

eyelights



AMERICA



Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust Inc.,

**Sankara Nethralaya
OM Trust, USA**

9710, Traville Gateway Drive No.392, Rockville,
MD 20850 e-mail : acharya@sankaranethralayausa.org



SANKARA NETHRALAYA USA

Established in June 1988 in Rockville, Maryland, USA
as a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization

*Sankara Nethralaya USA - A 30 year old Indian American saga of
bringing back vision to those who cannot afford to 'See' the World*

Presents

A Charity Fundraiser



Padmabhushan
Dr. S S Badrinath
Founder, Sankara Nethralaya

Dr. Girish Rao
President



Devotional Music Concert by

Padma Shri

Dr. Shobha Raju



Sunday, December 20th 2020 @ 1:30 PM EDT - Monday, December 21st 2020 @ 12AM IST



Please donate generously: www.sankaranethralayausa.org

Donation Schemes			
Single cataract Surgery	\$ 65	Two cataract Surgeries	\$ 130
Single major surgery	\$ 250	1-day ophthalmic screening	\$ 250
Annual cataract Surgery	\$ 700	Annual major surgery	\$ 2,200

Please send Your Tax-Deductible Donation Checks To:
SN OM Trust Inc, 9710 Traville Gateway Drive, No. 392, Rockville, MD 20850

Paypal Link - <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1769240>



Executive Committee, Sankara Nethralaya USA

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Secretary

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Joint Secretary

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www.sankaranethralayausa.org

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Greetings from Sankara Nethralaya.

I hope you and your family are safe and well during this pandemic. This is Dr S.S. Badrinath from Sankara Nethralaya, and Dr. Girish Rao, President, Sankara Nethralaya joining with S.V. Acharya, President Emeritus and Bala Reddy Indurti, President, SN OM Trust, our fund-raising arm in the US, in seeking your benevolence during these difficult and uncertain times.

This year has been most tumultuous for the entire world and the COVID 19 pandemic has affected every aspect of Sankara Nethralaya's operations. Truly, no challenge we have ever faced in the last four decades has come close to what we are facing now.

Due to the lockdown, Sankara Nethralaya's services were restricted by inter-state and intra-state transport facilities and other government restrictions. Consequently, our patient flow decreased significantly while critical expenses for PPEs such as masks, hand sanitizers, face shields, etc., for our staff who work with the patients, and for the patients, shot up drastically. The daily operational costs for PPEs will cost us an estimated 1.46 crores rupees.

In spite of the greatly reduced income to the hospital, we continue to treat poor patients totally free of cost.

Even with these adversities, as 2020 draws to a close, we have worked towards Sankara Nethralaya's mission to bring vision to indigent blind Indians:

- ★ In the fiscal year 2019-20, we treated 400,791 outpatients and performed 21,017 surgeries on poor patients totally cost free.
- ★ From the program's inception, our Mobile Eye surgical Units (MESU) have screened 92,366 free patients and have enabled our team to perform 17,151 operations till date in impoverished Indian hamlets.
- ★ On 24th February, 2020, SN's senior surgeons and anesthetists came together to perform 103 cost-free cataract surgeries at our recently constructed JCOC, fully-equipped, exclusive community hospital.
- ★ Newsweek has named Sankara Nethralaya as one of the 'Best 4 Ophthalmic Institutions in the World for year 2020' making it the only Hospital from India to make it to top 100 hospitals in the world.
- ★ Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust Inc USA has been awarded as a 4 star charity by Charity Navigator.
- ★ For his invaluable work on a Fully Automated Tele Counseling Solution, our CIO, Mr Chandra Mouli, was honored with the CIO of the Year award from Techplus Media. Dr R R Sudhir's dedication, along with the IT team's hard work, backed by all the consultants and SN team made this possible.
- ★ Online events such as Master Rahul Vella's Carnatic music concert and Padma Shri A. Kanyakumaris Violin Concert have raised significant amounts for cost free cataract surgeries on indigent blind Indians.
- ★ We are grateful to Great Andhra, Mana TV, TV Asia, Sakshi TV, TV5 and Tori for giving publicity for our mission through their media.
- ★ We appreciate your continued support for the past four decades and request you to send your tax deductible contributions.

