



Crafting
ceylon

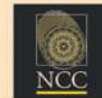
EMPOWERING THE NATION

EXPORT ORIENTED PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE - 2022 / 23

Top 100 Artisans of the Island



National Crafts Council
Small and Medium Enterprise Development Division
Ministry of Industries
Rohina Mawatha, Pelawatta, Battaramulla. Sri Lanka
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The Sustainable Development Goals cannot be achieved without developing the rural areas, and to this end it is essential to preserve the conventional village entrepreneurs and their production to advance our traditional heritage.

One of the key sectors for a nation's growth, employment generation and earning of foreign exchange, is the handicraft industry. Many nations globally have strengthened their economies by fostering this field.

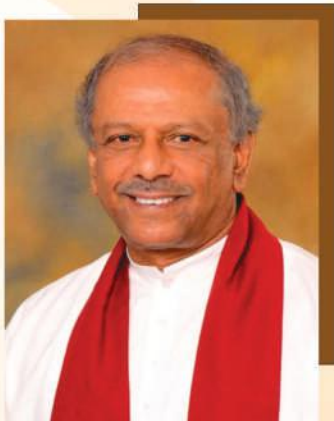
In order for Sri Lanka to overcome the current unprecedented economic crisis, it is imperative for the potential of the local manufacturers to be recognized in moving forward. Therefore, the Government is seeking ways and means to support artisans.

I wish to commend the significant role played by the National-Crafts Council in elevating local artisans to international standards, by imparting knowledge about raw materials, prices, production costs and international fashion trends in the context of the changing global economic, social, and consumer lifestyles.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the National Crafts Council on its accomplishments through the **"Crafting Ceylon 2022/23"** program, which encourages local manufacturers to support the country's export-based economy, and wish them all success in their future endeavours.

Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe
The President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka





The intricate carvings on rough black stone, ivory, and minerals created by our ancestors continue to amaze us. Museums in western countries are now filled with artifacts made by artisans of our country displaying extraordinary creativity skills.

However, with the changing economic market, many industries have been lost and a significant amount of foreign exchange was lost to the nation. To address this, we must not only overcome the current economic crisis but also strengthen our local production of goods that can be used locally as well as for the export market.

Encouraging a consumer community that supports local products instead of foreign ones and directing local products to the foreign market should be promoted. The program initiated to provide more opportunities in both the local and foreign markets for the products crafted by the skilled artistes of the National Crafts Council, which belongs to the Small & Medium Enterprise Development Division of Ministry of Industries is highly appreciable.

Under the programme, the artisans and craftsmen are been given recognition as well as training to further develop their skills and designs to ensure the products are suitable for the emerging foreign markets. This will contribute to the strength of the national economy and the revival of the rural economy.

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka



The National Crafts Council was established in accordance with the National Crafts Council and Allied Institutions Act No. 35 of 1982 to protect the traditional handicrafts of national or cultural value and to update them for the modern world by preserving the art, craftsmen, and tradition.

As an extension of the tasks and responsibilities that the National Crafts Council is currently fulfilling, the Export Oriented Product Development initiative was started in order to take the unique creations of handicraft artisans scattered all over the country to the international market.

In the face of the current economic crisis, this effort is one of the most effective activities undertaken by the National Crafts Council with the support of the Small and Medium Enterprise Development Division of the Ministry of Industries.

Accordingly, as a first step, out of 2214 creations presented by creative artists across the country that are classified into categories such as utility items, interior decorations, exterior decorations, garden decorations, home-related designs, kitchen designs, decorative items, clothes, fashion accessories, souvenirs and replicas, toys, jewellery, etc., 546 crafts created by 100 great artists will be introduced to the local and international markets through the Crafting Ceylon exhibition.

Also, the domestic and international market conditions for the handicrafts of local artisans will be promoted through this, and the country will receive a massive export income.

Moreover, by using innovative products as import substitution goods, it will be possible to reduce the country's import costs.

Therefore, I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations to the National Crafts Council for initiating an operation like the Crafting Ceylon export-oriented product development process that is guaranteed to strengthen the country's economy in a time of crisis.

Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Minister of Industries





I would like to express my enthusiasm for the “Crafting Ceylon” Export Oriented Product Development Exhibition, organized by the National Crafts Council. In these challenging times, we must recognize the economic and social issues we face as an opportunity to build an economy that reflects Sri Lanka's unique identity. Crafting Ceylon embodies this spirit, and it is our duty to create an environment that supports and promotes the nation's craftspeople.

As the saying goes, it is better to light one lamp than to curse the darkness. We must seize this moment and make it a turning point in our national will to support small and medium enterprises. We can learn many lessons from the world on this subject, but it is essential to study and monitor what is happening within our country.

Protecting our local artisans and empowering them economically should be our top priority. Providing them with access to both local and foreign markets will allow them to showcase their designs and talents on a global stage. I urge the concerned authorities to take the necessary steps to ensure that the Crafting Ceylon Export Oriented Product Development Program becomes a milestone in the progress of our nation's handicrafts and the artisans behind them.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Sampath Erahapola, Chairman of the National Crafts Council, and the team who have worked tirelessly to make this exhibition a reality. As the Minister of State for Small and Medium Enterprise Development, I am committed to supporting the growth and development of this vital sector.

Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
State Minister of Small and Medium Enterprise Development





The local handicraft industry was a significant icon to show the Sri Lankan identity to the world. The religious revival with the arrival of Arahata Mahinda (Mahindagamana) nurtured our local identities

Traditional knowledge, creativity, culture and education can be identified through the traditional arts and crafts interconnected with the life of Sri Lankans.

The identities, craftsmanship, delicate beauty, eco-friendliness and excellent finish of our country's traditional arts and crafts should be highly appreciated.

The planning of the programme with special emphasis on the scarcity of raw materials, use of technology and market problems faced by artisans at present should be appreciated. As the Ministry of Industries, we are constantly committed to providing the necessary facilities and guidance.

At present, when the local market for handicraft products is limited, planning the “Crafting Ceylon” export-oriented design development program to establish the international market by the National Crafts Council is timely important, and I appreciate the development and facilitation of the entrepreneurship of the artisans selected under this programme. I extend my heartiest congratulations to all the artists participate in the programme.

Mrs. J.M.Thilaka Jayasundara
Secretary
Ministry of Industries





Traditional handicrafts are the pride and heritage of a nation, passed down through generations despite social, political, and cultural changes. It is the responsibility of the National Crafts Council to protect these artisans and improve their economic and social status. To achieve this, the council has implemented various programs, including the cultivation of rare raw materials, the establishment of Lakshilpa shops to promote the market, and the regularization of training centers to create a new generation of artisans.

To create foreign market opportunities for local craftsmen affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic downturn, the National Crafts Council launched the **Crafting Ceylon** Export Oriented Product Development Initiative. This program is designed to meet international market standards and recognize changes in consumer lifestyles to earn foreign exchange for the country and to uplift local handicrafts to the world standard with a local touch.

This initiative aims to link foreign and local buyers directly with Island wide artisans enable them to generate steady income while it will help bringing foreign currency to the country at large. It will also help minimize imports by replacing utility products made out of locally sourced sustainable materials. The program has identified one hundred exceptional artisans by a panel of experts in the export sector after an Island wide competition held during a period of 6 months and the Council aims to facilitate them to meet potential buyers to uplift their livelihood to retain in the handicrafts sector for generations to come.

I wish them all the success for a brighter future.

Mr. Sampath Erahapola
Chairman
National Crafts Council





Mr. S.P. Mahindadasa

Kirinda, Godana, Tissamaharama, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 897 9347

Mr. Mahindadasa from Kirinda, Tissamaharama was inspired by his aunt's silk weaving and his hands naturally embraced that art of weaving. His interest was in weaving with palmyra leaves and in a short time he was able to receive Provincial and National level awards for his skills in Weaving Mats, Bags and Hats in palmyra leaves.





Ms. W.H.H.N.M. Piyasiri

C/O SANASA, Morahenagama, Hatton,
Sri Lanka.

+94 76 373 8613

She is a batik artist who has made a significant contribution towards establishing batik craft in Ginigathena, area that previously had little tendency towards it.

By sourcing business opportunities and become her own, she has become economically independent and aspires to promote the batik industry in Ginigathena through her achievements in the "Crafting Ceylon" Programme.

She serves a shining example to the society through her dedication and perseverance during the economic challenges.



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Ms. E.K.A. Dayani

Lawrence Watta, Ridiyagama Rd, Ambalantota, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 707 1366

In 2002, she ventured into the Palmyrah leaf industry and ever since she utilized her natural abilities to make a living out of it. Her motivation has led her to train around 300 apprentices, providing them with invaluable support to boost their economic prospects. She has also received the "Shilpa Abhimani" Presidential Award, which is organized by the National Crafts Council. Her aspiration is to secure export opportunities for eco-friendly Palmyrah based products.



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Mr. S.M.D.H.A. Jayathilaka

492/D, Kospelena, Polpithimukalana, Kandana, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 571 1999

Residing in Polpithimukalana, Kandana, Mr. Hilary Anaston Jayathilaka is a skilled artist who has carved a niche for himself in the coconut shell craft industry. With over 15 years of experience, he has reached the business level and now caters to both the local and foreign markets by crafting exquisite creations from discarded coconut shells. His unique selling point lies in his ability to create high-quality designs that align with modern styles.

His ability to create modern designs blended with quality has kept him in unique selling preposition.

He has showcased his exceptional creativity , by presenting outstanding crafts in the "Shilpa Abhimani" competition.



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Ms. T. Kanthi Wijewardana

No.158, Pitaramba, Bentota, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 456 5258

In 2013, Kanthi Wijewardana began her apprenticeship as a craftsman at the Benthotta Pitaramba Training Center, where she created Pan (Rush) based creations. Over the past decade, she has worked as a producer, generating significant income for her family through the sale of her Pan (Rush) based creations. In addition to her commercial success, she won Provincial and National awards for her work, including victories in the "Shilpa Abhimani" competitions organized by the National crafts Council.





Mr. H.M. Janith Chandimal

93/10, Salmal Mawatha, Piliyandala, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 444 3030

Mr. Janith Chandimal is a skilled instructor and entrepreneur in the Sri Lankan leather industry. He received his training in footwear and leather goods from FDDI University and now passes on his knowledge to the next generation. With a decade of experience in the field, he is an accomplished entrepreneur. His leather bag design submitted to the Crafting Ceylon competition is truly exceptional.

