



Sri Gurubhyo Namaha

Guidelines for Madhuraageetham 2017 @ Houston

Age categories (Age to be calculated as of Dec 24)

1. Sub-junior – Age 8 and under
2. Junior – 9-12 years
3. Senior – 13 and above (No upper age limit.)

Last date for early registration: Sunday Dec 17. Late registrants/Walk-ins are welcome.

Song selections:

Audio files and lyrics of a few Namavalis and a few of HH Sri Sri Muralidhara Swamiji's compositions (Madhuraageethams) in different languages, are shared on the registration page. Participants can choose to learn one of these songs to render at the competition OR they can sing a composition of Sri Swamiji's that they may already know.

1. **Sub-juniors:** Sing ONE Namavali or any small bhajan/kirtan (composed by Sri Muralidhara Swamiji or any other saint). This can be from the audio list shared online, or your own. **Time limit: 3 mins**
2. **Juniors:** Sing ONE composition of HH Sri Sri Muralidhara Swamiji (without viruttam or manodharmam), From the audio list available online, OR any other. **Time limit: 6 mins**
3. **Seniors:** Sing ONE composition of HH Sri Sri Muralidhara Swamiji. From the audio list available online, OR any other that you have learned before. Optionally, a relevant Viruttam or apt manodharmam that brings out the bhakti bhava, can be included. Some of the audio recordings also have viruttams. You can sing these OR sing a different one also. **Time limit: total 8 mins**

If in doubt, please contact us to make sure your song is Sri Swamiji's composition.

Preparation:

1. Please stick to the original Ragam and Talam of the song. You are welcome to add more sangathis to bring out the bhava if needed.
2. For senior category, Viruttams or some manodharmam can be **optionally** included as part of the rendition. However, you will need to adhere to the time limit allotted.
3. Please bring your own shruti box. Participants are also welcome to use a jaalra (cymbals) or similar instruments for talam.
4. Participants should dress in traditional Indian attire.

Judging Criteria:

1. One of the primary goals for this unique sangeetham event is to bring out the bhava and bhakti elements through the lyrics, as intended by the composer. Apart from the basics of shruti, talam and ragam, there will be emphasis on bhava, bhakti, lyrics (pronunciation and understanding). The judges may ask questions about the meaning of the song, for juniors and seniors.
2. Seniors – If singing viruttam, contextual relevance to the original song selected, will also be weighed. For example, if you selected a Madhuraageetham on Lord Rama, then you may want to choose a viruttam specifically on Lord Rama (and not Krishna, Srinivasa, etc.). Manodharmam will be judged on its ability to bring out the bhavam of the song.

Please contact Nisha Giri (nishgiri@gmail.com, 281-516-1596) with any questions.