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For more information please visit: www.sankaranethralaya.org (or) www.sankaranethralayausa.org

100 days Naatyanjali by Nataraja Natyanjali Dance Academy



Smt. Neelima Gaddamanugu organized a Hundred Days of Kuchipudi dance performances by the students of Nataraja Natyanjali Dance Academy. Neelima garu started teaching Kuchipudi from 2003 and her academy has been officially registered since 2008 in Atlanta, GA, USA.

Smt. Neelima Gaddamanugu teaches the Vempati school of Kuchipudi classical dance form. Dr. Vempati Chinna Satyam was an exponent and guru of the Kuchipudi dance form. He systemized Kuchipudi, giving it a more classical basis, and popularising the Kuchipudi dance form all over the world. He composed and

choreographed more than 180 solo items and 15 dance dramas, which have been staged all over India and abroad.

The dance performances include Koutvams, Stotrams, Sabdhams, Tarangam, Jatiswaram, Thillana Keertanas, etc. Smt. Neelima Gaddamanugu also plans on showcasing songs such as Annamacharya, Ramadasu, Keertanas, and Sabdhams, Koutvams, Thillanas, and stotrams like Astalakshmi, Aygiri, Nandini, Siva Stotram, Lingastakam, etc. during the coming days.

Watch one young Kuchipudi student perform live daily at 7 PM (EDT) during the weekdays and 10 AM (EDT) during the weekends on Facebook and website.

Kurai Ondrum Illai Humble Tribute to Sankara Nethralaya's Frontline Warriors



48 talented vocalists and instrumentalists gave a soulful rendition of Kurai Ondrum Illai song as a tribute to our frontline heroes of Sankara Nethralaya Chennai team.

'Kurai Ondrum Illai' is one of the famous Tamil devotional songs, which was tuned by Shri Kadayanallur Venkatraman, who was a close associate of Shri Semmangudi. Governor General of India Sri C. Rajagopalachari has weaved those beautiful words into an amazing song and popularized by Bharat Ratna M. S. Subbulakshmi amma who has made this lively song divine and immortal with her soulful voice. The song is an expression of thankfulness to the divine without any wants left unfulfilled.

To mention the raagams, the whole song is not based on just one raagam but is a Raagamalika. The pallavi and anupallavi are sung in Shivananjani while the charanam is rendered in Shivananjani, Kapi and Sindubhairavi.

All the 48 artists are carefully selected and this project was started in July and completed on Sep 7, 2020. The concept, execution and the direction is by Sowmiya Narayanan, Kamalakiran Vinjamuri and Somanath Dhandibotla. The video, audio, editing, mastering and mixing were done by Somanath Dhandibotla. All the participants are from various states in US.

Many prominent figures from the world of Carnatic classical music gave positive reviews and this YouTube video is a huge success and is still garnering lots of donations along with positive accolades from prominent musicians.

Kalaimamani Sri Unnikrishnan appreciated the efforts of youngsters for arranging a precise orchestration. "Must have been quite a task. Everybody has sung and played very well in unison. Convey my Best wishes to the entire team," he said.

Sangita Kalanidhi Padma Bhushan Smt. Sudha Raghunathan gave her appreciation and observed, "Wonderful effort ji! Joara paadi vaasitchirka!"

To watch this rendition at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aEdmK49Iyhc>

Sangita Kalanidhi Padmasri Vidushi Kanyakumari's violin concert for indigent patients



Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust USA organized a live stream event by Sangita Kalanidhi Padmasri Vidushi Kanyakumari on Sunday, 11th October 2020. Sangita Kalanidhi Kanyakumari was accompanied by Vidhwan Dr. Patri Satish Kumar on the Mridangam, Vidhwan Anirudh Athreya on the Khanjira, and Vidhwan Sayee Rakshith on Violin support.

