



Artist Portfolio

Priyanka Swarna

2016 - 2026

Website

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Artist Bio



Priyanka Swarna is an acclaimed Indian classical dancer, dance scholar, and enterprise technology professional with over 15 years of elite training and performance experience in Bharatanatyam and Mohiniyattam. Based in New Jersey, she has established a distinguished reputation at the intersection of traditional performing arts preservation, global dance scholarship, and corporate IT leadership.

Priyanka's advanced artistic development spans premier institutions in India and the United States. She undergoes advanced training in Mohiniyattam under Guru Kalamandalam Dr. Dhanusha Sanyal and in Bharatanatyam under Guru Smt. Gomathi Manoj at the Soundarya Natya Kalalaya (NJ), where she completed her solo debut (Arangetram) in 2017 and later graduated her higher-level examinations with Distinction. Her early lineage was shaped under Guru Kum. Suryakala (Temple of Fine Arts International, Chennai) and Guru Smt. Sarala Thota (Bangalore).

As a pedagogical innovator, Priyanka co-developed the NAVARASA Cross-Cultural Pedagogical Framework. She introduced this structured, experiential model—which translates classical Indian dance theory for non-specialist global practitioners—to international acclaim via a lecture-demonstration at the 51st UNESCO World Dance Congress in Athens, Greece, before delegates from over 20 countries. Her global credentials include an active membership and Level 1 Certification from the International Dance Council (CID, UNESCO).

Priyanka's cultural contributions have earned her the New Jersey State Council on the Arts Folk Arts Apprenticeship Grant and the title of 'SNK Sarvottama Narthaki'. Her work has also attracted prominent media coverage; she was featured in Clear Admit's independent "Real Humans" graduate series, and her major co-presentation, "Mukti," for the World Malayalee Council, was broadcast internationally on Flowers TV USA and Asianet TV. An active performer and competitor, Priyanka won First Prize at the state-level SiliconAndhra Annamacharya Jayanthi Utsavam and multiple top honors at the Sivan Fine Arts Academy. Her extensive performance portfolio includes features at the International Fine Arts Festival (IFAF), the NJ Thiruvathira event, and global digital premieres with the Gouridharpana Dance Academy. She frequently graces landmark stages across the Tri-State area, including the Sri Venkateswara Temple (Bridgewater), Sri Guruvayoorappan Temple (Morganville), Shri Krishna Vrundavana (Edison), and ISKCON of Central New Jersey.

Balancing her artistic pursuit with academic and corporate excellence, Priyanka holds a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering and a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration. She currently works as an Enterprise Data and IT Professional at BMW of North America, LLC.



Awards and Achievements

Major Grants & Institutional Honors

- Folk Arts Apprenticeship Grant – New Jersey State Council on the Arts (2021–2022)
- Title of 'SNK Sarvottama Narthaki' – Soundarya Natya Kalalaya (2022)
- Featured Profile Selection – Clear Admit "Real Humans" Series
- Appreciation Award – Mahalakshmi Devasthanam Ugadi Celebrations (2018)
- Appreciation Certificate and Award – Spandana Foundation (2018, 2019)

Scholarly Credentials & Pedagogical Frameworks

- Co-Developer, NAVARASA Cross-Cultural Pedagogical Framework – 51st UNESCO World Dance Congress (Athens, Greece)
- Active Member (Level 1 Certified dancer) – International Dance Council (CID, UNESCO)
- Mohiniyattam Graduation (Solo Margam Debut) – Gouridharpana Dance Academy, Kerala
- Bharatanatyam Graduation (Solo Margam Debut) – Soundarya Natya Kalalaya, NJ
- Dance Examination Graduate (L2) – Soundarya Natya Kalalaya, NJ

Selected Broadcasts and Premieres

- International Television Broadcast Coverage – Flowers TV USA & Asianet TV (2026)
- Curated Digital Solo Performance Premiere – Gouridharpana Dance Academy (2021)

Competitive Dance Awards

- First Prize (Adult Category): State-Level SiliconAndhra Annamacharya Jayanthi Utsavam (2019)
- First Place 'Abhinaya Star': Carnatic Music Mela, Nadasudha / Sri Krishna Vrindavan (2018)
- Second Prize (Adult Varnam): Sivan Fine Arts Academy (2022)
- Second Prize (Adult Padam): Sivan Songs Regional Contest (2022)



International Honors

51ST WORLD CONGRESS OF DANCE RESEARCH

Athens, Greece | 2017



International presenter for the Navarasa Workshop and staged the Kalinga Nardhana Thillana before delegates representing 50 countries

International Dance Council (CID, UNESCO)



THE NJSCA FOLK ARTS APPRENTICESHIP - 2021

New Jersey, USA | 2022

Recipient of the competitive state funding grant for the preservation and advanced master-level study of classical Indian dance. The year-long apprenticeship culminated in 'Rhythms in Trance' - a traditional live recital backed by a full live Vadya-Vrindam ensemble.



