

ANNUAL REPORT
PRACHEEN KALA KENDRA
FOR THE YEAR 2023-2024

Pracheen Kala Kendra has been playing an essential role in the promotion, propagation and preservation of rich Indian classical Heritage since its inception in 1956. During the last more than six decades, now it has a cluster of many distinctive strides towards its considerable growth, re-exploration of tradition, rising self-confidence and zenith of creative spirit of Indian Classical Art and culture through its earnest, devoted and enthusiastic efforts.

Like previous years, this year 2023 was manifested by overall progress in various cultural, academic and artistic activities. Foremost among them are holding successful and fair examinations, imparting quality education and training, and organizing numerous mega cultural events by inviting upcoming talent to top-notch artists of Indian classical music and dance. It was all achievable due to the perpetual steps taken by the Kendra team, as a result Kendra is t was succeeded in maintaining the No. 1 position in the fields of its committed service. The Kendra's aim is to expand ways and resources for elevating fundamental cultural and artistic values to the upcoming generations and to prosper broad outlook of young generations towards propagation of rich Indian classical heritage.

Annual Report on the activities of the Kendra in the previous year is as under:-

WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF CENTRES

As Kendra has a worldwide network of examination centres which specializes in the field of art and culture, some new affiliated Gurukuls/centres opened this year in India and abroad and increase of approximately eighty centres in various parts of India and abroad is a validation of Kendra's popularity and efficient functioning system.

EXAMINATIONS

The examinations of Prarambhik, Bhushan, Visharad and Bhaskar conducted by the Kendra are enjoying all-round recognition. Since the Kendra is a recognized institution and its certificates and diplomas are treated at par with degrees by various State Governments/Education Boards/Universities, as a result of which,as many as 2,96,230 students appeared in different examinations of the Kendra in the session 2022-2023 as compared to the figure of 2,04,592 (2021-2022), which itself is a affirmative proof of Kendra's growing standing and makes it the leading institution in the field of specialized field of education in the subjects of music, dance and fine arts (painting).

QUALITY TRAINING SESSIONS FOR GLOBAL STUDENTS

Known for imparting quality training in Indian classical music, dance and fine arts (painting) at its both complexes in Chandigarh and Mohali, the Kendra continued with its efforts to train as well as stimulate the interest of young generation in these classical art forms under the guidance of eminent teachers/gurus of these specialized fields. The Kendra is also enjoying the status of recognized institution for fundamental training to the foreign students under ICCR scholarship through vigorous training sessions under the guidance of eminent gurus. This year students from various countries joined Kendra for various courses of Music and Dance under the ICCR scholarship scheme.

MAJOR EVENTS

ANNUAL ALL INDIA BHASKAR RAO NRITYA & SANGEET SAMMELAN, CHANDIGARH

The 52nd edition of one of the foremost festival of Classical Music and Dance of India, "All India Bhaskar Rao Nritya & Sangeet Sammelan" was held from 17th to 19th March, 2023 last year at Tagore Theatre Chandigarh. Honble Governor of Punjab and Administrator UT Chandigarh was kind enough to inaugurate the festival by his gracious presence as Chief Guest. It is one of the mega festivals which covers all the gamut of Indian Classical Music. This festival has gained colossal reputation amongst the artists' fraternity and is the most awaited cultural event in which almost every artist desires to perform. This mega event was woven with scintillating performances by prominent artists of repute from all over India like Pt. Prasad Khaparde (Vocal), Geeta Mahalik & troupe (Odissi Dance), Ustad Shahid Parvez (Sitar), Rukmini Vijaykumar (Bharatnatyam Dance), Pt. Satish Vyas (Santoor), Pt. Chetan Joshi (Flute), Pandita Anuradha Pal (Tabla) & Kumar Sharma & troupe (Kathak) who regaled the audience of tri-city with their mesmerizing performances.

As per the old tradition of Kendra, two well-known personalities were also honored on this occasion. Eminent Sitar Maestro & Guru Pt. Surinder Dutta felicitated with Lifetime Achievement Award and, Ms. Shayada (Eminent Journalist & Dy. Editor Dainik Bhaskar Chandigarh) also conferred with PKK award of excellence in journalism.