Patrons immersed themselves in Vidushi Kanyakumari's concert from comfort of their homes. SN OM Trust USA was forced to cancel in person-events and the trustees organized online charity concerts to raise funds for bringing sight to poor indigent patients.

The concert by this great violin virtuoso raised \$35,000 to help poor patients get the care they desperately need. We sincerely thank our supporters Mana TV, TV Asia, Sakshi TV, TV5, TV9, US 1 Television, and Radio TORi for their tireless efforts in telecasting this Classical concert.

Watch Sangita Kalanidhi Padmasri Vidushi Kanyakumari's performance here

<https://www.facebook.com/Sankaranethralaya.Officialpage/videos/3447205528700282/>

Winter music festival- Nov 28, 2020 -Jan 3, 2021

SANKARA NETHRALAYA OPHTHALMIC MISSION TRUST, INC
Present

Day 122
Carnatic Music Concert
Violin Solo by
Vidhwan Sri Kamalakaran Vinjamuri
Friday 8PM EDT
Jan 1, 2021
LIVE STREAM on FB page

Donate **PayPal** <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1769240>

www.sankaranethralayausa.org

Carnatic concert series in memory of Sri A. Jaganathan



Our Joint Treasurer, Sri Sowmiya Narayanan, his son- Sanjith Narayanan, and his violin teacher, Sri Kamalkiran Vinjamuri, initiated a fund-raising concert series for Sankara Nethralaya in memory of his beloved father, Sri A. Jaganathan who reached his heavenly abode on July 2, 2020.

The memorial concert series, which commenced on July 5, 2020 was initially planned only for 10 days. The virtual concert series proved to be so popular, it was extended multiple times and became an ongoing music concert series. From July 5 to Sep 6, we had continual performances during the weekdays. With schools reopening, the performances are held over the weekends.

The concert series has completed 75 days of musical performances so far and we hope to touch 100 days soon. Over 85 young and talented artists from US, India, Singapore, New Zealand and Australia have performed for this good cause.

We have raised \$ 40,000 to cover 615 surgeries and have reached more than 30,000 unique visitors until now. Our target is to raise funds for 1000 surgeries to support indigent poor patients.

SN OM Trust Inc., USA thanks all the singers and musicians who have selflessly participated in the concert series and helped raise funds for impoverished patients.

Heartiest congratulations Mrs Leela Krishnamurthy, Past President



We are pleased to announce that one of our own, Mrs Leela Krishnamurthy, past President of Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust, has been nominated as a Woman of Substance, for her work in the local community; the virtual gala was held on Nov 6th 2020. The money raised at this gala will benefit the Mission of Yahweh, a shelter for homeless families. Mrs Leela Krishnamurthy is the only woman of Indian origin to have been nominated for this award.

Her numerous accolades include: Congressional Recognition from Pete Olson, Easter Seals "Hats Off" to Mothers, and the Top 20 Impact Maker Award from CKW, presented by Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner. She has received numerous awards from Indian associations such as Indo American Charity Foundation, India Cultural Center, Meenakshi Temple Bharathi Kalai Manram, and Telugu Association.

She is currently on the board of UNICEF, and is the past President of Indo American Charity Foundation, Bharathi Kalai Manram and board member of several organizations including Houston Habitat for Humanity.

To view the event, please click on <http://www.missionofyahweh.org>

Padmashri Dr. Shobha Raju Garu to Perform Sankeerthanas

As part of the Sankara Nethralaya year-end campaign, we are coordinating a program by Padmashri Dr. Shobha Raju garu on Sunday Dec 20th, 2020. Shobha Raju is an Indian classical musician, devotional singer, writer and composer, and is known for her performances of the sankeertana of Annamacharya, the 15th-century saint-composer.

Dr. Shobha Raju garu will be rendering sankeerthanas in all languages including Hindi and Sanskrit. She will also translate the lyrics in English to engage audiences around the globe. The program will be telecast live in all major TV channels and in www.sankaranethralayaUSA.org.

2021 Combined Federal Campaign Contributions

Open season for enrolling/re-enrolling in Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) runs from September 21, 2020 to January 15, 2021.

