

30

# THREE DECADES

FESTIVAL OF  
CELEBRATING  
SINHALA TELE  
ARTISTRY



**SUMATHI  
AWARDS  
2025**



# SUMATHI AWARDS 2025

**A NIGHT  
STANDARDISE  
A NATION**

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2025,  
at the Monarch Imperial Premises  
Sri Jayewardenepura



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## **“A Night Standardise a Nation”**

**T**he Sumathi Awards Ceremony, established in 1995, aims to elevate the standards of Sri Lankan teledramas, television productions, and advertisements by evaluating their quality, inspiring Sri Lankan tele-creations and the industry, and promoting Sri Lankan productions on an international stage.

The Sumathi Awards Ceremony is also the only continuously held television awards ceremony in Sri Lanka that emphasizes local culture and traditions while preserving diversity. In today’s rapidly evolving technological world, local content creation reaches audiences beyond traditional television and garners significant attention through social media. As a result, expanding beyond the categories awarded in previous years, this year’s ceremony will also present awards dedicated to social media.

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## Retrospection of a Magnificent Beginning



The date was November 25, 1995. That evening, the Sugathadasa Indoor Stadium in Colombo was filled to capacity with over six thousand attendees. Everyone had gathered to witness an awards ceremony unlike any they had seen before. Inspired by the Nissanka Latha Mandapaya, built during the Polonnaruwa era by King Keerthi Sri Nissankamalla, a grand and majestic stage designed by veteran artist Wimal Jayawardena captivated the eyes and hearts of all present.

That was the inaugural Sumathi Awards ceremony. Even before the event officially

began, the audience, enchanted by the surrounding splendour and the beautifully adorned stage, recognized one clear fact: this magnificent awards ceremony would not be a one-time event, but one that would continue for decades, uplifting Sri Lankan arts. The hopes and wishes of those who witnessed that first Sumathi Awards ceremony have been fulfilled. Today, we celebrate three decades of the Sumathi Awards and gather to honour that enduring legacy.

Three decades is indeed a long time. During this period, not only the Sri Lankan arts sector but the entire nation



its core values—a truly remarkable journey witnessed by many citizens of this country.

The Sumathi Awards were initiated based on a concept by Mr. Thilanga Sumathipala, then Managing Director of Lakbima Newspaper Company. His intention was to launch a cultural festival reflecting Sinhala culture and upholding artistic and aesthetic quality.

From the very beginning, Dr. Milina Sumathipala—who made significant contributions to cinema through artistically valuable films such as Ganga Addara, Duwata Mawaka Misa, Uppalavanna, and Paththini-

has undergone significant economic, social, and cultural transformations. Amidst these changes, the Sumathi Awards has continued its journey, evolving with the times and further enhancing

along with other members of the Sumathipala family, consistently appreciated artistic and aesthetic expression, offering their blessings and support to the Sumathi Awards.

By 1995, television had become a highly popular and accessible medium among the public, yet the creative productions broadcast through it, and the artists contributing to them, were not given due recognition. The Sumathi Awards were established to fill this gap.

However, the awards had another purpose beyond honouring outstanding figures in the arts: they aimed to provide guidance to ensure proper standards in television productions. Today, as the awards celebrate three decades, the Sumathi Awards are recognized as a benchmark for artistic excellence.

The stage administration of the inaugural event, which left an unforgettable impression on audiences, was managed by the esteemed Kala Suri Sathischandra Edirisinghe. The original trophy design was created by Mr. Owen Weerakkody of the National Youth Services Council, based on a concept by Mr. Thilanga Sumathipala.





## Message from the Chairman

Looking back at the small dream that formed in my heart three decades ago, I feel a gentle, innocent sense of pride. At the same time, I wonder, has life really flown by so quickly? Thirty years is no short span; it is indeed a significant portion of my life. How many unforgettable and deeply moving memories are bound to the Sumathi Awards within this period? When those moments come flooding back like a vivid painting, I am filled with immense pride for the golden harvest reaped from the field of art.

To earn recognition as a “nationally embraced cultural celebration” is no easy task. Such an achievement is possible only through the blessings and unwavering support of artists, television channels, and devoted admirers of our native arts.

Over the thirty-year journey of the Sumathi Awards, the challenges encountered have been far from minor. Unforeseen crises such as LTTE terrorism, the devastating tsunami, the Easter Sunday attacks, the COVID-19 pandemic, the people’s uprising, and the economic crisis presented significant obstacles to the continued hosting of the awards ceremony. Yet, through it all, our unwavering self-belief and the steadfast trust and genuine love for the arts shown by our loyal sponsors have given us the strength to successfully overcome every challenge from the beginning to this day.

At this moment, I respectfully remember all the chairpersons and members of the judging panels who, with patience and wisdom, have made fair and sound decisions throughout the years.

We have always strived to ensure a proud and unforgettable night for all award recipients. Likewise, we have worked tirelessly to make the Sumathi Awards ceremony a distinctive and lasting memory within society. From stage setup and administration to dance performances, compering, and the various special elements that add colour to the event, we have taken personal interest in ensuring every detail is meticulously managed to uphold international standards.

In any country, the media plays a pioneering role in shaping its direction. Hence, media is acknowledged as the essential fourth pillar of democracy. It is with this in mind that I view the protection and safeguarding of all those involved in media not only as a profound responsibility but also as a meaningful investment for the future.

All television channels that have consistently partnered with us in bringing these ideals to society, along with channel owners, executives, heads of institutions, and everyone who has generously supported and assisted in establishing the brand of quality standards of television arts, are esteemed partners in any honour we have received.

I extend my heartfelt welcome to all who have joined us in making the night “Standardise a Nation” one which became the brand of the Brand Awardees. From the beginning to this day, those nominated for these awards, beloved by the entire nation and recognized as outstanding figures in the arts and media, will forever shine in our hearts as radiant stars.

If the light of these stars helps illuminate the field of arts and nurture the richness of Sinhala culture, then there is no greater joy I could ask for.

**Thilanga Sumathipala**

*Founder & Chairman (Sumathi Awards)*

## Theme Song

*Rangana narthana tharanga sarasiye  
Pankaja udānaye  
Kithsara nanvana Thilina sādaye  
Mangala prabhāthaye*

*Sumathi prasādana sathsara sādhana  
Suramya sandhyāvayi  
Asi disi rū sara kalā nimākala  
Ē sara dæhanin dæyama vashikala  
Nimayum sithmal rasika sarasiye*

*Pipī dilena dāvasayi  
Pidum labana mohotayi*

*Sarasavi rasa sev deyē kalā pela  
Tharu kæla se dili dili sabhā geba  
Subhapæthum muthulel salana sarasiye  
Sini kirana visireyi  
Kalā kethama bebalei*

*Vocals* - Sunil Edirisinghe  
*Lyrics* - Kularatne Ariyawansa  
*Music Composition* - Dr. Rohana Weerasinghe







## Sumathipala Memorial Award



There is a universal belief that the world is born from a mother's milk and the rays of the sun. This truth becomes evident when we realize that, just as a mother nourishes her child's life, a father's silent tears and tireless sacrifices continuously bring light and meaning to that life. From the very day a child is born, parents make immense sacrifices to show their children the world they themselves never had—to provide comforts and opportunities they were denied, and to offer the education they could not receive. This is why loving parents remain an eternal, undying, and unforgettable presence in a child's life.

**Mr. U.W. Sumathipala and Dr. (Mrs.) Milina Sumathipala** together made a remarkable and lasting contribution to Sinhala cinema and the broader arts in Sri Lanka. At the 3rd International Film Festival held in Cairo in 1978, the film representing Sri Lanka, *Ahasin Polowata* (White Flower for the Dead), directed by Dr. Lester James Peries, was awarded the prize for Best Film from the Third World. Inspired by their parents' artistic legacy, the Sumathipala family has embraced this cultural contribution as both a social responsibility and a duty. Each year, they continue to honour the excellence of Sri Lankan artists by presenting the Sumathi Awards in a grand and prestigious manner.

In remembrance of the late Mr. U.W. Sumathipala and Dr. (Mrs.) Milina Sumathipala, the organizing committee has decided to present the Sumathipala Memorial Award as a tribute to these beloved parents. This award is unique in that it is presented only once in a lifetime. The award was designed by the renowned artist Athula Upasiri Kalademulla.

