President’s Note

Dear Sruti Members:

Greetings. On December 11th 2005 the Sruti membership elected a new Board of Directors (BOD). On behalf of the directors, I would like to thank the membership for giving us this opportunity. We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to the outgoing board for a tremendous effort put forth during the last two years.

This year marks the 20th anniversary. Sruti has established itself as one of the premier Cultural organizations with a mission of presenting high quality performances of Indian classical music and dance. We are very much dependent on the granting agencies, Corporations and support from the members to bring great music and lively dance programs to the Delaware Valley.

The new board as per the amended by-laws has 9 members. The Director of Resources and Development (Uma Prabhakar) and Director of Publications and Outreach (Raman Visweswaran) are now part of the BOD. Additionally, we also have Director of Marketing and Publicity (Jeya Sankaran) who will be working on building our mailing list by collaborating with various local organizations in the area and also develop publicity collateral.

The mission of the current board is to increase the Sruti membership and attract more audience to every Sruti programs. Please feel free to give us your honest feedback so that we want to serve you better.

This year we have already lined up some very exciting programs to celebrate Sruti’s 20th anniversary. As always, we will start the season with the Thyagaraja Aradhana (March 4th) featuring a concert by Kiranavali Vidyasankar, who recently relocated to our area. We have scheduled four concerts for the spring season starting with Sowmya (April 8th) followed by Mandolin Srinivas (May 6th). We also have Ranjani & Gayatri (May 21st) and M.Balamurali Krishna (June 3rd). In the fall, we have planned individual performances by Sudha Raghunathan (September 23), Priyadarshini Govind (October 7), Anoushka Sankar (October 28) respectively, an ensemble presentation by the Jayamangala Group (November 11). We are collaborating with Kimmel Center to bring Anoushka Sankar’s program. Please mark your calendars for the upcoming events. Season passes will be available for sale during the Thyagaraja Aradhana. We look forward to your continued support and attendance at the Sruti concerts with your family and friends.

Usha Balasubramanian
President
For the Board of Directors, Sruti
Note from the Publications & Outreach Committee (P&OC)

I would like to briefly introduce the role of the Publications & Outreach Committee (formerly the Library Committee) and its various members.

First and foremost, I would like to thank all the members of this committee for volunteering their valuable time and commitment.

As the name indicates, this committee has 2 main roles: Publishing Sruti literature in print and online and Outreach – to the community and like-minded organizations.

Two sub-committees serve the ‘Publications’ role:
(1) The Library Committee is responsible for bringing out the various publications of Sruti - Sruti Notes, Sruti Ranjani and the Thyagaraja Aradhana Souvenir. The team consists of Sundari Balakrishnan, Ramaa Nathan and Rangaprabhu Parthasarathy.

(2) The Web Committee is responsible for maintaining/upgrading the Sruti Website. This involves updating Sruti Event details, adding articles, moderating the Sruti Discussion Board. New features will be added to the website on an as-needed basis. This team consists of Rungun Nathan and Rangaprabhu Parthasarathy. We are currently in the process of introducing a contact information page on local ‘Music and Dance Teachers’. This will help to better network teachers and prospective students in the tri-state area.

The ‘Outreach’ part is a nascent role that formally recognizes the need to consciously propagate the Indian Classical Music and Dance in the community-at-large as well as educational and cultural institutions. The goal is to increase awareness and thereby participation in Sruti events.

We encourage all music lovers to send in articles for our various publications and suggestions to make the website better.

Raman Visweswaran
For the Publications & Outreach Committee

Note from the Resource & Development Committee (R&DC)

I would like to introduce the Resource & Development Committee and briefly share our vision during our two-year term and activities so far in the Sruti BOD. The team consists of Uma Prabhakar, Director, Ramaa Nathan, Rama GunduRao, and Ramana Kanumalla as committee members with Ventak Kilambi as a defacto member.

In addition to applying to various granting agencies, within the tri-state area, to support our music and dance programs, the R&DC will also be working to create outreach and long-term relationship building opportunities with funding and presenting agencies. The committee has already been at work, coming up with several new implementation ideas. We have also applied for grants from the Philadelphia Music Project (PMP) and have been invited by the Philadelphia Music Project to apply for their grants. I am also very happy to inform you all that Sruti has been awarded an $8000 grant from Dance Advance for the year 2006.

We welcome ideas from our membership and look forward to assisting the BOD in their cultural endeavors.

Uma Prabhakar
For the Resource & Development Committee

The opinions expressed by the contributors of articles and reviews are published in a spirit of openness of communication and freedom of expression. They do not necessarily reflect the views of Sruti’s Board or its members.
Note to Contributors

Sruti publications can only get better with active participation from the readers. Hence, we would like to emphasize that your contributions are very welcome. However, in order to avoid any misunderstandings, and to protect the rights of our beloved organization, we would like to list a few guidelines. Your articles are extremely important to us and we hope these simple guidelines will not scare away any of you potential contributors! As always, your feedback is welcome.

♦ Please note that submission of an article to this and other Sruti publications automatically implies that you are permitting Sruti to publish (and re-publish) the article in this and other publications, in the form of print, web, or any other medium.

♦ Your submissions will also be edited for typography, length, grammar, and clarity of content. If you have serious concerns about this, please request that you need to review the edited article before publication.

♦ All submitted material will be attributed to the author by name, unless withholding of the name is requested explicitly.

♦ The submissions need to be timely (fifteen days before the scheduled date of publication) for inclusion in the newsletter.

Editor

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Upcoming Sruti Events

1) March 4  Thyagaraja Aradhana (Concert by Kiranavali Vidyasankar)
2) April 8  Carnatic Vocal Concert by Sowmya
3) May 6  Mandolin Concert by U. Srinivas
4) May 21  Carnatic Vocal Concert by Ranjani & Gayatri
5) June 3  Carnatic Vocal Concert by M. Balamurali Krishna
6) Sept 23  Carnatic Vocal Concert by Sudha Raghunathan
7) Oct 7  Bharata Natyam Performance by Priyadarshini Govind
8) Oct 28  Sitar Concert by Anoushka Sankar
9) Nov 11  Ensemble presentation by the Jayamangala Group