



स्मरणिका SMARANIKA २०२५

जोडी मराठी मन Bridging Marathi Minds

Calgary Marathi Association (CMA), is a registered non-profit organization to preserve the Marathi Culture by bringing together Marathi speaking persons in Calgary and surrounding area. website : <http://www.cmacalgary.ca>

Our Vision

- “As a forward thinking and socially responsible group, our vision is to work together to preserve, promote, and enhance our culture, heritage and religion as part of the multi
- We aspire to strengthen our community as a whole and to promote multi- culturalism and inclusiveness for all generations to come”

Our Mission

- Uphold and encourage our values, heritage and culture through celebration of our customs and traditions for generations to come.
- To support the spirit of Multiculturalism in Canada and invite other Canadians to participate in our community
- To bring all persons interested in Marathi language and/or others interested in the promotion of Marathi language.
- To support relief of poverty through community service and by arranging various charitable and educational activities.
- To promote language and/or others interested in the promotion of Marathi language.

CMA Objectives

- Endorse events to strengthen the heritage, culture, festivities of the Marathi traditions.
- Support initiatives to promote and preserve the rich legacy of Marathi Language including support to Marathi schools in & around Calgary.
- Endorse culture specific entertainment opportunities to members through social gatherings.
- Promote artists from other ethnic groups & cultures to perform at events organized by CMA.
- Support the spirit of multiculturalism by promoting the events of other ethnic groups within the Marathi community.

- Educate and inform the younger generation of the diverse cultural heritage of India in general and of Maharashtra through various activities
- Engage the youth group through Paalavi program, in leadership opportunities to develop life skills, self- image and volunteerism.
- Engage the senior members of the community by supporting the initiatives of the Samadhan (a group for senior members).
- Support new Immigrants for an easy transition and engage them in the community activities.
- Promote participation in various charity initiatives while liaising with various community and charitable organisations.
- Conduct educational and skill development programs open to all members to strengthen the community as a whole.

Our Core Values

- **Respect:** We believe that every person deserves to be treated with respect, dignity, equality and compassion.
- **Open- Mindedness:** We are committed to engage families, community partners and service providers in the various initiatives, programs, events to strength the community network and social support system an inclusive environment.
- **Passion:** We are passionate about what we do - we value innovation, growth, educational opportunities with the underlying philosophy of togetherness, union of families and communities.
- **Enhance natural capacities and networks:** We are committed to provide a safe, secure, fun filled community network and social support system that promotes physical, social and me.



MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF ALBERTA

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to send greetings to members and guests of the Calgary Marathi Association (CMA) as you come together for Deepavali 2025.

The Festival of Lights is a joyful and meaningful time of cherished traditions and togetherness, here in Alberta and around the world. As you gather with friends and family to mark the triumph of light over darkness, I hope you will be inspired by this powerful expression of hope and faith and the vibrancy of the Marathi community in Alberta.

I appreciate the ongoing efforts of the CMA to strengthen diversity in Alberta and unite Marathi-speaking people in the Calgary area. Special thanks to all those who have worked hard to organize this event, and to the performers and vendors who enrich the festivities.

Best wishes for a joyful celebration and for enlightenment, wisdom and prosperity in the year ahead.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Danielle Smith".

Honourable Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta



स्मरणिका SMARANIKA

मराठी बोला, वाचा आणि लिहा
Speak, Read & Write Marathi



Calgary Marathi Shala/School is a non-profit organization operating under the umbrella of Calgary Marathi Association.
Inspiring young minds to love Marathi through language, culture and creativity.
website : <https://www.cmacalgary.ca/pages/marathi-shala-school/>

Highlights of last year 2024 – 2025 Final Exams

Total 28 students appeared for BMM final exams from Balwadi to level 5.
Total 6 students out of these 28 also appeared for Balbharati final exams.
Total 42 students appeared for internal exams
All students passed their exams with very good grades.

