



IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION REQUESTED

The Editor / Chief Reporter Dance & Music Critics / Special Correspondent

Sangit Kala Kendra (SKK) was founded in 1973 by late Shri Aditya Vikram Birla to encourage and nurture the various performing arts. Since its inception the Kendra has been presenting prestigious art events and thereby has acquired recognition as one of the premier cultural institutions of the country.

SKK instituted in the year 1996, the “**Aditya Vikram Birla Kalashikhar Puraskar**” in memory of its founder President. This award is conferred on an artist in the visual or performing arts for lifetime achievement and comprises a cash award of Rs. 3.0 lacs, a memento and a scroll of honour. This year, that is 2017, it is proposed to present the award in the field of “**Hindustani Classical Vocal**”. It will be awarded to a living, senior and reputed artist.

In addition to the above, awards of the “**Aditya Vikram Birla Kalakiran Puraskar**” would be presented to two young and promising artists in the above field. The artists should be citizens of India, between the age of 25 to 40 years, and have a promising future. The puraskar comprises a cash award of Rs.75,000/-, a memento and a scroll of honour.

In the past the renowned artists who have been awarded the Kala Shikhar Puraskar are:

YEAR	GIVEN TO	YEAR	GIVEN TO
1996	Kum. Lata Mangeshkar	1997	Shri M F Hussain
1998	Pt. Kelucharan Mohapatra	1999	Pt. Ram Narayan
2000	Pt. Bhimsen Joshi	2001	Shri Habib Tanvir
2002	Shri Sankho Choudhuri and Shri Somnath Hore	2003	Smt. Tejan Bai and Shri Jeeva Soma Mashe
2004	Shri Purshottam Das Jalota	2005	Dr. Gangu Bai Hangal
2006	Shri K. G. Subramanyan	2007	Smt. Mrinalini Sarabhai
2008	Pandit Vijay Raghav Rao	2009	Pandit Jasraj
2010	Prof Raj Bisaria	2011	Shri Nagji Patel
2012	Smt Yamunabai Vikram Jawle and Shri Nageswara Rao (Babji)	2013	Dr. Girija Devi
2014	Pandit Birju Maharaj	2015	Pt. Shiv Kumar Sharma
2016	Dr. Pratibha Agrawal		

This year the Kalashikhar Puraskar recipient would be **Dr. Prabha Atre** and Kalakiran Puraskar recipients would be **Shri Anal Chatterjee** and **Ms Sawani Shende Sataye** for **Hindustani Classical Vocal**.