



PRESS RELEASE - Saarang 2007

- Saarang 2007, the annual cultural festival of IIT-Madras will be conducted from the 25th to the 29th of January 2007. The festival is being organized by IIT Madras in collaboration with Airtel.
- The main attractions at Saarang are the professional nights, the assortment of competitive events, the lectures & workshops and a range of games & shows meant for an offbeat recreation.
- PRO-NITES: The professional shows at Saarang run claim to being the largest assortment of concerts and shows within a single platform in India. Past years have witnessed the foremost Indian Composers, singers and bands play here. This year there is an added international touch to the string of performances.
- A total of four concerts will be held over the duration of Saarang, the fifth night being the Choreo Night. The four shows shall be the World Music concert, the Rock Show, the Light Music Night, and the alternative performance.
- The Light music show this year will be by the renowned singer Sukhwinder Singh. A leading Bollywood singer and winner of numerous awards, he has a huge fan following all over the country. Needless to say, that the Popular Nite on January 26th with Sukhwinder's repertoire of catchy, foot-tapping numbers is one of the most eagerly awaited pro-shows at Saarang 2007.
- The Pro Nite on the 25th will feature Global Rhythms who will be treating the audience with a brilliant blend of traditional and non traditional music from all over the world. Encompassing musical flavours from all over the globe, The World Music Concert promises to be a delightful experience.
- The Rock Show at Saarang is one of the most awaited nights in the annual calendar of Chennai. This year witnesses a French Celtic rock 'n roll group called Merzhin who will be performing on January 29th. Opening for them will be local band Junkyard Groove who have recently made it big on the international scene by winning Shamal, a renowned rock competition in Dubai.
- The Alternate Performance this year will be by the Swedish band 'Mynta' who are known to produce exceptional fusion and jazz rock. Following them will be the New York-based hip hop band 'Timeless Voice of America'.
- EVENTS: Saarang has a total of fifty two events to be held in the various categories of literary events, music events, speaking events, quizzes, fine arts, performance events and others.
- Among these events the major attractions are Choreo night, Decibels & Light Music competition, Dramatics, Street Plays, Extempore, JAM (Just a Minute) and debates, the classical dance and The Saarang Main Quiz.
- Saarang this year hosts a series of fresh events lined up which include 'The Saarang Photography Challenge' and 'Short Film Making Contest'. On a lighter note we have events like 'The Multilingual



Laughter Challenge' and 'Who's Line is it anyway' which are bound to get the audiences holding their sides with laughter.

- The Choreo night, Decibels and Light Music (Group) finals deserve special mention as they are hosted at the OAT which has a seating capacity of over 6000.
- The Decibels is a semi professional Rock music competition held over a whole day at Saarang. The final of this show is held at the OAT in front of packed crowds. This show is widely acknowledged to be one of the finest stages for Rock Music in the country, with many winners from here going on to make it big on the Rock scene.
- The Choreo night is easily the most eagerly awaited and anticipated event at Saarang. It is a highly contested competition with months of preparation going into the final display. The show witnesses some of the highest crowds and the proceeds from the ticket sales are given away to charity.
- The events at Saarang are truly expected to be a major draw this year with a number of new competitions lined up. Some of these include the multilingual laughter challenge, the short film making contest and whose line is it anyway.
- A concoction of workshops, food festivals, art exhibits, performances, Saarang is all about having a good time while relaxing.
- The cartooning workshop, the hypnotism and magic workshop and an assortment of fine arts workshops to be conducted by the pre-eminent experts in the respective fields are expected to be a major attraction.
- There are a host of shows lined up for playful, vanilla audiences. Informals will be larger than ever hang out zone with about 60 games lined up. Mr. n Ms Saarang will be hotly contested after last years' upheaval.
- Saarang, as a cultural festival is not all about the big names and big games happening all around. It is also about the small things that sensitize one to our culture and environment. Green Saarang and IV League (IIT for Villages) are two such initiatives. Green Saarang ensures that the festivities, held in the verdant setting of IIT keeps it that way, and makes Saarang environmentally friendly. IV League helps promote self help groups in villages and acts as an interface between the technological world and the world of our destitute farmers.
- Security at Saarang is a major issue this time round. Many measures have been taken to ensure a safe and secure Saarang. Some of these include using sniffer dogs at the Open Air Theatre before the Professional shows are conducted, and using security cameras during the event. A photo identity is a must for all participants. To ensure a non-invasive sort of arrangement, there shall also be student security coordinators equipped with Walkie-Talkies to ensure safety during Saarang.
- Saarang this year offers a lot more to its audience, has more varied shows and fresh content, an assortment of world class Professional Nites. There will be an increased interaction between the participant and the audiences by means of an interactive SMS screen provided by Airtel. All in all Saarang 2007 promises to be bigger and better than ever.