

DKP birth centenary celebrations

The birth centenary of Gana Saraswati D.K. Pattammal—one of the female trinity of Carnatic music—is being celebrated on a grand scale. In order to spearhead the year-long celebrations DKP 100 (A unit of D.K. Pattammal Charitable Trust) has been constituted with around 50 members comprising the family, disciples and fans of the legend with the guidance of patrons like N. Murali, Gopalkrishna Gandhi, N. Gopalaswamy, R. Seshasayee, and Nalli Kuppuswami Chetti.



19 March

The DKP 100 Facebook page was launched and is being updated everyday from that date. A new song is uploaded with a notes about the composition, Pattammal’s music tidbits and interesting anecdotes about her musical life. Now the page has about 5000 subscribers.

A Heritage Walk with historian Sriram V was conducted through Kanchipuram, with around 45 music lovers in a bus, who visited the spots where Pattammal was born, spent her childhood, the school she attended, and her guru Kanchipuram Naina Pillai’s residence. It concluded with a group rendition of songs popularised by Pattammal, by her disciples at the school where she studied.

17 March 2018

The DKP 100 was inaugurated by Indian Vice President Venkaiah Naidu at the Narada Gana Sabha, Chennai. Rich tributes were paid to the music legend by Krishnaraj Vanavarayar and a documentary film on the life of DKP was screened.

The launch of Special Edition DKP Sarees (Nalli Silks) by Padma Subrahmanyam, Ranjani-Gayatri, Bombay Jayashri, and S. Sowmya, was followed by a music recital by Sowmya



Inauguration of DKP 100 celebration at Narada Gana Sabha



Launch of the special edition DKP sarees

Group rendering of songs popularised by DKP, at the Girls School in Kanchipuram where she studied





Participants of the heritage walk in front of the house where Pattammal was born



23 and 24 June

Two-day Pallavi Concerts—highlighting the pallavis sung by Pattammal—were held in association with Nada Inbam at Raga Sudha Hall in Chennai. Suguna Varadachari provided insights into Pattammal’s Jaganmohini ragam-tanam-pallavi. This was followed by a concert by Sumitra Vasudev. A

detailed presentation by Ritha Rajan on the different pallavis sung by DKP, was followed by a concert by Prasanna Venkatraman.

30 June and 1 July

A workshop on the kritis popularised by Pattammal was organised at her residence in Chennai. Two eminent gurus in the DKP pathantara—Lalitha Sivakumar (Tamil kritis)



Suguna Varadachari

Ritha Rajan



Lalitha Sivakumar conducting the workshop



and N. Vijay Siva (Trinity's compositions) taught about 30 students who relished learning the exclusive kritis.

15 July 2018

Poonkuyil Pattammal—a discography of DKP's 78 rpm records—was a memorable audio visual treat. A discussion by veteran critic and collector of vintage records V.A.K. Ranga Rao, writer Suganthy Krishnamachari, and N. Vijay Siva was compered by Saindhavi Prakash. The programme was organised in association with Nayaki, a sabha.

An interesting line-up of



Saindhavi, Suganthy and Vijay Siva

programmes focusing on Sangita Kalanidhi D.K. Pattammal and her music have been planned for the centenary year.

With inputs from
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