

# Carnatic Music Association of North America



May 23 - 25, 2026

Bridgewater Temple Auditorium, 1 Balaji Center Drive  
Bridgewater NJ 08807



ராகம் தாளம் ஜதி பல்லவி அனுபல்லவி சரணம் ஸ்வரம் ஸாஷித்யம் மத்யமகாலம் ஆரோணம் அவரோணம் மேளகர்த்தா மனோதர்மம்



celebrating 50th anniversary

ரத்னாங்கி தீரசங்கராபரணம் தீர்வாணி வ்யாமளாங்கி கிகளரிமலனாவறி மாரரஞ்சனி தரங்கிணி பூஷாவளி ரத்னாங்கி தீரசங்கராபரணம் தீர்வாணி வ்யாமளாங்கி





United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE CONGRESS

## House of Representatives

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CARNATIC MUSIC ASSOCIATION OF  
NORTH AMERICA (CMANA)

**HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHII**  
Of Illinois  
In the House of Representatives

*Tuesday, January 6, 2026*

**Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHII.** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Carnatic Music Association of North America (CMANA) on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and to honor its extraordinary contributions to the cultural and musical heritage of our nation through its preservation and promotion of Carnatic music.

Founded in 1976, CMANA has steadfastly pursued its mission to promote, preserve, and advance the rich tradition of Carnatic music, a classical form of music that originated in South India. Over the past five decades, the organization has become a cornerstone of cultural enrichment in North America, bringing together artists, educators, and music enthusiasts to celebrate this timeless art form.

Through its annual concerts, festivals, workshops, lectures, and educational initiatives, CMANA has fostered a vibrant community of Carnatic musicians and connoisseurs while promoting cross-cultural understanding and appreciation. Its programs have inspired generations of students and audiences, reinforcing the values of discipline, creativity, and collaboration that are integral to the pursuit of Carnatic music.

CMANA has also played an invaluable role in engaging youth, providing opportunities for young people to perform, volunteer, and develop leadership and communication skills that serve them well beyond the stage. By connecting communities and celebrating diversity through music, CMANA continues to strengthen the bonds between cultures and generations.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the leadership, members, and volunteers of the Carnatic Music Association of North America for their passion and dedication. Their efforts have ensured that Carnatic music continues to flourish and inspire in North America. I congratulate CMANA on this milestone anniversary and wish the organization continued success in the years ahead.

## BOARD MESSAGE – CMANA 50TH ANNIVERSARY



**SOM SOWMYAN**

Dear Rasikas,

It is with immense pride and heartfelt gratitude that we welcome you to the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Carnatic Music Association of North America (CMANA). This milestone marks fifty remarkable years of preserving, promoting, and celebrating the rich and timeless traditions of Carnatic music and other related performing arts on this continent.

What began as a humble initiative has today blossomed into a vibrant and enduring community bound by a shared love for this divine art form. Over the decades, CMANA has served as a cultural bridge—bringing together legendary musicians, nurturing emerging talent, and fostering an ever-growing audience of rasikas. We are especially heartened by the increasing participation of junior members and the enthusiastic involvement of second- and third-generation Indian Americans, who continue to carry this tradition forward with passion and pride.

This celebration would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our extended CMANA family. We offer our deepest thanks to our donors, patrons, volunteers, and members of the community who have stood by us through the years. Your generosity, encouragement, and commitment have been the foundation upon which CMANA has grown and thrived for five decades.

We thank all US and Indian organizations that have worked with us as also the numerous performers who have enriched our programs with their quality performance. As we gather for this landmark festival, we invite you to immerse yourselves in the beauty and depth of Carnatic music. Together, let us honor the greatness of our revered composers, the brilliance of the musicians who bring their works to life, and above all, the discerning rasikas whose appreciation sustains this art.

We are truly honored to have you with us in this celebration of heritage, excellence, and community. May this Golden Jubilee inspire us all to continue this journey with renewed vigor for generations to come.

With warm regards,

**Som Sowmyan- President on behalf of**

*The Board of Trustees*

*Carnatic Music Association of North America (CMANA)*

## DAY 1 SATURDAY, MAY 23 2026

**9:00 AM** Welcome address by Som Sowmyan,  
President of the Board of CMANA

**9:15 AM** Thiruppugazh rendering by  
NJ Anbargal



The Thiruppugazh program is a vibrant musical offering dedicated to the compositions of Saint Arunagirinathar, whose hymns in praise of Lord Muruga are renowned for their rhythmic brilliance and spiritual depth. Rooted in the Carnatic tradition, Thiruppugazh stands apart for its intricate talas (rhythmic patterns) and lyrical richness, weaving together devotion, philosophy, and poetic beauty. This program brings together vocalists and

accompanists to present a curated selection of Thiruppugazh compositions, each highlighting the unique blend of melody and rhythm that defines this genre. The performance not only showcases musical excellence but also emphasizes collective participation, often featuring group renditions that create a powerful devotional atmosphere. Through these compositions, listeners are transported into a space of reflection and celebration, experiencing the timeless appeal of Muruga bhakti. The program serves both as an artistic expression and a spiritual journey, honoring a centuries-old tradition while inspiring new generations to appreciate and engage with this profound musical heritage.

### PARTICIPANTS

Aarthi Kumar  
Ambika Sowmyan  
Bhuvana Iyer  
Chaya Rajaram  
Chithra Krishnan  
Gajaraj Krishnamoorthy  
Ganesh Kalyanaraman  
Jagadha Lingam  
Janaki Vishwanathan  
Jayshree Ramakrishnan  
Jeeva Sivaraman  
Kala Velraj

Kavitha Pradeep  
Lakshmi Srinivasan  
Mathu Swaminathan  
Padma Iyer  
Parvathy Rajagopalan  
Radha Swaminathan  
Radhika Balasubramanian  
Radhika Manickavasagam  
Rohith Shankar (Mridangist)  
Saketh Prabha (Mridangist)  
Shanthi Venkat  
Subha Srinivasan

Sudha Chandramouli  
Sudha Haran  
Sudha Sathya  
Sudha Shivakumar  
Surekha Raj  
Suseela Swaminathan  
Swathi Srinivasan  
Swetha Narasimhan (Violinist)  
Thanigaivel  
Uma Venkatesan  
Vaidyanathan Kothandaraman  
Vijayanthi Rajaraman



ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಮೃದಂಗ ಪರಿಷತ್ತಿನ 50 ನೇ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕೋತ್ಸವದ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ

**11:15AM**

Lecture demonstration by Vidwan Patri Satish  
Kumar (Nuances of Playing Mridangam)



Patri Satish Kumar stands as one of the most distinguished mridangam maestros of our time, celebrated for his exceptional tonal clarity, rhythmic precision, and deeply sensitive accompaniment. His playing seamlessly blends tradition with innovation, enhancing every concert with subtle nuance and dynamic energy. A true torchbearer of the art, Patri Sir brings rare insight into the aesthetics of laya through his performances. In his upcoming lecture demonstration, he will

unravel the intricacies of mridangam playing—exploring tonal production, accompaniment techniques, and the dialogue between rhythm and melody—offering audiences both an engaging musical experience and a deeper appreciation of this classical art form.

**THIS SESSION WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A BRIEF Q&A WITH THE AUDIENCE,  
LIMITED TO 3-4 QUESTIONS.**

## 12:15PM LUNCH

**1:15 PM**

CMANA50 A continuing journey.  
Celebrations with cake (Banquet Hall)

Join us for a special Cake Cutting Ceremony as CMANA celebrates its Golden Jubilee—marking 50 glorious years of Carnatic music and community. This symbolic moment honors our rich legacy, the contributions of generations past, and the vibrant future ahead. Come be a part of this joyous celebration as we commemorate a historic milestone together.



1:45 PM

Bharatanatyam Meets Balls Room



### BALLROOM MEETS BHARATHA NATYAM

Experience a unique presentation that brings together the elegance of ballroom dance and the expressive depth of Bharatanatyam, showcasing a rare confluence of technique, culture, and artistic storytelling. Drawing from global traditions and refined movement principles, this session highlights posture, alignment, and bodyawareness in a way that is engaging and accessible to all audiences.

This presentation seeks to bridge Eastern and Western dance forms while celebrating movement as a medium for connection, confidence, and creative expression. We hope you enjoy this inspiring and dynamic experience

#### About Ram Viswanathan

Ram Viswanathan is a ballroom dancer and instructor who represents a rare convergence of technical mastery, cultural integration, and longevity in the art of movement. He is a founding member of CMANA from 1976 and has been closely associated with its activities in the recent years .

#### What he hopes to achieve

Ram's vision extends beyond teaching dance steps. He aims to make ballroom dance accessible to all, bridge Eastern and Western traditions, and help individuals build confidence, connection, and vitality through movement. We hope you enjoy this fusion experience in movement, culture and human connection!



Patron Lunch Meet and Greet Feb-Mar-April 2026



**CONGRATULATION AND BEST WISHES**

# CMANA

Carnatic Music Association of North America

In recognition of your remarkable 50-year dedication to promoting and preserving the Indian classical music and culture in North America, and in appreciation of our valued partnerships that have supported this mission.

**GOLDEN ELEPHANT GROUP**

*A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization preserving cultural heritage and traditions, while driving positive social impact through community engagement and empowerment*

[www.goldenelephantgroup.org](http://www.goldenelephantgroup.org)

**2:30 - 5:00 PM A Tristhayi Presentation on Violin**

## **SangeethaSaagara A. Kanyakumari and Team Presentation of a Tristhayi Concert**

Tristhayi Sangamam presents a rare and path-breaking musical experience, led by the distinguished violin maestro Sangeeta Saagara Vid. A. Kanyakumari. This unique concept reimagines the violin not as a single melodic voice, but as a complete orchestral medium—where the mandra (lower), madhya (middle), and tara (upper) sthayis resonate in unison, creating a rich and symphonic soundscape.

The presentation exemplifies exceptional technical and artistic mastery. The depth required for the lower octave, the precision demanded by the upper octave, and the seamless integration with the middle register together highlight a level of musicianship of the highest order. Achieving such multi-layered expression on a single instrument is both technically complex and aesthetically profound.

This innovative exploration is further enriched by the participation of accomplished disciples Vid. L. Ramakrishnan and Vid. Kamalakaran Vinjamuri, continuing this unique musical vision. Complementing the performance with rhythmic brilliance are Vid. Sri Patri Satish Kumar on the mridangam and Vid. Sri Sunil Kumar on the kanjeera.

While such layered musical expression is often realized through ensembles, its execution entirely on the violin makes Tristhayi Sangamam a truly distinctive offering—an inspiring confluence of tradition, innovation, and musical imagination.



### **SANGEETHASAAGARA VIDUSHI A. KANYAKUMARI**

Vidushi A. Kanyakumari is one of the foremost exponents of carnatic violin, widely revered for her remarkable versatility as a soloist, accompanist, composer, and guru. She grew up in a musically rich environment that nurtured her early interest in the violin from a young age. After moving to Chennai in 1969, she underwent rigorous training under eminent gurus such as Sri Ivaturi Vijeswara Rao, Sri M. Chandrasekaran, and Dr M L Vasanta kumari,

she has accompanied legends including, Dr. M. L. Vasantakumari, D.K. Pattammal, Dr. M Balamuralikrishna and many prominent artists. Her first U.S. tour was with CMANA alongside the legendary Smt. M. L. Vasanthakumari, and with her participation in the 2026 festival, she completes a remarkable 50-year association with CMANA while continuing to be a leading performer. With a career spanning over five decades, she has developed a distinctive musical voice characterized by a seamless blend of classicism and innovation. Her playing is widely celebrated for its gayaki approach, bringing vocal-like expressiveness to the violin, as well as for her excellence as a composer. Since her early years, she has performed extensively across India and internationally. Beyond the concert stage, her contributions as a teacher have been equally significant, mentoring numerous disciples and imparting her profound musical knowledge across generations.. A Kanyakumari has been awarded Padma Shri (2015),the Prestigious SangeetaSaagara by CMANA in 2016, Sangeetha Kalanidhi from the Madras Music Academy (2016) and the Kalaimamani award from the Government of Tamil Nadu.



