Shyamla

Shyamla is an accomplished Performing Artist, Choreographer and Teacher with three decades of dance experience and a Master's Degree in International Human Rights Law. Shyamla has taught at renowned studios throughout Australia and abroad (Sydney Dance Company, Ettingshausens, Dance Attic UK) and specialises in cultural dance (Hip Hop, Bollywood, Traditional Indian and Brazilian Samba), having trained and performed each style in its country of origin. Since 2013 Shyamla has toured a range of dance and movement workshops around Australia promoting cross-cultural interactions, diverse representation, inclusivity and belonging. Shyamla's work has been featured on the runway at Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week 2018, in front of thousands of people at TEDxSydney 2018, on national television in Australia's largest indoor venue (Qudos Bank Arena) for Schools Spectacular 2018, at NSW Education events for The Arts Unit (State Dance Festival and Ultimo Dance festival) and has been acknowledged by Beyoncé, Youtube sensation Lilly Singh and Bollywood Icon Sonam Kapoor.



WORKSHOPS



INDIAN JUNGLE DANCE SAFARI (ft. interactive video) - K-6 (Kindy & Primary)

Grab your binos and hop in the Jeep for a unique movement-based adventure inspired by Shyamla's encounters with wild animals in the jungles of South India. Learn how to move and dance like stomping elephants, snapping crocodiles, proud peacocks, funky monkeys and more! This experience features animal puppets and an interactive video that children can access after the session to continue the safari adventure together.

MOVE YOUR FEET TO PARAI BEAT (ft. live Tamil drum) - K-12 (all ages)

Dance to the beat of India's oldest drum and experience the joy of Parai Attam, a Tamil folk dance set to LIVE drum. Learn how to express rhythm through hands, feet, voice and body with Shyamla, who regularly travels to Chidambaram (Tamil Nadu) to practise the 3000 year old artform and has performed it at the Sydney Opera House.

HIP HOPPING FROM KOLLYWOOD TO BOLLYWOOD - K-12 (all ages)

Bust out signature moves and grooves from Hip Hop (New York), Kollywood (Tamil cinema) and Bollywood (Hindi cinema). Packed with pelvic thrusts and cheeky antics, learn some of the hottest dance moves and the stories behind them from the streets to the big screen!



HIP HOP FLASHMOB - Yr 4-12 (Primary & Highschool)

Set to a mix of classic and popular tunes, learn a performable dance routine in just 90 minutes! Shyamla will get you gliding and grooving through formations as a whole crew. Personal creativity, teamwork and improvisation are encouraged through opportunities to freestyle. Guaranteed to have participants Top Rockin', Electric Sliding and Dabbing the day away!

Feedback

"It was amazing...our boys absolutely loved it. They had the best time and were all saying afterwards that they wished they had more opportunity to do dance. Shyamla was fantastic with the boys (they are from years 7-12 – 12-18yrs old)" - Nigel Palfreman, St. Edmund's College Canberra

"It was a unique experience for these rural students and they thoroughly enjoyed it. In 23 years of teaching, it was definitely one of the best workshops I have seen at a school...engaged both boys and girls, dancers and non-dancers for the entire hour" - **Helen Duncan, Walla Walla Public School**, NSW

DETAILS

Shyamla can present workshops from 30 minutes up to 90 minutes.

All-day residencies are also available with up to 4 x 60-minute sessions or 3 x 90-minute sessions per day.

Capacity: 40 students per workshop is ideal

Venue: Large cleared area required Please enquire for pricing options.



BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES:

Nexus Arts <u>www.nexusarts.com.au</u>
Phone 03 9528 3416 Freecall 1800 675 897

Email nexusarts@netspace.net.au

Feedback for Shyamla

"Students loved the Artist-in-Residency sessions. They were extremely engaged—Shyamla worked incredibly well with the students and they all enjoyed every minute. The sessions were structured well, yet flexible, and got all the kids involved and their creative juices flowing. Super fun for all students and teachers. I couldn't help but join in!

"Shyamla was outstanding, vibrant and engaging. She inspired the students to step out of their comfort zones, but still feeling safe and confident enough to be themselves, or take a risk with a new idea. She had shy and confident kids all wanting to be involved and have a go. Everyone had a moment to shine (rather than always the same kids shining). The group activities also gave students a chance to work on their leadership skills. Students all had a big confidence boost.

"It was also important that students were able to learn some cultural background, and a little bit of the history and origins of the dances from all the different areas.

"I would absolutely book this session again, and I think it would be beneficial for other year levels as well. I would definitely recommend to other schools ©"

Kellie Thorpe & other teachers, Yarrawonga P-4 Primary School, VIC

"The students had a ball, and they've already asked to have another workshop later in the year!"

Catherine Reid, Bathurst High

"Hip-Hopping from Bollywood to Brazil workshop was amazing. Our boys absolutely loved it. They had the best time and were all saying afterwards that they wished they had more opportunity to dance. Shyamla was fantastic with the boys (Years 7-12) and the boys loved the way she delivered the workshop, finishing with a dance battle was brilliant. Thanks Shyamla!"

"I'd just like to say what a fantastic workshop (HipHop Flashmob) Shyamla gave our school again. She is engaging, exciting and very encouraging to our boys. We had a few boys who were reluctant to be involved initially but as soon as the workshop got started they were 100% committed to the dance and loved every second of it... I will definitely book her again and those boys who took part in her Bollywood workshop last year, loved it this year and have already asked when is Shyamla coming back."

Nigel Palfreman, St Edmund's College, Canberra

"Thank you so much for yesterday - great day and you are a great talent. Our girls were lucky to have the opportunity to work with you. Hopefully we will be able to have you back next year!"

Trish Brown, St Clare's College



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Feedback for Shyamla

"I thought that the content, flexibility and dynamic of the class was excellent. The moves and break-down very easy to follow and the instruction and rationale fit into my current unit linked to the Australian Curriculum. Shyamla applied the right about of push, was friendly and personable with the girls. Her transference of knowledge and technique was wonderful. Relevant and introduced terms and moves whilst warming up, great link and lead in. I was very impressed that she worked with the class for about 40 minutes and then decided to extend the girls and created a dance on the spot with the students. It was fun and the added coin scarfs for all students was a lovely touch and sense of fun. Who doesn't like to dress up, right! I would love to have Shyamla back again to Ogilvie knowing that she can switch up styles and be able to be flexible with the class. Gauging their needs and providing the necessary steps to reach the students learning intentions."

Cass Wilson, Ogilvie High School, Tasmania



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