

# INSIGHTS

MARCH 2008



## WHAT'S FRESH?

### PARKING ISSUES

For the safety of our children, the staff parking gate entrance of Saraswati Mahavidhyalaya (SMV) will be kept locked. Students and parents are advised to use the pedestrian entrance on Mint St to enter SMV. Please park at the Hubert St and East Victoria Park Shopping Centre Car park bays, as these are the allocated carparks for this centre. They are situated 100 metres from our building (towards Albany Highway). Please do not park your cars on and around the residential streets as Council rangers may issue infringement notices and may cause unwanted complaints from the neighbours.

### LEARNING A 2<sup>ND</sup> DANCE STYLE

With a successful completion of stage 2 of Bharata Natyam, students are able to start a new dance style - Odissi or Kathak. Students who have achieved reasonable stage in Odissi and Kathak also have this option. Please speak to your teachers if you are interested.

### STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

As you all will be aware, our organisation is a non profit organisation and the divine is worshipped through the fine arts, and art is taught simply for the love of it. A genuine aspiration to learn is the only prerequisite. Even though nominal fees are charged for classes, a deserving student is never refused for want of money. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact your respective teachers.

### BHARATANATYAM STAGE ASSESSMENTS

The Bharatanatyam Stage 3 and Stage 4 class assessments will commence on 8th March 2008 and will continue for the next two weeks. As a result, during this time, it would be greatly appreciated that all other students remain quiet before and after classes - so that assessments can be carried out with peace of mind. We wish all those undertaking the class assessments the best of luck!

### YOUR FEEDBACK WELCOME

Saraswati Mahavidhyalaya would like to kindly extend its thanks to all parents and students who have supported its endeavour. Since the move into our new home, we have been striving to make things even better for all of you. In the process to increase our efficiency and for us to improve our level and quality of service, we warmly encourage you to let us know where we can improve to make things even better. You may leave your comments and feedback with Suguna at the office!

### OUR COOL NEW CANTEEN

As many of you already know, we now have a brand new canteen! We would firstly like to congratulate all parents and staff involved in making it a success. For those who don't already know - the new canteen (opposite the office) opens every Saturday from 11.30 am and serves a selection of light meals, delicious snacks and thirst quenching beverages. In consideration for students still in class and to reduce the mess - please consume your snacks and beverages outside (next to the steps) and ensure that all paper plates and cups are properly disposed.

# WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING...

## PRAVAHEE

On 4th February 2008, The Temple of Fine Arts/ Saraswati Mahavidhyalaya in conjunction with Annalakshmi were very fortunate to present Pravahee - a mystic journey of music and dance. Pravahee is a dance (Kathak) and music (Hindustani) extravaganza performed by 4 young talented and dynamic artists from India, namely Pushkar lele (Vocals), Shambhavi Vaze (Kathak dance exponent), Chaitanya Kunte (Harmonium) and Charudatta Padke (Tabla). In addition to their wonderful performance, we were very much delighted by their series of Kathak workshops - which were well received by both Kathak and non-kathak students alike. We would sincerely like to thank all those who supported the performance and attended the workshops, and hope to expose you all to some of the best teachers, dancers and companies throughout the world. For more performance and workshop pictures check our website at <http://smv.org.au>



## CHINESE NEW YEAR 2008

The Temple of Fine Arts was invited to perform at this year's Chinese New Year Festival at Burswood Entertainment Complex. The performance formed part of a multicultural line-up that celebrated the 2008 Chinese New Year. Enjoying a cool "Ice Kacang" (Sweet Ice) while watching the various performances, in the fun and casual atmosphere of the bazar, took our minds of how hot the day really was! TFA presented the Mangala Charan - a piece styled in Odissi dance form, and was performed by Kavisha Alles, Suhasini Saseedaran and Sushant Krishnan. For more performance pictures checkout <http://tfa.org.au>



## SMV OPENING DAY FUNCTION

Saraswati Mahavidhyalaya conducted an official opening of its new premise in East Victoria Park occurred on 15th January 2008. We would like to thank all students, parents and friends who attended for their support.