### **VIDWAN L. RAMAKRISHNAN**

Vidwan L. Ramakrishnan is a highly respected Carnatic violinist, widely recognized for his excellence as an accompanist. Born into a musical family, he was introduced to music at a young age, beginning with harmonium and bhajans in Kuwait before continuing his training at the Shanmukhananda Vidyalyaya in Mumbai. He took up the violin in 1993 and went on to complete his formal training,

earning the Shanmukha Mani title in 2001. He began his violin training under Smt. Visalam Vageeshwar, and later came under the guidance of his current guru, Sangeethakalanidhi Smt. A. Kanyakumari. Under her mentorship, he developed a deep understanding of musical expression, focusing not only on technical precision but also on the intricacies of accompaniment and tonal quality.

Ramakrishnan gave his first Chennai concert at the age of 17 and has since established himself as a highly sought-after accompanist. He has performed alongside leading Carnatic musicians such as Sri T. V. Sankaranarayanan, Smt. Sudha Ragunathan, Smt. Bombay Jayashri, and Sri T. M. Krishna. In recognition of his accomplishments, he has received several honors, including the Best Accompanying Violinist award from The Music Academy, the Lalgudi Jayaraman Award, and the title of Sri Kanchipuram Asthana Vidwan in 2010.



### **VIDWAN KAMALAKIRAN VINJAMURI**

Vidwan Kamalakiran Vinjamuri is a Carnatic violinist based in Washington, D.C. He began his musical training under his grandfather, Sri Parthasarathy Iyengar, and later continued learning from Smt. Malladi Vijayalakshmi and his father, Sri Subhash Vinjamuri. Since 2006, he has been under the tutelage of Sangeethakalanidhi Smt. A. Kanyakumari. A seasoned

performer, Kamalakiran has presented concerts across the United States, India, and Europe. He has performed at prestigious venues including the Kennedy Center, The Music Academy in Chennai, and the Richmond Folk Festival, along with numerous sabhas in India since 2009. He has accompanied several renowned artists in the Carnatic music world, including Sri M. Balamuralikrishna, Sri T. N. Seshagopalan, and Smt. Sudha Ragunathan. In recognition of his exceptional talent, he has received awards from esteemed institutions such as Sri Mylapore Fine Arts, Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha, Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, and the Cleveland Thyagaraja Aradhana. In addition to his musical pursuits, Kamalakiran studied Information Technology with a focus on cybersecurity at George Mason University.



### **VIDWAN PATRI SATISH KUMAR**

Vidwan Patri Satish Kumar is a Carnatic mridangist based in India. He was born into a third-generation musical family in Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh, and was introduced to the mridangam at the age of three by his mother, Smt. Padmavathi. He received training under renowned gurus including Sri R. Sree Ramachandramurthy, Sri V.A. Swamy, and

Sri V. Narasimham. With over 47 years of concert experience, Patri is a widely acclaimed international performer who has appeared at major venues such as the Rashtrapati Bhavan, Kennedy Center, Royal Albert Hall, Sydney Opera House, and the Music Academy Chennai. Patri also holds the title of an A-grade artist of All India Radio and Doordarshan, Chennai.

As a percussionist, he is known for his exceptional balance between treble and bass tones, as well as his distinctive and influential playing style. He has made significant contributions to the field of percussion, including the development of new rhythmic concepts, the blending of Carnatic and Hindustani percussion styles, and the founding of the Patri Drum Festival. He has received numerous awards and honors for his contributions to music, including the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 2020, the Global Peace Award in 2018, and an honorary doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley in 2019 to name a few.



### **VIDWAN S. SUNIL KUMAR**

Vidwan S. Sunil Kumar is a Carnatic kanjira artist, teacher, and stage performer. His initial training in classical percussion came under the guidance of his father, Sri Triplicane K. Sekar. He later pursued advanced training in kanjira from Sri V. Selvaganesh and konnakol from Sri T. H. Vikku Vinayakram. Sunil has accompanied several leading artists, including Smt. Sudha Ragunathan,

Smt. Bombay Jayashri, Sri Sanjay Subrahmanyam, and Smt. A. Kanyakumari, among others. He has performed at major venues and festivals such as the Music Academy Chennai, Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, and Brahma Gana Sabha, as well as at events organized by the Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham and SVBC programs. Notably, he has also presented a kanjira solo performance for Ustad Alla Rakha.

Sunil has received numerous awards and honors for his contributions to music, including the Thethakudi Harihara Sharma Percussion Award from Sri Krishna Gana Sabha in 2011, the Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi Fellowship from Mumbai Shanmukhananda in 2015, and the title of Asthana Vidwan from the Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham in 2013.



Patron Lunch Meet and Greet Feb-Mar-April 2026

5:30 - 8:00 PM

## Vidwan Sanjay Subrahmanyam (Vocal Concert)



### VIDWAN SANJAY SUBRAHMANYAN

Sangeeta Kalanidhi Vidwan Sanjay Subrahmanyam is one of the foremost Carnatic vocalists of today. He began his musical journey at the age of seven, first learning the violin under V. Lakshminarayana and vocal music from his aunt, the late Sukanya Swaminathan. He then trained in Carnatic vocal music with Smt. Rukmini Rajagopalan for eight years, until 1988, and subsequently came under the guidance of Sri Calcutta K. S. Krishnamurthi

from 1989 until 1999. It was during this period of intensive training that he gradually developed a distinctive musical style, combining strong traditional foundations with a fresh and modern approach. Sanjay Subrahmanyam is one of the founding members of YACM (Youth Association of Carnatic Music) which was created with the purpose of promoting Carnatic music amongst youth. He has received numerous prestigious honors, including the Sangeetha Kalanidhi from the Madras Music Academy, the Shanmukha Sangeeta Shiromani Award, and the Kanchi Jagadguru Sankaracharya Sri Jayendra Saraswati National Eminence Award in Fine Arts from Sri Shanmukhananda Fine Arts & Sangeetha Sabha.



### VIDWAN S. VARADARAJAN

Vidwan Sri S. Varadarajan's musical training began with Kanchi Janardhanam and later deepened under the guidance of T.V. Gopalakrishnan, whose multidisciplinary approach shaped his artistry. Vidwan Sri S. Varadarajan's musical training began with Kanchi Janardhanam and later deepened under the guidance of T.V. Gopalakrishnan, whose

multidisciplinary approach shaped his artistry. Emerging early as a dependable accompanist to leading Carnatic vocalists, he developed a style marked by control, clarity, and intuitive musical dialogue. Over the past two decades, he has balanced solo performances with extensive concert tours abroad, bringing Carnatic violin to international audiences. His work has earned several awards and professional recognitions, reflecting his standing within the field and his continued influence across contemporary Indian classical music performance.

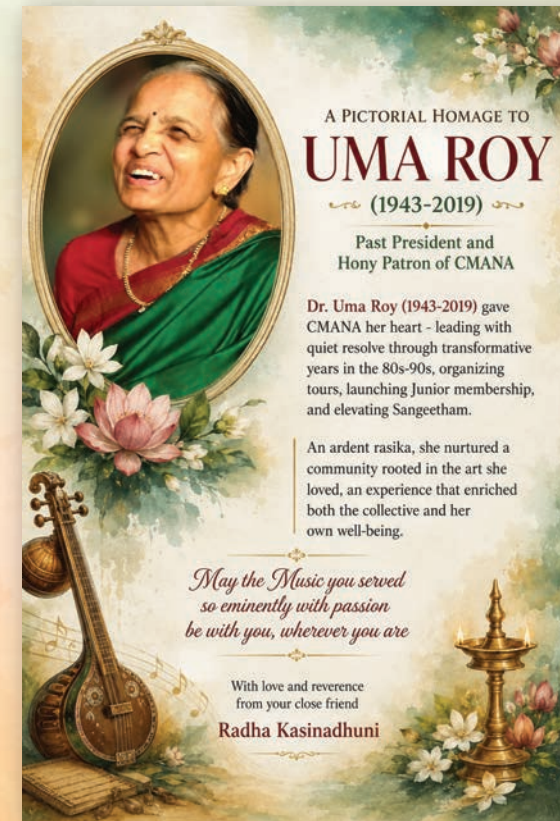
Sri S Varadarajan has performed across the world and is known for his soulful style of violin accompaniment. He has accompanied several leading Carnatic musicians like Sri TN Seshagopalan, Sri TV Gopalakrishnan, Sri Sanjay Subramanyam and many more.



### VIDWAN NEYVELI VENKATESH

He is a highly distinguished and sought-after mridangam artist, celebrated for his vibrant and sensitive accompaniment. Trained initially under his father A.S. Balaraman, he later refined his artistry under P.P. Venkatesan and M.N. Kandaswamy Pillai. An A-grade All India Radio artist, he has performed at premier venues including the Music Academy, Narada Gana Sabha, and

international festivals such as Darbar (London) and SIFAA (Switzerland). Known for a remarkable 28-hour solo marathon, he has accompanied leading maestros worldwide. With decades of excellence, he continues to elevate concerts through his deep laya insight and musical brilliance.



**DAY 2 SUNDAY, MAY 24 2026**



### **VIDWAN ISAIKKAVI RAMANAN**

Vidwan Isaikkavi Ramanan is an multifaceted thinker, writer, poet, actor, speaker, singer, photographer, and performer who has made a remarkable impact in the world of performing arts. As a public speaker, he is known for his ability to provoke thought, stimulate curiosity, and entertain audiences across a wide range of subjects including literature,

music, cinema, theatre, spirituality, and culture. He is a prolific author who has written dozens of books in both Tamil and English, including collections of poems and essays, and has also contributed through translations between the two languages.

His literary and artistic contributions have earned him numerous accolades, including the prestigious Kalaimamani Award from the Government of Tamil Nadu, though he holds the title "Isaikkavi" especially close to his heart. Deeply inspired by Sri Subramania Bharathi, Ramanan's connection to the iconic poet extends beyond admiration. On stage, he embodies Bharathi in appearance and expression, while in life, his thoughts and writings reflect a similar spirit. As one observer aptly noted, he "breathes" Bharathi. In addition to his literary work, Ramanan has anchored and acted in several television programs focusing on social and spiritual themes.

He is also a playwright, having written the Tamil play Bharathi Yaar?, in which he performs the lead role. His artistic reach extends to English theatre as well, and he has traveled widely across the globe, delivering lectures in both Tamil and English.



**தமிழக மதுரை அறிஞர் கவிஞர் கலைஞர்**

### **WHO IS BHARATHI ?**



Chinnaswami Subramaniyan (1882- 1921), popularly known as Subramania Bharathi or Mahakavi Bharathi (or simply as Bharathi), was an Indian poet, composer, writer, translator, journalist, teacher, Indian independence activist, social reformer and polyglot. Bharathi was well-versed in several languages and had a passion for Tamil, his mother tongue. He was bestowed the title Bharathi for his poetry when he was hardly ten years old; and was a pioneer of modern Tamil poetry and prose. His works covered political, social and

spiritual themes. His impactful works included patriotic songs composed during the early stages of the Indian Independence movement. He fought for the emancipation of women, was against child marriage, supported widow re-marriage, opposed the caste system, and advocated reforms of the society and religion. A true 'national' poet extraordinaire and a world citizen, he epitomized the dictum 'The Pen is Mightier than the Sword'. On the music side, Bharathi was self-taught on Carnatic Music and almost always included a ragam and a talam/mettu for his songs.

### **SYNOPSIS**



This program is a homage to this great patriot and poet, celebrating his contributions via powerful dialogs by Isaikkavi Ramanan, supported by Stage Friends Ramani, Ms. Marichandra Murugan, and Ms. Parvathy Rajagopalan; and via innovating dancing & soulful signing by our own artistes, teachers, and students, all from the NJ/PA/NY region. It is notable that the selected songs and dances cover varied themes around patriotism, spiritual devotion, women

empowerment, social reforms, love, and nature. Many of these songs are easily recognizable by our audiences as they have been popularized by many leading musicians over the years.

### **HOW THE DRAMA UNFOLDS**

Two contemporary conscientious citizens and fans of Bharathi, are wishing to meet Bharathi, who obviously has passed away many years ago. They feel he will offer solutions to many current day problems faced by the society. They both chant two of Bharathi's favorite slogans - "Vande Matharam" and "Om Shakti Om". Bharathi 'magically' appears before them and starts a conversation.

What ensues is a volley of enthusiastic questions from these two fans followed by equally passionate replies by Bharathi himself. In his replies Bharathi elaborated the context and specifies the song he wrote for the context. His narratives are followed by a group singing or group dance of the song.

