



ICCR

भारतीय सांस्कृतिक संबंध परिषद
Indian Council For Cultural Relations



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Sydney
स्वामी विवेकानंद सांस्कृतिक केंद्र, सिडनी

ICCR in Australia Newsletter Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre April - May 2024



Celebrations of 75th ICCR Foundation Day at SVCC Sydney

I. Director's Desk

Namaste and Greetings from the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre.

From celebrating ICCR's 75th Foundation Day to sharing the life and works of the Nobel Laureate, Rabindranath Tagore, we are delighted to share our rich and varied cultural activities for April-May 2024 through this Newsletter with you.

To know more about our events, please do connect with us on 'ICCR in Australia' on Facebook and Twitter.

Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Level 2, 265 Castlereagh Street, Sydney
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II. Activities



The Consulate General of India and the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre hosted 'Isaiyum Natyamum', a rich evening of Carnatic music and dance at the National Institute of Dramatic Art. With over 37 artists participating, the Centre offered a cultural dais for local artists.

'Isaiyum Natyamum' at prestigious NIDA

Consulate General of India Sydney and Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre commemorated ICCR's 75th Foundation Day. A vocal performance by Ms. Shama Deshpande, an ICCR's Pratibha Sangam Global Competition winner, and a Bharatanatyam performance by Silambam Dance School based on ICCR's 2024 theme 'Connecting the World through the Ramayana' was held. Ms. Liz Hughes, CEO, the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA), and Dr. Bodean Hedwards, Co-Chair, Australia India Youth Dialogue were the guest speakers.



75th ICCR Foundation Day



The Consulate General of India and the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre with the Tamil Arts and Culture Association in Sydney celebrated the 12th Sydney Chithirai Festival 2024. The cultural events included the rich performing arts and music from South India to celebrate Tamil New Year in Sydney.

Sydney Chithirai Festival 2024



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The Consulate General of India Sydney and the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre in collaboration with the Bengali Association Of New South Wales (BANSW) celebrated Kobi Pronaam – A tribute to Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore to commemorate Tagore Jayanti.

CGI Sydney and SVCC with BANSW organised a painting and essay competition based on the theme ‘Rabindranath Tagore - The influence on our life’. The winners were facilitated by the dignitaries during the event.

Beautiful dance and drama performances based on Rabindra Sangeet were organised to celebrate the birth anniversary of the Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore.

*Kobi Pronaam –
 A tribute to Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore*

The Consulate General of India, Sydney and Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre are collaborating with the Bengali Association of NSW to organise

Essay Competition - Maximum 500 Words
 Submit in .word OR .pdf format

Drawing Competition
 Submit in .jpeg OR .pdf format

Topic : Rabindranath Tagore- The influence on our life

Age Categories:
 A. Under 12
 B. 13 to 20
 C. 21 and above

Exciting Prizes and Certificate for Winners in each category are to be presented at Pennant Hills Community Centre on 25th May from 6.30 PM

Sydney, 15th May 2024
 Date of Submission: Sunday, 21st May 2024
 to bengali.association.of.nsw@gmail.com

Please write name, age + category, member name on the submitted article



Consulate General of India Sydney
 &
 Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC)
 proudly announces

Talent Show of Indian Performing Arts

CGI Sydney and SVCC encourage you to send your entries to participate in the following genres:

- Indian Classical Dance (Solo) or (Groups)
- Indian Vocal Performance (Hindustani & Carnatic)
- Indian Instrumental Performance
- Poetry Recitation
- Indian Folk Dance (Solo) or (Groups)
- Popular Dance (Solo) or (Groups)
- Painting

Guidelines for the competition:

- The talent show is exclusively for Women and Girls of all age groups* from New South Wales and South Australia.
- Interested candidates may send their expression of interest with details (name, genre, age category, etc) to library.sydney@mea.gov.in before 18 June 2024 (Tuesday).
- Details of the preliminary rounds will be shared with the candidates upon completion of the registration process.
- Appointed juries and judges will select winners based on performance in preliminary rounds.

@ Winners of each category will be performing in a grand cultural event on the Independence Day of the Republic of India on 15 August 2024
 * Age groups are categorized into (i) under 14 yrs (ii) 14-21 yrs and (iii) 21-40 yrs.
 # The decision of judges and juries stands final.

