

A woman in a red and green sari is captured in a graceful dance pose, standing on a rocky surface. She is wearing traditional jewelry, including a headpiece, necklaces, and bangles. The background is a soft, out-of-focus natural setting with greenery and rocks. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark green filter.

Megha. P. Rao

Ethereal Dancer | Visionary Choreographer | Muse of Cultural Fusion

As an accomplished and dedicated artist of Bharatanatyam, a celebrated Indian classical dance form, Megha has over two decades of experience both as a performer and as a teacher. She is a Graded Doordarshan Artist and currently serving as the Board of Directors of Downtown Bentonville Inc. and is Selected for inclusion on the Arkansas Arts On Tour (AOT) and Arts In Education (AIE) Rosters. Over the past decade, Megha has captivated the hearts of audiences across the Central U.S at multiple venues.



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Inspiration

Step into the Mesmerizing World of Bharatanatyam



Having enthralled audiences across the Central U.S. at numerous venues, Megha's artistry has left an indelible mark on the hearts of spectators. Her captivating performances have captivated audiences across the Central U.S. and India.

Megha's creativity shines in her choreography, seamlessly blending Indian dance forms to create evocative productions like

- NAVARASA MARGAM,
- THE EXILED KING,
- ARDHANAREE,
- BAALA-TALE OF KANHA
- TULA-THE BALACE OF LIFE

Megha's mission is to bridge the gap between society and the classical art form, inspiring, educating, and guiding budding talent along the way. Through collaborations with fellow artists from diverse musical and performing arts backgrounds, she expands the artistic vocabulary while

remaining true to the essence of Bharatanatyam. Megha's dedication to her artistry and her commitment to spreading joy through Bharatanatyam make her an invaluable addition to the Arts on Tour Roster.

Education

Embark on an Artistic Odyssey

MASTERS OF ARTS

University of Bangalore, India.

POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MEDIA PRESENTATION

Loyola College, Chennai, India.

BACHELORS IN ARTS (JOURNALISM)

St Philomena's College, Mysore, India.

BHARATANATYAM JUNIOR EXAM 1998

Karnataka State Secondary Examination Board, India.

BHARATANATYAM SENIOR EXAM 2000

Karnataka State Secondary Examination Board, India.

RANGAPRAVESAM/ARANGETRAM 2002

A debut solo recital of 2-3 hours, which requires years of training, dedication and practice.

BHARATANATYAM VIDWAT EXAM 1ST CLASS 2003

Karnataka State Secondary Examination Board, India.



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Guidance

Navigate the Divine Realm of Bharatanatyam



Beyond the limelight, Megha endeavors to narrow the gap between the general public and this divine art form. Her infectious cheerfulness injects a contemporary vibrancy into the classical dance experience. Whether you're a seasoned dancer seeking new horizons or a curious enthusiast, Megha's aim is to lead you through the intricate tapestry of Bharatanatyam, fostering a deeper connection between the audience and this timeless form of artistic expression.

Megha and her students are frequently engaged in performances across the United States. Megha has overseen the arangetrams of seven students between 2018 and 2022, all of whom are continuing their educational journey in the studio.

Her students showcase their talents to audiences of all backgrounds, performing solo, duet, trio, group, and ensemble. Megha collaborates with schools and various organizations to introduce Bharatanatyam to a wider audience.

Dhirana Academy of Classical Dance:

Nurturing Bharatanatyam Excellence




Dhirana Academy of Classical Dance, founded by Megha, embodies a commitment to preserving and promoting the rich heritage of Bharatanatyam in Northwest Arkansas. Rooted in a deep reverence for this classical Indian dance form, Dhirana serves as a beacon of excellence, inspiring individuals of all ages to explore and embrace the artistry of Bharatanatyam.


Dhirana welcomes students from diverse backgrounds to embark on a journey of discovery and mastery. Under Megha's guidance, dancers are empowered to express themselves through solo, duet, trio, and ensemble performances, captivating audiences with the beauty and grace of Bharatanatyam.

At Dhirana, excellence is not just a goal, but a way of life. With a focus on continuous learning and growth, students undergo rigorous training to develop a strong foundation in Bharatanatyam. The academy proudly celebrates the

achievements of its students, from their arangetrams to their ongoing artistic journeys.

Driven by a passion for Bharatanatyam and a dedication to serving the community, Dhirana Academy of Classical Dance stands as a testament to the enduring legacy of this timeless art form. Through its commitment to excellence, inclusivity, and cultural enrichment, Dhirana continues to inspire and uplift all who seek to explore the world of Bharatanatyam.

 [DhiranaAcademy](#)

 [dhirana_dance](#)

Accomplishments

Discover Megha's Artistic Legacy

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- Has been appointed as an Ambassador of Good Will by Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson, representing the spirit of an Arkansas traveler.
- Receptient of grant from Artists 360, a program of Mid-America Arts Alliance, with generous support from the Walton Family Foundation.
- Graded Doordarshan Artist – Doordarshan is an Indian national television channel.
- Collaborated with Trike Theatre and Ra-Ve Cultural Foundation to create an original adaptation of the well-known story, The Jungle Book mixed with theatrical storytelling and classical Indian dance.
- Established Dhirana Academy for Indian Classical Dance which trains 100+ students and creates opportunities for them to perform and also exposes them to various learning opportunities such as dance workshops, dance competitions, events. Also graduates senior disciples through Arangetram.
- Since 2017 Dhirana Academy organizes an annual event 'Pradashana' for young students to have the experience .
- Since 1996 performed 1000+ dance performances across India and the US, some of them nationally significant events such as
 - Nriyotsav in Mumbai, India
 - West Bengal Tourism Festival in Calcutta, India
 - Pallavothsav in Mysore, India
 - Navaraspur Utsav in Bijapur, India
 - Hampi Utsav, India Fest – Little Rock, AR
 - 21st TANA Conference St louis, MO
 - Sammilana 2023 in Houston,TX
 - Margazhi Nriyothsava 2023 in Chennai, India &
 - NAVIKA in Austin, TX
- She was an early achiever in the Bharatanatyam and won many national and state competitions conducted by government and private organizations. Considering her accomplishments in the field she has been regularly invited to perform by various organizations in India and USA.

Media

M P. Rao



Productions : Conceptualized and Choreographed by Megha P Rao



Contact

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