CFC is a US government program, under which federal employees are encouraged to donate to charities approved by them. Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust is one of the approved charities. If you are a federal employee, please donate through CFC. If not, but know somebody who is, please motivate them to donate. Our CFC No. is 68803.

Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust raises funds with Microsoft Give

Microsoft supports their employees' passion for giving and matches employee donations of time and money to non-profit organizations. Each October, Microsoft's employee Giving Campaign (since 1983) encourages its employees to directly connect with non-profit organizations.

Last year we conducted a Poker Tournament and raised \$25K with a matching program. Due to the ongoing Corona Pandemic we conducted an online Poker Tournament on Tuesday, 6th October 2020. All Microsoft employees across the USA are eligible to participate. With Microsoft matching and volunteer hours, this event generated \$17k, which will sponsor 260 cataract surgeries for indigent patients.

Congratulations to top donor Khushboo Chandrachud, and the top 3 players Ankur Khemani, Hue Vang, Bogdan Poppand, and all the 51 players who took part in this event. Coordinated By: BalaIndurti, Vishwa Manchikalapati, Madhu Babu Mallidi.

Sankara Nethralaya thanks the Kannan Family



In 2017, a 12 year old boy in Suburban Washington DC in the USA, happened to see a video about Sankara Nethralaya in one of the local fundraising events. The plight of blind people in India and the activities of Nethralaya inspired him so much, he decided to do whatever he could to raise funds. His parents, Amuthan and Vidya, encouraged him to host a fundraiser at the basement of their house in the form of a youth talent show. His friends and family supported his cause and the event raised upwards of \$2000.

The success of the previous event encouraged Jay and family to host another fundraiser in May of 2019 at a local school auditorium. They raised about \$3,000, which funded 46 cataract surgeries for the economically underprivileged in our society.

This year's Charity Night, held on 8th August 2020, is the Kannan Family's fourth annual fundraiser. Jay put together a 1 hour 30 minutes virtual show where all participants performed from their respective homes and organized by Kannan family using the Zoom video platform. Over 20 performers of varied age groups from all across the United States showcased their talent. This year's virtual event

has raised over \$4000 for Sankara Nethralaya's mission to bring vision to indigent blind people. Krishna Raj Bhat, Joint Secretary & Trustee, SN OM Trust introduced Sankara Nethralaya's mission for vision and thanked the Kannan family - Amudhan, Vidhya, Hari and Jay, for organizing the Virtual Charity Night.

Sankara Nethralaya thanks the Kannan family for their generosity in raising money to fight blindness among the poor in society.

Just \$65 goes towards helping a poor Indian receive free cataract surgery and follow-up care. By contributing towards Sankara Nethralaya's mission to bring vision to the poor, you enable one poor blind person to regain their place in society.

Aparna Guhan Shyam Espouses Our Cause



Aparna Guhan Shyam, fourth-generation scion of the AVM family and the Founder and Managing Trustee of THCF, has joined hands with Sankara Nethralaya to help children from socio-economically weaker groups.

Aparna's desire to help support children with haemophilia began when she was 14 years old. Her innate compassion was aroused and she founded the Tiara Haemophilia and Cancer Foundation through which she helps children with childhood cancers and hemophilia. The longstanding ties between the illustrious AVM family and Sankara Nethralaya have been rejuvenated through the common goal to help sick children receive the complex care they require.

We thank Ms. Aparna Guhan Shyam for her tireless efforts in supporting children with cancers such as retinoblastoma.

SNIPPETS

100 Days of Classical Singing

The Los Angeles, CA, chapter has initiated an “A 100 Days of Classical Singing” program, which commenced on Thursday, 24th October 2020. This online event has invited upcoming trained classical singers from all over the United States to participate in our noble cause. The series will continue until the January 2021 Sankranthi festival. Watch the series on <https://www.facebook.com/Sankaranethralaya.Officialpage/> and donate generously. Your munificence will help needy patients receive quality eye healthcare.