Certifications

Received certificates from BMM and Baalbharati.
Handed over the certificates to students through their respective teachers.

Admissions for 2025 – 2026

Admission forms opened in August 2025
Communication sent to all CMA members through email as well as whatsapp group.
Also published on previous Shala's parent teachers' group.

Received Total 89 registrations

First day of School – Meet & Greet at Arbor Lake Community Center,

A Meet & Greet event for the parents-teachers-students was organized on Sep 13th, 2025. Parents were given all the information about the school. Their questions were also answered.

BOT School Coordinator – Jayashree Thatte Bhat – congratulated the new entrants to the school and also appreciated the progress of the school.

This year, teachers who are leaving the school were honored. Additionally, students who graduated from BMM Grade 5 last year and became graduates were also honored.





**Shala Coordinator Chanda Kate
resigned - honored by BOT Jayashree
Thatte Bhat and Nutan More**



2025 – 2026 Teachers and classes details

Sr.NO	Name of the teacher	Class Details	No. of students
1	Aditya Bhor	Jr. Balwadi Class A	6
2	Varsha Patil	Jr. Balwadi Class B	6
3	Rupali Halle	Jr. Balwadi Class C	7
4	Sarika Thorat	Jr. Balwadi Class D	6
5	Vaidehi Dhamal	Jr. Balwadi Class E	5
6	Dhanashree Pawar	Sr. Balwadi Class A	6
7	Aparna Zade	Sr. Balwadi Class B	5
8	Manjiri Shendye	Sr. Balwadi Class C	5
9	Snehal Narse	Sr. Balwadi Class D	4
10	Vinay Dhande	1st Grade Class A	6
11	Nachiket Patankar	1st Grade Class B	7
12	Sonali Joglekar	2nd Grade Class A	4
13	Deepali Sonone	2nd Grade Class B	7
14	Manjari Joshi	3rd Grade	3
15	Bhagyashree Lele	4th Grade	2
16	Bhagyashree Lele	5th Grade	1
Total Students			82

Shala Principal and coordinators formed the classes and assigned the teachers. New teachers got assigned the baalwarga classes.



BMM Textbooks

BMM has not allowed sharing e-books copies of textbooks with parents since last year. From this year BMM has given all printing rights to Lulu Publishing. Lulu is offering color books at very good, discounted rates. Purchased books for Baalwarga, Grade 1 to grade 5 Teachers guide from grade 1 to grade 5

In person class and other activities. Preparing greeting cards, Making Aakashkandil (Lanterns)



Calgary Marathi Shala NEWS, 1st September
<https://www.cmacalgary.ca/pages/marathi>



Diwali event and Donation drive

Shala participated in Diwali event

We have shala booth presenting books and the artwork.

Also, there were aricales for sale created by shala kids – Greeting cards, Diyas, Aakashkandil and some plants.

The amount collected deposited as donation in Shala account.

Eventually we will donate that to Children's Hospital

Special guest dignatories visited Shala booth and encouraged teachers and students.



Syllabus and test readiness

Shala coordinator formed the groups and working with teachers and checking readiness of classes.

Also, they are working and learning the CCE Conteneous Comprehensive Evaluation process to evaluate the papaers of upcoming test. They are also making a question paper for each group

Shala planned a Christmas Party and unit test at Central liabrary on Dec 20th

Makar Sankrant Haldi Kunku उत्सव स यांचा”

Date: January 25, 2025

Venue: Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox
Sobor

Attendance: 160~

- A special pelvic health awareness session by expert physiotherapists.
- Vibrant décor, a lively photo booth crafted by our own volunteers.
- Banquet-style seating.
- Fun games, and the joyful tradition of Ukhane.
- And a special Van- beautiful Paithani shela added a graceful cultural touch.
- Authentic Marathi dinner delighted everyone and enhanced the spirit of togetherness.

Your efforts truly embodied the spirit of Sakhyam and celebration!