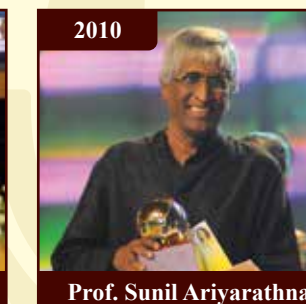
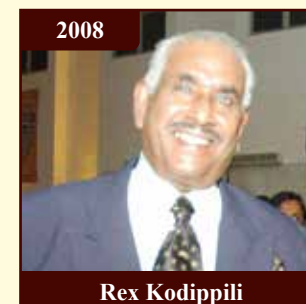
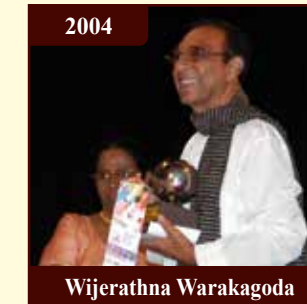
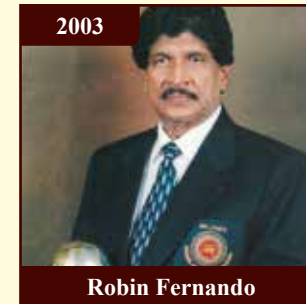
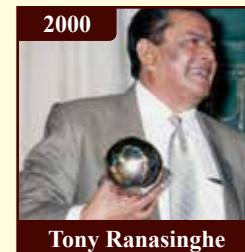
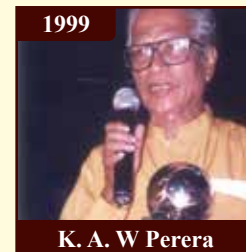
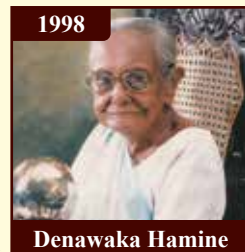
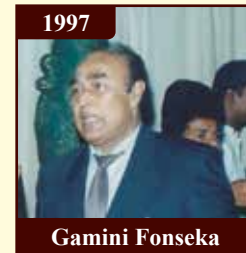
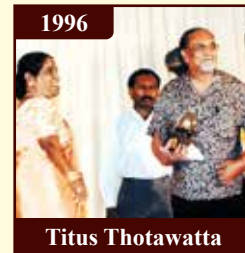


## Those Who Have Been Honoured With The Sumathipala Memorial Award To Date...

1995	D. B. Nihalsinghe	2006	Shanthi Lekha Shan Wickrmasinghe	2014	Prof Rohana Weerasinghe Sujatha Attanayake
1996	Titus Thotawatta	2007	Nanda Malani Stanley Perera	2015	A. D Ranjith Kuamra Indrani Wijayabandara
1997	Gamini Fonseka	2008	Roy De Silva Rex Kodippili	2016	Amarasiri Kalansuriya Anoja Weerasinghe
1998	Denawaka Hamine Heugo Fenando	2009	Clariss De Silva Jeewarani Kurukulasooriya	2017	Neeta Fernando Swarna Mallawarachchi
1999	Jeo Abeywickrama K. A. W Perera	2010	Prof. Sunil Ariyaratna Shriyani Amarasena	2018	Thissa Wijesurendera Geetha Kumarasinghe
2000	Tony Ranasinghe Christy Lenard Perera	2011	Anula Karunathilake Angaline Gunathilake	2019	Sumana Amarasinghe Alaxander Fernando
2001	Irangani Serasinghe Malani Fonseka	2012	Cyril Wickramage Victor Rathnayake	2020 2021	Douglas Ranasinghe Manel Wanaguru
2002	Henry Jayasena Ravindra Randeniya	2013	Punya Heendeniya Sanath Nandasiri	2022 2023	Sanath Gunathilake Indrani Perera
2003	Sathischandra Edirisinghe Robin Fernando	2024	Priya Suriyasena Dharmasiri Bandaranayake		

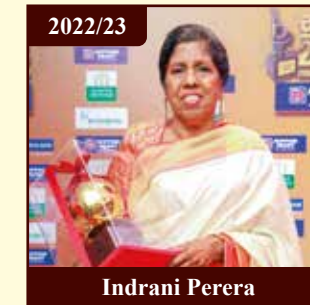
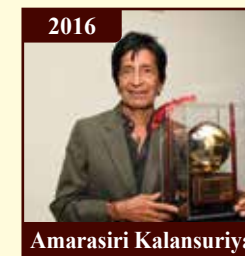
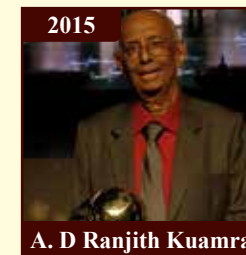
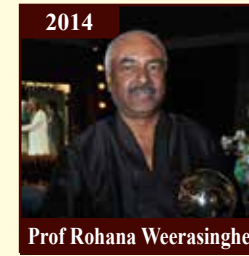


## Thirty Years of Sumathipala Memorial Awards





## Thirty Years of Sumathipala Memorial Awards



*This award is given to a distinguished artist, creator, or representative of the arts who has dedicated themselves to the field and made a significant contribution. Its uniqueness lies in being a once-in-a-lifetime honour, further enhanced by the exquisite design by Athula Upasiri Kalademulla.*



## Thirty Years of Sumathi Award Journey

### The Best Actor & The Best Actress



## Those who have been honoured with the best actor & the actress award to date...



1995	Buddhadasa Vithanarachchi	Manel Jayasena
1996	Lucky Dais	Chandani Senevirathna
1997	Jackson Anthony	Malani Fonseka
1998	Ashoka Peris	Wasanthi Chaturani
1999	Suminda Sirisena	Chandani Senevirathna
2000	Joe Abeywickrama	Nilmini Thennakoon
2001	Sriyantha Mendis	Malani Fonseka
2002	Jayalath Manorathna	Wasanthi Chaturani
2003	Mahendra Perera	Sasanthi Jayasekara
2004	Suminda Sirisena	Duleeka Marapana
2005	Jayalal Rohana	Duleeka Marapana
2006	Janak Premalal	Damitha Abeyrathna
2007	Roger Senevirathne	Chandani Senevirathna
2008	Sriyantha Mendis	Wasanthi Chaturani
2009	Sriyantha Mendis	Duleeka Marapana
2010	Roshan Raveendra	Himali Sayurangi
2011	Jagath Chamila	Samadhi Laksiri
2012	Wishwajith Gunasekara	Kanchana Mendis
2013	Jackson Anthony	Paboda Sandeepani
2014	Janak Premalal	Thisuri Yuwanika
2015	Sriyantha Mendis	Nilmini Thennakoon
2016	Sumathi Rathnayaka	Umali Thilakarathna
2017	Shyam Fernando	Nadee Kammellaweera
2018	Uddika Premarathna	Thisuri Yuwanika
2019	Roshan Raveendra	Samanali Fonseka
2020	Dasun Pathirana	Udari Warnakulasooriya
2021	Thusitha Laknath	Umali Thilakarathna
2022	Madura Prabhaswara	Nayomi Thakshila
2023	Jagath Manuwarna	Semini Iddamalgoda



## Thirty Years of Sumathi Award Journey Most Popular Actor & Actress



### Those who have been honoured with the popular actor & the popular actress award to date...

1995	Kamal Addararachchi	Nilmini Thennakoon	2010	Chandika Nanayakkara	Umayangana Wickramasinghe
1996	Lucky Dias	Chandani Senevirathna	2011	Saranga Disasekara	Udari Warnakulasooriya
1997	Jeevan Kumaratunga	Wasanthi Chaturani	2012	Dhananjaya Siriwardana	Nadeesha Hemamali
1998	Palith Silva	Yashodha Wimaladarma	2013	Wishwa Kodikara	Dinakshi Priyasad
1999	Sriyantha Mendis	Yashodha Wimaladarma	2014	Wishwa Kodikara	Ruwangi Rathnayaka
2000	Lucky Dias	Yashodha Wimaladarma	2015	Kavinga Perera	Shalani Tharaka
2002	Channa Perera	Yashodha Wimaladarma	2016	Kavinga Perera	Ishara Sandamini
2003	Channa Perera	Kanchana Mendis	2017	Kavinga Perera	Nayanathara Wickramaarachchi
2004	Roshan Pilapitiya	Nayana Kumari	2018	Raveen Kanishka	Shalani Tharaka
2006	Roshan Pilapitiya	Chathurika Peiris	2019	Sumiran Gunasekara	Nayomi Thakshila
2007	Suraj Mapa	Oshadhi Hewamadduma	2020/21	Sajitha Anutthara	Senali Fonseka
2008	Roshan Ranawana	Manjula Kumari	2022/23	Uddika Premarathna	Dusheni Miyurangi
2009	Chandika Nanayakkara	Nehara Peiris	2024	Saranga Disasekara	Dusheni Miyurangi



## A Pride of Thirty Years

Among the various mass communication media in Sri Lanka, television holds the position as the most popular and influential. Thanks to long-term strategic decisions, television was introduced to Sri Lanka in 1979 and quickly secured a leading role in the country's media landscape.

