



SMT. DEEPIKA REDDY



Smt. Deepika Reddy is an accomplished performer, an ingenious choreographer, a dedicated Guru and a cultural ambassador.

2. Born on 15th September, 1965, Smt. Reddy belongs to three generations of classical dancers and had her debut dance performance in 1976. Groomed by Padma Bhushan awardee Guru Dr. Vempati Chinna Satyam, she is recognized as a leading exponent of the Kuchipudi art form. Her journey in classical dance spans over five decades with performances at prestigious dance festivals across the globe.

3. Through her unwavering dedication, Smt. Reddy has made a profound and enduring contribution to the propagation and advancement of Kuchipudi, preserving its rich legacy for future generations. As the Founder of the Deepanjali Institute of Kuchipudi, she has mentored thousands of disciples, creating a nurturing and disciplined environment that fosters artistic excellence. She has ensured that no deserving student is denied training due to social or economic constraints. Her influence extends beyond the stage as she has actively championed Kuchipudi through lecture-demonstrations, school outreach programs and workshops in India and abroad, introducing classical dance to new and diverse audiences, particularly young learners.

4. Some of the significant international performances of Smt. Reddy are: Festival of India in Berlin; 'Year of India' at Bolshoi Theatre Russia; at Sri Lankan Parliament; 70th Indian Independence celebrations in Turkey; International Bangkok Festival and Jeonju Sori International Festival South Korea; performances at France, Serbia, Singapore, Indonesia, Japan, Dubai and United States. She has also performed at Rashtrapathi Bhavan.

5. Smt. Reddy's choreographic vision has made Kuchipudi more accessible and relevant today by preserving its core grammar while innovating its content and presentation. Her productions convey powerful messages addressing contemporary, social and environmental issues like the concept of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam - one world, one family, Prakriti Rakshati Rakshitaha - encouraging people to adopt a sustainable lifestyle, showcasing India's beautiful weaves, handicrafts, tourist destinations and temples and a tribute to the frontline healthcare workers fighting the Covid-19 pandemic.

6. Smt. Reddy was the first woman Chairperson of Telangana Sangeet Natak Akademi, Governing Council member, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Delhi; Selection Committee Member Telangana State and erstwhile Andhra Pradesh State Awards, member of the Regional Film Censor Board and Jury Member of Nandi State film awards, selection panel member of Khajuraho Dance Festival. She is a Member of the Board of Studies in the S.N. School of Arts and Communication, University of Hyderabad. She is an A-Top Grade artiste of Doordarshan.

7. Smt. Reddy has received several prestigious awards like Sangeet Natak Akademi award; Telangana Government State Award, Kala Ratna - Andhra Pradesh Government State Award, Nritya Choodamani - Krishna Gana Sabha, Natya Kalasarathy - Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha, Vani Kala Sudhakara - Thyaga Brahma Gana Sabha, Akkineni Nageswara Rao Swarna Kankanam, Vempati Chinna Satyam Lifetime Achievement Award, Devdasi National Award and Guru Deba Prasad Award. She was also conferred Honorary Citizenship by Miyoshi, Japan.