# BHARATHIYUM ISAIYUM (BHARATHI AND MUSIC)

## A MUSIC, DANCE, DRAMA & POETRY MEADLEY

This not-to-be-missed unique dance-music-drama is a thematic presentation of Bharathi's compositions, put together by CMANA and curated & led by Isaikkavi Ramanan from Chennai; our immense thanks to musician Rajkumar Bharathi, great grandson of Bharathi, for providing originals & setting some songs to tunes.

### INTRODUCTORY SCENE

**Invocation Song: Om Sakthi Om Sakthi Om**

**Participants Prepared By: Ashvin Bhogendra**

**Participants**

1. Adhitya Karthik
2. Jishnu Subramanian (Mridangam)
3. Samyukta Neeraj
4. Shardul Krishnakumar
5. Shonita Srinivasan
6. Varun Krishnan
7. Vishal Sowmyan (Violin)

### SCENE 1

**Bharathi praises Saraswathi as the Goddess of Learning, but also says "Educating a poor child is the real Saraswathi pooja!"**

**Performance**

The song that follows is "vellai thAmarai poovil iruppAL" (one who is seated on a white lotus). Note: It is pertinent to note that the CMANA logo depicts Saraswathi seated on a Lotus Flower !

**Guru: Kalyani Ramani**

**Participants**

1. Advik Harish
2. Avanthika Senthil Kumar
3. Hrithika Dorai
4. Maya Geethakrishnan
5. Mytri Arjun
6. Nandini Chittor
7. Pooja Raghavan
8. Poorna Peramallore
9. Ramya Ramji
10. Sahana Vadivelu
11. Sathyanarayan Venkatesh
12. Srikar Sankar
13. Sukriti Sankar
14. Vilasitha Penumaka

### SCENE 2

**Bharathi says that as breath gives life to the body, patriotism does the same to the nation. He stresses the need for unity and says "all of us are sailing in the same boat. Seat number doesn't matter!"**

**Performance**

The song that follows is "vande mAtharam enbOm" (lets chant vande mAtharam).

**Guru: Kiranavali Vidyasankar**

**Participants**

1. Aakarsh Ananthakrishnan
2. Aatmika Ananthakrishnan
3. Iniya Iyer
4. Rishi Swaminathan
5. Usha Viswanathan
6. Varsha Lakshmanan

### SCENE 3

**Bharathi is quizzed on his love for nature and his dream of owning a small piece of land where cuckoos sing.**

**Performance**

The song that follows is "kANi nilam vEndum" (I pray for an acre of cultivable land).

**Guru: Kalyani Ramani**

**Participants**

1. Advik Harish
2. Avanthika Senthil Kumar
3. Hrithika Dorai
4. Maya Geethakrishnan
5. Mytri Arjun
6. Nandini Chittor
7. Pooja Raghavan
8. Poorna Peramallore
9. Ramya Ramji
10. Sahana Vadivelu
11. Sathyanarayan Venkatesh
12. Srikar Sankar
13. Sukriti Sankar
14. Vilasitha Penumaka

### SCENE 4

**The citizens ask Bharathi about his love for children and how he wanted them to be constantly playing and learning. Bharathi reminds them of a song he wrote for his daughter Sakuntala.**

**Performance**

CMANA Junior Members dance to the song "Odi viLaiyAdu pAppA" (run and play, little child)

**Guru: Bhuvana Iyer**

**Choreography: Sneha Ramakrishnan**

**Participants**

1. Ambika Kedhar
2. Ananya Kedhar
3. Aviran Hari Krishnan
4. Krishnu Narisepalli
5. Kshetra Gangala
6. Sarnith Sakthikumar
7. Sarwina Shri Sakthikumar
8. Stuthi Sivaramakrishnan
9. Viyanka Hari Krishnan

### SCENE 5

**Bharathi explains his love for various gods/goddesses – Kali, Kannan (Krishnan), and Murugan (Karthikaya). He recalls how he was asked to sing for a bhajan group in Mowbrays Street in Chennai and how he chose to sing on Muruga bringing tears and raptures to the devotees. Musical comment: Bharathi also mentions that he has sung this song in Kurinji as well as in Harikamboji ragas along with swaras. He stresses the importance of singing with proper devotion and proper diction.**

**Performance**

Group singing "murugA murugA".

**Guru: Kiranavali Vidyasankar**

**Participants**

1. Aakarsh Ananthakrishnan
2. Aatmika Ananthakrishnan
3. Iniya Iyer
4. Rishi Swaminathan
5. Usha Viswanathan
6. Varsha Lakshmanan

## SCENE 6

The conversation pivots to treating women with respect and honor. Bharathi asserts that without freedom for women, there is no freedom for the country. He reminds the audience of the Mahabhartha scene where Droupathi (aka Panchali) is mistreated in the Kauravas court and how Lord Krishna intervenes based on her appeal.

### Performance

Group singing “hari hari endrAL”. Lyrical comment: This song is from Bharathi’s epic poem-drama – Panchali Sabatham (Panchali’s vow).

Guru: Kiranavali Vidyasankar

## SCENE 7

Bharathi is quizzed on his Carnatic Music gurus. Bharathi identifies Saraswathi/Parasakthi and the cuckoo as his gurus. He recites a poem from his famous ‘kuil paattu’ (song of the cuckoo) and goes on to say that – “sounds cause a trigger in the silence of the soul. That is how music is born!”

He further says poems (lyrics) and melody (ragam) and rhythms (talam) always go together and demonstrates it by reciting a poem on Nature.

What follows is a lengthy dialog on the importance of bhava in Carnatic Music. Bharathi uses as example, Thyagaraja’s ‘Chakkani rAja mArgamu’ and the appropriate selection of kharahapriya ragam for this composition. He says the majestic bhava of the ragam fully aligns with the meaning of the lyrics. Bharathi compares Dikshithar’s kritis to the river Kaveri – broad and deep and flowing naturally!

Finally, Bharathi compares rain to poem, especially from a rhythmic similarity. He demonstrates by reciting another song on Nature – this time focusing on rain.

### Performance

Bharathi’s recital is accompanied by a mridangist and enacted by a dancer, with all of them showcasing multiple adavus, jathis, and nadais.

### Participants

1. Aakarsh Ananthakrishnan
2. Aatmika Ananthakrishnan
3. Iniya Iyer
4. Rishi Swaminathan
5. Usha Viswanathan
6. Varsha Lakshmanan

### Participants

1. Janani Ramachandran (Dance)
2. Sabari Ramachandran (Mridangam)

## SCENE 8

Bharathi compares the vagaries of life to the elements of Carnatic Music. He says songs are my boat, my practice (sadam) are my oars, familial ups-and-downs are the meandering swaras, rain and thunder are the rhythms. And Parashakthi is the ocean I need to traverse with these tools. He refers to his song ‘eththanai kOdi inbam’ which he says can be sung in thodi raga or danyasi as the singer wishes.

### Performance

Group singing “eththanai kOdi inbam” (God, you granted us crores of bliss..)

Guru: Usha Akella

## SCENE 9

Bharathi explains his love for his wife Chellamma via many compositions. He always wanted her to walk with him side-by-side (not as a follower behind the husband but as an equal). Lyrical comment: The original lyrics address his wife Chellamma, but in print, Chellamma was changed Kannamma to protect Chellamma's privacy, a change initiated by her brother.

### Performance

Group singing “Niṅṅaiyē rati eṅṅu” (Thinking of you alone as my Rati...)

Guru: Sandhya Anand

## SCENE 10

Bharathi explains how he composed many songs addressing children. He also says he sees children as God (Parasakthi) and sees God in children. He wants all children to learn music along with other studies, as music will help them navigate the ups-and-downs of life.

### Performance

Group singing “Chinṅaṅchiru kiliyē” (Oh, little parrot).

Guru: Sandhya Anand

### Participants

1. Aarush Kanduri
2. Ananya Padi
3. Deepthi Yellapragada
4. Hasini Kavuri
5. Mihir Kanduri
6. Swetha Duggiraala
7. Ullaas Kavuri

### Participants

1. Aditi Madhankumar
2. Arjun Ravindran
3. Avnie Venkatakrishnan
4. Dhrti Anand
5. Dhruva Anand
6. Indira Subrahmanyam
7. Isha Subrahmanyam
8. Koushya Yellemraju
9. Mrinalini Balamurugan
10. Navyatha Aduru
11. Nishita Bharath Kumar
12. Nithila Sankar
13. Pragnya Dwarkanath
14. Saikrithi Srilakshmi Parupalli
15. Sharada Mahadevan

### Participants

1. Aditi Madhankumar
2. Arjun Ravindran
3. Avnie Venkatakrishnan
4. Dhrti Anand
5. Dhruva Anand
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12. Nithila Sankar
13. Pragnya Dwarkanath
14. Saikrithi Srilakshmi Parupalli
15. Sharada Mahadevan

## SCENE 11

Bharathi is called a 'social doctor' who prescribes cures for divisive ideas and superstitious customs. He responds by saying a poet is a war drum that looks at the past and the present malaises, and proclaims a future devoid of them.

### Performance

A recital by Bharathi of the poem/song "vetri eṭṭu dikkum etta kottu muracē" (Oh war drum, announce the victory across the eight directions...)

## SCENE 12

Bharathi targets the youth-adult population, who represent the majority of any society. He wants to instill in them hope for the future and the ability to dream big.

### Performance

Group singing "oLiṭāittā kaṇṇiṇAy vA vA vA" (Oh, you with eyes full of light—come, come, come!).

Guru: Saavitri Ramanand

## SCENE 13

Bharathi describes how he composed a song for Navaratri on request from his wife and daughters.

### Performance

Group singing "mAthA parAshakthi".

Guru: Saavitri Ramanand

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**Designer - Bhushavali**

Bhushavali is a Textile Designer & Heritage Travel Blogger currently based in Chennai. As a travel blogger she has visited and documented more than a 100 UNESCO World Heritage Sites across 25 countries in her blog.

**My Travelogue**  
Flitting and Wanderlust!  
<https://travel.bhushavali.com/>

She's been associated with CMANA since 2016 and has been the mind behind most of our logos and banners.

She comes from a carnatic music family of 3 generations. She has been taught by her mother Dr.K.N.Geetha & grandmother Kovai K.S.Thailambal, who was taught by Thanjai Fiddle Krishnapillai.

## SCENE 14

Bharathi explains how he self-taught Carnatic Music with the help of a harmonium, his friend Subbarama Dikshithar, and by listening to many Hindustani vidwans. He opines that everyone should learn and practice music. Upon being quizzed on ragams and talams for his compositions, Bharathi ascertains that for him ragas provide an outline and swarams are mere indicators with both giving the singing the freedom to innovate and explore. He points to his own foray into Western Music as an example. When asked 'What differences you find between Western music and our music?', he replies "Western music appeals to the mind and heart. Our music touches the soul"

### Performance

Group singing (with instrument medley) – "karṇaiyoor eṇṇa nagaṇḍAm". Musical comment: This song is Bharathi's translation of the poem 'The Town of Let's Pretend' by the British poet John Scurr. Bharathi's song uses English tunes and aspects of Western music harmony.

Guru(s): Mrs. Nirmala Rajesh & Sri. Rajesh Nathan

## SCENE 15

Bharathi is quizzed on who he refers as 'Kannamma' and if she is different from his 'Chellamma'. Bharathi explains that they are the same – just like Jeevathma and Paramathma. They are two idols of the same God.

### Performance

Group singing "kAṭru veliyidai kannamA" (Kannamma, amidst the open air...)

Guru(s): Mrs. Nirmala Rajesh & Sri. Rajesh Nathan

### Participants

1. Aayush Nathan
2. Adithi Manoj
3. Adithi Rajiv
4. Jhanvi Karthik
5. Keshav Nath
6. Kriya Venkatesan
7. Lakshmi Krishnan
8. Parvathi Krishnan
9. Rishabh Kumar
10. Rishik Peddi
11. Sruthi Nathan
12. Sruthi Venkatramani
13. Vaishnavi Narayanan
14. Vasishtha Narayanan

### Participants

1. Aayush Nathan
2. Adithi Manoj
3. Adithi Rajiv
4. Jhanvi Karthik
5. Keshav Nath
6. Kriya Venkatesan
7. Lakshmi Krishnan
8. Parvathi Krishnan
9. Rishabh Kumar
10. Rishik Peddi
11. Sruthi Nathan
12. Sruthi Venkatramani
13. Vaishnavi Narayanan
14. Vasishtha Narayanan



## SCENE 16

The discussion centers around one of the popular songs sung in concerts. Bharathi explains that this song is a request for about 15 grants (boons) from the divine, and that these are required for peaceful and harmonious living.