Samadhan Seniors Club: Gappa-Goshti (Get-together for Seniors)

Date: March 1st, 2025

Venue: Indoor

Attendance: 30~



- Delightful games, lively chit-chat, karaoke sessions.
- Spontaneous dance.
- Delicious homemade food made it a perfect recipe for fun and friendship.
- Free event for our seniors!

Highlight!!



CMA Celebrates
40th Year!

CMA Sports – Carrom Tournament

Date: March 8th, 2025

Venue: Bonaventure Dr.

community Hall

Attendance: 45



- The carrom tournament brought together players and spectators in a spirit of friendly competition, laughter, and community bonding.
- The exceptional skill, focus, and sportsmanship made the event truly exciting.
- 🏆 Winners: Nikhil Kulkarni & Manish Kaduskar
- 🥈 Runners-up: Mrs. Dhamankar & Akshay Jejurkar
- The participants enjoyed tasty missal pav and tea. It was a day filled with energy, precision, and fun, truly reflecting the CMA spirit! 🎉🌟



CMA Women's Day 2025, No Limits, Just Infinite Possibilities ...उंच माझा झोका

Date: March 16th, 2025

Venue: Dalhousie Community Association

Attendance: 60



First-ever Women's Day Special Celebration, honored the strength and achievements of women in various sector. The event brought together women from various communities for an afternoon filled with inspiration, learning, and fun.

- Informative sessions by community experts on winter safety, breast cancer awareness, holistic nutrition, real estate, first aid and health, and Sylvan Learning on education.
- Shopping with local vendors, lively conversations, and
- A ramp walk where participants showcased their confidence and creativity.

Paalavi Youth Winter Event – Action starts here

Date: March 21st, 2025

Venue: Activate Calgary North

Attendance: 29



- Paalavi youth enjoyed the exciting activities, interactive challenges and high energy fun at Activate facility.
- All participants enjoyed yummy paneer wrap and hot chocolate!



Highlight!!

Record!

316

Memberships

**70+ Memberships due to
CMA Marathi Shala
students**

Gudhi Padwa – Ekankika Mahotsav

Date: April 6th, 2025

Venue: Chinese Cultural Centre

Attendance: 300~



While celebrating 40th year of CMA, brought past committee members who contributed towards CMA's growth.

Adults and kids got together on occasion of Gudhi Padawa for Ekankika Mahotsav:

- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and the play "Katha Ramrajyachi" by local talent,
- Captivating performance of "Krishna Kinara" by the Vancouver Kalakars.

Feather in cap was special recognition by Mr. Devendra Fadnavis, Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra for "Katha Ramrajyachi". Mrs. Anagha Jirankalgikar, a participant in the play, shared the

recording and intent of the performance with Mr. Fadnavis, who responded with a heartfelt video message appreciating the young performers, the entire team, and the CMA community for keeping Marathi culture alive abroad. The event was a true feast for the senses — colorful traditional attire, Amazing decoration and outstanding photo booth, soulful performances, and delicious Maharashtrian cuisine made the celebration unforgettable!

Gudhi Padwa – Chaitra Sandya with Devaki Pandit

Date: April 6th, 2025

Venue: Chinese Cultural Centre

Attendance: 180~



- A true delight for music lovers, featuring the mesmerizing performance of renowned singer Devaki Pandit accompanied by Tabla maestro Harshad Kanetkar, Abhinav Ravande on harmonium.
- Our own local talent Vaishali Gokhale on sitar and nivedan by Sonali Joglekar.



Highlight!!

Total net subscriptions growth
147 ↑ 61.5% compared to last year

Samadhan – Pravachan by Mrs. Shilpa Navare

Date: May 3rd, 2025

Venue: Virtual

Registrations: 19



- Pravachan by Mrs. Shilpa Navare was organized by the Samadhan Club.
- The session was enriching, insightful, and deeply engaging for all attendees.
- Exploration of the भारुड "सत्वर पाव ग मला भवानी" highlighted the beautiful blend of subtle humor and profound spiritual teachings.
- The discourse enhanced understanding and appreciation of this meaningful tradition.

