAV 2010, an evening to celebrate arts at GIIS

GICC Utsav 2010, the annual cultural extravaganza of the Global Indian Cultural Centre was celebrated at the GIIS Queenstown auditorium on 20th Nov. Around 230 GICC students showcased their talents through various art forms like Dance, Vocal and Instrumental music, Drama and Languages.

The Guest of Honour **H E Dr TCA Raghavan**, Indian High Commissioner in Singapore accompanied by **Mr N G Vasanth Kumar**, First Secretary and Head of Chancery, High Commission of India to Singapore lit the lamp to signify an auspicious beginning of the programme along with dignitaries like Mr Rajiv Vasudeva, Country Director, GIIS Singapore, Ms Sarita Sriram, Head of Communications, GIF, Dr Anju Aditya, Dean GIISAC, Mr Sayee Srinivasan, CFO, Mr GSS Rao, Principal- GIIS Queenstown and Ms Melissa Maria, Principal, GIIS Balestier. During the lighting of the lamp, students from the **shloka chanting** group created a spiritual atmosphere by chanting shlokas in unison.

GICC students, Lakshmi and Malavika, the comperes for the evening, provided a seamless link to the programme by their cheerful anchoring. Keeping in line with the theme of saving Mother Earth, many of the performances conveyed the bigger message of saving our natural resources.

Event highlights:

- The programme began with the **Keyboard students** presenting Lightly Row, Bhagyatha, Brahmamokate, Vaishnav jana to and Sanchari followed by the GICC Coordinator, Ms Latha Pradeep presenting a detailed **GICC annual report** for the year 2010.
- Budding vocalists and instrumentalists performed an orchestration piece in the Hindustani Raag Madhuvanti as a well-matched **Indian Orchestra**.
- **Carnatic Vocal** students along with budding violinists presented four different forms of Kalyani raagam - A Shlokam and Keerthanam by Sri Subramanya Bharathiyar
Geetham by Sri Purandara Dasar and
Varnam by Sri Ramnad Sreenivasa Iyengar
- A song depicting the beauty of the Malayalam language was presented by students of Malayalam language class.
- Highlighting the importance of Tabla, which complements the Indian music by the rhythm and beats it provides, GICC students of Tabla presented a Teental 16 beat cycle. They also performed a Mukhra, Peshkar, Kaida, Vilambit Laya and Madhya Laya and Rela followed by a Tukda. Gandhiji's favourite bhajan *Raghupathi Raghava Rajaram* followed next.
- The Violin and Tabla students played the popular English Notes based on the Indian classical music raagam Shankarabharanam by Sri Madurai Mani Iyer in ragam.
- Hindustani vocal students presented Chaturang which has 4 different colors. It includes poetry, saragam, tabla bols and tarana bols.. "sakhi baaje paga painjani". Chota khyal or a fast Composition in raga Yaman was the next performance where the lyrics described the effect of Krishna's mesmerizing flute play. GICC Tabla students accompanied the vocalists.
- *Nanhe Munne* friends from the Hindi class presented a touching song in Hindi to raise awareness for the

need for a greener planet. Their song conveyed -Saving the earth is a collective effort and the biggest role in this has to be played by each one of us.

- Moving away from music, the speech & drama students presented a skit with a colourful display to depict the glory of mother nature.

India's cultural heritage encompasses various classical dance forms which have enthralled audiences the world over with their grace, beauty and intricate steps. In GICC Utsav, students of Kathak, Odissi, Bharathanatyam, Kuchipudi and Contemporary dance styles took the audience through a journey on how we can save our dear Mother Earth. They received a lasting applause from the audience for their wonderful efforts.

The Guest of Honour HE Dr TCS Raghavan addressed the promising talents of GICC by calling them the Cultural Ambassadors of Indian Culture. He expressed delight at being present at GICC Utsav.

This year, GICC honoured its teachers by presenting them with the Long Service award. The award was in recognition of continued support from the GICC teachers. For a cultural centre it is always challenging to initiate and encourage students to excel in performing arts and the teachers play a big role in the success of GICC.

The evening was a very memorable one for students and parents alike. Teams of dedicated teachers and coordinators had spent several months preparing their disciples to excel in their performing art to ensure success at GICC Utsav and the students did their best to make their Gurus proud.

As GICC moves on we strive to nurture talents and set milestones in the years to come.

GICC Utsav 2010 pictures can be viewed via the link below:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/giccqueentown/GICCUTSAV2010#>



GICC Bharathanatyam dancers performed a Thillana on the 26th of Nov, 2010 as part of the Dance India Taste India festival.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

1. Thyagaraja Aradhana – 30th January, 2011.

GICC thanks its students and parents for their support and commitment in 2010 and wishes you a very **happy and prosperous New Year ahead!**

PERFORMING ARTS

Carnatic Vocal
.....
Hindustani Vocal
.....
Bharathanatyam
.....
Odissi
.....

LANGUAGES

Hindi
.....
Sanskrit
.....
Malayalam
.....
French
.....

SPORTS AND GAMES

Cricket
.....
Gymnastics
.....
TaeKwonDo
.....
Tennis
.....

FINE ARTS

Visual Arts
.....
Single Stroke Painting
.....
Rangoli
.....

Kathak

Contemporary Dance

Indian Keyboard

Mridangam

Tabla

Violin

Mandarin

Japanese

YOGA

Hatha Yoga

**DRAMA AND
PRODUCTION**

Speech and Drama

Shloka Chanting

Public Speaking

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