



—— 1997 - 2022 ——

**Service to Music and
Service through Music**

**September 16th, 2023
Hindu Temple of Atlanta**

Program

Welcome

Mangala Isai

vAzhga vAzhgave – A musical tribute to
CAMAGA

Sangeetha nAtya vaibhavam

Why CAMAGA?

Chief Guest Address and Felicitations

SriRama Charitha Geetham – Dance drama

Conclusion

Dinner

History of CAMAGA

In the year 1995, I moved to Atlanta from another city. As a music lover, I sought information on local music activities. I learned that a few ardent Carnatic music lovers occasionally organized music events. Usually, these events included inviting one or more artists touring the US and requesting them to perform for the Atlanta audience. This group of friends also organized, once a year, a Saint Thyagaraja's Memorial Day and invited local artists to participate in the singing of the Pancharatna and Utsava Sampradaya Krithis.

While I was happy to learn that there were music events, I wondered why there weren't more activities during the year, given that Atlanta has a large Indian population. Speaking to friends who organized the music events, I learned that expanding the music activities, particularly inviting more artists visiting from India, demanded large financial commitments and even more volunteer support to take care of arrangements.

While the reasons were genuine, I was reluctant to give up. I spoke to a few community members and sought their cooperation and contributions to expand the music activities. The individuals I spoke to wholeheartedly agreed that, in the interests of our young generation, we must take greater initiatives to expose them to our music and culture. We also must create opportunities for our younger people – to occasionally perform and showcase their talents.

And thus, in 1997, a couple of us founded CAMAGA. After twenty-five years, with enormous support from the Atlanta community, CAMAGA now stands as a proud beacon of our music and cultural heritage.

The objectives of CAMAGA continue to be inviting professional musicians to perform for Atlanta audiences while encouraging our younger generation to participate in music activities. In keeping up with these objectives, CAMAGA, each year, holds a two-day Great Composers' Day event to honor the great composers of Carnatic music. The event allows talented kids and adults to participate and showcase their musical knowledge and abilities. CAMAGA also organizes quiz programs and presentations on music-related topics and competitive events such as Carnatic Mela and Carnatic Samrat. The focus of most of these programs is younger individuals.

Over the twenty-five years, with the support and help given by each of you, CAMAGA has made reasonable progress in promoting, preserving, and highlighting the cultural values of our music. I agree that we have a long way to go, and the organization must contribute even more and will be able to do so with your support and encouragement.

In summary, on behalf of CAMAGA and its supporters and volunteers, I am proud to share that among the forty to fifty Carnatic music organizations in North America, CAMAGA is now viewed as one of the top three or four organizations in terms of its reputation and service to the music community.

Humble Namaskaram and heartfelt thanks to each one of you for your support and encouragement.

Ram S. Sriram

Congratulatory messages

Well wishes were received for the event from the following.

Artist	About the artist
TV Gopalakrishnan	Sangeetha Kalanidhi, Padma Bhushan
Srimushnam Raja Rao	Kalaimamani, recipient of the Sangeet Natak Academy Award
Sudha Raghunathan	Sangeetha Kalanidhi
R K Shriram Kumar	Violinist
K. N. Shashikiran	Kalaimamani award recipient
K. N. Ravikiran	Sangeetha Kalanidhi
Gayatri V Raghavan	Isai Peroli
Sowmya	Sangeetha Kalanidhi and Isai Peroli
T M Krishna	Recipient of the Magsaysay award
Vijay Siva	Recipient of the Kalki Krishnamurthy award

Ram Sriram and team: I am very happy to hear that Carnatic Music Association of Georgia (CAMAGA) is soon celebrating its 25th anniversary. I am indeed very proud of you and your team for reaching this milestone. This success, and growth would not have been possible for your team's motivation and sacrifices. Your passion and commitment to the cause of our music have been a source of inspiration for us all." Let the organization continue to be a torch bearer of our music for a long time to come.

I would like to congratulate you and CAMAGA for the 25 years of glorious service that both you and the organization led by you have been doing for the Georgia community and the North American cultural diaspora.

Your constant support and encouragement to many veteran and young musicians alike, both from India and United States have been enriching and cannot thank you enough personally the support you have been extending to me as musician and also to SaMaa Arts LLC. The entire committee of SaMaa Arts also pass on their regards and congratulations to you.

