"DEEP DIVE INTO THE LIFE OF SCHOLARS OF A PERFORMING ART NOT FROM THEIR INHERITED CULTURAL BACKGROUND"



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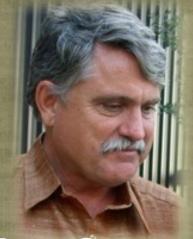
EK SITARA

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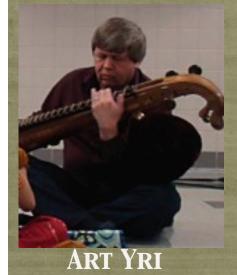
DAVID COURTNEY
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

A versatile practitioner of the Hindustani Classical Music, David Courtney has had the privilege of studying the Pakhawaj, Tabla, Dilruba, Esraj, Sarangi and Santoor from great masters from India. He has been performing on the Tabla since 1972 and has accompanied greats such as Ashish Khan, Lakshmi Shankar, and Pandit Jasraj. He has also authored pioneering studies in the application of computers to Indian music. He is currently with Young Audiences and the fusion group Vani.

Katie studed Carnatic vocal percussion, Konnakol as part of her M.A. in World Arts at the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics (GIAL) in Dallas, TX. Her musical journey includes studying piano, playing snare drum, trumpet, and tuba in concert and marching bands up to college levels. She has a B.M. in Music Education (K-12, Instrumental) and an M.M. in Organ Performance from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI. Katie has taught in bilingual programs in Netherlands as well as Israel. She has an M.A. in Teaching Speakers of Other Languages from Tel Aviv University and currently works as Associate Dean of Students at GIAL.



KATIE HOOGERHEIDE



Currently CTO at OnviSource Inc. in Plano, Art Yri was inspired to learn the Veena after meeting the famed maestro Chittibabu. He has also undergone training in Nadaswaram and was invited to play at the Annual Nadaswaram Conference in Mysore. Following a 20-year hiatus on his return to the USA, he resumed his Veena training and has been playing for the last 10 years. His interests extend to Tae Kwan Do and Okinawa style weapons in both of which he has earned a Black Belt.

A 2012 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin in music. Sowmya Somanath has been 2nd chair in the in the Texas All-State Women's Choir. Also trained in Carnatic music, Hindustani music, Bharatnatyam and Kuchipudi and Kathak dance styles, Sowmya has most recently in the preparatory program at A.R. Rahman's K.M. Conservatory in Chennai, where she has trained under stalwarts of Hindustani music.



SOWMYA SOMANATH



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