On February 15, 1982, under the Sri Lanka Television Corporation Act No. 06 of 1982, national television broadcasting officially began. Since then, television has served as a powerful and beloved medium in the country. Following its introduction, one of the most cherished programs among Sri Lankans became teledramas. These dramas, with their ability to subtly touch individual emotions and act as potent tools for social critique, reveal not only society's true nature but also the authentic self of individuals.

Initially, teledramas in Sri Lanka focused primarily on entertainment. The very first teledrama broadcast was Dimuthu

Muthu, directed by Mr. D. B. Nihalsingha. Despite many challenges over the years, Sri Lankan teledramas have steadily progressed, embracing new technologies and evolving significantly.

The Sumathi Awards ceremony, established in 1995, has become the grand cultural celebration of Sri Lanka's small screen. It is a platform that not only appreciates the acting talents of Sri Lankan artists but also serves as a prestigious event eagerly anticipated by creators across the television industry, all hoping to receive recognition for their work.

Sustaining the Sumathi Awards for thirty continuous years while upholding true excellence in television production has been a challenging task. Overcoming these challenges, the ceremony has proudly endured for three decades, playing a vital role in honoring and uplifting the legacy of Sri Lankan visual arts. Today, we celebrate this remarkable achievement with great pride and joy.



## Sponsors Associated with the 2025 Sumathi Awards

Thanks to the strong and trustworthy relationships built over the years, many leading public and private sector institutions have remained loyal sponsors of the Sumathi Awards for three decades. For this year's event, the main sponsor is **Calin**. Additional prestigious partners include **Sumathi Ventures (Pvt) Ltd**, **NSBM Green University**, **Homelands (Pvt) Ltd**, **Koththu Mee (Ceylon Agro Industries Pvt Ltd)**, **Prima Group**, **Touch of Gold**, **Monarch Imperial**, **Commercial Bank**, and **Napco (Pvt) Ltd**.



## Awards That Shape the Direction of the Arts

**Awards represent certificates of standards granted by authoritative bodies, recognizing the quality relationship between audiences and artistic creations. More than that, awards act as powerful rudders guiding the vast vessel of art. At times, they influence not only the course of art itself but also the individual journeys of those within it. In essence, awards have the power to shape creative direction and personal paths alike.**

When examined closely, six key criteria typically determine the excellence of any awards ceremony:

- The nature of the jury and the quality of their decisions
- Well-structured and regularly updated award categories and evaluation criteria
- Recognition and respect within the industry and broader society
- Meaningful and positive impact on both the community and the field
- Organized with excellence and effectiveness
- Number of editions held and continuity of the event

When the distinguished artist Jackson Anthony once received an award, he said on stage:

“An award is an encouragement...!

An encouragement that is never restrictive...!”

He emphasized that this encouragement must be given in the right measure, at the right time, in the right manner, for the right cause, and to the right person a responsibility that the awards jury cannot neglect. Likewise, recipients must take responsibility to use this encouragement properly and wisely. After all, what they receive is the best award of the year, not the best award of all time.

The heart of any awards ceremony is the jury, while the brain is the pre-selection committee. An awards ceremony fundamentally depends on the decisions of its jury. A single incorrect decision or flawed criterion can misdirect the entire event, risking its credibility. Therefore, the accuracy and soundness of the jury’s decisions are crucial.

It is natural for opinions to differ regarding the jury’s decisions, as qualitative judgment is subjective and relative to each individual’s perspective.

The pre-selection process evaluates the success achieved when artists or technical experts confidently direct their skills

toward their vision. Awards answer questions such as: In which direction have we travelled within the arts? Where are we heading? Where should we be moving?

By recognizing the highest standards of artistry, awards raise the minimum standards within the field. They should also encourage and appreciate new trends. A recent example is the Sumathi Tele Awards’ recognition last year of the mini-series format, which inspired many high-quality, creatively excellent mini-series productions demonstrating how awards can shape artistic directions. Well-defined and systematic evaluation criteria are powerful factors in raising standards, providing artists with clear goals especially important for emerging talents.

Jury members and organizers should acknowledge global trends and locally relevant innovations to modernize domestic awards. This investment is crucial for the future of the arts. For instance, if categories such as Best Titling, Best Title Design, Best Casting, and Best Trailer were introduced in upcoming years, it would represent significant progress for national awards ceremonies. Notably, the international Oscars introduced a Best Casting award starting in 2025, reflecting such global standards.

In my personal observation, the recommendations for the main categories in the 2024 Sumathi Tele Awards Best Actress, Best Screenplay, Best Direction, and Best Television Drama were 100% accurate, a highly commendable feature of this year’s ceremony.

The 2024 Sumathi Awards were notably competitive compared to previous years. Of the seven outstanding television productions that aired in 2024 Take Care, Wiyali, Backside, Thapparayak Denna, Susum Rasthiyaduwa, Chandi Kumarihami, and Mee Massa six were nominated this year. This

inclusion of almost all top productions significantly intensified the competition. A victory earned through fierce competition against strong contenders holds greater value than one achieved in a weaker field or by default. Accordingly, the prestige of this year’s Sumathi Awards is undeniably high.

For example, the Best Actress category featured a decisive competition like never before. Actresses Rebecca Dilrukshi, Chandani Senavirathna, Tharindi Fernando, and Dinakshi Priyasad each delivered outstanding and distinctive performances. Their character development, supported by excellent scriptwriting and direction, was a major factor intensifying the competition. The jury deserves honourable appreciation for their intelligent and precise selection of nominees. The decision to nominate four actresses instead of the usual three further highlights the exceptional competitiveness in this category.

Finally, I respectfully urge all nominees and winners this year to reflect on the nominees and winners of previous years. Such reflection will provide valuable insight into the prestige and evolving standards of the award category.

The Sumathi Tele Award you are about to receive is uniquely and brilliantly crafted, honoured by the touch of many great creative masters. When you receive this award, remember you bear the immense responsibility of upholding and nurturing art that is both high in quality and beloved by the public.



**Lakmina Ranasinghe**  
*Media and Creative Analyst*  
Creative Group Head  
(Publicis Sri Lanka)

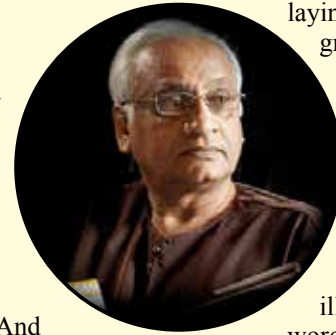




## ‘The majestic thirty-story mansion, rising from the foundation stone laid long ago...’

The foundation that was laid thirty years ago, in collaboration with Mr. Thilanga Sumathipala to begin the Sumathi Awards, has today risen into a majestic mansion that touches the sky. Though physically I may be weak and frail today, when I look back on life, those memories of the past never fade from my mind. And in those moments of reflection, I feel, though my body has aged, my spirit remains ever young.

This time that has passed is by no means a short span. Before I came to know the creative young Thilanga Sumathipala, I first knew Mr. U.W. Sumathipala. At the time when he was working as a film producer, I too was active as a film director, a parallel journey that laid the foundation for our lasting professional friendship. Later, Mrs. Milina Sumathipala too became a film producer, and the children of the Sumathipala family grew up with a deep understanding of the lives of artists and the



true value of their creations. Perhaps it was because of this deep awareness that the young Thilanga Sumathipala, even before launching the Sumathi Awards, sought my guidance. Even today, I can clearly envision the ceremonial laying of the foundation stone for the

grand mansion named the Sumathi Awards, and the heartfelt offerings made with the hope of turning it into a national stage. Though I am no longer in perfect health, those memories breathe life back into me. Today, the Sumathi Awards ceremony has become a grand celebration that illuminates the entire nation. In other words, it has become a magnificent

thirty-story mansion, gleaming with the brilliance of stars. Today, I feel a deep, humble joy in having been a part of this victory. I still see the deep-rooted quality of gratitude, which is central to our culture, reflected in Mr. Thilanga Sumathipala and the Sumathi Awards. To all those who have been recognized by the Sumathi Awards throughout the years, and to all the winners of this 30th Sumathi Awards ceremony, I extend my warmest congratulations.

