



EISMA

Evanston In-School Music Association

स्वागतम्

Saraswathi  
Ranganathan  
& Friends

Proudly Presents...



EISMA is partially funded by the City of Evanston, in partnership with the Evanston Arts Council, and by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.



ILLINOIS  
**ARTS**  
COUNCIL  
AGENCY

# Saraswathi Ranganathan

## Veena player

Saraswathi (Sara) plays a guitar-like instrument called the **Veena**. Sara was born in **Mysore**, India, and now lives and works in Chicago. Sara plays a type of music called **Carnatic** music.



Mysore, India



# Saraswathi Ranganathan

performing with Mridangam player  
Ganapathi Ranganathan in 2014



[Click the video to watch & listen!](#)

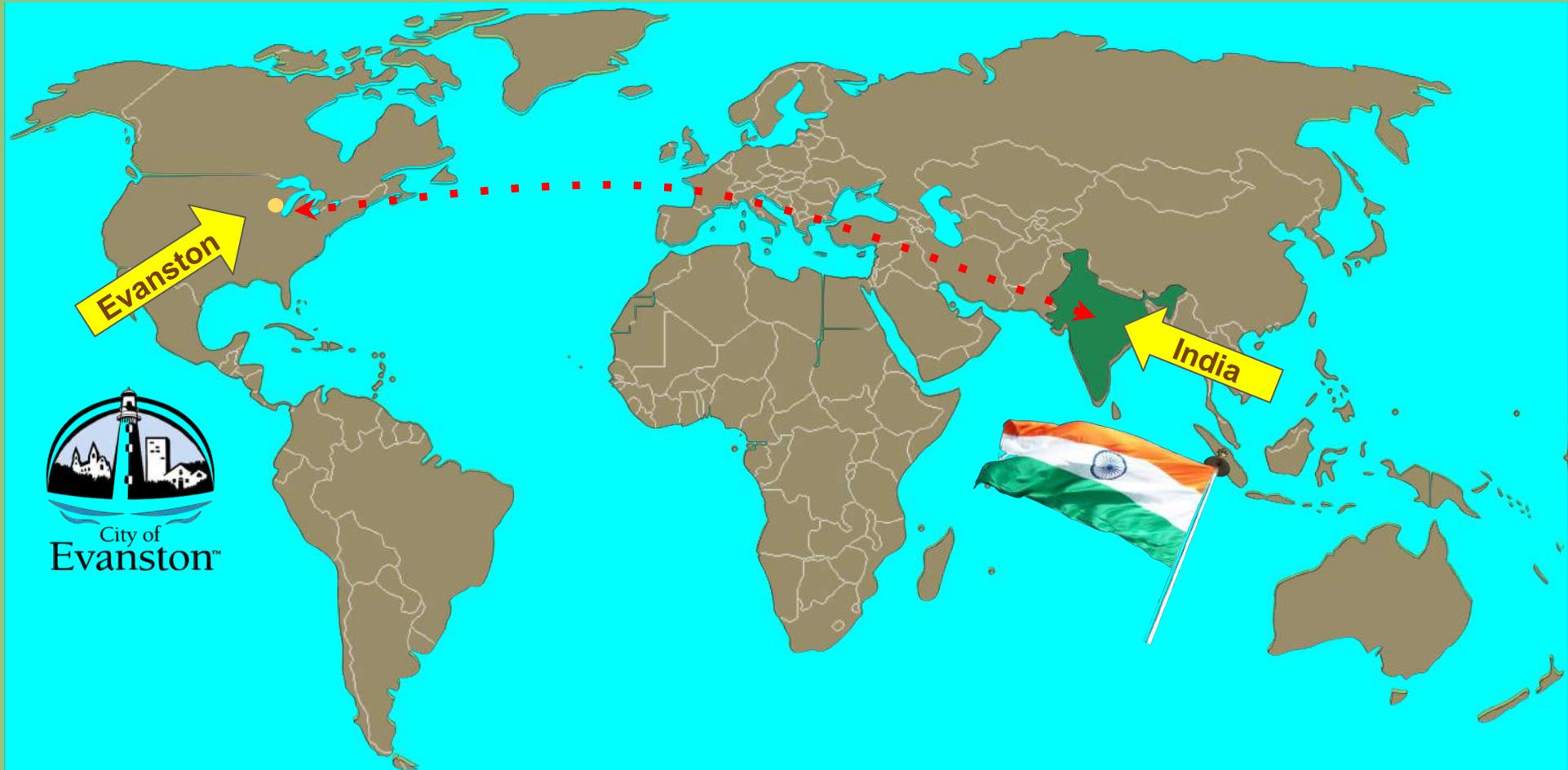
# इंडिया

# India



- 7th-largest country in the world by area
- Second-most populous country... over **1.2 billion people!**
- Most populous democracy in the world
- Second largest peninsula in the world
- The capital city is **New Delhi**, while the most populated city is **Mumbai**.

# India is 8,201 miles from Evanston!



Instruments...

# Veena

...is a guitar-like instrument played in *Carnatic* music from southern India. It has four **melody** strings, and three **drone** strings.

A **drone** describes a note that is sounded continuously throughout a piece of music. It is used as an accompaniment to a melody.

