shrikrupa.org
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Saratoga, CA – 95070

shri krupa
DANCE FOUNDATION

MAY 2024
VOL 2 ISSUE 2

EXCITING THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT SHRI KRUPA

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facebook.com/shrikrupadance
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Shri Krupa Performing Hall
Studio space available for rent for students to practice
Click here for reservations
For more details:
skdcdance@gmail.com

May Events

May 18th: Shri Krupa performance at Annamayya Jayanthi Utsavam

Venue: Fremont Hindu Temple
Time: 12-3pm

May 26: Monthly performance by Vedika, Ragini and Latika

Venue: Shri Krupa studio
Time: 3pm

Check out the Arangetram and Margam season schedule!!



Live music, blossoming dancers, some stunning choreography and an electric atmosphere - The Arangetram and Margam season is almost upon us!!!



Go to : https://shrikrupa.org/events/ to checkout the schedule, venue and other details, and to add to calendar!!

DO NOT MISS THE JOYS OF THIS SUMMER!!!



To enroll a new student, visit shrikrupa.org/registration

SKDF is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization,
Any amount donated is tax-deductible.
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From the Artistic Director's Desk



India is the cradle of the human race
The birthplace of human speech
The mother of history
The grandmother of legend
And the great grandmother of tradition.
Our most valuable & most constructive materials in the history of man are treasured up in India
- Mark Twain

In India, exquisite bronze images of deities deck the the temple walls, sanctum sanctorums, museum shelves and even artistically restored living rooms. Earliest ones were unearthed from the Indus Valley, they say, some dating back to the 1st and 2nd century A.D. and the Gupta period images of the 6th and 7th centuries. Indian image making art is based on Silpa SastrAs and works of poets, and must have the same attitude to capture the devotional nature of the BhaktAs. The craftsmen were well versed in the scriptures of various classics and overwhelmingly dedicated to the art of sculpting and symmetry. To them Art was SAdhanA, a spiritual achievement.



Siva in His manifestation as NatarAjA, the cosmic dancer, is the most sublime of art expressions - Dr. A.K. Coomaraswamy sums it thus: first, the image of His rhythmic play in the Cosmos, represented by the Arch, and secondly the countless souls released from the snare of illusion, and thirdly the place Chidambaram as the center of the universe, which is within our hearts.

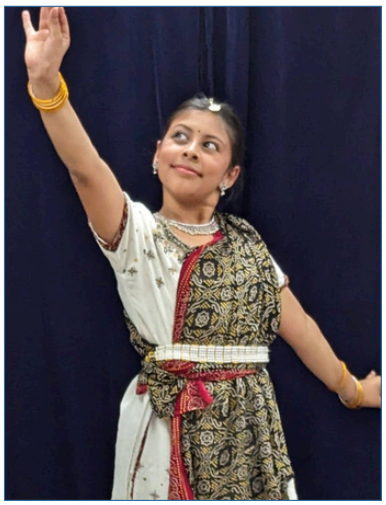
These bronze sculptures translate the concepts of Indian philosophy, prayers and meditations and hopes of human lives mingled with serenity and balance that human beings desperately seek.

-Guru Vishal Ramani

The School At A Glance











Shri Krupa celebrated Shri Rama Navami, Ugadi and Tamil Puthandu with a special festival performance.

InFocus

Varnam Demo and Arangetram Bootcamp

The Varnam Demo and Bootcamp for the 2024 Arangetram students was a grand success! Students responded enthusiastically to the sessions led by Guru Vishal Ji that aimed to gear up the students for the upcoming Arangetram season.





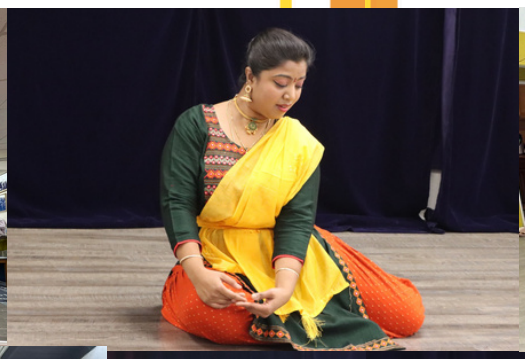

“Our 3 days bootcamp was so much fun and challenging. Dance dance dance! It was all about Bharathanatyam. All the time I was dancing, eating, dancing, hydrating, taking notes, listening and discussing dance topics.

"Keep your body moving in free flow and don't restrict" "look straight" "sit in araimandi till your knee/thigh hurts" "if body hurts, keep dancing" - these words keep reiterating in my ears after the bootcamp! Final day, I felt like “Yes! I can do it!”

Group practice was very effective by helping each other. We grow by helping others and giving genuine feedback.

Hydration, a small portion of a healthy meal and a lot of passion is what it takes in order to dance with zest!

