

Bala Devi Chandrashekar, Kartik Fine Arts present *Sangam Festival*

Chennai, Dec 19: Sangam Festival, an organization committed to the preservation, promotion, and showcasing of exceptional Indian classical artists and South Asian arts, hosted a comprehensive three-part festival on December 31 at Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan, Mylapore, Chennai. Established and championed by Bharatanatyam exponent and scholar Bala Devi Chandrashekar, Sangam Festival transcends mere artistic pursuits; it serves as an extensive resource center, offering knowledge, promotion, references, and unwavering support to the arts community in both the USA and India.

In collaboration with Kartik Fine Arts, this year's festival will include Seldom compositions of Tanjore Quartet by Guru Thanjavur Hariharan Herambanathan of Thanjavur Heritage Arts, Creative Synergy - A collaborative improvisation between a solo thematic dancer, lyricists, and music composer by Rajkumar Bharathiand Kandein Swapnam by Gopika Varma. Sangam Festival's activities encompass performances, lectures, workshops, digital resources, mentoring, and financial support for artists. Additionally, the festival aspires to become an authentic source for universities

and colleges seeking to enrich their repositories of Indian Classical and South Asian performing arts. Bala Devi Chandrashekar, leveraging her talent in Bharatanatyam, has successfully raised over \$500,000 for charitable causes across India, the Middle East, and the USA over the past 25 years. Her commitment to positive societal impact is evident through support for causes such as the Trenton Soup Kitchen, an old age home in Montgomery, New Jersey, Home Front, AIM for SEVA in India, and contributions to disaster relief efforts.