*Kala Suri, Kala Keerthi  
Sathischandra Edirisinghe*

## “Nothing inspires you to stay in the arts more than this...”

Compared to a neighbouring country like India, Sri Lanka is just a small island. India’s population exceeds 1.5 billion, whereas ours doesn’t even reach 25 million.



Whether it’s the cinema or television industry, we operate within a very narrow scope. Unlike India, we don’t have the advantage of a massive audience base.

But when it comes to creativity, or rather, talent, we are now capable of giving even a country like India strong competition. Productions of the

## “The Very First Step...” On the Sumathi Stage

The date was November 25, 1995. Over six thousand audiences gathered at the Sugathadasa Indoor Stadium in Colombo to witness the very first Sumathi Awards Ceremony. Though I had acted in many roles as an actor, that day left an indelible mark on my heart.

“Will this event be executed well...?” a question I quietly asked myself. The reason behind this doubt was that Mr. Thilanga Sumathipala, had chosen me as the main presenter of the programme. Besides acting, I had occasionally taken on the role of an announcer, but never on such a grand stage, at a national-level cultural festival.

I stepped into the role of the announcer, saying, " We warmly welcome the timeless and devoted audience who have joined us on this auspicious evening..." The awards stage was adorned with a solemn grandeur, which had never witnessed



before, That grand stage was created based on a design by Wimal Jayawardena, taking inspiration from the Keerthi Sri Nissanka Mandapa built during the Polonnaruwa era. I was truly blessed by the grace of God, to successfully carry out the role of compere throughout the very first Sumathi Awards ceremony, from the beginning to the end. Since that day, I have been a permanent member of the Sumathi Awards in various capacities. Except for two or three occasions when I was out of the country, I have never missed the Sumathi Awards. It has always felt like my own awards ceremony.

For an artist, receiving an award brings an indescribable encouragement. Being part of such moments and celebrating the winners with heartfelt applause fills me with immense joy. Though I have been somewhat unwell, I look forward with happiness to participating in the 30th Sumathi Awards and cheering for all of you.

*Veteran Actor  
Ravindra Randeniya*

same scale and excellence as those in India are now being created right here in Sri Lanka. And this is exactly where an awards ceremony like the Sumathi Awards, which sets a national standards, becomes so important. As far as I know, the Sumathi Awards was the very first ceremony in South Asia dedicated specifically to recognizing excellence in television drama. Today, thousands of people in Sri Lanka earn their living through the tele-industry. However, the lives of some of these individuals aren’t always as beautiful as the ones we see on the small screen.

Nevertheless, Mr. Thilanga Sumathipala has given many artists in our country the opportunity to make their lives more beautiful today.

After receiving such recognition, the value of artistes and of works of art increases. They get more work opportunities. And they are further encouraged to continue in the field of art. This is something that applies to all of us.

*Veteran Actress  
Shriyani Amarasena*





## "Sumathi Awards" Thousands across the Country...

This is the 30<sup>th</sup> Sumathi Awards. Sumathipala family has presented at least 30 to 35 awards every year. If we do the math,  $35 \times 30 = 1,050$ . Let's round it off and say a thousand awards. These awards are now found in households of various people across the country, belonging to countless individuals. An award is a symbol of excellence. That is why the award holds value. Otherwise, it's not based on the amount of metal it contains.

There are always cynics who mock awards, saying they end up as doorstops. "We don't work just for awards..." We have often heard some people say this. What I ask from the field of art, is whether working with the expectation of awards is an unethical act. If



awards represent standards, then what is wrong with always striving to create work that meets those standards?

Whether or not an award is received, what emerges is excellent creation. Thilanga Sumathipala and the Sumathipala family deserve the respect of art lovers for maintaining, uninterruptedly for over thirty years, the twin commitments of making as accurate judgments as possible and conducting a highly distinguished awards ceremony.

*Emeritus Professor*  
**Sunil Ariyaratne**

## With three decades of pride, this year's award ceremony will shine even more brilliantly...

Organizing an awards ceremony every year to honour artists in this manner is not an easy task. Therefore, I take this moment to extend my sincere gratitude to Mr. Thilanga Sumathipala and the entire Sumathi Awards organizing committee.

The Sumathi Awards has rightfully earned respect from everyone as an independent and fair platform. The effort to align the awards ceremony's program



schedule and presentation standards with international levels is highly commendable. I believe that this year's Sumathi Awards, presented with three decades of pride, will be truly remarkable. I also extend my warmest wishes to all our fellow Artists and artisans who will be honoured, on that beautiful night.

*Veteran actress*  
**Neeta Fernando**







**The Sumathi Awards Ceremony is not merely an event that honours the theatrical talents of Sri Lankan artists; it is also a prestigious platform that provides every creator in the television industry with an opportunity to receive due recognition for their work over the course of a year. Marking three decades of pride, the 30th edition of the Sumathi Awards, renowned as the “Grand Celebration of Excellence on the Small Screen”, will evaluate and honour television productions broadcast between January 1, 2024, and December 31, 2024, along with the artists who contributed to these works.**

### *Concept*

In accordance with the noble vision of Mr. Thilanga Sumathipala, the Sumathi Awards Ceremony has been held continuously since 1995 to celebrate true excellence in television production. All awards are selected by an independent panel of Judges, which consists of senior, impartial experts in the field who contribute their invaluable expertise. A unique feature of the Sumathi Awards is the recognition not only of actors and actresses but also of everyone behind the scenes who contributes significantly to every

production on the small screen. Accordingly, annually approximately 60 awards are given categories covering a broad spectrum, including cinematography, directing, production, music direction, costume design, art direction, lighting, as well as news direction, reporting, investigative journalism, television presenting, advertising, and social media content creation.

### *Purpose*

The primary purpose of the Sumathi Awards is to to elevate the standards of Sri Lankan teledramas, television productions, and advertisements by evaluating their quality, to inspire Sri Lankan tele-creations and the industry, and to promote Sri Lankan productions on an international stage. To achieve this, the awards continuously emphasize local culture and traditions while preserving Sri Lankan identity, and are held annually without interruption. As a result, the Sumathi Awards have become a prestigious event widely respected both locally and internationally. In a rapidly evolving technological world, local content creation is now reaching audiences beyond traditional television, gaining significant attention through social media and as a result, expanding beyond the number of categories awarded in previous years, this year’s Ceremony will also present awards dedicated to social media.

### *Performers of the Awards Ceremony*

To deliver a spectacular, internationally acclaimed awards ceremony to the audience,

the 30th Sumathi Awards collaborate with several key organizations and individuals: Showtown Entertainment (BNS), led by Bhatia Santhush, provides technical and entertainment support; Ants @ Work handles program coordination; Channa Upuli Dance Academy presents the dance performances; and the musical orchestra is led by Manoj Peiris. Moreover, Saliya Weerasekara manages the event logistics, Santhus Weeraman handles digital marketing, and Srimal Wimalaratne oversees the LED panels and lighting, all contributing to making the Sumathi Awards stage vibrant and impressive.

### *Best Awards*

All telecasted productions, teledramas (series and single episodes) and programs representing various genres, that aired across all Sri Lankan television channels between January 1 and December 31 2024, will be subject to careful evaluation. Final decisions on Best Awards will be made by an independent panel of judges renowned for their refined taste, aesthetic sensibility, and technical expertise.

### *Popular Awards*

The most captivating and prestigious highlight of the Sumathi Awards is undoubtedly the “Audience Choice Awards”, presented under the three most popular categories: Most Popular Actor, Most Popular Actress, and Most Popular Teledrama. Likewise, a special new award category has been introduced this year, based on a proposal made by heads of media institutions. That is the Sumathi Award presented for the Most Popular Television Programme. Among the teledramas currently being aired on all channels, the nominated names for the most popular actor, actress, and teledrama have been included for this purpose and the names relevant to the programs have been nominated exclusively by the television channels.

Information related to the Popular Category can be accessed by anyone through the official Sumathi Awards Facebook page. SMS voting and online voting for the Popular Awards can be done via the official Sumathi Awards website: [www.sumathiawards.lk](http://www.sumathiawards.lk). Likewise, Sri Lankan fans living abroad will also have the opportunity to cast their votes via the Sumathi Awards official website and all voting results and updates related to the awards ceremony will be announced through the Sumathi Awards Facebook page and the official website [www.sumathiawards.lk](http://www.sumathiawards.lk).

### *Digital Media Awards*

At the 30th prestigious Sumathi Awards, one of the most significant new additions this year is the Digital Media Awards category. This marks a fresh inclusion under the popular awards segment of the Sumathi Awards.

