

CULTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2020-21

Keeping the fervour alive through unusual times

The Cultural Committee of the college, braving the odds, decided to bring joy to the students even before the term began. The committee members put in their best efforts to ensure some relief while the world around seemed to fall apart. Maintaining the tradition, the following are glimpses of the events conducted by the Cultural Committee for the academic year 2020-21.

When music helped us wade through a storm:

Mumbai University's Singing Competition is a much-anticipated event. A motivational song competition in the month of August 2020 was a much needed boost to students' spirits. Nikita Kuwar, TYBMS, Twinkle Pereira, SYGS, Renil Bhanushali, SYBMS, Madhav Pandey, SYBSC(IT), Kaustubh Sadhaye, TYBMM and Chris Menezes, TYBCOM(A) were selected from the college after an audition. Aniket Mandhare, TYBSC(CS), Pradnya Satpute, TYBCOM(A), Sakshi Pawar, SYBMM, Sanskruti Mane, SYBAMMC and Lavesh Shinde, SYBCOM(B), also took active part to make it a success. Siddhesh Saptiskar, TYBMM, Jayesh More, ex-student, helped by way of direction, Kaustubh Sadhaye TYBMM, and Sudarshan Mane, ex-student helped in cinematography and editing. Prathamesh More, SYBSc (CS) and Sakshi Pawar, SYBAMMC, were assisting in coordination. The participants practised virtually and came together as a family to make this a success. The efforts taken made going virtual look effortless.



Cultural Committee also organised Kalarang Competitions to uphold students' interest towards cultural activities and to motivate them to be creators. Following are some of the competitions conducted:

- Photography
- Caption Writing
- Musical Instrument
- Solo dance
- Short Video
- Solo Singing
- Mono acting
- Painting
- VPM's Got Talent

Komal Kishore Jadhav,
SYBCom A



Aditi Parab, FYBAMMC



'VPM through my eyes' was part of the newly created College Instagram page's first competition where students actively participated. The official Instagram page (@vpm.rz.shah.official) is handled by a team of faculty and student members from the Cultural Committee.



Winners of Kalarang Cultural Competitions (First Half)

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION:

- 1) Komal Kisansingh Rathod (TYBMS)
- 2) Sanika Sudhir Chavan (FYBAMMC)
- 3) Riddhi Pawar (TYBMM)

Consolation - Ritik Suresh Rathod

CAPTION WRITING COMPETITION:

- 1) James J (TYBMS)
- 2) Sahil Atre (TYBMS)
- 3) Edwina Glynss Charles Ambrose (FYBAMMC)
- 4) Harsh Mapuskar (SYBCOM (A))

SOLO DANCE COMPETITION:

- 1) Siddhi Ashok Mane (FYBSC (IT))
- 2) Akshat Vinayak Chachale (SYBCOM(B))
- 3) Prajyoti Narendra Palande (FYBBI)
- 4) Akshita Singh (SYBMS)
- 5) Kajal Shyam Pardeshi (FYBA)

BULL'S EYE VIDEO SHORTS COMPETITION:

Consolation: Sakshi Kishor Pawar (SYBAMMC)

SOLO SINGING COMPETITION:

- 1)Nisha Shetty (TYBAF)
- 2)Shreyash Mankar (FYBA)

PAINTING COMPETITION:

- 1)Shruti Tiwari (FYBAF)
- 2)Prajyoti Palande (FYBBI)
- 3)Aditi Parab (FYBAMMC)

VPM'S GOT TALENT:

- 1)Aniket Mandhare (TYCS)
- 2)Prajyoti Palande (FYBBI)
- 3)Chris Menezes (TYBCOM (A))

Tangerine Tadka:

Throbbing hearts, eyes full of wonder, a bit apprehensive, a bit chirpy, spring in footsteps— perfectly describe how the First-Year college students usually feel. The real icebreaker for them is the Fresher's Party which went online this year.



The staff and students arranged for an online freshers' party to welcome new members into their family – the First-Year graduation students— on Oct 7-8, 2020. Youtube Live sessions on both days were aimed at the entire family coming together and partaking in the shared happiness.

