Rang

MANTRA

Presents

RANG

Connecting communities through music, dance and languages

Rang

WELCOME

Rang - Colors of Classical Dance
Join us to experience a colorful and vibrant event filled with classical dances of India.
Bharatnatyam,
Kathak and Odissi by our local talent.
Let's celebrate diversity and creativity together!
Your registration
helps us keep the arts accessible for local talent and families.



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PROGRAM OUTLINE

Explore these creative performances :

1) Swaraguchha
2) Thevaram
3) Raadhika
4) Sanjeevini
5) Tridevi
6) Tarana
7) Jagannathastak
8) Shabdham & Devaranama
9) Teen Tal & Tarana
10) Thodaya Mangalam
11) Nritya Janani
12) Padam
13) Thillana

Intermission

after Jagannathastak

SWARAGUCHA

Swarajathi Fine Arts

Artistic Director: Nymisha Pabbaraju

Composer: D. Srivatsava
Ragamalika
Talam: Adi
Featuring an intricate string of Swaras and short Jathis, with verses written in praise of Lord Ganesha and Goddess Saras



Dancers:

Avisha Manchiraju
Naumika Chinta
Sreelakshmi Santhosh



Swarajathi Fine Arts showcases the beautiful art of Bharatanatyam through creativity, tradition, and passion. By building confidence and developing a love for dance, students of this dance school are able to grow and explore their talents, pushing them to reach their full potential. The strong bonds between the dancers inspire them to deliver powerful and captivating performances.

THEVARAM

Shakthi Shetralay

ArtisticDirector: Smt. Shakthi Varma Ganesh Sankar



Thevaram: Thodudaiya Seviyan.
Composer: Thirugnana Sambanthar
Ragam: Gambeera Nattai
Talam: Adi

Thevarams are sacred Tamil devotional poems composed in praise of Lord Shiva by three of the most celebrated Nayanmar saints. The poem beautifully describes Lord Shiva in all his divine glory. Adorned with an earring, riding his sacred bull Nandi, wearing the crescent moon upon his matted hair, and covered in sacred ash,

Dancers:

Santhoshya Seneviratne
Ikshe Hegde
Aishaani Chitnapatla

Shakthi Shetralay is a nationally recognized institution that has been dedicated to the teaching and preservation of Bharatanatyam for 23 years. Under the guidance of Dance Director, Dr. Karthika Devi Ganesh Sankar in Edmonton and Artistic Director, Smt. Shakthi Varma Ganesh Sankar in Calgary, Shakthi Shethralaya continues to nurture the next generation of Bharatanatyam dancers with tradition, discipline, and artistic excellence. As one of the beloved classical dance schools in Western Canada, Shakthi Shethralaya offers a structured curriculum with official exams, certifications, and the option to pursue a diploma in Bharatanatyam.

RAADHIKA

Natyam Dance Academy

Artistic Director: Smt. Malavika Venkatasubbiah

Radhika – The longing brings to life the celebrated work 'Gita Govinda' of poet Jayadeva. Written in 12th century CE, poet Jayadeva beautifully describes Vrindavan coming alive with the onset of spring. The flowers are in bloom, bees are buzzing, peacocks dancing – oh what a site to behold! Everyone enjoying spring in the company of their near and dear, but, dear Radha laments to her friends that Krishna has still kept her waiting and is no where in sight.



Music: Debur Srivatsa
Choreography: Dr. Lalitha Srinivasan

Dancers

Shriya Sidhaye
Anna Cherian
Akshara Padhi

Natyam Dance Academy is a premier dance institute nurturing artistic excellence in the younger generation with centres in Calgary, Edmonton and Fort McMurray. Spearheaded by Guru. Malavika Venkatsubbaiah, Natyam specializes in Mysore style of Bharathanatya and has produced many aspiring professional dancers. Their performing unit – The Natyam Enemble has collaborated with many local and international artists and boasts an impressive repertoire of original works that have been presented at many prestigious venues including The Feats Festival of Dance, The Thousand Faces Festival, Manohar Performing Arts of Canada in Winnipeg, American Natya Festival - St. Louis, Department of Ethnomusicology at University of Alberta, CanNatyam Festival, Lakeland Multicultural association- Cold Lake, The Brian Webb Dance Company and many more. Artistic director Malavika Venkatsubbaiah is the recipient of Edmonton Art Council's Cultural Diversity Award, Konark Natya Ratna Award, Natya Saradhi title and various grants from Calgary Arts Development, Edmonton Arts Council and Alberta Dance Alliance.

SANJEEVINI

Mantra Arts

Artistic Director: Shri Adithya PV

Sanjeevini – Kinchit Tava Rama Bhakthi Dehi Is an ode to Lord Hanuman, the dancers praise him for his virtues, lifting the Sanjeevi mountain, and request to bestow them with a drop of his immense ocean of Rama bhakti.

Lyrics & Composition: Shri Maharanyam Sri Sri Muralidhara Swamiji
Ragam: malayamArutham
Talam: Adi.