Having won the "Shilpa Abhimani" award, this artist's sole aspiration is to advance the industry and earn foreign exchange through his creative abilities.



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Ms. Manorama Dewmini Colombage

Amaramina, Belideniya, Kottagoda, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 307 7256

Monorama Devmini Colomboge , a resident of Kottegoda in Matara , has been following in her mother's footsteps in the art of Bobbin Lace , a traditional craft of the Southern Province ,for nearly 30 years. With her exceptional abilities and skills, she has added value to the heritage she inherited by creating new designs. Her achievements in this field include winning the prestigious "Silver" Award. Additionally, she has served as a training instructor for many years, working with the National Crafts Council to train women in her area to weave Bobbin lace.




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Ms. S. Kumuthiny

2, Vipulananthar Road, Columbuthurai, Jaffna, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 986 2571



Mrs. S.Kumuthini from Columbuthurai, Jaffna has been interested in clothing creations since her childhood. After her marriage, she converted her skills into embroidery and started a business. Currently, she is one of the excellent craftsmen in Jaffna District.

She got registered with NCC as a craftsman in 2017 and since then she has earned several provincial awards.

She keeps a close relationship with the National crafts council and other government institutions and has participated in many trade fairs and market promotion activities in the area.



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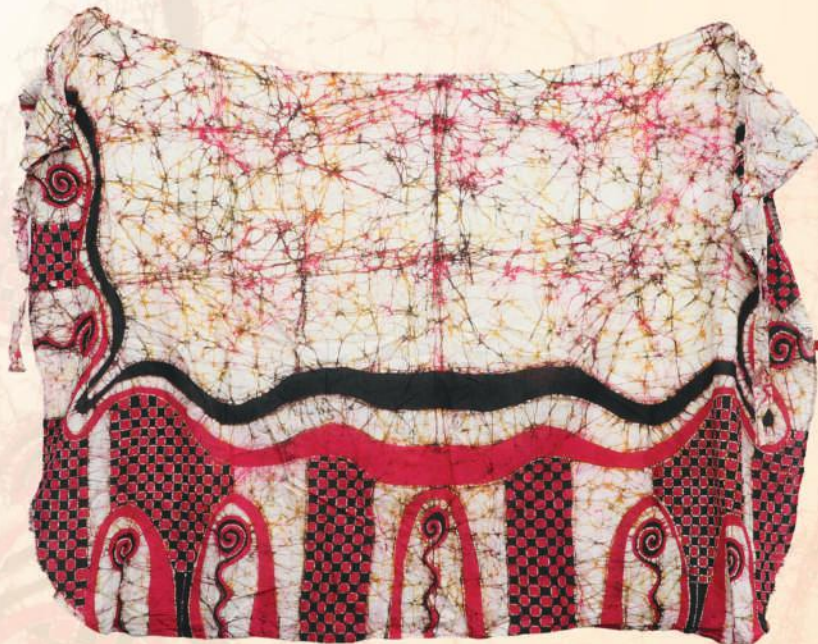
Ms. W.K.S. Piumali De Silva

53, Main Street, Balangoda, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 932 7379

Sasima Piyumali de Silva has breathed new life into the art of clothing by skilfully blending traditional Sri Lankan fashion batik art with modern aesthetics. With a keen eye for design, a deep interest in the craft, and unwavering dedication, she has mastered the art of creating stunning and innovative pieces that captivate the senses. Her unique style and attention to detail have made her a true master of her craft, and her designs are the embodiment of perfection.

By fostering strong relationships with various institutions and individuals within the Sector, she has proudly won the Batik sector and even received the President's Award. Her visionary approach to batik art has expanded its horizons, and her wedding dress styles have become increasingly popular in recent times.





Ms. R.M. Nirmala Kumari Rathnayaka

267, Near Fertilizer Store,
Galkadawala, Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 365 8892

Nirmala Kumari Rathnayaka is a remarkable woman who has breathed new life into the Rush industry by harnessing the pride of her kingdom. After completing a six-month Master craftman training course, she ventured into the field of Rush related products and, with the help of her husband, formed a small team to create products that catered to local market demand. Nirmala has not only won provincial competitions but also served as an instructor for Rush related design training.



Her ability to conquer the market through her creative talent makes her an exceptional role model for woman in the present generation.



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Ms. U.G. Anusha Deepani

No.115/1, Tissapura, Weerawila, Tissamaharama, Sri Lanka.

+94 70 399 5322

Mrs. Anusha Deepani takes pride in having established the Rush industry as the sole source of income for her family, having entered it through short-term training programs. Her role as a consultant, connecting with various institutions to train a large number of individuals in the industry, deserves recognition and appreciation.

In addition, she initiated a business venture named "Magampura Handicrafts," which not only earned her the title of best entrepreneur but also generated job opportunities in the region. Her achievements include winning the "Shilpa Abhimani" competition and participating in the "Suraj Kund Mela" marketing program in India.



Ms. Bimalka Chandima

237, Matara Rd, Magalle, Galle, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 657 5956

Bimalka Chandima is an accomplished artist from Magalle Galle, running a successful business called "Harshi Lace." She contributes to the national economy by weaving and selling her Bobbin Lace creations to both local and international clients, thereby earning valuable foreign exchange for the country. Bimalka's entry into the lace industry began at the young age of 10, where she learned the craft by assisting her grandmother. As the proud owner of her business, she has provided about fifty direct and indirect employment opportunities to the women in her area, thus empowering them. Her exceptional entrepreneurship skills have earned her the "Shilpa Abhimani" national award and the Best Entrepreneur award in the Southern Province.



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Ms. K. Geethangani Perera

159/A, Kudahakapola North, Ja Ela, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 644 2318

Geethangani Perera is an exceptional woman who has overcome challenges and achieved success. Her Reed & Cane Bags are exquisite creations that complement modern women's fashion. She also crafts Carpets, Baskets, and Table mats using Rush-based materials. Her products are currently exported to America, England, Netherlands, and Germany. She is recognized as a successful entrepreneur who has conquered the market and an award-winning artist.

She has given her expertise to a lot of apprentices through Master Craftsman Training program and special trainings organized by National Crafts Council.





Ms. Sunanda Rohini Sirisena

100, 12 Acres, Nuwara Wewa Watta,
Jaffna Rd, Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka.

+94 71140 8400

Mrs. Sunanda Rohini Sirisena earns her living by creating handicrafts in the North Central Province. Her Gallaha Pan Market bag, crafted for the "Crafting Ceylon" program, boasts a distinctive and practical creation. She possesses exceptional artistry skills and weaves various shapes by incorporating modern design patterns using rush leaves.

Being a teacher, she has shared her technical expertise with numerous individuals, contributing to the industry significantly. Her exceptional contribution to handicraft is a source of pride for her province, as evidenced by the "Shilpa Abhimani" Presidential Award bestowed upon her.



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Ms. M.M.P. Premalal

Gallawa, Iriyagolla, Sri Lanka.

+94 70 373 2367

Ms. Manjula Priyadarshani Premalal is a brave woman who has made for herself in the batik industry, hailing from Gallawa, Erigolla. She initially learned the art of batik by following the instructional programs presented by experts in the media. Later, with the guidance of the National Crafts Council, She became self-employed and started her own business.

With her skilled hands, she creates a range of products that cater to the demands of many customers, particularly those who seek unique batik in her area.




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Mr. R.M.S. Ravindra Bandara

No.90/1/A, Pallethalawinna, Katugastota, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 368 3268

Mr. Bandara, a resident of Pallethalawinna in Katugastota, has turned his unemployment into an opportunity. He serves as a role model for the younger generation by creating exquisite and captivating jewelry using discarded coconut shells.

He possesses a distinct skill in crafting a variety of ornaments not only from coconut shells but also from eco-friendly materials such as wood and paper. His vision is to boost the local economy by creating products that cater to the needs of the fashion industry.



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Lankapura Rush & Reed Training Center

B.O.P 316, Thalpotha, Lankapura, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 381 5753

The Lankapura Rush based Training Centre is renowned for its expertise in the art of mat making, which has a deep connection to the history of Sri Lankan handicrafts. They specialize in creating vibrant designs using materials such as Gallaha Pan, Tunhiriya, Haven, and palmyrah leaves. The National Crafts Council provides formal training at this center to promote this traditional craft. With the increasing demand for eco-friendly products in the local and foreign markets, this center plays a vital role in producing a variety of mats, Bags, Dustbins, File covers, and other related products to meet the needs of customers. In light of the current market opportunities, this center has become increasingly important in promoting sustainable practices and eco-friendly production.



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Ms. N.H.G.D.K. Nanayakkara

Saumya Niwasa, Udagalmaduwa Rd,
Kundasale, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 360 2388

For over two decades, Mrs. Nanayakkara, a resident of Saumya Niwasa, Kundasale has dedicated her life to the patchwork Crafts. Her courage and talent taken her work to an international level, and she serves as an outstanding role model for women in Sri Lanka. Her Creative abilities and skills have been appreciated and praised by the Society making her an inspiration to the Sri Lanka artists.

As a winner of both provincial and National competitions, she has not only brought economic value to her decorative and utility creations, to the Patchwork Crafts Sector, but a significant contribution, Her achievements, have brought a pride to the upcountry.



