

Anagi Gunasekera



Profile

Anagi Gunasekera is a **Vice Chancellor's Scholar** at **Deakin University**, pursuing a **Bachelor of Arts**, majoring in **Education** with a minor in **Visual Communication Design**. Awarded a prestigious full-tuition scholarship for her academic excellence and leadership, Anagi is committed to creating innovative, inclusive, and impactful educational solutions.

An alumna of **Ladies' College Colombo, Sri Lanka**, Anagi has consistently excelled academically, achieving the **Highest Mark In The World for Business** in the Pearson Edexcel International A Level Examinations and earning multiple academic honors. She also demonstrated exceptional leadership as a school prefect, president of the Maths and Music Clubs, and leader of ensembles including the English Choir and Western and Sinhala Orchestras.

As the founder of the **Goodville Program (GP)**, a nationally recognized initiative promoting kindness, empathy, and civic values in children aged 3-8, Anagi has positively impacted over 1,000 children, parents, and educators.

Anagi is an award-winning musician, excelling as a pianist, violinist, and singer. She earned the highest distinction in the **LLCM piano diploma** (2023), became the youngest top scorer in the **ATCL piano diploma** exam at 14, and achieved a distinction in the **ARSM violin diploma**. Her musical achievements reflect her dedication and passion for the arts.

With her unique blend of talents, academic excellence, and passion for education, Anagi is driven to develop transformative educational initiatives that create a global impact.

Leadership & Service Awards

2023 New generation **Well Being Award** – Recognises individuals who take great care to promote the wellbeing of children and young people, as well as ensuring that families can stay together.

Nominated by Zonta Club III for the **Young Women in Public Affairs Award** (2023)

Suneetha Pinto Jayawardane Memorial Prize - Presented to a student who has made a significant contribution to the school, country or world through a project she has initiated (2022)

Mrs. Ena Corera Memorial Cup 2022 - Proficiency in Music in all 3 languages -This is the highest award presented by my high school for music.

Indrani de Silva Memorial Leadership Award -Presented to the school prefects (2021 and 2022)

Work Experience

Part-Time Music Teacher and Music Therapist

ABC Preschool and ABC School of Early Learning | [Jan 2024 – Mid October 2024] and [Feb 2024 – Mid October 2024] respectively.

- Taught music to preschool children aged 2+ to 5 years, focusing on singing, movement, rhythm, and instrument play
- Adapted lessons for special needs children, incorporating inclusive approaches to engage children with cognitive and developmental delays
- Integrated classical music, Disney songs, nursery rhymes and other children songs into a dynamic curriculum.

Private Tutor

Self-Employed | [Feb 2024 – Mid October 2024]

- Provided personalized tutoring sessions in Mathematics, Business and Science, tailoring lessons to meet each student's individual learning needs.
- Used a variety of teaching methods, including gamification and conceptual learning, to ensure student engagement and comprehension.
- Achieved notable improvements in student performance through one-on-one instruction and customized lesson plans.

Leadership Positions held in school

1. School Prefect – Student Leader
2. English Choir – Leader
3. Western Orchestra – Leader
4. Sinhala Orchestra – Leader
5. Music Circle – President
6. Maths Society – President
7. School House Committee – Senior Member
8. School Magazine Committee – Sinhala Magazine committee member (2022)

Skills

- **Music:** Accomplished pianist, violinist, and vocalist with national and international competition accolades; organized and directed musical events promoting peace and unity.
- **Public Speaking and Communication:** Experienced in delivering motivational speeches, conducting interactive sessions, and leading team activities in educational and community settings.
- **Podcasting:** Host of the podcast "[Anagi's Musings](#)," covering topics related to social-emotional skills, personal growth, and youth empowerment.
- **Digital Art and Editing:** Skilled in creating picture collages, promotional videos, and concert trailers using Canva, Paint 3D, and Kinemaster.
- **Website Editing:** Proficient in using Wix website editor for amateur website design and updates.
- **Creative Arts:** Specialized in making handmade cards for special occasions using recycled and other materials.
- **Photography:** Skilled in phone photography for capturing and editing high-quality images.
- **Dance:** Contemporary hip-hop dancer

Academics

Honors

- **World Prize for Business** (Scored 400/400) - Pearson Edexcel International A Level examinations (2023)
- **4 A Stars - High Achievement Award** - Pearson Edexcel International A Level examinations (2023)
- **Best British Advanced Level results** - Ladies' College (2023)
- **Best British Advanced Level Commerce Student** - Ladies' College (2022)
- **Best G.C.E. Ordinary Level results** - Ladies' College (2020)
- **Most Outstanding All-Round Student of the Middle School for grades 7, 8, and 9 combined** - Ladies' College (2018)
- **First in Class** - Ladies' College (2016 - 2019)