18TH GURU M.L. KOSER AWARD CEREMONY

Kendra humbly pay tributes to the such personalities of art world who has rendered remarkable services in the realm of classical art and culture by bestowing this award. This exceptionally distinctive award is a kind of recognition and salute to the talent of an artist by an artist. This award is given in the name of Guru Madan Lal Koser, founder of Pracheen Kala Kendra, a great artist himself, an image of personified creativity and epitome of selfless services towards the promotion & preservation of Indian classical art and culture to the next generations.

The 18th annual "Guru M. L. Koser Award" was presented in a glittering ceremony at Gyanmancha Auditorium on 17th May 2023. Pt. Anindo Chatterjee, Banga Vibhushan, Internationally acclaimed tabla Maestro was the Chief guest and conferred and award upon renowned maestros

Pt. Shyamal Chatterjee (Legendary Sitar Maestro), Pt. Swaraj Bhattacharya (Senior Tabla Maestro), Pt. Narendra Nath Dhar (Renowned Sarod Maestro) and Pt. Swapan Siva (Eminent Tabla Maestro) for their unparalleled contribution in their chosen fields. Dr. Prof. Chandradipa Ghosh, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University graced the occasion as Guest of Honour. Award carrying a cash prize of Rs. 25 thousand (each), a shawl, a citation and a memento for their lifetime contribution in popularizing Indian classical music in general. The award ceremony was followed by remarkable performances by the maestros along with their disciples.

11TH GURU M.L. KOSER FESTIVAL OF MUSIC AND DANCE

After a glorious decade of remarkable performances, this year 11th edition of Guru M.L. Koser Festival of Music and Dance, which was organized at Kamani auditorium on 25th & 26th November was a musical delight for the music lovers of capital. The event witnessed soulful, amazing and incredible performances by renowned and talented artists like Debapriya Adhikary and Samanvya Sarkar (Vocal & Sitar duet), Vidushi Sujata Mohapatra and troupe (Odissi dance), Sh. Ranjit Barot & Deepak Pandit (Drum violin duet) and Indrani Mukherjee (Vocal). Eminent journalist Smt. Manjari Sinha, Renowned vocalist Sunanda Sharma, Kuchipudi exponent Meenu Thakur, vocalist Uma Garg, noted vocalist Padmaja Chakraborty Pandit Devendra Verma, classical vocalist Pandit Suresh Gandharv, senior art critic Shri Ravindra Mishra, Guru Shri Rajendra Gangani, classical Vocalist Shri Amjad Ali Khan, tabla exponent Shri Fateh Singh Gangani, violinist Ustad Asghar Hussain, classical singer Mohsin Khan and tabla player Vinod Lele added charm to the program with their presence.

MONTHLY BAITHAKS

Kendra has taken constant efforts to provide a platform amongst others to the upcoming and talented performers in music and dance to showcase their talent. For this Kendra for the last more than 24 years uninterruptedly organizing monthly baithaks on the 11th of every month are now known worldwide and much sought after event as lot of artists desire and wish to perform on this stage. During the previous year Kendra organized 283rd to 293rd editions of the this endless series of baithaks. Some of the artistes who participated and performed in Monthly Baithaks are Abhishek Mishra (Tabla), Vaidehi Kulkarni (Kuchipudi dance) Surjeet Singh (Tabla), Rohit Pawar (Kathak dance), Suresh Gandharv (Vocal), Swati Agarwal (Kathak dance), Asghar Husain (Violin), Kaviraj Singh (Santoor), Sharanjeet Singh Mand (Sitar), Gopal Mishra (Tabla) and Deepak Mishra & Prakash Mishra (Vocal duet), Partha Pratim Roy (Sitar), Sohini Roy Chowdhury (Vocal) & Prashant Kalia & Ayana Mukherjee (Chhau & Kuchipudi) to name a few amongst other prominent as well as promising and talented artists.

QUARTERLY BAITHAKS AT NEW DELHI

Pracheen Kala Kendra in the year 2015 also started its quarterly Baithaks in New Delhi under the series "Legends of Tomorrow" and has acknowledged lot of admiration by music lovers of the Capital. This year various talented young and upcoming as well as well known exponents of

performing arts like Ujwal Nagar (Vocal) , Sulagna Roy (Kathak), Shiv Prasad Rao (Vocal) , Parveen Parihar & Arpita Bhardwaj (Kathak duet) , Deepak Mishra & Prakash Mishra (Vocal jugalbandi) and Barun Banerjee (Kathak) , performed in the quarterly baithaks series which has become a successful platform for the artists in NCR.