Under the category of Most Popular Digital Personality of the Year, outstanding personalities who have captivated the public through various digital platforms in the digital sector will be recognized and honored. In addition, this year the Digital Awards category has been expanded to recognize excellence across a broader range of content. All these awards are independently selected by a prestigious judging panel, which evaluates digital excellence presented on various platforms and evaluation covers outstanding digital personalities and programs that have been pioneers in providing education, entertainment, culture and heritage, national and contemporary issues, lifestyles, and fashion to a wide and diverse audience. The Sumathi Digital Awards are designed to recognize the ever-evolving media landscape and the diverse digital platforms emerging around it, encouraging progress and innovation.





## Presented only once in a lifetime Sumathipala Memorial Award 2025

### *Sunil Edirisinghe*

Born on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December, 1949, in the village of Hungamugoda in Kelaniya, he received his early education at Varagoda D. B. Jayathilaka Vidyalaya and later at the Dharmaloka College, Kelaniya.

From a very young age, he displayed remarkable vocal talent and, introduced to Dr. Victor Rathnayake by his elder brother, the renowned artist Sathischandra Edirisinghe, he won the nation's hearts overnight by singing the playback song "Sandakada Pahanaaka Ketyam Opala," with music directed by Victor Rathnayake, featured in the 1973 film Mathara Achchi.

He further refined his singing skills under the guidance of the music maestro P.V. Nandasiri and, in 1973, went to India to pursue advanced studies in music.

he songs "Kuda Game Maddahane" from the film Hulawali and "Hise Gini Avilethe" from the film Sri Madara stand out as significant milestones in his singing career.

"Vadakayanane Oba Sitharaya" was the first light classic he sang, and he was ranked as an outstanding vocalist during a radio audition conducted by the Indian musician Deepal Nag. His vocal talent was accolade through awards such as Sarasaviya, Presidential, and Swarna Sankha honours.

Starting with Anand Samarakkone, Sunil Santha, and Pandith Amaradeva, and following greats like Professor Sanath Nandasiri and Dr. Victor Rathnayake, he developed in the 1980s with a calm, soulful voice rising from his own spirituality. Shouldn't we remember that he elevated the song beyond true love, transforming it into a social mission that enriches the listener's wisdom, as he sang the tribute song titled "Rangana Narthana Tharanga Sarasē" at the Sumathi Awards ceremony? His melodious voice also blended beautifully in numerous television dramas. The Sumathipala Memorial Award, bestowed only once in a lifetime in memory of the late U. W. Sumathipala, founder of the Sumathi Group, and Madam Milina Sumathipala will be presented at the 30<sup>th</sup> Sumathi Awards to veteran singer Petikirige Sunil Jayapreethi Edirisinghe, also known as Sunil Edirisinghe, who has dedicated over half a century to a distinguished artistic career.

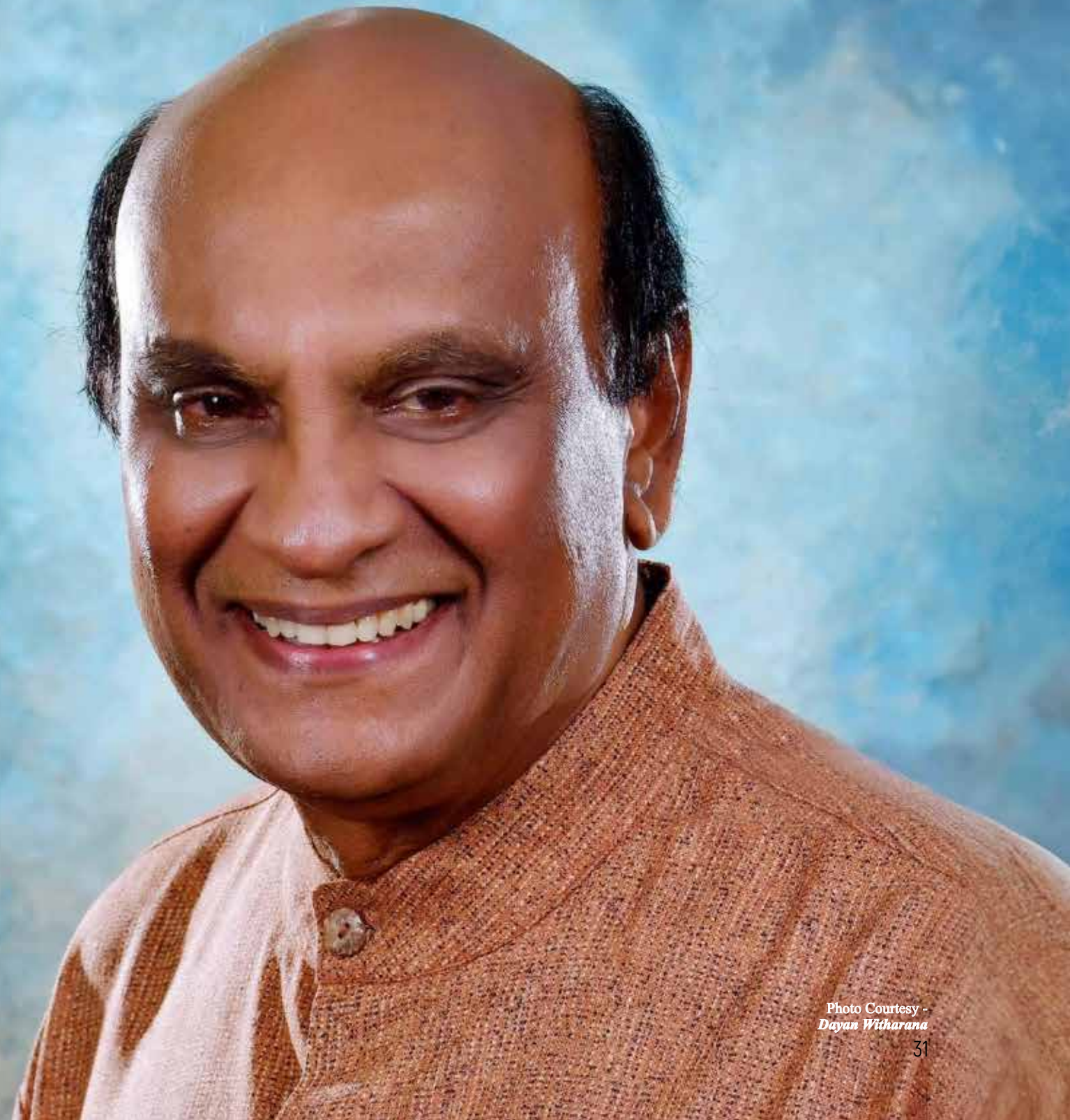


Photo Courtesy -  
Dayan Witharana



## Presented only once in a lifetime Sumathipala Memorial Award 2025

### *Veena Jayakody*

Virginia Sandhya Peiris, born on November 27, 1952, as the second daughter of renowned actress and director Rohini Jayakody, entered the world of acting by inheritance and made her screen debut at just three months old, portraying a baby in the 1954 film *Ahankara Sthree*. Her uninterrupted engagement in the field of acting from such a tender age to the present day is, in itself, worthy of recognition perhaps even a Guinness World Record.

She received her education at Anula Vidyalaya, Nugegoda, and the Good Shepherd Convent, Kotahena, and during her school years, she dreamt of becoming a flight attendant. While studying at the Holy Family Convent in Bambalapitiya, she developed an interest in acting after performing in the stage drama *Kundala Keshi*, an interest that was further inspired when she saw her elder sister, Nirupa Jayakody, acting in the film *Hangi Hora*.

In 1969, she appeared in a dancing act together with Vinee Ranwala in the film *Kohomada Wade* during a scene of the stage play *Wana Kusa Pabawathi*, having studied dance under the guidance of Sirimathi Rasadari. Her first adult role was in the Tamil-language Sri Lankan film *Pudhiya Kooriru*. Her breakthrough came when she met the legendary actor Gamini Fonseka at a film festival, who introduced her to the lead role in *Apsara*. And he became her mentor in cinema. Films such as *Sarungale*, *Mayurige Kathawa*, *Sāgarayak Māda*, *Bandura Mal*, *Rā Manamāli*, *Kelimadala*, *Māruthaya*, *Surabidena*, and *Sāvitrigē Rāthriya* stand as powerful examples of her versatile acting. A recipient of Sarasavi, Presidential, Swarna Sankha, and OCIC awards, she has portrayed characters of great emotional depth at times a woman burdened by sorrow, at others a symbol of passionate love, and often a playful, light-hearted lover consistently delivering profound justice to her roles as a fully-fledged character actress, capable of embodying diverse roles with authenticity and depth.

