



**Archana & Sathish
and
Revathy & Sriram**

Solicit your blessings and esteemed presence at the

Bharathanatyam Arangetram

of their daughters

Ashrrita Sathish

&

Nandita Sriram

*Disciples of **Guru Smt. Shalini Varghese Chandragiri***

Arathi School of Dance, Dallas, Texas



On Thursday, 28th of December 2023, 5:00 PM

(Seating starts at 4:30 p.m.)

at

Rasika Ranjani Sabha (Main Hall)

30/1, Sundareswarar Street, Mylapore, Chennai- 4

Please join us for dinner after the program.

With Best compliments from

Grandparents,

Aashish and Praveen

No presents please, just your loving presence.





Arathi School of Dance

Proudly presents the Bharatanatyam Arangetram of

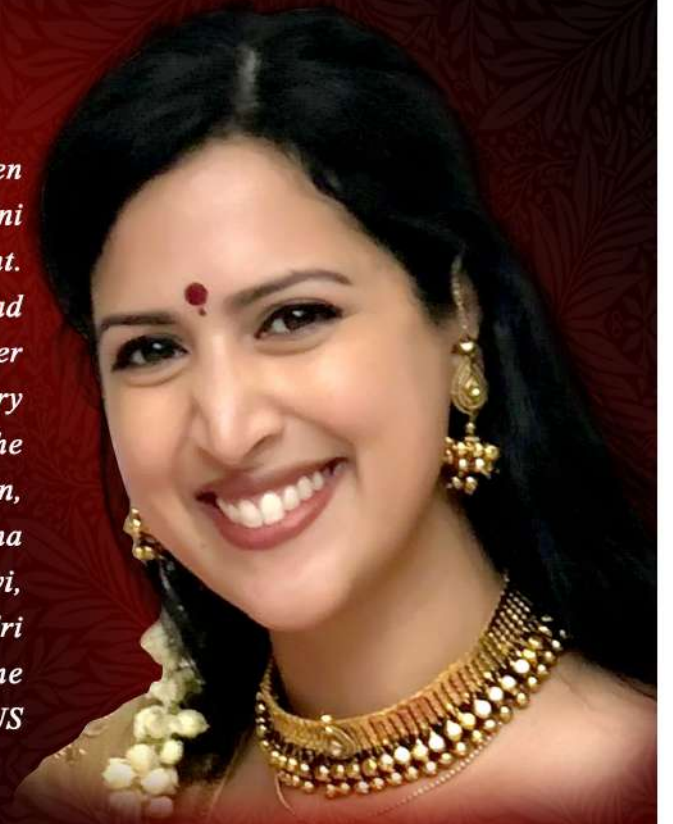
Ashrrita Sathish and Nandita Sriram

Disciples of Guru Smt. Shalini Varghese Chandragiri



Guru

Shalini Varghese Chandragiri - Showing a keen interest in this classical art form, Smt. Shalini joined the Arathi School of Dance under guru Smt. Revathi Satyu, at the age of five. She has also had the privilege to learn extensively from other accomplished gurus, including the legendary dancer couple – Padma Bhushan's The Dhananjayans, Padma Shri Adyar K. Lakshman, Kalaimamani Smt. Priyadarsini Govind, Padma Bushan Kalanidhi Narayanan, Smt. Padmini Ravi, Dr. Maya Rao, Smt. Priya Murle, Dr. Seshadri Iyengar and Smt. Nirupama and Rajendra to name a few. Shalini has performed extensively in the US and internationally.



The Arathi School of Dance has always been Shalini's home. She has been teaching for over 20 years and her students have performed widely within the DFW metroplex. She has presented her students in multiple large dance dramas. Shalini has had more than 20 students complete their arangetram in bharatanatyam. She is a board member of the Indian Cultural Heritage Foundation (ICHF), a non-profit organization whose vision is to promote intercultural awareness by providing a platform for the interaction between Indian and American cultures through workshops, presentations and performances. Shalini is also a founding member of Indique Dance Company - a dance troupe started in June of 2008 that attempts to take Indian classical dance in new and creative directions. She has choreographed for and taken part in many original dance productions of this troupe. In September of 2015, Shalini was awarded the prestigious Natalie Skelton Award for Artistic Excellence by the Dance Council of North Texas of which she is a member. She is immensely supported by her loving husband, Sameer, and is a devoted mother to their daughter, Zara.



