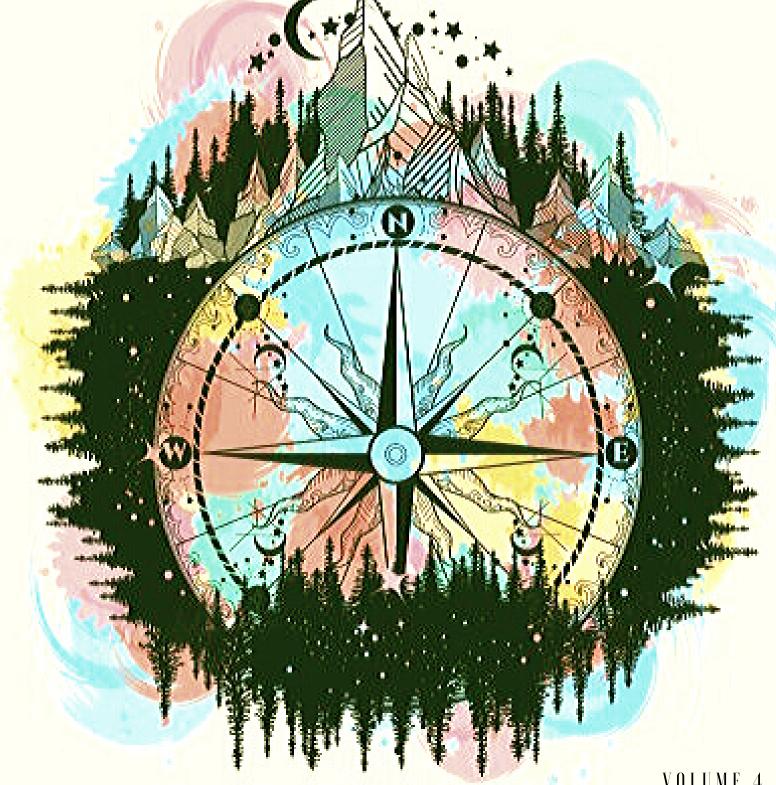


P. E. S.
MODERN COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCE AND COMMERCE
GANESHKHIND, PUNE-16

ODYSSEY

CHERISHING YOUTH



Department of English

V 0 L U M E 4 2 0 1 9 - 2 0 2 0

Department of English

VISION

The Department of English envisions youth with love for literature, desiring to explore the world of aesthetic pleasure, kindle their spirit to understand the science of language, improve their power of expression and linguistic competency leading to successful careers in diverse fields.

MISSION

Our mission is to inspire, motivate and encourage students to excel in their academics, be good communicators, foster employability skills on them by providing a platform to identify and nurture their inherent talent, promote their creative pursuits, build their self-esteem and make them well-rounded personalities

OBJECTIVES

- To create awareness about the importance of English as a global language.
- To cultivate research aptitude through comparative study of cultures and literatures.
- To acquaint students with catalytic effect of English in opening gateways to myriad career opportunities
- To make students comprehend, analyze and appreciate literary texts.
- To enhance their personality, build their confidence through training in English communication viz. social etiquette, manners, polite conversations and formal and informal discourse, etc

Words of Gratitude

We owe an immense sense of gratitude to our patron Dr. G.R. Ekbote for his unconditional support and guidance to help us evolve and excel. We salute him for his perpetual encouragement in all our academic

endeavours.

We wish to express our deep sense of gratitude to Prof. Mrs. Jyotsna Ekbote for appreciating our efforts in nurturing linguistic competency among students.

We feel motivated by Prof. Suresh Todkar and Dr. Prakash Dixit's enthusiastic involvement in all the activities of the English Department. Prof Todkar's penchant for acronyms and Dr. Dixit's love for idiomatic expressions in English have added sheen to the departmental functions which they have been a part of, over the years.

Our Principal Dr. Sanjay Kharat's keen interest in the activities of the department motivates us to experiment with fresh and innovative ideas and add spirit and fervor to learning language and literature. We are indebted to him for his constant support and guidance in all our academic pursuits.

A word of gratitude is in place for Dr. Shubhangi Joshi, Vice Principal, Commerce for her genuine interest in, and admiration for our student-centric activities. Words of praise from the Vice Principal of Science, Prof. Swati Kandharkar has helped boost our morale and strengthen our efforts and we wish to express our gratitude to her for the same.



Odyssey-IV is the outcome of tireless efforts displayed by our students in designing, writing, editing and compiling articles, poems and photographs to make this Volume colorful and informative. Their enthusiasm and energy in the activities of the department is worth a mention indeed!

Special compliments to our student editors Anish, Aditi, Jessin, Jessica and Anagha for spending hours to concretize their bright and youthful ideas into the desired format of our Journal. This could not have happened without regular follow-up and arduous sessions in documenting the information by my colleagues Mr Sandeep Sanap, Dr. Deepanita Bhanja and Mr. Jitender Kumar.

Odyssey-IV would not be possible without the sincere wishes and encouragement from all my colleagues, friends and well-wishers.

Dr. Shampa Chakraborti Head, Department of English

Advisory Committee

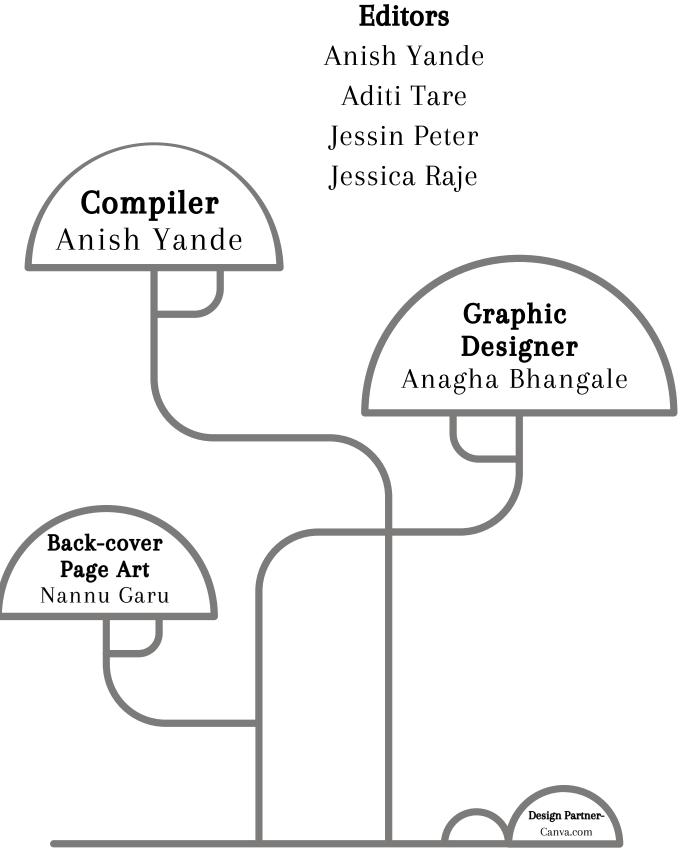
Dr. Shampa Chakraborti (Head, Department of English)

Mr. Sandeep Sanap

Dr. Deepanita Bhanja

Mr. Jitender Kumar

Editorial Committee





Prinicpal's Address

I am pleased to see that the fourth issue of Odyssey, the inhouse journal of English Department, is being released this year.

This year's theme of the journal – *Cherishing Youth* is a celebration of the way today's youngsters live and the norms, values and practices they share. An emphasis on clothing, popular music, sports and vocabulary set today's youth apart from other age groups, giving them a distinct character of their own. Our youth is equally taking efforts to respect our values, cultures, traditions and heritage, with honesty and responsibility.

Youth are important because they eventually become adults and complete participants in all aspects of social life, to lead the nation as responsible citizens. The students have really expressed their ideas, experiences and observations of their own lives quite vividly and beautifully. I am so happy to see the students exhibiting their writing skills on a variety of topics and expressing themselves through poetry, thoughtful articles and sharing first hand experiences through Odyssey.

It is also pleasing to see that the teachers of English Department are offering their students numerous opportunities and platforms to express their thoughts and ideas through wonderful initiatives like the in-house journal, quizzes and competitions which certainly help the students to improve their English Language skills, communication abilities and proficiency in using the language to achieve their career goals.

I congratulate the Department of English for bringing out this year's Odyssey on such an interesting topic and wish all the best for their future activities and initiatives to groom the students for the best job opportunities and an overall development of their personalities.

Dr. Sanjay Kharat Principal



Vice Prinicpal's Address

Cherishing Youth

"Arise! Awake! And stop not until the goal is reached" is a famous quote of Swami Vivekananda. It acts as the biggest encouragement for youths in today's challenging times.

The youth use various social media platforms to share blogs on teachings and philosophies. The Youth can react and express while implementing these philosophies in their own life and can work towards the development of society and nation at large.

The Department of English provides a platform to our students to express themselves in their own way through the medium of Odyssey. This time, the topic is very innovative, *Cherishing Youth*.

There is a lot of enthusiasm among youth today, many innovative ideas. There is a constant push to do something new. Such positive initiatives promote their leadership, communication and their creativity.

A student of today is a parent and citizen of tomorrow.

He helps in maintaining peace in the society. He has to show a good standard of discipline, follow the rules of the road and leads a fruitful, but disciplined life. A College is a place where all the virtues of a good citizen can be developed in a student.

It is the discipline of its citizens which makes a country really great. And in this journey, the role of Teachers and Department is very important. These activities keep the students away from negative thoughts and wrong things. I wish that the department is constantly encouraged to undertake good activities.

This is a consistent initiative of the Department of English. The whole Department takes a lot of efforts. I wish the Head of the Department of English, Dr. Chakraborti and every member of the Department best of luck and congratulations for this year's Odyssey.

Dr. Jyoti Gagangras Vice Principal- Arts



Editor Speaks

Youth is an experience that continues to remain with us forever. It is that phase of our life which is characterized by freshness, vigor, enthusiasm and spirit. Bubbling with ideas and propelled by zeal, youth is a journey dotted with desires, ambitions, hopes and dreams.

Transitioning from childhood dependency to adulthood independence, the youthful minds thrive on numerous adventures.

It is a time when young boys and girls are drawn towards love and relationships, are given to explore opportunities, face challenges, expose themselves to social issues and dare to comment on them. This is also the time to experiment with food, fashion and the world of technology. This Volume of Odyssey – the in-house journal of the English Department is an effort to document the outpouring of thoughts and feelings of the young lot on issues close to their hearts.