GURMAT SANGEET BAITHAKS

To fulfill the objective to follow, urge, restore and extend the traditional creed of Gurmat Sangeet and also to maintain the dignity, usage as well old tradition of kirtan prevailing in Sikh religion by providing appropriate education of Gurmat Sangeet at the academic level, Kendra in the year 2019 inaugurated its Gurmat Sangeet department and to promote Gurmat Sangeet, Kendra also started organizing Gurmat Sangeet Baithaks. This year Kendra organized its 9th Gurmat Sangeet Baithak featuring Bhai Satinder Singh Bodal, Bhai Sukhdev Singh Bodal and Bhai Manpreet Singh who are prominent kirtankars of Punjab..

PARAMPARA SERIES

Kendra organized some episodes of “Parampara Series” to showcase the talent and training being imparted at Kendra to the students . This series is a platform for students to learn them how to overcome their stage fear and they also learn to groom their personality and confidence on stage .

SPECIAL PROGRAMME IN VARIOUS STATES

UTTARPARA SANGEET CHAKRA FESTIVAL 2023, KOLKATA (COLLABORATION)

Uttarpara Sangeet Chakra in association with Pracheen Kala Kendra organized 67th Annual Classical Music Conference at Uttarpara Jaikrishna Public Library Ground, many artists of repute like Pt. Kavilya Kumar , Ustad Shahid Parvez Khan, Pt. Pravin Godkhindi , Kedia Brothers, Smt. Madhumita Roy , Sh. Anup Jalota and others performed in this event. The programme was held from 21st to 23rd January 2023.

NRITYA SANGAM FESTIVAL IN COLLABORATION WITH GHUNGROO DANCE ACADEMY, KOLKATA

Pracheen Kala Kendra in collaboration with its old associate and affiliated centre Ghungroo Dance Academy, organized a cultural extravaganza for the music lovers of Kolkata. The event featured Eminent Renowned Kathak Virtuoso Dr. Shobha Koser, Eminent kathak maestro Madhumita Roy and eminent Odissi dance exponent Sh. Gajendra Panda . Students of Gungroo dance academy also performed a group dance on this occasion to showcase their immense talent The programme was organized on 11th May at Gyan Mancha , Kolkata..

A SPECIAL PRGORAME BY BASANTA BAHAR NRITYA ANUSHILAN KENDRA, MALDA IN COLLABORATION WITH PRACHEEN KALA KENDRA AT MALDA

Pracheen Kala Kendra also joined hands with its affiliated centre Basanta Bahar Nritya Anushilan Kendra, Malda to organize a cultural extravaganza on 13 to 15th May 2023 at Malda College Auditorium, Malda. On 12th May i.e. inaugural day there was a Lec dem by Dr. Shobha Koser for students on the intricacies of Kathak dance and The event featured remarkable

performances by talented vocalist Saunak Chattopadhyay and eminent Kathak exponent Dr. Samira Koser. Students of Basanta Bahar Nritya Anushilan Kendra also performed various presentations on this occasion. On 14th May there was lecture demonstration by Dr. Samira Koser on Kathak Dance.

CULTURAL CLASSICAL EVENING AT KOLKATA

Pracheen Kala Kendra in collaboration with its affiliated centre Geeti Bithika, Kolkata organized a cultural evening at Aban Mahal, Dhakuria on 30th July 2023. The event featured students of Geeti Bithika. The programme was conceptualized by eminent Vocalist Sohini Roy Chowdhury and her team.

59th NINAND FESTIVAL, AGRA

Sangeet Kala Kendra Agra, Pt. Raghunath Talegaonkar Foundation Trust in collaboration with Pracheen Kala Kendra organized 59th edition of Ninaad Festival on 9th & 10th December 2023 at J.P. Auditorium, Khandari complex, Agra. The eminent musicians and performers were Vid. Shaswati Mandal, Pt. Poornesh Bhagwat (Vocal), Pt. Kalinath Mishra (Tabla), Pt. Sugto nag (Sitar), Dr. Bipul Kr. Roy (Santoor), Vid Astha Godbole Kalekar (Kathak). This mega event got overall success.

