



The Music Academy, Madras

No. 168, T.T.K. Road, Royapettah, Chennai - 600 014. Phone: 2811 2231, 2811 5162
email: music@musicacademymadras.com Website: www.musicacademymadras.in

N. Murali
President

President's Office: C/o THE HINDU,
859, 860 Anna Salai, Chennai 600 002.
Phone : 2857 6300 Fax: 2851 0901
email: nmurali@thehindu.co.in

15th July 2018.

PRESS RELEASE

The Music Academy announces Sangita Kalanidhi and other awards

At its meeting held today, 15th July 2018, the Executive Committee of the Music Academy unanimously decided on the Sangita Kalanidhi and other awards.

MUSIC:

"Sangita Kalanidhi"

Smt. Aruna Sairam, one of the most popular Carnatic vocalists has been chosen for the coveted **Sangita Kalanidhi Award**. Over an illustrious career spanning decades, she can be credited with taking the art to a very wide audience both in India and abroad. She is also known for her collaborative exercises in music with artistes of other countries and genres. She will preside over the 92nd Annual Conference of The Music Academy to be held from 15th December 2018 to 1st January 2019.

Sangita Kala Acharya : 2 Awards

Shri Thanjavur R.Ramadas, a veteran mridangam artiste with several decades of performance behind him and a respected guru will get the Sangita Kala Acharya Award. Having had tutelage under the legendary Sangita Kalanidhi Shri Palghat T.S.Mani Iyer, he has trained several students some of whom are senior artistes in that field.

The other Sangita Kala Acharya awardee is **Dr. K. Omana Kutty**, a vocalist and a product of Swati Thirunal College of Music, Thiruvananthapuram and a Ph.D., in Music, who taught music for several years within the academic framework and continues to teach several students.

T.T.K. Awards: 2

Smt. Kalyani Ganesan, a respected Vainika of several years standing who teaches the art of veena playing to several students, will get the T.T.K. Award.

The other TTK Award will be conferred on **Shri S.R.G. Rajanna**, the veteran artiste who is acclaimed as the practitioner of the traditional art of Nagaswaram.



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Musicologist Award:

Dr. Premeela Gurumurthy who is trained in Carnatic and Hindustani music and also obtained a doctorate for her thesis on the evolution of Harikatha, in which art she trained under the legendary Smt C. Banni Bai, will get the Musicologist Award. After serving as the Head of the Department of Music, University of Madras, she is presently Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu University of Fine Arts.

DANCE AWARD: Nritya Kalanidhi

The **Nritya Kalanidhi Award for Dance**, would be conferred on Smt. Shanta Dhananjayan, the eminent Bharathanatyam exponent and guru, and a product of Kalakshetra. She is also trained in Kathakali and Carnatic Music. She, along with Shri V.P.Dhananjayan, her husband, dance partner and a Sangita Kala Acharya awardee, runs 'Bharata Kalanjali', a school for teaching dance and has also created several innovative Dance productions.

Sangita Kalanidhi and other music awards will be conferred at the Sadas of the Music festival on 1st January 2019. The Nritya Kalanidhi Award will be presented at the Inauguration of the Dance Festival on 3rd January 2019.

N. MURALI
PRESIDENT.