

Om Sri Natana Murtaye Namaha

Kalaikoil Staff

Classes provided on a limited basis to sincere, motivated and passionate students that are highly interested to practice and that value repetition and attention-to-detail. *We look forward to meeting you and thank you for your understanding.*

Swetha Dixit, Bharatanatyam

Swetha is the founder and director of Kalaikoil and teaches Bharatanatyam. She is blessed & fortunate to have trained under Guru Smt [VASANTHI](#) Gopinath (daughter of Late Guru Gopinath/Thankamani of Kerala) and even learned from her Parameshti (3rd generation) Late Kalaimamani Sri VS Muthuswami Pillai and Late Padmabhushan Kalanidhi Narayanan 'Mami'. Kalaikoil families visit Swetha's home for Navarathri Golu that depicts stories learned in dance class as well as for unique dance camps and workshops with visiting artists. The Late Sri TS Parthasarathy taught her much about dance history & theory and affectionately helped her set up Kalaikoil's extensive dance and music library. Previously, she performed independently & with Young Audiences of Northern California and has provided over 500 programs throughout USA, India, Asia. Recent programs showcase her student's talent, encourage their cultural awareness as well as present this art with pride to the local community. She contributed to many theatrical productions with her original choreography and regularly offers dance at temples & for cultural groups. Kalaikoil was honored by Lucas Performing Arts, Pleasanton Arts Council, Rotary and successfully achieved at competitions such as Sri Papanasam [SIVAN FINE ARTS](#), Ohlone Theater Festival World Dance, India Waves, OSAAT, Kalaradhana. She is elated that 8 of her students completed an Arangetram &/or [ALAGAPPA](#) certificate and looks forward to many more--of course, all this is not be possible without her Guru's continued encouragement and blessings.

Pandit Ravichandran, Veda Pandit & Research Scholar

Pandit Ravichandran is the backbone and our pillar of support at Kalaikoil. He is a vedic scholar and obtained his certification with the Kanchikamakoti Sri Paramacharya in 1967 and completed the Mimamsa & Tarkam for Veda Bhashyam. He studied for 4 yrs Siromani course

at Madras Sanskrith College. He previously served for over 9 yrs as a Veda Parayanam at TTD in Tirumala & Rishikesh. He was awarded a certificate at All Indian Vedic Competition at Ambaji Mandir in Gujarat. He served as chief priest at Meenakshi temple Port Louis Mauritius Island. For 2 years, he served as chief priest in Flint Michigan and from 1983-1988, he served as chief priest at HCCC Livermore Temple. Currently serving the Bay Area Hindu community and all over USA, he conducts pujas, classes in puja vidhi and vedic chanting. He has trained over 30 students that regularly accompany him to perform functions for devotees. Pandit is also an officiated pandit for Chinmaya Mission Bay Area (www.cmsj.org) and regularly conducts puja with Chinmaya Missions all over the world including Bay Area locations like Piercy, Sacramento and at Sandeepany in San Jose. [Read more](#) about him. He has been teaching at Kalaikoil since 1995.

Smt Prasad, Carnatic Vocals

Smt Prasad studied Carnatic Classical Vocals under Sri Belakawadi Srinivasa Iyengar for over 12 years and completed her junior & senior level, & 1 yr of proficiency level. She has directed & taught music at Kalaikoil for over 10 yrs. As such many students were able to reach advanced levels and participate at HCCC Livermore temple events including Haridasa and Children's Day.