Before entering cinema, where she combined television acting through dramas such as "*Aththa Bindeyi*," "*Kande Gedara*," "*Doo Daruwo*," "*Menik Nadiya Gala Basi*," and "*Sura Asura*," she changed her original name, Virginia Sandhya Peiris, to "*Veena Jayakody*" based on the suggestion of her own mother.

The Sumathipala Memorial Award, bestowed only once in a lifetime in memory of the late U. W. Sumathipala, founder of the Sumathi Group, and Madam Milina Sumathipala will be presented at the 30<sup>th</sup> Sumathi Awards to veteran Actress Veena Jayakody, who has dedicated 70 years to the Cinema industry.







## Sumathi Awards 2025 – Award Categories

1	Best Teledrama Series & Channel	2	Best Teledrama Direction
3	Best Teledrama Script	4	Best Teledrama Camera Direction
5	Best Teledrama Music Direction	6	Best Teledrama Makeup Artist
7	Best Teledrama Art Direction	8	Best Teledrama Art Direction
9	Best Teledrama Lyrics	10	Best Teledrama Vocalist
11	Best Teledrama Actor	12	Best Teledrama Actress
13	Best Teledrama Supporting Actress	14	Best Teledrama Supporting Actor
15	Best Tele Film	16	Best Teledrama Up-and-Coming Actor
17	Best Teledrama Up-and-Coming Actress	18	Child Star
19	Best Television Documentary	20	Best Television Musical Programme
21	Best Television Current Affairs Programme	22	Best Television Presenter
23	Best Television Magazine Programme	24	Best Television Sports Programme
25	Special Jury Awards	26	Special Jury Awards
27	Best Television Educational Programme	28	Best Television Children's Programme
29	Best Television Graphic Animation (3D Digital Animation)	30	Best Television News Reader (2 <sup>nd</sup> Place)
31	Best Television News Reader (1 <sup>st</sup> Place)	32	Best Television Investigative News Reporting (2 <sup>nd</sup> Place)
33	Best Television Investigative News Reporting (1 <sup>st</sup> Place)	34	Best Television Political Programme (3 <sup>rd</sup> Place)
35	Best Television Political Programme (2 <sup>nd</sup> Place)	36	Best Television Political Programme (1 <sup>st</sup> Place)
37	Best Television Current Affairs Reporting (2 <sup>nd</sup> Place)	38	Best Television Current Affairs Reporting (1 <sup>st</sup> Place)
39	Best Television News Bulletin		

## Highlights of the Media Briefing for the Announcement of Nominations







The Sumathi Awards ceremony is not merely a glamorous celebration adorned by tele stars, but an eagerly awaited annual event, looked forward to with great anticipation by both loyal viewers and professionals in the television industry. It is with great pride that we present the distribution of over 1,183 Sumathi Awards presented over the past 29 years since 1995:-

Teledramas	493	Child Stars	11	News	114
Best Programmes	117	Merit Awards	117	Jury Special Awards	73
Popular Awards	79	Sumathipala Memorial Awards	52	Television Advertisements	67

## Sumathi Awards -2025 Panel of Judges

### **Professor Emeritus, Dr. Mudiyanse Dissanayake (Chairman)**

Dr. Mudiyanse Dissanayake is a unique convergence of exceptional talents that have evolved both profoundly and impressively. Enriched with performativity excellence and applied artistic skills in his chosen field of performing arts, he has received numerous national and international accolades. He has served with distinction as the Head of the Department of Dance and Drama at the University of the Visual and Performing Arts, Colombo, Director of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, and Chairman of the Sri Lanka Arts Council,

which comprises twelve sub-councils, among many other prestigious positions. He is the first Sri Lankan performing artist to obtain a doctoral degree through research brought before a distinguished academic panel, specializing in a diverse range of artistic disciplines including music, photography, acting, folk language, culture, rural drama, theatre, teledrama, and cinema. He holds the distinction of being the first performing artist in Sri Lanka to be conferred a professorship in the field of dance.



### **Chair Senior Professor Dr. Upul Ranjith Hewawithanagamage**

Senior Professor Dr. Upul Ranjith Hewawithanagama, has obtained Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Hindi Language and Literature from the University of Kelaniya and Master of Philosophy (MPhil) and later earned his Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree from Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi. Additionally, he pursued Hindustani classical music and obtained the Vādhya Vishārada degree from Bhatkhande Music Institute. Upul Ranjith is an award-winning writer and translator, honoured with the State Literary Award for his contributions to literature. Actively involved in stage drama, he has worked as a music director for stage plays, radio light songs, and short films. He has also served as a language

supervisor for documentaries and is a skilled voice and dubbing artist. Upul is the former Vice Chairman of the State Literary Advisory Board and has held membership in the Public Performance Board, SIGNIS Awards Festival, and various review boards under the Ministry of Mass Media, evaluating imported teledramas and films. His work has received both national and international recognition, reflecting his dedication to literature, media, and the arts. He has also served on the National Dancing Panel, showing his commitment to promoting cultural and artistic excellence across multiple platforms in Sri Lanka.



### **Dr. J. Sumedha Jayaweera**

Dr. J. Sumedha Jayaweera is a remarkable educationist and the current principal of Sirimavo Bandaranaike Vidyalaya, Colombo 07, she is the only school principal in Sri Lanka holding a PhD. She obtained her Doctorate (PhD) in Education from the University of Kelaniya, and holds a Master of Education (MEd) degree from the University of Colombo. She holds a postgraduate degree in Educational Management from the National Institute of Education and is currently pursuing a postgraduate degree in Higher Education from the Open University and she has served

as the principal of St. Paul's Girls' School, Milagiriya, has worked as deputy principal at Royal College Colombo, D. S. Senanayake College, and Thurstan College. She is also an accomplished author and serves as an external lecturer at the Postgraduate Institute of the University of Jayewardenepura. She is a member of the management board of the National Education Research and Evaluation Centre (NEREC) at the University of Colombo. Having received numerous educational leadership awards, including the Leadership Award and the Asian Educational Leadership Award, she also serves as a trainer and resource person for principals and teachers at the National Institute of Education, the British Council, and the Ministry of Education.



### **Samanthika Priyadarshani**

Samanthika Priyadarshani is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Mass Communication at the University of Kelaniya. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with a dissertation titled "Sri Lankan Cinema and Semiotics" and a Master of Social Sciences (MSSc) degree in Mass Communication, completed with a thesis on "Film Censorship in Sri Lankan Cinema." She has conducted scholarly research and published academic works on cinema media, television media, and gender relations in society, with a particular focus on media studies. In 2003, she completed a course on Television Production and Technology at the

Sri Lanka National Youth Services Council, attended a training program on Animation, Computer Games, and Virtual Reality at Sheffield Hallam University in the United Kingdom in 2016, completed a winter course on Film Appreciation at the Film and Television Institute of India in Pune in 2017 and most recently, in 2023, she finished a postgraduate diploma course on Gender and Women's Studies at the University of Colombo. In addition to her academic work, she serves as a jury member at the national level. She has been a jury member for several years at prominent Sri Lankan film and television award ceremonies, including the Sarasavi Film Awards (Lake House) and the Youth Cinematic Harvest, a youth film festival organized by the Sri Lanka National Youth Services Council.



### **Nishani Dissanayake**

Nishani Dissanayake is a seasoned journalist with over 40 years of experience and she has worked as a regional news reporter, foreign news correspondent, and feature writer for the Lahimi newspaper. To date, she has translated more than thirty internationally acclaimed youth novels and short story

collections into Sinhala. She has participated in numerous short-term scholarships and workshops in countries including the United States and Russia. She has also been honored as an outstanding journalist for her extensive knowledge and expertise in the field. She has served as a jury member for literary, media awards, and teledrama festivals, and has also been involved with teledrama evaluation committees. Currently, she works as the coordinator for the South Asian Women's Media Network



## Retrospect from the 30<sup>th</sup> Awards Ceremony

The Sumathi Tele Drama Awards Night, recognized as Sri Lanka's prestigious television awards ceremony, is a spectacular event where brilliant stars of the arts bloom and shine brightly, creating a truly magnificent spectacle. This is the retrospect held upon the heartfelt admiration of devoted art lovers, this awards ceremony, now a gracious young adult after spanning three decades. The influence exerted by Sri Lankan television media on the development of Sri Lankan social science is a cultural interaction that spans a wide spectrum. How delightful that this is the, Asia's first teledrama awards ceremony, recognizes and honors artists who have brought new light to television media by thoughtfully and critically observing the natural talents and diverse skills of local teledrama and television creators!