It saw contributions from the First-Year students too! Before anyone wonders why, it was a gesture to make them feel at home and let them unleash their talents right from the beginning.

Students learnt to let their hair down for the first time post the nerve-wracking days while awaiting their board exam results. This special day is also about tasting freedom and trying new stuff. Dr. B.S. Ajit Kumar, the Principal, welcomed the students with an informal chat. *Jadoo*, the mascot host, made sure the FY students were taken on a journey they would always treasure.

Fresher's party video

Part 1 : <https://youtu.be/EhD-9MJLfHo>

Part 2 <https://youtu.be/zYGKJ-iovjc>

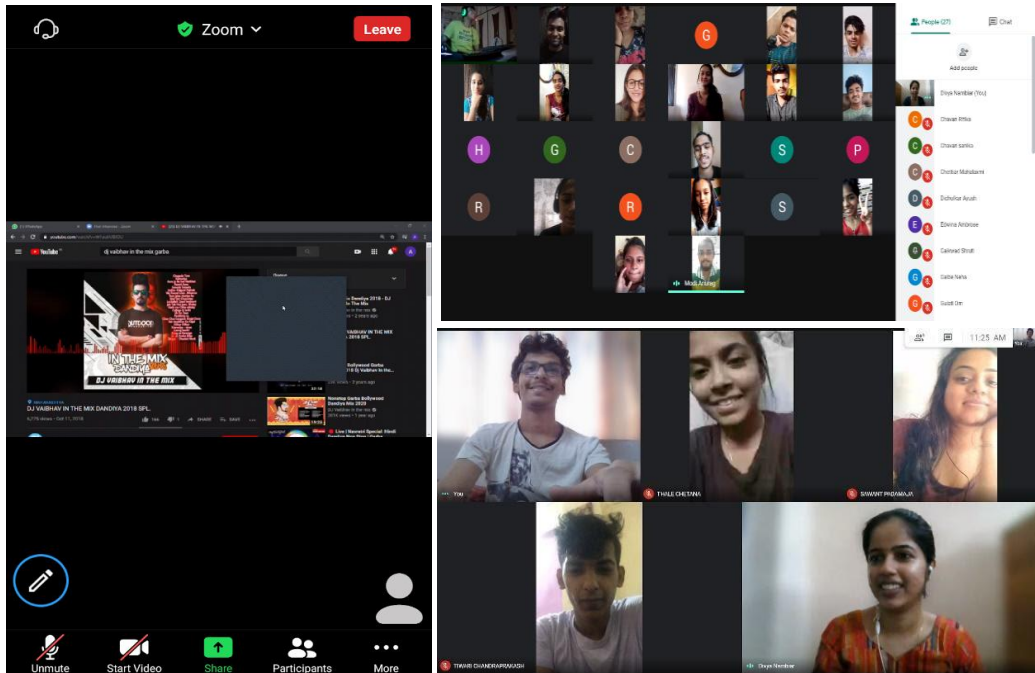
Navratri Dhamaka

As soon as Navratri festival starts, Garba and Dandiya *raas* fever takes over. It's little wonder how a virus was not allowed to dampen the spirits of the students. Taking all precautions, the college ensured that the Navratri fervour was not lost.

Numerous meetings and brainstorming sessions later, for each day, a video was prepared by the students in consultation with the committee. Be it the colours and their significance, food items or dance – students prepared videos showcasing their skills which was shared in all classes by the respective class teachers or subject mentors.

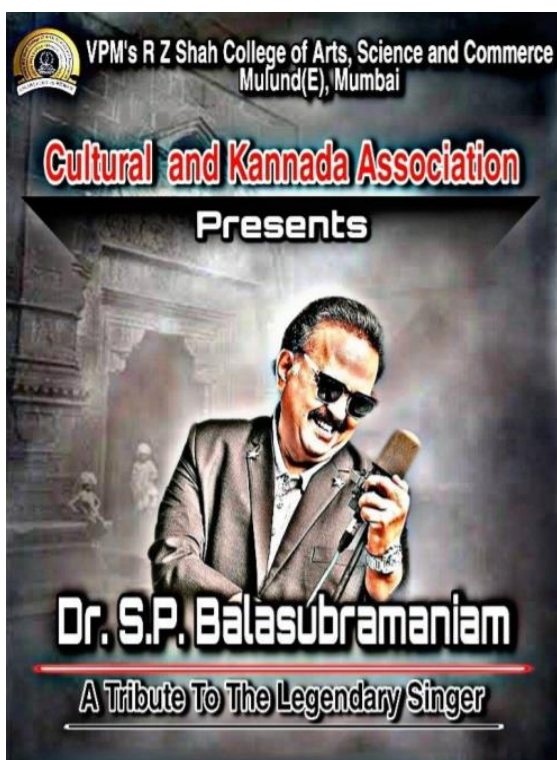
The colour code was also followed. Students captured screenshots post their lectures (a better alternative to the group selfies during these times) and shared it on their Google Classroom to remember in post-Corona days.