Dancers:

Debangi Das
Harshitha Shanker
Menooha Koneru



Guru Adithya PV is an internationally acclaimed dancer, A graded artiste of the Doordarshan. He won many accolades, best dancer by the Madras music academy, Chennai, Yuva kalabharathi by Bharat kalachar to name a few. Adithya is the artistic director at Upadhye school of dance, a premier dance school in Bengaluru and coaches advanced Bharatnatyam students in Calgary through Mantra arts academy.

TRIDEVI

Natyam Dance Academy

Artistic Director: Smt. Malavika Venkatasubbiah

Tridevi is an ode to the inner strengths and qualities within each one of us which is here represented through the trinity:
Sri Vani - the epitome of knowledge, arts and creativity, through Sri Rema - the epitome of prosperity and well-being and
Sri Devi - the embodiment of courage, strength and valor.



Music: Sri Gurumurthy/ Balasubramanya Sharma

Dancers :

Daksha Rao
Shivani Senthilkumar
Hamsika Kamal
Jyotsna Vadivelu
Padmini Bindiganavile
Prachi Prayag
Harini Sankar
Shree Karthikeyan

TARANA

Usha Dance Entourage

Artistic Director: Smt Usha Gupta

Hetvi Mavani will be presenting a Malkonse Tarana in Kathak Style that is originally choreographed by Pandit Birju Maharaj Ji. Hetvi is senior disciple of Guru Usha Gupta, as an emerging artist she has performed at SkirtsAfire, India Day, the Thousand Faces Festival, and the Heritage Festival.

Guru Usha Gupta, Kathak icon of Canada is the founder and artistic director of Usha Dance Entourage. This is a premiere Kathak institute in Edmonton established in 1989. Usha ji has been honored with Queen Elizabeth award for her artistic contributions.





Indian classical dance expert Usha Gupta is bringing her show Khoj to India for a 10-city tour.
SUPPLIED

JAGANNATHASTAK

Sushree Academy

Artistic Director: Smt Sushree Mishra Kar

Jagannathastak Odissi Mangalacharan captures the essence of supreme devotion, sculptural grace, and the fluid geometry that defines the Odissi dance form. This masterpiece has been choreographed by Guru Sushree Mishra Kar.

Dancers:

Smita Das Dash
Suprava Sahoo
Shrabanee Naik
Goldi Mehta
Sakshi Arora
Navya Mehta



Guru Sushree Mishra Kar is the Artistic Director for Sushree Academy who has dedicated over a two decades to nurturing, mentoring, and keeping the sacred traditions of Indian classical dance ‘ODISSI’ alive in Calgary. Annually guiding over a hundred students, the academy serves as a bridge between age-old traditions and contemporary expression, fostering confidence and artistic excellence in every dancer who takes to stage.

SHABDAM & DEVARANAMA

Laasya Academy

Artistic Director: Smt. Mridul Burgi

Ganesha Shabdam is a devotional dance from the Mysore baani sung in praise of Lord Ganesha seeking his blessings. Originally choreographed by Smt Lalitha Srinivasan Choreographer: Lalitha Srinivasan
Ragam: Hamsanandi
Talam: Adi



Krishna Deveranama is a musical composition sung in praise of Lord Krishna describing his beauty and graceful dance. The dancers depict how Krishna is adorned with Kankana (bangles), Vanki (arm band), and Mayura Keereeta (peacock feather). This piece is Choreographed by Smt Anuradha Vikrant
Ragam: Sunada vinodini
Talam: Adi

Dancers:

Suhashree Arvapalli
Gauri Theraj

Directed by Guru Smt. Mridul Burgi, this studio specializes in Bharatanatyam and Indian classical dance instruction for kids and adults, along with community event participation and student debuts. It has earned recognition locally, including the Community Star Award in Fine Arts from the Indian Society of Calgary.

