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shri krupa
DANCE FOUNDATION

JUL 2023 ISSUE 4

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"There are only two days in the year when nothing can be done. One is Yesterday; the other is Tomorrow. Today is the right day to Love, Believe, Do and mostly Live." — Dalai Lama XIV



In this fleeting, shifting life, I envision a happy place; I look above to an unseen force - and with grit, take control. Make life exceptional - your mind has the power to change everything - even your health. Build your strength from inside out and live with great hopes, and grand dreams; Do and dream - Keep Thinking Happy Thoughts!

-Guru Vishal Ramani

Shri Krupa Performing Hall

Studio space available for rent for events, music recitals, performances and photoshoots

Capacity: 70 people

Click here for reservations

For more details: skdcdance@gmail.com

July Events

Guru Poornima festival performances
Date: Jul 8
Time: 5 to 7 pm
Venue:Shri Krupa studio
Free admission
All are welcome

Makeup Workshop rescheduled to
Date: July 9
Time: 4:30 pm
Venue:Shri Krupa studio
For Shri Krupa fraternity and alumni only
Signup here

Fee: $25 payable via Zelle to vishart@gmail.com

For any queries, please write to skdcdance@gmail.com

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

Shri Krupa wins big at Dance Prix Italia



Shri Krupa won the first place in the Ethnic category, the second place in the folk dance category and the Best Performance Award at the 2023 Dance Grand Prix, Italy - an international contest featuring dance schools from all over the world competing for the top honors in various genres.

Shri Krupa students performed 'MAZHAI' - a composition by Bharatiyar describing the rains - the before, during and after - choreographed to show the famine and dry earth before, the sprinkles from heaven, the heavy waters gushing through the gaps in the mountains, the lightning, the thunder and wind; the earth mesmerized while the skies bend down toward the earth in NAMASKARAM!

Shri Krupa students' second performance was to Dr. Ghatam Karthick's composition - 'Penta Magic' - Magic with numbers - with its incessant drum beats of calculations and the immaculate attachment of dance variations, and precision of fast and slow footwork combinations.

InFocus

The Winning Team

Meet the 19-member team that made Shri Krupa proud

Sarasvati Bhat
Snigdha Iyer
Manasa Malladi
Saasha kesavan
Anika Sinha
Sheen Raina
Aishni Kumar
Sandhya Ram
Sowmya Ram
Harini Sivanandh
Saumya Kundu
Shivaani Venkatachalam
Akshara Senthil
Shalini Subramanian
Anithra Narayan
Swetha Ashok
Tulsi Srinivasan
Zoey Anisha Simpson
Ava Violet Simpson
Ramadass



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Zelle

From the Artistic Director's Desk

A SPECIAL MESSAGE ON THE ITALY TOUR

Winning and losing are all in the game but the journey and experiences are valuable to relive and pass on ...

Setting aside a rather unsatisfactory start to the tour (with the disappointing reception and hotel arrangements), let me describe the splendor of each moment with the 'Amazing 19' and the awesome assistants and chaperones.

The first practice day was without any assured space, scrambling to find open spots across the beaches. Our girls danced in the sweltering heat - fearless, unaffected, unabashed, they danced to their hearts' content - without a single complaint. Needless to say, they had an audience of appreciative passersby.

The next day was grueling - our makeup session began in a small play space and part of the cafeteria at the Yole hotel - makeup and more on each girl - braid, flowers, kunjalam, jewelry and all the fasteners to keep them in place. Mothers put on Henna; hand application of makeup and careful braiding of each girl with Guru's blessings was being religiously followed. Like out of a production line, each girl emerged like a beautiful and fresh 'Apsara'!

Each mother was an artist carefully orchestrating this production. Cannot state a single name without missing a few! Fathers handled food and water arrangements, and we were rushed into a bus with our paraphernalia.

The stage was strange, narrow and sloping downward from back to front - apparently this is common in Italy. The theater was like an oven, the A/C weakly fanning a few spots. The room we were given was jammed with the nineteen beautiful girls, each holding a hand held battery operated fan in despair. We went over and over our dances in the constricted space for our last rehearsals, before we headed to the performance.

Then they DANCED and how they DANCED! Smiling, rolling their eyes in expression, with immaculate formations, and perfect movements. I swelled with pride. SHRI KRUPA EXCELLED! Heavy applause ensued for their responsible dancing, perfect alignment and most of all for their endurance and patience. Parents and I were ecstatic as they mentioned us for nominations (final results were to be announced only after they had more sets of performers from many countries including the US spanning over three days).

On the final day, as we got to the theatre, the heat was relentless, and the wait never-ending. The girls still kept up their best behavior. They performed in the exhibition again, and there was much squealing and applause from the audience. No doubt we had WON! We won two First Place trophies and one Second place.

Final word is about the mothers - they were the BEST - helping in every way possible, SMILING despite some of the trying situations, working nonchalantly. The menfolk brought foods from wherever they could. Our president, Paru aunty as you call her, was at the helm, spurring everyone and working with details such as stitching the Palloos, tying the bells, helping with the belts and more. The cherry on the top was the sticky jewel she placed as MOOKKUTHI for each of the girls - Suchi aunty and Shathiya aunty sat by me as they cheered me on toward the platform to receive the awards.



Kudos to everyone in the Italian Team - Go Shri Krupa, Go!