How can Navratri be complete without *garba*? A virtual *garba* session was also arranged for the staff and students on Zoom where the participants danced in their respective houses with their family members to music played by a student sitting at his own house. Ah, the wonders of technology! Who would have ever imagined a world like that?



Youtube link: <https://youtu.be/LvtV18NUFEc>

Tribute to Dr. S.P. Balasubramanyam



Renowned Indian singer Dr. S.P. Balasubramanyam, a Guinness world record holder for more than 40,000 songs over 50 years, passed away on 25th September 2020 at the age of 74.

In his memory, Cultural Committee and Kannada Association of the college, “Sirigannadam Gelge,” organised a Musical Tribute.

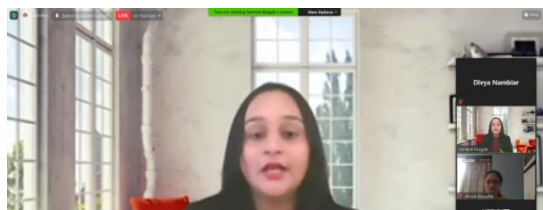
The staff and students of the college participated in the event by singing Songs of SPB in different languages like Hindi, Kannada, Telugu, and Marathi.

The event was successful thanks to the contribution of 12 singers, 6 orators, and the editing team along with the faculties.

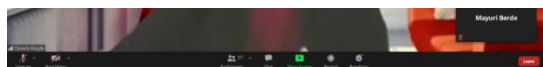
Youtube link: <https://youtu.be/wz000SD5Zeg>

Artificial Intelligence and Arts: Towards Computational Creativity

A **National Webinar** on Artificial Intelligence and Arts for the students, faculties and others was held on January 29, 2021. The speaker, Ms Sareeta Mugde – an AI Researcher and Software Consultant and Assistant Professor at Prin. L.N. Welingkar Institute of Management, Development and Research – took everyone into the world of Deep Learning, Machine Intelligence and held a mirror to the world we call ‘real’.



Ms. Sareeta Mugde, Speaker



The webinar saw registration by over 650 participants from across the country.

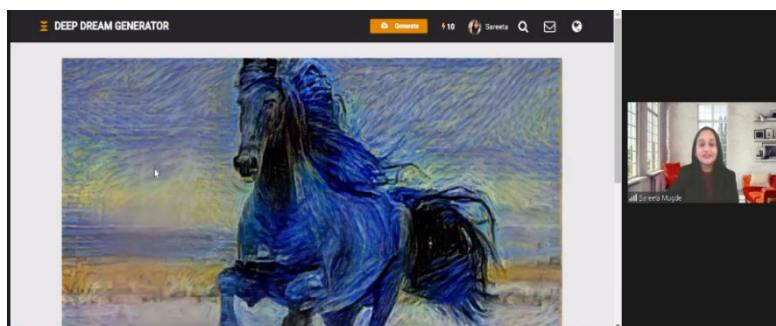
It started with a welcome by Mrs. Shruti Shouche, IQAC Co-ordinator and Adv Vijay Kulkarni, General Secretary, Vidya Prasarak Mandal and an address by Dr. B.S. Ajitkumar with valuable information about Warli paintings and tribal art, was taken ahead by the speaker for the day.

After a brief introduction of the speaker by Mr. Tejas Patil, FYBAMMC student, Ms. Sareeta Mugde spoke right from how artificial intelligence works, the benefits of learning it to information about interesting tools to a whole new dimension of creativity – she opened the doors to a grand world for the participants.