It was very inspiring to watch aunty teaching all of us non stop and guiding us on various aspects. I am very excited and looking forward to our arangetram with live music!!” - Rupa Sundaram



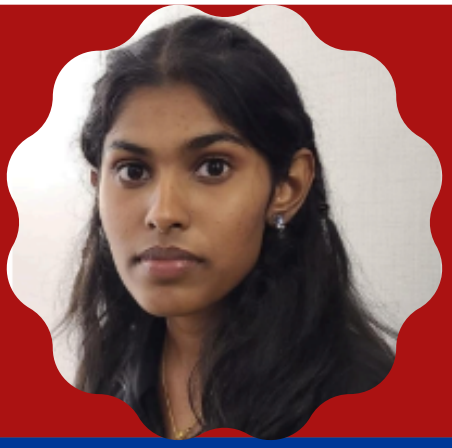



Stars of 2024 Summer Extravaganza

Introducing performers of this summer's Arangetram and Margam season!!!
Watch out for more featured in upcoming editions!!

ARANGETRAM

KIRTHI SARAVANAN



Kirthi Saravanan is a sophomore at Lynbrook High School and has been learning dance for the past eleven years. She started learning dance in India at the age of five. She continued learning under Guru Smt. Vishal Ramani after moving to California at the age of seven.



Under the guidance of Guru Vishal Ramani, Kirthi gained a newfound passion for the art. She learned more about tala and expressions. "From Aunty, I learned about sincerity, dedication, and passion for the art. Apart from dance, I was able to improve as a person during my years of learning under Aunty. I have learned many life lessons that I will carry with me forever" says Kirthi.

Throughout her dance career, Kirthi has performed at many events and temples, her last one being Gita Govindam, in 2023.



Outside of dance, Kirthi loves reading, baking, and coding. She will be performing her arangetram this summer. Good luck Kirthi!

Stars of 2024 Summer Extravaganza

ARANGETRAM
Kriti Pendyala & Mahadyuti Pendyala





Kriti Pendyala is a freshman at University Preparatory Academy in San Jose, CA. She won 3rd place in the American Mathematics Competitions in her school and is a consistent Honor roll student. Aside from school, Kriti enjoys writing, Indian Classical dance and vocal music and is in the process of establishing her credentials in these arts.

A research paper Kriti recently co-authored won the best paper award at a Springer conference attended by professors from MIT, Purdue, and other universities around the world. She recently co-presented “Discovering the Nuances of Music with Machine Learning” at SEMI, Milpitas, organized by the IEEE Computer Society, Santa Clara Valley Chapter. The talk can be viewed on IEEE.tv. Kriti hopes to grow up to be a software engineer or a professor like her parents.

Mahadyuti Pendyala is joining University Preparatory Academy in San Jose, CA as a 7th grader. She was previously a consistent Honor Roll student at Merryhill School in Milpitas. Mahadyuti is a voracious reader and a prolific writer. She is a melodious singer as well and her songs were a hit in the karaoke performances on her Alaska cruise in 2023. She loves Indian Classical dance and vocal music and is in the process of establishing her credentials in these arts. Mahadyuti hopes to serve the community as a medical professional when she grows up.



Good luck Pendyala sisters for your arangetram!

Congratulations – Class of '24 graduating HS seniors!!!

Congratulations to the below Shri Krupa graduates who are completing high school this year!!!
Wish you all the very best in every facet of your lives!



Ranjani Ganesh

Dheshnaa Madasamy





Sarasvati Bhat



Manasa Malladi



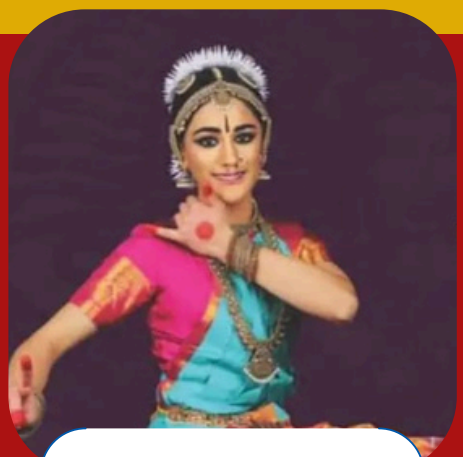
Saumya Kundu



Swetha Ashok

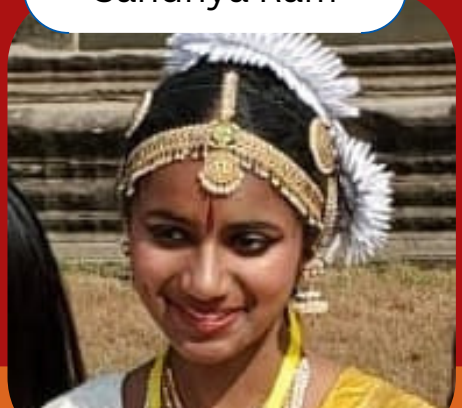
Shivaani Venkatachalam





Sheen Raina

Sandhya Ram



Congratulations – Class of '24 graduating HS seniors!!!