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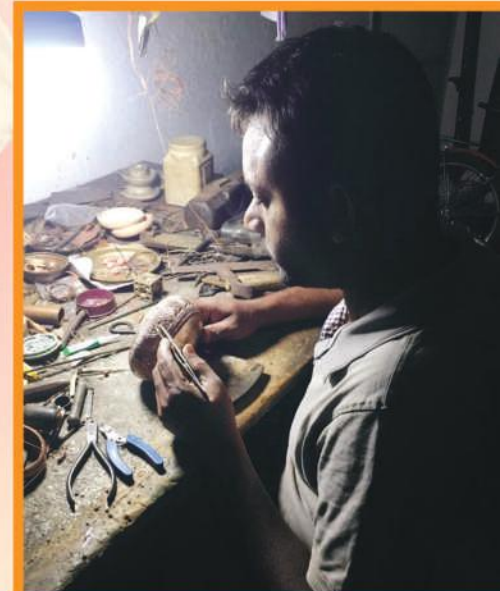
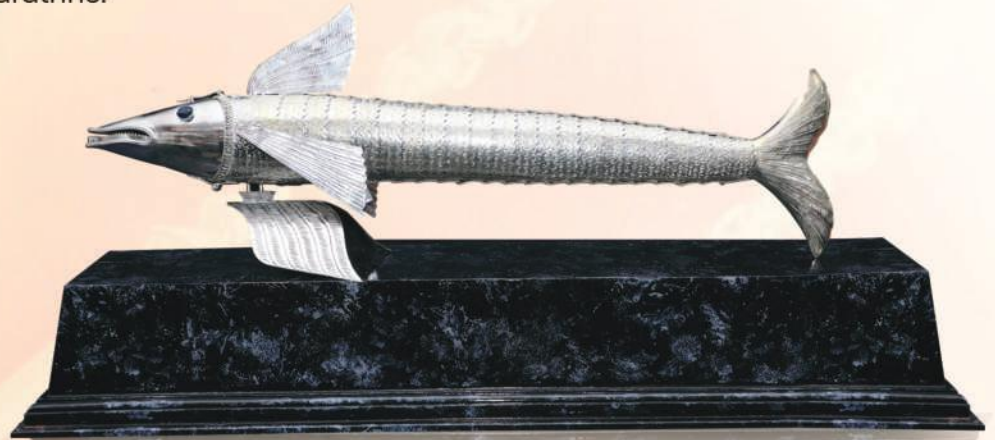


Mr. M.A.R.C. Karunaratne

No.26, Medapathana, Badulla, Sri Lanka.

+94 72 322 5417

M.A.R.C. Karunaratne is a renowned jewellery artisan from the Uva province. His exquisitely crafted bowls, vases, jewellery boxes, and caskets showcase the traditional heritage of the region. As a recipient of the president's Award for his work, Karunaratne is dedicated in promoting his local heritage on a global scale. The Export Oriented Handicrafts Competition, initiated by the National Crafts Council, provides an ideal platform for driven artisans like Karunaratne.



Mr. H.K. Lalith Samantha Kumara

No.228/1, Barana Rd, Sitinamaluwa, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 111 6580

Lalith Samantha Kumara, a resident of Beliatta in Hambantota, is an artist who spends his free time creating coconut shell craft as a hobby while working in the private sector. Despite his busy professional schedule, he has been able to showcase his creative talents by experimenting with various designs and incorporating modern elements, resulting in eye-catching crafts suitable for the contemporary market. In a short span of time, he has successfully captured the market by supplying his craft creations to hotels and selling them through stalls, generating additional income.



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Mr. P.M. Chamil Eranga Chandimal

2917, Hathporuwa ,Suriyawewa, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 145 4081

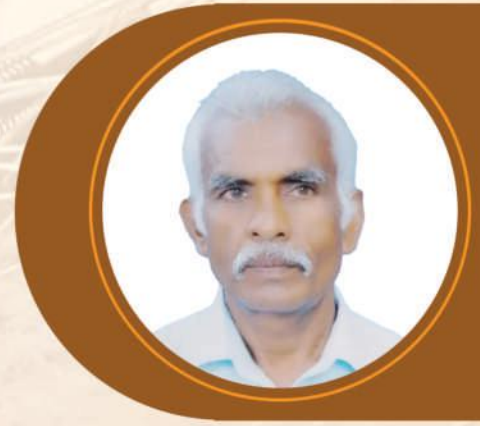
Chamil Eranga Chadimal, born in the Suriyawewa area of Hambantota district, is an artist who has revolutionized his industry through a combination of youthful energy and modern technology. He has introduced a new design of a water bottle made from "Kumbuk" wood.

Using online platforms like, You Tube to improve his knowledge and skills, he has even built the necessary machinery himself to create his crafts. With his innovative approach to woodworking, he has quickly captured a significant share of the market, offering wooden Bowls, Cups, Wine glasses, and Food trays as alternatives to traditional plastic or metal options. The demand for his products is on the rise.



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Mr. H.M. Gunarathne

Dematathhawala, Nagala, Bibila,
Sri Lanka.

+94 78 341 4536

In the rural society of Sri Lanka, handicraft such as Kulla, Kiri Gotta, Kuruniya, and Paddy Box were highly esteemed. The artist under discussion can be identified as a creator of remarkable crafts reviving the proud legacy of the previous generation through innovative patterns in modern cane art.

This artist has been recognized as a top-tier craftsman, earning the prestigious Gold Award and two Silver awards in the "Shilpa Abhimana" presidential handicraft competition.



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Mr. K. Abeylal Gurusinghe

Reservoir Road, Hiyaraya, Galle, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 783 0420

Mr. Abeylal from Hiyaraya, Galle is specialises in creating plant-based Creations. His exceptional skills in crafting designs in the sheath of arecanot leaves. A heated iron rod is used to draw this design is called burn art. This special skill has impressed the foreign audience.

Currently this business is solely operated within the family and generated indirect employment opportunities as well.

Mr. Abeylal has been participating in "Shilpa Abhimani" competition organized by NCC since 2000 and has consistently won award including Presidential Awards 2013-2018.



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Mr. P.D.M.D. Bandara

Morugama, Polgahawela, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 925 1108

Dharmika Bandara is a multi-talented artist whose exceptional skills set him apart from thousands of equally gifted individuals. Residing in the serene village of Morugama in Polgahawela, located in the North-West Province of Sri Lanka, he found the perfect canvas for his artistic talents in the idyllic surroundings of his isolated house amidst lush fields.

Having studied traditional art at the National Apprenticeship Board and the National Replica School, as well as the University of Moratuwa, Mr. Bandara has sharpened his artistic skills to perfection.

His technical expertise has earned him the prestigious silver Award for four consecutive years in the "Shilpa Abhimani" National competitions, in addition to regular awards at the provincial and national levels from 2004-2021.

As a young entrepreneur, Mr. Bandara has also ventured into the market and is currently providing his services as a training instructor in the North West Small Industries Department, contributing his talents to the betterment of his country.



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Mr. K.P.S.K. Piyalath

C 42/1, Charitha Sewana, Thiriwana, Parakaduwa, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 449 6799

Mr.Piyalath ,a young and energetic entrepreneur from Parakaduwa has established himself as an expert in the coconut shell based productions within a short period of time.

He produces exceptional and creative collection of crafts in coconut-shell for which there is a great demand in the local and international markets.

His ability to build strong relationship and trust with buyers and customers has empowered him in capturing the potential markets.



The wasted coconut -shells have become master pieces with his unmatched skill and master has paved way to win presidential awards for his creations. His creativity in producing exceptional utility items, Souneriors and Jewelries is noteworthy.

He has dedicated his expertise in the Master Craftsman Training programme of National Crafts Council as a Master Craftsman while continuing his profession as a sports coach.





Ms. M.P. Indralatha

218/53, 2nd Lane, Walpita, Batawala,
Padukka, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 051 6921

Residing in Padukka, Colombo, Ms. M.P Indralatha is a proficient entrepreneur renowned for her expertise in clay arts. Her success shines bright, akin to the polished clay jewels, owing to her skill and natural abilities. She has exhibited her expertise in handicraft competitions and endeavors to secure a spot for her creations in both domestic and foreign markets. With her perseverance, she is undoubtedly on the path to achieving great success.



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Ms. W.A. Piyumi Shasikala

Kudakumbukkadawala, Angunawila, Mundalama, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 190 2431

Piyumi Shasikala, a gifted artisan hailing from the village of Kudakumbukkadawala in Puttlam, Her exceptional talents have earned her several awards, including the prestigious Presidential Award for securing the top position in the Palmyrah craft sector.

Furthermore, Piyumi Shashikala has been recognized for her outstanding contribution to the handicraft industry, receiving the "Award of Excellence" from World Crafts Council and UNESCO.



Ms. U.G. Roshini

C/O SANASA, Morahenagama, Hatton, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 316 7865

U.G. Rohini, a school teacher, is not only dedicated to her profession but also displays remarkable talent in the field of batik craft. What started as a hobby for her has now turned into a profitable business, making her an inspiration to other women pursuing similar careers.

The "Shilpa Abhimani" has not only served as an outstanding instructor for the "Shilpa Navoda" School Handicraft Competition organized by the National Crafts Council but has also earned recognition at both provincial and national levels.



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Ms. J. Chithrangani Ekanayaka

Panama South , Panama, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 058 0960

The promotion of local handicrafts has been greatly aided by the production of eco-friendly products, which has garnered the attention of both domestic and foreign consumers. Keeping in line with this concept, this artist stands out as someone who introduces a wide range of crafts to both local and foreign markets, from traditional Sri Lankan Palmyrah to various handicrafts. Having received proper training in the field, she prioritizes the demand and attraction of buyers and has already made a name for herself in the international market. Additionally, she is a skilled entrepreneur who employs a significant number of individuals in her business activities and is actively involved in the production process.





Ms. J.F. Nasliya

46, Station Rd, Passara, Sri Lanka.

+94 72 450 6053

Using eco-friendly Hana fiber (Agave) as a raw material, this skilled craftswoman creates a range of high-quality and beautiful products with various patterns that reflect traditional local handicrafts. Her expertise extends to creating utility items for home and office as well as other handicrafts. She has successfully catered to both domestic and foreign markets and is constantly exploring new entrepreneurial opportunities to further promote her craft and increase her efficiency in earning foreign exchange.



Overall, this artist's commitment to using sustainable materials and creating unique designs has helped her stand out in the competitive world of handicrafts. Her ability to adapt to changing market demands and her optimistic outlook on entrepreneurship make her a valuable contributor to the industry.



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Ms. R.K.K. Wickramasinghe

Waruni Niwasa, Labuhengoda, Middeniya, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 772 5468

Mrs. Ratna Kumari Wickramasinghe started her journey as an apprentice craftswoman at the Sapugahayaya Training Center and ventured into the Talipot leaf industry. Later, she worked as a training instructor at the National Crafts Council, where she formed a group of individuals who have made significant contributions to the country's economy over the years. She is an adept entrepreneur who has successfully captured the local market with her skills in creating mats with motifs and Rush bags.

She has even received the prestigious "Shilpa Abhimani" Silver Award and aspires to expand her business to the foreign market.



Mr. W.V.I.P. Karunaratna

Lacquer Training Centre, Beligalla South, Angulmaduwa, Beliatta,
Sri Lanka.