Cherishing Youth will take a peek into the lively emotions, adventures, challenges and uninhibited expressions of talent and creativity through insightful articles and colorful glossies of life that will be cherished forever.

I congratulate the student editorial committee for their creative efforts in bringing out this Issue of Odyssey in all its glitz and glamour.

So friends, it's time to flip through the pages of this multicolored journey of youth until we come back next year to unravel some more exciting stories!!

Dr. Shampa Chakraborti Head, Department of English

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Pole Star



We convey this from our hearts core

And cherish the memories of an unforgettable tour.

Words fail to thank you enough
For the way you unlocked our talents door

You inspired us to rise and learn more And bring our creativity to the fore

Please promise us that you'll be there with us for sure For the events today, tomorrow and many more.....

~To Our Beloved Principal



NCC- The Path to Glory

When the moon turns red and the sky goes black, we are gonna rise up like an army and take this world by storm.

NCC stands for National Cadets Corps. It is what I breathe in and out.

It has imbibed in us the true sense of being down to earth. Rolling and licking the dust, crashing in shiny mud puddles. We are all truly human here as what else makes a Homo Sapien after considerable amounts of frog jumps, camel walks and tiger walks. There is a greater compassion and understanding for my fellows.

I have never regretted being a woman. However, I am not my gender just in bones. I have been made to remember being a person with flesh and brain. My skin is adorned with scars, burnt in the fire that makes my eyes gleam with hunger for more. I am not a glass doll, an unnecessarily pretty body hollow on the inside. Scars, sweat and blood ornate me. There are roses and thorns but our the colour of our blood marks us the same.

Our seniors, are smelters of iron who have forged and remade themselves in fire. We salute them in respect. They are not easy upon us, our seniors. Neither am I upon myself. I have been churned down to what I am only because I managed to keep my feet on ground. In the literal sense. I stayed. In the era of teenagers going crazy over the latest fashion trends, I chose to stick to soil, twigs and maggots on my attire. It is quite difficult to explain.

Unlike me, you have never showered the parched land of your throat with miles and miles of veins untouched by a single droplet of water. It's sacred.

You have not come with us smelling the salt filled Gulab Jamuns that we gulped down hastily. People pay for roller coaster rides but we get front rows and cream rolls served to us free of cost. If that is not enough of ups and downs, our lives are never short of them and we have each other's back every single time. There is no bond like the one made from paving the paths by duck walks. Our well acclaimed motto is rightly unity and discipline. Through struggles, we earn our pride and our uniform. Here, a dream of a cadet is fulfilled.

NCC is not just about drills. We also, have a lot of appetite for adventure. The Himalayan Base camp, scuba diving camp and yachting camps make our blood boil with adrenaline. We want to taste the waters of pure sprinkles and brooks up in the snowy mountains and those of the salty waves thrown at us by the roaring seas. The urge to please our eyes with the sight of deep blue lagoons is hard to wear off. All I want to do is explore the lap of nature.

Foreign cultural exchange programmes allow us to be at different places on the globe aided by the government without burdening our parents with the cost of our desires. We can visit various countries in an adventurous way by sailing on ships. I feel that would be the best experience of my life as it feels like I own the waves and the sea.

Various NCC camps train us in every sphere of life. It gives us a taste of life we want to own in the future, which is the service of the nation as an officer. It is my dream to march at RajPath, as a soldier, along with other soldiers of our nation on Independence Day. NCC will lead me down this path of glory.

Once a cadet, always a cadet.

Anuprita Joshi

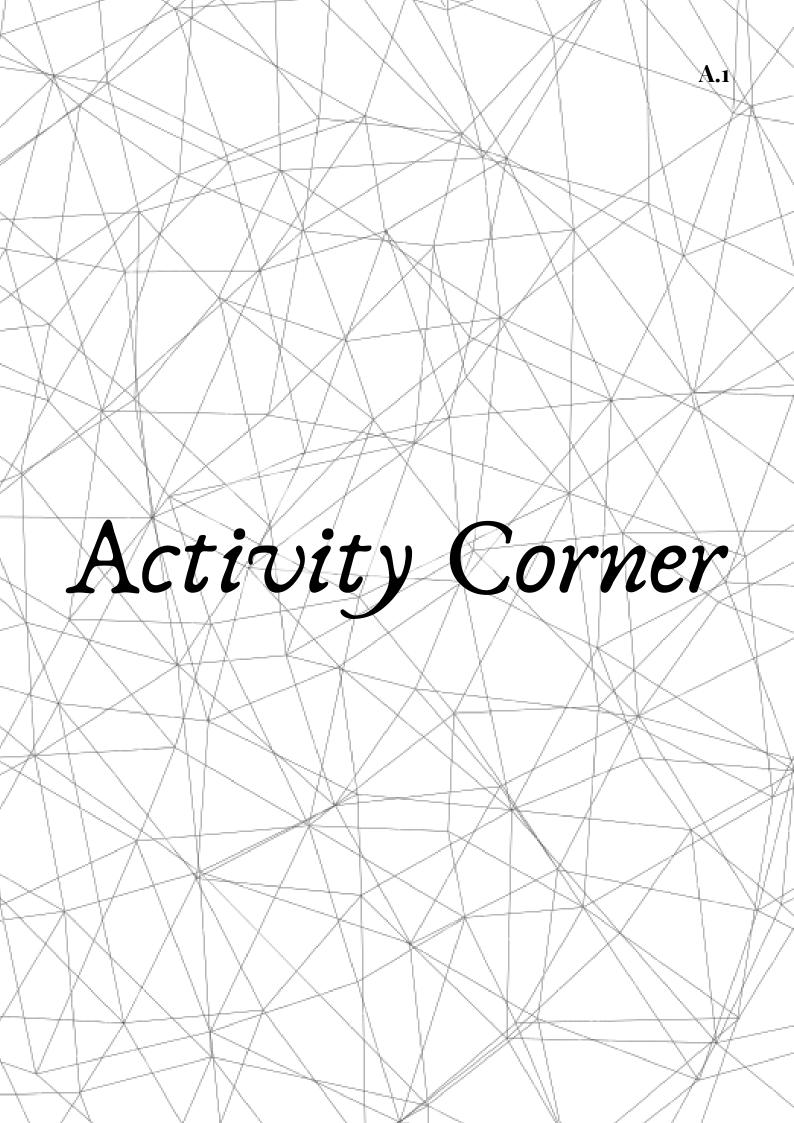
"It matters not what someone is born, but what they grow to be."

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, J.K. Rowling

My Comrades

Have you felt as if A plant is growing inside you? Blossoming and spreading warmth inside you? Every time I hear my friends Talk about their favourite Book, movie, artist or soup, I feel that glow Spread through me. I feel their joy, Their pain, their sorrow, Their elation, their jubilation, Their mirth, their love. And now I have this tree in me, A garden, really. The Garden of Eden right in my heart, Where my friendships bloom Watered by love and Nurtured by understanding, A true paradise, my treasured fortune.

Sejal Panchpor





Quest 2019

Quest is the Curiosity and Creativity Forum of the Department of English.

It attempts to motivate students to think, reason, ask questions and seek answers on various issues.

Dr. Maya Dodd was the chief guest for 2019 and she reflected on preserving cultural traditions through the medium of documentation

Spellathon

Spellathon is an exciting annual contest held during the vibrant week of Vividha. It involves testing the spelling and pronunciation skills of the students. Visual, audio and phonetic skills are focused on, during this activity.





Caption Contest

Captions are the need of the hour in today's social media driven age.

To equip students with this skill in an enjoyable and engaging way is the objective of this contest.

This activity along with Spellathon is a highlight of Vividha week presented by the Department of English



Film Shows

The English Department is focused on promoting art forms in all their various methods of expression. Through film shows, the Department promotes the importance of narrative forms and structures in the media we love the most.

In 2019, a comedy film, Mr Bean's Holiday was shown, proving to be a fun treat for students. It was one among many others, from those in the curriculum.

Spoken English

The Department of English conducts a three months Certificate Course in Spoken English. In 2019, 58 students from Arts and Commerce faculty registered for the course. The Course is of three months duration. The course is focused on imparting skills in the English language through Listening, Speaking, Writing and Reading.





Release of Odyssey Volume 3

The third Volume of Odyssey was released in the presence of Principal Dr Kharat Sir. The theme of Volume 3 was "Campus Culture", a topic focused on the experiences of students.





Pune International Literary Festival

Students of the Department enjoyed and volunteered for an illuminating 7th Pune International Literary Festival organized on 20-22nd September 2019.

The festival also held a memorable exhibition on the novels of the paranormal author Daphne du Maurier. The social theme was centered around the global crisis Save Our Earth- Climate Change. Students learned the skills of crisis management, social media interactions and effective communication.







International Festival of Spiritual India

There comes a time when our inner self speaks to us in ways beyond our comprehension and its our decision whether we act on it or stay ignorant.

The International Festival of Spiritual India strives towards changing one's perspective to see this world with a new spark and a new light.

Spirituality is inspiring when we do things out of our own comfort zone and accordingly, the students of the English Department undertook tasks and worked under the festival director, Dr Manjiri Prabhu.

This involvement in extra-circular activities apart from academics has helped the students explore new qualities in themselves and enhance their preexisting ones.



LitCarnation 2019- A Literary Carnival

LitCarnation has become the highlight of activities focused around literature by the English Department. Through the years, LitCarnation has expanded to include novel concepts such as Cosplay and Audio-Visual games.

The organizers come up with fun-filled and innovative ideas, during the day-long festival to draw the students of Modern College towards the wonders of literature and art. The event is open for all students, from schools and colleges in Pune.



Extravaganzza

In 2019, the very first Extravaganzza was held on the grand stage of Modern College, Ganeshkhind. Expanding on the concept of Cosplay, students included short acts and dances forming an entertaining journey.

This event symbolized the beautiful journey of art and literature through these acts. It has been one of the most exciting and innovative pedagogical tool adopted by the English Department in exposing students to the world of literary characters and forms.

Explore, Discover and Eat!

"I haven't been there; but it's on my list!" said Susan Sontag. This has to be the most relatable sentence in everyone's life.

Life is all about those impossible dreams. These impossible dreams constantly motivate us to make them come true. But why waste time thinking about these impossible things, when there are so many dreams that are achievable. For instance, places to visit and food to eat! So let's go through some of my favorite places and food.

My favorite place to hangout in Pune is F.C. Road.

It is ruled by shops from Burger King to MCDonald's, from Pizza Hut to KFC, from Starbucks to Chocolate Room and from FC Social to Barbeque Nation.

