

# NEWSLETTER

*A Snippet of our travel so far*

## *High Points of GCMA*

2019: Megharagavarshini - A joint prayer for rains in Tamilnadu

2020-21: Disbursement of 65+ lacs to economically affected musicians

2021: Navarathri Concert Series

2022: Health Insurance Scheme

Pension Schemes for Instrument makers | 108 hours Musical Yagna | Monthly Concerts | Youth and Talent promotion | Outreach activities and much more...



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## Namaskaaram!

It gives us immense pleasure to share our first edition of GCMA's Newsletter. We would like to share our achievements so far and the road that we have traveled since our inception in the year 2019.

A need for a common voice for Carnatic musicians fraternity resulted in the birth of GCMA in 2019. Since then, GCMA has been growing from strength to strength and have been the face of many carnatic musicians.

## GCMA's Mission

To protect the interests of Carnatic artists irrespective of age, caste, creed, sex, nationality, etc. and provide them avenues and opportunities for leveraging benefits, both financial and otherwise. To work towards preserving and safe guarding the honor and reputation of the art form.

## Office Bearers

The first set of office bearers of GCMA are:

**President:** Vid. Sudha Ragunathan

**Vice Presidents:** Vid. S Sowmya | Vid. P Unnikrishnan | Vid. Nirmala Rajasekar

**General Secretary:** Vid. Tanjavur Murugaboopathi

**Joint Secretaries:** Vid. VK Manimaran | Vid. VVS Murari

**Treasurers:** Vid. R Suryaprakash | Vid. SV Ramani

**State Secretaries:** Vid. Nithyasree Mahadevan |

Vid. Mysore Manjunath | Vid. Vaikom Venugopal |

Vid. Malladi Ravi

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## Musical Events

GCMA's first event was kicked off on June 2nd, 2019 with Megharagavarshini- a collective musical prayer for rains in Tamilnadu that featured the who's who of the Carnatic fraternity who all came together for a cause at Sringeri Sharada Peetam, T Nagar, Chennai.

Following this, the Paarambaryam concert series conducted in 2020, featured 14 online concerts. The funds collected from this fundraiser were used to support musicians in need during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The next event on the GCMA roster was the Navaratri Concert Series of 2021.

The 60 hours Yagna- 2021 featured a wide array of musicians across the spectrum of age and geography. This was further continued in the 108 hours Yagna- 2022 with representation from 4 continents and all the distinguished musical paramparas, held in collaboration with several esteemed music organizations.

Further adding to the continuous initiatives, GCMA also conducted GCMA Monthly Concerts - starting in later months of 2021, 2 concerts a month were organized, and this was continued in almost all months of 2022.

The Youth Festival in 2020 Jan, featured the brightest young talents across the world. This was rebranded as The 'Global Margazhi Fest' for its next iteration in 2022 December.



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As part of its outreach, GCMA also conducted engaging and enlightening Lec Dems in music colleges to spread the reach of Carnatic Music.

Commemorating the India US- 75 years of relationship, GCMA conducted an event in collaboration with SaMaa Arts LLC, USA, and Cleveland Thyagaraja Aradhana, on July 4th 2022 featuring American and Indian talents.

## Schemes and other Activities

While concerts and curated musical events continued with great gusto, GCMA also focused on a few schemes to support the burgeoning Carnatic music community and was instrumental in raising funds during the Covid-19 crisis. Aided by the funds raised from the Paarambaryam concert series and generous donations from a plethora of rasikas and musicians alike.

GCMA was responsible for the disbursement of funds to the tune of Rs. 65 lakhs during the Covid-19 pandemic.

This included A Monthly stipend of

- Rs. 5000 during the Covid-19 pandemic to around 60% of the members of GCMA, mostly consisting of artists hailing from underprivileged communities. This also included more than 30 instrument makers of mridangam and veena.
- Rs 2000 to select non-members who were struggling during the pandemic.



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- Distribution of groceries and essentials to the general public in over 16 areas in Chennai, and over 10 districts in TamilNadu, Kerala, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh.
- In continuity with its efforts to secure and support artists, a Pension Scheme was launched with a monthly payout of Rs. 5000 to musicians in need, including Tampura artists.

The flagship scheme of GCMA, the Medical Insurance Scheme was commenced in 2022. In collaboration with Star Health Insurance, over 120 artists were insured with coverage of up to Rs. 5 lakhs, with pre-existing health conditions taken into consideration, which is a rare occurrence in the current health insurance market conditions. It is noteworthy that such an insurance plan, if procured individually, costs around Rs. 35000.

GCMA expects to further insure over 150 artists this year.

As part of its engagement activities, GCMA also successfully organized Annual Sports events. The cricket and badminton tournaments in 2019, 2021, 2022, and 2023 saw great enthusiastic participation from young and senior musicians alike and the camaraderie among artists transcended the boundaries of age and was very well received.

This summarizes our travel so far. Thank you!

- Team Social Media (GCMA)



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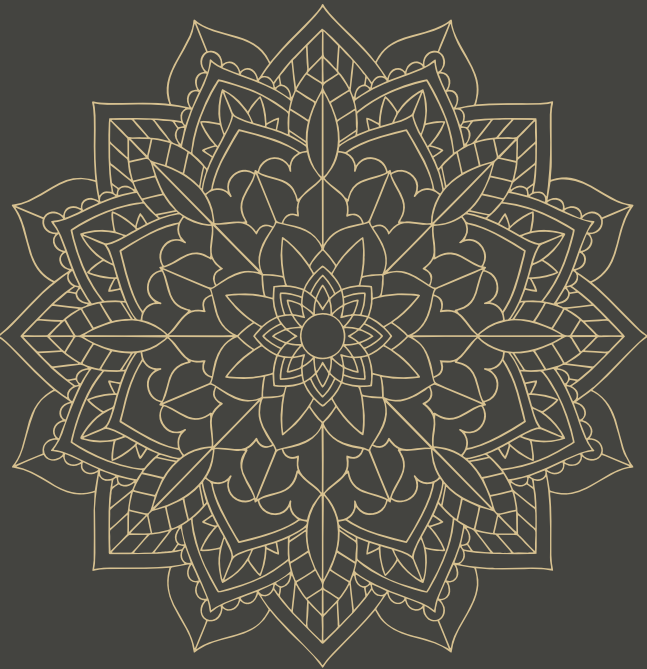
## Memories



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