## PERTH INTERNATIONAL SONG CONTEST

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, The Temple of Fine Arts opened the Perth International Song Contest with an unexpected bang! A mini musical burst by Vickneswaran Ramakrishnan (Tabla Maestro) and Kumar Kartigesu (Sitar Maestro) introduced the colourfully vibrant Bollywood Medley. With a cast of 15 dancers, a medley that included Dole Baje, Pretty Women, Gore Gore and Dolar - left the audience dumbstruck by the visual extravaganza. Moreso, events coordinator AngelFire Events stated "Everyone commented on how wonderful and colourful your presentation was". The contest was held at the Rixon Theatre, Penrhos College Como.

## RAAG MALIKA

As part of a fund raising initiative for our medical clinic in Coimbatore, India - The Temple of Fine Arts presented Raag Malika. Held at Annalakshmi on the Swan, and set against the banks of the Swan River - this magical evening of Hindustani classical music performed by Sitarist Kumar Kartigesu (TFA KL) and accompanied on tabla by Vickneswaran Ramakrishnan (Resident Tabla Maestro) had entranced our senses and brought us to awe. Thanks to all your support, the night was a success and we managed to raise enough funds for our charity clinic. For more performance pictures and video clips checkout <http://tfa.org.au>



## STAGE ONE & TWO CERTIFICATES

On Saturday 1st March, Bharatanatyam Stage 1 and 2 students were presented with their Stage Certificates of Completion. We would like to congratulate all students for completing their stages and hope that all of you enjoyed the stage and look forward to learning new and exciting work in the months to come.

# WHAT'S IN THE PIPELINE?

## **MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup> - MELA: A CULTURAL NIGHT OF DANCE**

Our monthly cultural mela will take place on MARCH 29<sup>th</sup> at Annalakshmi on the Swan (Baracks Square, Perth). This items in this mela will be based on... The night includes the performance iteself and a full vegetarian buffet dinner. Adult and children (5-12) entry are priced at \$30 and \$15 respectively. Reservations can be made at Annalakshmi by phone on 08 9221 3003.

## **MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup> - FOOD & FUN FAIR**

We are planning a fun filled get together with all our students and parents. The main aim for this fun fair is to "HAVE FUN". As part of the fair, we are hoping to put together a jumbo sale of house hold artefacts, books, jewellery, clothes and any other things that you don't need - but which will be useful for others. Additionally, we intend to sell food, beverages and offer fun games for all. As a result, we would like all students and parents to support us and become a part of this event. For further information please contact Sharmila on 0433 040 379 or drop her an email at sharmila@tfa.org.au

# THE GLOBAL BUZZ...

## **TRANSCENDENCE**

KUALA LUMPUR, 14-16 March 2008

TFA KL proudly presents an Odissi dance performance, Transcendance, from 14th March to 16th March 2008. A group of nine dancers (7 from KL, 1 from Johor Baru and 1 from Singapore) went to Orissa in December 2007 and learnt a whole new repertoire in Odissi. They are now presenting this new piece of work in KL for the very first time - the music has also been composed specially for TFA International by musicians in Orissa.

## **SHANTA SIVAARPANAM**

SINGAPORE, 4th March 2008

In this new and exciting dance presentation by the teachers of Temple of Fine Arts Singapore, Shiva, the Cosmic Being who pervades the entire Universe, is praised and celebrated as the Divine Presence in the five holy shrines. This love offering was held on 4th March 2008 and was dedicated to our Parama Guru Swami Sivananda and Guru Swami Shantananda Saraswathi.

## **PRAVAHEE**

SINGAPORE, 9th March 2008

Back for more... The two renowned young artistes from India, vocalist Pushkar Lele and dancer Shambhavi Vaze come together for an evening of Hindustani music and Kathak dance entitled "Pravaahee", this time in Singapore.

## **SWAR RANGAWALI**

SINGAPORE, 16th March 2008

Spring is approaching and flowers and fields are in bloom, it is the season of hope and new beginnings and marks the rekindling of the spirit of life. Young and old alike resonate with laughter, fun and frolic. The bubbling in their hearts finds expression in songs. The Temple of Fine Arts Singapore brings you these songs in Swar Rangawali and immerse you in the spirit of Holi, the festival of myriad colours, gaiety, friendship, love and forgiveness.