Academic Performance

Results - Pearson Edexcel International A level Examinations

1. Pure Mathematics	A*
2. Economics	A*
3. Business	A*
4. Accounting	A*

Results - General Certificate of Education - Ordinary Level Examinations

1. Sinhala Language	A
2. English Language	A
3. Mathematics	A
4. Science	A
5. History	A
6. Religion	A
7. Information Technology	A
8. Business and Accounting Studies	A
9. Western Music	A

Other Academic Awards & Prizes

2022 Prizes - British Advanced Level

Highest marks for British Advanced Level Business, Accounting, and Economics (2022)
General Excellence Certificate - awarded to top 5 Pure Mathematics students (2022)

2020 and 2021 (No prize-givings due to COVID)

2019 Prizes (No subject prizes were awarded other than religion)

First in Class (As above)

Buddhism

2018 Prizes

First in Class (As above)

Highest marks for Science, Computer Studies, History, Western Music, Life Competencies & Citizenship Education, Health and Physical Education and Buddhism

2017 prizes (No subject prizes were awarded other than religion)

First in Class (As above)

2016 prizes (No subject prizes were awarded other than religion)

First in Class (As above)

2015 Prizes

Second in Class

Highest marks for Western Music and English Language (2015)

Music Performance & Leadership

Highest musical achievements

- Highest distinction mark for piano - LLCM in Performance (Concert) from the London College of Music in 2023. This licentiate diploma is equivalent to a final-year undergraduate recital. LCM is a part of the University of West London, UK.
- Highest distinction mark for ATCL in piano recital (Trinity College, London 2019)
The Associate Diploma is equivalent to the performance component of the first year of study in an undergraduate course at a conservatoire or university.
- Associate of the Royal Schools of Music (ARSM) diploma from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, London in violin performance with a distinction in 2021

National Piano Competitions

Beethoven Piano Competition 2020 – Organised by the Institute of Western Music and Speech (IWMS is the premier local music examination board in Sri Lanka)

- First place Winner of the intermediate category.

Youth Music Competition 2022 – Organised by London College of Music

- First Place Winner of the “21 years and under” piano category
- Best performance of a Classical Sonata in the “21 years and under” piano category
- Best performance of a prescribed work by London College of Music in the “21 years and under” piano category
- Sujeeva Hapugalle Award: Overall best performance of a Classical work in piano category (13 years and over)
- Overall best performance of a Baroque/Classical work in the “21 years and under” piano category.

Top Music Award in High School (Ladies’ College)

Mrs. Ena Corera Memorial Cup 2022 - Proficiency in Music in all 3 languages.

This is the highest award presented by my high school for music.

Music Leadership in High School

- **President of the Music Circle (2022)**

As the leader and living by my own motto, “Music accepts, connects and unites to make one beautiful song”, I initiated musical activities and events that embodied the theme *“peace and unity”* for the year 2022. Organised and directed the school's first ever fusion music flash mob. I directed 40 students belonging to the school's English, Sinhala and Tamil ethnic music groups in a performance that united all musical cultures of my country (Western, Eastern and oriental). Organized and directed a multilinguistic peace and unity music concert in my school to celebrate International Day of World Peace, bringing together all the diverse music groups in all three languages (English, Sinhala and Tamil). On the same day, I extended invitations to host other schools for an all-day event of celebrating united music making through music related team activities followed by the peace concert at the end. (2022). 236 students from my school and the guest schools participated in this concert.

- **Leader of the Senior English Choir (2022)**

Apart from leading the senior choir during my penultimate year in school, I helped my choir director to train the choir, regularly, wrote additional parts and harmonies to enhance performances, and accompanied and conducted the choir.

- **Deputy Leader of the Western Orchestra (2021)**

Since practices were held mostly on-line due to the pandemic, I often gave motivational speeches to inspire regular practice and discipline, performed and analyzed music, (example: Beethoven’s Spring Sonata). I also and initiated interactive music education sessions to stimulate and sustain musical interest.

- **Leader of the Western Orchestra (2022)**

Helped our orchestra trainer to raise the standard of the orchestra by helping the string players in the orchestra individually with their parts. I built a sense of team spirit and camaraderie amongst all players by initiating fun music making and playing a supportive role to each member in the orchestra.

- **Leader of the Sinhala Orchestra (2022)**

Coming from a Western music background, I was quick to embrace and learn a new tradition of music and notation. I encouraged other western-music-trained students to join the orchestra and taught them how to read oriental notation. Judges of the Sinhala choral competitions commended my violin-playing when I used to accompany the singers on the violin.