And last but not the least, the famous and most beloved restaurants Rupali, Vaishali, Wadeshwar and Café Good Luck. There are just so many options for a foodie like me. Apart from food, it has variety of shops with accessories, clothing and styling.

I'm in love with places I've never been to and in love with food I've never eaten. India ranks first in the list of my favorite places; because of the heaven on earth, 'The Himalayas'. The ranges of massive, snowy mountains glow golden in the dawning sun. Shimla, Kullu Manali, Kedarnath are the heavenly cities nestled in the valleys of these majestic mountains.

To the south of Himalayas, is the city of Agra where one of the 'Seven Wonders of the World' is present. It is the extremely alluring and aesthetic the 'Taj Mahal', the most significant example of what love can make a person do! We can imagine how drop dead gorgeous Mumtaaz must have been that the beautiful Taj Mahal was built for her. Taj Mahal leaves me stunned every time I look at it in pictures; but being at that place is an out of the world feeling! The place has my heart.

It's time to go beyond the boundaries and seas of our country.

Let's begin with the most beautiful coral islands of Maldives, also known as 'The Tropical Paradise'. I love this place because I get so engrossed in its natural blue water; it makes me fall in love with nature. Along with that, my next favorite is the city of mirrors, the city of mirages, at once solid and liquid, at once air and stone; the glorious city of Venice. This city is situated in water canals and travel is only possible using boats. So romantic!

My next favorite place is everyone's dream city. The city everyone dreams to have been born in, Los Angeles. Potter Heads love this place because you just might get a ticket to Hogwarts. There lies magic in the air of Los Angeles that makes even the unenthusiastic travelers fall in love with it.

Let's talk about some of my favorite food now. Starting with our very best Indian cuisine, it is delicious, healthy, full of spices and full of love. There is a dish that India loves the most; and that's Biryani. For me, love is in the air means that somewhere Biryani is being cooked. Burger and pizzas are also my beloved because just one bite leads to an explosion of flavors.

As I'm not that fond of chocolates, variations in ice creams are dear to me. After tasting the ice creams of Baskin Robbins, you will not love anything else. In fact, ice cream is the perfect treat for any season as it goes with everything. My love for ice cream will never end.

In the end, we could regret the life we wanted to live but couldn't. So, dare to live the life you've always wanted; because it feels good to be lost in the right direction. And remember: people who love to eat are always the best people.

Go, fly, roam, travel, voyage, explore, journey, discover, adventure and eat!

Ruchira Kedari

What if... You keep this year for Food and Travel?

"Usually, I like to taste a new indigenous food item wherever I go, as it has a great culture behind it. Such food has the essence of regional cultural, tradition, culinary expertise and an intense relation with the place"

Food, shelter and clothes are considered as the basic needs of a human being. What a person eats plays a major role in developing his character. Our food should contain nutrients that build the body, gives us strength and also soothes our mind. We can see the whole food world is divided mainly into vegetarian and nonvegetarian groups.

Indian cuisine predominantly holds a foremost place in the food world for its spices, aroma and flavors. Interestingly places and food are always combined or we can also say that food and places go hand in hand. I think every particular place has a special dish of its own, be it some places in city or places in a state, nation or world too. Here are some places in our own Pune to explore. Pune is also known as the place of 'khavayye' (food lovers).

The Kayani bakery at Camp is my favorite place for cakes and cookies. They are just lovely and appetizing. Motichoor laddoo and bakarwadi form Chitale Bandhu is another favorite of people around. The famous Indian street food pani poori is my all-time favorite. Rava ladoo, chakli and modak are some of the dishes that are heavenly delicious made by grandmothers. Also, vadapav is one of the food items that anyone can eat anytime.

When I was in Argentina for my exchange year in 2018-19, along with exploring a new world around me, it taught me to respect the food habits of others too. While I was there I explored various food items and places, I would like to mention some of them here.

'Asado' a famous beef dish in almost all South- American country is loved by everyone there. It is considered that no food in the world is equal to Asado in its taste.

Although I am a vegetarian, I tasted this world famous Asado and it turned out to be delicious. Empanadas is the one food dish that I fell in love which was similar to Indian bread puffs. There are different kinds of empanadas like cheese and corn, spinach and cheese, meat and many more. Alfajores are crumbly, shortbread like biscuits filled with' dulce de leche' (caramelized milk) and are the famous sweet treat in Argentina. I visited a food fair where I got to eat not only Argentinian food but also food from all around South-America. I really miss these food items that I had there and I would love to go back again to please my taste buds.

Usually, I like to taste a new indigenous food item wherever I go, as food does not only to satisfy our stomach but it has a great culture behind it too. Such food has the essence of regional cultural, tradition, culinary expertise and an intense relation with the very place too. The Maharashtrian puran poli will not be similarly exotic if you order them in North India. You cannot expect a Goan fish curry having the same taste in any other part of India. Same thing is with the Madras idli-sambar or filter coffee, none other coffee delights me as a filter coffee. I feel the best place and way to drink a filter coffee is in a steel glass sitting at my grandparent's house surrounded by the coffee plantations.

Now, let me tell you something about the places that I have visited and which I would love to visit. Along with tasting new food, I also love exploring new places. I feel that there is whole new world out there, right outside our windows and we would be a fool if we miss it. We should get out of our comfort zone and try to create new experiences in the places we go to.

It is said that if you really want to know about a region's culture, the way of living and festivals then you should stay at someone's home.

The place that I am keen to visit is Japan, people say so many things about it and we hear about this beautiful country everywhere, especially about the cherry blossom festival. It makes me wonder how beautiful it would be to actually visit and experience all the things that we hear about. No matter how much old I become, I might not have any teeth and might be limping around but these things will not stop me from eating lot of food and travelling.

Srujana .A. Apte

"If you can't fly, run.
If you can't run, walk.
If you can't walk, crawl.
But by all means, keep moving."

Martin Luther King, 7r.

My Homes and Memories

The world had been beckoning me,
Calling out to me to explore its wonders,
Its valleys, its rivers.
So I finally answered,

Armed with sunscreen, a book and a warm jacket,
I set off on my journey through crowds of people and unknown
cuisines,

And as I traveled I felt my heart expand,

Collecting mementos from odd corners of the world,

Leaving behind pieces of my soul,

A promise of a lifetime,

A bag full of memories, and an ocean of love.

So now every time I think about those places,

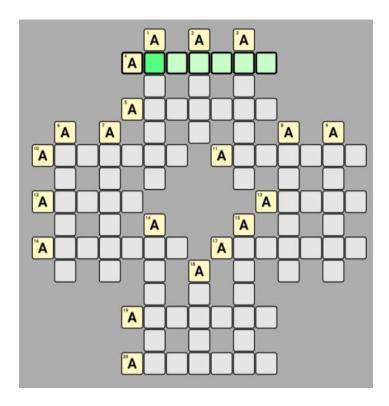
Every time I look at those pictures,

I can hear them whispering of unforgotten adventures

And treasured memories.

Sejal Panchpor

'A' Crossword



Across -

- 3. So far unsurpassed (3-4)
- 4. Versus
- 5. Somebody else
- 6. A milder version of panic
- 7. Walkway between seats
- 8. To or in pieces
- 16. Study of the body structure
- 17. A land mass of the western hemisphere
- 19. Type of exercise that increases the need of oxygen
- 20. Put in order, organize

Down

- 1. Placed in a straight line
- 2. Upper room
- 3. Mildly funny
- 5. Very old
- 6. Trained sportsman
- 7. Aerodrome
- 8. Entice, allure
- 9. Not professional
- 10. Very impressive
- 18. Typically pleasant smell

Love Changes a Person

"Love changes a person, emotionally. It thaws a cold heart, puts smiles on faces, acts as a motivator and above all, helps an individual grow"

Love and aggression are two such driving emotions that make or break an individual. Love changes a person, emotionally. It thaws a cold heart, puts smiles on faces, acts as a motivator and above all, helps an individual grow.

Millennials these days have a more changed outlook towards the concept of love and relationships. With an increase in divorce rates and with half of them growing up with divorced parents or being witness to ugly divorces around them, they have a very skeptic view on the concept of 'happily ever after'.

Technology has made relationships as easy as swiping left and right on dating applications! Although, there has been a study that proves that millennials have been a witness to the dystopian side of love and relationships, this acts as a driving factor for them to improve upon their relationships. Millennials have seen how a traditional relationship has turned out to be, and prefer to go in the direction of polygamy or as it's colloquially referred to as 'open relationships'. They are a generation that expects their freedom to be respected and an idea of a committed, monogamous relationship just might not be their cup of tea!

With the massive up-gradation in technology, there has been the birth of the concept of 'FOMO' or Fear of Missing Out. People are constantly glued to their smart phones which should now be dubbed as 'life-saving devices'. Everything from ordering food, shopping, paying bills, putting your money into FD to even finding a date, you have your mobile phones. These devices play an integral part in the relationships of this era.

Our phones help and hurt our relationships. While it might be beneficial to those people in long-distance relationships, it can prove to be a deal-breaker for those who rely only on their phones to sustain a relationship. Gone are the old days of relationships filled with constant adjustments and compromises by either of the genders. There are plenty of fish in the sea and with dating apps; coming in contact with them is no Herculean task.

Love has also given birth to the LGBTQAI+ community.

For decades, they had been shunned to darkness, labelled as "unnatural" and "dirty". However, now slowly they have been accepted in a lot of countries around the globe. A lot of countries have also now legalized gay and lesbian marriages. The concept of love has been entirely reconstructed due to the rise of this community. There have been various campaigns, protests, and marches to legalize and more importantly, "normalize" this concept.

The month of June has now been recognized as pride month globally with flags of rainbows fluttering in the air of freedom. Back in 1978, Gilbert Baker was an openly gay man along with being a drag queen. When he decided to project his sexuality symbolically, he decided to choose the rainbow flag with eight colors- pink for sex, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for sunlight, green for nature, turquoise for art, indigo for harmony, and violet for spirit. This movement has helped a lot of people, including celebrities, sportspersons, and several other people, to come out proudly about their sexuality.

Love also includes the concept of "Self Love".

We are so busy giving love to others, our friends, family, significant others, that we forget to love ourselves. In order to be accepted, one tends to change themselves so much that the very essence of the human being is lost. You are no longer yourself. A lot of celebrities like Kim Kardashian and Kylie Jenner have received a lot of flak for being a by-product of Botox treatments and plastic surgeries along with airbrushing their Instagram pictures with a number of editing apps thereby, defining so-called 'perfection' A lot of young people compare themselves to these models and feel inferior about their looks and their bodies. This may also lead to the development of eating disorders such as bulimia, an attempt to achieve a 'perfect' body.