+94 77 944 4749

Born in Leliambe, Matale, Mr. W. V.I.P Karunaratne is a skilled traditional Lacquer artisan. In 2016, he joined the National Crafts Council as a Lacquer training instructor and takes pride in training a large number of individuals in the Lacquer industry. He initiated training programs at the Beliatta and Angulmaduwa Lacquer training centers, contributing significantly to the development of the this craft sector, and preparing the next generation of Lacquer artisans.

His entrepreneurial skill have pared him the way as a supplier in the southern region and to the domestic market.



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Mr. B.G. Anura

171/1, Ihala Karagahamulla, Kadawatha,
Sri Lanka.

+94 76 175 0191

Mr.B.G Anura, a young entrepreneur residing in Kadawatha area, is a novice in the clay-based ceramic industry. Because of his strong interest in the clay industry, he has joined the ceramic and clay training course at the Waragoda Ceramic Training Center of National Crafts Council.

He has a good understanding of modern fashion and designs and is a perfect young entrepreneur with very talented creative abilities.

“Crafting Ceylon” is a milestone in his path of conquest.





Ms. M.B. Kusumawathi

**Kunuragama, Seppukulama,
Sri Lanka.**

+94 77 475 0231

Kusumawathi, a resident of Seppukulama in North Central, is a skilled entrepreneur who has made it her mission to preserve the art of crafting by creating diverse forms of products and passing on the knowledge to the next generation. The Rush industry serves as her primary source of livelihood. Kusumawathi has been bestowed with both Provincial and Presidential awards for her remarkable contributions. She embarked on a career in the Rush industry after completing a six-month Master craftsmen training program. She demonstrated exceptional proficiency by producing excellent pieces in a remarkably short time and trained local apprentices to sustain the craft.



**Crafting
ceylon**





Ms. Himali Kosala Herath

No.175/A, Maligathenna, Ketakumbura, Kadugannawa, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 421 0009

Mrs. Himali Kosala Herath, residing at 175/A, Maligathenna, Kadugannawa is outstanding artisan of decorative items with handlooms and other local raw materials who prioritizes local identity over crafts based on plastic and polythene raw materials, which are the root cause of environmental destruction.

Her decorative crafts are highly sought-after by tourists, as they feature various animal shapes embroidered with eco-friendly materials, prioritizing local identity. Her creativity and talent serve as a great example for women in our society, and she aims to conquer the export market.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. D.M. Chandrika

Galpothnalanda, Iwela, Bibila, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 760 8144

The cane industry holds a significant position in Uva Wellassa, and within it, Ms. Chandrika stands out as a talented artist with an innate flair for cane-related products. She received formal training in the cane industry, fostering her creativity, and entered the industry as a young entrepreneur. As a spirited woman hailing from Uva Wellassa, she possesses the ability to complete all tasks related to cane using her own hands.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. K.D. Yamuna Jayanthi

16, Dayapura , Ampara, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 907 0378

As an expert courageous artist, she has established herself in the field by combining Sri Lankan Batik art with tradition. With her skillful hands, she creates high-quality batik designs suitable for both domestic and foreign markets, giving a fresh perspective to the art of clothing. Moreover, she is an innovative artist who utilizes new marketing strategies to reach out to international customers through online platforms. Additionally, she serves as a training instructor, aiming to inspire and educate the next generation to promote the field further.



Crafting
ceylon





Ms. R.M.S.P. Amarasooriya

Liyanwala, Munwatte, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 302 1707

This artist is widely acknowledged as one of the most experienced craftsmen in traditional Sri Lankan jewelry. With the ability to design exquisite and eye-catching jewelry items tailored to customer preferences, She excels in creating Necklaces, Bracelets, Rings, Earrings, and Caskets from gold and silver. His unique talent in enhancing the fashion jewelry of the younger generation has earned him the distinguished "Shilpa Abhimani" Presidential Award. As an artist who has contributed significantly to promoting the social message of a successful entrepreneur, he has earned a solid reputation in both local and international markets.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. P.A.R.P. Silva

8/1, Madugahawatte, Kithalawalana, Mirigama, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 843 2669

Mrs. Silva, who resides in Kithalawalana village in Mirigama, is a remarkable example of determination, overcoming the struggles of life with the strength of her own hands. With her natural creative abilities, she was able to further develop her skills through training at the Delwala Talipot leaf-based training center under the National crafts Council.

Specializing in eco-friendly Talipot leaf-based creations, she has been able to improve her livelihood. Her exceptional talent has also been recognized through her success in the "Shilpa Abhimani" competitions, as well as having two of her pieces selected for the "crafting Ceylon" programme.



Mr. M.G.M.M. Marasinghe

No.122/C, Walawwatta, Haliyadda, Danthure, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 840 7922

Madushanka has been following in the footsteps of his father, the talented Coconut shell craftsman, Mr.Nimal Marasinghe, and has been involved in coconut shell craft since his school days. With this impressive craft, he is carrying forward father's legacy and has even won "Shilpa Navoda" School Handicraft Competition organized by National Crafts Council.

By presenting creations to both Provincial and National exhibitions and competitions. Madhushanka has paved his way to success and has made a wave the fashion world with his innovative jewellery made of discarded coconut shells. With his success in the local and export market, He has become a source of inspiration to the youth.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. H. Emil Thiresha

No:230, Thirunavatkulam, Vavuniya, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 804 5854

Sri Lanka is a country known for its stunning natural beauty and diverse geography and climate. Within this environment, there is an artist who creates eco-friendly products using palmyrah leaves, a local ingredient. This artist specializes in crafting various items such as Bags, Boxes, and Tablemats, all handmade with exceptional quality and design. Due to her expertise and skillful execution, she has successfully marketed her products both locally and internationally. In addition to her crafts, she also serves as a training instructor for aspiring artists in the industry. Furthermore, she has been recognized for her achievements, having received the "Shilpa Abhimani" Presidential Award, and worked as a master artisan at the National Crafts Council.



Crafting
ceylon





Ms. A. Dinesha Sanjeevani Amarasena

Nawehera, Horowpathana, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 040 9372

In a brief span, Mrs. Dinusha Sanjeevani Amarasinghe, hailing from Naawehera, Horowpathana, has made her mark in both domestic and overseas market with her exceptional proficiency in Crafting Ceylon initiative, she is a youthful entrepreneur leveraging her masterful craftsmanship to create an array of musical instruments. Her ambition is to expand into new horizons and dominate the export market.



Crafting
ceylon



Mr. K.M. Deepal Jayasinghe

130/1, Maha Kimbissa, Sigiriya, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 231 1589

In Mahakibissa in Sigiriya, there is a thriving wood carving and sculpture industry, inspired by the legendary King Kashyapa who is believed to have created unique talent with a remarkable ability in this field.

Residing in Sigiriya, Mahakibissa, Mr. Jayasinghe is a gifted artisan who produces numerous wood carvings and sculptures that are highly sought after in the current market. His "wall lamp with elephant" figurine, crafted with a keen understanding of consumer preferences, was recognized as one of the top hundred designs in the crafting Ceylon exported – oriented program due to its quality and practicality.

With a master of traditional wood carving and sculpture techniques, Mr. Jayasinghe is an outstanding artist in creating Buddha and Deity statues, Sigiri murals, and Animal figurines. He has been honored with the prestigious "Shilpa Abhimani" award in recognition of his exceptional skills and contributions to the industry.



Crafting
ceylon

Ms. P. Dilhani Wijesinghe

163/3, Gangarama Vihara Mw, Kotagedara, Piliyandala, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 707 2747

Having left her job to pursue her dream of entrepreneurship, Dilhani Wijesinghe entered the handicraft industry and has quickly made a name for herself as a talented and innovative young entrepreneur.

She is a skilled artisan who utilizes locally sourced handloom fabrics to create bags, cushion covers, and other handicrafts. With her talents, she has crafted high-quality craft items for the "Crafting Ceylon" competition and built upon her success from the "Shilpa Abhimani" exhibition. As a young entrepreneur, she strives to conquer the international market as her ultimate aspiration.

She has recently established a business named SAVIKMA BAG PRODUCTS.



Crafting
ceylon



Mr. M.P. Shanika Pradeep Kumara

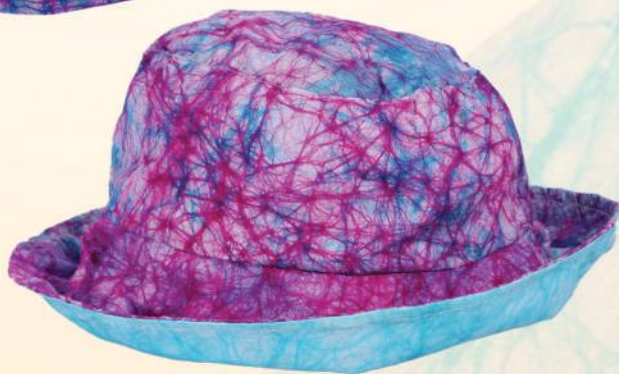
92, Koswadiya, Mahawewa, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 420 9333

The art of batik handicrafts is now widely recognized in the fashion industry for its exquisite clothing designs. Shanika is renowned for blending medieval Sinhalese designs with his own creative ideas to produce exceptional batik creations. As a young entrepreneur, he has received the prestigious "Shilpa Abhimani" Presidential Award. He has also earned a reputation as an outstanding artisan, attracting consumers of all ages, especially children, youth, and gaining recognition in both domestic and international markets.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. Deepika Priyadarshni Ananda Welgama

100/f5, Edmour Estate, Rathmalavinna
Balangoda, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 651 2426

Deepika Priyadarshani is a talented artist who understands the requirements of the local and international fashion market. She has a remarkable skill in showcasing Sri Lankan designs in an appealing manner, while providing high-quality and affordable products. Using her hands, she blends different styles to create vibrant batik art. She has been recognized for her exceptional talent in Bobbin Lace Craft and has won the prestigious "Shilpa Abhimani" presidential award.



Crafting
ceylon



N.P. Neetha Priyani Munasinghe

No.47/E Pahalagama, Kithulwala, Mirigama, Sri Lanka.

+94 75 288 1060

Neetha Priyani, a brave resident of Kithulwala in Mirigama, has made a name for herself in the coconut shell craft industry, sustaining a successful livelihood for over 30 years. She has achieved local market domination by utilizing her skills to create remarkable products from discarded coconut shells. With the aid of her husband, Neetha strives to incorporate technology in the "Shilpa Abhimani" competitions.



