

## AWMTC 2024

The Andean Western Music Talent Contest (AWMTC '24) was back this year with exciting new talent and a committed and excellent organizing team. The contest was held in the St. Andrew's Auditorium on 21 August, 2024, with the sole objective of nurturing music talent and organizational skills of our students. After a gap of nearly a decade, professors Ms. J. Coelho, Ms. T. Donald, Ms. C. Martins and Ms. M Regi put together a dedicated student organizing team headed by Kashish Pawar, Abhishek Pathak, Jonita Nazareth, Enoch Patil and Joshua Banerjee.

The contest kicked off with a Vocal Workshop with professional musician Ms. Shanon Donald as she took contestants through vocal exercises, advised them on breath control, song choice and stage presence. It was an interactive session wherein Ms. Donald demonstrated her techniques and then provided the students an opportunity to practice with her.

With over 80 entries in 6 categories, preliminary rounds were held on 12 and 13 August. We are grateful to Ms. Anita Kohli, Ms. D. Nogueira, Mr. Siddharth Meghani, Mr. Vernon Noronha, Ms. Sharon Menezes, Ms. Premila Coutinho and Ms. Samantha Fernandes, all renowned musicians, who graciously judged the eliminations and offered useful feedback to the students. On the final day, hosts Abhishek Pathak and Avani Pingle encouraged the finalists and kept the completely sold out auditorium engaged with anecdotes, exciting audience prizes and even a fabulous bit of beatboxing from Abhishek. The programme began with a few words from our principal, Dr. Marie Fernandes, as we observed 1 minutes silence in solidarity with the Kolkota Rape victim and similar victims of violence. The entire AWMTC crew and several participants and audience members wore black and sported black bands in solidarity with victims of gender violence.

Our judges for the final event included our ex-students, musicians Ms. Abigail Tellis and Mr. Joel Padikkal, and the nationally acclaimed guitarist and musician Mr. Ravi Iyer.

Our winners are as follows

Category	Place	Name
Solo	1 <sup>st</sup>	Shrija Chattopadhaya
	2 <sup>nd</sup> (Tie)	Steffi Arons and Nadia Peters
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Niranjan Velakkappadi
Karaoke	1 <sup>st</sup>	Lyle Vaz
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Patrick D'Souza
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Faith Vaz
Duet	1 <sup>st</sup>	Shania Vaz & Faith Vaz
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Steffi Aarons & Bianca
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Moses Chettiar & Ian Fernandes
Classical	1 <sup>st</sup>	Krist D'Souza
Instrumental	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Justin Morgan
Non- Classical Instrumental	1 <sup>st</sup>	Isaac Rodrigues
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ian Fernandes
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Justin Morgan

Band	1 <sup>st</sup>	Steffi Aarons, Samuel Kinny, Moses Chettiar, Jeremy Lobo, Zaden Netto, Isiah Gomes, Ian Fernandes
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lyle Vaz, Calista Uttankar, Joylyn Teresa, Jerome Louis, Emmanuel Macwan, Kartavya Jadhav, Enoch Patel
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Chris Fernandes, Gideon Daniel, Shania Vaz, Faith Vaz, Joshua Fernandes.

The AWMTC team is grateful to our sponsors: Alf Engineering Pvt. Ltd. And Alf Farms (our main sponsor), additional sponsors Gradstar Education and London Rag, our knowledge partner ACCA Synthesis Learning, Mr. Pravin Rodrigues and other Andean Alumni for the generosity and support. We also thank our College Management and Acting Rector Fr. Aniceto Pereira for their support and our teaching and non teaching staff for their help. AWMTC is also thankful to Mr. Roger Drego and the staff of St. Andrew's Auditorium for their excellent support. Finally, a big thank you to all our volunteers, participants and audience – we could not have made AWMTC such a resounding success without you!