Who has defined this 'perfection'? Who has laid out this yardstick? Why are people unwilling to accept who they are? Does social media play a role in this?

I think yes. The number of likes tends to affect a person deeply. The number of followers is apparently an indication of how popular they are. This is a very wrong notion that is believed by people.

I believe becoming a self-loving person isn't exactly an uncomplicated procedure. Too many of us struggle with obstacles, letdowns, and other issues in our lives that make it very difficult for us to love ourselves and be happy with who we are. It's become so bad that whenever one adopts a self-loving attitude, people emerge from their shadows to call them vain, egotistical or selfish. Self-love is not selfish, it's a need.

As Elizabeth Kubler-Ross said, "The most beautiful people we have known are those who have known defeat, known suffering, known struggle, known loss, and have found their way out of the depths. These people have an appreciation, sensitivity and an understanding of life that fills them with compassion, gentleness, and deep loving concern. Beautiful people do not just happen." These are the people who have loved themselves but more importantly, accepted themselves.

If you don't love yourself, who will? If you don't accept yourself first, who will? If you don't be yourself, who will?

Madhavi Menon

"Ultimately the bond of all companionship, whether in marriage or in friendship, is conversation."

- Oscar Wilde

The Girl with Red Lips

The girl with red lips,

The gorgeous mess,

The girl with ocean of love,

With a heart like gold and no less.

Full of life,
And those pretty smiles,
Hazel eyes,
Can walk in your shoes for miles.

Then came a day, She was in love.

Loved profoundly,
Eternity was her creed.

Destiny made her meet him at the wrong time,
His forced commitment left her on the read.

The candle of hope was dim but lit,

Surreal dreams kept her awake,

The girl with red lips still smiled,

Her heart kept waiting and clinched in ache.

Fickle minded,
Strong heart,
Teary eyes but lipstick intact,
She decided to start afresh,
No reminiscence of the past.

"Happy birthday beautiful",
Her phone buzzed,
Love rekindled,
So did the tears.

The girl with red lips smirked with fear,
Trembling hands,
She typed to pour out her despair.

"Thank you" was all that she could send,
His happiness was all that she could pray.
Once again she was in love,
But now she was strong enough to let it end.

Menitta Alice Thomas

What I talk about When I talk about Love...

"Love makes us stronger, happier, lighter and brighter. Love is not complicated; it's very simple, really"

Love is thought to be the most confusing and complex thing a human may experience.

People say love is messy, love makes you vulnerable, it hurts you, it destroys you. However, I believe love has the exact opposite effect on our hearts. Love makes us stronger, happier, lighter and brighter. Love is not complicated; it's very simple, really. Love is not inherently hard. We make it more complicated. People make it unnecessarily hard with their selfish motives and their demands.

True love, in all its forms, is pure, giving and completely unconditional.

The Greeks claim that there are 7 types of love:

Eros (erotic love), Philia (affectionate love), Storge (familiar love), Ludus (playful love), Mania (obsessive love), Pragma (enduring love), Agape (selfless love).

Eros, Mania and Ludus are passionate and intense forms of love. They are primal and powerful fires that burn out quickly.

Agape, Storge and Pragma is beyond the physical, bigger condition-based love and better than all of us. These are the highest and most radical forms of love. A mother's unconditional support, a friend's helping hand, a brother's hidden care in a fight and the power of unrequited love.

This kind of love never dies.

I have never understood why people associate the colour 'red' with love. The colour red evokes aggressive emotions. It is associated with war. Burning red. But love, in all its dazzling glory, is tranquil like calm waters. I have always associated the colour 'golden' with love. Love is golden, like the beams of daylight at the crack of dawn, like summer, like sunlight.

It is like lying on the grass under the sky on a summer day. You're warmed from the inside and from the outside, and you can still feel the warmth on your skin when you walk away.

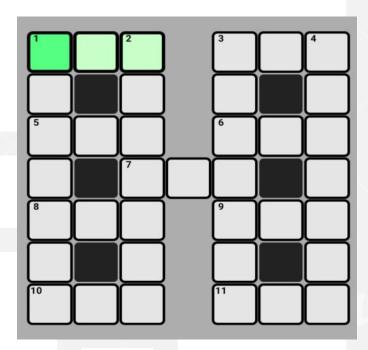
Scents of sunshine and freshly cut grass, the gleam on the edge of a blue wildflower, the sense of adventure in the air; it's infectious, like the spirit of summer. This love makes you feel cheerful and relaxed, even if you don't receive it back. It makes you want to be selfless and giving. It is unrestricted and unreserved. This kind of love makes you want to live every minute. It makes you roll your eyes but also makes you roll down in fits of laughter. It makes you want to lose hope (but you never do), it makes you cry, it makes you worry, but most importantly, it makes you smile.

There is nothing like how it drives you insane but keeps you sane at the same time. Nothing like the safety of it. It settles in the way an old friend will settle into your favourite chair and then fills the afternoon with memories of places you have been, and things you have seen together and the experiences you have had. It settles like the ease of knowing all the words to your old favourite song. It settles like the euphoria and nostalgia of the arrival of spring and summertime. Like the melodious bird songs, It descends down gently like the sun shining brightly through the clouds, like the fresh adventurous streak in the air.

Love doesn't leave you high and dry like winter. It is golden, like summer.

Ketaki Thorat

At Cross-Roads



Across -

- 1. Police officer
- 3. Balloon sound
- 5. Tennis court divider
- 6. Belonging to us
- 7. Gratuity
- 8. Viewing organ
- 9. Equal to four quarters
- 10. Number
- 11. To swallow food

Down-

- 1. Bring together, link
- 2. Repeated decorative design
- 3. To ask for marriage
- 4. Ideal, flawless

Riddle you a Little?

I MAKE WHAT SCIENCE BELIEVES TO BE FANTASY BECOME REALITY IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE. DOCTORS CONSIDER ME A CAUSE OF INSANITY IF TOO MUCH OF ME IN YOUR LIFE IS APPLIED. WHEN MOST AGE, I BEGAN TO DISAPPEAR FOR AS MOST AGE THEY APPLY MORE LOGIC AND REASON TO THEIR THOUGHTS. MY BIGGEST FEAR IS TO NOT GET USED AND TO BE FORGOT.

WHAT AM I?

The Pursuit of Becoming a Writer

"A faith and a hope was all I needed and it was time when I actually started believing in myself."

I love to dream.

I love to sit beside a window, look outside and think about the mysteries of the world. My mind wanders like the slow, gentle wind that moves through the trees during winter mornings. Suddenly, I break away from my thoughts and sit down at my desk to work on my dream. My dream is to become a writer. I have always been an avid reader, an admirer of literature, poetry and writers. It was my love for reading that prompted me to pick up a pen and create my own stories. Writing has always been my biggest source of comfort and strength.

I feel that writers have the power to bring about a positive change in the world. A piece of writing, whether an article, essay, story or a poem can be so powerful, that it may bring about a change in the reader's mindset or perspective. It truly justifies the saying 'the pen is mightier than the sword'. My main aim, as a writer, is to challenge the reader's thoughts on issues such as love, equality and religion. I find it easy to express myself through writing. I believe that the simple incidents which occur in our everyday life can result in the creation of some of the best stories.

This belief forms my inspiration to write. From the conversation with an absent-minded neighbour to school picnics and family functions, as a writer, I observe my surroundings and build a story on the foundations of these real-life incidents. The famous writer, Twinkle Khanna, who is known for her great sense of humour, has written stories which involve unexpected hilarious conclusions derived from simple incidents with her family members.

Becoming a writer is not at all an easy feat. All the famous writers in our modern times have been through a lot of struggles on their way to becoming a writer. Ruskin Bond, who happens to be my favourite writer, wrote his first book, 'The Room on the Roof', at the age of seventeen, and kept writing. He eventually got recognition for his work much later on.

I have realized that you may or may not receive fame and fortune in the field of creative writing. There will always be publishers who might not like my work. The piles of rejection could go on mounting, and I may just want to give up altogether. However, I won't be doing that. I will take the road less travelled and keep walking on it with patience and determination.

The idea of whether I will become famous through my work does not matter to me. In the end, my craft gives me joy, happiness and satisfaction.

Vandhya S.Iyer

"Imagination is more important than knowledge.
For knowledge is limited, whereas imagination embraces the entire world, stimulating progress, giving birth to evolution."

-Albert Einstein

A Wake Up Call!

"A 16-year-old girl from Sweden, Greta Thunberg, has vowed to fight against the money chasing individuals who dream only of eternal economy."

For a very long time, we have been ignoring one of the most pressing issues of our time, CLIMATE CHANGE.

How does climate change end up under a topic of youth culture? It is important because we, the youth are the future of tomorrow and when we destroy the now, there can be no future.

A 16-year-old girl from Sweden, Greta Thunberg, has vowed to fight against the money chasing individuals who dream only of eternal economy. She and millions of other young people have taken up a fight against the drastically depleting condition of the environment across the globe. She has been mocked and even indirectly threatened by people with high authority and power. In Spite of that, she has single-handedly led millions of youths across the globe to take a stand against the constant depleting condition of this once beautiful planet.

Having a peep in our own house, Delhi was recently engulfed in a thick layer of smog post-Diwali 2019. What once was a glorious capital and neighbor to the beautiful Taj Mahal from Agra, is now not deemed even fit enough to reside in.

The youth of the country, being inspired by Greta's quest for a better environment tomorrow, have begun to participate and hold protests, spreading the mission of FridaysForFuture.

Yet, there seems to be a lack of voice and strength because I come across people who are still unaware of this global movement.

Having read a lot about the climatic changes and constantly following the movement, I urge individuals of every section of the society to take a stand against the consistent and systemic exhaustion of the environment. Along with the Amazonian fires, Australia has begun to burn along side. Billions of animals and hundreds of people have lost their homes. The death rate for animals in the very recent Australian fires is claimed to be in billions.

I would like to conclude with a personal opinion. Climatic awareness and proenvironmental activities should be made mandatory in every educational institution, from playgroup to the PhD level. Crimes against the environment should be severely punished through monetary and other methods.

Last but not the least, I think the FridaysForFuture mission should be included in the curriculum starting now.

Anagha Bhangale

"It was a high counsel that I once heard given to a young person, Always do what you are afraid to do."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

My Mother

She cried as she told me
Of an unbelievable pain that had wreaked havoc on her body,
How she had felt her body being ripped apart,
Felt the knot loosen, that tethered her to this world.