- **Assistant Trainer – Primary and Middle School Choirs (2022)**

I helped train the primary and middle school choirs of my school.

- **Assistant Trainer – SOSL Pops Concert (September 2023)**

After graduating from high school in July 2023, I assisted the choir directress of my school’s alumni choir with practices for the SOSL Pops concert presented by the Symphony Orchestra of Sri Lanka.

International concerts and collaborations

World Down Syndrome Day 2021 (Malta)

My friend, Angela Bettoni, who has Down's syndrome and lives in Malta, is an advocate and educator for Down's Syndrome. To mark World Down's Syndrome Day (2021), Angela released a YouTube music cover "Wear your crown", in which I sang and provided a piano accompaniment.

Child Aid International 2020 (Japan)

I was selected to represent Sri Lanka at the "Child Aid International 2020" concert organized by Little Creators of Japan. The concert was held on-line due to the pandemic. It showcased young talent from Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Korea, Mexico and South Africa. The concert raised funds to buy laptops for Japanese orphans to access school lessons.

Other competitions

South Asian Choir Games Grand Prix of Nations (2017)

I took part in this choir competition where my high school won a Gold Medal.

High School Inter-house English Solo Singing Competitions

- 2nd Place in the Junior Category (2018)
- 3rd Place in the Senior Category (2019).

Music Prizes

Piano

Completed all Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music London graded exams with distinctions for piano. Highest-mark prizes were awarded for:

- Grade 6 award (2016)
- Grade 8 award (2018)
- Challenge shield for gaining the highest overall mark for grades 6 to 8 (2018)
- ARSM in piano performance (2019)
- Highest distinction mark for ATCL in piano recital (Trinity College, 2019).

Violin

Completed all violin exams of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music London with distinctions. Highest-mark prizes were awarded for:

- Grade 4 (2015)
- Grade 5 (2016)
- Grade 6 (2017)
- Grade 7 (2018)
- Special award for gaining the highest mark for Grades 6 to 8 strings (2018)
- ARSM in violin performance (2021).

Singing

- Prize winner for obtaining the highest mark from grades 1 to 5 (ABRSM 2014)
- Grade 1 (ABRSM 2014)
- Grade 2 (ABRSM 2015)
- Grade 4 (ABRSM 2017)
- Grade 5 (Trinity College 2018)
- Special award for obtaining the highest mark from grades 4 to 6 (Trinity College 2018).

Innovation and Creativity – Compositions

- “Super Hero Mum” – A song dedicated to my mother on her 50th birthday (April 2023).
YouTube link- <https://youtu.be/jEr-eb0TW6Y>
- “Where has Christmas Gone?” – A Christmas carol with Sajani Ratnayake (2022)
YouTube link- <https://youtu.be/08wreOtWlxI>
- Leprechaun song written for my high school's primary musical “Button Box” (2022)
YouTube link-<https://youtu.be/YFZ-UAo6BtQ>
- “Be a Hero” song and Cream Cookie song written for my Goodville Program (2021)
YouTube link- <https://youtu.be/7hzmQcZBiE?si=5uvdzM70TJX3yR0I> (Be a Hero song)
https://youtu.be/IW_tjzS_aYs?si=40Asyem754eifBt (Cream Cookie Song)

Participation in Training Programs & Master Classes

- Piano Master Class with Steinway Artist, Maria Garzon (2024)
- Piano Master Classes with Steinway Artist, Sujeeva Hapugalle (Before competitions and diploma exams)
- West-End Theatre Camp organized by Cinnamon Hotels and Resorts and directed by Jonny Bowles, Jon Scott Clark and David Roper (4-8th August 2019)
- Violin Master Class conducted by Midori Gotō at the Midori Foundation violin training program (2018)
- Violin Master Class conducted by Mr. Kavan Rambukwelle (2015).

Volunteer & Social Outreach Activities

- Volunteered at 4 separate music-education summer camps run by my piano-teacher mother: Music Qwest (2014), Music Explorers Camp (2018, 2019, and 2023).
- Participated in and sang with “The Piccolinis” choir at the World Autism Day Event, which was organized by ReachBeyond Autism and Child Development Centre, to accept and include all children (31st March 2018).

