

# **DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS**

*Progressive Education Society's*  
**Modern College of Arts, Science and Commerce (*Autonomous*)**  
**Shivajinagar, Pune – 5**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2024 - 25**

The department stepped into its second year of operations in June 2025. As per the new NEP 2024, 26 FY students chose Music as one of their three core subjects. Due to some circumstances, 3 students of 2023-24 batch had to drop out. Resultantly we had 9 SYBA (Music Major) students in 2024-25 and 4 students of Minor continuing with their SYBA (Music Minor) in 2024-25. 2 students of SY and 11 FY students took music subjects for their OE (Open Elective). We also began afternoon **hobby classes** in **Tabla, Bharatanatyam, Violin** and **Harmonium**.

We successfully conducted the first batch of '**Introduction to Western Music**' course for kids with the support of **Suzuki School of Violin**. The course spread over six offline interactive sessions (July-Sept 2024) was attended by 19 students and their parents. Sessions were conducted on Fundamentals of Western Music, Instruments used in Western Music, Periods in Western Music, Musical forms and contexts and Western Popular and Film music by **Shri. Kuldeep Barve** and **Shri. Shardul Bapat**. The course was conceived, coordinated and executed by Dr. Pushkar Lele (HoD, Dept. of Performing Arts) with the course contents being planned by **Ms. Rama Chobhe** (Suzuki School of Violin), Shardul Bapat and Kuldeep Barve. We had the pleasure to host **Mr. Dhruva Sheshadri ji**, an IRS officer and pianist of repute as our guest, to give away the certificates and encourage these bright young musical minds.



**University of Chicago – Study Abroad Program**, led by Prof. Tyler Williams, Associate Professor, Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations collaborated with us to conduct three interactive sessions for 8 undergrad students on Indian Music by Dr. Pushkar Lele in November 2024. The students shared that they had wonderfully engaging, enriching and meaningful learning sessions with Dr. Lele, who in a brief time introduced them to the diversity, aesthetics and unique musical ideas in Indian music.



Due to the efforts of Dr. Pushkar Lele, HoD, selected students of SYBA (Music) and FYBA attended the prestigious **Lonavala Khandala Sangeet Sammelan** from 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Dr. Lele also successfully led and conducted the **3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Batch of Certificate Course in Music Appreciation**.

The department facilitated the processing of accident insurance claim of our SYBA student Suranjan Jaybhaye as offered by SPPU, with the help of Dr. Shubhangi Puranik (Vice Principal – PG Section).

### **The Department organized the following activities for the year 2024-25**

1. The department organised a Certificate Distribution Ceremony followed by a music concert featuring artists Shri. Siddhivinayak Paithankar (Tabla Solo) and Shri. Saurabh Kadgaonkar (Hindustani Classical Vocal) on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 4.30 pm at the Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar Sabhagriha. The function was organised to distribute certificates to the eligible participants of the 'Certificate Course in Music Appreciation' (Batch 1 and 2), 'Basic Certificate Course in Music Therapy' and 'Tabla Beginners Level 1' courses conducted in the academic year 2023-24. Eminent violinist and Guru Ms. Swapna Datar graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. After this formal event, the latter half saw artist **Shri. Siddhivinayak Paithankar**, a uniquely talented ambidextrous tabla player dazzle the audience with his command and mastery over both hands and both drums of the tabla. This was followed by a Hindustani Classical vocal recital by **Shri. Saurabh Kadgaonkar**.





Siddhivinayak Paithankar (Tabla Solo) accompanied by Madhav Limaye



Saurabh Kadgaonkar (Hindustani Classical Vocal) accompanied by Shripad Shirwalkar (Tabla) and Leeladhar Chakradeo (Harmonium)

2. The department in collaboration with the disciples of the renowned tabla maestro **Pt. Ramdas Palsule** ji organised the "*Guru Abhivadan Sohala*" from the 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> July 2024 at Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar Sabhagriha. The programme was organised on the occasion of 'Guru Poornima' and was held in four sessions. The students of the department were present along with a large number of tabla students, music lovers and connoisseurs from Maharashtra and eminent musicians like **Padma Shri Taalyogi Pt. Suresh Talwalkar**, eminent sarod maestro **Pt. Rajan Kulkarni**, Shri. Mukund Athavale, eminent Shehenai player **Shri. Kalyan Apaar**, **Shri. Satyajet Talwalkar** and many others. Principal



3. We organised a two-day **lec-dem series**, conceived and curated by Dept. Head Dr. Pushkar Lele on Instrumental Music on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Aug 2024. The lec-dem on the first day was conducted by **Shri. Anupam Joshi** who talked about **‘String Instruments of the Sarod lineage’**. The following day saw **Pt. Milind Tulankar** speak on **‘The Magic of rare musical instruments’**.