-Guru Vishal Ramani

The School At A Glance

The oldest establishment of its kind in the valley, Shri Krupa dance school has a tremendous reputation in goal-setting and achievement of the set goal. The school insists on diligence, discipline and punctuality to attain the best results. Practice through repetition, both at home and in class is critical to reinforce the dance moves and 'Laya Shuddhi' - purity and clarity of TALA.

Setting basics firmly is done in three different ways

- In class, directly taught by teacher and repeated several times like chanting a MANTRA.
- Group practice sessions - on Zoom or in person with a dedicated senior volunteer
- Group practices arranged by the class parent

Each batch of students is marked with a name and arranged in beginner/intermediate/advanced levels. One parent in each class is identified as class parent who keeps all parents/students informed of classroom updates and goals the students are working towards. Announcements from the teacher, the SKDF board are shared via WhatsApp groups for each class.

Featured in this Issue: Advanced classes - Arangetram and Post Arangetram

When students move to the Arangetram year, they are taught customized dance numbers that they can each present in the ARANGETRAM.

There are 4-5 Post Arangetram classes every weekend to enable the avid practitioner to become adept in dance presentation and exhibition. Students are given opportunities to volunteer their services and strengthen their own understanding of this dance form, to perform in outside venues, including other countries such as Europe and India. Students have won trophies in Barcelona, Spain; in Cambodia, Italy and India

Shri Krupa proudly presents

Meenakshi Kalyanam
Dance Recital
Aug 20, 2023



Venue: Mission City Center for Performing Arts,
3250 Monroe St, Santa Clara, CA 95051

Stay tuned for more updates...

The School At A Glance

Upcoming Timelines

- New Quarter Fees due July 10 - Any credit card updates to be done at Mindbody here
- Summer programmes begin Jul23, 2023
  - Margam performance
  - Arangetrams - **Note: School's 300th Arangetram this season!**
  - Dance dramas
    Aug 13: Gita Govindam (Teaser here)

    Aug 20: Meenakshi Kalyanam
- Gandharva Vidya Center Biannual Music recital in September

Key Links

- Monthly Performance Series Signup Sheet
- Student/Parent Volunteer Signup Sheet
- Studio Rental for Students
- Yoga Classes Signup sheet
- Dance School Policy Handbook
- Music School Policy Handbook
- Makeup Workshop Interest Signup

Outgrew your dance costume? We invite you to drop off your used and in-fair-condition costumes at the studio.



Your donations will be made available to other students to buy at low cost.

Student Corner

To feature a student's art/literary work in Student Corner, email skdcdance@gmail.com



Digital art by Saasha Kesavan

Quiz

What is the word for the head, neck, and eye movements that Bharatanatyam dancers do?

See next month's issue for answer

Answer to last month's quiz:
The Navarasas are Shringaara (Love), Bheebatsya (Disgust), Haasya (Laughter), Roudra (Anger), Veera (Courage), Bhayanaka (Fear), Karuna (Compassion/Kindness), Shaantha (Peace/Tranquility), Adbhutha (Wonder)

Makeup Workshop

Want to learn how to do professional looking Bharatanatyam makeup/hairdo for that picture perfect look? Signup for the makeup workshop by Guru Vishal Ji

Date: Jul 9 2023, 4:30pm
Venue: Shri Krupa studio
Duration: 90 mins
Fee: $25/participant payable via Zelle to vishart@gmail.com

This workshop will focus on complete stage makeup techniques to emphasize the dancer's expressions and long stay. Vishal aunty will lead the workshop and provide precise list of makeup items. Stage hair-do techniques are discussed with clear step-by-step instructions. Do's and don'ts are discussed in detail to enable students to become self-sufficient for their own makeup and ascend the stage with confidence.

Aunty will show the makeup application on a volunteer, participants can bring hair accessories to try out hair on other participants

Dancers of all levels and their parents can join this program to ace stage makeup technique.

For Shri Krupa fraternity and alumni only

Address queries to skdcdance@gmail.com.

Want to advertise on
Shri Krupa Newsletter?

Contact skdcdance@gmail.com

Performance Art Venues
McAfee Theater: 20300 Herriman Ave, Saratoga
Sunnyvale Theater: 550 E Remington Dr, Sunnyvale
Mission City Center for Performing Arts (MCCPA): 3250 Monroe Street, Santa Clara
Menlo-Atherton High School: 555 Middlefield Rd, Atherton

Accompaniments
Vocal: **Sri. Kaushik Champakesan**
Nattuvangam: **Sri. Vasudevan Kesavulu**
Violin: **Sri. Ganesh Kumar Sekar**
Mridangam: **Sri. Senthil Kumar Ramamurthy**

Shri Krupa Dance Company



2023 Arangetram Performances



Prisha Pogde & Stuti Pogde
July 30, 2023
McAfee Performing Arts Center



Ishaanvi Rajesh
Aug 12, 2023
Sunnyvale Theater



Poornima Chandramouli
Aug 06, 2023
Sunnyvale Theater

Shalini Subramanian
Aug 05, 2023

2023 Margam Performances

Ananya Kamath
July 23, 2023
Menlo-Atherton High School



Saasha Kesavan & Shathiya Rengalwar
Aug 19, 2023
Mission City Center for Performing Arts