TWO DAY SPECIAL PROGRAMME MOONLIGHT MAESTROES AT NEW DELHI

A shining musical celebration at Amphitheatre, Triveni Kala Sangam was organized by Pracheen Kala Kendra and Triveni Kala Sangam titled Moonlight Maestros. The inaugural day of this event was marked with melodic performances by Dr. Shubhrodeep Pathak (sitar) and Pandit Ronu Majumdar (flute). Dr. Gaurav Uppal, IAS, Resident Commissioner, Government of Telangana, New Delhi, graced the occasion as chief guest and inaugurated the program. On this occasion Kendra's Secretary Sh. Sajal Koser and Director of Triveni Kala Sangam Sh. Amar Sridharani were also present. Many reputed and eminent artists of Art world based at New Delhi were also present as guests. Similarly grand conclusion of Moonlight Maestros was also met with huge success. On concluding day young and talented duo vocalists Avinash Kumar and Rindana Rahasya and Madhusudan and Gopal Burman, famous as Burman brothers presented an excellent Jugalbandi of Tabla and Shrikhol.

A SPECIAL PROGRAMME BASANTOTSAV AT PATNA, BIHAR

A special musical program Basantotsav was organized by the Pracheen Kala Kendra at Vidyapati Bhawan Auditorium, Patna, Bihar. In this program, many renowned artists of Bihar state like classical vocalist Dr. Ram Shankar, young sitar player Uma Shankar and talented Kathak dancer Shri Ravi Prakash enthralled the art lovers with their remarkable performances. The program was inaugurated by chief guest Dr. Raj Kumar Nahar, Director, All India Radio and DD Bihar. On this occasion Dr. Rita Das, famous sarod player graced as special guest. Secretary of the Kendra, Shri Sajal Koser honored all the distinguished guests with mementos and Uttariya.

A SPECIAL PROGRAMME OF MUSIC AND DANCE BASANT UTSAV AT BHOPAL, MADHYA PRADESH

A special cultural program Basant Utsav was organized at Kukkut Bhawan , Bhopal on 9th March by Pracheen Kala Kendra. Renowned classical singer Vidushi Shobha Choudhary, Santoor player Ninad Adhikari, Kathak dancer Abhilasha Tiwari and renowned flute player Pandit Sundar Lal Karele and his son Shrothik Karele performed flute jugalbandi in this programme. Great Dhrupad vocalist Padmashree Pandit Uma Lal Gundecha ji graced the event as chief guest. Students from affiliated centres of Kendra from the region of Bhopal also performed in this event.

A SPECIAL PROGRAMME BASANT TARANG AT INDORE, MADHYA PRADESH

A special cultural program Basant Tarang was organized by Pracheen Kala Kendra in collaboration with Pancham Nishad Sangeet Sansthan and Indore Press club at Press club , Indore on 10th March . Noted classical singer Kedar Modak , Eminent vocalists duo Abha & Vibha Chaurasia and eminent Sarod exponent Biswajit Roy Chowdhury performed in this event.

A SPECIAL PROGRAMME BASANT BAHAR AT PURI, ODISHA

Pracheen Kala Kendra organized a special cultural program Basant Bahar was organized at Sanskriti Bhawan at Puri on 10th March. Eminent classical singer Vidushi Shobha Choudhary, Santoor player Ninad Adhikari, Kathak dancer Abhilasha Tiwari and renowned flute player Pandit Sundar Lal Karele and his son Shrothik Karele performed flute jugalbandi in this programme. Great Dhrupad vocalist Padmashree Pandit Uma Lal Gundecha ji graced the event as chief guest.

A SPECIAL PROGRAMME SANGEET BAHAR AT BHUBANESHWAR , ODISHA

Pracheen Kala Kendra organized a special cultural program Sangeet Bahar was organized at Bhanja Kala Mandap, Bhubaneswar on 11th March. Many Eminent artists and centres holders of PKK participated in this event. Col. Prof. Prafulla Kumar Mohanty , former VC, Khallikote University, Brahmapur was the Chief Guest

A SPECIAL PROGRAMME BASANTOTSAV AT RANCHI

Pracheen Kala Kendra organized a special programme of music and dance at Ranchi in collaboration with its one of the old affiliated centre " Jawahar Vidya Mandir at Dayanad Auditorium , Shyamalai Ranchi Mecon Colony, Ranchi on 31st March. Many Eminent artists performed in this event and students of various affiliated centres of PKK also participated in this event. Honble, MP and Member of Rajya Sabha , Dr. Mahua Maji graced the occasion as Chief Guest .