### Performance

Group singing “manadhil urudhi vEndum” (Grant me strength of mind).

Guru: Neyveli Smt. Ramalakshmi

## SCENE 17

Bharathi refers to a song that a lover or husband sings to his beloved or wife. Bharathi says that this song proclaims the equality and friendship between the couple, and connects it to the ‘saptha pathi’ (7 steps) taken by the bride and groom during the Hindu wedding ceremony.

### Performance

Group singing “pAyum oLi nee enakku” (You are my flowing light).

Guru: Saras Chandrasekhar

## SCENE 18

A bhajan group is passing by and the singer is unable to sing. He asks Bharathi to compose a song for the next day. Bharathi composes a song immediately (on the spot composer – Asu kavi).

### Performance

Group singing “kAkkai siraginilE nandaIAIA” (On the Crow's Wings, O nandaIAIA).

Guru: Manjula Ramachandran

### Participants

1. Amritha Balamurali
2. Ananya Ravi
3. Magathi Balamurali
4. Pranav Murthy
5. Sathvik Ram
6. Srinidhi Ayalasomayajula
7. Sriya Ayalasomayajula
8. Veda Malyala

### Participants

1. Anusha Iyer
2. Chethana Bandi
3. Ishita Prakash
4. Raagasudha Kanakadandila
5. Rajeswari Ummettala
6. Rohith M Iyer
7. Shri Thulasi Prabhu
8. Sreya Vinayan
9. Virika Vinod

### Participants

1. Dheetya Raghuram
2. Janani Ramachandran

## SCENE 19

The actors touch on a central theme of ‘Women’s Rights’. The group enacts Bharathi’s interactions with Sister Niveditha on the role of women in family & society, and his transformation.

### Performance

Recital of the 10-point charter adopted in 1918.

## SCENE 20

Bharathi explains how he wrote a Kummi song soon after the influential meeting with Sister Niveditha. He also highlights that he also translated this song in English, and Annie Besant published it in her “New India” magazine.

### Performance

Group dance with recorded music. The song is “kummiyadi Tamizh nAdu muzhudum kulungida kaikotti kummiyadi” (Dance the Kummi! Let all of Tamil Nadu resound as you clap your hands and dance the Kummi!).

Guru: Radha Varadachari

### Participants

1. Arshitha Harikrishna
2. Lavanya Karthikeyan
3. Radha Varadachari (Guru)
4. Sanjna Suresh
5. Swapna Ramachandran
6. Trisha Iyer
7. Veena Viju
8. Vrinda Krishnan

## SCENE 21

Bharathi confirms his love for all languages and his skills in Tamil, Sanskrit, Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Telugu, English, French. He also preaches that we should love our own language as it is the one spoken by our mothers and grandmothers. He wishes all regional language compositions are sung in concerts.

### Performance

Group dance with recorded music. The song is “sentamizh nAdeṇum pOḍiṇilē”.

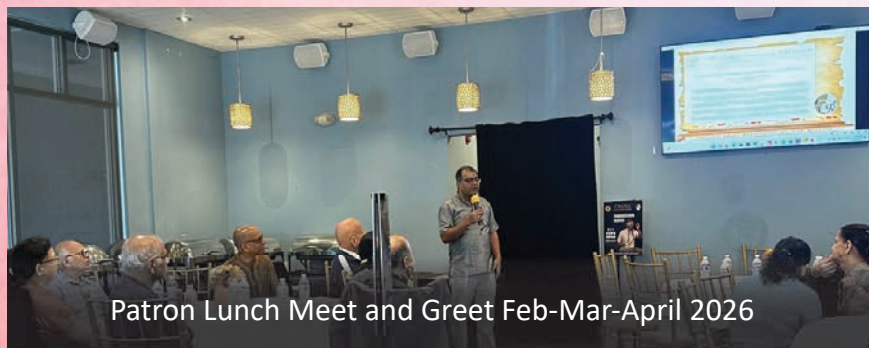
Guru(s): Suba Parmar and S K Suresh

### Participants

1. Ananya Mehta
2. Diya Nadhamuni
3. Krishna Ravindran
4. Michelle Benedict
5. Sanjita Tumu
6. Sanjukta Srinivasan
7. Shakthi Ravindran
8. Shreenidhi Ravishankar
9. Shriya Iyer
10. Yogalakshmi Venugopal

**CONCLUSION:** The drama ends with “Yoga Siddhi” recitation by Isaikkavi Ramanan and the disappearance of Bharathi, followed by a concluding/finale MangaLam song ('vAzhiya sentamizh') by participants.

**12:30 PM LUNCH**



1:15 PM

## Honorary Patron award presentation and Honoring of Cultural Ambassadors in NJ

1. Mr. Harishankar Krishnaswami - Secretary Narada Gana Sabha, Chennai and Secretary Federation of City Sabhas, Chennai
2. Dr. Soundaram Ramaswami - Past President CMANA 2003-2005
3. Mr. Sankar Narayanan - Past President CMANA 2007-2010

### Honoring of Cultural Ambassadors of New Jersey

1. Mr. Venkat Venkatramanan (Ramani), Coordinator Stage Friends
2. Smt. Bhuvana Iyer, Bhakti Manjari, NJ
3. Smt. Anandhi Venkat
4. Smt. Manjula Nagineni and Mr. Vijay Konda

### Honoring of Supporters of Art - Nationwide

1. Smt. Bhuvana and Mr. Kumar Srinivasan Sahashraa Foundation, Philadelphia and San Diego

1:45 PM

## My journey with CMANA and way forward

- **A walk down memory lane.**
- **By Past Presidents Honorary Patrons and Past Trustees of CMANA**

2:30 - 5:00 PM

## Vidwan Ramakrishnan Murthy (Vocal Concert)



### VIDWAN RAMAKRISHNAN MURTHY

Vidwan Ramakrishnan Murthy is a Carnatic vocalist based in Chennai, India. He began his musical training under Smt. Padma Kutty, later going on to study with several distinguished musicians, including Sri Delhi P. Sunder Rajan, Smt. Vairamangalam Lakshmi Narayanan, Sri C.R. Vaidyanathan, Sri Vaikom Jayachandran, and Sri Chengleput Ranganathan. He is currently under the guidance of

renowned violinist Sangeethakalanidhi Sri R.K. Shriramkumar. Ramakrishnan also holds the title of an A-grade artist of All India Radio and Doordarshan, Chennai. In June 2011, Ramakrishnan relocated permanently from California to Chennai to pursue Carnatic music full-time. Since then, he has performed extensively at prestigious sabhas and major music festivals in India and abroad, including the Madras Music Academy. Ramakrishnan has received numerous awards and titles for his contributions to music, including the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar from the Sangeet Natak Akademi in 2024, the Senior Outstanding Concert Award from the Madras Music Academy in 2017 and 2024, the Yagnaraman Award of Excellence from Shri Krishna Gana Sabha in 2016, and the Kalki Krishnamurthy Memorial Award from the Kalki Krishnamurthy Trust in 2014. In addition to his musical achievements, Ramakrishnan holds a degree in Informatics from the University of California, Irvine.



### VIDWAN VITTAL RANGAN

An acclaimed violinist, Vidwan Vittal Rangan is well known for his flair for innovative ideas while simultaneously maintaining the traditional aesthetics. A disciple of the legendary Sangeetha Kalanidhi Kum A Kanyakumari and Sri RR Keshavamurthy. An 'A' graded violinist of the All India Radio, Vittal is a recipient of numerous awards, including the Shanmukhananda

Sangeetha Shironmani Award and the Best Violinist Award from the Music Academy, and he is one of the youngest violinists to have performed at the iconic Royal Albert Hall in London. Vittal has performed and shared the stage with great musicians across four generations all over the world, and is also an exceptional solo violinist.



### **VIDWAN DELHI SAIRAM**

Delhi Sairam is a distinguished mridangam artist and disciple of the legendary maestro Sri Tiruvarur Bhaktavatsalam. Based in Chennai, he is renowned for his refined artistry and deeply sensitive accompaniment, shaped by a strong foundation in rhythm and tradition. A postgraduate rank holder in Rhythmology from the University of Madras, Sairam has built a career spanning

over two decades, performing extensively across India and internationally. He has collaborated with leading musicians such as Smt. Bombay Jayashri, Smt. Sudha Ragunathan, and Smt. Ranjani & Smt. Gayatri, earning recognition for his intuitive and harmonious style. An international ambassador of rhythm, he has toured widely across the US, Canada, Australia, and the Middle East, performing at prestigious global venues.

Beyond the stage, he is a dedicated mentor, having trained over 40 students worldwide and guiding many through their arangetrams. He also serves as visiting faculty at the Kalaikovil Academy of Fine Arts in Toronto. His contributions have been honored with several prestigious awards, including the Kalaimamani, the Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar, and the Best Senior Mridangist award from The Music Academy, Chennai.



### **VIDWAN S. SUNIL KUMAR**

Vidwan S. Sunil Kumar is a Carnatic kanjira artist, teacher, and stage performer. His initial training in classical percussion came under the guidance of his father, Sri Triplicane K. Sekar. He later pursued advanced training in kanjira from Sri V. Selvaganesh and konnakol from Sri T. H. Vikku Vinayakram. Sunil has accompanied several leading artists, including Smt. Sudha Ragunathan,

Smt. Bombay Jayashri, Sri Sanjay Subrahmanyam, and Smt. A. Kanyakumari, among others. He has performed at major venues and festivals such as the Music Academy Chennai, Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, and Brahma Gana Sabha, as well as at events organized by the Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham and SVBC programs. Notably, he has also presented a kanjira solo performance for Ustad Alla Rakha. Sunil has received numerous awards and honors for his contributions to music, including the Thethakudi Harihara Sharma Percussion Award from Sri Krishna Gana Sabha in 2011, the Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi Fellowship from Mumbai Shanmukhananda in 2015, and the title of Asthana Vidwan from the Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham in 2013.

**5:30 - 8:00 PM**

### **Vidushi Ranjani & Gayatri (Vocal Concert)**



### **VIDUSHI RANJANI & VIDUSHI GAYATRI**

Smt. Ranjani and Smt. Gayatri began their musical journey under the guidance of their mother Smt. Meenakshi Balasubramanian and their father Balasubramanian, who played a pivotal role in shaping their musical values. They started their violin training at the early age of nine and six respectively from Sangita Bhushanam Prof. T.S. Krishnaswami at the Shanmukhananda Sangeet Vidyalaya in Mumbai, and the sisters later transitioned to vocal music

under the guidance of P.S. Narayanaswamy. Smt. Ranjani and Smt. Gayatri have been recognized with numerous prestigious awards, including the Padma Shri, Kalaimamani, Samagana Mathanga from the Bharatiya Samagana Sabha, Sangeetha Kala Siromani from the Chennai Cultural Academy, Vani Kala Sudhakara from the Sri Thyaga Brahma Gana Sabha, and many more. The duo has also performed at some of the most prestigious stages in the world, including the Narada Gana Sabha, Krishna Gana Sabha, and the Darbar festival at Royal Albert Hall in London. Over the years, their dedication, deep understanding of ragas, and expressive singing style have made them among the most admired artists in the Carnatic music world.

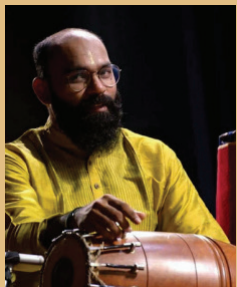


### **VIDWAN L. RAMAKRISHNAN**

Vidwan L. Ramakrishnan is a highly respected Carnatic violinist, widely recognized for his excellence as an accompanist. Born into a musical family, he was introduced to music at a young age, beginning with harmonium and bhajans in Kuwait before continuing his training at the Shanmukhananda Vidyalaya in Mumbai. He took up the violin in 1993 and went on to complete

his formal training, earning the Shanmukha Mani title in 2001. He began his violin training under Smt. Visalam Vageeshwar, and later came under the guidance of his current guru, Sangeethakalanidhi Smt. A. Kanyakumari. Under her mentorship, he developed a deep understanding of musical expression, focusing not only on technical precision but also on the intricacies of accompaniment and tonal quality.

