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TEMPLE OF FINE ARTS ADELAIDE | Principal: MS VITHYA | 0426 966770

Spring/Summer 2020

Wrapping up the year!

We had two major festivals in the final quarter of this year, Navarathri and Deepavali.

In this issue, we are sharing the success of students in the past Bharatha Natyam exams as well as some tips for those doing it next year!

Despite being a challenging year, TFA Adelaide is grateful for its success in opening new classes this year and providing new opportunities for more children as well as adults to learn the art of Indian classical dance.

New Class Opening Soon In 2021!

TFA Adelaide will be starting a new class for kids, 5 years old and above, to learn Bharatha Natyam in the new term of 2021. Classes will be held at Kilburn Hall on Saturdays at 1.00 - 1.45pm. For enrolment details and further information, please contact Ms Vithya. Kindly share this information with friends or anyone who may be interested.



Principal's Message

We are finally done with 2020 and what a year it has been! For TFA Adelaide as a whole, we had many positives to reflect upon and a few disappointments, which we look forward in executing next year. The positives mainly were that the students have been working on their techniques and gearing up for exams at various stages throughout the year, whether it was through face to face learning or online classes. Besides, we managed to participate in virtual online shows and also one live show. Of course, the biggest setback this year was that we were unable to present our annual concert in September/October and also missed out on many other live performances which were cancelled due to the pandemic.

Looking forward to the year ahead, we will be participating in the Fringe 2021! A selected number of senior students of TFA Adelaide will be performing in 2 shows "Simply Odissi" (Odissi dances) and "Margam" (Bharatha Natyam dances). Kindly support us by purchasing the show tickets online at adelaidefringe.com.au. Besides that, the IAASA Indian Mela will be held in February and a few of our students will be taking part in that also. Apart from that, I would be preparing another group of students for their Bharatha Natyam exams next year.

Finally wishing all parents, students and well wishers a Joyous New Year! Lets all pray that next year will be a much more desirable one than this year! Thank you all for your ongoing support!

- Vithya Karthigesu

TFA Adelaide:

Classes at Kilburn Hall (Saturday)

- 9-10am Odissi Class
- 10-11am Bharatha Natyam Group 1 (Stage 2)
- 11-12pm Bharatha Natyam Group 2 (Stage 3)
- 12-1pm Bharatha Natyam Kid's Class (Stage 1)

Classes at Cosgrove Hall, Clovelly Park

Sunday:

- 9-10am Bharatha Natyam Kids' Beginners
- 10-11am Bharatha Natyam Mixed group (Stage 3 & 4)
- 11-12pm Bharatha Natyam Mixed group (Stage 1 & 2)
- 12-1pm Bharatha Natyam (Stage 5)

Monday:

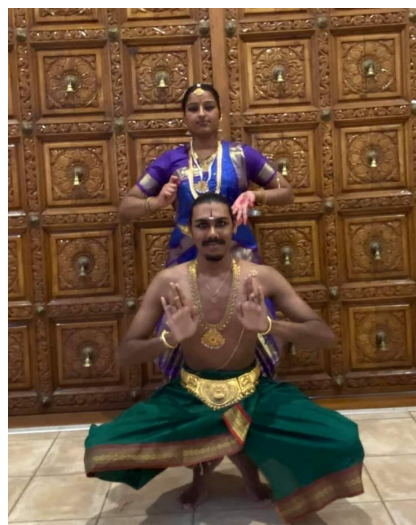
- 6-7pm Bharatha Natyam Kids' Intermediate
- 7-8pm Odissi Beginners

Wednesday:

- 6.30-7.30pm Odissi Advanced Class
- 7.30-8.30pm Bharatha Natyam (Stage 1)



Our students participate in Navarathri festival



One of the famous festivals celebrated by most Hindus around the world will be the Navarathri festival, that spans nine nights (ten days) and is celebrated by worshipping the three goddess; Durga, Lakshmi and Saraswathi.

TFA Adelaide's Stage 3 students, Prishay and Preethika presented a Bharatha Natyam dance entitled 'Ayer Sheriyar' about Lord Krishna at the

Shri Ganesha Temple during this festival. Their performance was well received and we were proud to receive positive feedback from audience.

Deepavali lamps brightens up TFA Adelaide

This year for Deepavali, we made a digital video in collaboration with Perth TFA's "Swan Festival of Lights Reimagined"

and for our own TFA Adelaide's website. The video included short clips of students from all our classes. This video was aired on Deepavali Eve to digitally wish everyone for the festival and also shared via emails/WhatsApp to every parent. It was also posted on our TFA Adelaide's Facebook page. Kindly 'Like' TFA Adelaide's Facebook page to watch the video if you have missed it!