FIRST QUARTERLY BAITHAK AT KOLKATA

In view of promotion of Indian classical arts at cultural hub of India , Pracheen Kala Kendra started quarterly baithaks at Kolkata. First quarterly baithak organized on 9th March at Sujta Sadan Kolkata where not only eminent artists performed but also centre holders/students of Kendra performed various presentations of music and dance.

SPECIAL PROGRAMES AT CHANDIGARH/MOHALI

SPECIAL PROGRAME ON THE OCCASION OF WORLD DANCE DAY (29th April)

Pracheen Kala Kendra organized a musical evening on the occasion of world dance day studded with beautiful dance presentations at its M.L. Koser Indoor Auditorium where students of Kendra who are learning intricacies of Kathak under Guru Shishya Parampara showcased their talent and gave ample proof of their remarkable training being imparted at Kendra . Kendra' s International students from Kazakhstan and other local students also presented kathak dance . This show was presented under the direction of Dance faculty of Kendra Guru Brij Mohan Gangani , Guru Yogesh Sharma and Mrs. Rakhi. Total 25 students participated in this cultural evening.

A SPECIAL PROGRAME TO MARK 93RD BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF KENDRA'S FOUNDER GURU M.L. KOSER (20th June)

To give humble tribute to Guru ML Koser on his 93rd birth anniversary, Kendra organized a special programe of ghazals at ML Koser auditorium of the Kendra . Jammu based famous ghazal singer Dharmesh Nargotra won lot of applause from the audience by giving a magical recital adorned with beautiful ghazals.

SPECIAL PROGRAME ON THE OCCASION OF WORLD MUSIC DAY (21st June)

A musical evening was organized by Pracheen Kala Kendra on the occasion of World Music Day. The programe studded with eminent artists of tricity. City audience regaled with melodic performances of classical music by two young artists Dr. Tarun Joshi from Kurukshetra and Dr. Shimpi Kashyap from Chandigarh. The venue was ML Koser Auditorium of Pracheen Kala Kendra at its sector 35 complex.

TWO-DAY SPECIAL MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA ON THE OCCASION OF GURU PURNIMA (1st & 2nd July)

Guru Shishya parampara plays a vital role in Indian classical arts. On the occasion of Guru-Purnima disciples expressed their gratitude by bowing down to their Guru. On the auspicious occasion of Guru-Purnima, a two-day special performances of music and dance was organized by Pracheen Kala Kendra. In this program various students receiving music and dance training at Kendra paying respects to their gurus by showcasing their art and talent. On this occasion Kendra's faculty members Guru Pravesh Kumar, Guru Shivani Angrish, Guru Dr. Shimpi Kashyap, Guru Charanjit Kaur and Dr. Jasbir Singh were also present in the program to encourage their disciples.

SPECIAL PROGRAM OF TABLA RECITAL IN COLLABORATION WITH ICCR (19TH JULY)

The music lovers of the city beautiful were treated with musical delight by promising Tabla player Dr. Gurpreet Singh of Punjab Gharana . The programme was organized at M.L. Koser Indoor Auditorium. ICCR RAC member Prof. Harvinder Singh, Kendra's Secretary Sh. Sajal Koser along with Tabla Guru Pandit Sushil Jain was also present on the occasion. With such collaborations Kendra fulfilled one of its aims to promote young talent in the field of Indian Classical Performing Arts.

SPECIAL PROGRAMME “ Know India Cultural Exchange Program 2023” (27TH JULY)

“ Know India Cultural Exchange Program 2023” organized under the joint aegis of Pracheen Kala Kendra and ACT Universal Dubai at M.L. Koser Indoor Auditorium . In this unique colorful extravaganza foreign students who are learning classical arts under Guru Shishya Parampara and students of Dubai based organization ACT Universal enthralled the city audience by presenting this cultural folk dance and music performances of India , Dubai & other countries . By organizing such programs Kendra is creating new dimensions of success on international level in the world of classical Performing arts. Renowned Kathak exponent and Deputy Registrar of the Kendra Dr. Samira Koser played an important role in organizing this event.