Ms. H.A. Siriyawathi

Kunuragama, Seepukulama, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 229 8125

H.A. Siriyawathi designs, which are crafted by processing rush leaves that grow in mud, serve as a representation of her heartfelt creativity. Her proficiency in interior and exterior decoration specially those related to Pan (Rush) has earned her the title of the city of Rajarata's champion. Despite facing numerous challenges, she has established her craft in accordance with the laws of nature and has been honoured with the Presidential Award. Her sole objective is to receive the recognition her creations deserve, both locally and internationally.



Crafting
ceylon



Mr. I. Nishantha Ekanayake

1325/9A, Bogahawatte Rd, Pannipitiya, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 800 4520

This skilled artisan is a master of the fundamental principles of his craft and has demonstrated his creativity in adapting traditional Sri Lanka Batik art to the changing landscape of the fashion industry. With a background in science, he is a specialist who constantly seeks to innovate in his field by incorporating novel techniques. As a young entrepreneur, he brings together individuals from different age groups to synthesize new styles of batik art and clothing, and has successfully expanded his business to the international market.





Ms. J.H. Wasanthy

343/A, Pothupitiya, Wellabada, Wadduwa, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 382 3241

Mrs.K.H.Wasanthy ,hailing from a humble family in the small coastal village of Pothupitiya in the Kaluthara district, is a woman of great determination. She discovered her natural talents at the "Wetake" Training Center, run by the National Crafts Council, which is located near her village. Through her passion for designing crafts based in "Watake". She was able to enhance her livelihood.

Mrs.Wasanthy has a deep respect for the handicraft industry related to leaves, particularly "Wetake" leaves, and she puts in great effort and sacrifices to create exquisite handmade crafts. Her creations are a testament to her dedication and serve as an inspiration for every woman who aspires to stand on her own and support her family's economic growth.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. M.G. Samanthi Priyadarshani

139, Yaya 13, Kalaoya, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 278 1883

An exceptional artist and designer Samanthi Priyadarshani of Anuradhapura, creates beautiful, eco-friendly artwork using waste paper. With a desire to receive fair compensation for her innate talent, she has successfully fulfilled both local and international orders while providing employment opportunities to young individuals on her area. Samanthi serves as a role model for the upcoming generation of women.



Crafting
ceylon





Mr. Y.G. Kasun Gayan Karunaratne

65A, Near Malwatuoya, 3rd Step,
Anuradhapura , Sri Lanka.

+94 77 457 6929

Kasun Gayan Karunaratne, is a talented young artisan hailing from North Central Province. His initiative, Crafting Ceylon, has brought a fresh perspective to the wooden toy industry with the creation of four unique toy cars for children, providing a sustainable alternative to plastic toys. Notably, Kasun has also designed vintage wooden vehicles, which are currently in vogue. These eco-friendly products possess a high potential to penetrate the export market.

Kasun's exceptional talent has been recognized through several Provincial and National awards, and he aspires to see one of his toy vehicles being owned by a Sri Lankan child.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. P.B.P.P.D. Ulukkulama

402, Ulukkulama, Mahabulankulama, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 217 6796

Ms. Ulukkulama, an accomplished artist, entered into the world of batik art from North Central Province. She produces diverse batik designs for the local market, and her presentation of a women's beach hat for "Crafting Ceylon" export orientation program stands out due to its uniqueness, as it can also be used as a headpiece. Her designs' distinctiveness lies in their exceptional finish and quality.



Ms. J.P.D.S.D. Nawinadi

Lankathilaka Niwasa, Kolongashena, Wewagama, Kuliyaipitiya,
Sri Lanka.

+94 77 659 0466

Dinupama Nawinadi, a young artist and entrepreneur, initially assisted her master in crafting traditional wooden musical instruments. However, she shifted her focus towards producing wooden utility items to enhance the quality of her crafts. She consulted various books in the field and incorporated new techniques. Her local identity proved to be a powerful factor in her successful conquest of the market.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. G.L. Somalatha

241, Pattiya Watta Rd, Kothalawala, Kaduwela, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 824 6958

G.L. Somalatha, a young entrepreneur, has made a name for herself in the field of Clay-related decorative crafts, attracting tourists and adding elegance to the fashion world with her Clay ornaments. With her business, "Udara Products", she has successfully captured the market. Her talents have also been recognized in the "Shilpa Abhimani" competitions. Her ambition is to expand her business and conquer the global market.





Ms. W.A. Sandaya Dilrukshi

No.R.60.Unit 10, Saliyapura, mollipothana, Kanthale Sri Lanka.

+94 77 484 5983

Mrs. Dilrukshi, a talented artist from Kanthale town, has an exceptional skill in using Rush leaves to create high-quality and eco-friendly crafts that appeal to both local and foreign markets. Her works have won her numerous awards, including presidential awards, as well as Provincial and National achievements.

As a gifted entrepreneur, she has been invited to two programs held in Japan and has been selected to participate in the Crafting Ceylon Program.



Crafting
ceylon

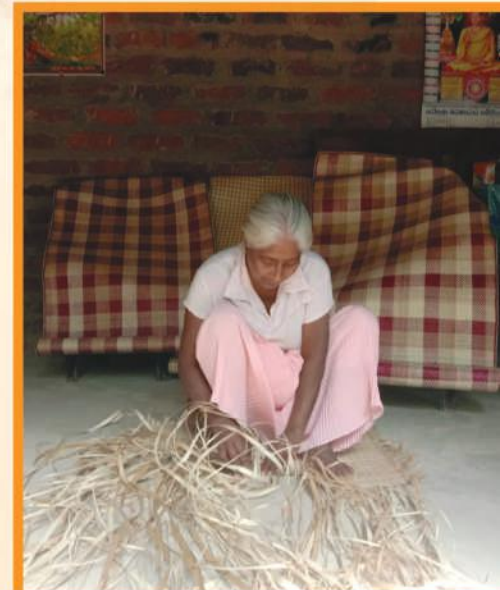


Ms. S.A. Sriyalatha

Kirulapane Gedara, Koratuwa, Sapugahayaya, Middeniya, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 395 3493

Ms. Sriyalatha received her training in weaving Rush based mats at the Sapugahaya Rush Production Training Center, under the National Crafts Council. With years of experience in the art of weaving, she has become an expert in her craft. Sriyalatha has actively participated in various competitions, exhibitions, and other events, which has helped her gain a foothold in the market and establish herself as a successful artist.



Ms. R.K. Suneetha Priyashanthi

Kithulgaha Watta, Kahanda, Angulugaha, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 984 5744

Suneetha Priyanthi, a resident of Kitulgaha Watta, ventured into the Kitul based craft industry after her marriage. With five children to support, she and her husband started this business in 2004, which has become their primary source of income. Suneetha has a special talent for creating works related to Kitul and Pan (Rush). She has also been the driving force behind her husband's victories in the "Shilpa Abhimani" competitions organized by the National Crafts Council, resulting in silver and Presidential awards.



Crafting
ceylon



Mr. Ganwari Lakshan

7/10, Temple Rd, Kandegoda, Ambalangoda, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 652 6003

Kandegoda Gamwari Lakshan, affiliated with the traditional mask and face carving industry, ventured in mask-making after gaining experience assisting his brother with design work during his schooling days. In a remarkable brief span, he gained expertise in the field and showcased his skills in carving faces, sculptures, and traditional paintings, earning him recognition. He designs to suit the modern market, creating export opportunities for his work.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. D.B. Yasawathi

Kunuragama, Seepukulama, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 735 5676

Ms. Yasawathi, a skilled artisan from North Central Province, creates remarkable crafts from the native pan (Rush) plant. Her handmade Pan bags, Vases, and decorative crafts uplift her livelihood and mental well-being. She is a talented artisan who has been honoured with the Presidential Awards, and her creations reflect a focus on eco-friendliness.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. D.M. Nandani Seetha Kumari

37/10, Aluthwelagama, badulla, Sri Lanka.

+94 78 181 6709

With her impressive skill set, she skillfully crafts belts and knots from fabrics and designs stunning handbags for woman. Her creations, adorned with a variety of colors and shapes, have earned her the loyalty of local customers, and sustained her business. Beyond her expertise in these crafts, she also possesses an entrepreneurial drive and is actively seeking to expand her market by introducing her products to an international audience.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. R.D. Anula Dayakanthi

Kudakumbukkadawala, Angunawila,
Mundalama, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 190 2431

Analysis of the market shows that consumers have a keen interest in purchasing unique handmade products. With a profound understanding of this context, Anula has mastered the art of crafting exquisite items using Palmyrah leaves. She possesses exceptional skills in creating 'Kavali' boxes, Ladies' Bags, Dustbins, Containers and more. As a recipient of the prestigious "Shilpa Abhimani" Presidential Award, she is a talented entrepreneur who has gained recognition in both local and international markets.



Crafting
ceylon

Ms. D.T. Dissanayaka

100, 12K, Nuwara Wewa Watta, Jaffna Rd, Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 830 7404

Under the guidance of her aunt, Mrs. D.T. Dissanayake honed her skills and entered the Pan (Rush) industry. Her talent for crafting eco-friendly products such as Bags, Baskets, and Table mats in various shapes from Pan (Rush) plant is truly remarkable and suitable for the modern market.

One of her most distinctive is the Gallaha Pan market bag, which she presented for the "Crafting Ceylon" program. This bag boasts a unique design that both practically and aesthetically pleasing.



Ms. H.J.M.N.D. Hidellana

Polkatu Gedara, Samagi Mw, Delgamuwa, Kuruwita, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 709 6465

Artisan Ms. H.J.M.N.D. Hidellana craftswoman is renowned as an ecofriendly crafts maker, who has devoted her life to utilizing coconut shells as raw materials and producing top-notch products that are ideal for both local and international markets. Moreover, as a building entrepreneur, she possesses a unique talent for introducing novel products to the market and developing items that cater to the customers' needs.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. H.M. Sudarshani Herath

Pudalumulla, Nannapurawa, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 215 4399

The cane industry holds a special place in the Uva Wellassa region, and Mrs. Herath is a young artisan represents the uva wellassa with a natural talent for Cane-related products. Inspired and guided by her mother, she entered the cane industry and now possesses the ability to create various crafts such as Trays, Baskets, Dustbins, and Table mats.

By establishing her own business, "New Shashikala Cane Products," she has created employment opportunities for local women by offering training in the cane industry and opening up the market.