"But then", she said, a tear rolling down to her smiling lips,
"Your tiny little cry washed upon my ears
And everything faded.

Nothing mattered except that voice
And that life I had created"
Her heart had soared with the birds,
Her tears had flowed into an endless river,
Her entire being had been consumed by an overwhelming warmth
As she held on to her babe.
She smiled at me now as she ran her hand across my cheek.

She smiled at me now as she ran her hand across my cheek
My heart felt as if it had been stripped of its shell,
Exposed to her, raw and bare.
I hugged her tightly,
My protector, my saviour,

By Sejal Panchpor

My creator, my mother.

Word-a-Riddle-a-ku!

WHAT AM I?

MY LIFE CAN BE MEASURED IN HOURS, I SERVE BY BEING DEVOURED.

THIN, I AM QUICK.
FAT, I AM SLOW.
WIND IS MY FOE.
WHAT AM I?

D	Α				G			Ε
		С	В		1			Н
		Н		E	Α	I	D	
F	С	Ε					G	
		В				Α		
	D					Н	Ε	В
	1	D	G	С		F		
С			D		F	В		
Н			1				С	D



*Same rules as Sudoku apply here; A=1, B=2, C=3......l=9

My Dreams and Career

"A faith and a hope was all I needed and it was time when I actually started believing in myself."

When does one talk about dreams?

I wonder what I would say because I have two different perspectives about dreams and career. I think dreams are the things that we want to do and career is something which we are destined to do. It's important to have a dream, for any individual, that he/she must have certain dream or goal to achieve in life or else they are not really living, they are just being a mere burden on this earth.

My dream is to be a singer. In my situation I feel that music is in my blood.

I would like to tell you about the history and background of my family. I belong to a family filled with many innate talents, my grandfather was a great musician who could play variety of instruments and who also happened to be rich in literature, knowing 14 different languages and almost every member of my family happens to play one instrument or the other. Whenever I start to learn any instrument, I learn it faster than others my age. People also say that I have a naturally gifted voice.

So, eventually I started to sing and perform on stage.

When I was 15-16 years old, I joined a band, and I just felt so enthusiastic about it. Every second of my teenage life, I was jamming with the band. I got reckless about my academics in school and several times I argued with my parents to let me go for doing concerts. Many times, I would just sneak out of the house to be able to perform. It almost took me 3 years to understand that I wasn't going anywhere with this passion of mine. The neglect I showed my studies resulted in poor marks in my 10th boards exams.

A heart-wrenching realization was that I did realize not every person is lucky to get this privilege to become a mega star and especially for a country like India where following your passion is still a taboo. So, the chapter of this dream ended there but music never left me it's still in me and I will always be passionate about it. Now the real deal started.

This is about the career that I am about to pursue. Long time ago when I was very young, I wasn't very good in studies, I was lazy and a good for nothing child. I always felt inferior to others and lacked confidence and I was always told that I won't be able to cope up with life. During that time my father stood like a candle of light in my dark world. He told me that he had a vision for me that I will be an IAS officer. The Indian Administrative officer is the most prestigious civil post in the country. At that time, I didn't even know the meaning of this term but later on when I learned about it, I was never so inspired before, it occurred to me that despite everything my father he had so much faith in me.

Obviously, at first I was impressed and amazed by the number of perks that an IAS officer gets and the power that they hold but most importantly I was overwhelmed that my father believed it and still believes it that I would be able to be this great personality in the society when I thought I was a child who wasn't good in anything except music. A faith and a hope were all I needed and it was time when I actually started believing in myself. In the journey of this path, I learned more about this job that how they reach out to the people who are in need and work for the development of our state.

In our state, especially where there is a constant disharmony between communities, when the present government in power are neglecting the indigenous people of our state living in rural areas and we can't do anything about it. We have become the minorities in our own state because of the illegal immigrants coming to our land, by crossing the border every day. It disheartens me that the state authority is not doing anything about a critical issue like this and I want to do something about it, I want to do something for my people as well as for the well-being of my state.

I want to contribute something to this state where I was born and make my family proud, which was well known in the past for its lineage to the ones who ruled this land before. It became my purpose which truly inspired me to become an IAS officer. I also want to prove myself to all those hypocrites who looked down upon me for not taking science as a career option, who tried to belittle me and often mocked me to be a musician who would play at their weddings for money.

Thanks to them for strengthening me to change and pursue this career. I know it's a far-fetching thought to crack the toughest examination in this country, to be an IAS officer but I will give my heart, mind and soul to achieve it. I am already in the process of this great journey and I will never stop believing in it no matter what other people say.

Pabitra Kishore Debbarma

"Every great dream begins with a dreamer.
Always remember,
you have within you the strength, the patience,
and the passion to reach for the stars to change
the world."

-Harriet Tubman

Love at First Sight

His dark blue sweatshirt, the curve of her smile,
His distinctive smell, her messy hair.
Every little detail of a couple hundred strangers
Stored in my mind palace.

These passing glances shared between unfamiliar faces, Seems so pure to me.

I fall in love

With every other person I see.

It's only a fleeting feeling in my stomach,

A now familiar lurch of my insides

As I experience
Love at first sight.
It seems so senseless,
So foolish, so naive.
But my mind wanders back
At times when I'm lonely,
To those faces I can't forget.

Sejal Panchpor

Things that make my life special

"Life is not to be measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away."

When I think about 'life' and what makes it special, I remember this quote by one of my favourite columnists, Vinita Dawra Nangia.

'Life is not to be measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.'

Life gives us moments which are as sweets as mangoes and at the same time, there are moments which are as bitter as bitter gourd. Yet, these moments of bitterness and sweetness is what makes life special. The bitter moments make us savor the sweet moments even more.

So, what makes my life special? Like any other individual, my life tends to become boring and monotonous. But there are certain pastimes that help me kill the monotony. To begin with, my favorite pastimes include reading and writing.

'Read so that you can write' says the famous writer Amitav Ghosh. Since I aspire to become a writer, novels help me unlock my world of creativity wherein I weave my own stories. My biggest idol is Ruskin Bond. He has a sharp eye for detail and uses it very well in describing naturalistic settings. I have also re-read many novels, which include Rohinton Mistry's, 'A Fine Balance' and 'Diary of a Young Girl' by Anne Frank.

I am a nature-lover, so activities such as trekking, going for a run or a long walk are essential for me. Nature sets my soul free. I like sitting underneath the tree, climbing hills, watching squirrels scamper from tree to tree, the beautiful smell of the wet earth after the onset of rains, watching pigeons flock together in the evening sky. Nature is my biggest source of inspiration. It has taught me to celebrate the life that I have and find happiness in the small, simple moments.

The last but not the least, spending time with family and dear ones makes my life truly special. A call from my Aunt or a chat with my cousins adds a spark to my everyday life.

On occasions such as birthdays and festivals, a family video call has become a must for me. But as we create new memories, cherishing and reliving the old, bygone days is important too. I enjoy flipping through old albums. Every picture has a story to tell. It also shows our transition from crawling on the floor to running behind each other. It reminds me of all the bitter-sweet moments; birthday parties, our fights, family get-together, weddings, etc.

I truly believe that we don't have to go to great parties or places to make our life special; just being able to do things that you like and being able to spend time with people you care about, not just makes life special but also magical.

Vandhya S.lyer

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

Ralph Waldo Emerson



A Walk

Down the

Memory

Lane.....

Dr Sanjay Kharat addresses the audience at LitCarnation 2019



The Chief Guest, Dr R.S. Latane plays some engaging games at LitCarnation 2019



Santa brings in the festivities at LitCarnation

LitCarnation 2019



The Joker enthralls the audience at LitCarnation



The Chief Guest Dr R.S.Latane addresses the attendees and the esteemed panel



The launch of Volume 3 of Odyssey by Chief Guest, Prinicipal Dr Kharat Sir and Vice Prinicipal

To the Brave One

You don't know but I saw you after the Pride Parade,
Trying your best to rub off that rainbow from your cheek
Because well, our society has never been a colorful one,
But you know what?

I'm glad you dared to rebel with something as simple as a little Rainbow painted on your face, every color of which shone with a radiance that emitted nothing but acceptance of one's true identity.

I know with the myriad looks you get everyday

When you come to college,

It must be exhausting,

but I also know that amid that judgemental crowd,

there are the one's who get inspired from you as well.

The ones who are still struggling to come out of their room,

Who are still trapped in the huge bubble of fear and

embarrassment.

But there you go, breaking all the chains,
popping all the bubbles not only for your yourself
but also for some others.

So next time you get overwhelmed when people stare at you,
keep your head high because my love,
You are a sight to witness.

You are a walking rebellion,
a beam of hope and unparalleled strength.
So here's to you,
here's to a love that knows no boundaries
and to innumerable rainbows yet to shine!
Love and support,
Always

Menitta Alice Thomas

"The greatest happiness of life is the conviction that we are loved; loved for ourselves, or rather, loved in spite of ourselves."

Victor Hugo

Dream to Live and Live to Dream

I feel, "To believe is the first special stride towards the endless journey of our dreams ."

What are we?

Why are we?

Is there a reason?

Yes, there is and I strongly believe in it because it gears me up to achieve anything in my life.

I feel, "To believe is the first special stride towards the endless journey of our dreams."

We are humans living in the 21st century and we feel obliged to have more than all the basic needs. And we feel that if we don't have them, we will exist nowhere in this world.

However, What is a DREAM for you? For me, DREAM is like a fuel in my life which makes me feel alive and makes me human. For me, it's a huge responsibility. It is a responsibility to make this world more happy and more lovely and lovable. It is a responsibility to create the feeling of harmony into everyone to make it a better place to live.

I've chosen a path in which my influence may play a vital role in everyone's life.

A path in which there is the feeling of 'Giving' endlessly, without any expectations. A path in which we can connect with everyone emotionally without any languague or culture barriers and without any boundaries of nature. And this exceptional path is the magical path to be a MUSICIAN.

Being a musician is an honour in its own way. It sounds so good right?

Feels cool, but there is a huge unnoticed JOURNEY to get there and to nail it is a totally different thing. We need to be consistent, have patience, practice everyday and learn a new thing everyday.

Every day cannot be a happy day, but music teaches us to get up by our own and live our life.

Music as an art helps an individual analyse their emotions, their hearts and realities of life. It also teaches them to take their own actions and to take decisions for their own goodwill. It helps them find their own existence.