MALHAR UTSAV (4TH & 5TH August)

Pracheen Kala Kendra organized a special program Malhar Utsav as a humble tribute to Legendary vocalist & Thumri queen Girija Devi for her unparalleled contribution in the field of Music. Foremost disciples of Girija Devi ji performed in this Utsav like Sunanda Sharma, Rupan Sarkar Samanta, Swarnimma Gusain and Koyel Dasgupta. Utsav was inaugurated by Chief Guest Sh. Banwari Lal Purohit ji , Honble Governor and Administrator UT Chandigarh. This two day Utsav was held on 4th & 5th August at Tagore Theatre.

SPECIAL PROGRAMME “ SWAR JHANKAR “ BY PRACHEEN KALA KENDRA AND VIOLIN ACADEMY PUNE (18TH August)

Pracheen Kala Kendra and Violin Academy Pune joined hands to organize a special musical evening Swar Jhankar at Tagore Theater. Renowned violinist Pandit Atul Upadhyay along with his son Rajas Upadhyay mesmerized the city audience with their crisp jugalbandi . Eminent vocalist Pt. Jayateerath Mivundi captivated the music lovers with his soulful performance. Director General Health Mrs. Sonia Khullar , Haryana graced the occasion as the chief guest.

BOOK RELEASE FUNCTION (8th September)

A book release function was organised by Pracheen Kala Kendra titled Indian Classical Dance The Healing Powers -written by Guru Kanaka Sudhakar and published by Shubhi Publications at its M.L.Koser Indoor Auditorium, Chandigarh . The book was presented by Sh. Sanjay Arya to Dr Shobha Koser . The function was followed by a very informative Lecture demonstration by the author who is a senior Delhi based Bharatanatyam

artiste, Choreographer and research worker and has mentored and created over 1000 passionate dancers over the past 3 decades.

BANARAS GHARANA GAYIKI KI PRASTUTI AVM KARYASHALA STUDED WITH KAJRI, THUMRI AND CHAITI (4TH OCTOBER)

Pracheen Kala Kendra organized a special programme of melodic evening of Banarasi Thumri, Kajri and Chaiti by renowned classical vocalist Pandit Ram Prakash Mishra of Banaras Gharana,. This program was organized in the M.L. Koser Auditorium of the Kendra. Eminent vocalist Pandit Ram Prakash Mishra shared the intricacies of Banaras Gharana with students and music lovers of the city .

A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO DR. SARYU KALEKAR BY PRACHEEN KALA KENDRA (14th October)

Pracheen Kala Kendra organised a special musical evening on the occasion of the 90th birth anniversary of Dr. Saryu Kalekar, a renowned guru of the Rampur Sadarang Sangeet tradition and a well known classical Vocalist. In which a heartfelt tribute was given by her disciple Mrs. Vinita Gupta. The program was organized in the M.L. Koser auditorium of the Kendra. In this program Prof. Saubhagya Vardhan gave his emotional tribute on the musical journey of Guru Saryu Kalekar ji. After this, Registrar of the Kendra Guru Shobha Koser also shared some moments from the life of Dr. Saryu Kalekar.

DANCE BALLET VISHWANAAD BY THE STUDENTS OF PRACHEEN KALA KENDRA (23RD OCTOBER)

Dance ballet Vishwanaad represented world peace and was conceptualized and choreographed by famous Kathak Exponent Dr. Samira Koser. This special program under the joint aegis of Pracheen Kala Kendra and Sanskar Bharati, Chandigarh was organized at Tagore Theatre,. Shri Anshul Kataria, Chairman of Aryan Group of Colleges, graced the occasion as chief guest. On this occasion members of Chandigarh Sanskar Bharti were also present to grace the occasion.

THEATRE ARTS FESTIVAL BY IMPACT ARTS IN COLLABORATION WITH PRACHEEN KALA KENDRA (29th to 31st October)

Pracheen Kala Kendra, Chandigarh joined hands with Impact Arts to organize Three Days Theatre Festival titled 'AZMAT 2023' at M.S. Randhawa Auditorium, Punjab Kala Bhawan, Sector 16, Chandigarh from 29th to 31st October , 2023. Many eminent theatre artists performed in this festival.