Anupam Joshi





Pt. Milind Tulankar being felicitated by Principal Dr. Rajendra Zunjarrao Sir



4. **Shri. Debapriya Adhikary** (Kolkata) conducted an enlightening **workshop on ‘The Art of Voice – Exploring techniques for singer and speakers’** on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024. The interactive workshop aimed to explore the art of voice mastery for singers and speakers, develop a deeper understanding of the vocal instrument and know the subtleties of voice training as also to learn techniques to build a powerful, healthy voice to enhance singing or speaking skills and overcome vocal challenges.



5. We in collaboration with 'Ninadini' Pune presented '**Devchandhar - Swarvandan**' a tribute to the Gurus by promising young artists and disciples of **Vidushi Dr. Alka Deo-Marulkar**, a stalwart musician of the Jaipur *gharana* on 10th November. The programme was held at Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar Sabhagriha, Modern College Shivajinagar in two sessions. The morning session saw performances by Hindustani classical vocalists **Shilpa Dubale-Parab (Goa)**, **Kalyani Dasakkar-Tattvavadi (Nashik)**, **Nitin Dhavalikar (Goa)** and **Madhuwanti Bhide (USA)**. The evening session featured **Abhed Abhisheki** (son-disciple of Pt. Shounak Abhisheki) and **Shivani Marulkar-Dasakkar** (daughter-disciple of Vidushi Dr. Alka Deo Marulkar).





7. The department in collaboration with **Rithwik Foundation for Performing Arts** organised an interview-cum-concert of world-renowned **Grammy nominated sarod exponent Ken Zukerman** on 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024 at Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar Sabhagriha of Modern College. The evening programme saw Zukerman being interviewed by upcoming Pune-based sarod player Anupam Joshi interspersed by his sarod renditions. Zukerman shared his musical journey that began with attending a concert of his to-be-Guru Ustad Ali Akbar Khan Saheb that transformed his outlook towards music.



8. The department in collaboration with **SRF Foundation** organises a day-long workshop on Saturday 11th Jan 2025 on the **Maihar style of Sitar playing** by **Shri. Parimal Sadaphal (senior disciple of Pt. Ravi Shankar)**.



9. We in collaboration with **Baithak Foundation** organised a two-days' workshop on 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025, as part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> **Pune Kabir Festival 2025** on 'Singing Kabir' by **Dr. Pushkar Lele** and **Shri. Mandar Karanjkar**. The event was free and open to all explorers of music and spirituality. The workshop saw active participation by the students of our department as well as music lovers, seekers and Kabir lovers from the city.



10. We organised Music Competitions of Visually-Impaired students in collaboration with Swami Vivekanand Jeevan Jyoti Sanstha on 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2025.



11. The Department organised a tabla solo recital cum interaction with young prodigal **Yadnesh Jeurkar** on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. Yadnesh is a gifted boy who did his initial training under his father Darshan Jeurkar. He has won several music competitions and also holds a record for longest tabla playing in the Asia Book of Records.



12. We organised the 27<sup>th</sup> edition of state-level ‘Swarmadhuri’ Hindustani Classical Vocal Music Competitions 2025 jointly with Modern College, Ganeshkhind. The competitions have been held by Modern College, Ganeshkhind since the academic year 1993-94 in memory of PES’s founder, respected Late. Shri. Shankarrao Kanitkar. This year the competitions were made open to all those in the age group of 16-30 years, within the state of Maharashtra. A total of 58 entries were received from all over the state. An independent panel of judges screened 59 music videos sent by participants and selected 24 talented vocalists for the second (final) round, which was held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2025 at Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar Sabhagriha, New Building, Modern College, Shivajinagar. **Pt. Jayant Kaijkar** and **Vidushi Jayashree Ranade** judged the final round which saw 21 finalists compete through performances. The prize distribution ceremony was held immediately after the end of competitions. **Mr. Shridatta Gaikwad, Director – ‘Vidyavahini’ FM Radio of Savitribai Phule Pune University** were present on the occasion. **Pt. Rajendra Kandalgaoonkar**, the Chief Guest guided the finalists.



