



# Aahaarya, Inc.

Registered Non-Profit Organization

Swara Thandavam-One 2010 Fine Arts Contest

## Rules and Guidelines

### INTRODUCTION

Aahaarya is organizing the first competition as Swara Thandavam Contest 2010, on Indian classical dance, music and Sanskrit chanting (e.g., Slokas). The event is divided into three levels ending with a grand finale and awards. Any changes in rules and requirements for the Contest will be announced prior to each next level (see below). Lunch, snack and dinner will be available during contest time, with the purchase of food coupons.

### FIRST LEVEL:

**DATE:** Saturday, November 6, 2010  
**TIME:** 10:00 AM  
**VENUE:** The Universities at Shady Grove  
9630 Gudelsky Drive, Rockville, MD 20850  
**Directions:** [www.shadygrove.umd.edu](http://www.shadygrove.umd.edu)

*SECOND LEVEL / FINAL LEVEL: Date will be announced later*

### **NO PHONE CALL ENTRIES ARE ACCEPTED.**

*All applications will be received by Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> via email at [aahaaryaclassicals@aahaarya.org](mailto:aahaaryaclassicals@aahaarya.org) or through mailing. A late fee of \$5.00 will be charged after that.*

### **ENTRY:**

To enter our Contest, log onto [www.aahaarya.org/swarathandavam.html](http://www.aahaarya.org/swarathandavam.html) for participant entry form or to use the online form and pay through PayPal. All entries from contestants must be received by the first week of August. Only one complete entry per contestant per category is acceptable. Aahaarya organization is not responsible for non-receipt of entries due to transmission failures and / or other situations beyond its reasonable control. For information regarding the **levels** of selection in the contest, see below.

**Entry Fee** - **Dance or Music** - \$15  
- **Sanskrit chanting** - \$10

**Check payable to Aahaarya Inc. – Swara Thandavam One**  
**Aahaarya, Inc., 213 Grange Hall Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20877**

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

Candidates between the ages of four (4) and above (as of Jan. 1, 2010) may enter the Contest. Those who are engaged in teaching either dance or music, or those who are priests are not eligible to enter this Contest. Only one cash prize per **category** (see below) will be awarded. A contestant may enter in multiple categories, but there shall be only one **FIRST, SECOND and THIRD** position winner regardless of **age groups** (see below) during the second and third level. The whole contest will take place in three levels ending in grand finale, and winners for each category will be honored with a cash prize. By entering, entrants agree to be bound by these rules, and agree to release the sponsors and administrators from any and all liability for consequences, losses or



damages of any kind resulting from participation in this contest.

#### CATEGORY:

1. Indian classical music (*Carnatic and Hindustani*)
2. Indian classical dance (*Kuchipudi, Bharanatyam, Kathak and Odissi*)
3. Sanskrit verses (Slokas) (*Use of script not allowed for this category*)

#### AGE GROUP:

1. 4 – 8 (*Four to Eight*)
2. 9 – 14 (*Nine to Fourteen*)
3. 15 – Above (*Fifteen and above*)

#### LEVELS:

- FIRST LEVEL – A total of 36 participants from all the three age groups (*12 from Dance / 12 from Music / 12 from Sanskrit Slokas*) will be selected as first level winners to go to the second level. Rules will be announced later during the first level.
- SECOND LEVEL - A total of 18 participants (*6 from Dance / 6 from Music / 6 from Sanskrit Slokas*) will be selected as second level winners to go to the third level. Rules will be announced during the second level.
- THIRD LEVEL – Final round to receive FIRST, SECOND and THIRD position awards. Three (3) winners in each category will be selected from finals.

#### GENERAL CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

- Full dance costumes should be worn by each contestant for classical dance items.
- Performance must not exceed **3 Minutes**.
- If you choose to use a CD for your dance item, bring a back up audio tape. If the CD does not play, Aahaarya, Inc. will not be responsible for alternate audio arrangements.
- Turn in the music upon signing in at the registration counter, or prior to the scheduled performance time.
- Late arrivals will be presented at the end of their category.
- Decisions made by the judges will be final and cannot be appealed.
- PLEASE PICK UP YOUR AUDIO MEDIA AFTER YOUR PERFORMANCE.
- No video clip of a dance contest or re-recorded classical music of a music contest shall be accepted in the contest.
- Aahaarya will also appoint backend advisors in classical music, dance and Sanskrit during the third or final level.
- Being the first Contest of this nature arranged by Aahaarya, Aahaarya apologizes for any possible grievances or inconveniences to any contestant.
- Participant's name, address, contact number, e-mail address, age group, item type, item name and teacher's name must be clearly written on each Entry.
- AAHAARYA, INC. shall not be responsible for lost, stolen, late, incomplete, illegible or misdirected entries, which will be disqualified; for technical failures of any kind, including, but not limited to, electronic malfunctioning of any hardware or software.
- Entry documents will not be returned to the contestants.
- Participants need to bring one **BACKUP COPY of the dance music they need for the Contest**. If the two copies are not in working condition, the contestant shall be disqualified.



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- Application forms for Contestants and judges are available in Aahaarya's web page [www.aahaarya.org](http://www.aahaarya.org).
- Rules and requirements will change as the contestants advance.

**NOTE – Please check the music before it is used for the Contest.**

## **WINNER SELECTION:**

The prizewinners will be selected through judges- evaluation from all three levels. The three winners from each category will be decided based on the decision of the judges and backend advisors whose decisions and interpretations of these rules shall be final. Winners will be awarded at the grand finale during the THIRD level. If there are two winners of in a category or age group and there is a tie, an additional performance test will be given for those contestants to be final winners.

## **PRIZES:**

All students of Indian classical Dance, Music and Sanskrit Slokas are invited to participate.

Three winners from each category shall receive trophies and a **CASH PRIZE**.

All participants shall be awarded with a **certificate**.

Winners will be announced only after the completion of the third level.

## **FIRST LEVEL:**

### **EVALUATION FACTORS ON DANCE:**

1. Stage Presentation
2. Creativity (contestant's mood of presentation)
3. Ragam/Talam
4. Technique
5. Bhaavam

### **EVALUATION FACTORS ON MUSIC:**

1. Stage presentation
2. Clarity
3. Technique
4. Ragam/Talam

### **EVALUATION FACTORS ON SANSKRIT:**

1. Cadence(Rhythm)
2. Clarity
3. Technique
4. Stage presence

### ***EVALUATION FACTORS ON ADVANCED LEVELS:***

*Rules and guidelines will be announced later.*



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## CONTACTS:

Prabha Maruvada	301-693-1633	Rema Piratla	410-451-0757
Kumari Rao	301-807- 7824	Sarulatha Dhanasekaran	301-330-5245

Aahaarya Inc. will accept donations from sponsors for this contest and sponsors will be acknowledged suitably. Aahaarya Inc. reserves the right to modify the above terms and conditions as may be necessary. Please visit [www.aahaarya.org](http://www.aahaarya.org) for entry forms and rules to be printed out.

## SUPPORT AAHAARYA, INC FOR ITS MISSION WITH YOUR TAX-FREE DONATIONS

Email: [aahaaryaclassicals@gmail.com](mailto:aahaaryaclassicals@gmail.com)

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Web: [www.aahaarya.org](http://www.aahaarya.org)