



NAATYA RAAGA CONTESTS 2026

-Bay Area-

Contest Date: April 25th

Registration Deadline: April 22nd

Dance Categories

Category 1: Invocation / Introductory Piece

Includes: Alarippu, Pushpanjali, Thodaya Mangalam

Maximum time limit: 6 minutes

(dances can be less than the time limit but cannot exceed the specified time limit)

Only one composition required for this category

Category 2: Shabdham / Kauthuvam

Maximum time limit: 6 minutes

(dances can be less than the time limit but cannot exceed the specified time limit)

Only one composition required for this category

Category 3: Jathiswaram / Swarajathi

Maximum time limit: 6 minutes

(dances can be less than the time limit but cannot exceed the specified time limit)

Only one composition required for this category

Category 4: Varnam

Maximum time limit: 10 minutes

(dances can be less than the time limit but cannot exceed the specified time limit)

Only one composition required for this category

Category 5: Krithi

Maximum time limit: 7 minutes

(dances can be less than the time limit but cannot exceed the specified time limit)

Only one composition required for this category

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Category 6: Padam / Javali

Maximum time limit: 9 minutes

(dances can be less than the time limit but cannot exceed the specified time limit)

Only one composition required for this category

Category 7: Thukkada

Includes (but not limited to): Shiva Panchaksharam, Enna Thavam, Bho Shambo, Muddugare, Ragamalika pieces, Annamacharya, Purandaradasa, Bharathiyar, Andal, Thirupugazh, Kavadi Chindu, Shlokam, Bhajan, Abhang, Plate Dance, Tarangam etc.

Maximum time limit: 6 minutes

(dances can be less than the time limit but cannot exceed the specified time limit)

Only one composition required for this category

Category 8: Thillana

Maximum time limit: 10 minutes

Only one composition required for this category

Category 9: Nattuvangam

Contestants must perform on the thattukazhi (wooden stick) OR the Nattuvangam while reciting the sollukattu / jathis.

Maximum time limit: 6 minutes

Two Jathis required for this category.

Natya Premier League (NPL) Title

Participants performing in the above FOUR (4) or more above dance categories (category 1 – category 9) will be eligible for the Natya Premier League Star (NPL) Title. The NPL winner will be selected based on overall excellence across multiple categories





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Category 10: Choreography

Eligibility: Open to participants aged 15–25 years

Description:

- **Total duration: 8–10 minutes**
- Present the nrittam portion, including a self-composed theermanam
- The theermanam (maximum 2 minutes) must be:
 - o Self-composed
 - o Explained clearly
 - o Rendered in nattuvangam format with talam
- Choreograph the nrittam to highlight jathi aspects
- Present sanchari bhavam (5–6 minutes) portraying a storyline from any composition of choice, in the participant's own style

Only one choreographic work required for this category.

Category 11: Performance

Eligibility: Open to participants aged 15–25 years

Maximum time limit: minutes

Description: 30 mins

Participants must present a performance showcasing both nrittam and abhinaya by selecting THREE of the following:

- A portion of a Pada Varnam (10 minutes)
- Jathiswaram / Swarajathi (10 minutes)
- Padam / Javali / Krithi (10 minutes)
- A portion of a Thillana (10 minutes)

The winner of this category will be offered a concert performance opportunity in the USA or India. Conditions apply.

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Age Groups: (Age as of April 22nd, 2026)

- **Sub Junior: 5–9 years**
- **Junior: 10 -12 years**
- **Sub Senior: 13–15 years**
- **Senior: 16–20 years**
- **Super Senior: 21 years and above**

Registration Process:

- Open to all styles of Indian Classical Dance
- Registration must be completed through the QR code before **April 22, 2026**
- There is no limit to the number of categories a participant may register for or contest in
- A separate registration form must be submitted for EACH category
- Registration is confirmed only after completing the form and full payment
- All categories may be contested either as a SOLO, DUET or as a GROUP performance, as applicable.

Registration Fees:

- **Solo:** USD \$30 for the first category and USD \$25 for each additional category
- **Duet:** USD \$50 for the first category and USD \$40 for each additional category
- **Group:** USD \$25 per participant per category (minimum 3, maximum 10 participants per group). USD \$20 for each additional category per participant
- **Category 10 and 11 – Choreography & Performance:** USD \$100 per category. If participating in both, USD \$150 in total

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Payment Rules:

- Payment must be made via Zelle or PayPal to globalartstempleusa@gmail.com
- Fees once paid will NOT be refunded under any circumstances

Judging & Certification:

- All categories will be judged by renowned artists
- The decision of the judges is FINAL and binding
- All participants will receive a participation certificate

**Shaping Rural Futures Through Music
In support of OSAAT - One School At A Time
Providing Physical & Digital Infrastructure for rural schools across India**

Event organized by Global Arts Temple USA

Event Conceptualized by K. N. Shashikiran

For dance competition enquiries: Meenakshi Ganesan 608-345-5589

For registration enquiries : globalartstempleusa@gmail.com

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