



The 6th Indra Sivasailam Endowment Medal to be conferred on the Malladi Brothers – Sri. Malladi Sreerama Prasad & Sri. Malladi Ravikumar

- The Indra Sivasailam Foundation invites questions on Carnatic music for 'Anweshā' – Quest for the Best Contest
- Top 30 participants get an opportunity to meet and interact with the Malladi Brothers

Chennai, September 15, 2015: Smt. Indra Sivasailam's deep rooted conviction that south Indian classical musicians *par excellence* should be encouraged and recognized, led to her daughter Smt. Mallika Srinivasan establishing the Indra Sivasailam Endowment Fund in 2010 under the auspices of The Music Academy, Madras, which for over eight decades, has been fostering and promoting classical music and performing arts.

Every year, the Indra Sivasailam Foundation recognizes an outstanding Carnatic musician based on an established set of criteria, which includes excellence in performance, audience appeal, adherence to classical tradition while innovating within its framework, depth of knowledge and demonstrated efforts to disseminate knowledge and the ability to bring about a greater and deeper public appreciation of Carnatic music.

The artist is selected by a panel comprising of members from the Endowments Committee of The Music Academy, Madras, and Smt. Mallika Srinivasan (Chairman - TAFE Limited), daughter of Late Sri. A. Sivasailam (Former Chairman - Amalgamations Limited) and the Late Smt. Indra Sivasailam. The indomitable choice for the sixth Indra Sivasailam Endowment Medal and Concert are Sri. Malladi Sreerama Prasad and Sri. Malladi Ravikumar, popularly known as the Malladi Brothers.

The Malladi Brothers, renowned for their vibrant, mesmerizing voices and their extensive repertoire of *Thyagaraja kritis* and rare Carnatic compositions hail from a family of musicians from Andhra Pradesh, and inherit music from their grandfather Late Malladi Sri. Rama Murthy, a noted *harikatha* exponent of his time. They received their initial training from their father Sri. Malladi Suri Babu, a Senior *Vidwan* of Andhra Pradesh and an illustrious disciple of Late Sri. Voleti Venkateswarulu, a legendary musician of great repute.

Malladi brothers had their advanced training from *Sangitha Kalanidhi* Sri. Nedunuri Krishnamurthy, whose vast experience and knowledge shaped them into successful Carnatic music performers. The brothers had an opportunity to learn rare compositions from the genius of music *Sangitha Kalanidhi* Padmabhushan Dr. Sripada Pinakapani.

The Malladi Brothers are among the most celebrated voices of the All India Radio and postgraduates in music from the Andhra University. Having travelled extensively within India and abroad, their consistently magnificent performances brought them to the global forefront in the field of Carnatic music.



Malladi Brothers started their performing career in 1990 and bagged national level awards from the All India Radio in Classical, Light Classical and Light Music categories from 1989 to 1993. Sri. Krishna Gana Sabha, Chennai, honored them with the Sri. Voleti Venkateswarulu Memorial Award in the years 1999 and 2000. They have also received the Best Concert Awards from The Music Academy, Madras, from 1999 to 2005 and have been recognized by various other leading *sabhas*.

In the last five years, the Malladi Brothers have set about documenting all their compositions with notations in the form of a book and have released *kirtanams* of Sri. Narayana Tirtha and Sri. Bhadrachala Ramadasu in English and Telugu. These books have hit the right chord with music lovers and their students from across the world, who have been benefited by an easy, yet authentic means of following and learning these compositions.

In the year 2006, the Malladi Brothers instituted the Sama Gana Lahari Cultural Trust, dedicated to the propagation and promotion of Carnatic music. Through the trust, a series of five-day lectures, demonstrations and concerts are organized every year.

The sixth Indira Sivasailam Endowment Concert will be held at The Music Academy, Madras, on October 9, 2015, marking the beginning of the *Navaratri* season and celebrations.

'Anwasha' – Quest for the Best contest

Over the past five years The Indira Sivasailam Foundation has brought *rasikas* and artists together to celebrate our rich Carnatic music tradition and perpetuate it further. With an aim to bridge the gap between the artists and *rasikas*, '**Anwasha' – Quest for the Best contest** hosted by the Indira Sivasailam Foundation, invites questions on Carnatic music and provides an opportunity to interact with acclaimed artists and improve one's knowledge.

The third season of '**Anwasha**' organized this year invites Carnatic music enthusiasts to send in questions related to Carnatic music, of which the best ones will be shortlisted by the contest jury from The Music Academy, Madras. The top 30 finalists will be invited for an interactive Q&A session with the Malladi Brothers, the winners of this year's Indira Sivasailam Endowment Medal. **One can participate by sending their question via the 'Message' option on The Indira Sivasailam Foundation's Facebook page (facebook.com/theISfoundation) or by emailing them to info@isfoundation.in**

This is a unique opportunity for Carnatic music enthusiasts to meet and interact with one of the most celebrated and accomplished artists of this generation. The contest closes on September 26, 2015.



About The Indira Sivasailam Foundation

The Indira Sivasailam Foundation has been contributing towards perpetuating and promoting our rich culture and tradition and preserving and propagating various art forms. The foundation was established by Smt. Mallika Srinivasan, Chairman & CEO, TAFE Limited, in the year 2010, in memory of her mother, the Late Smt. Indira Sivasailam. The foundation is constantly involved in activities such as care and welfare of senior citizens, women's empowerment, Hindu philosophy, Sanskrit literature and *annadana*.

Through the Indira Sivasailam Endowment Fund, under the auspices of The Music Academy, Madras, the foundation organizes The Indira Sivasailam Endowment Concert during the *Navaratri* season every year, recognizing an outstanding Carnatic musician with The Indira Sivasailam Endowment Medal and citation. Since 2010, renowned and coveted Carnatic musicians like Smt. Sudha Ragunathan, Sri. Sanjay Subrahmanyam, Smt. Aruna Sairam, Smt. Bombay Jayashri Ramnath and Sri. T. M. Krishna have been conferred this honor. With the noble aim of promulgating South Indian classical music, the foundation ensures that the concert is open to all, without any fee.

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