Mr. J.R. Rajapaksha

No.75, Wijayasiripura Mw, Akuressa Watta, Walasmulla, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 016 4423

Residing in Wijayasiripura Mawatha, Akurassa Watta, Walasmulla, J.R. Rajapaksha is a talented young man who has made a name for himself in the field of wood-related crafts. He has impressed many by introducing innovative tricycle and walker products that serve as attractive substitutes for imported toys that are restricted in the local market. His creative abilities in utilizing wood have earned him well-deserved recognition.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. M.A Sujeewa Piyaranjani

Rambakanayagama, Nawagattegama, Sri Lanka.

+94 70 480 7947

By analyzing both the domestic and international markets, it is evident that consumers worldwide show a keen interest in eco-friendly products and unique designs. Keeping this in mind, Sujeewa is a talented artist who utilizes Rush and Palmyrah leaves to create handmade crafts. With her exceptional skills, she introduces new trends to the local weaving industry and produces products suitable for the global market.



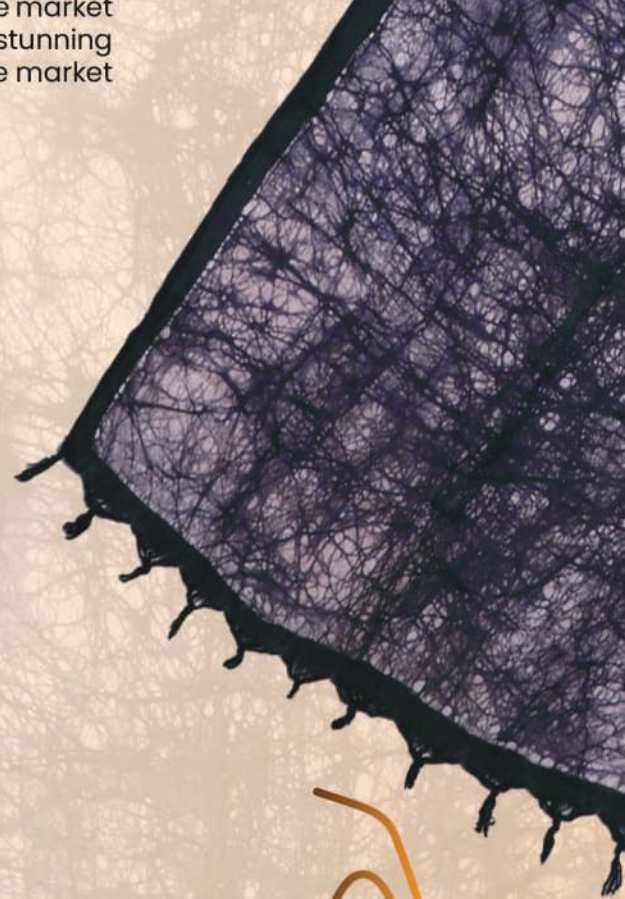
Ms. Anoma Angunawela

No.10/2, Kalapuraya, Nattarampotha, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 836 5066

Kalapuraya, located in Kundasale, Kandy, is a craft village that houses skilled artisans with diverse talents. Anoma Agunawala is one of these artisans, residing in Kalapuraya. She is a driven individual who harnesses her creativity to create products targeted at foreign markets, especially during a time when the domestic batik industry is thriving.

One of her exquisite batik creations that has captured the hearts of both local and foreign tourists is a shawl. She has made a name for herself in the market by showcasing her talent in batik clothing, including dresses and stunning batik creations. She is a woman who has successfully conquered the market with her skill and expertise.



Crafting
ceylon





Ms. Y. Lucia

No:209/A, 3rd Lane, Thirunavatkulam,
Vavuniya, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 664 4047

She is a skilled artisan who creates eco-friendly handicrafts using Palmyrah Leaves, blending the traditional, Contemporary, and futuristic styles. With a unique talent for crafting Bags, Dustbins, Boxes of various shapes, and Tablemats. She caters to both domestic and foreign markets. She has also worked as a teacher under the National Crafts Council and has played an instrumental role in promoting the industry. In recognition of her skills and entrepreneurship, she has been awarded on international Women's Day. Her creations are highly sought after by both local and international customers due to their exceptional quality.



Crafting
ceylon





Ms. A.D. Indrani

1177/A/10, Ranasinghe Pedesa, Paradise,
Kuruwita, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 610 5223

The global community of environmentalists has been consistently drawn towards eco-friendly products that promote sustainable development. Being well-versed in this concept, the artist possesses a unique talent for creating exceptional products using locally sourced bamboo, catering to both domestic and foreign markets. Her delicate craftsmanship is evident in every product she creates by hand.

Furthermore, Ms.Indrani is recognized as one of the pioneers of Sri Lanka's bamboo crafts, and her talent has been acknowledged by receiving the "Shilpa Abhimani" Presidential Award. As a gifted artist from sector Indrani's works stand out for their exceptional quality and contribution towards promoting eco-friendly practices.



Crafting
ceylon



Mr. P.G. Jagath Wijerathna

Pahala Hapuwida, Alwatte, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 635 0477

Mr. Jagath Wijeratne, hailing from the Alwatta section of Pahala Hapuwida in the historic Matale region, is a skilled craftsman renowned for his expertise in traditional laksha (Lacquer) production. With over four decades of experience in both the nail work and lathe work sectors of the industry, he has established himself as a true master in this field.

As a gifted artisan, Mr. Wijeratne possesses a unique ability to create designs that cater to modern market demands while still preserving the essence of tradition. He has been recognized for his contributions to the field, having been awarded certificates from both provincial and national "Shilpa Abhimani" exhibitions.



Mr. Wijerathne's exceptional talent lies in his proficiency in creating top quality laksha (lacquer) creations that are in high demand both locally and internationally. He is capable of producing a wide range of products, including Jewellery boxes, Containers for Packing, Souvenirs, and Bangles, among others. His work truly exemplifies the skill and craftsmanship of the traditional lacquer industry.



Crafting
ceylon





Ms. H.K. Nimali Prasangika

No.15, Kaviraja Mw, Panadura, Sri Lanka.

+94 70 486 9840

Mrs.H.K. Nimali Prasangika ,a resident of the Panadura area in, Kalutara district has established herself as an entrepreneur in the batik industry. Once started as a small industry producing ready-made Batik clothing has how grown into a successful venture. Joining the National Crafts Council in 2019 has helped her business to thrive. Her innovative designs catering to modern social needs have earned her the first place in the “Wanitabhimani-2021” national-level competition for emerging entrepreneurs and the best business award in the Kalutara district during the 2022 international Women’s Day celebrations.



She is a courageous and determined individual who has made a name for herself in the batik craft sector. Her commitment to sustainability, efficient use of resource, and providing employment opportunities to others in her work place are invaluable. Mrs.Prasangika is supported by her family and local community, and her next goal is to successfully expand her business in the international market. She has already contributed high-quality creations to crafting Ceylon program as a first step towards achieving her goal.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. K.M.D. Anoma Nilmini

222, Kuda Buthgamuwa, Angoda, Sri Lanka.

+94 72 545 5684

Anoma Nilmini, who entered the industry after receiving Clay and Ceramic training from the National Crafts Council, as a young entrepreneur, she is engaged in creating by using her skills as a job and has honoured her skills by winning the Presidential Award in the "Shilpa Abhimani" competition.

She is ready to conquer the world as an entrepreneur by expanding her design skills internationally through her creations, specially the necklace and pair of earrings she has made from ceramics for the Crafting Ceylon program.



Ms. W.K. Wasantha

Laksiri, Wathuyaya, Kuruwita, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 445 6152

As an artist, she has gained recognition in both local and international markets for her bamboo-based handicrafts, which showcase intricate Sri Lankan patterns. In addition to her creative work, she also serves as a training instructor for the National Crafts Council, working to inspire a new generation of artisans and promote the field. She puts in exceptional effort to develop new products that are suitable for both local and foreign markets. Her exceptional skills have earned her the prestigious "Shilpa Abhimani" Presidential Award, and she continuously introduces stylish and innovative bamboo creations.



Crafting
ceylon



Ms. P.A. Anusha Dilanthi Athauda

H 15, Weganthale, Mawanella, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 156 1131

With her innate talent, Anusha Dilanthi , a graduate in fine arts from the University of Fine Arts, skillfully recreate antient mural art in temple paintings and murals.

Her painting skills have been refined through the traditional painting course at the National Replica School.

Ms.Dilanthi has demonstrated her talent in various fields of painting ,including Traditional painting ,Textile painting ,and Batik. She has been awarded first place in the Sabaragamuwa Province and National level Awards from 2007-2021.As a school teacher, she takes pride in nurturing the next generation through art.

Her efforts to create value-added products from traditional art by considering market demands deserve recognition.





Ms. S.A.D. Dinali Samanmali

1111/4, Mihindupura, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.

+94 72 922 3502

Dinali Samanmali is a passionate woman who breathes new life into wooden stems with a chisel, inspired by her heritage and mentor. As a young entrepreneur who has transformed her talent into a livelihood, she participates in the Crafting Ceylon competition.

Her delightful creation, the "Shadow Elephant", exemplifies her creativity, and her aspiration is to broaden her business by reaching the international market.



Crafting
ceylon

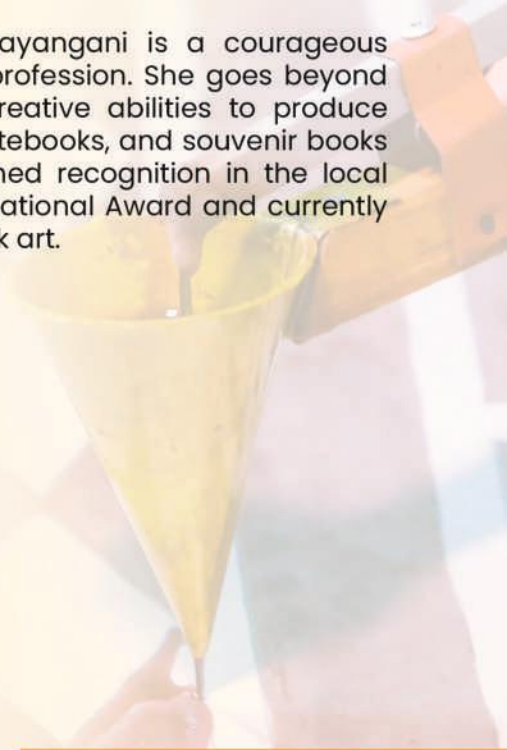


Ms. W.A. Chaturika Udayangani Weerasinghe

A/10, Shrawasthi Watta, Shrawasthipura, Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 700 0384

From North Central Province, Chaturika Udayangani is a courageous woman who has made batik art her lifelong profession. She goes beyond Batik-related clothing and has added her creative abilities to produce creations like sari pins, Hairpins, Yoga mats, Notebooks, and souvenir books etc. With her exceptional talent, she has gained recognition in the local market. She has also been honored with the National Award and currently serves as a training instructor in the field of batik art.



