



VASANTHA VAIKUNTH
STATE PRESIDENT, KARNATAKA
CULTURE & HERITAGE COUNCIL

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Dr. Rekha Raju
State Vice President, Karnataka Culture & Heritage Council
Expert Panel Member - Mohiniattam
Ministry of Culture - Govt of India

Dr. Rekha Raju started learning dance under the guidance of Late Guru Padmini Ramachandran, then she continued under Kalamandalam Usha Datar and Music under Sri Raju Datar, Mridangam under Sri. Jagadeesh Janardhanan, she was guided under the tutelage of Guru Sri Janardhanan when she completed her PhD in Mohiniattam. She is also a Chartered Accountant and has an MBA degree too. She is now learning under the guidance of Guru Kalamandalam Smt Suganthi. Rekha is also trained in Carnatic Music for over 15 years, Mridangam over 8 years and Nattuvangam for over 15 years.

An "A" Graded artiste at the Doordarshan and an Empaneled Artiste of the ICCR, Rekha has travelled across the world to spread Mohiniattam to countries like the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Large parts of Europe, etc. She is the member of the Expert Panel for Mohiniattam at the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. She's the artistic director of her academy Nrithya Dhama Temple of Fine Arts where she trains more than 400 students in Mohiniattam, Bharatanatyam, Mridangam, Yoga and Carnatic vocals. She also engages in reaching out to the underprivileged children at NGO's like Freedom Foundation, Chrystel House, Mother Teresa Home for Children and teaches many of them for free.

Some of the awards with which she has been felicitated include:

- Yuva Kala Bharati
- Yuva Kala Pratibha
- Best Young Dancer Bangalore Tamil Sangam
- Nrithya Nipuna
- Swarna Mukhi
- Nrithya Varsha Deepika
- Kala yogi from Bangalore ICCR

She has given more than 50 lecture demonstrations at universities all over the world.



A wonder woman with true art in her heart, she has grown up embracing music, dance & theatre from early childhood. Her passion on building cultural community through Sarathi (South Bangalore Cultural Association) has received various awards & recognition.

Currently she is working as an Executive Director at a leading Management Consulting Firm. She is also a Motivational Speaker, Mentor, Guest Lecturer, Author of Amazon's #2 Best Selling Book "Celebrate Your Wings". She is an award winning theatre artist, dancer, poet and loves playing piano and anchored over 100+ events across India.

She has been on Board of Advisors and Mentors across various industries and volunteers activities to promote Indian craftsmanship.



Rajini Rekha
Founder Reves Art Gallery

Is also an effervescent artist, curator and Art promoter.
PG from NIFT, worked for an MNC Tommy Hilfiger

In the span of 5 years since the inception Rajini Rekha stands so committed to her work in bringing the best art to the city Bengaluru.

Shows like KHAKHI CHRONICLES by KSRP, Environment themes ,exclusive Women artists art shows and now with the ongoing Vurtual camp 'Prolonged Solitude' which is a very new concept first of its kind during the pandemic are few pointers.

Besides commercial artshows Rajini extends warm welcome to budding Indian artists in her space . Rajini Rekha has collaborated with NGO's in extending services in her sector of work. Rajini Rekha continues to offer new experiences to the city art lovers.



Preeti Sundar
HR Manager at Win Consultancy

Hobbies: Carnatic Music singer, organize events (National & International)



Managing Director MCI Pageant, Winner of National award “National Pride and Excellence award “ in 2019. Nidhi Tandon who comes with 18+ years of rich experience in both IT and fashion Sectors has been crowned as Mrs India in 2016. A designer, a stylist and an entrepreneur and above all a visionary, Nidhi has done all nusances in the field of fashion, from entertainment, designing , styling to event management. she has worked in association with many Lakme fashion week designers. She is a dynamic women in topline leadership across industries such e-commerce, fashion, IT services. Nidhi continuously strives to find time to give back to society by supporting education for underprivileged children,environmental and social causes.