वीणा

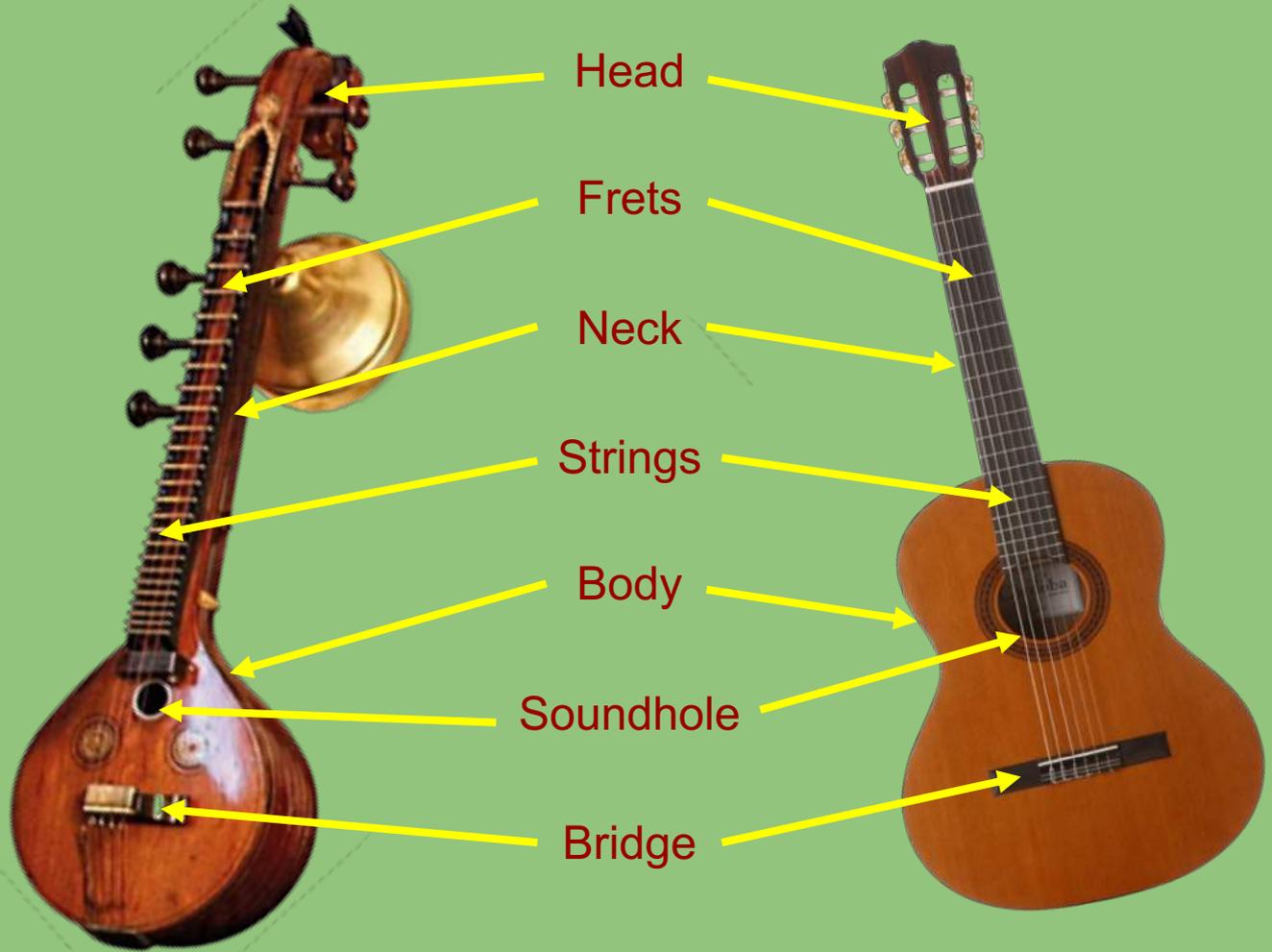


Instruments...

# Veena

...shares several characteristics with the **guitar**...

# वीणा



# Veena वीणा



[Click the video to watch & listen!](#)

# Indranil Mallick

## Tabla player

Indranil Mallick plays a pair of drums called the *Tabla*. He will be joining Sara for the concert, traveling from his home in **Kolkata**, India!



Instruments...

# Tabla



तबला

...a pair of drums originating from India, used in traditional, classical, popular and folk music. The smaller drum - called the *dayan* - is made of wood and higher-pitched. The larger drum is made of earthenware or metal is called *bayan* (meaning 'left side'). Tabla players play with their fingers, wrists, and palms.

# Tabla तबला



[Click the video to watch & listen!](#)

# Raghavan Srinivasan

## Mridangam player

Raghavan Srinivasan plays a Southern Indian drum called a *Mridangam*. He will be joining Sara for the concert, traveling from his home in **Chennai**, India!



Instruments...



# Mridangam

The *mridangam* is a percussion instrument from India of ancient origin. It is the primary rhythmic accompaniment in a **Carnatic** music ensemble.

मृदंगम्

# Mridangam मृदंगम



[Click the video to watch & listen!](#)

# More about Sara...

Sara runs her music school, **Ensemble of Ragas** in Schaumburg teaching Carnatic Classical Vocal and Veena.

She holds a Masters in **Sanskrit** (an ancient Indian language) and an MBA from Loyola University of Chicago.

She is the first Carnatic Veena artist to perform music for an off-Broadway play, **Jungle Book**.



**Sara playing the Veena**

# Saraswathi Ranganathan



Sara is the first ever Veena artiste and Asian American to win the Chicago Music Awards "**Best Asian Entertainer 2018**"

Sara is the first Veena artiste to feature in the top 10 playlist on **Radio M WBEZ** for her original composition Refreshing Raga Blues

Here is another video of Sara performing at the  
**World Music Festival Chicago 2018**



[Click the video to watch & listen!](#)

Here are three Indian masters of percussion, featuring...  
**Patri Satish Kumar, Amrit Nataraj & Triplicane Shekar**



# धन्यवाद

## Dhanyavaad (“Thanks” in Hindi) to Saraswathi Ranganathan & Friends!

...and thanks again for the support of EISMA, the City of Evanston,  
the Evanston Arts Council, and the Illinois Arts Council.