Sports – Table Tennis
Date: June 7th, 2025
Venue: Genesis Centre
Attendance: 30~



- **"Table Tennis Tournament 2025"** was an absolute **HIT!** Our players delivered an exceptional performance 🏆, igniting an electric atmosphere with incredible rallies that everyone thoroughly enjoyed! ✨
- **Women's Singles**
 - * **Winner:** Pallavi Bhagwat
 - * **Runner-up:** Apali Chawda
- **Mixed Doubles**
 - * **Winner:** Pallavi Bhagwat & Amit Patankar
 - * **Runner-up:** Apali Chawda & Eeshwar Chawda
- **Men's Doubles**
 - * **Winners:** Animesh Joshi & Manas Joshi
 - * **Runner-up:** Mohit Halkare & Amit Patankar



Marathi Shala Annual Day
Date: June 21st, 2025
Venue: Dalhousie Community Association Auditorium
Attendance: 175+



- Marathi Shala celebrated its Annual Day 2025 titled “स्नेहसंमेलन: उत्सव अभिजात भाषेचा”.
- The event was a heartfelt tribute to the Marathi language and our cultural heritage.
- Students showcased their incredible talent through captivating performances.
- All performances were presented in Marathi, reflecting pride in our traditions and values.



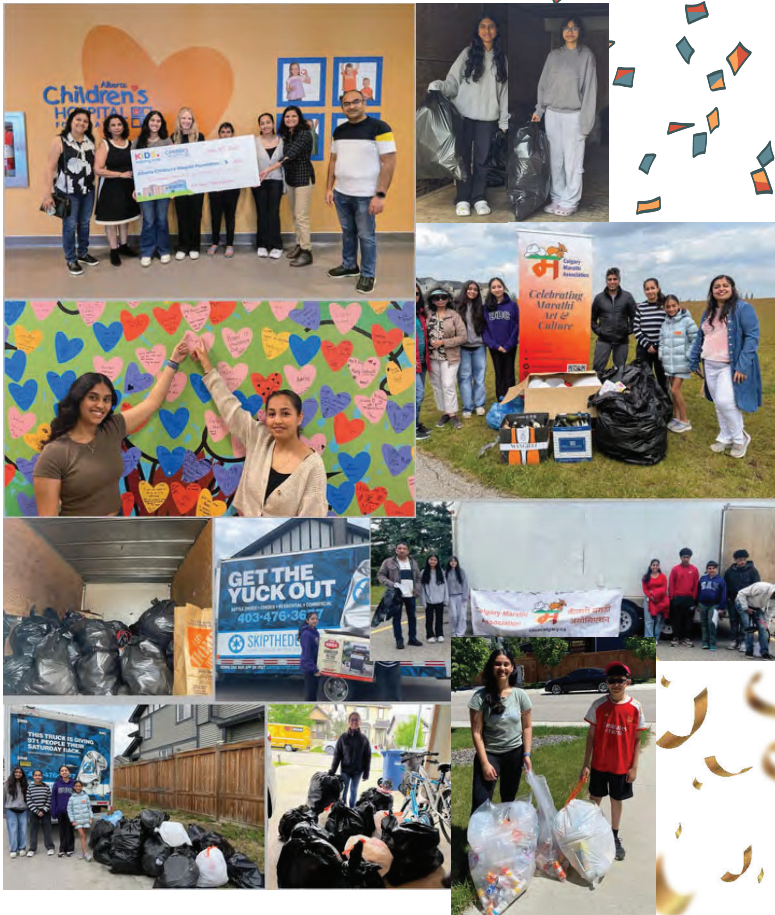
- For 2024 - 2025, we had 70+ Marathi Shala Students.
- For 2025 - 2026, we have total 85+ students
- This helped to increase the membership by 70+.