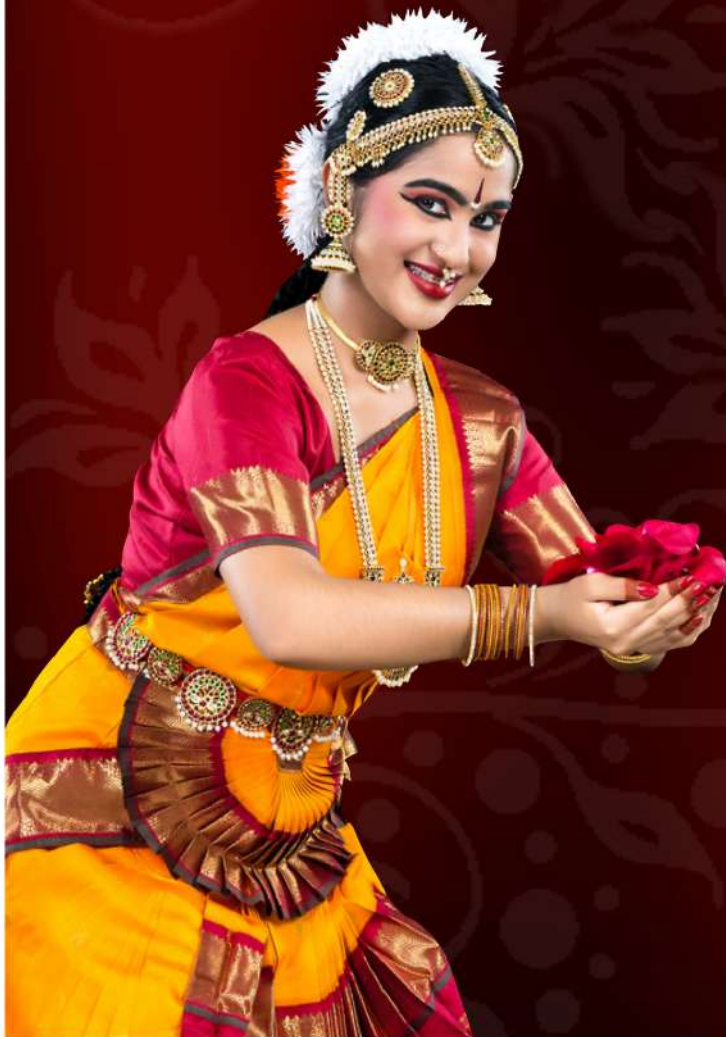
Bio of Ashrrita:

Ashrrita's dance journey began all the way back in 2014. At the age of 6, she began learning Bharatanatyam under Guru Kakoli in Tucson, Arizona. Back then, she only saw bharatanatyam as a hobby, practicing it in her spare time. Later, in 2016, Ashrrita moved to Dallas, Texas, where she met her current guru, Smt. Shalini Varghese Chandragiri. She has learned from her for 8 years now. Under the guidance of Guru Shalini, Ashrrita began to see her true potential when it came to this beautiful art form. She began to see the joy that bharatanatyam brought to her, leading her to practice more vigorously, thus bringing about a sense of elegance and grace. We begin to see the birth of a new passion. During this arangetram process, Ashrrita has not only learned much about the art of dancing, but she has also discovered how dance could let her grow as a person. She has witnessed her own growth since her beginning days in 2014. She hopes to continue on this path, improving her dance skills as well as her way of life. Being able to learn the beautiful art of bharatanatyam is one of the greatest gifts Ashrrita has received. Outside of dancing, Ashrrita has a love for other forms of art, such as playing the Veena and art. At the age of 14, Ashrrita takes part in her school theater productions and is a proud member of her school's crochet club. The fine arts have truly captivated Ashrrita, and she hopes to continue exploring them



Bio of Nandita:

Nandhu's journey with dance started in 2016, at the age of 7, in California. She remembers being very reluctant to go to her first class, but now she's tremendously thankful she did. She learned her basic steps of bharatanatyam in Sunnyvale, CA under Guru Meena Logan, founder of Pushpanjali Dance Academy, for 2 years. She then moved to Texas in 2018 and continued this art form with Arathi School of Dance, where she met her current guru, Smt. Shalini Varghese Chandragiri. She has been with Guru Shalini for 5 years and is learning to work hard in & out of class. She has been eagerly working towards this arangetram for more than a year under the guidance and training of Shalini Aunty. In the process, she has learned many valuable life lessons such as how to be present & grateful and how to bring out emotions within her that she could have never expressed before. She has also gained many unforgettable memories from taking part in summer workshops & productions where she teamed up with senior students and prominent world-renowned teachers.



Apart from dancing, Nandhu always has her nose in a book and constantly loves listening to music. She is currently the Vice President of the National Junior Honor Society at her school where she learns to work with others towards a common goal, to give back to the community and enjoys leadership activities. She also teaches math and truly believes that teaching is a great way to keep learning. Being the youngest in the family, she is always curious and gives out a lot of positive energy. She is convinced to use this versatile art as a platform to connect back to Hindu culture & heritage and use it to reflect inwards & improve always.