I'm now strong because I've gone through those bad experiences, but I will specially thank those people who criticized me because I believe that, "If there are no critics, we can never be strong to build our own ethics."

Today I'm here because of my critics.

It is so easy for a normal person to say that a song is just a three to four minutes long music piece, but they don't understand what are the efforts behind that short piece.

We can't even expect that a normal person will understand the effort, they just see how effective the music is, even if it has taken a whole year to bring it up. Even if it has more than 75 instruments bonded together in such a way that it sounds like one musical piece, they aren't able to differentiate and appreciate.

It is just the people associated with music who sometimes know the aesthetics of that work and the seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years invested for that one piece of music. This is what music taught me, to keep patience, to be strong, to always smile and to even love some who always criticizes us.

It is such a challenging field which is not made for people who don't work on themselves everyday.

I was born in a family which is associated with music. A family which has its traditional ethics. A family which teaches their children to get their work on their own, and not by their legacy. Once, when I was a small kid and it was my performance day, I was about to sing and my father asked the host not to mention his name but to just mention my name. I was surprisingly shocked, even shattered. I asked my father why he did so? He replied, "The audience must know you by your talent and hard work. Make people call me Akhilesh's father, and not by my own name."

I was still unhappy then but today when I look back, I feel so proud and lucky about my self, that God gifted me with such a beautiful family, who gave a view, a right path, the freedom to choose my path, and everything else. Words cannot ever define it.

My parents never forced me, they were happy in whatever career I choose to be in, I chose the Science field after my 10th. I was then unable to continue my singing and there was a huge gap in my music learning. I used to be in stressed due to that.

I used take part in college singing competitions and I used to get first or second prize for that, it did encouraged me and kept me energized for the whole year.

Then I came to engineering and those were the most busiest and stressful years of my life.

There I was the first person in the history of college to bring the first ever music award to the college. Even my friends and I decided to participate in an 'one act play' competition. We did bring the second prize to the college for the first time in extra curricular activities. I was doing all these things by have a balance in my studies, but the college never supported me and my efforts.

My teachers said not to participate in any of the activities from college and I obeyed their command. Everything was normal till then, but day by day I started feeling unpleasant, the environment there was not at all happy, there was always no to do something new, there used to be a full stop to my questions and no place to creativity in the same field too. Till then I had become a dull person, who just come to college, study and go home and again the same routine. I started to feel pressurized. Even after some months, I was still not getting that way to be happy in my life. Then slowly, I started to make tunes and composed poems to make myself entertained.

Eventually, I re-discovered my passion for music.

God gave me a chance to prove myself to the world. I did individually participate in a district level music competition and I just gave my best.

It turned my life around. I was the second prize holder and I never expected any prize for that competition because I was going there to just make myself understand that there's a way to be happy somehow.

For me it was not a victory, it was the start of my actual music career.

My parents never forced me, they were happy in whatever career I choose to be in, I chose the Science field after my 10th. I was then unable to continue my singing and there was a huge gap in my music learning. I used to be in stressed due to that.

And now I'm here in the Modern College, Ganeshkhind.

The college of creativity, where we, the students have such an open and free environment to participate and rise our own talents by balancing our academics.

This college gave me a chance to work for myself. As I could work as an actor in a short film named "Murari Love" which is still in process, make my own melodies and let me learn music production for my own upcoming cover songs. Even recently I did make a cover song named.

"Ek Pyaar Ka Nagma Hai" and it will be my launch song on YouTube for the first time in the month of January 2020.

Its not just an original song, but I've added my compositions into it to get my vibe in the song, literally from creating female voices from my voice. I'm sure you will enjoy it.

This is all possible because my college, Modern College, Ganeshkhind and teachers there, they never stop me or any student to do anything for themselves. And I'm thankful from the core my of heart to god for surrounding me with such beautiful and creative souls.

Akhilesh Adsul

"If you feel like there's something out there that you're supposed to be doing, if you have a passion for it, then stop wishing and just do it."

Wanda Skyes

Love as It is

"Love comes to you in places like airports, moist eyes, shaky goodbyes, long hugs and passionate kisses. In classrooms with innocent eye contact, discreet chits and scribbled initials on benches."

Love is one of the most primal yet one of the most layered and complex of human emotions. From a mother's hug, to a friends smile, to a lover's kiss. Each and every one of them signifies love. And yet each of those feelings are radically different from one another.

Love is that one emotion that comes to you in living and non living forms alike. It comes in all shapes sizes and forms. Love can be a few big things or a million little things. Love can be an early morning coffee or smell of the first rain or a dried rose pressed between yellowing pages of a book. It can be a call from a someone in your distant past or a paper boat floating in rain puddles or just a familiar scent which you can't identify.

Love comes to you in places like airports, moist eye, shaky goodbyes, long hugs and passionate kisses. Welcoming smiles with warm handshakes in gardens, with sweet acceptances somewhere and silent heartbreaks somewhere else. Classrooms with innocent eye contacts, chits and scribbled initials on the last benches.

Multifaceted as it may be, the most misjudged and taken for granted form of it is a relationship. Our idea of a relationship, a love story which is from what Bollywood taught us, with the morals of "friendship is the first step to love" and most importantly "everything works out in the end". These ideas of love turn out be too cliched and overtly idealistic to hold true in real life. But Bollywood hit it right on spot for one thing though.

Friendship is always the start to a beautiful love story.

The trepidation of the first text. The first date, the endless chats, the drunk calls and finally the confession. These little big moments make a relationship worth all the pains and sacrifices. The saddest part of all of this is that we're a generation of broken hearts and broken people. We kill those feelings of love and liking just because we're scared to fall and not have anyone to catch us, scared to get hurt. We all love someone who is stuck up on someone else. And that's the story of every second person in a crowd.

Earlier relationships were a necessity. A source of support, care and intimacy.

Now, relationships have gone from being a bond to being a "tag", a status symbol and a way to legitimize your sexual advances. With this there isn't much love to give and go around in this world. A few brave souls still go around with their broken hearts all stitched up, wearing them on their sleeves, trying to prove that love isn't all that bad. That we can stand up every time we fall and we can love, we can grow and we can live.

Most of today's relationships don't thrive because the mediocre life doesn't live up to the Bollywood standards of excitement and love.

Ironically, 2 people commit to relationship and then get bored of their own choices in a few months, because there isn't that "old spark" left. We are told love is a garden of roses but no one tells us about the sea of thorns hidden under the greens and reds. What we need to understand is that a relationship isn't a cakewalk. It never was.

With anyone and anywhere in this tiny world, we have to struggle. Struggle to keep the relationship going, struggle to communicate, to make time for each other, struggle to keep your differences aside. Every time you fight and even then decide to be together. Communication and trust become the keys to any successful relationship. Every small gesture and expression becomes a big thing. Because love finds its way through adversities, difficulties across oceans, seas and multiple time zones. Efforts to making it special and efforts to making the mundane exciting is what a relationship is.

There is this one thin line that separates love from a controlling toxic relationship. It's the one that separates concern from insecurities, protectiveness from possessiveness and care from control.

Love turns sour when misunderstandings, insecurities seep in making the once beautiful bond full of bitterness and toxicity. It wastes away and then needs to be cut out no matter how ethereal or important it might have been.

And like every other thing in this world, love is like a coin. It has it's own two sides. There will be people who will talk about love like it's a drug that cures all the problems in the world and there will be those who will shudder even at the slightest mention of love.

Love is euphoria and love is sorrow.

Love is strength and love is crippling weakness.

Love is tears hidden behind smiles and smiles hidden in angry frowns.

Love is poison and love is panacea.

Love is a youth fountain and love is a curse of ceaseless existence.

Love is an unforgettable memory and love is nepenthe.

Love is you. Love is me.

Shreeya. C. Panda

"Be slow to fall into friendship; but when thou art in, continue firm & constant."

- Socrates

Let's Tune it Up!

BATRIHANNAAVRY ISBROWNOULZFGCF IDENOXWQ HNPDRJILVLHS XWXOA JQSJMWQLMA ZHLDMY S M Y C C S S Υ RUQC FBQM Ε R INZWSFRR Т Ε LWLZGCRH OSA Т F В Ε SUL ONDERU BDQBC ZKHALIFALUKPQTHV H J N S R E M M U S F O S D N O C E S E V CVFTVQPPLHAELAZAYGGIBUQF

Adam Levine	Ariana Grande	Beyonce	Bruno Mars
Chris Brown	Christina Aguilera	Drake	Ed Sheeran
Ellie Goulding	Five Seconds of Summer	Hozier	Iggy Azalea
Jason Derulo	Jessie J	Justin Bieber	Katy Perry
Lana Del Rey	Lil Wayne	Lorde	Meghan Trainor
Miley Cyrus	Nick Jonas	Nicki Minaj	One Direction
Rihanna	Sam Smith	Taylor Swift	The Weeknd
Trey Songs	Wiz Khalifa		

My Love Speaks

"We all prefer to do some things which we love and have interest to do so. All of these different things make our life special."

The world is full of wonderful things. Everyone among us have different interests and intellectual capacity. People often do what they love, which makes them happy and satisfied. We all prefer to do some things which we love and have interest to do so. All of these different things make our life special. I also love some particular things to do, which makes me happy. These things lift my mood up and make me feel special.

Firstly, I really love music and I spend a lot of time in listening to music. I love various music genres however 'Rock and Roll' is my favorite genre of music. 'The Beatles', 'Led Zeppelin' and 'Queen' are some of the bands which I love to listen to. Other than rock and roll I like Hard Rock and Metal. While working out, I love listening to Hard Rock and Metal. This intense music makes me feel energetic and fresh.

AC/DC, Metallica and Pop Nirvana are my favorite hard rock bands. I also like rock pop, psychedelic rock and sitar rock. Queen and The

Beatles have some unique songs which blend sitar and psychedelic rock. Retro Hindi songs have their own essence and they soothe my heart.

Secondly, I have a deep interest in History. I love to explore the past. India has got a rich cultural heritage and great historical. I love to read books which are specially based on history. Many important historical events, wars and ideologies of great historical personalities inspire me to achieve my goals. I love to read the writings of Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Swatantrya Veer Sawarkar. Another way of exploring the past is through museums. In museums all of these historical remains are stored and organized safely and they are a glimpse into our glorious past. I love to visit museums and spend a lot of time there. I aspire to become an Archaeologist in future, so I love to go to various museums and gather a lot of information.

I hail from Aurangabad which is known as a city of caves.