Paalavi Youth Club – Bottle Drive Date: June 22nd, 2025



- The Bottle Drive was led by Paalavi Treasurer Ruturaj Joshi and supported by the Paalavi Lead and Paalavi Youth team.
- Community members participated enthusiastically, contributing to an impressive collection.
- The initiative received strong support from sponsor Mira Ashish Damle.
- 50% of the proceeds were donated to the Alberta Children's Hospital.
- The donation was matched, doubling the impact for this meaningful cause.



Calgary Stampede Parade

Date: July 4th, 2025

Venue: Calgary

Participation: 100~



- Filled with pride and joy as we celebrate our vibrant participation in this iconic event.
- The energetic beats of the Dhol-Tasha Pathak added unmatched enthusiasm and grandeur to the celebration.
- Alongside APCAA, OSCAA, RANA, and UPAC, CMA showcased the true essence of unity in diversity.
- CMA proudly secured 2nd Place for the Best Horse Drawn Conveyance Award.

BMM - Wari to Pandharpur: परदेशातील वारी पंढरीची

Date: July 13th, 2025

Venue: Edworthy Park

Participation: 50~

- CMA proudly participated for the first time in BMM's "परदेशातील वारी पंढरीची" under SamajRang, inspired by the traditional Wari to Pandharpur.
- The "सांगता सोहळा 2025" on July 13 at Edworthy Park brought the community together for a meaningful walk focused on health, devotion, and collective well-being.
- Members enjoyed a spiritually uplifting atmosphere filled with Vitthal bhajans, naamjap, and joyful togetherness.
- The event saw enthusiastic participation and strong community spirit, making it a memorable success.
- Appreciation to Manish Dharme and Sandeep Pawar for initiating and bringing this beautiful experience to CMA.



Summer Picnic

Date: July 12th, 2025

Venue: Calgary Farmyard

Attendance: 100~



- CMA Summer Picnic at Calgary Farmyard was a memorable and fun-filled event.
- Members and families enjoyed attractions like the petting zoo, corn maze, mini golf, tractor rides, and various games.
- The potluck lunch was a delicious highlight, featuring everyone's favorite homemade dishes.
- Enthusiastic participation from Paalavi, Samadhan members, and newcomers added to the lively and joyful atmosphere.



Family Camping

Date: July 18th to July 20th, 2025

Venue: Aspen Beach Provincial Park, Gull Lake

Attendance: 30 Families



- The Calgary Marathi Association's Annual Camping Trip was truly ek number, bringing the community together with a perfect mix of sunshine, rain, and nature.
- Day 1: Campers pitched tents, shared delicious homemade meals, and enjoyed a cozy campfire with karaoke, laughter, and marshmallow roasting.
- Day 2: Started with a hearty CMA breakfast, followed by beach walks, farm strolls, reels and friendly games despite the drizzle.
- The "Paint With Me" session by Swati Kene was a hit among all age groups, while cricket and soccer kept the excitement going.

- The day wrapped up with a lively Antakshari, filling the night with nostalgic melodies.
- As campers packed up, the smiles said it all — it was a weekend of unforgettable memories, laughter, and meaningful community bonding.

IndiYeah – Independence Day

Date: August 16th, 2025

Venue: Lot 6 Calgary

- The spirit of India came alive at the vibrant IndiYeah 2025 Festival, celebrating Independence Day with dazzling regional performances.
- CMA members added their own flair with an energetic cultural dance that lit up the stage.
- The mesmerizing Dhol-Tasha performance electrified the atmosphere and had the crowd on their feet.



Ganesh Murti Making Workshop

Date: August 2nd, 2025

Venue: Citadel Community Hall

Attendance: 55+



- Kids and parents enjoyed the Ganpati murti making under guidance of Mrs. Deepali Shishodia and her volunteers.
- Parents felt that they made connection with devotion and worshiped small idol at home during Ganesh Chaturthi.



