

Chitravina Kala Praveena award conferred on Ravikiran

The Federation of Sabhas, under the auspices of Brahma Gana Sabha, felicitated Chitravina N Ravikiran on his fifty-year musical journey, on Sunday.



Sanjay, sishya of N Ravikiran (L), had his debut concert on Sunday Chennai:

Ravikiran has over 800 compositions with over 750 classical compositions to his credit in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Sanskrit and Hindi starting from geetams to krtis, varnams, swara-krtis, padams, javalis, tillanas and more. Besides recently setting a record by tuning 1,333 verses of Tirukkural in 16 hours, Ravikiran has also set tunes to several other works like Tiruppugazh and Nachiyar Tirumozhi. He is also a celebrated teacher of music, tutoring students in many countries.

A combination of traditional guru-sishya way and modern technology is nurturing traditional musical talent of young Indians in US. At the forefront of this style of teaching is Chitravina N Ravikiran, whose sishya Sanjay Suresh's debut concert on the violin was held at Brahma Gana Sabha on Sunday, as part of Aadi Isai Vizha.

A resident of Madison, Wisconsin, US, Sanjay has been learning from Ravikiran from the time he was nine years old. Ravikiran uses the 'Slip Teaching Methodology' (STM), whereby students can learn at their pace. "He used to visit Madison for two weeks at a stretch and train students directly. He would also post video lessons on his website. He would follow this up with masterclasses. STM also allows students an opportunity to learn on their own, which is also essential for learning music," says Vanitha Suresh, Sanjay's mother, who works as an IT professional in Madison and also runs a music school. A number of Indian students are leveraging their interest in classical music by availing of STM and other methodologies, she adds.

Apart from a solo concert, Sanjay was also in concert with Sikkil Gurucharan, Mannargudi Easwaran (mridangam) and BS Purushottaman on the kanjira.

The Federation of Sabhas honoured Ravikiran with the Chitravina Kala Praveena award.