

Vid. Mangala Karthik learnt music from many dedicated and illustrious gurus including Vid. Geetha Sundaresan, Vid. Sumitramma, Vid. Sugandha Raman and Vid. Vijaya Murthy. Later, she trained under a legend in the field of Carnatic music Padmabhushan Lalgudi Jayaraman for about 10 years. For the past few years, she has been receiving guidance from the renowned teacher Sangeetha Kalacharya Neela Ramgopal. She has completed the certificate exams conducted by the Govt. of Karnataka till the proficiency level and was the state topper for the senior exam.

She has performed at many venues including the 'Asthana Mantapa' at Tirumala, Tirupathi, the Ramanavami series of Devagiri Sri Venkateshwara Temple, Seshadripuram Rama Seva Samithi - Bangalore, Bhagini Seva Samaj - Mysore and at Karthik Fine Arts, Chennai (sponsored by the Lalgudi Trust).

Mangala's engagement with the art form extends beyond the conventional. She was a radio jockey with 'Shruti', the Carnatic music channel of Worldspace Satellite Radio for 4 years during which period she hosted a popular daily show called 'Ragapravaham' and interviewed many leading musicians. Subsequently, she hosted similar programmes on an online platform, Radioweb Carnatic. She has written about musicians and music for reputed topical publications like 'Sruti' and 'Lalita Kala Tarangini' and newspapers like the Deccan Herald.