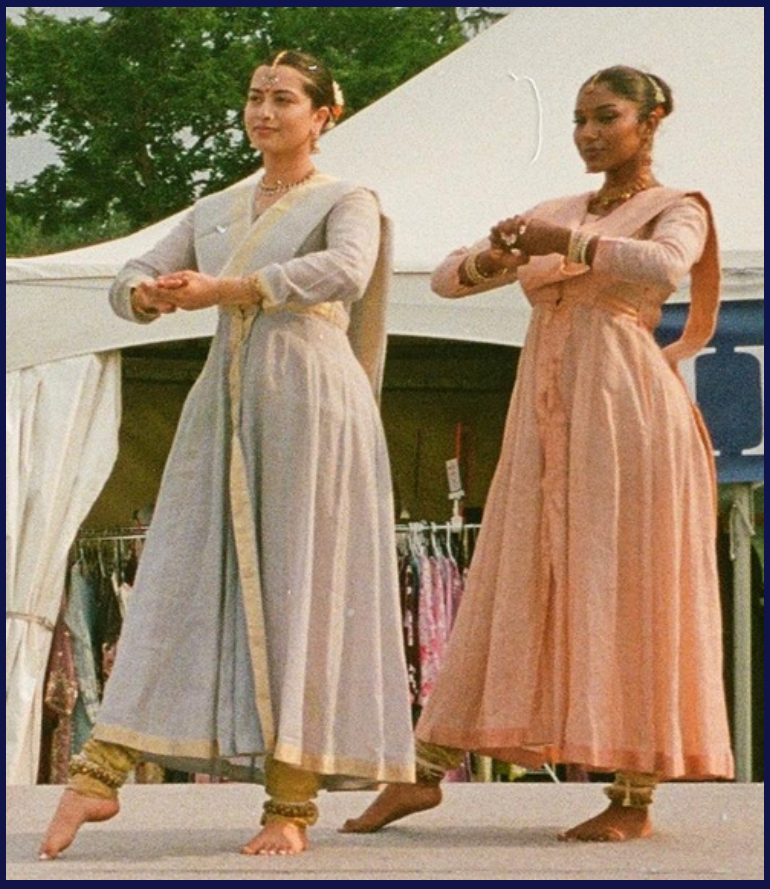
TEEN TAL & TARANA

Usha Dance Entourage

Artistic Director: Smt. Usha Gupta

Dancers:

Saini
Roudashi



THODAYA MANGALAM

Mantar Arts

Artistic Director: Shri Adithya PV



Thodaya Mangalam, Pari Pahi Sri Chamundeshwari devi by Menooha Koneru is choreographed by her Guru Shri Adithya PV from Bengaluru. This composition is an ode to the kings of Mysore. Here the dancer is seeking blessings of Chamundeshwari and various deities to protect the rulers of Mysore - the wodeyars.

Composer: Vidwan Veenai Subbana
Ragam: Raga Malika
Talam: Aadi

Dancer

Menooha Koneru



Menooha is an emerging Bharatnatyam artist from Calgary with 14 years of training in Indian classical music and dance, a senior student of Mantra Arts, completed Arangetram under the guidance of Guru Adithya PV. She is the recipient of Youth of Distinction Award under Arts and Culture category from Calgary Mayor's council for the year 2023.

NRITYA JANANI



Together, Mithila & Nithya bring their experience, artistry, and passion to the stage as Nritya Janani — a duo celebrating the timeless beauty and living tradition of Bharatanatyam. Kancha Dalayadakshi Kamakshi is a kriti composed by Sri Muthuswami Dikshitar, praising Goddess Kamakshi, the Divine Mother, for her grace, compassion, and divine beauty.

Ragam: Kamala manohari
Talam: Adi

Dancers

Mithila Ballal
Nithya Kalyani Alagappan

Mithila Ballal is trained Bharatnatyam dancer, performed extensively across India & North America. A passionate dancer, teacher, and choreographer, Mithila founded Ukti – Centre for Movement and Arts in Peterborough, Ontario, and now continues her work in Calgary. Her love for movement also inspired her to pursue a master's degree in Dance/Movement Therapy and Mental Health Counseling from Lesley University.

Nithyakalyani Alagappan, is a Bharatanatyam dancer and choreographer originally from Singapore and now based in Calgary. She has performed in acclaimed productions across Southeast Asia, India, and North America. Since moving to Calgary, Nithya has remained actively engaged in the local dance community and recently served as a judge for the CBKM dance competition.

PADAM

Shambhavi School of Dance, Bengaluru

Artistic Director: Smt. Sandhya Muralidharan



Shivani will be performing a Telugu Padam, Chittike Vesithe where the dancer portrays Lord Krishna as Venugopala, confidently attempting to charm a seemingly unimpressed heroine. He boasts that with just a snap of his fingers, thousands of beautiful women would be drawn to him, reminding her of his irresistible charm. However, he becomes increasingly frustrated at the nayika's indifference. The piece beautifully captures Krishna's pride, flirtation, and teenage emotions that we all are well aware of!

Composer: Sarangapani
Ragam: Kalyani
Talam: Adi

Dancer:
Shivaani Vivek Nair

Shivaani is a talented upcoming artist, currently guided by Smt. Sandhya Muralidharan (Shambhavi School of Dance, Bengaluru), under whose mentorship she continues to refine her artistry through the Raadha Kalpa Method. She completed her Arangetram at the revered Guruvayoor Shri Krishna Temple, Thiruvananthapuram and looks forward to continuing her journey of learning, artistic refinement, and performance in Calgary

THILLANA

Shakthi Shethralaya

Artistic Director: Smt. Shakthi Varma Ganesh Sankar

Tillana is a lively concluding piece in Bharatanatyam that highlights rhythmic footwork, intricate movements, and the beauty of pure dance, while often ending with a short devotional passage. Shakthi's team will present Bhupalam Tillana, composed by Maharaja Swathi Thirunal.
Ragam: Bhupalam
Talam: Adi



Dancers:

Smt. Shakthi Varma Ganesh Sankar
Akshita Rawat
Annika Awasthi
Ananda Awasthi
Advika Poojari
Advitha Ashwin
Arshiya A. Shaileendran

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