

KALASHRAYA



TRANSCENDING BOUNDARIES
CELEBRATING ART

KALASHRAYA FESTIVAL 2025

Saturday, March 22, 2025

MAIN EVENT: 4 PM - 8 PM US EST

***The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen
2880 Mountain Rd.
Glen Allen, Virginia, USA 23060-2121***

Morning session

RVA Talent Showcase

Saturday, March 22, 2025

11 AM - Noon US ET

The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen

2880 Mountain Rd.

Glen Allen, Virginia, USA 23060-2121

FREE ADMISSION



Philippine Cultural Dance

Traditional Irish Step Dance

Heart of Ireland
School, LLC

Heart of Ireland is Central Virginia's premier Irish Dance School. We have classes for all ages and levels from beginner to Champ. We have classes for fun, fitness, competition, or all 3! Our dancers have danced on cruise ships, Disney, Busch Gardens, and all over Europe. We have dancers in professional shows and many competing at Worlds. Make sure to come see our four performance companies. We are located in Midlothian, Virginia. www.heartofirelandsschool.com



Evening session

MAIN EVENT

Premiere of NEW thematic group Bharatanatyam production



**“Yaa Devi Sarva-Bhooteshu Shakti-Roopena Samstithaa |
Namastasyai Namastasyai Namastasyai Namaha”- Devi Mahatmyam**

“Salutations again and again to that Devi; that Shakti; the primordial energy that is present in all forms”

“Oorja”, a brand new Bharatanatyam production conceptualized and choreographed by Dr. Janaki Rangarajan, brings you the beauty and strength of that divine feminine energy that is present in everything around us. From time immemorial to present day, this production explores the transformation of this energy and how it is perceived in different ways over time. The production starts with the chanting of Om-Aim-Hreem-Shreem, the "Beejakshara mantra" of that divine feminine or the primary mantra that is chanted to invoke a particular divine energy. As we move along, tales about Devi's victory over evil, both inside and outside of us, are showcased through both pure and interpretative dance elements. Then the production brings the beauty of the 7 primordial mothers or the "Saptamatrikas" and her worship in rural parts of India. The production then touches upon this strength as seen in both mythological women such as Draupadi and Kunti and modern day powerful women like Rani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi and Kamala Chattopadhyay. Powerful words of Mahakavi Subramanya Bharati about the "New age women" along with deep thoughts from Maya Angelou culminate this production.

This is a “powerful” production with mellifluous music from both Indian classical and folk genres. Performed by a group of graceful young dancers, disciples of Dr. Janaki Rangarajan, “Oorja” is assured to make you realize the beauty of this divine feminine energy that is present in all of us- beyond form, gender and any social norms.

A never-seen before performance, this production will premiere in Richmond with young minds, born and raised in North America, coming together to spread the glory of the Indian classical arts and culture!

So, please join us to joyously realize the divine feminine energy as she radiates inside and outside of us!

Conceptualization, choreography and production logo design: Dr. Janaki Rangarajan

Production logo creation: Vaidehi J Murthy

Solo recitals by accomplished invited performers

Manipuri



Sanjib Bhattacharya, recipient of President's Awards from Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam in 2006 and Smt. Pratibha Patil in 2011 is an accomplished Manipuri Dance Exponent, Guru and well-known choreographer of India and abroad. He has received his training under the tutelage of Guru Bipin Singh, Padmashri Darshana Jhaveri, Kalavati Devi, Manjushree Chaki Sircar and Mamata Shankar. From 2017 He is based in Cleveland sponsored by Rainey Institute as an established performer, Teacher, Choreographer and Collaborator of great repute having extensively performed across India and abroad. He runs several dance academies and institutions in India and abroad while conducting Lecture

Demonstrations and workshops regularly across the Globe. Founder director of Movements in Motion in California where he teaches Regularly online and inperson dance training in Manipuri and Contemporary dances.

Kuchipudi

Dr. Yamini Saripalli is a disciple of the late hereditary Kuchipudi gurus, Dr.Vempati Chinna Satyam and his son, Sri Vempati Ravi Shankar. Yamini trained for over two decades under her gurus and the esteemed faculty at the Kuchipudi Art Academy - Chennai. Yamini has performed with Dr. Vempati's troupe throughout the United States and India. As a solo artist, she has performed at various esteemed venues throughout the United States, India, Mexico, Canada and the United Kingdom in addition to performing in the Chennai Dance and Music Season for many years. Yamini is currently under the tutelage of hereditary Kuchipudi guru, Dr. Vedantam Venkata Naga Chalapathi Rao. In her commitment to passing on this glorious Kuchipudi dance tradition to future generations and sharing Kuchipudi with mainstream audiences, Yamini runs Kuchipudi Kala Nilayam, a Maryland based non-profit organization that practices, presents and promotes excellence in Kuchipudi through teaching classes, conducting lecture demonstrations / workshops and presenting performances in the USA and abroad. Yamini passionately and relentlessly pursues excellence and the highest of standards in her art form.



Shilpanatanam



A dancer, choreographer, commentator, and academic, Maya Kulkarni is a highly respected and well-known figure in the Indian dance world. Hailed as the ‘Dancer’s dancer’, by the New York Times, Maya has performed extensively in the US and India. Her choreography comprises over 35 pieces in Shilpanatanam, a new dance vocabulary she has evolved in the past decade and a half.



Mesma Belsaré, a foremost Shilpanatanam artist, is also a choreographer, actor, and painter. Described by The NY Times as “a tour de force; a true act of transcendence and religious immersion“, Belsaré is a recipient of the Dance/USA 2023 National Fellowship. Her gurus and mentors include Sri Shankar Hombal and Padmashri Geeta Chandran (India), and, currently, Dr. Maya Kulkarni (New York).

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Yellow Club

***Our heartfelt THANKS to all the performers,
members of the audience, technicians, volunteers
and generous funders/sponsors/donors!***

**See you ALL next year for yet another exciting
edition of the Kalashraya Festival 2026!!!**

kalashraya.dance@gmail.com