On June 5, 1979, Sri Lanka was introduced to the electronic medium called "television" and four years later, in 1983, the teledrama 'Dimuthu Muthu', directed by the veteran cinema and teledrama director D. B. Nihalsingha, marked the beginning of teledrama history not only in Sri Lanka but throughout Asia. Twelve years after the emergence of the first teledrama mentioned above, the Sumathi Tele Drama Awards ceremony was inaugurated in 1995 to honour teledrama artists and this historic event is recognized as, Asia's first-ever teledrama awards ceremony.

More than four decades have passed since the first teledrama emerged, and during this time, the evolutionary development of teledrama as a visual art form has become firmly and prominently intertwined with the characteristics of the television industry, which we must acknowledge. The teledrama, as an electronic storytelling medium, became popular in society and incorporated artistic features, utilizing both visual and auditory elements, adapting itself to Sri Lankan socio culture. In such a context, holding an awards ceremony like this is not only an appreciation for maintaining standards in television media and promoting its positive social integration into Sri Lankan culture but also a significant and fruitful effort requiring dedication, courage, and commitment.

Generally, a notable characteristic observed in teledramas is the special focus given to new themes and concepts that present fresh perspectives, achieved through considerable effort in creative formats, while transcending traditional 'themes' rooted in Sri Lankan social institutions. Just as popular factors, quality factors, commercial dominance, channel ownership based on competition, and industry characteristics influence programming, hasn't the television audience today become passive and somewhat resistant? Therefore, organizing such an evaluation ceremony that balances the popular elements necessary

for a competitive television industry with qualitative factors and integrity is commendable. Television media continues to enjoy popularity both as a family medium and as a more reliable source of information.

Although the current situation is different, thirty years ago a young entrepreneur named Thilanga Sumathipala, despite lacking prior experience, made a pioneering effort to recognize and award artists involved in teledrama electronic broadcasting and this initiative reflects his dedication to the arts and the positive vision he and fellow artists uphold. However, it was not merely a coincidence. I assume it was the formative inspiration he received from his father, U. W. Sumathipala, a respected figure who contributed to the film industry, that led him in this direction. In later years, his mother too contributed to the film industry, and it is appropriate to recall here the silent service, dedication, and contributions made by this entrepreneurial artistic family to Sri Lanka's film industry and teledrama culture. When comparatively analyzing the various state-level award ceremonies held to honor Sri Lankan artists, it is worth exploring why we consider the 30th Sumathi Awards to be of particular significance. The State Drama Festival was initiated as early as 1959 to recognize theatrical performers, and although 66 years have passed since then (as of 2025), only 51 award ceremonies have been held. Similarly, the State Literary Awards Ceremony, which also began in 1959 to honour creative writers, has held only around 64 ceremonies over the same 66-year period. Although the State Film Awards Ceremony was initiated in 1964 to recognize artists in the film industry, only about 35 award ceremonies have been held over the 61 years since then (up to 2025). Although the first State Ballet and Dance Festival was held in 1961 to honor Sri Lankan performing artists in the field of dance, only about 14 award ceremonies have been held over the 74 years since then (as of 2025). Despite this, when

considering that Thilanga Sumathipala, a businessman with a passion for the arts, initiated a teledrama awards ceremony in 1995 and has successfully held 30 such ceremonies over the past 30 years (1995–2025), isn't that in itself a remarkable 'wonder'? The Sumathi Tele Awards is a ceremony that, while preserving tradition, is organized with a contemporary understanding that embraces youthfulness and modern social dynamics. The inclusion of supporting creative streams such as graphic design, social media, and digital advertising, which have now become essential elements of modern teledrama, clearly reflects this evolution.

I deeply remember and appreciate the jury members and chairpersons who, through their accurate and fair judgments, played a crucial role in upholding the excellence of teledrama and its closely related electronic art forms over the course of 30 award ceremonies.

I also fondly remember the 51 great Sri Lankan artists who have been honoured with the Sumathipala Memorial Award over the years. This is because the Sri Lankan art field has been richly nurtured by invaluable artists who have devoted themselves boundlessly to it, contributing to the country, the nation, and the world

This is because the Sri Lankan art scene has been richly nurtured by invaluable artists who have devoted themselves boundlessly. Looking back thoughtfully from the founding year of 1995, it becomes clear that this award ceremony's creator had a distinct artistic vision, as evidenced by the recognition and honouring of monumental works, renowned creators, talented actors and actresses, skilled technical artists, expert scriptwriters, meticulous editors, and creative cinematographers, all of whom have significantly contributed their talents and skills to the Sri Lankan teledrama industry. From then until now, the Sumathi Tele Awards have recognized and honoured a vast number of distinguished artists, including acclaimed





tele-drama productions, creative directors, highly skilled actors and actresses, talented scriptwriters, single-episode and feature film works, best supporting actors and actresses, as well as emerging performers, acknowledging their outstanding contributions.

Moreover, from then until now, a majority of the artists who live in the hearts of the youth as popular teledramas and popular tele-actors and actresses have also been honoured with awards. Accordingly, the 30th Sumathi Awards ceremony will recognize art works created in the year 2024.

Accordingly, the judging panel reviewed a total of 314 programs for the awarding of more than 50 awards across various categories, including 12 teledramas, 36 single-episode/telefilms, 13 digital animations, 18 music programmes, 10 sports programmes, 23 educational programmes, 21 documentary programmes, 22 current affairs programmes, 18 magazine programmes, 10 children's programmes, 12 investigative

programmes, 15 current affairs reporting programmes, 17 presentations, 66 television news readers, 9 television news bulletins, and 11 political programs.

We do not intend, at this juncture, to offer critiques or record observations regarding the positive or negative attributes of the submitted works, nor to assess the qualities a teledrama should or should not possess, as, irrespective of the level, condition, or standard of your productions and the contributions of all involved artists, technical professionals, and the entire production team, our primary expectation from this awards ceremony is to acknowledge the extent to which these works have elevated the status, development, progress, and future prospects of the tele-industry.

**Professor Emeritus,  
Mudianse Dissanayake**  
(PhD, MA, BFA, Diploma)  
**Chairman – Panel of Judges  
Sumathi Awards**



## Nominations Recommended for Awards - 2024

**Nominations for the Period 1<sup>st</sup> Jan – 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2024**

### *Best Teledrama Actor - Nomination*



- Saranga Dissasekera - 'Wasala' in Take Care - (ITN)
- Wishwajith Gunasekera - 'Bathiya' Susum Rasthiyaduwa - (Swarnawahini)
- Priyantha Sirikumara - 'Narada' in Backside - (ITN)
- Isuru Lokuhettiarachchi - 'Lakmal' Flat Nowana flat - (SLRC)



### Best Teledrama Actress - Nomination



- Dinakshi Priyasad - 'Menaka' in Take Care - (ITN)
- Tharindi Fernando - 'Poojani' in Thatparayak Denna - (ITN)
- Chandani Senevirathna - 'Ira' Susum Rasthiyaduwa - (Swarnawahini)
- Rebeca Dilrukshi - 'Aseni' in Take Care - (ITN)

### Best Teledrama Supporting Actor - Nomination



- Roger Senevirathna - 'Felix' - Thatparayak Denna - (ITN)
- Samantha Paranaliyange - 'Padmawannaku' - Thatparayak Denna - (ITN)
- Sangeeth Satharasinghe - 'Kapuruwa' - Chandi Kumarihamy - (Hiru TV)
- Bimal Jayakody - 'Head of Company' in Take Care - (ITN)

### Best Teledrama Supporting Actress - Nomination



- Semini Iddamalgoda - 'Briget Silvas' - Thatparayak Denna - (ITN)
- Chandima Karunadada - 'Kanthi' - Viyali - (SLRC)
- Damitha Abeyrathna - 'Jina' Tathparayak Denna - (ITN)
- Sudharshni Galanigama - 'Nandani' Take Care - (ITN)

### Best Teledrama Up & Coming Actor - Nomination



- Tharaka Rathnapala - 'Kasun' Take Care - (ITN)
- Viraj Madushan - 'Tharindu' - Viyali - (SLRC)
- Didula Induwara - 'Kavindu' - Backside - (ITN)

