

By now you know my end of year ritual. Yes, reflect on 2018! I play numerous roles, in the capacity of dance instructor, dance mom, boss lady, studio owner, partner, the list is long. It had been a year of learning new things and solidifying old things.

We welcomed two new students this year. So glad you joined us.

We added a new event in our bag this year, celebrating Holi. This March I organized the afternoon of dance, poetry, art and playing with Holi colors for the first time at the Belmont library. We collaborated with Lascaux Art Studio who prepared a lovely collage with Holi colors.

In May, I was invited back third year in a row to Laurel Elementary school to conduct dance workshop. Dance, our Indian dance, has been a valued art.

From our experience with the hot stage in June last year at San Mateo County Fair, this year we danced in the evening sun and all was good. There was a big and engaged crowd. We performed to new choreography (Mogara phulala) and some of our popular pieces.

The summer was eventful. In July, we moved to our new studio space. I found no better use of my garage than the dance studio which is now cherished by me and my students. The comment I got from one student at her first class in this new space was, "this was the best class ever". She could see herself in the mirror and didn't have to rely on my nagging of better posture while dancing.

Our annual picnic in August is always fun. Relaxing, chatting, sharing, while drinking tea with samosas, an idyllic time. I look forward to this time of the year. Kids made their own greeting cards and we saw some nice artistry.

October is the month of Save the Music Festival, and this is also the month when the weather can lean in any direction. Remember when we danced in rain one October? This year was hot, hot, hot, but we handled it amazingly. After all we are All-weather dancers. 'Shape of You' was well received. We solidified our collaboration with the School Force and added some new connections.

Come November and Indian festivities begin. Our Diwali celebration at the library was very well attended. I am always thinking of adding something new to our agenda. Dancing Garba and dandiya to live music were fun.

For the dance studio, 2018, indeed was a busy year. Did we achieve all our 2018 goals? I say, YES!

What are our 2019 goals? I plan to incorporate more theory and background of BN in kids' dance education. We plan on doing more collaboration with siblings that have other passions. We will seek out other studios and dancers to collaborate. AND revamp the Pagrav Dance Studio website. This task has been delegated to our youngest son.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season.

With gratitude,

Purvi