I wish and pray to lord almighty to give you the strength and long life to keep up the great service and support to the North American community.

Best Regards,

VVS Murari

Snippets over the years





Program Participants

Mangala Isai

Banawara R.Srinivas-Nadaswaram
Ramachandra Chikkpaiah-Tavil

vAzhga vAzhgavE

A musical tribute to CAMAGA

Female Vocal:

Hema Nagendra
Shree Varshenee Vepure
Subhashini Krishnamurthy
Usha Balakrishnan
Usha Mocherla

Male Vocal:

Salem Shriram
Prashanth Krishnamoorthy
Prasanna Soundararajan

Violin:

Jassotha Balasubramaniam

Veena:

Prasanna Soundararajan
Subhashini Krishnamurthy
Usha Mocherla

Flute:

Sai Kishore Ravishankar

Mridangam:

Santosh Chandru
Suresh Kothandaraman

Sangeetha nAtya vaibhavam

Savitha Viswanathan-Purandadasar
Puneet Panda – Shyama Shastri
Sasikala Penumarthy - Thyagaraja
Bhavini Subramani – Dikshitar

SriRama Charitha Geetham

Dance drama by

Subhatra Sudarshan and
Sasikala Penumarthy

Composer: Sri Papanasam Sivan

Snigdha Nellutla

Sreeya Velcheti

Sruthi Vangavolu

Mohitha Bhumireddy

Nikhila Vishnubhotla

Shivanuja Gokarakonda

Tarun Parasaram

Srividya Shivashankar

Sharada Shivashankar

Jhanavi Senapathy

Pranavi Dokka

Aamuktha Yaddanapudi

Veda Priya Gosangari

Girishma Bhumireddy

Akanksha Nethi

Varennya Sastry Kappagantu

Namsaya Sajan

Shreya Srinivasan

Shruti Sunil

Shruthi Shankar

Nishevitha Suresh

Nehaa Rajagopa

Divya Glova

Kriti Vajipayajula

Meera Gopinath

Live Orchestra

Subhashini Krishnamurthy-Vocal

Sripad Adarasupalli-Vocal

Puneet Panda-Nattuvangam

Geetha Krishnamurthy- Veena

Pranavi Srinivasa-Violin

Suresh Kothandaraman-Mridangam

Anjaneya Sastry Kappagantu–Tabla

Sai Kishore Ravisankar-Flute

Patrons/Past Present-Office Bearers & Committee members

Anandhi & Sundar Bharadwaj
Anu & Moorthy Srinivasan
Anu & Siva Nathan
Deepa and Prashanth Krishnamoorthy
Geetha & Dr. G. V. Raghu
Gokarnesan Natarajan
Indira & Kasturi Ramasamy
Indumathi & Ramesh Vepure
Jassothea and Ruben Balasubramaniam
Jayanathi & Bhaskar Srinivasiah
Kalpana & Raj Rengarajan
Lakshmi and Shashikant Prabhakar
Latha & Krishnan Balasubramanian
Meera & Mani Subramanian
Nithya & Krish Thirumalai
Priya & Deepak Raghavan
Priya & Naganathan Ramachandran
Radha & Srini Ratnam
Ram & Latha Ganeshan
Rama & Krishnakumar Srinivasan
Rama & Ram Sriram
Rani & Rao Varnasi
Saraswathy & Abhiraman
Seshu & Ravi Sarma
Sowmya & Vasu Rajagopal
Srinivasan Ramaswamy
Subhashini & Shiva Vaidyanathan
The Hindu Temple of Atlanta
Usha & Balakrishnan
Usha & Krish Sathian
Usha & Kumar Sivakumar
Usha & Venkateswaran
Vidya & Ram Mallappa
Yamuna & Panchapakesan

CAMAGA Office Bearers

Kalpana Rengarajan – President
Dr. Ram Sriram – Past President
Krish Thirumalai – Secretary
Raj Rengarajan – Treasurer

Board of Trustees

Anu Moorthy
Lakshmi Prabhakar
Prashanth Krishnamoorthy
Ramesh Vepure
Ruben Balasubramaniam

Thanks to the following

Kiran Mudigonda- Video and Photography
Hindu Temple of Atlanta - Venue
Vasudha Edara - Brochure
Nethra Shrikanth – 25th Anniversary Logo