Aurangabad itself is a historical place. I grew up at this place which ultimately enhances my interest about historical places and monuments. When I was a kid I loved to go to Bibi Ka Maqbara and Dulatabad Fort but now I love to explore other places too. I love to explore wide range of great architectural trends which evolved from ancient times till date.

The next thing which comes in the list of what I love to do is shopping. I love collecting different things like clothes, shoes and accessories. I love to buy casual clothes more than ethnics. Every month I save some money from my pocket money for shopping. Shopping always lifts my mood up and makes me happy. Including all of these I also love to doodle. Whenever I feel low or happy I doodle I love to express myself by doodling. I feel so relieved after taking down my feelings on the paper; I sometimes love to draw mandala designs which improve my concentration.

Last but not the least in the list is I love to watch superhero movies. Superheroes always inspires me to do good deeds. I love the way they are always ready to help others and to get others out of trouble. The Marvel Cinematic Universe is an enduring favorite for me. They have great story lines and legendary characters.

So all of these things are what I love to do. I might add some things to it in the course of time, but all these things I have mentioned above will be so close and special to my heart. They really make my life special.

Neha Kishor Kulkarni

It is obvious that we can no more explain a passion to a person who has never experienced it than we can explain light to the blind."

-T. S. Eliot

An Officers Other Half

Everybody talks about an officer's sacrifice,

Let's talk about how a lady compromises,

She is an officer without rank but nobody realizes,

Oh, she is an officer's lady! That is how she is always recognized.

He might forget her birthday but every year she celebrates the

Raising Day,

Who really cares how she wails every night and day,

This is what we call life in a lady's way.

She is a bears it with a beautiful smile.

But let's understand her for a while,

She alone has to take care of the kids.

She packs her life up within seconds,

She always decks up like a princess,

In a winsome royal dress,

And pretends she is happy like a transfer doesn't bring any stress.

Life is unpredictable

She can't plan anything because everything falls apart in just a while.

She keeps doing things alone her entire life, And in the end she is still called the soldiers' wife

Vishal More

The Power of Gratitude

Do you get angry often? What do you do when you get angry? Do you feel regret later on?

Let's take an example of anger, imagine you are watching your favorite team play. You have been looking forward to this match all week. It's the match on which everything hangs upon and hopes and expectations are high.

The country is abuzz with hopeful discussions surrounding the match. Your team is in great shape. It has been a consistent spree of wins one after the other. As a fan, you are rooting for your team to win and deep down, you feel they will.

The match starts and your team is doing great. Your favourite sportsperson hits all the right shots. Your excitement keeps building as your team is on an uphill climb, decimating the opposition. A feeling of euphoria keeps building as you watch on the edge of your seat, now assured of a win.

However, suddenly, one of your favorite players is fouled by the referee. It happens so quickly, that one moment they are on the field and the next they are walking off, dejected. In the absence of the star player, it is as if your team loses hope. The match starts swinging in the side of the opposition.

You watch horrified, as your team eventually loses to the opposition.

You are shocked and dejected afterwards. It has been the worst disappointment you have experienced in sports history. A rumour seeps online. Upon looking back at the match other people notice that the umpire seems to have made a rushed decision leading to your favourite player walking off the field. Along with the rest of the people online, you think that the referee made a bad call, which cost your team. Your subduing shock quickly turns to frustration and anger.

You feel compelled to join the online mob declaring action against the referee. You realize you are angry at the umpire. The shock leads to growing anger as you find this object to focus your frustration and anger upon You feel contempt for the person, wishing they had never wronged you and something you cared for. It leads immediately to the desire for revenge, in which you want the referee to pay for his mistakes. You want to report him to the governing board of referees. You want them to suffer.

Ultimately, where you seek revenge. The thought of revenge can lead to you venting out online or seeking action, adding to a torrent of rage and hate, against a person.

Incredibly, this detailed and descriptive process happens in the blink of an eye. Our shock turns to anger which transforms into rage, instantaneously. After it happens, and the feelings melt down do we reconsider our decisions made in anger and probably feel regret.

But have you stopped to think and consider, why this happens? Why does rage inflame so quickly and burn so brightly, consuming us in its fire?

The Stoics, ancient Greek philosophers, believed that we react differently whenever situations like these arise because we expect a person to follow an unspoken set of rules. Without exception of their roles in life. their background, their mental state or even how they feel that morning.

Epictitus, a famed philosopher said that, "Men are disturbed not by things but by principles and notions they form around these things."

Part of this problem lies in the self-centric world we live in everyday. Today, our world has been interconnected like never before seen in history. Vast communication networks spanning the world are available to us at virtually no cost. Ironically and unfortunately, we tend not to see beyond our immediate friends, families and cultures.

This makes it difficult to understand the point of view of a CEO sitting at a desk in Germany or a labourer in Ghana. All we have to rely on is the knowledge we have acquired as we grew. Most times, especially recently, we view the world as it is shown to us. We tend to be assured in our worldview, unwilling to explore different cultures. Adding to this, the media and some political and cultural leaders tend to exaggerate a single issue, complicating it even further.

How do we break out of this then? How do we expand our worldview while still preserving the ideals of our cultures and our own identities?

The Stoics believed that there is a way that we should look at the world. We are one small part in relation to the big whole.

Imagine you are floating in space. You cross upon a star light years away. From Earth, it looks miniscule, barely insignificant. However, when you are millions of miles away from Earth, this star becomes your Sun. Now, you are miniscule in front of this gigantic mass of light and energy. This sphere of absolute energy can reduce your body to indecipherable atoms and your soul to wisps of corporeal matter.

Yet, you have a choice. Be at peace and feel thankful for this experience, even if it's a figment of your imagination. Even if it won't happen in your wildest dreams. You can be thankful that this Star, as destructive as it is, is just a pretty dot in the sky for you.

And that is the power of gratitude. The power to zoom out of your life and place yourself among the stars. When you appreciate the smallest of efforts, regardless or whether they are yours or someone else's, you zoom out of your own life. You get closer to understanding the lives of the stars.

The power of gratitude is important for the youth. In the society of today, where opinions define our outlook at society, being grateful to the things that matter is essential to understanding who we are. The current global and national political, social, cultural complexities require us to understand ourselves better. As the youth and future leaders of tomorrow, a grateful and understanding outlook will be the hope that saves a world fraught with wars and borders.

You get closer to understanding the motions of the planets and the emotions of man. As you go farther apart, you get closer to yourself. Think about it. Try expressing your gratitude in two sentences, about anything, irrelevant or extremely important.

Maybe you can forgive the umpire too.

Anish Yande

It is no more a movement but just a hashtag

We've been judging a book by its cover and haven't hesitated to make some deceiving judgements over a period of time.

There is a yawning gap between generations, the norms they've set and their mindset. Will we ever emerge from it, is the question. Sure you don't wake up one fine morning and expect the world to be a better place, but I just realize somewhere down the line we've stopped hoping for a change too. We inflict pain and hurt on people around us, and never think twice before being ungrateful and greedy.

The human race is invisibly divided by boundaries of caste, race, socioeconomic status and sex. Focusing on gender discrimination and inequality, we have been making our own stand but we are supposed to be equal, aren't we?

We take part in various movements for freedom, liberty, equal rights, LGBTQ rights movements, feminism and everything under the sun. A major concern here that should come into the spotlight is,

Feminism and its misconceptions! Feminism is a complex set of ideologies and theories, that at its core seeks to achieve equal social, political, and economic rights for women and men. It also refers to any action that brings changes in society and puts an end to patterns that have disadvantages against women.

Feminism was movement started in the 19th century for uplifting the downtrodden sections of the society. Along with fights against alcohol and slavery, there were movements fought for women's rights and equality. The history of the modern western feminist movement is divided into four "waves". The first wave comprised of women's suffrage movements, of the 19th and early-20th century which promoted women's right to vote.

The second wave, the women's liberation movement, began in the 1960s. It campaigned for legal and social equality for women.

In or around 1992, a third wave was identified, characterized by a focus on individuality and diversity.

The fourth wave, from around 2012, used social media to combat sexual harassment, violence against women and rape culture; it is best known for the MeToo movement.

Feminism is highly misinterpreted by individuals in today's age which leads them victimizing innocents, or using it to playing the victim card.

For example, take a look at how a woman misuses and takes ultimate advantage of her rights when a male passenger doesn't vacant his seat even in the general compartment of a public transport. Another prominent example of misuse of Feminism has been brought into light by the film industry is through the movie Section 375.

The goals of the second and third waves have been achieved successfully. What we deal with today is primarily concerned to women's safety, and many have managed to exploit this idea and abuse it. This misapprehension and exploitation of feminism has given rise to the term 'Pseudo-Feminism'.

Earlier we spoke about how feminism means equality for both genders under all the societal norms. On the other hand, 'Pseudo-Feminism' or a Pseudo-Feminist (no offence) is a person who claims to be a feminist yet ignores the main points of feminism, that are equal rights for women at par with men, which basically means equal right for both the genders.

Unfortunately, the dilution of the ideals of feminism over time has given most women of today a wrong idea about feminism and they have been unjust to their own thoughts.

Feminism for most of us has also become a gender role reversal aspect. Role reversal talks about how men and women have replaced each other in non-traditional occupations. Gender roles are usually centered on concepts of masculinity and femininity. Although, there may be exceptions and variations. The specifics regarding these may differ among cultures and locations. Feminism in simple words should be an uncomplicated way of leading lives.

Youth are often misled into talking about feminism now and then, as its no more a movement with a motive, but, is tainted by hatred against the perceived patriarchy in today's much gender equal society. It is no more a movement but just a hashtag.

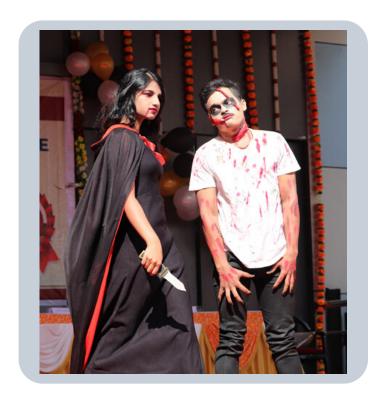
Men are not always at fault or women are not completely blameless but as an individual we must try to be as humane to one another. We must raise our voices against unreasonable and irrational possibilities. I hope we find the change we have been searching for and find it in our hearts to forgive each other and look for the one thing that will keep us kind and bound together.

Jessin Peter

EXTRAVAGANZZA

EX·TRAV·A·GAN·ZZA(N)

a literary or musical work marked by extreme freedom of style and structure. However,in the English Department, we put an extra 'z' to make it more jazzy and spicy.