Ganpati Utsav - Calgarycha Raja

Date: September 7th, 2025

Venue: Genesis Centre

Attendance: 850 ~



- Subak Ganpati Bappa murti, donated by Spring Valley creations by Swati Kinkar and Revati Kinkar.
- Traditional puja by Rajendra Shandye.
- Beautiful decoration – by our CMA members volunteers based on Mahabharat Shri Vishnu Virat Roop
- Mouthwatering Maharashtrian food with Masale Bhat.
- The performance theme was based on local arts from various regions in India.
- CMA received many dignitaries and received appreciation certificate for contribution towards community bonding and promoting cultural diversity.
- Opportunity to various local vendors
- Multiple lucky draws with Gold earrings by Oasis Wealth managements



Kojagiri Utsav

Date: October 4th, 2025

Venue: Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Sobor

Attendance: 200+



- Traditional celebration
- Navdurga act
- Ghagri Phunkane
- Tulja Bhavani created by our own volunteers
- Beautiful Photo booth by created volunteers
- Opportunity to local vendors to sell their products
- Lucky draw by Title Sponsor



Deepavali Faral Making Sessions

Date: Oct. 13-17th, 2025

Venue: Chef's home

- The Deepavali Faral Making Sessions were a delightful success, with enthusiastic participation and a wonderful display of festive spirit.
- Many community members joined the sessions and proudly shared their homemade creations with the committee.
- Five talented chefs — Kala Gokhale, Deepali Shishodia, Shilpa Chothave, Hema Sawant, and Sara Sawant — generously shared their expertise and guided participants through delicious Faral recipes.
- From traditional favorites to nutritious modern twists, their contributions made this year's Deepavali preparations truly special and memorable.

Highlight!!

**Title Sponsors for
most of the Events
and New Sponsors &
Vendors**



Deepavali Sneh Mela
Date: 1st November, 2025
Venue:
Chinese Cultural Centre
Attendance: 350+

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Badminton Tournament

Date: November 15th, 2025

Venue: Genesis Centre

Attendance: 55~



- The tournament featured strong participation from both CMA and non-CMA members, showcasing our association's vibrancy and community spirit.
- Players competed through a challenging round-robin followed by knockout rounds leading to the finals, with everyone well-hydrated and energized thanks to the Annapurna team.
- Special prizes, medals, and generous sponsor gifts ensured winners, runners-up, and lucky draw participants were all celebrated.





Highlights & Achievements



- CMA Celebrates 40 Glorious Years (1985–2025): Marked a major milestone with four decades of culture, community, and connection; all past committees were welcomed on stage for their contribution to CMA's growth.
- 316 Memberships – Nearly 900 Members: CMA's family continued to grow stronger and more vibrant than ever.
- Premier Danielle Smith's Special Messages: Received special greetings from the Honorable Premier for "Calgarycha Raja – Ganesh Utsav 2025" and "Deepavali Sneha Mela 2025."
- Free Community Events: Hosted Samadhan Gappa Goshti and Paalavi educational sessions at no cost to members.
- First-Ever Signature Events: Successfully introduced Ekantika Mahotsav for Gudi Padwa, Chaitra Sandhya, International Women's Day, a unique Kojagiri with a Marathi Navratri touch, and the first-ever Faral Making Live Demo.
- Community Donations: Bottle Drive donations supported the Alberta Children's Hospital; Ganapati Utsav Food Drive contributions were provided to Mustard Seed.
- Five-Year Volunteer Recognition: Received an appreciation letter from Mustard Seed for 5 years of volunteer service — special acknowledgment to Rama Khare and Manjiri Shendye for leading this effort, also received 2024 Blood donation recognition certificate.
- Website Enhancements: Continued updates to ensure smooth access to events, ticketing, and information.

