

# THE SOUND OF MUSIC

**Music Workshop**  
Where the fun of music begins!



Department of Youth Welfare  
Cochin University of Science and Technology



13-15 October 2023

Department of Youth Welfare organised a music workshop for selected students, both in eastern and western during 13 – 15, October 2023 with a mission to awake and nourish the unique musical spirit that lies in every student. The objectives of the workshop were:

- Demonstrate knowledge of basic factual material related to the elements of music.
- Communicate an understanding of the role and interaction of music in a changing society, both past and present.
- Explore and demonstrate skills in understanding and appreciating music of other cultures and traditions.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the variety of materials/media used to make music in varied settings.
- Demonstrate critical listening skills through the discussion of compositions using musical terms and expressions.
- React and make informed criticisms about individual and group creative efforts through analyzing and exploring the creative process.



Veteran Music Director and composer, Mr. Berny P.J, music director and composer Shaan Rahman, Mithun Jayaraj, Dr. Lijo Jose, Mr. Ranjith Meleppatt and Ms. Sajna Sudheer were the key resource persons. The workshop was officially inaugurated by Mr. Shaan Rahman, music director at 09.30 a.m. on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023. Dr. P G Sankaran, Vice Chancellor, Presided over the function. Dr. P.K Baby, Director Department of Youth Welfare, Ms. Sajna Sudheer A and Dr. Vijayakumar Abmat spoke on the occasion. Mr. Shan Rahman shared his experience in the music industry. In the first session, Mr. Shan Rahman explained various techniques of singing and composition of music. He also explained the essential qualities, a singer has to acquire in the world of technology.



The second session of the workshop was led by Mr. Mithun Jayaraj on *'the studio and the stage - the art of playback singing vs performing'*. He started with the essential qualities of a performer and how musical talent is connected with performance. Then the workshop developed into various aspects of skills in music, such as voice quality, sense of rhythm, types of pitch, modulations, mic arrangements etc. The following three sessions on the second day were led by Dr. Lijo Jose on the topic *'an introduction to the*



*singing voice*’ accompanied by other resource persons. They explained in detail about the sound quality, singing techniques, harmony, and composition of music. The students made their small group productions based on the learning in the workshop. They also demonstrated how a choir is constructed and composed. The evening session was led by veteran music director and composer Mr. Berny P J on *‘the Journey of Evolution of Music to Film Music - Understanding the basics and genres’*. He explained about various types of ragas and how it is used in composing music.



Sessions on the third day were led by Sri Ranjith Meleppatt, Playback Singer and composer on *‘the journey of a song’*. They explained some of the Vocal exercise techniques, singing qualities, expression, composition and lyrics and notations. The last session was led by Mrs. Sajna Sudhir on *‘the emotional cognizance of Music’*.

As widely accepted, music workshops help to develop brain areas involved in language and reasoning. The workshop helped the participants to physically develop the cognitive part of their brain, known to be involved with processing language, linking familiar songs to new information etc. The three days experience increased their ability to think creatively and to solve problems by imagining various solutions and rejecting outdated rules and assumptions together with increased skills in music. In general, students were in positive emotions and they enjoyed all sessions and it was an exciting and innovative experience in their lives.

