



AVASARALA KANYAKUMARI

Akademi Award: Carnatic Instrumental Music (Violin)

Born in 1951 in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, Shrimati Avasarala Kanyakumari received her training in music initially under Shri I. Vijayeswara Rao, and was later a student of Shri M. Chandrasekharan and Shrimati M.L. Vasanthakumari. She holds a diploma in music from Andhra University and a Bachelor's degree in music from Queen Mary's College of the University of Madras.

A well-known violinist, Shrimati Kanyakumari combines the styles of her three teachers and is proficient both as a solo performer and as accompanist. She has performed widely in India and overseas and has accompanied many eminent musicians in the field of Carnatic music. She has also produced orchestral music to acclaim, using the violin together with wind and percussion instruments. She has trained a number of students, and has produced a VCD with violin lessons for distance learning. She has also produced a number of CDs and audio-cassettes of her own music.

For her service to music, Shrimati Kanyakumari has been honoured with the title Kalaimamani by the Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram. She is Asthana Vidushi of the Sringeri Sharada Peetham.

Shrimati A. Kanyakumari receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to Carnatic instrumental music.