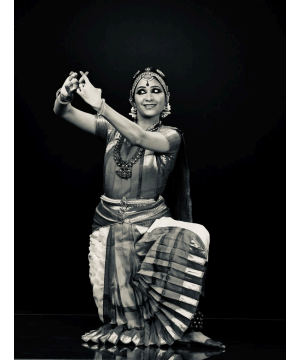


LAVANYA SANKAR



Lavanya answered her calling to Bharathanatyam at the age of four when she came under the tutelage of the noted Guru, Kalaimamani Smt. K.J. Sarasa of Sarasalaya. She had her Arangetram at the age of seven, and since then, has given more than one thousand performances at all leading Sabhas and Festivals all over India and abroad.

Some of her most noteworthy performances have been at:

- Malaysian Dance Festival, Kuala Lumpur, 2018
- Khajuraho Dance Festival, Madhya Pradesh, 2017
- Sangeet Natak Akademi awards ceremony, Agartala, Tripura, 2015
- India International Centre, New Delhi, 2015
- Kullu Dussehra Festival at Kullu, Himachal Pradesh, 2014
- Nrithya Aradhana Research Institute, Mumbai, Maharashtra, 2014
- BRICS International Competition Conference, New Delhi, 2013
- 150th birth anniversary celebrations of Swami Vivekananda at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, 2011
- Pallavothevas Dance Festival, Mysore, Karnataka, 2007
- Mamallapuram Dance Festival, Tamil Nadu, for 9 years
- International Dance Alliance, Chennai & Bengaluru for 5 years
- International Week celebrations at Shichigahama City, Japan, in 2002 for the Department of Tourism, India, and Regional Tourism, Tokyo.

Lavanya's talent has been recognized in the form of several awards and titles, the most noted being

- Kalaimamani Award from Government of Tamil Nadu for the year 2018
- Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for the year 2013 & 2014 from Sangeet Natak Akademi
- A Grade artiste certification from Doordarshan National
- Empanelment by Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi
- National scholarship from The Center for Cultural Resources and Training, New Delhi
- "Nadanamamani" from Karthik Fine Arts, Chennai
- "Yuva Kala Bharathi" from Bharat Kalachar, Chennai

Lavanya is a nominated artiste of SPIC MACAY and conducts lecture-demonstrations and workshops in schools across the country to spread awareness and encourage art among students. She also imparts training in Bharathanatyam at her Academy of Classical Dance, Abhyasa, and also through lecture-demonstrations and presentations at various forums. She is also an accomplished nattuvangam artiste and an imaginative choreographer of Bharathanatyam ballets and productions.