It was colourful, casual and our students enjoyed filming it!

Successful students who have completed their BN Exams in 2020

Stage 1 - Cosgrove Hall

Prishay, Dakshayani, Divya, Snehasri

Stage 1 - Kilburn Hall

Soundarya, Harshada

Stage 2 - Cosgrove Hall

Prishay, Dakshayani, Divya, Snehasri

Stage 2 - Kilburn Hall

Soundarya, Harshada, Varsha

Stage 3 - Cosgrove Hall

Prishay, Preethika, Riya, Dakshayani, Snehasri, Divya

Stage 3 - Kilburn Hall

Shriya, Tripti, Anushka, Garima, Shivali

Stage 4 - Cosgrove Hall

Mohana, Affrica, Janaki, Ashlyn, Jenna, Maria Rose

Anuvartanam by Ms Vithya Karthigesu

It was an honour for TFA Adelaide's principal to be invited to perform at Anuvartanam, a series of solo dance presentations in Odissi, which was initiated by Srjan, an esteemed dance school run by our principal's teacher, Guru Ratikant Mohapatra in Bhubaneswar, Orissa. You can still enjoy watching the dance on Youtube under Anuvartanam Episode 41.

Bharatha Natyam Exams 2020

Over the months of November and December, most of the students completed their Bharatha Natyam examinations at both Cosgrove and Kilburn Halls. The exams were held for Stage 1 until Stage 4 students, as described below:

Stage 1: Stage 1 Adavus

Stage 2: Stage 2 Adavus

Stage 3: Alarippu, Jathiswaram and Sabtham

Stage 4: Varnam

The examiners for Stage 1 - Stage 3 were the Principal and a Bharatha Natyam graduate, Ms Madhavi Suresh. The Stage 4 exam was marked remotely via Zoom by Master Shankar Kandasamy, TFA International Dance Director. We are also proud to announce that Prishay Sewrathan passed with a HD in Stage 1 and Divya Nadar passed with a HD in Stage 2! Congratulations to all students for their efforts and dedication!

Examiner's Report

We were pleased with the overall quality of the students. It was evident that they all practiced hard and memorised the syllabus prior to exams. No student failed the exams.

However, we could tell that some students were more prepared than others. It was evident in their confidence level and quality of the dance.

What we want to achieve and record is the student's self progress at every level. Students have to get more serious as they progress to higher levels and they have to be able to pick up choreography and work on emotions and expressions. This is to ensure that ultimately when they do their solo debut or 'arangetram' they are at the peak of their dancing journey.

Therefore it is nothing but practice, hardwork and commitment to ensure that a student hits their highest mark. Practice of dance has to be a daily thing ("a sadhana") just like doing school homework.

In exams, we look for the keypoints in Bharatanatyam ie the low araimandis, the turnouts, the feet positions, the neatness of mudras or hand gestures, the strength of the dancer, the facial expressions, their stamina and much more. The marks are given based on all these criteria.

During the exam, the student should have a very confident attitude and should want the examiner to be looking at him/her and show them his/her best potential. That is what would bring about a Distinction grade in the exams.

Hearty Congratulations to ALL the students who sat for the exams in 2020 despite it being a very trying year and passing it. Don't give up and strive to be excellent!

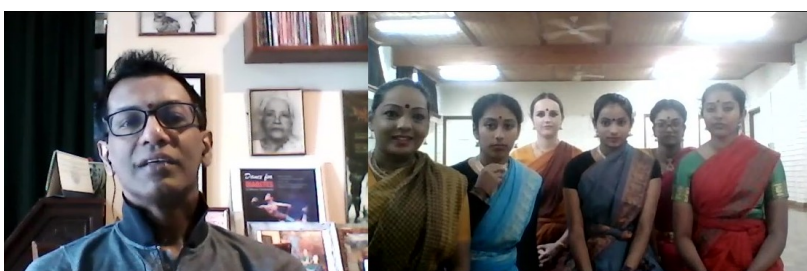
From The Examining Team



Stage 1 & Stage 2 Students from Cosgrove Hall



Stage 3 Students from Cosgrove Hall



Stage 4 Students from Cosgrove Hall



Examination in progress at Kilburn Hall



Stage 1 & 2 Students from Kilburn Hall



Stage 3 Students from Kilburn Hall



Looking forward to an amazing dancing year in 2021!

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