

# Vana Vani's 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Day Celebration

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Time: 4:00 pm

Venue: Student Activities Centre (SAC), IIT Madras

On August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the vibrant halls of Vana Vani Matriculation Higher Secondary School resonated with joy and pride as the school celebrated its 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Day. Held at the prestigious Student Activities Centre (SAC) of IIT Madras, the event was a grand tribute to over six decades of academic excellence, cultural richness, and a deep sense of community. The evening was a perfect blend of tradition and innovation, reflecting the school's enduring legacy and its forward-looking spirit.

The event was graced by the presence of several eminent personalities, whose contributions and support have been integral to the school's success. Among the distinguished guests were:

Professor. Balaji Narasimhan, from the Department of Civil Engineering and Chairman of the Engineering Unit at IIT Madras, who honored the event as the Chief Guest.

Professor. S.P. Dhanavel, Chairman of the Vana Vani Managing Committee, whose leadership has been a guiding force for the school.

Mr. Raman Kumar, Secretary-cum-Treasurer of the Vana Vani Managing Committee, who has played a pivotal role in shaping the school's strategic direction.

Mr. M. Sathish Kumar, the dynamic Principal of Vana Vani, whose vision continues to inspire both staff and students.

Mrs. Princy Tom, the Vice Principal, who has been a pillar of support in the school's academic and extracurricular endeavors.

Gokulnath Srihari and Netra K, the Head Boy and Head Girl, whose leadership among the student body exemplifies the values Vana Vani seeks to instill.

In addition to these dignitaries, the event saw enthusiastic participation from proud parents, who filled the venue with their unwavering support, and exuberant students, who were eager to showcase their talents.



The evening began with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, symbolizing the dispelling of darkness and the spread of knowledge, followed by a heartfelt prayer. Head Girl Netra K

then warmly welcomed the audience and introduced the distinguished guests.



Following this, the Principal, Mr. M. Sathish Kumar, presented the Annual Report. His report meticulously highlighted the school's remarkable achievements over the past year, encompassing both academic successes and the rich array of extracurricular activities. His words painted a vivid picture of a school that not only imparts knowledge but also nurtures creativity, critical thinking, and social responsibility.



Following the Principal's address, the Special Address was delivered by Mr. Raman Kumar, Secretary-cum-Treasurer of the Vana Vani Managing

Committee. Mr. Kumar articulated the school's vision for the future, outlining ambitious goals that aim to elevate the institution to new heights. He also took a moment to express heartfelt gratitude to the staff, students, and parents, whose collective efforts have been the cornerstone of the school's enduring success.



Next, the Presidential Address was given by Professor S.P. Dhanavel, Chairman of the Vana Vani Managing Committee.

In his speech, Professor Dhanavel emphasized the importance of holistic education, which goes beyond academic achievements to encompass character development, ethical values, and community engagement. He spoke eloquently about the critical role parents play in their children's education and development, urging them to remain actively involved in their children's academic and personal growth. Professor Dhanavel also invoked the inspiring legacy of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, encouraging students to pursue excellence and contribute positively to society.



The highlight of the evening was the Keynote Address by the Chief Guest, Professor Balaji Narasimhan. His speech was a source of inspiration for both students and

teachers alike. Professor Narasimhan spoke about the importance of striving for excellence and innovation, not just in academics but in all aspects of life. He also touched on the vital role teachers play as mentors, guiding students towards their goals. Professor Narasimhan's words resonated deeply with the audience, particularly when he called upon the students to acknowledge and appreciate the unwavering support of their teachers and parents, who are the true pillars of their success.

A significant portion of the ceremony was dedicated to recognizing the outstanding achievements of students through the presentation of Endowment Awards. These prestigious awards were given to students who had excelled in academics, sports, and other extracurricular activities. The awards served as a testament to the hard work, dedication, and perseverance of the students, and were presented by the dignitaries amidst loud applause and cheers from the audience.

Vana Vani had the honor of recognizing individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication and contributions to the school community. The awards presented were as follows:

#### **Vana Vani Golden Jubilee Alumni Association Award:**

- Mrs. Brindha Sreedhar, Social Science teacher
- Mrs. M. Vijayalakshmi, Maths teacher
- Mrs. Anuradha M, Chemistry teacher
- Mr. K. Pakkijaraj, Supporting staff

#### **Vana Vani Golden Jubilee Alumni Association Award and Nishanth Chandra Endowment Award:**

- Mrs. M. N. Laila Banu, Nursery section

#### **Nishanth Chandra Endowment Award:**

- Mrs. Princy Tom, Vice Principal
- Mrs. C. Santhi, Head of Tamil Department



The Class Teachers and the Section Head of High School received the certificate for the school's exceptional performance in the Std. X board examination for the academic year 2023-2024, held on August 4, 2024.



The dignitaries had the honor of presenting the Overall Championship in Sports to Yamuna House. Additionally, Yamuna House was awarded the prestigious shield for their outstanding performance as the Best House in the Inter School Cultural Competition for the year 2023-2024.



A vote of thanks was delivered by Head Boy Gokulnath Srihari, marking the conclusion of the formal program.

This was followed by a spectacular Cultural Program that highlighted the diverse talents of the students and vividly reflected the school's vibrant cultural ethos.

