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For the bliss of creating & sharing, Artistica begins!

Mandira & Bincy

Bengaluru: The Institute of Communication and Media Studies' 7th edition of Artistica, the annual art festival was back with a bang after a gap of two years and enthralled the audience and the art enthusiasts alike. The inauguration kicked off with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Aruppe Block. The wall paintings were unveiled by chief guest Chethan Mundadi, a national level award-winning film director. The sound studio was inaugurated by actress Spoorthi Vishwas. This was followed by The Rector, Fr. Swebert D' Silva, S.J, addressing the gathering. Fr. Richard Rego, Director of ICMS, enlightened the students about the history of the media department and its glorious achievements. This was followed by a cultural performance by a student artist of SJC. Introducing the guest, Rama Sharma, assistant professor Mark Rasquina said, "When I

began to look at (her) paintings in the context of how we kill our trees... I realise how important it is to have an artist." Artists are the conscience of the society, a conscience that we need, he said before inviting the guest to the stage. The two-day event revolves around the theme of hope, education and women empowerment. A good number of artworks were lined up for exhibition with entries pouring in from tens of colleges from across the nation. The event has scheduled workshops, panel discussions and film screenings. Baadal Nanjundaswamy and Krishna Gowda were among the other guests who graced the occasion. The Rector, Fr. Swebert D' Silva, S.J, addressing the gathering spoke about the history and legacy of St. Joseph's institution. "The college was started 140 years ago in 1882 and since then has stood for the betterment of youth and has contributed quality ed-



Lighting the lamp by dignitaries during the inauguration of Artistica 2022 **Dolkar Choezom**

ucation to society," he said. Narrating the significance of an artist through the story of a sculptor he said, "Every person who has that capacity to draw, act or do any kind of artistic work has to envision first, the images in their heart." Commenting on the importance of Artistica, he said, "This is a very nice initiative

to bring out the creativity and imagination amongst the students. These are two very important things in education. A certain amount of depth needs to be created so that people are not superficial," he said. With paintings and artwork, people should go a little deeper into themselves and also present their depth through art and

culture," he added. He further said, "It is our endeavour at St. Joseph's college that whoever passes through the portal of this institution should acquire these qualities. We become a developing country only when young people can contribute with creativity, knowledge and depth." Spoorthi Vishwas, the actress

and entrepreneur, one of the guests, shared a few insights on how her artistic skills and creativity helped her boost the entrepreneurial endeavour. Speaking to The Beacon, she said, "Being an artist happened to me; I got an opportunity to act and I grabbed it, and honestly being an actress I did not have a long term vision. I always had this passion for being an entrepreneur and doing something for the betterment of women because I was raised by a single mom. It is difficult to be an achiever and a lot more difficult to be a woman achiever. So, I wanted to get into this phase of creating opportunities for women entrepreneurs. I used to come to Joseph's as a participant and am now a guest. I am happy to see a lot of students driven towards vocational studies of Art as these are not lucrative careers." She added that in her childhood she used to paint but couldn't take it forward. "However, creative skills have always helped me," she noted.

A run for water conservation, Neerathon's final edition concludes

Mukesh N & Siddhant

Bengaluru: Amidst the rising temperatures and unpredictable rains, the Wildlife Awareness and Conservation Club (WACC) of St. Joseph's College (SJC), in collaboration with 1 KAR ARMD SQN NCC, Bengaluru, organised the fifth and final edition of Neerathon 5.0 on May 8, a run for water conservation. There were two types of runs scheduled, a 5-kilometre run and a 2-kilometre run. WACC is a student club in SJC, which aims to raise awareness about wildlife conservation through var-

ious events. Neerathon is a yearly event where people from all backgrounds and ages come and participate in a cause. Neerathon has been happening for around 5 years. Despite the pandemic, the show was held last year say the organisers. The event was supposed to have three runs of varying distances, a 2 km, 5 km, and a 10 km run. Due to the difficulty in logistics, the 10 km run had to be cancelled and 2 and 5-kilometre runs were held. The event was officially inaugurated by Bhagyashree Sawant, a mountaineer who made a



The dignitaries of Neerathon

Dr. Zakaria Abbas: Instagram

Guinness World Record in cycling last March. The final race was held on Sunday. Around 1500 people participated in the event from various colleges. NS Dattatreya a 94-year-old runner

spoke about his experience. "I wanted to attend this run to raise awareness for water scarcity, which is really high. So, if they see a 94-year-old man running, then people take notice, especially

younger generations." NS Dattatreya has been running in various events similar to these, including in Chennai, and Malaysia.

A student from the Canara School of Management Studies, Jagath, also participated in the event. He found it very difficult at first and was pleasantly surprised later, he said. "When we started running, they had volunteers to guide us and all the neon signs to make sure we were on the correct road while running. I thought it would take me a long time to finish the race, but I finished it in 30 minutes".

Summer Camp: a dedicated initiative to the Nature
Arushi Srivastava

Bengaluru: People for Animal (PFA), a Bengaluru based NGO, is organising a summer camp for school children that will be conducted at PFA Wildlife Rescue & Conservation Centre for 6 days starting from 16 May.

It is being organised to keep the children engaged during the summer vacation with the activities on environmental conservation. PFA will be conducting a nature walk, bird-watching session, young naturalist session, a workshop on snakes, and an experience sharing session. PFA intends to keep the activity fun-filled so that children learn and enjoy the activities.

"PFA has educated and guided over 4 lakh students through environmental ecology program; imparting knowledge of how animals can be protected will give them the essence of protecting nature. Kindness to the aphonic is the ultimate compassion to living beings and making the upcoming generation realise this will do good to the environment and animals. It is a productive camp for the children," said Chief Veterinarian, Dr Navaz Shariff.

Keeping alive the charm of Indian cinema

Sutapa Dhara

With the goal of preserving, restoring and digitising the cinema heritage, the Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Singh announced that India will launch the world's largest film restoration project under the National Film Heritage Mission with a budget of Rs 363 crore. Shortlisting committees comprising commercial and documentary filmmakers, film historians, producers, and more are formed for each language. The National Film Archive of India is also repairing 5,900 short films, documentaries, and features, making this one of



Film archive **DFF.film**

the largest restoration and digitalisation projects ever undertaken. NFAI has completed the restoration of ten iconic Satyajit Ray films, which will be screened at major international film festivals. International Film Festival, Cannes has chosen Pratiwandti to screen in the Cannes Classics portion of the 2022 event. The

Feature Heritage Foundation is also working with NFAI to preserve a restored version of G.Aravindan's 1978 Malayalam film Thampi which will be shown during the Restoration World Premieres in Cannes.

After speaking with The Beacon, feature film director Rahul Mukerjee commented, "India has been creating films since the early twentieth century but has had weak archiving and restoration facilities. It's about time we bring back some of our old favourites, which once enchanted audiences throughout the world for decades".

LPG prices skyrocket, impacts restaurant and eateries

Trupti Khillare

Bengaluru: The price of a domestic cylinder of cooking gas and a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder saw a hike of Rs 1,002.50 and Rs 102.50 respectively in a period of less than a week, registering a third consecutive monthly increase. The price of a 19-kg commercial cooking gas cylinder has increased to Rs 2,355, and this constant rise in prices has impacted small cafés, tea stalls, and restaurants in recent months.

Chandrakanth S., a restaurant owner in Sarjapur, said, "The gas prices are constantly increasing, and we also are affected by it to some extent. We will be forced to increase the price of food if this continues because we don't make a profit with current pricing. Increasing price of the food items might lead to less customers". "The customers will have to pay an extra amount on the present menu rates, then only restaurants can make some profit in such