Hear what these students have to say about their journey at Shri Krupa!

Dheshnaa: I've been part of the Shri Krupa family for almost ten years and have learned so much from how to express myself through dance, presenting myself in front of an audience, and experienced the roots of my culture. This community has supported me over the years through various performances and aunty has not only been a guru in Bharathanatyam but has taught me many life lessons I will take with me to college and into my future.

Manasa: Being a part of Sri Krupa has been a blessing. I cherish all the life lessons Guru Smt. Vishal Aunty has taught me. I will forever be grateful to have learned this beautiful art form, as it brought me closer to my culture. Learning Bharatanatyam has been an amazing experience, and I will never let go of this art form.

Sarasvati: My time at Shri Krupa has flown by. I am so grateful to every peer, parent, mentor, volunteer, and to Aunty for the unwavering sense of community and support throughout my 10 years growing here. I humbly thank Aunty for all the times she energized us with her pure love for the art form, selflessly sharing her passion with us all. I continue to enjoy engaging with the different women and girls in our community—a crucial part of my identity today—and I don't think I can ever truly let go of music and dance, even if I ever wanted to. I will always carry a piece of the art—and of all of you—in my endeavors, no matter where I am.

Saumya: I had an amazing dance journey at SKDC for the past 11 years because of my Guru Smt Vishal Ramani, who we lovingly address as Aunty. I started learning Bharatanatyam at the age of six. I did my Arangetram at the age of 12 in 2019. Since then I have given several performances internationally, nationally, and locally.

My greatest joy was my 2022 performance at the Nataraja Temple in Chidambaram. Another happy moment was when I received blessings from the audience after I performed Gonga Amar Ma, a Bengali piece choreographed beautifully by Aunty. Sometimes the behind the scenes can be a struggle, but Aunty has helped me overcome any challenge and discover my strength. I will hold on to this beautiful dance form and I hope to always make Aunty proud. I am not leaving SKDC. This is just a transition for me. I love being Aunty's student.

Ranjani: In the last decade at Shri Krupa, under the guidance of Guru Smt. Vishal Ramani, I've not only learnt beautiful dance pieces but also gained invaluable life lessons including self confidence, composure, and leadership skills. Bharatnatyam has been my gateway to a deeper understanding of my culture, unraveling the beauty of ancient stories. None of these enriching experiences would have been possible without the unwavering support of Vishal aunty and the entire Shri Krupa community. I am forever grateful for the opportunity to learn this art form, evolve as a dancer, and will cherish this opportunity for the rest of my life.

Key Links

- Monthly Performance Series Signup Sheet
- Festival performance signup sheet
- Yoga classes signup sheet
- Student/Parent Volunteer Signup
- Studio Rental for Students
- Dance School Policy Handbook
- Music School Policy Handbook

Upcoming Timelines

May

- **May 18th:** Shri Krupa performance at Annamayya Jayanthi Utsavam, Fremont Hindu Temple
- **May 26**: Monthly performance by Vedika, Ragini and Latika @ the studio

June

- **June 16:** Margam by Harini Sivanandh Ramadass, Evergreen High School, 4pm
- **June 23:** Arangetram of Rupa Sundaram and Riya Deviprasad, McAfee Performing Arts Center, 4pm

July

- **Jul 6:** Arangetram of Jasmita, Cubberly Community Center, 4pm
- **Jul 7:** Arangetram of Kirthi Saravanan, McAfee Performing Arts Center, 4pm
- **Jul 13:** Arangetram of Kirthana Chandrasekhar, Cubberly Community Center, 4pm
- **Jul 14:** Arangetram of Zoey and Ava Simpson, Cubberly Community Center, 4pm
- **Jul 21:** Arangetram of Vaishnavi Katukam, McAfee Performing Arts Center, 4pm
- **Jul 28:** Arangetram of Nishchala Kodandapani, Sunnyvale Theatre, 4pm

August

- **Aug 4:** Arangetram of Adithi Swaminathan, Canada College, 4pm
- **Aug 25:** Monthly performance @ studio

September

- **Sep 8:** Arangetram of Kriti and Mahadyuti Pendyala, Hoover Theatre, 4 pm

Want to advertise on Shri Krupa Newsletter?

Contact skdcdance@gmail.com

Student Corner

Quiz

Different varieties of steps/adavus(basic steps) combined together in a specific rhythm and speed typically set to swaras (as opposed to sorkattu) is called

a) Jathi b) Korvai c)Theermanam

See next month's issue for answer

Answer to last month's quiz: Number of syllables in Mishra jathi - 7