Rupesh K C

Designation: Founder and Artistic Director - Natarang School Of Dance, Bangalore

A creative & versatile artist from Bangalore with an experience of 28 years in the field of Dance & Choreography, Rupesh K C is specialized in Bharatantayam, Bollywood, Indian Contemporary & Folk Dance forms. He is a graded artist of the Doordarshan Bangalore. Being the Founder/Artistic Director of his institute "ARANGAM - Rupesh's Institute of Arts" where he imparts training to over 125 students in various disciplines of Dance. Apart from being a Dancer/Choreographer, Rupesh is an Actor & Theatre artist with more than 25 productions that he has been part of. He has traveled extensively in the United Kingdom for 7 consecutive times, the United States of America, the Netherlands, Bulgaria, Bahrain, Dubai, Sri Lanka & Malaysia to perform, conduct workshops, Dance discourses as well as to be the the judging panel for corporate shows, competitions, fests of national & international stature. Rupesh is the proud recipient of several awards such as "NATYA ROOBAN" London, ECA Krystal Award with the title "ACHIEVER" by the East Cultural Association, Bangalore, "Pratibha Award". Goldman Sachs ASIA PACIFIC Federation Award. "NATYACHAARYA" by HIDDEN IDOL, UK, "THE VERSATILE DANCER""NATYASREE" title conferred at NAADAM International festival held in Kerala, "NARTHAKA PURASKAR" presented by AIDA



Ms. Preeti Sondur
Classical Dancer and Teacher

Always a learner with passion for excellence in performance, born on February 2nd 1992, Kum. Preeti, took to the classical art of Bharatanatyam at the tender age of 4years. During her years of learning, she had the privilege of completing her Arangetram on the auspicious occasion of Guru Poornima, on the 12th of July 2014. She has also had the opportunity of presenting several public programs featured in the Ranganatha Swamy temple, Guruvayur temple, Karur Natyanjali, Naadaneerajaanam festival at Tirupathi temple, Chinna Melam festival organised at the Thanjavur Brihadeeshwara temple, the ANKURA dance festival organized by the Karnataka Nritya Kala Parishat, of which she is also a member, Sai Nrityotsava organised by Sai Arts International, Sant Namdev Marathi Bhasha Sangh Amravati, the International Sahaja Yoga seminar Ganapatipule, International Sahaja Yoga seminar Brahmapuri, and many other prestigious forums. She has also done the role of a Muslim princess at the age of 8years in the dance drama BIBI NACHIAR under the tutelage of Smt. Padma Thangavel and has been appreciated by Dr. Maya Rao for her exceptional Abhinaya at such a tender age. She has also performed in various inter- school and inter- college competitions and has won laurels. Preeti has

received the NRITYA VIDUSHI AWARD at the Nataranjali festival held in Kolkatta.

During her training, she has also had the privilege of getting the knowledge of Taalas by attending the taalam classes under the tutelage of renowned Mrindangist Vidwan. Shri. N. Narayana Swamy. She has also successfully completed her Junior Exam and Senior Examinations in Bharatanatyam, all with distinctions. She has also attended the Abhinaya workshop conducted by renowned danseuse and Abhinaya artiste Smt. Bragha Bessell and has also trained under Dr. Guru. Sucheta Bhide Chapekar, Director of Kala Vardhini, Pune.

She has completed her Bachelor's degree in Performing Arts, English Literature and Psychology (PEP), and her MA in Performing Arts (Dance, Music and Theatre), from Christ University Bangalore, under the able guidance of Mrs. Geetha Gopinathan of Kalakshetra and Guru. Vidwan. Sri. Vijay Madhavan, and has also trained in the foundation of Kuchipudi and Mohiniattam dances. She also conducts classes in Bharatanatyam and has her own dance school by the name Natarang School of Dance. She has also trained in Carnatic music under Guru. Shri. Ramesh Chadaga and Dr. Muthulakshmi. She has also received basic training in Kathak under the guidance of Guru. Smt. Manasi Dandekar

in Pune. She has also completed a Dance Diploma course from Lourd Vijay's Dance studio (LVDS), Bangalore through which she has received training in dance forms like HipHop, Jazz, Contemporary, etc. Other than Bharatanatyam, Preeti also has knowledge of Contemporary, Bollywood and Folk dance forms.

She and her institute Natarang School of Dance, is a certified member of the International Council for Dance, CID, UNESCO, France. She is also a member of the National Classical Dance Academy. She has also trained under Guru. Smt. Jayakamala Pandiyan of the Vazhavor Baani, and is currently a disciple of Guru. Shri. Charles Ma.