Ramakrishnan gave his first Chennai concert at the age of 17 and has since established himself as a highly sought-after accompanist. He has performed alongside leading Carnatic musicians such as Sri T. V. Sankaranarayanan, Smt. Sudha Ragunathan, Smt. Bombay Jayashri, and Sri T. M. Krishna. In recognition of his accomplishments, he has received several honors, including the Best Accompanying Violinist award from The Music Academy, the Lalgudi Jayaraman Award, and the title of Sri Kanchipuram Asthana Vidwan in 2010



### VIDWAN SAI GIRIDHAR

Hailing from a rich musical background, Vidwan Sai Giridhar has trained under eminent gurus and has developed a deep understanding of rhythm, tradition, and stage aesthetics. An 'A' grade artist of All India Radio, Shri Sai Giridhar has performed extensively in many prestigious music festivals in India and abroad. He received the Gold Medal for his performance on the mridangam at 12th National Youth

Festival at Pune in 2007. He has many recordings to his credit. Shri Sai Giridhar Kuchibhotla was also awarded the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar of Sangeet Natak Academy for the year 2016 for his notable talent in the field of Carnatic instrumental music. Over the years, Shri Sai Giridhar has accompanied many leading Carnatic musicians in prestigious concerts and festivals, both in India and internationally. Sai Giridhar showcased his exceptional rhythmic artistry at the Darbar Festival in both 2015 and 2019, collaborating with renowned artists such as Shri Satyajit Talwalkar, Padma Sri Smt Ranjani and Padma Sri Smt Gayatri, Shri Veena D. Srinivas, Padma Bhushan Smt Sudha Ragunathan, and Shri J.A. Jayanth.



### VIDWAN K.V. GOPALAKRISHNAN

Vidwan KV Gopalakrishnan is one of the most celebrated kanjira masters in the world. His playing is celebrated for its breathtaking clarity and tonal beauty that transform the concert experience entirely. Born in a family steeped in music, he began learning kanjira from his father Sri K.V.R.S. Mani. He also learnt mridangam from the legendary Sangita Kalanidhi Vidwan Sri T.K. Murthy, which allowed him to

enhance his kanjira playing as well. Having performed for more than 3 decades he is one of the most sought after percussionists in the carnatic music world. Vidwan KV Gopalakrishnan is an 'A' grade artist of All India Radio. KVG has played alongside some of the legendary percussionists including his guru Dr. T.K. Murthy, Sri Palghat Raghu, Sri Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman, Sri Trichy

Sankaran, Sri Guruvayur Dorai, and many others. Over several decades, Vidwan KV Gopalakrishnan has performed at major sabhas, festivals, and international venues gaining the admiration of audiences and musicians alike. He has performed at several prestigious venues around the world including the Kennedy Center, the Lincoln Center, Madras Music Academy, Cleveland Tyagaraja Festival and many others around the world. He has accompanied some of the greatest doyennes of carnatic music and leading musicians including Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna, Sri TN Seshagopalan, Sri N. Ramani, Sri Lalgudi G. Jayaraman, and so many other legends. He has received many titles and awards over the years such as the "Bismillah Khan – Yuva Puraskar" from Sangeet Natak Academy, Govt of India, "Kanjira Harishankar Memorial Award" from Nadalaya Trust, "Palghat Mani Iyer Puraskar" from Chennai Fine Arts and the latest being "Nada Vallabha" from Nada Sudha and "Best Upa-Pakkavadhyam Endowment award from Kartik Fine Arts. In every single concert Vidwan KV Gopalakrishnan's playing radiates a rare combination of precision, imagination, and emotional depth, making every stroke on the kanjira feel both effortless and profound, impacting the musical landscape of each concert and leaving a lasting impact on the audience.



**DAY 3 MONDAY, MAY 25 2026**

**9:00 - 9:45 AM Classical Parade and Bhajan led by Vidushi Sivasri Skandaprasad**

Sivasri Skandaprasad brings the timeless tradition of Sampradaya Bhajan alive through soulful music, spiritual depth, and authentic devotion. Rooted in bhakti and classical heritage, her presentations beautifully blend nama sankeertanam, philosophy, and cultural tradition, inspiring audiences across generations while preserving and propagating India's sacred devotional music traditions. She will lead a group of children who have preregistered with CMANA for a Pradakshina of the Temple Prakaram (प्राकार). Enjoy the bliss of spiritual singing as we start the third day of our grand 50th Anniversary Celebrations



**ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಸಮರ್ಥನೆ**

**10:15 AM - 12:15 PM Vidushi Sivasri Skandaprasad (Musical Concert)**



### **VIDUSHI SIVASRI SKANDAPRASAD**

Smt. Sivasri Skandaprasad began her artistic journey at the age of three, nurtured in a richly rooted musical and spiritual environment. She received her initial training under her father, Sirkazhi Sri J. Skandaprasad, who laid a strong foundation of discipline and devotion, and later pursued Carnatic vocal music under Guru Sri A.S. Murali. Expanding her artistic horizons, she also trained in Hindustani music under Shri Mahesh Kale, and in Bharatanatyam under Kalaimamani

Smt. Krishnakumari Narendran and Acharya Choodamani Smt. Roja Kannan. A multifaceted artist, Smt. Sivasri Skandaprasad is a distinguished Carnatic vocalist, Bharatanatyam dancer, choreographer, and bioengineer, representing a rare confluence of tradition and innovation. She has performed extensively across India and internationally, presenting both solo concerts and dance productions at prestigious sabhas such as The Music Academy and Narada Gana Sabha, while also touring globally as a cultural ambassador of Indian classical arts. Her contributions extend beyond performance into cultural revival and education. As the founder of Ahuti, she is dedicated to preserving and promoting the 64 traditional Indian art forms, inspiring a new generation of artists to remain rooted in heritage while embracing creative expression. Smt. Sivasri Skandaprasad has been recognized with numerous honors, including the Ustad Bismillah Khan Award, Yuva Kala Bharathi, and Bharatha Kala Choodamani, among others. Her devotional music has gained national recognition, including being shared by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the Ayodhya Prana Pratishtha ceremony. Through her work as a performer, teacher, and cultural visionary, she continues to uphold and reimagine the timeless essence of Bharatiya art and spirituality.



### **VIDWAN SIRKAZHI J. SKANDAPRASAD**

He is a distinguished mridangam vidwan, vocalist, composer, and exponent of Nāma Saṅkīrtanam with over three decades of contribution to Indian classical music. Born to renowned musicians Sirkazhi R. Jayaraman and Shanthi Jayaraman, he trained under Kumbakonam Sri Rajappa Iyer and accompanied legendary artistes including Semmangudi Srinivasa Iyer and M.L. Vasanthakumari. A close associate of

Sri Haridas Giri Swamigal, he played a vital role in preserving the Bhajana Sampradāya tradition. Through his studio “Studio Impressions,” archival works, compositions, and cultural initiatives like Sivalayam, he has significantly contributed to preserving and promoting Carnatic and devotional music worldwide.



### **VIDWAN GAURAV GADIYAR**

Vidwan Gaurav Gadiyar is an accomplished Hindustani classical harmonium artist with over 16 years of dedicated training and performance experience. He began his musical journey under Vidushi Mangalamba Hegde and has undergone advanced training for over a decade under the guidance of Pandit Venkatesh Alkod, following the traditional guru–shishya parampara.

Renowned for his technical precision and sensitivity as both a soloist and accompanist, he has performed extensively across India at prestigious concerts and festivals, collaborating with leading musicians in Hindustani, Carnatic, and devotional traditions. His versatility spans classical, Abhang, Dasavani, and contemporary musical forms, while maintaining a strong foundation in raga and tala. In addition to his performance career, he holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Bangalore University and has received several recognitions, including the Yuva Sourabha award. Through his artistry, he continues to contribute meaningfully to the preservation and evolution of Indian classical music.



### **VIDWAN ANIRUDHA S. BHAT**

Vidwan Anirudha S. Bhat is a dedicated and accomplished mridangist with over 20 years of experience in performing, teaching, and accompanying Carnatic music and other genres. He began his training under Vid. M.V. Mohan and continues advanced tutelage under renowned maestro Vid. K.U. Jayachandra Rao, developing a strong command over complex rhythmic patterns and tala systems.

Known for his intuitive and dynamic accompaniment, he has performed with leading vocalists and instrumentalists across India and internationally, appearing at prestigious venues such as Stanford University, the Nita Ambani Cultural Centre, and major sabhas in India and abroad. His versatility extends to collaborations in fusion and jazz settings, reflecting a wide-ranging musical outlook. An A-Grade artist of All India Radio and Doordarshan, Anirudha has received several awards, including the Laya Ratna and Ananya Yuva Puraskara. Alongside his performance career, he is a dedicated teacher, mentoring students globally and actively contributing to the next generation of percussionists.



### **VIDWAN MANJUNATH SATTYASHEEL**

Vidwan Manjunath Sattayasheel began his musical journey at the age of 11, inspired by an early passion for rhythm and nurtured by strong family support. Over the years, he has developed expertise across a wide range of pan-Indian and global rhythmic traditions, establishing himself as a versatile and in-demand percussionist. He has collaborated with leading figures in Indian music, including

S. P. Balasubrahmanyam, Hariharan, Shankar Mahadevan, and Sonu Nigam, as well as renowned classical and world musicians such as Trilok Gurtu and Vikku Vinayakram. His ability to seamlessly blend classical, film, folk, and fusion genres highlights his exceptional musical range. Manjunath has performed at prestigious venues worldwide, including the London Jazz Festival and major international stages across more than 25 countries. Notably, he was selected as the only percussionist from India to perform at Expo 2020 Dubai. He also leads the “Manju Drums Collective,” a platform that brings together Indian classical, folk, and world music in a vibrant, contemporary format.

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## **12:30 PM LUNCH**

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### **1:00 - 1:45 PM VIDHAI A Tribute to Ladies of CMANA**



### **KIRAN JAMES**

A Dance Presentation by Kiran James, comprised of original choreographies of compositions, drawn from both the dance (nāṭya saṅgītam) and concert (sabha gānam) music repertoires, to honor the legacy and contributions of women in CMANA. Woven into the narration will be anecdotes and stories about his late grandmother, Smt. Vasantha Rajagopalan, and other women who have tirelessly supported CMANA and promoted Indian art and culture in the United States.

- Dance: Kiran James
- Vocal: Divya Meena Raman
- Nattuvangam: Umesh Venkatesh
- Mridangam: Harsha Mandyam Bharathi
- Violin: Swetha Narasimhan

## Repertoire

### 1. Vidai

Ragam: Ragamalika

Music: Divya Meena Raman

Lyrics: Sakthi Jothi

This viruttam, comprised of verses by the contemporary Tamil poet Sakthi Jothi, has been specially choreographed as a tribute to the women of CMANA. Her poem, "Vidai," is a meditation on the unsung, quiet labor of sowing seeds, and it is an apt metaphor for the vital role women play in planting, nurturing, and sustaining Indian art, culture, and tradition within the family and for the greater community.

### 2. Nī Sāti Daivamu

Ragam: Sriranjani

Talam: Rupakam

Composer: Muthuswamy Dikshitar

This daru is one of two compositions in Telugu attributed to Muthuswamy Dikshitar, and he is said to have composed it especially for the dance arangetram of his disciple, Tiruvarur Kamalam. In this composition, the heroine directly expresses her profound love and longing for Valmīkēśa, the manifestation of Lord Shiva as an anthill and the presiding deity of Tiruvarur. She says, "There is no deity equal to you, and so, I have given all my love, hopes, thoughts, and praises to you." Muthuswamy Dikshitar also alludes to an unusual legend from oral history in which Lord Vishnu acquires a powerful bow that endows him with great strength. Intoxicated with power, he pursued Indra and the other gods across the heavens and Earth. When they reached Tiruvarur, the gods prayed to Lord Shiva, and Vishnu's power vanished as soon as he arrived. While Vishnu leaned against his bow, Shiva and the gods transformed into white ants (termites). Shiva's bite snapped the bowstring, and Vishnu fell to the ground and shattered into three pieces.