Pushpanjali:

- * *Raagam: Arabhi*
- * *Taalam: Adi*
- * *Composer: M. Balamuralikrishna*
- * *This Pushpanjali is an invocatory piece in which the dancers offer flowers and prayers to Lord Ganesha, the remover of all obstacles.*



Alarippu:

- * *Talamalika*
- * *An alarippu is the short nritta piece that symbolizes the blossoming of a flower. It starts with head movement, then involves arm movement, and then finishes with the whole body in movement.*

Jathiswaram:

- * *Raagam: Saraswati*
- * *Taalam: Roopakam*
- * *Composer: Kanchipuram Elappa*
- * *A jathiswaram is focused on beat and rhythm patterns. This nritta piece consists of jathis, which are sets of aduvus, or basic steps set to repeated melodic notes.*





Shabdam: Sarasi Jakshulu

- * Raagamalika
- * Taalam: Mishra Chapu
- * Composer: Vadivelu (Tanjore Quartet)
- * *Sarasi Jakshulu is a shabdam on Lord Krishna. In this story telling piece, Nandita will depict some of Krishna's pranks that he plays on all the people in his village. As people talk and gossip about Krishna's activities, he always watches them over to see them being happy.*

Shabdam: Vaayu Medhanai

- * Ragamalika
- * Taalam: Mishra Chapu
- * *This piece is a shabdam devoted to Lord Hanuman. Ashrrita describes the mental and physical strength he possesses, as well as the humbleness he displays. The shabdam depicts various adventures throughout his life.*



Varnam:

- * Raaga: Reeti Gaulai
- * Taalam: Adi
- * Lyrics taken from Vyasadeva's Narada Pancharatra
- * Music Composition: T. Srinivas
- * *The varnam is the main centerpiece of a margam. This varnam tells the story of Krishna, beginning from his birth in Kamsa's captivity till the preaching of Bhagavat Gita in Mahabharatha.*



Keerthanam: Sri Valli Devasenapathe

- * Raaga: Naatabairavi
- * Taalam: Adi
- * Composer: Paapanaasam Sivan
- * This expressive dance piece, devoted to Lord Muruga, describes his heroic actions. This piece describes his bravery and cunningness. The dance shows us how Muruga managed to marry his wife, Valli, and shows his valor on top of his majestic peacock.

Sthotra: Aiygiri Nandhini

- * Raaga: Punnagavarali
- * Taalam: Adi
- * Composer: Adi Shankaracharya
- * Aiygiri Nandhini is devoted to Goddess Durga, who is the protector of all and fiercest of the fierce. She will do anything for her devotees, whom she sees as her children. She rides a powerful tiger, intimidating all evil.



Padam: Bho Shambo

- * Raaga: Revati
- * Taalam: Adi
- * Composer: Dayaananda Saraswati
- * Bho Shambho is a popular dance performed on Lord Nataraja. In this piece, Nandita portrays the bhakti of a devotee to Lord Shiva. Shiva is described as attribute less, pure-hearted, protective, and eternal cosmic dancer.

Keerthanam: Maam Avattu Sri Saraswati

- * Raaga: Hindolam
- * Taalam: Adi
- * Composer: Mysore Vasudevacharya
- * This piece is about Mother Saraswati. It describes the motherly affection Saraswati shows towards her devotees. The dancer depicts her lotus-like hands which she uses to create melodious music from her veena.



Padam: Sundara Natarajam

- * Raaga: Karaharapriya
- * Taalam: Adi
- * Composer: Oothukadu Venkatasubba Iyer
- * Sundara Natarajam is an item in praise of Lord Shiva. The piece shows the respect, compassion, and devotion he gets from all his devotees.

Thillana:

- * Raaga: Mohanakalyani
- * Taalam: Adi
- * Composer: Praveen D. Rao
- * The final piece to the margam, a thillana is a rhythmic piece filled with various beat patterns and complex movements.



Mangalam: Loga Veeram, Maha Poojyam

**** Taalam: Adi***

**** Dancers will conclude the arangetram by showing gratitude and asking for blessings from God, teacher, parents, ensemble, and all attendees.***



Orchestra:

	<i>Nattuvangam</i>	<i>: Guru Smt. Shalini Varghese Chandragiri</i>
	<i>Vocal</i>	<i>: Vidushi Smt Vasudha Balakrishna</i>
	<i>Mridangam</i>	<i>: Vidwan Sri Bangalore S V Balakrishna</i>
	<i>Flute</i>	<i>: Vidwan Sri Karthik Sathavall</i>
	<i>Violin</i>	<i>: Vidwan Sri Mathoor R Srinidhi</i>
	<i>Veena</i>	<i>: Vidwan Sri Gopal Venkataramana</i>
	<i>Rhythm pads</i>	<i>: Vidwan Sri Lakshminarayana G</i>