13. The Department organised the Certificate Distribution Ceremony of 'Basics of Light Music Certificate Course', a 3 months short introductory course designed to introduce participants to the fundamentals of light music on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar Sabhagriha. The course was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Ashwini Joshi, who served as the Course Coordinator and Lead Faculty. The participants comprising mostly staff members from Moden College, Shivajinagar showcased their musical talents in groups, leaving the audience captivated.



14. The Department in collaboration with Rashtriya Kala Manch Pune Mahanagar and Ambadas Tallu Foundation hosted the 'Shree Raam Dhun 2025' programme on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar Sabhagriha 5 pm onwards. The programme saw Shri. Abhiram Paralikar and troupe perform some memorable songs from Geet Ramayan as well as some new compositions.



### **Personal Achievements of the staff of the Department of Performing Arts:**

#### **Dr. Pushkar Lele:**

1. Conducted sessions on Indian Music for undergrad students of **University of Chicago – Study Abroad Program** in Nov 2024
2. Worked as faculty for a 5-day **MSFDA Music Workshop SWAR SETU** from 9-13 Dec 2024
3. Invited as Chief Guest for Guru Shishya Sammelanam by **Poona Sangeetha Sabha** on 24<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024
4. Successfully planned, co-ordinated, taught and completed 4<sup>th</sup> batch of 'Certificate Course in Music Appreciation'

5. Participated as a Speaker in the University Level FOLK MUSIC workshop organized by National Service Scheme at MASCC Shivajinagar.
6. Conducted a workshop 'Singing Kabir' as part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Pune Kabir Festival 2025 on 24th Jan 2025
7. Published article 'Mahotsav Sangeet - A curious enquiry' in festival magazine of SHADAJ (Boston, USA)
8. Performed in 'Saptaswar Baithak' in Kudal on 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025
9. Performed in Pt. Kumar Gandharva Mahotsav on 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025 organised by Directorate of Cultural Affairs, Govt. of Maharashtra
10. Performed at the launch of Pune Architectural History Archives at BORI on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2025
11. Broadcasted Hindustani classical vocal performances on AIR (All India Radio) Pune station on 23<sup>rd</sup> April

**Prof. Shripad Shirwalkar:**

1. Qualified UGC NET Exam for Assistant Professor in Music Subject
2. Attended MSFDA Faculty development workshop at Vamnicom, Pune.
3. Presented Research paper on IKS in music conference (UGC care listed journal) at Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth, Pune.
4. Presented research paper on National Conference on Music Education (ISBN journal) at SRTM University, Nanded
5. Presented research paper on National Conference on Artistic Diversity and National Identity (ISBN journal) Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara
6. Participated as a Speaker in the University Level FOLK MUSIC workshop organized by National Service Scheme at MASCC Shivajinagar
7. Presented research paper at National level (ISBN journal) at Mahagami Gurukul, Chatrapati Sambhajinagar
8. Served as an Examiner for the Akhil Bhartiya Gandharva Mahavidyalaya and Pune Gandharva Mahavidyalaya

**Personal Achievements of the students of S. Y. B.A. (Music) at the Department of Performing Arts:**

**Suranjan Jaybhaye:**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> prize in Kalasaptah 2024-25 (light music) organized by Modern College, Shivajinagar, Pune
2. 1<sup>st</sup> prize in inter college competition 2024-25 (group song) organized by PES Society

**Rohit Dake:**

1. Gold Medal in State Level Youth Festival 2024-25 (group song)
2. Gold Medal in UTKARSHA State Level NSS Youth Festival 2024-25 (group song)
3. 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in Kalasaptah 2024-25 (light music) organized by Modern College, Shivajinagar, Pune
4. 1<sup>st</sup> prize in inter college competition 2024-25 (group song) organized by PES Society

**Mayuresh Deve, Prarthana Chorge, Sudin Joshi:**

1<sup>st</sup> prize in Inter college competition 2024-25 (group song) organized by PES Society

**Tushar Gore:**

1. 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in Indian group song in University Level Inter-collegiate competition 'Jalosh 2024' organised by SPPU and DYU
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in Light Music song in University Level Inter-collegiate competition 'Jalosh 2024' organised by SPPU and DYU

**Vaishali Ingawale:**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> prize in Inter college competition 2024-25 (group song) organized by PES Society
2. Sung a song for the upcoming Marathi movie Phula
3. Recorded a song titled Hindkesari that was released on the occasion of Gudi Padwa

**Prof. Shripad Shirwalkar**  
**UG Coordinator**  
**Mob: 9145373004**

**Dr. Pushkar Lele**  
**HoD**  
**Mob: 9881237591**