Participation in other Training Programs

- “Building Future Leaders” career guidance training program for school senior students (2023)

Sports

- Basketball - player in the Otter’s School of Basketball (2011)
- Swimming - member of Ladies’ College swim team from 2013 to 2016 and placed first in the Freestyle, Backstroke, Butterfly Stroke and Breast Stroke Under 9 Novices events in the school inter-house swimming meet (2013)
- Synchronized swimming – Member of Ladies’ College team and passed Level 1 (2013)
- Netball – Member of Ladies’ College netball team and played in interschool tournaments (2018 and 2019)

Inter-house School Sports Meet Prizes

- Selected to the final round for 100m hurdles (2018)
- Placed 3rd in Triple Long Jump under 17 category (2019)
- Placed 2nd in the 4x100m relay under 17 category (2019)
- 2nd place in Triple Long Jump under 17 category (2020)

Non-Academic Prizes and Awards

School Cartoon Competitions

- 3rd Place in the Primary School category (2015)
- 1st Place in the Middle School category (2018)

School English Solo Singing Competitions

- 2nd Place in the Junior Category (2018)
- 3rd Place in the senior Category (2019)

School English Writing Competitions

- 3rd place in the Middle School category English **Creative Essay** Writing Competition (2018)
 - 3rd place in the Middle School English **Essay** Writing Competition (2018)
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Appendix: Testimonials

Academic Testimonial

“Throughout my career as a teacher, I have encountered a wide range of students, but few have left as indelible an impression on me as Anagi. She possesses an exceptional combination of academic prowess, dedication, and a genuine passion for learning, which sets her apart from the rest. I began teaching Anagi in the summer of 2022. From this time, I have watched Anagi grow every single day. She is a dedicated, motivated, and hardworking student. Her self-motivation is particularly refreshing for a teacher. Anagi is a fast learner, and she also possesses the ability to accept constructive criticism, which is an intrinsic professional soft skill. She is more than willing to improve and consistently puts in conscious and structured effort to correct her mistakes and enhance her writing skills, with a clear focus on achieving her A*. Anagi’s intellectual curiosity benefits everyone in the class, including myself. She consistently demonstrates a level of critical thinking that is rare among students her age. She actively engages in discussions, asks probing questions, and eagerly seeks to understand complex concepts. Her ability to grasp and apply difficult material has often impressed me. Anagi is always willing to go above and beyond what is expected. Beyond academics, Anagi is an exceptional individual. Anagi possesses excellent communication skills, is kind and respectful, and has the ability to collaborate effectively with diverse groups of students with various levels of academic strength.”

Shamimah Faizel

Business Tutor

Bachelor of Commerce – BCom, Marketing and International Business

Edith Cowan University

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Music Testimonial

“Bright, exuberant, spontaneous, hardworking, super-talented, responsible, conscientious, and kind are some of the words that come to my mind when I think of Anagi Gunasekera, who was the orchestra leader of the Ladies’ College Orchestra directed by me. From her very young days, Anagi has demonstrated superior musical skills which she has honed with dedicated practice. She has always performed technically challenging pieces at a young age with a delightful sense of musicianship. Her disciplined ways helped the entire orchestra improve and stay motivated through the Covid19 lockdown. In addition to being an excellent pianist and leader, Anagi was able to improvise on violin too. The positivity, sincerity and warmth of her heart, along with her intellectual brilliance makes her one of the top five students I have encountered during my 27 years as an educator.”

Sureka Amerasinghe,
MM, LRSM, LTCL
Music Director,
Ladies’ College Orchestra
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Goodville Program Testimonial

“I have had the privilege of working with Anagi Gunasekera on the Goodville Program, which aims to inculcate positive values such as kindness and empathy in young children. Anagi’s passion and dedication to the program are truly commendable. She has a unique ability to connect with children and make learning about empathy and kindness both fun and impactful. Her innovative approach and tireless efforts have made a significant difference in the lives of many children, parents, and educators. Anagi’s leadership and vision for the Goodville Program are inspiring, and I am confident that she will continue to make a positive impact on society through her work.”

Rushika Ratnayake,
BA, Dip in Montessori,
Dip in Child Psychology,
ATCL (Trinity Lon in Speech & Drama)
Consultant
Thomas’ College Nursery,
Tel: +94 777 703 127
rushika.ratnayake@gmail.com

Music Therapy Testimonial

“Anagi Gunasekera’s work with preschoolers, especially those with special needs, is exemplary. She uses music as a powerful tool to engage and teach children with various developmental delays and conditions such as autism and Down syndrome. Anagi’s sessions are highly interactive, incorporating movement and rhythm to classical music, playing nursery rhymes on the keyboard and ukulele, and using tambourines and drums for upbeat music activities. Her ability to create a joyful and inclusive learning environment is truly remarkable. The positive impact she has made on the children’s social and emotional development is evident. Anagi’s dedication and innovative approach make her an invaluable asset to our school.”

Mrs. Ishanthi Perera
BSc.(Psych.Hon)
University of Toronto – CA;
ADS (ABA) (University of Brock – CA)
Head of Training and Internships Consultant Behaviour Therapist ABC School of Early Learning,
Colombo, Sri Lanka