

# Melodious Musical Event Held in Pasadena



*Shruti Music Academy students perform*



*Dayita Datta and her Guruji on stage*

BY A STAFF REPORTER

PASADENA, CA - Shruti Music Academy presented an evening North Indian classical music at the Pasadena Conservatory of Music here on Sept. 24.

The Academy is founded by Dayita Datta, a student of the late Vidushi Lakshmi Shankar and now, eminent vocalist from India, Pandit Sandip Ghosh. She is also an Orff trained music educator and teaches early music education at Caltech Children's Center.

The program started with remarks by Rachael Doudrick, the Department Chair for Young Musicians of the Pasadena Conservatory of Music.

The student performance included young tots and adults. There were presentations that

showcased chhota khayals, complex ragas, swaramallikas and bhajans. The highlight was a raagmala composition in teentaal performed together by all students of Shruti Music Academy ranging in ages from 5-65 demonstrating their training and proficiency in various ragaas, melody and rhythm. There was also a vibrant group tabla performance presented by students of the Dhvani Academy of Percussion Music.

The second half of the event included a rendition of raga bhairav bilambit ektaal composition followed by a drut teental by Datta; a mesmerizing rendition of raga mian ki todi in bilambit ektaal and a soulful bhajan in raaga bhairavi by Pt. Ghosh. They were accompanied by Jyoti Prakas on tabla and Indradeep Ghosh on violin.