Crafting
ceylon

Ms. R.M. Seelawathi

Palugaswela, Kanattewewa, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 391 2255

This skilled artist is known for her expertise in creating beautiful bags using palmyrah leaves, a popular material in the handicraft industry. After receiving basic training from the National Crafts Council, she has excelled in her craft, creating unique coil bags and oval-shaped bags with intricate designs. Her eco-friendly approach has helped her gain recognition in both domestic and foreign markets, where consumers are increasingly seeking sustainable products.

Overall, this artist's exceptional skills and dedication to producing eco-friendly handicrafts have made her a valuable contributor to the industry. Her ability to create beautiful creations from natural materials is a testament to her creativity and passion for sustainable living.



Crafting
ceylon



Mr. K.A. Saman Mangalarathna

C 54/1, Batapothella, Yattogoda, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 609 3811

This artist is a proficient in the traditional art of Sri Lankan mask making, skillfully crafting masks that embody the essence and local identity of the art form. He is also adept in the art of face carving and, as a young entrepreneur, has gained recognition in both local and foreign markets.

Furthermore, he is a master in the Sri Lankan Kolam mask art and has been awarded the Presidential Award for his artistic excellence. Having received formal training in the fundamentals of the craft, he is dedicated to exploring new avenues to conquer the global market.





Ms. K.V.P. Malani

59/1/A, Abhaya, Hakuruwela, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 315 7661

Mrs. P. Malani, based in Kawanthissapura Handicraft village, Hambanthota inherited her skills in weaving has conquer the market with her creativity and continuous training. She has excelled her crafting skills and creativity, combining the traditional designs, and color combinations to create new patterns and various types of bags, which have become popular in the market. Ms. Malani has been able to maintain her crafts stay successfully while participating for competitions and exhibitions. She has won several awards for her talents in the handicraft field.



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Mr. R.M.M.G. Nimal Abeywardhana

Liyanwala, Munwatte, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 302 1707

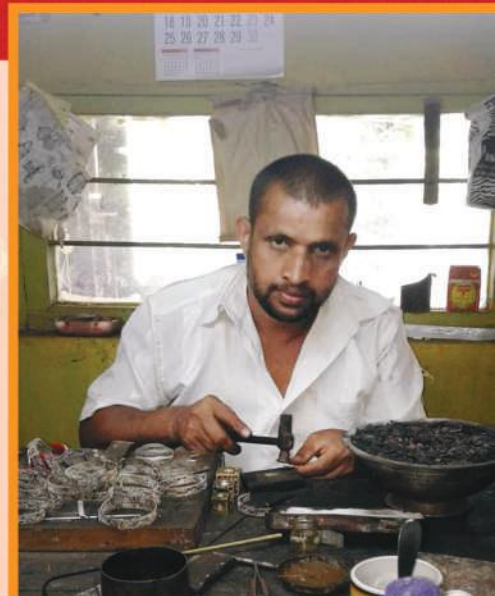
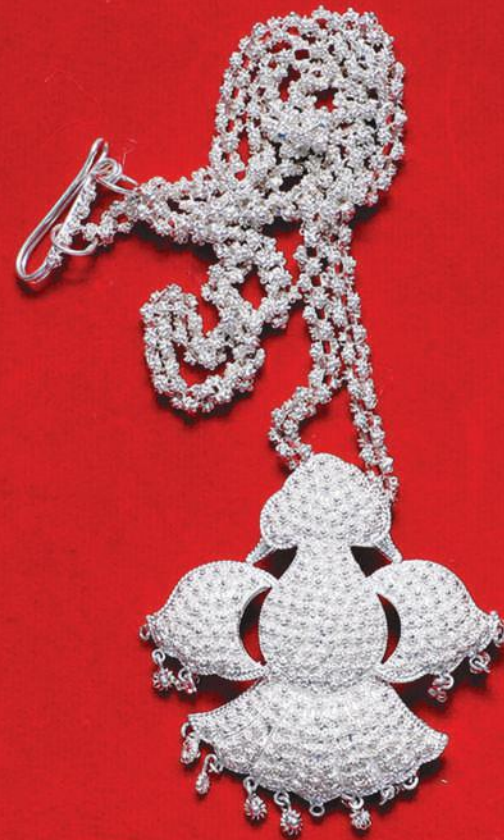
Undoubtedly, Nimal Abaywardhana is the most prominent artisan in the Liyanwala jewellery industry today. Hailing from the traditional village Liyanwala in Nuwaraeliya district, known for creating the gold jewellery for King Wimaladharmasuriya II of the udarta kingdom (up country).

He creates exclusive silver jewellery mixing his inherent skills for the modern technology. Mr. Abeywardhana has won numerous awards in both provincial and National level "Shilpa Abhimani" competitions including the prestigious "Silver" Award for his creations. He also serves as an instructor of National Crafts Council, passionately imparting his knowledge to the next generation.

As a skilled artisan with a determination to succeed in the local and export, market, Mr. Abeywardhana blends traditional wisdom with contemporary trends, creating unique creations that cater to modern preferences while retaining their cultural heritage.



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**Ms. K.K.G. Maheshika
Rukmali**

130/12, 3rd Lane, Kubugoda Ara,
Embilipitiya, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 126 3313

With a keen eye for design and a talent for experimentation, this young artist has a special ability to create beautiful and functional products using colorful paper. From keyrings to wall hanging creations, each piece is exquisitely finished by her skilled hands. Not content to simply follow trends, she constantly experiments with new techniques and designs to create products that stand out in both local and foreign markets. Her entrepreneurial spirit and dedication to her craft have helped her to build a successful business and establish herself as a rising star in the world of Sri Lankan handicrafts. Overall, her unique talents and ability to innovate make her a valuable contributor to the industry, and one to watch in the years to come.



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Ms. Ramya Kumari Paranagamage

No,22. Akkara 31 Meda bopitiya, Pelmadulla, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 517 0063

Ramya Kuamari Paranagamage, a resident of No.22 Medabopitiya in Palmadulla, is a distinguished batik artist who specializes in crafting men's and women's clothing with attractive designs and exquisite finishes.

She is well-versed in catering to both local and international markets and ensures that the production process upholds the trust and satisfaction of the customers. The products are crafted with great care and attention to detail, preserving the essence of the local identity. As a recipient of the "Shilpa Abhimani" President's Award, Ramya Kumari also serves as a training instructor in batik sector.



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Ms. V.A. Suneetha

51/17, Vihara Mw, Thalawathugoda Rd, Pitakotte, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 997 7814

Living in proximity to the capital, V.A. Sunitha is a skilled artist who was born with an innate talent for crochet. Her decorative designs have consistently garnered praise in various handicraft industry competitions, and she aspires to expand her reach to foreign markets as her next ambition.



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Mr. S.W.A.L. Kularathna

158/1, Thiyabarawatta, Hiramadagama, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 789 4819

A resident of Hiramadagama, Mr. Kularathna is an extremely talented craftsman in creating coconut shell crafts. He has a special ability to produce crafts in a very artistic manner in his own unique style.

Without the guidance of any person, he has the ability to master the craft and use technology to effectively market his products to the local and foreign markets.

With aspirations to make a mark in the export market, this young entrepreneur aims to develop eco-friendly products and explore new avenues in the industry.



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Mr. P.G. Keerthi

458B, Janasawi Mw, Karawwa,
Pitigala, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 246 6478

The field of local handicrafts has been deeply rooted in Sri Lankan culture since ancient times, with artisans creating beautiful works of art from a variety of materials including Plants, stone, and even Buddha statues. This artist is a true master of his craft, with a special talent for creating stunning designs that have captured the hearts of both domestic and international markets. His pride in the traditional methods of his industry is evident in the beautiful stone carvings, flower Vases, Benches, Animal Figurines, and statues that he expertly creates by hand.



Through his dedication and skill, he has established himself as a true craftsman, with a keen eye for detail and a passion for creating pieces that are both beautiful and functional. His work is a testament to the rich cultural heritage of Sri Lanka, and a shining example of the beauty and creativity that can be found in the field of local handicrafts.



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Mr. A.T.K. Prasanna Premalal

Bakinigahawaththa, unawatun kanda, unawatuna, Galle, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 907 7524

Residing in the popular tourist town of Unawatuna in Galle, down South of Sri Lanka. Mr.Prasanna has mastered his skills in traditional wood craving . He fulfills market demand by creating handcrafted items such as wooden elephants, masks, Buddha statues and deity images.

This industry serves as his prime source of income and he operates his own outlet in the tourist town of Mirissa in Matara, thereby creating both direct and indirect employment opportunities. As an ambitious entrepreneur he aims to expand business to conquer the export Market.



Mr. M.A.U. Sampath

166/A, Millakade, Dodampe, Ratnapura, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 171 9605

Mr. Sampath, a proud young entrepreneur with a passion for exploration and discovery, specializes in producing delicately crafted kitchen tools using modern technology and coconut shells. His enterprise in, Millakade, caters to both local and foreign markets, striving to meet the needs of customers with its innovative and high-quality products. With his unique ability and dedication, Mr. Sampath has carved out a niche in the industry and continues to push the boundaries of what is possible.



