Lifetime Achievement Award
24 May 2009
Programme

RECEPTION 6.00 – 6.45

PART 1

Welcome - Chairman 6.45 – 6.55
Student Representative 6.55 – 7.00
Wikipedia Representative 7.00 - 7.05
Tamil Computing Representative 7.05 - 7.10

PART 2

Fiction Award 7.10 – 7.15
Non-Fiction Award 7.15 – 7.25
Poetry Award 7.25 – 7.30
Information Technology In Tamil Award 7.30 – 7.40
Student Scholarship Award 7.40 - 7.50

PART 3

Introduction of Ambai by Dr. M. A. Nuhman 7.50 – 8.00
IYAL AWARD to Ambai (Dr. C. S. Lakshmi) 8.00 – 8.05
Acceptance Speech by Ambai 8.05 – 8.25

Vote of thanks 8.25 – 8.30
Founded in 2001, the Tamil Literary Garden is a Toronto-based organization committed to promoting the development of literature in Tamil internationally. Its mandate includes creative writing, translations, book releases, awards, conferences, and workshops.
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- Dr. M. A. Sanjayan
- Dr. George L. Hart
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Advisory Board for Awards Panel

Mu. Ponnambalam
Writer - Sri Lanka

Theliwatte Joseph
Writer - Sri Lanka

Thamizhavan (Carlos Sabarimuthu)
Head, Department of Tamil, Dravidian University - India

V.N. Giritharan
Writer - Canada

R. Cheran
Assistant Professor, University of Windsor - Canada

A.R. Venkatachalapathy
Associate Professor, Madras Institute of Development Studies

V. Arasu
Head, Department of Tamil, University of Madras - India

Aravindan
Writer - India

P.A. Krishnan
Writer - India

Ambai (Dr C. S. Lakshmi)
Writer - India

Syed Peer Mohammed
Writer - Malaysia

Sitrulega Maunaguru
Professor, Department of Tamil, Batticaloa Eastern University - Sri Lanka

M.A. Nuhman
Head, Department of Tamil, University of Peradeniya - Sri Lanka

George L. Hart
Head, Department of Tamil, University of California at Berkeley - USA

Chelian
Poet - Canada

A. Muthukrishnan
Writer - India

Jayanthi Sankar
Writer - Singapore

P. Karunaharamoorthy
Writer - Germany
AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR 2008

Lifetime Achievement Award
Recipient Dr. C.S. Lakshmi (Ambai)
Sponsored by Vaithehi Balamurugan

Fiction Award given in honour of Professor Kanapathipillai
Recipient Thamizhavan for “Vaaravil Oru Kadavul”
Sponsored by Dr Oppilamani Pillai

Non-Fiction Award given in honour of Mr. T.T. Kanagasunderampillai and the Tamil Teachers of the World
Recipient Dr. Murugar Gunasingam for “Ilangoil Thamizhar”
Sponsored jointly by Jay & Lalitha Jayaraman and R.Rabendravarman

Poetry Award given in honour of Professor A.W. Mailvaganam
Recipient Leena Manimekalai for “Ulakin Azhakiya Muthal Pen”
Sponsored by Nandakumar Mailvaganam

Information Technology in Tamil Award given in honour of Sundara Ramaswamy
Recipient Suratha Yarlvanan
Sponsored by Sundara Ramaswamy Memorial Trust

Scholarship Award for Outstanding Essay
Recipient Angela Britto
Sponsored by V. Sornalingam
Ambai

Lifetime Achievement Award
Recipient Ambai (Dr. C. C. Lakshmi)

Forest, a Deer... A Purple Sea, In a

Muk;gpj;J fle;j ehw;gjhz;L fhykhf jkpo; ,yf;fpaj;jpd; Kjy; ngz;zpa vOj;jhsu; vd;W ,tu; mwpag;gLfpwhu;.

Kugpd; mbnahw;wp vOjpa ngz; vOj;jhsu;fs;plkpUe;J NtWgl;lJ. fiyahf ntspg;ghL ngw;Ws;s Fuy; vd;W mk;igapDilaijr; nrhy;yyhk;.

Mk;igapd; E}y;fs;: me;jp khiy > rpwFfs; KwpAk; > tPl;bd; %iyapy; xU rikayiw > fhl;by; xU khd; > tw;Wk; Vupapd; kPd;fs; > Mq;fpy nkhopngau;g;gpy; A Purple Sea, In a

A Purple Sea, In a Forest, a Deer... A Purple Sea, In a
The award ceremony is sponsored by

**Mr. Manuel Jesudasan** LL.B. of Manuel Jesudasan & Associates, Barristers, Solicitors & Notaries Public is from Sri Lanka. He, Solicitor in England and Wales, and was called to the Law Society of Upper Canada in 1994. He is a general practitioner with main interest in Criminal, Immigration, Real Estate and Estate Law. Mr. Jesudasan was a Senior State Counsel, Legal Advisor and Chief Lands Officer in Seychelles. He has published two books in Tamil, *Nadkalul* and *Vayathu Pathinaru* and is devoted to the promotion of Tamil on an international basis.