A SPECIAL PROGRAMME OF TABLA SOLO IN COLLABORATION WITH ICCR (28TH November)

A special Programme of Tabla solo was organized by Indian Council for Cultural relations in collaboration with Pracheen Kala Kendra under "Horizon series programme " The music lovers of the city beautiful were treated with musical delight by promising Tabla player from Bhopal Anshul Pratap Singh of Banaras Gharana. The programme was organized at

M.L. Koser Indoor Auditorium. With such collaborations Kendra fulfilled one of its aims to promote young talent in the field of Indian Classical Performing Arts.

AMIR RANG UTSAV , A MELODIC TRIBUTE TO THE LEGENDARY USTAD AMIR KHAN SAHEB (22ND December)

Pracheen Kala , a foremost cultural organization of this part of the country organized a musical programme at Tagore Theatre. The event was a pure bliss to witness as son and Khalifa of Indore Gharana Sh. Shahbaz Khan was present on the occasion as a special guest to pay tribute of his legendary father Ustad Amir Khan Saheb. The program was marked with soulful performances by eminent vocalists Pt. Suresh Gandharv and Pt. Devashish De. Shri Sudesh Sharma, Chairman, Chandigarh Sangeet Natak Akademi was the Chief Guest and Dr. Deepika, Art and Culture officer graced the occasion as Guest of Honor. On this occasion, Kendra also felicitated Pt. Arun Kumar Mishra , renowned sitar exponent and musicologist with Award of Honor for his tremendous contribution in the field of Indian classical music. He was presented a shawl, memento, citation and scroll of honor.

VIRASAT , ANWART , A TWO DAY PROGRAMME OF MUSIC AND DANCE (12TH & 13TH January 2024)

Under the joint aegis of Pracheen Kala Kendra , Kalashree, Delhi and Chandigarh Sangeet Natak Academy a two day cultural programme "Virasat" ,was organized at Tagore Theatre from 12th to 13th January , 2024. Studded with every color of music and dance this event was a delight for the audience . On the inaugural day Kathak dance performance was presented by the repertory of kalashree under the direction of renowned Kathak dancer Kavita Thakur followed by Bharatnatyam and odissi dance presentations by eminent bharatnatyam dancer Samrat Dutta and noted odissi dancer Swapna Sinha respectively. On the concluding day Pandit Subhash Ghosh enthralled the audience with his Swarragini recital followed by folk dances of Punjab to celebrate the occasion of Lohri.

AN EVENING OF INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC (18TH January, 2024)

Kendra in collaboration with Polo Hindustani Art Heritage & Cultural Trust has organized a musical evening of classical music with city based Noted Vocalist Malkit Singh Jandiala on 18th January at Tagore Theatre. Honble Mr. Justice Vinod S Bhardwaj , judge , Punjab and Haryana High Court graced the occasion as Chief Guest and Sardar Charan Singh Sapra , Former Trustee of Hazur Sahib was the Guest of Honor . Concluding part of the event was felicitation ceremony of eminent personalities of art world. Four eminent personalities were conferred with Lifetime achievement Award namely Bhai Gurmeet Singh Shant , Hajuri Ragi , Shri Darbar Sahib, Amritsar, SNA Awardee Dr. Shobha Koser Senior Kathak Guru , Ex Dean and Chairperson , Punjab University Dr. Pankajmala Sharma and Great tabla Maestro of Punjab Gharana Pt. Kale Ram. The event met with huge success.

PUBLIC AND CHARITABLE WELFARE ACTIVITIES

During the year under review, the Kendra undertook a number of public welfare and charitable activities. The Kendra took special interest in the well being of the education, training, recreation and all-round growth of slum children who comprise a vast section of society. The Kendra lay special emphasis on the training and education of handicapped children also who have been physically and psychologically assisted by the Kendra from time to time. A lot of relief and recreation go into their well being. It has made a distinct difference to the quality of their lives. Kendra is a regular donor to WWF, CRY, Child care, Care India, etc. Special scholarships are earmarked for poor and handicapped children and they are imparted free training in music, dance and other allied arts so as to enable them to stand out in the society.