Coordinated By: Bala Indurti, Prasad Rani

SNOM Trust trustees talk to the media

We have been promoting our activities on the weekly **Tori (TeluguOne Radio on Internet)** program hosted by Dr. Reddy Urimindi. We have given panel interviews to all major TV channels in which we spoke about the accomplishments of Sankara Nethralaya and its ongoing mission.

We wish to thank **Sakshi TV, Mana TV, TV Asia, and TV5** for live telecasting Sankara Nethralaya virtual fund raising events during the Coronavirus Pandemic. Mr. Bala Indurti, President, has been instrumental in organizing and coordinating with the various TV and radio channels, and the live telecasting of funding raising events on social media.



How to donate in the United States of America...



Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust Inc.

9710 Traville Gateway Drive, No. 392, Rockville, MD 20850, Phone : (301) 529 7377
www.supportsankaranethralaya.org

Tax Exempt ID No. 52-1611548

For additional details, feel free to contact S. V. Acharya at (301) 529-7377; acharya@snomtrust.org

Bala Reddy Indurti at (770) 851-4765; brindurti@gmail.com



Donating online at Omtrust.org - All your donations are securely routed through www.groundspring.org.

United Way - Mention the above information on your authorization form. Local chapters will remit your contributions to the SN OM Trust Inc.

Combined Federal Campaign - If you are a US federal employee, make your donations to Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust Inc. CFC No. 68803.

Employer Matching Program - A number of US employers match *dollar for dollar* to employees' contributions. You may be able to double your contributions to SN OM Trust.

Appreciated Stocks - You may donate appreciated stocks to SN OM Trust Inc. and avail of a tax deduction. For additional information, please contact the Trust at the aforementioned phone number.

Contributions by check - Simply make your check payable to SN OM Trust Inc. and mail to the above address.

Payroll Deductions - Please check with your HR office if they are programmed to withhold from payroll and remit to a nonprofit organization. A number of organizations provide this as a public service.

Draft from Checking Account - Download from our website www.omtrust.org, the direct debit authorization form and forward your authorization with a 'void check' to the above address. We will draft the funds on the 15th of every month. You can stop your authorization any time by a simple notification to us.

Donate on Special Occasions, as a tribute Festivals, birthdays, wedding anniversaries, in memory of a loved one and provide support in the form of a bequest.

All donations to SN OM Trust are 100% IRS Tax Exempted in US, IRS Registered 501 (c) (3)

How can you help us?

Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust owes its existence and success to its committed volunteers. To realize our mission of 20/20 by 2020, we need many more volunteers. You can be one of our volunteers and can help us by :

- Spreading the word about Sankara Nethralaya.
- Supporting Teleophthalmology & Glass dispensing vans.
- Conducting events for fundraising.
- Helping with accounting, web management.
- Arranging for American students to undertake summer projects at Sankara Nethralaya.
- Personally making small donations

The following employers have supported us through GIFT MATCHING or PAYROLL DEDUCTION programs!

- Microsoft
- Qualcomm
- Deutsche Bank
- Educational Testing Services
- American Express
- Cadence
- Merrill Lynch
- Charles Schwab Foundation
- J P Morgan Chase
- First Data
- GE Foundation
- McGraw Hill Cos.
- The Bank of New York Mellon
- Merck
- Google
- Verizon
- eBay Foundation
- Northern Trust
- **Combined Federal Campaign' (CFC) by the US government**

We seek your continued support as we progress in our battle against blindness

Donation Schemes	
\$65- 1 cataract surgery	\$ 290- Rural Tele-ophthalmology camp - 1 day
\$250- 1 major surgery	\$300 - Rural school screening camp - 1 day
\$ 700- 1 Perpetual cataract surgery 12 years	\$ 2,600- approximately 40 surgeries per day
\$ 2,200- 1 Perpetual major surgery 12 years	\$ 25,000- Naming a room
General Corpus fund for community outreach programs : Any Amount	

To Donate Online : www.sankaranethralayausa.org Checks to be made on: SN OM Trust Inc, Send checks to: 9710 Traville Gateway Drive No.392, Rockville, MD20850
All donations to SN OM Trust are tax exempt in US