### Best Teledrama Up & Coming Actress - Nomination



- Nimmi Manohari - 'Nayomi' - Viyali - (SLRC)
- Rukshana Dissanayke - 'Mashi' - Susum Rasthiyaduwa - (Swarnawahini)
- Lakshika Jayawardena - 'Udhari' - Flat Nowana Flat - (SLRC)

### Best Teledrama Serial - Nomination



- "Take Care" - (Produced by) Saranga Dissasekera - (ITN)
- "Wiyali" - (Produced by) - Chandan Irugalbandar (SLRC)
- "Back Side" - (Produced by) Asoka Jayakody - (ITN)
- "Tathparayake Denna" - (Produced by) Ruwan Ranaweera - (ITN)



***Best Teledrama Script - Nomination***

- Anushka Rasanjana De Silva - Take Care - (ITN)
- Lakshan Wattuhewa - Back side - ITN
- Rasika Sraweeraarachchi -Thatparayak Denna - (ITN)

***Best Teledrama Director - Nomination***

- Anushka Rasanjana De Silva - “Take Care” - (ITN)
- Chandana Irrugalbandara -Wiyali - (SLRC)
- Joe Dissanayake - “Backside” - (ITN)
- Supun Rathnayake “Tathparayake Denna” - (ITN)

***Best Teledrama Lyrics - Nomination***

- Gaya Ramya Alwis - ‘Ra Kala Geviye Muwawitha Uthura Wahinna Whinna Wassak’ - Vyali - (SLRC)
- Sujith Prasanga - ‘Irata Dura Nathi Gendagam Polawe’ - Flat Nowana Flat (- SLRC)
- Supun Rathnayake -‘Thathpara Navthinna Thathparayak Denna Paduwe Inna” - Thathparayak Denna - (ITN)

***Best Teledrama Vocalist - Nomination***

- Ridmika Madushani & Thusitha Simpson - ‘Ra Kala Geviye Muwawitha Uthura Wahinna Wahinna Wassak’ -Viyali - (SLRC)
- Subuddhi Lakmali & Bhachi Susan - ‘Irata Dura Nathi Gendagam Polewe’ - Flat Nowana Flat (SLRC)
- Falon Andrea - ‘Thathpara Navthinna , Thatparayak Denna Paduwe Inna” - Thathparayak Denna (ITN)

***Best Teledrama Make Up Artist - Nomination***

- Randika Tishan - Take Care - (ITN)
- Madara Godage - Backside - (ITN)
- Shalitha Gunawardena- Thathparayak Denna - (ITN)

***Best Teledrama Art Director - Nomination***

- Dasun Pitawalage / Nuwan Tharanga - Take Care - (ITN)
- Manjula Ayagama - Viyali - (SLRC)Rangana Jayalath - Backside - (ITN)
- Ajith Hathalla/Lakmal Sandaruwan/Harsha Perera - “Thathparayak Denna” (ITN)

***Best Teledrama Editor - Nomination***

- Dilan Wijaya Wickremakeerthi Take Care - (ITN)
- Praveej Pramuka - Backside - (ITN)
- Namal Samaratunga/Viranga Katepearachchi -Thathparayak Denna (ITN)
- Buddhika Ranasinghe -Susum Rasthiyaduwa - (Swarnavahini)

***Best Teledrama Music Director - Nomination***

- Lasantha Tharka Jayathilake - Take Care - (ITN)
- Dharsahana Ruwan Dissyakayke Viyali - (SLRC)
- Saliya Ilangasinghe Backside - (ITN)

***Best Teledrama Camera Director - Nomination***

- Amayuru Vithanage/Sasanka S Udayanga/Vishwajith Gunasekera - Take Care - (ITN)
- Chinthaka Somakeerthi – Backside - (ITN)
- Chamara Gamaarachchi -Susum rasthiyaduwa (Swarnawahini)
- Chinthaka Somakeerthi -Thathparayak Denna - (ITN)

***Best Television Telefilm - Nomination***

- Mohotakata Pera - Didula Prasad Gunathilake (ITN)
- Hitha Paruwath Adarei -Wasantha Wiruddana - (Hiru TV)
- Wippayogo -Chagi Wageesha Vithana - (Hiru TV)

***Best Television Documentary - Nomination***

- Jathika Basilikawe Rajatha Jayanthiya’ - Ranjula Senadeera – ‘(SLRC)
- ‘Misska Pauwwa’ (Ranjeewani Baddavithana - ‘TV Derana)
- ‘Selimanta Hamu wu Pihillegoda’ - Randika Hettiarachchi - ‘(Sirasa TV)

***Best Television Musical Program - Nomination***

- ‘Jana’ - Chinthana Gamlath – (Hiru TV)
- “Rawdun Gee” Devani Paramparawe Sangeetha Wadasatahani Oshadee Deepal Gunawardena – (SLRC)
- Sajjaayana’ Viraj Jayamanna ‘- (Sirasa TV)



### Best Television Current Affairs Program - Nomination

- ‘Ayubowan Sri Lanka’ - Anjana Uditha Wijekoon - (Swarnawahini)
- ‘Aluth Pralimentuwa’ - Prasad Kumasar - (TV Derana)
- ‘‘Ali Waten Eha’’ - Shashika Rajapakse/Sachindra Virani/Sahan de Alwis - (TV Supreme)

### Best Television Magazine Program - Nomination

- ‘Art Café’ - Lasith Gunasekera - Hiru TV)
- Global Angle Andun Iduwara Liyanage - (TV Derana)
- ‘The View Point’ Sanka Niroshana - (SLRC)

### Best Television Sports Program - Nomination

- Around the Ground - Suminda Tharaka Jayasekara - (Derana TV)
- Kreedha Visithuru - Susanthi Jeewanee Premachandra - (SLRC)
- Cricket Gamata -Jayamini Illeperuma - (SLRC)

### Best Television Educational Program - Nomination

- Pathikada ‘‘Disucssion with Attorney at Law Dr Ravindranath Dabare’’ Ashoka Dias - (Sirasa TV)
- ‘‘Peedanaya’’ - Jeevithayata Vidyawa Hasitha Wijewardena - (TV Derana)
- ‘‘Innovation Challenge - ‘Sudesh Udaya Kumara’ - (TV Derana)

### Best Television Children’s Program - Nomination

- ‘Tiu Shan’ - Pushpitha Peiris - (SLRC)
- ‘Tharu Singithi Awrudu Sajje’’ - Bihara Prasann - (Hiru TV)
- Poddoo Waddo Harshanee Bandara - (Siyatha TV)



### 2025 Popular Awards Teledrama

The most attractive and outstanding feature of the Sumathi Awards Ceremony is the popular category awards presented based on audience preferences, which include the trio of Popular Actor, Popular Actress, and Popular Teledrama. Among the teledramas currently airing on all channels, the proposed nominees have been included for this purpose. This time, the popular list is prepared by including the nominated names through an announcement made to the audience on the Sumathi Awards Facebook page.

Information related to the Popular Category can be accessed by anyone through the official Sumathi Awards Facebook page. SMS voting and online voting for the Popular Awards can be done via the official Sumathi Awards website: [www.sumathiawards.lk](http://www.sumathiawards.lk). Likewise, Sri Lankan fans living abroad will also have the opportunity to cast their votes via the Sumathi Awards official website and all voting results and updates related to the awards ceremony will be announced through the Sumathi Awards Facebook page and the official website [www.sumathiawards.lk](http://www.sumathiawards.lk).



Pata Kurullo



Wisekari



Ron Soya



Sasankara



Rocky



THE R.A.T



Deveni Inima - 2



Pirimi Lamai



Iragini Maddahana



Master Sir

Aligned according to results received on 06 July 2025 at 6.00 PM.





## **SUMATHI AWARDS 2025**

### **EVENT ASSOCIATES**

**Sumathi Eventainment (Pvt) Ltd**

**Channa Wijewardena & Channa-Upuli Performing Arts Foundation**

**Million Laugh Entertainment (Pvt) Ltd**

**Ants Work (Pvt) Ltd**

**Taam Solutions (Pvt) Ltd**

**Show Town Entertainment (Pvt) Ltd**

**Sarigama Music**

**SGM Technologies**

**SGM Media**

**Universal Sound Productions**

**Gayana Srima Dance Troupe**

**Thrindu Nirmanna & Knights Band**

**Manoj Peiris with Threethal Orchestra**

**Thilina Ben Photography**

**Napco (Pvt) Ltd**

**Rabbit Solutions (Pvt) Ltd**





Sumathi Award 2025  
Souvenir Book  
QR Access

[sumathiawards.lk](http://sumathiawards.lk)