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Press & Coverage

WMC WOMENS DAY - 2026



Curated broadcast features demonstrating public demand and cultural reach. Featuring the dual-profile international publication by Clear Admit and simultaneous global television broadcasts across South Asian diaspora networks.



Flowers TV - American Dreams segment



Asianet News International segment



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Artistic Honors



'Sarvottama Narthaki' title conferred by SNK NJ

Awarded Adult Padam & Varnam prize by Sivan Fine Arts Academy



'Abinaya Star' title conferred by Nadhasudha's Carnatic Music Mela NJ



CID Level 1 Certification award



First Prize honors at the state-level SiliconAndhra championship circuit



Global & Regional



Mercer County - Culture Festival



TANA - Philadelphia



Liberty Science Center

Demonstrations, talks and fun spotlights from incredible Women working in science and art.

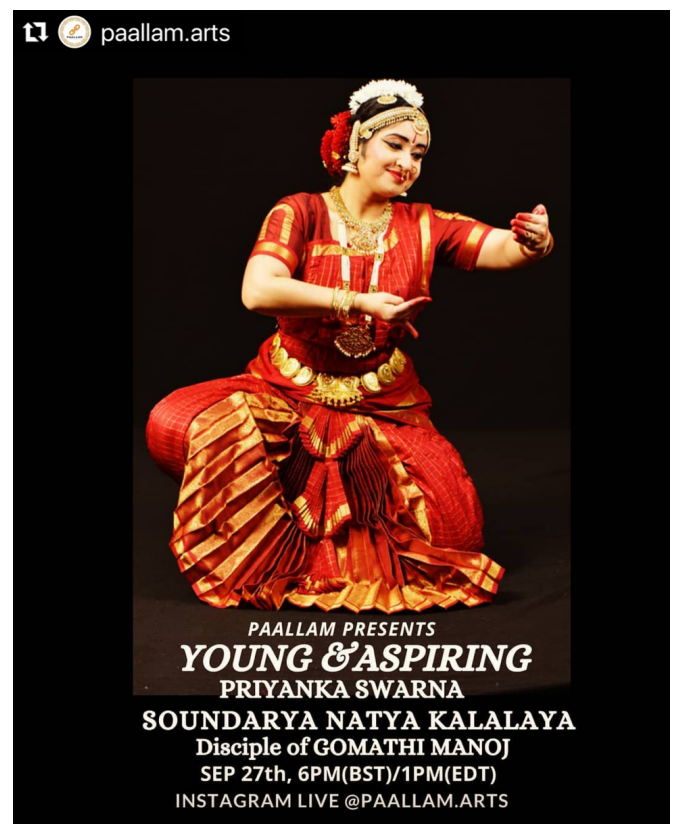
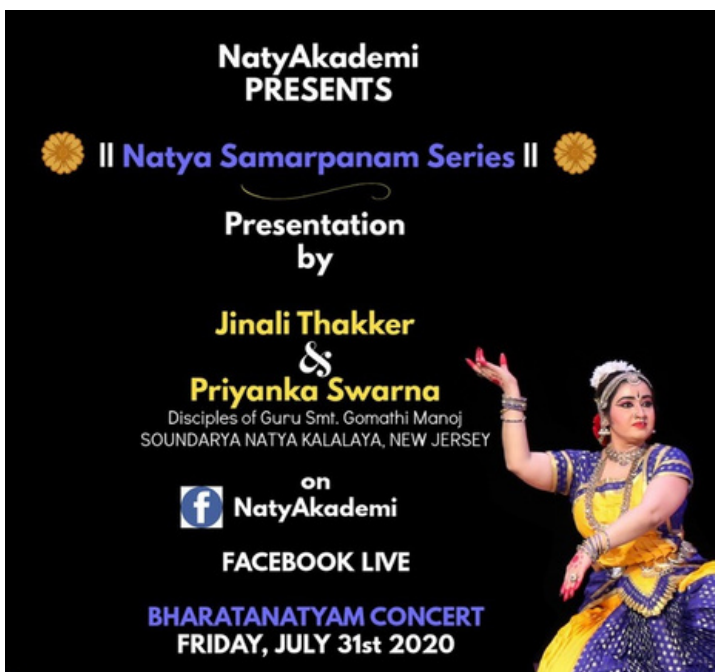




Stage & Media



'Janaki' Spectacular show (130 women on stage) international project management



Performances through National and international venues



Stage & Media





Website

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