A captivating invocation dance titled “Nriyanjali” was performed. The dance, deeply rooted in Indian traditions, featured a team of skilled dancers who embodied the essence of Nritya - a classical dance form characterized by expressive movements and rich body language. The performance began with an homage to Lord Ganesha, aligning with the tradition of seeking divine blessings before embarking on significant endeavors. This was followed by an exploration of Vishnu's avatars, illustrating the dance as a manifestation of maya or lila, reflecting both textual and oral traditions. “Nriyanjali” was a brilliant display of cultural heritage and artistic excellence, contributing significantly to the cultural richness of the Annual Day celebrations.



The UKG children delighted everyone with their lively act titled “Rock to the Rhythm”. This performance perfectly encapsulated the transformative power of dance, showcasing its ability to unite, inspire joy, and bring out the innate creativity and energy of our youngest stars. The little tots took the stage with remarkable enthusiasm and rhythmic precision, delivering a performance that was both charming and electrifying.



The Standard 1 students delivered an impactful Tamil skit titled “வனம் வளர்ப்போம் வளம் பெறுவோம்” was a thought-provoking performance underscored the critical importance of environmental conservation, delivering a compelling message about the need for collective action to safeguard our planet. The skit illustrated how nurturing nature and preserving trees are vital for sustaining our environment and supporting life. The performance resonated deeply with the audience, effectively raising awareness about conservation and inspiring a commitment to environmental responsibility.



The dance performance titled **“Seasons Symphony”** Performed by Standard 2 students, this mesmerizing act celebrated the beauty and diversity of nature through the changing seasons. The performance not only highlighted the students’ developing dance skills but also fostered an appreciation for the natural world and its seasonal transformations. The **“Seasons Symphony”** resonated deeply with the audience, leaving them enchanted by the young performers’ ability to bring the beauty of nature to life through dance.



The standard 3 students delivered a profoundly moving performance of the English song **“Echoes of Dreamers”** This musical piece was a heartfelt tribute to the dreams and aspirations of the students, capturing the essence of hope and ambition. The rendition of **“Echoes of Dreamers”** was not only a showcase of the students’ musical talents but also a celebration of their potential and aspirations. It highlighted their ability to convey complex emotions and connect with the audience through music.



English skit titled **“The Enchanted Quest”** performed by students from Standard 4 and 5. This engaging performance transported the audience into a world of fantasy and adventure, showcasing the students’ dramatic talents and creativity. The skit highlighted the themes of teamwork and perseverance as the friends sought to find the mystical fountain within the Enchanted Forest. The students’ performances were both engaging and entertaining, demonstrating their acting prowess and ability to bring a fantastical story to life.



The standard 6 students delivered a Hindi song performance titled **“Prakrithi aur Insaan”** This soulful rendition explored the intricate relationship between nature and humanity, emphasizing the need to preserve and honor the natural world. The song, celebrated for its evocative lyrics and melodic charm, praised the vibrant and colorful aspects of nature. The students’ expressive singing and engaging delivery brought the song’s message to life, leaving a lasting impact on everyone present and fostering a deeper appreciation for the beauty and fragility of nature.



The play, titled “**Golden Bonds: Cherishing Our Parents in Their Golden Years**” was a contemporary adaptation of Shakespeare’s timeless classic “King Lear” and it was performed by our talented 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> standard students. This poignant adaptation reimagined the original tale, focusing on the profound theme of family and the responsibilities we hold towards our elders. The performance was not only a testament to the students' dramatic prowess but also a powerful reminder of the importance of cherishing and respecting our parents in their golden years. The heartfelt portrayal of family dynamics and the duty of care towards our elders left a lasting impression on all who attended.



A splendid performance of the French classic “**Aux Champs-Élysées**” delivered by our talented 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> standard students. This iconic song brought a touch of Parisian elegance to the evening, offering the audience a delightful escape to the heart of Paris. The choice of “Aux Champs-Élysées” added a sophisticated layer to the event, showcasing the students’ diverse talents and their ability to convey the beauty of international music. The performance was a testament to their dedication and training, and it highlighted their ability to engage the audience with a blend of musical skill and cultural flair.



The tamil skit titled “**விழி இறந்தது வழி தெரிந்தது**” performed by our insightful 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> standard students. This skit addressed the contemporary and increasingly relevant issue of mobile phone addiction, providing both humor and reflection on its effects. It highlighted how excessive use of mobile phones can lead to distractions, affecting students’ academic performance and personal relationships. The performance was both entertaining and educational, offering valuable insights into the negative consequences of over-reliance on technology.



An Impressive instrumental medley titled “**Madhuralap,**” performed by our gifted students. This medley was a masterful fusion of classical and contemporary tunes, showcasing the exceptional musical talents and versatility of our student performers. The performance was marked by a harmonious interplay between different instruments, demonstrating the students' collaborative spirit and their ability to integrate diverse musical elements into a cohesive and engaging presentation.



A spectacular conclusion with the performance of “Awakening the Light Within” a dynamic fusion dance that celebrated the themes of unity and diversity. The thematic core of the performance revolved around the interplay of good and evil, a concept vividly illustrated through the choreography. The dancers portrayed contrasting elements of light and darkness with striking visual effects and emotive dance sequences. Overall, the fusion dance was a testament to the creativity and dedication of the students, and it served as a fitting end to the cultural program, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.



As the informal segment concluded, the audience was deeply impressed by the students’ remarkable talent, passion, and dedication. The programs perfectly embodied the evening’s spirit - celebrating diversity, fostering creativity, and promoting unity through art. The success of Vana Vani’s 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Day highlighted the tireless efforts of the school’s teachers, who meticulously guided the students throughout their preparations.