The lethal pair of Zombie and Dracula, played by Ashish and Sonam



The Men in Black in action, played by Dharmendra and Abhijeet



The eternally graceful pair of Beauty and The Beast , played by Ketaki and Kaushal



Jack and Rose from Titanic, flying high, essayed respectively by Vishal and Parimal



The adorable antics of Charlie Chaplin, enacted by Pratik



Jessica Raje as Madame Doubtfire, the friendly neighborhood aunty with a fun secret



A Student Duo!

The famous detective Sherlock Holmes and his dear friend Dr Watson, essayed by Sanap Sir and Avinash



James Bond, Agent 007 in action! essayed by Jitender Kumar Sir



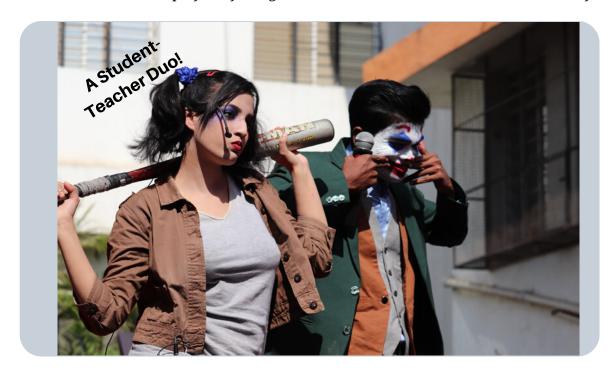
Hogwarts is here! Magic at Modern College! It's our beloved Harry Potter and Hermoine Granger, portrayed by Pabitra and Nannu



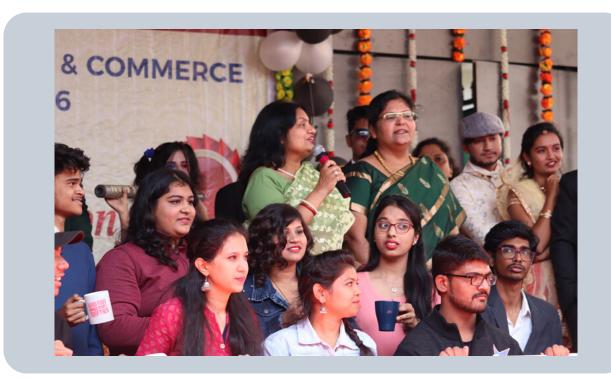
"O Romeo, O Romeo!!" William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, played by Akhilesh and Jessin



The F.R.I.E.N.D.S with whom we laugh and love F.R.I.E.N.D.S, played by Anagha, Atharva, Nikita, Omkar, Vishal and Vandhya



The maniacal and just slightly deranged pair of Joker and Harley Quinn, essayed respectively by Ganesh and Bhagyashree Ma'am



The Head of English Department, Dr Shampa Chakraborti addresses the audience, along with Vice Principal-Arts, Dr Jyoti Gagangras



The entire team of Extravaganzza!



A Letter from Rose.

I am sure you all witnessed the prodigious EXTRAVAGANZA a few weeks ago.

Remember the smile "Rose" carried while she performed? Do you know why was the smile so wide? --'cause it came right from the bottom of my heart.

Guess why Jack and Rose could show a chemistry? --'cause we shared a bond of trust and friendship which shall never be broken! Obviously we didn't bond out of the blue in a short span of time and neither was it only Jack that I bonded with. Every single person in the team holds a string each, of the bond.

From seeing new faces to hanging out together everywhere, we all grew close.

From running to practice before we got a call to craving for food every hour in between our practices we all got to know a lot about each other.

While all this was happening, while there was resonant music, dance and laughter around, my mind used to take silent trips capturing the moments before me in subtle, slow motion. Having never been setting a foot on stage before, this performance made me realize that it's never too late to fulfill your desires and neither should they ever be suppressed or even compromised under any low situation of your life!

How much ever embarrassing it may feel to me but I remember how much I have danced myself to the song " my heart will go on" when I had heard it for the first time in my early teenage. And here that day it all transitioned from reel to real when I swirled on stage on the song I had fantasized for ages.

Truly have they said that its about the journey and not the destination for this journey is forever to be cherished. And only if I could express a gratitude towards the English department for providing us a path to walk our journey on.

Thank you!

Rose. (Parimal)



Captain Jack Sparrow's Speech

Have you ever heard of extravaganza pizza with extra cheese on it? Just as the word describes, extravaganza was an event of various colors coming together and making a wonderful painting out of it.

The painting that was filled with all different colours of literature.

It started on 18th of December when our principal announced are small scale effort to take on a larger platform to introduce it to huge audience.

The very next day of LitCarnation we started working on it.

And due to this event all the people associated with it found a new person talent that was hidden in them and they were not aware of it.

Extravaganza is not just an event it is an emotion,

it is an experience of each and every breath and each and every moment that we have lived and made it into to success. today when I turn back I see a lot of memories and experiences carried with me that will help me in my future.

Even if it won't, it will surely bring a laughter out of me remembering those things after few years. I don't really believe in past life but I do believe in Karma.

I am hundred percent sure that I must have done something extra ordinarily good to get such wonderful people around me to guide me on each and every step.

When it comes to my personal experience this event took out the hidden talent that I never knew were there in me. I developed my leadership skills comma marketing skills, I learn to become adaptable with my surroundings and learn new things each and every day. From making stationary lists for props to essaying the role of Jack Sparrow on stage made me more confident and competent than before.

From making stationary list for crops still performing Jack Sparrow on stage made me more confident than before. This whole journey from being an introvert in first year and not at all mingling with people call handling things on my own in 3rd year, I went through uncountable changes which made me a totally different person. A better person, though.

Once I am done with my graduation I will miss these three years of my life, so much, I will miss the fun, music, the stage performances, friends and specially the immense love and support, care of teachers.

I will never forget this experience and this year will always have a special corner in my heart.

You Savvy Mate?

Captain Jack Sparrow (Aditi Tare)



Words with Hermione Granger over a pint of Butter-Beer

Being a member of the Extravaganzza team will be one of the most precious memories of my time in college. I feel really fortunate that all of you chose to believe in me and encourage me to do my best.

I personally feel that I am not cut out for these type of events and activities but your spirits made me want to do better.

Although it might not have shown on my face, but I genuinely enjoyed watching all of you in rehearsals. Seeing the F.R.I.E.N.D.S cast finally coordinate their footwork, Charlie Chaplin managing to make his hat fall, Juliet trying to stab herself and fall dead on the beat, Mrs. Doubtfire successfully striking the thief three times on the beat, all of it made me feel as if i was the one who succeeded in those attempts. It made me feel 'one' and helped me realize the essence of teamwork.

I feel glad that I was part of it although i was honestly; not every enthusiastic initially. I was also very pleased with the props team. The ship, the coffin and everything looked amazing.

I was also very surprised by the dedication of the teachers, joining us in the morning, being with us till evening without any complains, prioritizing our stage over other household responsibilities.

Lastly, I hope the third year seniors had a lot of fun. This was one of your last events as a student of this college. I hope you have sweet memories to take with you and wish you all the best for your graduation and future endeavors. I would also like to thank the first year students for joining us, and wish to see you more in college events. Keep up the good spirits and thank you so much again

Hermione Granger (Nannu Garu)



Expression of Love and Dedication by Romeo Montague

When we run individually, We run as fast as we can, we can take a bulk of challenges every second and complete it with a very powerful spirit, we have no limits when it comes to creativity and we're always ready to practice it every moment of every day till its perfect.

But when we perform together, the situation is something else! We have to sometimes come

down to the ground and start with a zero again!

Actually, I've always been hard on myself, I always want to perform better than my every last

performance. I do every possible thing for that, every second its continuously going in my mind

to be better, to be a perfectionist, to do well!

The one thing I learnt is, the real beauty of life is in simply adjusting for each other.

Balancing everything together is so important and effective.

I actually want to thank you ma'am because, you gave us a direction to follow up. And Extravaganzza is all about Spreading love and spreading happiness. Chetan, Alok, Shakuntala, Priya and Pratiksha. You guys created magic!

Because of you it was very graceful and smooth. I hope we all together get a chance again to create more magic with more intensity.

Especially, Ankit thank you for always being the most helpful and resourceful.

Romeo Montague (Akhilesh Adsul)



My Fair Lady Speaks

I'm not sure how to put my experiences into words.

But the one thing that I'm sure about is that we're a family now. When it comes to living together in a family, there comes acceptance, respect, understanding, patience, love and trust.

Accepting and respecting yourself and others. Their thoughts, ideas.

Understanding others emotionally, patience and trusting your partner while executing an idea.

Last but not the least, loving one another despite the differences. I got to learn so much from each and every individual. Everyone is so unique and creative.

My deepest gratitude to all the teachers for such a platform. It is a platform to learn, unlearn and repeat!

It was an opportunity to discover and rediscover ourselves. Thank you.

Pratiksha Mundhe

I am so happy that everything went well and everyone loved our work

The prop team also includes Shreeya, Neha who was there for planning and helping to make props in the starting. Thank you very much everyone together we all created magic.

Ashish Suresh

I thank my teachers for giving us such a big opportunity to perform in Vividha and because of them I got such lovely friends, and we created such beautiful memories of our last few months of our college that I will never forget.

Anagha Bhangale

A big thank you to our encouraging and amazing teachers for their guidance and support and to everyone for their amazing work and dedication!

I am so happy that it was a huge success!

I did this solely for myself and it brought me an unforeseen satisfaction. I have found that I kind of don't care about anyone's opinion upon my performance. I am just happy that I did it. If I didn't do, I would have a regret. My lesson was prioritising oneself.

Jessin Peter

From this I learnt many things from being passionate about oneself to how to prioritize certain things over others. We've come from nowhere to here.

And only through this platform we could do it, so I thank all my teachers from the bottom of my heart.

Vandhya

Extravaganzza gave us all the opportunity to put our best and creative foot forward.

Our hard work, patience and efforts really paid off..and yes,it has brought all of closer, like a family..all the performers were great on stage...kudos to all the teachers and students

Disha Joshi

Thank you so much to all the teachers for giving us this opportunity and thank you so much to all my lovely friends for your support.

Ganesh Munuswamy

Awesome performance by everyone thank you ma'am your support and opportunity made us feel blissful and blessed.

Manish Thapa

Thank you very much everyone for amazing work.

Mr. Jitender Kumar (Faculty Member)

Indeed, every single member of this team did a marvelous job today.

Proud of you all.

