



MUSICAL ACADEMIES OF INDIA

GANDHARVA MAHAVIDYALAYA

With a vision to conserve and promote Indian music, dance and art, the Gandharva Mahavidyalaya is an institution par excellence. Located in New Delhi, it wishes to give today's young generation the opportunity to appreciate the country's cultural heritage through high- quality classes in various subjects.

THE MAHAVIDYALAYA & ITS HISTORY

Established in 1939 by Shri Vinaya Chandra Maudgalya, this institution was made to commemorate Pandit Vishnu Digambar Paluskar. Pandit Digambar was a very learned musician who is credited with bringing Hindustani classical music to the masses.



Pandit Vishnu Digambar
Paluskar



Shri Vinaya Chandra
Maudgalya

VISION AND LEGACY:

The aim for the founding of the institution was to create a place that would uphold the ideas of Pandit Digambar and popularise Hindustani music through modern teaching, preparing skilled teachers and awarding music its deserved place in India's culture. After the death of Shri Vinaya Chandra Maudgalya, the institution came in the hands of his son, Pandit Madhup Mudgal. He is the current principal of the Gandharva Mahavidyalaya.

DID YOU KNOW?

Pt. Paluskar had established the first Gandharva Mahavidyalaya in Lahore in 1901.

THE MAHAVIDYALAYA: EDUCATION

With its current campus at Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, New Delhi, the Mahavidyalaya offers classes in music, dance, instrument. Dance forms like Kathak, Bharatanatyam are taught. Classes for instruments like Sitar, Tabla, Harmonium are held. Gandharva Mahavidyalaya also offers examinations in these fields, and as students pass them, they earn degrees and titles like Praveshika, Madhyama, Visharad etc.



Gandharva
Mahavidyalaya



Pandit Madhup
Mudgal

PANDIT MADHUP MUDGAL

Pandit Madhup Mudgal is the principal of Gandharva Mahavidyalaya and the conductor of the Gandharva Choir. He is an extremely talented singer, musician and composer, known for his khayal singing and interpretations of bhajans. He has been awarded the Padma Shri by the government of India and has won many accolades from around the world. He has done a lot of experimental music, collaborating with Jazz singers and Brazilian instruments to make a fusion. Pandit Mudgal was trained in singing by his father, Shri Vinay Chandra Maudgalya and Guru Pandit Kumar Gandharva. Apart from this, he has also composed music for eminent dancers of the country, like Kumudini Lakhia (Kathak) and Leela Samson (Bharatanatyam).

THE GANDHARVA CHOIR

The Gandharva choir is one of the country's most prestigious choirs, having performed in places like Lincoln Centre, New York, which is one of the most accomplished stages any performer can reach. They have also sung in many music festivals worldwide as well as throughout the country. Its conductor is Pandit Madhup Mudgal. Only exceptional students join the choir, which has space for both singers and musicians.



The Gandharva
Choir

FAMOUS ALUMNI

KAILASH KHER

Kailash Kher is a very popular name in the music scene of the country. He is someone with the ability to sing both high and low notes effortlessly. Kailash Kher has many memorable songs like 'Allah ke bande haste', 'Teri Deewani' etc. He was awarded with the Padma Shri in 2017. He is a successful composer who infuses Indian folk music with Indian classical music.



Kailash Kher

RICHA SHARMA

Richa Sharma is one of India's most successful playback singers. She has sung both Bollywood and devotional songs. She has a very powerful and bold voice that is quite versatile. Richa Sharma has also appeared as a judge in various reality TV shows like Sa Re Ga Ma Pa, Indian Idol etc. She has received numerous awards for her songs.



Richa Sharma

SHUBHA MUDGAL

Shubha Mudgal is an eminent Hindustani classical singer from Allahabad. She is recognised for her hold on dhrupad and khayal. Trained by Pt. Vinaya Chandra Maudgalya and other big gurus, she is an established composer as well. She has lent her voice to many projects by the government as well as contributed to music education. She was felicitated with the Padma Shri in 2000, the Gold Plaque at the Chicago International Film Festival among many others.



Shubha
Mudgal

ACTIVITIES

1. Visit the Gandharva Mahavidyalaya and write about your experience.

2. Watch the performance of the Gandharva Choir. Write about what makes it unique.

3. Identify the following instruments:

- A single long wood piece with holes in it, produces a very sweet sound, Lord Krishna played it.

- A stringed instrument where the strings are plucked to produce a melodious sound, Pt. Ravi Shankar and Anoushka Shankar play it.

- Two drums, one small and one big, which are made of leather and wood. Very popular instrument used in Hindustani classical music. Ustad Zakir Hussain plays it.

4. Find about the Vishnu Digambar Festival organised annually by the Gandharva Mahavidyalaya.
5. Since Bollywood music is more popular now, Indian Classical music is losing its popularity. What are some ways of the ways in which one can help promote Classical music?

REFERENCES:

<https://www.mysticamusic.com/artists/padamshree-madhup-mudgal-singer>
<http://gandharvamahavidyalayanewdelhi.org>
<https://www.firstpost.com/living/madhup-mudgal-my-life-changed-after-i-heard-kumar-gandharvas-nirgun-bhajans-5457421.html>
<http://www.gandharvachoir.com/about.html>
<https://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/music/richa-sharma-singing-for-the-supreme/article25632742.ece>
<https://shubhamudgal.com/>

IMAGES:

www.kractivist.org
www.bb.co.uk
www.gemarts.org
@Gandharva
www.scroll.in
www.deccachronicle.com