

1-6 April Workshops – Conducted by Colombo International Theatre Festival

Colombo International theatre Festival conducted 6 days workshop at the Indian Cultural Centre. Experts from India, Georgia, Italy and Germany conducted the workshops. The festival was organized by the Inter act art Black Box Theatre House. Various theatre groups as well as upcoming dramatists took part in the workshops. Around 20 students participated in each workshop.



**8 April Guru Upahara - Vocal Recital dedicated to
Sangeet Visharadh Sunil Shantha**

Dr. Mahinda Tennekoon presented a vocal performance titled Guru Upahara– 2016. The programme consisted of Sunil Santha's melodies, which have been very popular over the years. Visharadha Dr. Mahinda Tennekoon has completed his Visharadha from the Bhatkande Sangeet Vidyapeeth, Lucknow in 2005. As homage to his guru, Visharadha Dr. Mahinda Tennekoon presented this concert. The programme lasted for one-hour duration under the music direction of Thushara Aluthge and the orchestra consisted of Channa Pradeep on Violin, Somasiri Badegama on Tabla, Rama on percussion, Wickramapala Pallimulla on Box guitar, Gayan Jayasinghe on Flute and Gamini Perera on Key Board. Around 120 guests attended the event.



9 April International Day of Yoga- Curtain Raiser
Vajira Yoga – Dynamic Yoga Session Asanas and Breathing
practices conducted by Astanka Yoga Mandir

As the first curtain raiser event of the International Day of Yoga 2016 Indian Cultural Centre in association with Astanka Yoga Mandir organized a Yoga session on 9th April at 6.30 a.m.at Viharamaha Devei Open Air Theatre, Colombo 07.

Vajra Yoga- a dynamic Yoga session, which included important Asanas and breathing practices was conducted by Mr. Vyasa Kalyanasunderam, Senior Yoga Instructor of the Indian Cultural centre and the founder of Astanka Yoga Mandir and the members of Ashtanka Yoga Mandir. The programme commenced with the welcome address by the Director of the Indian Cultural Centre, Mrs. Rajashree Behera and followed with simple breathing practices and asanas. At the end of the session some of the senior students of Astanka Yoga Mandir displayed some advanced asanas of Hatha Yoga for the participants. Mr. Kalyugavarathan one of the senior most Yoga expert of Sri Lanka also took part in the session. Around 120 yoga practioners and general public participated in the programme.





125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. B.R.Ambedkar organized by the High Commission of India, Colombo at Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo

12 April 2016

The High Commission of India and the Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo celebrated 125th birth anniversary of Dr. B.R.Ambedkar on 12th April 2016 at the Indian Cultural Centre Colombo. A documentary on Dr. B.R.Ambedkar titled Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar a film by eminent film and theatre director Jabbar Patel was screened. The 72 mins documentary is an elaborate and analytical biographical film on Dr. Ambedkar.

The programme commenced with the welcome address by the Director of the Centre Mrs. Rajashree Behera and followed by the screening. His Excellency Shri Y.K.Sinha, High Commissioner of India in Sri Lanka, The Deputy High Commissioner Shri Arindam Bagchi, officers and officials of the Mission, other distinguished guests and general public attended the screening. Around 80 guests attended the event.



22 April 2016

To commemorate the 125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. B.R.Ambedkar, on 22nd April 2016, High Commission of India organized a a lecture by Dr. Jayadeva Uyangoda, Professor of Political Science at the University of Colombo titled "Ambedkar's Legacy: Critique of religion, Quest for Social Justice and the Paradox of Constitutionalism" at the Indian Cultural Centre Centre auditorium. The programme commenced with garlanding of portrait of Dr. Ambedkar by His Excellency Shri Y.K.Sinha and an introductory remark by His Excellency and followed by the lecture. Around 100 guests attended the lecture.





18 April Hindi Certificate Distribution

On 18th April the certificates were awarded to the successful candidates for the Hindi examinations conducted by the Kendiriya Hindi Sansthan , Agra, India in 2015. The certificates were presented by the Visiting Professor from Kendiriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra Prof. Chaturbhuj Sahai, Mr.Jogander Singh Meena, from Kendiriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra, Mrs. Rajashree Behera, Director of Indian Cultural Centre and Dr. Bandara Menike Wijetunge, Hindi Professor University of Sri Jayawardenapura. The students also presented few cultural performances.





23 & 24th April 2016-HINDI SEMINAR AND EXAMINATIONS

The Hindi examinations were conducted by the Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra through the Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo on 23 & 24th April at the Law Faculty Hall of the University of Colombo. Two examiners were sent from KHS, Agra who conducted a week long seminars at the Centre from 18th April to 22nd April to prepare the students for the examinations. 400 students sat for the examinations.



28 April **Sinhala Tamil New Year Celebrations organized by the Kathak students of the Centre**

On 24th April the Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo organized a one day event to celebrate Avurudu, the Sinhala and Tamil New Year. The event was organized by guru Moksha Samarasooriya and the Kathak class students of the Centre. The one day event included various activities such as making traditional sweet items, playing rabaan, dances, songs and many games and competitions. Around 150 students and teachers took part in the event.





29 April International Dance Day

To celebrate International Dance Day which falls on 29th April every year, Indian Cultural Centre, High Commission of India, Colombo organized folk & Bharatha Natyam performances by the students of Natya Kala Mandhi under the guidance of their guru Kalasuri Vasugy Jegatheeswaran. The students presented a variety of traditional Bharatha natyam performance and folk dances such as Kaavadi dance, Thiruvila dance, Kerala dance, tea cultivation, a dance item for a Hidni song.

International Dance Day was introduced in 1982 by the International Dance Council (CID, Conseil International de la Danse), a UNESCO partner NGO, and is celebrated yearly, on April 29. The main purpose of Dance Day events is to attract the attention of the wider public to the art of dance.

Kalasuri Vasugy Jegatheeswaran received her initial training in Bharatha Natyam under her mother Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Shanmugampillai and later in India under Padmashri Adyar K.Lakshman. She has been teaching Bharatanatyam at ICC since last ten years.