**Monica Jesudasan** – Mrs. Jesudasan is a Legal Secretary for the area of Real Estate and assists the Associates as an interpreter in Tamil.

Both Monica and Jesudasan have sponsored the Tamil Literary Garden events regularly from the very beginning.

**Raja Mahendran** B.Sc. Eng. (1983) a graduate of Peradeniya University in Sri Lanka, has completed his P.Eng at University of Toronto in 1986 and worked as a consultant until 1993 and established a Tamil newspaper ‘Vlambaram’ to meet the needs of the people. In 2003 he started a Real Estate Brokerage, (HomeLife / GTA Realty Inc.) and a Property Development company with a partner.

Raja and his wife *Sathyabama* have sponsored the events of Tamil Literary Garden since its inception.

**Vyramuthu Sornalingam** has been a supporter of Tamil Literary Garden and its activities since its inception. He is committed to the promotion of Tamil language, culture and music.

He conducts regularly Isaikku Ethu Ellai music programmes that have become very popular in Toronto. Mr. Sornlingam is a partner of Yarl Metal Fabrications Inc.
Poetry Award is given in honour of Professor A.W. Mailvaganam

Having graduated at the age of 19, he entered University of Cambridge in 1924 and studied Physics under 9 Nobel Prize winners and founders of modern Physics. He also had the privilege of attending lecture by Albert Einstein in Germany. On his return to Ceylon, after obtaining a first class honors Tripos and M.A and Ph.D from the University of Cambridge was appointed Professor of Physics at the University of Ceylon and subsequently, Dean of the Faculty of Science, Pro-Vice-Chancellor University of Ceylon. He had the privilege of being the first Sri Lankan Professor of Physics. For nearly 50 years he was associated with university teaching and served as chairman on many academic councils and commissions including the University Grants Commission. He was awarded the honorary Degree of Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) by the University of Jaffna and Colombo. Also, was honored by Her Majesty the Queen Elizabeth II with the O.B.E and by the President of Sri Lanka with the "Vidya Jyothi" awards. Served on the commission appointed by The Ceylon Governor General to report on the feasibility of teaching Science, Medicine, Agriculture and Engineering in Swabasha. He was a member of the Council of the University of Jaffna and also translated to Tamil, Educational Publications, and a number of Physics Text for examinations ranging from the Advanced Level to B.Sc. Special. He also popularized the field of Science in the Tamil media by delivering talks over the Radio and Tamil News Media. He pioneered the Tamil University Movement that led to the establishment of the University of Jaffna and later Eastern University of Sri Lanka. In recognition of his contributions to Physics, the academia in Sri Lanka has established the Mailvaganam Memorial Lecture each year at the Physics Lecture Theatre at the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.

The above award is sponsored by Nandakumar Mailvaganam.

Information Technology in Tamil Award is given in honour of Sundara Ramaswamy

Sundara Ramaswamy began his literary career at the age of 20 by translating a Malayalam novel into Tamil. Following this 'The Story of a Tamarind Tree', his first novel was published and was well received as a work that extended the frontiers of Tamil novel. This was translated into English, Hindi, Malayalam and Hebrew. His second novel "J.J. Some Notes" defied all the notions prevalent in Tamil writing about form and language. It eschewed narration, brought in a tone of intense meditation on the quality of human life and the problems of remaining human. The third novel Kulanthaikal, Penkal Ankal was written in an entirely new style and language yet retaining a solid texture. His poems are a severe questioning into one's existence, perceptions, conflicts and tireless but often defeated search. Almost all of Ramaswamy's writings, though reaching limited readership, have sustained serious literary work in Tamil during the last fifty years. He has also contributed significantly to the disciplines of literary criticism and essays and has translated poems from English to Tamil.

The above award is sponsored by Sundara Ramaswamy Memorial Trust.
Scholarship Award for Outstanding Essay
Recipient Angela Britto

Angela Britto - The Tamil Literary Garden Scholarship was established in order to encourage and promote Tamil Studies in the diaspora, particularly among the second generation. It was intended to recognize the achievement of a student whose essay demonstrates an insightful and valuable discussion of some aspect of diasporic Tamil studies. The topic this year required a submission that looked specifically at the ways in which the pursuit of Tamil Studies could be meaningful in a diasporic context. Ms. Angela Britto’s essay was intelligent, original and wonderfully evocative. It brought together a number of issues that confront students whose preoccupation with Tamil is very different from those who were born and raised elsewhere. The essay was well-informed, well-researched, and precise in its argument. The essay is being reprinted in the current issue of /Kalam/ magazine. It is with great pleasure that the Tamil Literary Garden confers its first Tamil scholarship award to Ms. Angela Britto.
Fiction Award given in honour of Professor Kanapathipillai
Recipient Thamizhavan
Lifetime achievement award
sponsored by Vaiththi Balamurugan, MBA, CPA, CFA

Vaiththi is a Certified Public Accountant, CFA charterholder, and Partner at Arrowstreet Capital, USA. She is committed to the promotion of Tamil language on an international basis and sponsored the lifetime achievement award from the inception of Tamil Literary Garden.