### 3. Mahāshakti

Ragam: Sindhubhairavi

Talam: Adi

Lyrics: Subramania Bharathi

Music: K. Hariprasad

This concluding piece was inspired by the philosophy of Karma Yoga as envisioned by Swami Vivekananda. During his seminal 1921 lectures, Vivekananda stated that the "ultimate goal of human nature" is spiritual liberation by discovering the "secret of work." Perhaps the "secret" lies in that the expected outcome of one's work becomes insignificant gradually over time while the work itself becomes absolutely fulfilling and uplifting. That internal transformation of the mind, body, and spirit through work is often equated with the experiences of bhakti. Bharathiar was an ardent follower of Karma Yoga and a staunch believer in

women's rights who devoted his life to India's fight for independence and social reform through his powerful poems, songs, and essays. In his poem, "Mahashakti," he vividly describes a moment of intense spiritual awakening and recognition after he experiences a brief vision of Shakti in the moonlight within the family and for the greater community.

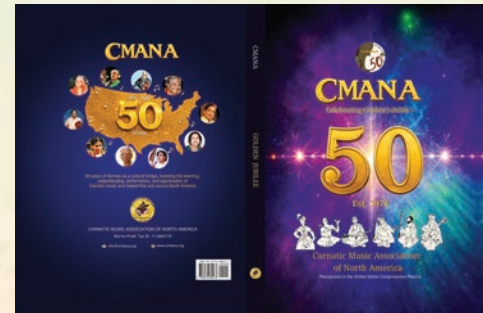
2:00 PM

Honorary Patron Awards Presentation

1. Sri S Yegnasubramanian President of Sringeri Vidya Bharati Foundation, USA Chairman of Sri Guruvayoorapan Temple , Morganville NJ
2. Sri Srinivasan S Iyer, Vice Chairman of Sri Guruvayoorapan Temple, Morganville NJ
3. Mr Cleveland Johnson Formerly Executive Director of Morris Museums NJ

2:30 PM

CMANA Golden Jubilee Publication commemorating the 50th Anniversary Book Release



2:45 PM

SangeethaSaagara presentation to Vidhusi Sudha Ragunathan



CHIEF GUEST

**Mr. Harishankar Krishnaswami**

Secretary Narada Gana Sabha, Chennai and Secretary Federation of City Sabhas, Chennai

Felicitations and Award Ceremony

4:00 PM

## Vidushi Sudha Ragnathan (Vocal Concert)



### VIDUSHI SUDHA RAGUNATHAN

She stands as one of the most respected and admired artists in Carnatic music today. Today she is praised for her artistry, depth, and unwavering commitment to Carnatic music. She received her initial training in the artform under the guidance of her mother Smt. V. Choodamani. Vid. Sudha Ragnathan continued her musical learning under Sri BV Lakshman further strengthening her skills in the artform. A defining milestone came in 1977, Today, she is celebrated as

one of the foremost torchbearers of the MLV bani, carrying forward its legacy with devotion while shaping a distinctive musical identity of her own. Smt. Sudha Ragnathan's contributions to Carnatic music have been recognized with some of India's highest honors, including Sangita Kalanidhi (2013), Padma Bhushan (2015), and Padma Shri. Vid. Sudha Ragnathan has performed at major venues like the Madras Music Academy since 1990 and her music resonated across premier venues in India and around the world. Her music has taken her to prestigious venues across the United States, Europe, Australia, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East. She performed at the United Nations, Theatre de la Ville in Paris, Alice Tully Hall, and the Lincoln Centre in NY each a testament to her role as a global ambassador of Carnatic music. Beyond her musical accomplishments, Smt. Sudha Ragnathan is deeply committed to social causes as well. In 2017, she started her own school Sudhaaranva Academy for Musical Excellence, an institution devoted to nurturing the next generation of musicians and preserving the rich heritage of Carnatic music. Smt. Sudha Ragnathan continues to inspire musicians, scholars, critics, connoisseurs, students, and rasikas alike.



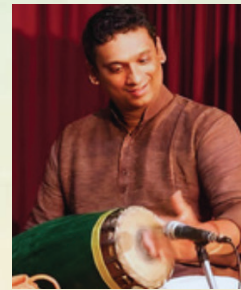
Patron Lunch Meet and Greet Feb-Mar-April 2026



### VIDWAN VITTAL RANGAN

An acclaimed violinist, Vidwan Vittal Rangan is well known for his flair for innovative ideas while simultaneously maintaining the traditional aesthetics. A disciple of the legendary Sangeetha Kalanidhi Kum A Kanyakumari and Sri RR Keshavamurthy. An 'A' graded violinist of the All India Radio, Vittal is a recipient of numerous awards, including the Shanmukhananda Sangeetha Shironmani Award

and the Best Violinist Award from the Music Academy, and he is one of the youngest violinists to have performed at the iconic Royal Albert Hall in London. Vittal has performed and shared the stage with great musicians across four generations all over the world, and is also an exceptional solo violinist.



### VIDWAN DELHI SAIRAM

Delhi Sairam is a distinguished mridangam artist and disciple of the legendary maestro Sri Tiruvarur Bhaktavatsalam. Based in Chennai, he is renowned for his refined artistry and deeply sensitive accompaniment, shaped by a strong foundation in rhythm and tradition. A postgraduate rank holder in Rhythmology from the University of Madras, Sairam has built a career spanning

over two decades, performing extensively across India and internationally. He has collaborated with leading musicians such as Smt. Bombay Jayashri, Smt. Sudha Ragnathan, and Smt. Ranjani & Smt. Gayatri, earning recognition for his intuitive and harmonious style. An international ambassador of rhythm, he has toured widely across the US, Canada, Australia, and the Middle East, performing at prestigious global venues.

Beyond the stage, he is a dedicated mentor, having trained over 40 students worldwide and guiding many through their arangetrams. He also serves as visiting faculty at the Kalaikovil Academy of Fine Arts in Toronto. His contributions have been honored with several prestigious awards, including the Kalaimamani, the Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar, and the Best Senior Mridangist award from The Music Academy, Chennai.



## VIDWAN G CHANDRASEKHARA SHARMA

Vidwan G. Chandrasekhara Sharma is a distinguished representative of the rich rhythmic and melodic traditions of Carnatic music, known for both his ghatam artistry and vocal excellence. He received his early training under his uncle, the late Sri T. H. Subash Chandran, and comes from a highly respected family of Carnatic musicians. His father, Sri T. H. Gurumurthy, was an accomplished violinist

and disciple of the legendary Sri T. N. Krishnan. He was also the younger brother of renowned ghatam maestros Sri T. H. Subash Chandran and Vikku Vinayakram. Rooted in this rich musical lineage, Chandrasekhara Sharma has developed a style that reflects rigorous training, deep tradition, and artistic individuality. Over the years, he has performed alongside legendary percussionists such as Sri Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman, Sri Tiruvarur Bhaktavatsalam, and Sri T. K. Murthy.

In addition to his percussion expertise, he is also a highly trained Carnatic vocalist and a disciple of Sri R. K. Shriramkumar and Smt. Vijay Siva. His musicianship continues to embody both the depth of tradition and the evolving spirit of Carnatic music.



## VIDWAN S. SUNIL KUMAR

Vidwan S. Sunil Kumar is a Carnatic kanjira artist, teacher, and stage performer. His initial training in classical percussion came under the guidance of his father, Sri Triplicane K. Sekar. He later pursued advanced training in kanjira from Sri V. Selvaganesh and konnakol from Sri T. H. Vikku Vinayakram. Sunil has accompanied several leading artists, including Smt. Sudha Ragunathan, Smt. Bombay Jayashri, Sri Sanjay Subrahmanyam, and

Smt. A. Kanyakumari, among others. He has performed at major venues and festivals such as the Music Academy Chennai, Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, and Brahma Gana Sabha, as well as at events organized by the Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham and SVBC programs. Notably, he has also presented a kanjira solo performance for Ustad Alla Rakha. Sunil has received numerous awards and honors for his contributions to music, including the Thethakudi Harihara Sharma Percussion Award from Sri Krishna Gana Sabha in 2011, the Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi Fellowship from Mumbai Shanmukhananda in 2015, and the title of Asthana Vidwan from the Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham in 2013.



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- Performance Opportunity during Dec Music Season
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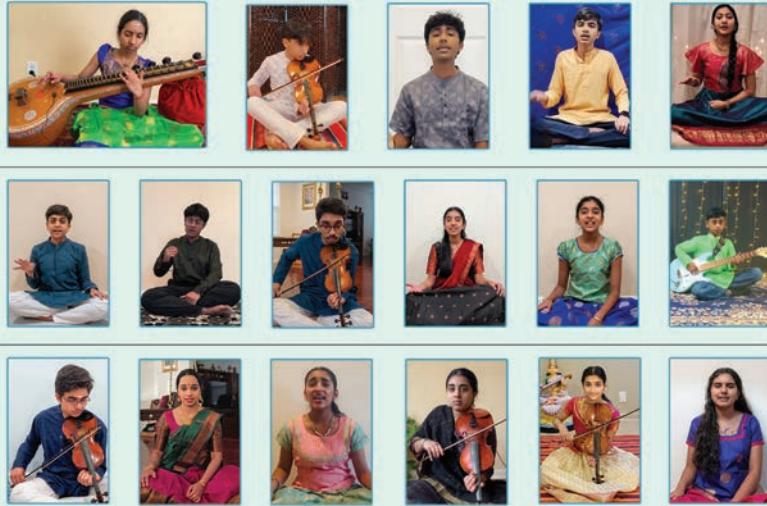
[www.sunaadalahari.org](http://www.sunaadalahari.org)

# 50 YEARS 50 RAGAS

A thematic presentation by present and past Junior members of CMANA in celebration of 50 years of CMANA

YouTube

Scan QR  
for playlist



Performer	Ragam	Song
Anagha Ramkumar	Surati	Angarakam Ashrayaamyaham
Saketh Narayanan	Bilahari	Paridana Mechide
Karthik Subramanian	Anandhabhairavi	Marivere Gati
Kamal Narayanan	Arabhi	Palimpa Ravadelara
Saankhya Bommireddipalli	Hindolam	Mamavathu Sri Saraswathi
Advik Harish	Reethi gowla	Tatvamariya Tarama
Abhinav Anand	Bhairavi	Chintayama kanda mulakandam
Vidvath Neeraj	Dharmavathi	Bhajanaseya Rada
Ridhi Balaji	Hamsadhwani	Mooladhara Moorthi
Adhya Balaji	Kalyani	Nidhi Chala Sukama
Sabarish Rajagopal	Nattai	Maha Ganapathim
Sameth Sitaram	Devagandhari	Thulasamma
Samyukta Neeraj	Shubapanthuvarali	Sri Sathanarayanam
Sukriti Shankar	Begada	Kalayami Raghuramam
Vinuta Ramakrishnan	Latangi	Marivere Dikkevaru
Sanjukta Srinivasan	Ramapriya	Korinavara
Sanjana Kanvar	Atana	Brihaspathe

Performer	Ragam	Song
Sumedha Jayaraman and Dhanya Jayaraman	Rasikapriya	Arul Seiyya Venum Aiyya
Rishi Swaminathan	Sahana	Sharavana Bhava Guha Shanmukha
Dhruva Anand	Mayamalavagowla	Shivalokanathanai kandu
Vedant Balakrishnan	Mohanam	Gopika Manoharam BhajeHam
Aakarsh Ananthkrishnan	Dhenuka	teliyalEru raama
Srikar Shankar	Charukesi	Kripaya Palaya
Vidyut Arvind	Mohana kalyani	Siddhi vinayakam
Shritika Sriram	Madhyamavathi	Shankari Shri Rajarajeshwari
Purna Peramallore	Ranjani	Durmarga Chara
Sweta Kumararaja	Maand	Ramanai Bhajittal
Sruthi Ramesh	Hamir Kalyani	Venkata Shaila
Haripriya Ghanakota	Simhendramadyamam	Ninne Nammitinayya
Diya Girish	Sindhubhairavi	Venkatachala Nilayam
Janani Sriram	Saveri	Shankari Shankuru
Divya Suri	Poorvikalyani	NinnuvinaAga mari
Shardul Krishna Kumar	Mukhari	Talachi Nantane

# 50 YEARS 50 RAGAS

A thematic presentation by present and past Junior members of CMANA in celebration of 50 years of CMANA