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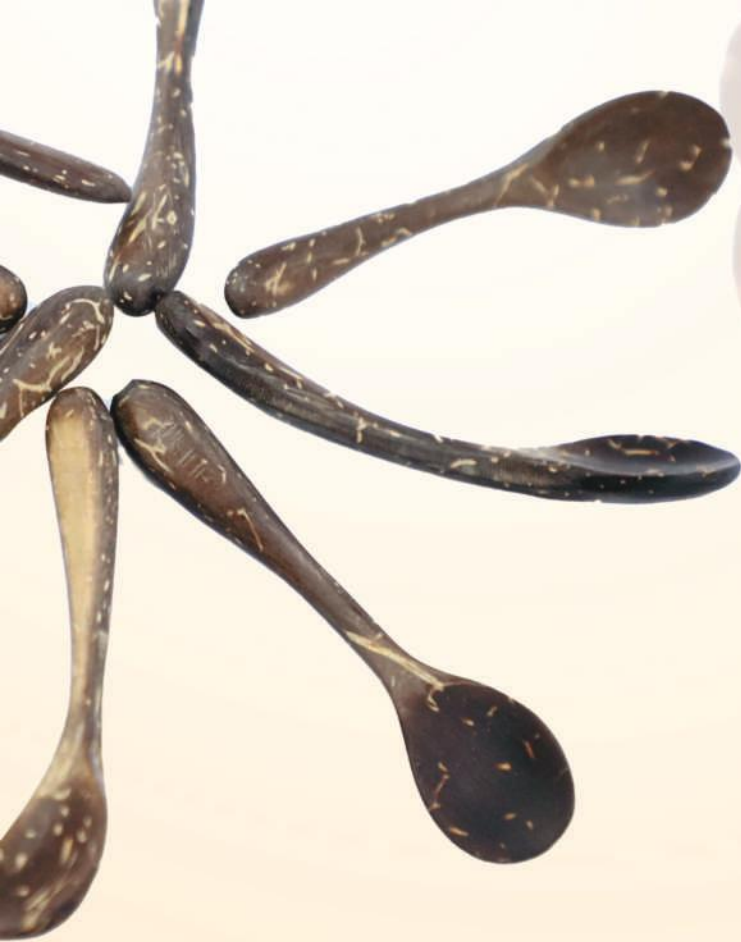
Ms. M.K. Neela Samanthi

Neela Products, Gangodagama,
Dombagahawela, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 525 5488

Neela Samanthi, hailing from Uva Wellassa, possesses a natural talent for upcycling discarded coconut shells into eco-friendly decorative items and furniture. She has recently launched her own business, "Neela Products," with hopes to improve the market and create export opportunities in the future.





Mr. D.H.S. Ekanayake

15, Malwatte, Godakawela, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 122 6411

Mr. Ekanayake, a resident of Malwatta in Godakawela, is a skilled artisan who has sharpened his craft of coconut shell carvings for over thirty-five years. He has been recognized for his exceptional work by receiving awards such as the "Vishwa Karma" Award and the "Shilpa Abhimani" Presidential Award.

In addition to his remarkable craftsmanship, he possesses a unique talent for creating visually appealing products that are well-suited for both local and international markets.



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Ms. D.I.G.S.D. Herath

No.10, Kalasirigama, Menikhinna, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 129 8035

Sanundala Deepani is a skilled artisan specializing in the Dumbara Rata Hana industry, which was designated as an Intangible World Heritage Handicraft by UNESCO in 2021. She has sharpened her craft by mastering various traditional techniques, adding her own unique touch to her creations. With a focus on producing practical and marketable products, she has become a successful entrepreneur in her field.



Her achievements in winning both provincial and national exhibitions of "Shilpa Abhimani" are admirable, as she strives to blend traditional crafts into the modern world.





Mr. B.C.H. Sawurja

Malberiwatta, Kehelwathugoda,
Dewalegama, Sri Lanka.

+94 72 076 4690

Home décor requires careful consideration of lighting and furniture elements. This artist has an exceptional talent for understanding this concept and experimenting creatively with vibrant lighting patterns to showcase his products in the market.

As a skilled artisan, he is involved in the production process, creating unique shapes and spheres that are highly sought after. He is renowned for his ability to make colourful lampshades using threads, a rare and attractive creations for the domestic and foreign markets.



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Mr. A.N. Senevirathna

Lankathilaka Niwasa, Medagoda Watta, Wewagama,
Kuliyapitiya, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 659 0466

Achala Nivantha Seneviratna is a talented artist from Wewagama, Kuliyapitiya, who inherited his skills from his father, a renowned artisan of musical instruments. He has won numerous presidential awards for his exceptional craftsmanship. While traditionally producing musical instruments, he has recently ventured into creating unique creation for the Crafting Ceylon program, including a traditional drum-shaped spice rack.

Given his remarkable talents, he is exploring the possibilities to showcase his skills to the world.




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Ms. D.D. Abeywickrama

638/H4, Sparkles Residence, Thunandahena,
Koratota, Kaduwela, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 548 5847

Dinithi Abeywickrama is a gifted young entrepreneur with a unique degree in Business Management from the University of Information Technology, who leverages the power of the internet to reach her customers with her creations.

Using handloom and Bobbin Lace, she designs a range of products including warm coats, table mats, and winter hats etc. She is constantly innovating and experimenting, which enables her to create distinct and exceptional designs. Dinithi's aspiration is to transform her business "Knittles by Dinu", into both local and global design brand.



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Mr. E.A. Wasantha Pushpa Kumara

435, Koratota, Kaduwela, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 965 7204

With guidance from the National Crafts Council, Mr. Wasantha an energetic entrepreneur, has achieved success in both local and foreign markets. He is a skilled and talented craftsman who has used his abilities effectively in his industry, leading him to success. He has created a range of attractive and useful products, such as spoons, soup bowls, wine cups, and lampshades etc, by repurposing discarded coconut shells.

The creation he presented at the "Crafting Ceylon" competition is a distinctive and practical design. He aspires to make a significant impact in the field of coconut shell craft and expand his business internationally.



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Ms. M.B. Thilina Gayathri Jayarathne

36/1, Maha Vihara Rd, Ahangama, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 057 3747

Gayatri Jayarathne, a lecturer in Economics and a resident of Maha Vihara Road, Ahangama, ventured into the batik industry in 2010 with her creative talents and established her own business, "Ketumathi Enterprises". She produces eye-catching clothes, garments, and various types of bags that meet the local and tourist demand for batik, and sells her creations through direct orders to France, America, and Australia, thereby earning foreign exchange for the country. She has created numerous direct and indirect employment opportunities through her business and has also won the batik category in the "Shilpa Abhimani" competition.



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Ms. H.N.D. Priyangani

Weera Sri, Katugampala, Wewagama, Sri Lanka.

+94 77 442 9054

Disna priyangani, from katugampala in Kurunegala, employs a sewing machine to add diverse rhythmic patterns to palmyrah leaf based products. Her exceptional creations have earned her recognition, and she has been appointed as a training instructor for the National Crafts Council. Disna is actively fostering a group of innovative women, propelling herself forward as a successful entrepreneur who has achieved market domination on the local level and seeks to expand to foreign markets. She is a recipient of the Presidential Award and a courageous and visionary leader.




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Ms. M.G.I.R. Karunadasa

No.3/6, Kalapuraya, Nattarampotha, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 108 9755

Kalapuraya, located in Kandy, is a village that takes pride in being home to several talented artists. Among them is Inoka Roshini, a handicraft expert with 22 years of experience, who keeps her identity in the sector. She specializes in patchwork and embroidery, and skillfully creates a range of products such as Bags, Cushion covers, and Wall hangings with her exceptional creativity.

Her products are highly sought after in both local and international markets.



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Ms. Dammika Thrimanna Hettige

Kurakkanwatte, Bowimala, Bentota, Sri Lanka.

+94 71 590 0560

After completing her apprenticeship as a trainee artisan, she created Pan (Rush) based creations at the Benthota, Pitaramba Training Center. For the past six years, she has been a valuable contributor to the production activities of the center as a producer. A great role model for woman seeking to make a living from the artistic weaving of the Pan (Rush) plant, she inspires the current generation with her passion and dedication to the craft.





Mr. T.P.A. Pussewala

647 Bl, Vijayananda MW, Anangoda,
Galle, Sri Lanka.

+94 76 725 2524

The young entrepreneur, T.P.A. Pussewala, is the owner of "Kitula Premier Craft" and "Real Kitula". He abandoned his printing business in 2017 and turned to create products related to Kitul. His venture has generated many direct and indirect job opportunities. In 2019, he participated in the Manila Fame International art exhibition in the Philippines, and in 2017, he secured second place in the Young Entrepreneur Award competition in the Southern Province.



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“Crafting Ceylon” Consultative Committee

- Mr. Sampath Erahapola, Chairman, National Crafts Council
- Director, National Crafts Council
- Mr. Anura Warnakulasooriya, Managing Director, Midaya Ceramic Company (Pvt.) Ltd.
- Mr. Anuruddha Wijerathne, Managing Director, Lady J
- Mr. Buddhika Priyadarshana, Director (Development), Division of Small and Medium Enterprise Development
- Mr. A. M. Arif, Director (Vidatha), Ministry of Industries
- H.M.J.M. Herath, Director (Industry and Industrial Estate Development), Ministry of Industries
- Prof. J.K.R. Radhika Samarasekera, Director General, Industrial Technology Institute
- Mr. Sudheera Jayarathna, Director, Small Enterprises Development Division
- Ms. N. Asangika, Director (Actng.), National Design Centre
- Ms. Dilshani Ranasinghe, Faculty of Architecture, Department of Integrated Design, University of Moratuwa
- Mr. Shrimal Jayathilake, Provincial Director (Western), Industrial Development Board
- Ms. Devika Kumari, Deputy Director (Distribution), Laksala
- Prof. R.M. Podinilame, Head - Department of Multidisciplinary Design, University of the Visual and Performing Arts
- Mr. H.M. Aminda Lakmal Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jayewardenepura
- Ms. Mangala Maduwanthi, Development Officer, Sri Lanka Export Development Board

Event Organize Team

- **Nishantha Wijayalath**
Assistant Director
- **Yowni Janandi**
Development Assistant
- **Madhawa Vijayalath**
Handicrafts Extension Assistant
- **Piyumi Madushani**
Handicrafts Extension Assistant
- **Gihan Siriwardana**
Handicrafts Extension Assistant

Space Design Team

- **Mr. Dinu Vikasitha Munasinghe**
Designer
Small & Medium Entrepreneur Development Division
- **Ms. G. Pabasara Madurangi Pallegama**
Designer
Small & Medium Entrepreneur Development Division
- **Ms. Thilanka Madushani**
Designer
Midaya Ceramic Company (Pvt.) Ltd.
- **Mr. Sayuru Madukan**
Designer
Midaya Ceramic Company (Pvt.) Ltd.

With the support of Assistant Directors, Development Assistants, Handicrafts Extension Officers and all other staff members of NCC



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