Consulate General of India Sydney and Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre announced a ‘Talent Show’ of Indian Performing Arts to encourage established, emerging and budding artists across different cultural genres in New South Wales and South Australia. An interactive session with the Consul General was held at the Centre to share the idea.

Talent Show

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CGI Melbourne and SVCC collaborated with Monash Performing Arts Centres of Monash University to organise the Indian Performing Arts Convention (Three Bright Star). Leading lights of Indian classical arts Dr S Sowmya, Lalgudi Vijayalakshmi and Rama Vaidyanathan come together for the first time in a grand concert featuring both popular and rare compositions in celebration of Carnatic Vocal and Violin Music and the Bharatanatyam dance form. Christopher Gurusamy through a lecture demonstration explored the importance of finding one's voice as an artist. The Consul General of Melbourne was the chief guest for the opening event.



Indian Performing Arts Convention at Monash Performing Art Centre

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III. Invites

Kathak Mahotsav was held by the Swastik Institute of Dance. It included the mesmerizing performance of the renowned Indian Kathak artist, Pandit Rajendra Gangani and his son Sanjeet Gangani. Derived from the word “katha”, which in Hindi means “story”, Kathak is renowned for its mesmerising twirls, mathematically precise footwork, vivid expressions and fluid movements. Community members witnessed the timeless beauty of this dance. The Head of Chancery and Director SVCC attended the event.



Performance by Pandit Rajendra Gangani and Sanjeet Gangani



Kalashree Dance Academy had a Bharat Natyam Arangetram ceremony. Director SVCC attended the event. The performance of the many dance movement formations of the peacock feather was unique and choreographed by Guru Dhanashree Karandikar.

Arangetram by Kalashree Dance Academy



International Year of Camelids by the United Nations presented by Sydney Sanskrit School

The United Nations has designated 2024 as the International Year of Camelids. The Sydney Sanskrit School organised a camp in Sanskrit on its theme of the desert. Director SVCC was invited for the inaugural session. The event provides a great opportunity for young students to learn and discover life in the desert through Sanskrit poetry and prose. Students and parents gathered at Glenfield Scout Centre, dressed in warm clothes and filled with excitement to explore the world of deserts.

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'The story of 'Yagnaseni' organised by Aazad Parindey Productions not only draws inspiration from the great timeless epic of the Mahabharata but is also a wise reminder of the lessons of life. It is renowned for its profound philosophical insights, encompassing human ethics, and providing profound spiritual inspiration.

'Yagnaseni'



Creative Australia hosted the Asia Pacific Arts Awards to celebrate artists, collectives, and organisations engaged in creating and sharing work across the Asia Pacific. Congratulations to Dr Priya Srinivasan, Director Sangam for winning the 'Impact' Award.

An Evening by Creative Australia

Global Arts Soiree - Celebrating World Dance Day by different dance schools including the Kalankan Dance Academy. Director Amrita Pal Chaudhuri's choreography included a beautiful dance performance on the 'Namami Gange Programme'.

World Dance Day by Kalankan Dance Academy



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IV. Upcoming Events

SRMD YOGA

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA 2024
Yoga for Women Empowerment

FIRE & ICE
Igniting Inner Energy

Sunday, June 16
11am to 1pm
SYDNEY TOWN HALL
483 George Street, Sydney

SVCC Sydney hosted an interactive meeting on yoga, ayurveda, and wellness fraternity in Sydney. Following the session, activities for upcoming IDY celebrations were designed.

The Consulate General of India and the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre in collaboration with SRMD Australia are celebrating International Day of Yoga on 16 June.

SVCC Sydney encouraged interested talented artists to participate in the International Performing Arts workshop on Ramayana to be held on 16 - 18 June 2024 in India.

Consulate General of India Sydney

Consulate General of India Sydney
&
Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Sydney
Inviting interested artists to participate in the

International Performing Arts Workshop on Ramayana

As part of ICCR's yearlong celebrations of "Connecting the world through Ramayana - 2024", ICCR is conducting cultural and academic activities within India and around the globe. In this connection, start with a 5 day long workshop from 17 - 21 June 2024, wherein interested artists from New South Wales and South Australia will interact and work with Indian Ramayana artists to develop a joint performing art production of about 30 minutes which will be staged for the local audiences in 2-3 cities in India. The selected artists are expected to visit India tentatively from 16th - 28th June 2024.

For more details, please visit: <https://cgisidney.gov.in/iccmodification>

V. Contact Us

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