Performer	Ragam	Song
Pranav Murthy	Varali	Seshachala Nayakam
Samyutha Srinivasan	Khamas	santhAna gOPAlakrishnam upAsmahE
Hiranmayee Ravikanth	Chakravaham	Eshane Indha Ezhaikku Iranga
Adithiya G Karthik	Shanmukhapriya	SharavaNa bhava enum
Manasaa Pragaspathy	Kaapi	Intha Sowkhya
Sowmya Venkatesh	Kamboji	O Ranga Sayee
Praphul Pemmaraju	Thodi	Vedalenu Kodandapani
Achutan Raghushri	Gowla	Sri Mahaganapati Ravatumam
Neharika Murthy	Lalita	Hiranmayim Lakshnim
Rohit Venkatesh	SHANKARABHARANAM	Devi Jagath Janani
Deepthi Suri	Karaharapriya	Rama Nee Samanamevaru
Sriya Ayalasomayajula	Dwijavanthi	Akhilandeshwari
Varun Krishnan	Keeravani	Ambavani Nannu
Krishna Sunil Palya	Vagadeeswari	Paramatmudu
Arjun Girish	Bowli	Sreeman Narayana
Keshav Girish	Nalinakanthi	Manavyala
Anirudh Venkatesh	Behag	Aadum Chidambaramo

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# CMANA 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION INAUGURAL EVENT MUSIC, DANCE & RHYTHM



## Bhakti Manjari Students - Guru: Smt Bhuvana Iyer



### Song List

1. Amba sthavam
2. Garuda gamana
3. Mudhakaratha
4. Muthai tharu
5. Ramachandraya janaka

### Participants (34)

- Advay Iyer
  - Advika Santhosh
  - Ambika Kedhar
  - Anannya Gokavarapu
  - Anika Sivaramakrishnan
  - Arjun Iyer
  - Arjun Radhaswamy
  - Avantika Santhosh
  - Dhanshika Satheeshkumar
  - Dhrti Anand
  - Diya Ramesh
  - Indira Subrahmanyam
  - Isha Subrahmanyam
  - Ishwarya Gokavarapu
  - Jiya Srinivasan
  - Lakshanasre Viyasar Ramanujam
  - Lakshmaan Parasara Ramanujam
  - Maanya Arjun
  - Mahamaya Srinivasan
  - Manasaa Subburaman
  - Mithra Ramji
  - Nethra Ramkumar
  - Nila Ramji
  - Ramkumar Lakshmi
  - Sahana Vinodkrishna
  - Sai Mahima Jaishankar
  - Samanvitha Sundaram
  - Samyukta Sundaram
  - Srihari Viyasar
  - Stuthi Sivaramakrishnan
  - Vedha Nandakumar
  - Vishwak Vinodkrishna
- HARMONIUM**
- Dwarakh Nandagopal
- MRIDANGAM**
- Sarvesh Premkumar

## Tri-State Artistes - Led by Smt Simanthini Kauta & Smt Prabha Raghunathan



### Song List

1. Jagadaananda Kaaraka
2. Kamakshi Swarajathi
3. Vatapi Ganaptim

### Participants (23)

- VOCAL**
- Aparna Advaita
  - Aravind Narasimhan
  - Dr. Bhavani Rao (Flute & Vocal)
  - Manjula Ramachandran
  - Meenakshi Thummuluri
  - Nirmala Sundaram
  - Prabha Raghunathan
  - Radhika Murali
  - Saraswathi Chandra Shekhar
  - Savitha Chadaga
  - Sharada Khandavilli
  - Simanthini Kauta
  - Vignesh Ravichandran
- VIOLIN**
- Indira Rajesh
  - Radhika Devrajan
  - Ravi Srinivas
  - Sandhya Anand
- VEENA**
- Bhuvana Kannan
  - Kalyani Josyula
- MRIDANGAM**
- Kumar Kanthan
  - Lakshmi Sridharan
  - Prakash Rao
- GHATAM**
- Subhang Srinivasan

# CMANA 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION-INAUGRAL EVENT MUSIC, DANCE & RHYTHM

## Geethashrunkhala Group - Led by Annapurna Ramnarayanan



### Song List

1. Bhaja Manasa
2. Mohanakara
3. Pankaja lochana

### Participants (14)

- Ambika Sowmyan
  - Annapurna Ramnarayanan
  - Aparna Surampudi
  - Asha Janardhan
  - Bhama Ananthkrishnan
  - Janaki Iyer
  - Kalpana Srinivasan
  - Meera Rajesh
  - Nithya Jaishankar
  - Padma Ramkumar
  - Sudha Shivakumar
  - Vijaya Natarajan
- MRIDANGAM**
- Prakash Rao
- VIOLIN**
- Ravi Srinivasan

## Ravi Srinivasan school of music - Guru: Ravi Srinivasan



### Song List

1. Seshachalanayakam (Varali)
2. Thyagaraja Yoga Vaibhavam (Anandabhairavi)

### Participants (5)

- Mitra Iyer
- Mythri Iyer
- Ravi Srinivasan
- Sanjukta Srinivasan
- Vedant Rangarao

## Swara Raaga Sudha Kala Aacdemy - Guru: Smt Usha Akella



### Song List

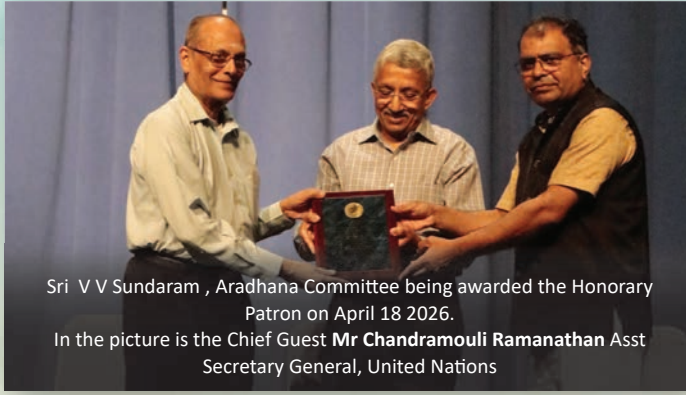
- Presenting ART - A (Annamacharya) R (Ramadasu) T (Tyagaraja) theme compositions ALL NOTATED by Sangeetha Kalanidhi Sri Nedunuri Krishnamurthy
1. Mutyala Chavikalo - Hamir Kalyani - Khanda chapu taal - Tyagaraja
  2. Sakala Santhikaramu - Bahudari ragam- Adi Taalam - Annamacharya Keertana
  3. Sakalendriyamulara - Mohana ragam- Khanda Eka talar - Ramada-su keertana

### Participants (13)

- Aarush Kanduri
  - Ananya Padi
  - Deepthi Yellapragada
  - Hasini Kavuri
  - Laasya Kandakurti
  - Mihir Kanduri
  - Nishitha Kommuru
  - Samanvitha Mahidhara
  - Shashank Kosuri
  - Swetha Duggirala
  - Ullaas Kavuri
- VIOLIN**
- Mytri Iyer
- MRIDANGAM**
- Saketh Prabha

# CMANA 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION-INAUGRAL EVENT MUSIC, DANCE & RHYTHM

## Menaka Naresh Group - Guru: Smt Menaka Naresh



Sri V V Sundaram , Aradhana Committee being awarded the Honorary Patron on April 18 2026.  
In the picture is the Chief Guest **Mr Chandramouli Ramanathan** Asst Secretary General, United Nations

### Song List

1. Abhimanamule - Divya Nama keertanam, Andhali, Tyagarajar.
2. Choothamu Rare - Arabhi, Tyagarajar
3. Shri Guruguha - Suddhasaveri, Muthuswami Dikshithar

### Participants (8)

- Avyaya Uppilli Mukundan
- Hamsini Chanchala
- Harsini Kalirajan
- Namiish ArunKumar
- Nihal Mekala
- Niveta Harish
- Ritvi Nair
- Tarini Nair

## Bhaktimanjari Mahila Group - Guru:Smt Bhuvana Iyer



### Song List

1. AppanE iyyappanE ragam-naadha naamakriya tALam-Adhi
2. Azhagaana pazhani ragam-brindhavana saaranga tALam-Adhi
3. Gnyana vinaayakanE ragam-bilahari tALam-Adhi
4. Hara mahadev ragam-revathi tALam-Eka
5. Hari mhaNa thumi ragam-brindhavana saaranga tALam-Adhi
6. Maithreem Bhajatha ragam-yamuna kalyani tALam-Eka
7. Naavinikka manaminikka ragam-maand tALam-Adhi 2 kalais
8. Paahimam jagadheeshwari ragam-amrutha varshini tALam-Adhi
9. Sangeetha rasike ragam-hameer kalyani tALam-Adi/Eka
10. Vaa vaa hanumaanE ragam-surutiij tALam-Adhi/Eka
11. Vedasya thathwam

### Participants (44)

- Ashwini Sankaran
  - Bhama Ananthakrishnan
  - Bhuvana Iyer
  - Chithra Krishnan
  - Gayathri Rajeshwar
  - Hema Gajaraj
  - Jaya Ramji
  - Jeeva Sivaraman
  - Kala Velraj
  - Loganayaki Narayanan
  - Mala Ilango
  - Malathy Varagur
  - Meenakshi Sakthivel
  - Narayani Baskaran
  - Nithya Jaishankar
  - Padma Iyer
  - Padma Ram
  - Parvathy Rajagopalan
  - Pramila Natarajan
  - Pushkala Venkatraman
  - Radha Venkataramanian
  - Radhika Balasubramanian
  - Santhi Venkataraman
  - Sathyavathy Mani
  - Shanta Ravi
  - Shobi Saravanan
  - Soundaram Ramaswami
  - Srilakshmi Premkumar
  - Sudha Chandramouli
  - Sudha Haran
  - Sudha Raja
  - Sudha Shivakumar
  - Sudharshana C
  - Surekha Raj
  - Swathi Srinivasan
  - Swati Vaidheeswaran
  - Usha Ganesh
  - Vasanthi Gopal
  - Vidhya Krishnaprasad
  - Vidhya Ramkumar
  - Vijaya Natarajan
- HARMONIUM**
- Dwarakh Nandagopal
- MRIDANGAM**
- Sarvesh Premkumar
- GHATAM**
- Subhang Srinivasan

## HONORARY PATRON AWARDS CEREMONY- Sri VV Sundaram

Chief Guest: Mr Chandramouli Ramanathan, Asst Secretary General, United States

# CMANA 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION-INAUGURAL EVENT MUSIC, DANCE & RHYTHM

## TSN GROUP - Guru T S Nandakumar - Director



### Participants (12)

#### FLUTE

- Chinmayi Sunil Palya

#### VEENA

- Krishna Sunil Palya

#### VIOLIN

- Sameth Sitaram

#### CHENDAI

- Karthik Ramasubramanian

#### MRIDANGAM

- Aarav Mohan
- Ananth Sankaralingam
- Harish Dorai
- Namana Datta Aryasomayajula
- Venkatesh Iyer
- Vishwa Swamy

#### KANJIRA

- Harikumar Ganesh
- Sarvesh Premkumar
- Vaibhav Sreeganesh

#### MORSING

- Lochan Srinivas

#### GHATAM

- Manoj Narayanan
- Navneet Aiyer

## Shri Nrithya Niketan - Guru: Smt Radhamani Varadachary



### Song List

Ganapathi thaalam-vedic chant

- **Choreography**  
Smt. Radhamani Varadhachary
- **Vocal**  
Vid. Abilash Giriprasad
- **Nattuvangam and Mridangam**  
Vid. Guru Bharadwaaj
- **Veena**  
Vid. Anjani Srinivasan

### Participants (6)

- Arshitha Harikrishna
- Lavanya Karthikeyan
- Shravani Raj
- Swapna Ramachandran
- Trisha Iyer
- Vrinda Krishnan

### Song List

Thillana- Mohanam - Rupakam

- **Composer**  
Madurai N. Krishnan
- **Choreography**  
Adayar K. Lakshmanan.