Fiction award is given in honour of Professor Kanapathipillai

Born in 1903, he received his undergraduate and graduate education in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Annamalai, Tamil Nadu, and the University of London, UK. Trained in Tamil, Sanskrit and Pali, he acquired considerable expertise in the field of epigraphy. After completing his doctoral studies under the supervision of Professor Turner, he joined the University of Colombo as lecturer in Tamil, and later became professor. When the University of Peradeniya was established, he became the first Professor and Head of the Department of Tamil, a position he held until 1965. For a brief period, he also served as Acting Vice-Chancellor at the University of Peradeniya. Professor Kanapathipillai is known as a major scholar in epigraphy and linguistics. In addition, he published widely as a novelist, short story writer, and playwright. His plays were performed to much acclaim in Sri Lanka. In addition, he has written a monograph on the history of Sanskrit literature.

Non-fiction award is given in honour of Mr.T.T. Kanagasundarampillai and the Tamil Teachers of the world.

Mr.T.T. Kanagasundarampillai was born on 24 August 1863 in Trincomalee. At the age of seventeen he left for South India and graduated in English language. He joined Madras Saithapettai English Teachers’ Training College as a lecturer. At the same time he served as a Tamil teacher at Madras Christian College and Pachchaiappan College. He was the author of several books. As he had mastered Sanskrit he translated Kishkintha Kandam and Sunthara Kandam of Valmiki Ramayanam into Tamil. He paraphrased several Sangam works and brought many ancient Tamil literatures found in Olai in to print.

The above award is sponsored jointly by Lalitha, Jayaraman, Rabendravarman.

Lalitha Jayaraman: A home-maker and international development professional devoted to the family, gender equality, hunger eradication, poverty reduction, and palliative/hospice care issues.

Venkata Subramanian Jayaraman: A Chartered Accountant by qualification and profession, who happily strayed into the management of economic and social development projects in poor and disturbed countries.

Both worked for the UN for many years and are happily married and have two daughters and a son, and four grandchildren. They have deep interest in Tamil language and culture, religion, music, and dance.
2001 ம் அட்சக் திரையை முழுக்கு
நான்குதொன்றாக ருஜ்ருஜ்ரு, அழகுரை கைலார்க்கு, ஆண்டவராக வணங்கி கைலாருக்கு அனுமரிக்கப்பட்ட பாரசுக்கு மற்றும் கைலாருக்கு செல்ல வைத்து வந்தது. ஆண்டவராக வணங்கியன் கைலாருக்கு வணங்கி வணங்குகளின் கலை நிறுவனத்தின் செல்லும் வந்தது. ஆண்டவராக வணங்கியன் கைலாருக்கு வணங்கி வணங்குகளின் கலை நிறுவனத்தின் செல்லும் வந்தது.

2002 ம் அட்சக் திரையை முழுக்கு
நான்குதொன்றாக ருஜ்ருஜ்ரு, அழகுரை கைலார்க்கு, ஆண்டவராக வணங்கி வணங்கியன் கைலாருக்கு வணங்கி வணங்குகளின் கலை நிறுவனத்தின் செல்லும் வந்தது. ஆண்டவராக வணங்கியன் கைலாருக்கு வணங்கி வணங்குகளின் கலை நிறுவனத்தின் செல்லும் வந்தது.

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Non-Fiction Award given in honour of Mr.T.T. Kanagasunderampillai and the Tamil Teachers of the World.
Recipient Dr. Murugar Gunasingam
Poetry Award given in honour of Professor A.W. Mailvaganam
Recipient Leena Manimekalai
he Sundara Ramasamy Memorial annual award for Tamil Computing for the year 2008 is awarded to Mr. Suratha Yarlvanan of Germany. This award is presented by Toronto Tamil Literary Garden for Kalachuvadu Trust.

Suratha is one of the principal contributors to Tamil Computing. Born 1961 in Jaffna, Sri Lanka, Suratha migrated to Germany in 1984. He had his early childhood education in Jaffna and later received a Masters degree in Information Electronics from Germany. He is currently working in the same field.

Suratha has created a variety of tools for Tamil input in computers. His Unicode converter help transcode Tamil information created in multitude of non-standard encoding methods such as Mylai, Bamini, Amutham and all transition standards such as TSCII, TAB and TAM. His javascript-based web utility pongutamil help input in Unicode format for those who only know Bamini, Anjal or other romanized input methods. The romanized input methods help lower the barrier in using Tamil in computers.

Further, Suratha’s HTML conversion utility is very useful in converting old, non-standard encoded hypertext files to Unicode encode with minimal effort. Suratha has also created a Tamil input based search engine yarldevi. His recent work on Tamil text to speech program is also worth a mention.

The Tamil Literary Garden is proud to confer Suratha Yarlvanan the 2008 Sundara Ramasamy Award for Tamil Computing.