AT THE HEART OF ART

KALAPRIYA
CENTER FOR INDIAN PERFORMING ARTS
Expanding the horizon of Indian performing arts

Kalapriya is a holistic performing arts institution in the city of Chicago committed to cultivating, producing, and presenting high-quality performance art and education rooted in the diverse cultural traditions of South Asia. It is a non-profit, federally tax-exempt 501(c)(3) foundation.

Kalapriya supports, celebrates, and offers the vibrant traditions of Indian dance, music, and story-telling through performances, workshops, outreach and community programs, and formal arts education with expert artists, choreographers, dancers, musicians, educators, activists, and collaborators.

One of the foremost integrated Indian arts organizations in the Midwest; Kalapriya perpetuates the rich classical and folk traditions of the subcontinent, along with the current, contemporary, and hybrid innovations of our time. Kalapriya embraces the full spectrum of the Indian performing arts and works through artistic processes to engage audiences, empower students, and build community.

Amid a constantly evolving global environment, Kalapriya participates in cultural and social programming and advocates for dance exchange and dance education. Kalapriya’s programs reflect the unique Indian aesthetic and grandeur that entertain the Indian Diaspora and global audiences.
From the temples of India to the stages of Chicago

Kalapriya Academy provides dance and music education to children as young as kindergarten age, introducing them to the joys of movement, music, and imagination through the Indian classical dance forms, Bharatanatyam and Kathak. Drawing from cultural traditions that have been evolving over centuries, students of all ages, backgrounds, and dance experience are welcomed into the academy’s fold.

An integrated curriculum for beginning, intermediate, advanced, returning students and professionals provides comprehensive and personalised training with a goal to reach creative and technical mastery. The academy’s core beliefs focus on cultivating virtuosity through discipline, dedication, depth, exposure, and self awareness. The combination of theory, philosophy, storytelling, repertoire, expression, and musical understanding present students with a strong foundation to push boundaries, achieve perfection, and bloom into mature artists.

Kalapriya Academy offers students with the ongoing opportunity to partake in annual recitals, performances, productions, summer intensives, workshops and master-classes with world-class artists, and professional mentorship at every stage. The highly formalised training of Bharatanatyam over the years prepares students for an arangetram, or traditional solo dance debut. The academy nurtures and facilitates this journey of development and provides students with the platform to explore, exhibit, and endure their own selves and their artform.

An environment of cultural immersion and diversity, skill enhancement and growth, flair and confidence, innovation and love, Kalapriya’s educational programs are a consummate experiential journey for passionate seekers.
EXPRESSING THE LIMITLESS THROUGH CLASSICAL DISCIPLINES
Preserving, promoting and presenting

Kalapriya Dance Company (KDC) is a diverse and versatile artist community that practices creative exploration and training, togetherness and individual expression, on and off stage. An amalgam of highly skilled Indian dance artists from around the world, KDC focuses on technique, repertoire building, vocabulary exchange, innovation and presentation. KDC performs all year round at fully staged Kalapriya productions, collaborations, corporate, public events, festivals, parks, colleges and universities, and private events. KDC offers studio, private, and group classes.

LASYA: Indian Classical Dance for Adults
The rich traditions of Indian classical dance have transcended generations and oceans. KDC presents dedicated adult instruction in Bharatanatyam and Kathak for beginning, intermediate and advanced students. Using rhythmic footwork, geometric movement, codified hand gestures, and facial expressions to tell powerful stories and create intricate sequences of dance, the faculties of abhinaya and nritta are honed. Through this journey, students advance towards technical precision, depth of emotional expression, and artistic maturity.

RISE: Indo-Contemporary Dance for Adults
Emerging as the next edition to Indian classical dance, Indo-Contemporary dance is a new hybrid dance style combining traditional Indian dance with a modern movement language. For the first time in Chicago, KDC presents an Indian contemporary dance offering, foraying into movement dynamics with creative intelligence and choreography.

NAACHO RE: Signature Bollywood for Adults
Rooted to the delightful world of popular Indian culture and cinema, KDC presents a unique immersive experience of Bollywood dance for adults. KDC’s stylized routines draw from a combination of folk, bhangra, modern, and fusion Bollywood. With an emphasis on dance memory, alignment, strength, flexibility and coordination, students enjoy classic moves, rhythmic expressions, high energy, and core conditioning.
ANCIENT HERITAGE IN CONTEMPORARY CONTEXT
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Sharing our art straight from the heart

Over the years, Kalapriya has been providing educational programs throughout the City of Chicago. The programs are presented in formal and informal teaching environments and include in-school residencies, workshops, after school programs, and assembly programs. Providing arts education for the pre-K through grade 12 children of Chicago’s communities, is one of Kalapriya’s guiding principles.

The University of Chicago Laboratory School, LaSalle II Magnet Elementary, Near North Montessori School, Mark T. Skinner West Elementary School, The Art Institute of Chicago, The Field Museum, and Chicago Children’s Museum, to name a few, have benefitted from Kalapriya’s teaching programs and workshops.

The specially-crafted programs with qualified teachers introduce the interdisciplinary art forms of Indian dance and music through storytelling while offering curricular links to language arts, music history, and mathematics at age-appropriate levels.

Improving fine and gross motor skills and spatial awareness, reinforcing math concepts and patterns with rhythmic music and footwork, promoting group social skills and individual self-confidence, and supporting the wellness health curriculum, comprise Kalapriya’s goals for students. They also learn and adopt various other skills such as making sense of problems and persevering in solving them, reasoning abstractly and quantitatively, looking for and making use of structure, looking for and expressing repeated reasoning, and attending to precision.

Kalapriya’s education programs are mentally and physically challenging, filled with rigor and copious amounts of fun. Join this growing community today!
Setting the stage for vitality, dynamism, and artistic rigor

Drawing from the study of yoga, Indian classical music and dance, choreomusicology, martial arts, improvisation, modern dance, jazz and even dance theatre, Kalapriya produces cutting-edge, original, and socially resonant work in the arena of Indian arts. Creating meaningful and enriching art is an ongoing pursuit of Kalapriya, that brings together high caliber dancers, musicians, artists and visionaries.

Exploring contemporary representations of South Asian aesthetics, while preserving classical and traditional structures, Kalapriya curates, choreographs and presents full-length concerts and performances. Showcasing the entire gamut of South Asian splendour and entertainment, Kalapriya’s dynamic Artistic Team seeks new collaborations and creative partnerships. Kalapriya’s offerings have been widely recognised and appreciated in artistic communities in Chicago and across the country.
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INFUSING THE SPIRIT OF THE CONTEMPORARY WITH THE CLASSICAL
Kalapriya offers a wide range of Indian Performing Arts Services

- Indian dance and music education for children and adults
- Customized educational programs for private and CPS schools
- Wedding and sangeet choreography and musicals
- Customized dance and music acts for private and public events
- Artistic high-quality collaborations and productions
- Solo and group offerings in Bollywood, Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Indo-Contemporary, Garba, Bhangra, Kalaripayattu, and other South Asian forms.
- Special corporate offers for employee programs and classes
- Extensive curatorial, creative, and project management skills
EXPLORING THE POWER OF THE SUBLIME
We appreciate the generous support of our patrons.
KALAPRIYA
CENTER FOR INDIAN PERFORMING ARTS

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