### Participants (10)

- Ankitha Jeyaram
- Anvitha Ramnath
- Arshitha Harikrishna
- Lavanya Karthikeyan
- Shraddha Dharmma
- Shravani Raj
- Sreshta Kannan
- Swapna Ramachandran
- Trisha Iyer
- Vrinda Krishnan

# CMANA 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION-INAUGURAL EVENT MUSIC, DANCE & RHYTHM

## Bhaarat Nritya Academy - Guru: Smt Rekha Srinivasan



### Song List

1. Shiv Vandana (Kathak style)
2. Thevaram (Bharathanatyam)

### Participants (21)

- Aavya Sinha
- Adhika Chandrasekhar
- Alina Mukherji
- Anjali Datla
- Annika Suresh
- Aradhya Pandey
- Arya Radia
- Ashvika Allamsetty
- Kanthi Kasturi
- Kayal Parthiban
- Lavanya Iyer
- Meenakshi Athawale
- Neha Krishna
- Pankaja Shankar
- Ranjita Hari
- Rashi Gupta
- Rekha Srinivasan
- Saanvi Tyagi
- Sakthi Ganesh
- Samikshaa Sethuraman
- Sowmya Iyengar

## ABHINAYA School of Bharatanatyam - Guru: Padma Thiagaram



### Song List

1. AdinayE Kanna (Mohanakalyani, Adi)
2. PaarKadal AlaimEIE (Ragamalika, Adi)

### Participants (8)

- Advika Anand
- Arya Krishnan
- Ganika Ramesh
- Kruthi Gadesula
- Pragya Adupa
- Rashmi Chakka
- Rishika Dodda
- Shayitha Shyamalan

## Apoorva Noopura School of Dance - Guru: Smt Akhila Rao



### Song List

1. Pranamamyaham Sri Gowri Sutam - Sri Mysore Vasudevacharya
2. Valachi Thillana on Amba -Smt. Dwaraki Krishnaswamy

### Participants (7)

- Ilakkiya Subramanian
- Nila Jabamani
- Niya Raghu
- Parvathy Regi
- Shriya Badala
- Suphachikaa Chinnasamy
- Tanvi Joshi

# CMANA 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION-INAUGURAL EVENT MUSIC, DANCE & RHYTHM

**Siddhendra Kuchipudi Art Academy -  
Guru: Smt Swathi Atluri Gundapuneedi**



### Song List

1. Madhava Madhava Krishna - Tarangam

### Participants (10)

- Aaradhya Surapuneeni
- Aashritha Pasam
- Aditi Vijay
- Alvitha Pyla
- Anisha Kandarpa
- Hansika Pachava
- Pranavi Paruchuri
- Rithika Boopathi
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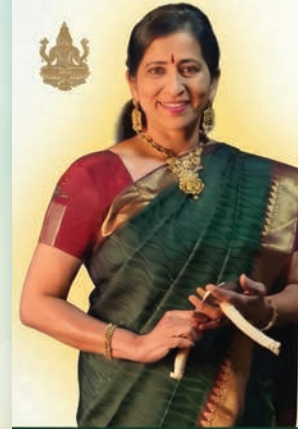
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# BUILDING CMANA'S FUTURE THROUGH QUALIFIED CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS AND PLANNED GIVING

For nearly five decades, CMANA — the Carnatic Music Association of North America — has stood as a beacon of Indian classical music and culture in North America. Since its founding in 1976, CMANA has worked tirelessly to preserve, promote, educate, and inspire generations through the timeless tradition of Carnatic music and related fine arts.

As CMANA celebrates its historic 50th Anniversary and looks ahead toward its Diamond Jubilee, Platinum Jubilee, and eventually its Centenary celebrations, the organization must now prepare not only artistically and culturally, but also financially for the future.

One of the most meaningful ways supporters can help secure CMANA's long-term future is through Qualified Charitable Contributions (QCDs) and structured charitable giving.

These contributions are not simply donations for current operations — they are investments in permanence, continuity, and cultural preservation.

### Why Reserve Funds Matter

Every enduring institution requires financial strength to weather economic uncertainties, rising operational costs, venue expenses, artist support, youth education initiatives, archival preservation, and community outreach programs.

Building a strong reserve and endowment-like fund allows CMANA to:

- Sustain high-quality festivals and educational programming
- Support future generations of young musicians and students
- Preserve valuable archives and historical materials
- Expand outreach to schools, universities, and cultural organizations
- Maintain independence and long-term operational stability
- Respond confidently to future financial and organizational challenges
- Continue presenting world-class artistes to North American audiences

A healthy reserve fund ensures that CMANA is not merely surviving year-to-year, but thriving for decades to come.

### The Power of Qualified Charitable Contributions

Qualified Charitable Contributions provide donors — particularly senior supporters and long-time rasikas — an opportunity to make impactful gifts directly from retirement accounts in a tax-efficient manner.

Such giving enables patrons to:

- Leave a lasting cultural legacy
- Support the preservation of Carnatic music in North America
- Create intergenerational impact
- Help establish financial stability for future leadership
- Strengthen the institution beyond a single generation

Even modest recurring quarterly contributions, when sustained collectively across the CMANA family, can create transformational long-term financial security.

### A Shared Responsibility

CMANA's journey over the past fifty years has been built entirely on volunteerism, dedication, patronage, and community trust. The responsibility of carrying this institution into the next fifty years now rests with all of us.

A pledge made today is not merely a contribution toward a concert or anniversary event — it is a commitment toward preserving an artistic and cultural legacy for generations yet to come.

Every contribution helps CMANA move closer toward establishing a permanent financial foundation capable of supporting:

- Future festivals
- Educational initiatives
- Cultural preservation projects
- Scholarships and youth engagement
- Institutional growth and modernization

### Matching Contribution Opportunity

To further encourage philanthropic participation, we are pleased to announce that contributions above \$1,000 will be matched dollar-for-dollar by a generous benefactor, up to a total matching commitment of \$200,000.

This presents a rare opportunity for every donor to immediately double the impact of their contribution toward CMANA's future



### Make Your Pledge Today

Pledge forms are available outside the venue and online.

Your support today can help ensure that CMANA continues to inspire, educate, and unite generations through Carnatic music for the next 50 years and beyond.

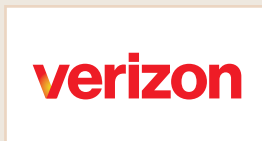
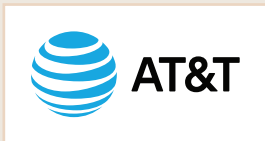
# DONORS CORNER

CMANA gratefully acknowledges and sincerely thanks all individuals and corporations who supported our 50th Anniversary celebrations through employee matching gift programs. Your generosity and commitment to preserving and promoting Carnatic music and Indian cultural heritage have greatly strengthened our mission. These meaningful contributions help us continue inspiring future generations and building a lasting cultural legacy for the years ahead.

## DONERS LIST

- Anandhi Venkat
- Bala and Krishnamurthy
- Bhageerathy (late) Family
- Bharathy & Nagesh Palepu
- Dr. Annapurna Ramnarayan
- Dr. MN Krishnan
- Dr. Balu Athreya
- Dr. Ed Venkat
- Hari and Subha Srinivasan
- Jaishankar and Dr.Aruna
- Jayashree & S. Ramakrishnan
- Jayshree Ramnath
- Nataraj Chandrasekar
- Prem Ramaswami
- Radha Kasinadhuni
- Radhika Chandramohan
- Raji Krishnan
- Ravi Ramaswamy

## WE THANK THE FOLLOWING CORPORATES FOR MATCHING EMPLOYEE DONATIONS



### DR. ED VENKAT

CMANA's mission to promote, preserve, and share Carnatic music and related fine arts across North America and its consistent support for Junior Members—the future maestros and torch bearers—along with its many achievements over the past 50 years, speaks volumes about its impact. It is especially impressive that CMANA is run by dedicated volunteers from diverse backgrounds.

Having witnessed CMANA's commitment to its goals, constancy of purpose, and excellence over the years, it felt both natural and meaningful for a music enthusiast like me to make a small contribution, particularly in honor of its 50th Anniversary.

Beyond supporting a cause that aligns with my values, such contributions can also be financially prudent. For seniors planning for Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs), options like Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs), as recommended by financial and tax professionals, offer a practical way to give while managing tax implications.

CMANA holds a special place for anyone who appreciates Carnatic music and the arts. I wish CMANA a grand and memorable 50th Anniversary celebration, and continued success in the years and decades to come.



### JAYSHREE RAMNATH

CMANA's 50th Anniversary is truly a historic milestone, and we wish the organization many more decades of dedicated service to Carnatic music and South Indian culture in the United States. We feel fortunate to be associated with this noble mission, and hope our contributions will help CMANA strengthen its foundation and continue inspiring future generations. Best Wishes from Ramnath & Jaishree.

# VOLUNTEERS FOR 50TH ANNIVERSARY



Adhithi A



Advik Harish



Ambika Sowmyan



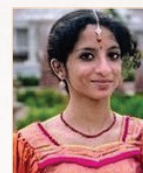
Anandhi Venkat



Bhuvana Iyer



Chitra Krishnan



Deepthi Suri



Divya Suri



Dr V.Ramaswami



Dr Nachu Narasimhan



G Jaisankar



Gopi Sankar



Jana Narasimhan



Janani Ramachandran



Krishnakumar Varadachari



Lakshmi Narayan Aiyer



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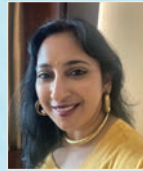
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Viji Suresh



Vishal Sowmyan



Vrinda Krishnan

The spirit of CMANA has always been strengthened by countless selfless volunteers—many of whom are not pictured here, but whose service remains an integral part of our legacy

## FINAL NOTE - GRATITUDE, VISION, AND HOPE

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who made to this milestone festival . From New Jersey and over Ten states across the nation, artistes, accompanists, rasikas, donors, sponsors, volunteers, trustees past and present, supporters, and well-wishers came together in the true spirit of music, culture, and community. Your unwavering encouragement and participation have strengthened CMANA's mission of preserving and promoting Carnatic music and fine arts in North America for five decades. Thank you for being part of this golden journey as we move forward toward many more historic milestones ahead.

## THANKS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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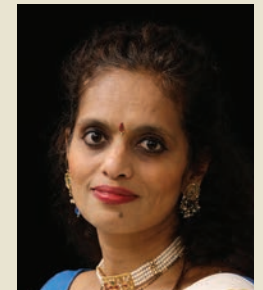
**VENKAT  
RAJAGOPAL**



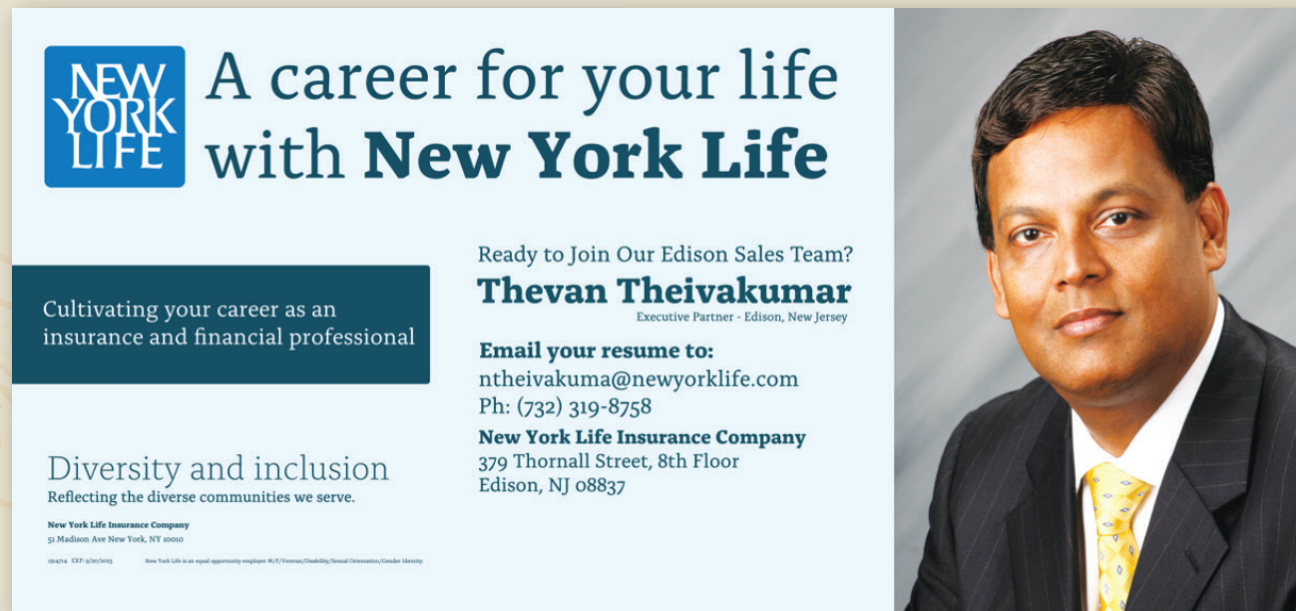
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