While explaining about ‘deep fake’ via examples of Elon Musk and Donald Trump and closer home Manish Tiwari, she made sure that the participants had their share of entertainment while they learnt – a skill that when mastered, can have an immense positive effect on learners.

She edited a few paintings and shared websites that can be a boon to artists and creators. Van Gogh’s Starry Night combined with the image of a horse to create a work of art, all through AI. Some websites mentioned were OpenAI, Nvidia and Deep Dream Generator.





The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Ms. Rupal Solanki, FYBAMMC student.

Youtube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NcmOaMsJoiI>

Taking the Leap: Advertising in Post Covid World



From lessons on being relevant to pop culture elements popping up, the **National Webinar** on Taking the Leap: Advertising in post-Covid world will stay in the minds of the participants for a long time. Organised by the IQAC and Cultural Committee of the college in collaboration with the Extension Committee. The speaker for the day was Mr. Abhishek Kulkarni, Account Director, Ogilvy and Mather and alumni of the college.

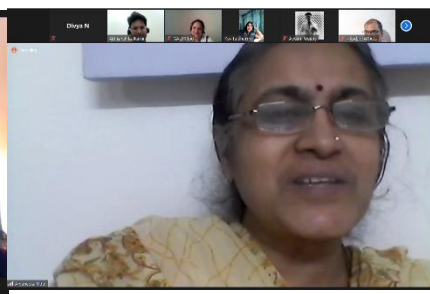
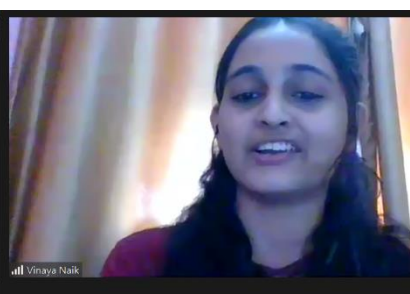


The session gave interesting ideas on how Advertising companies can manage to work during the time of a crisis of this scale. The case studies made it easier and comprehensive for the participants.

The webinar presented a clear vision on how manufacturing and advertising companies work. It also briefly covered the functions of the advertising industry.

The session ended with a Q&A session and vote of thanks.

Youtube link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JJOAYwov_E



Mandala Art Workshop

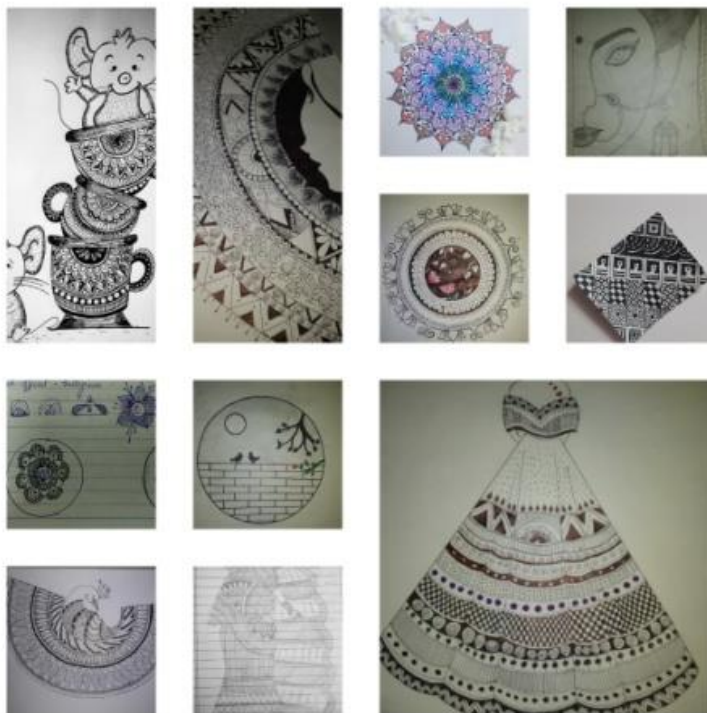
The Cultural Committee organised a Mandala Art Workshop **on 6th February**, for the students, faculties, parents and alumni members.



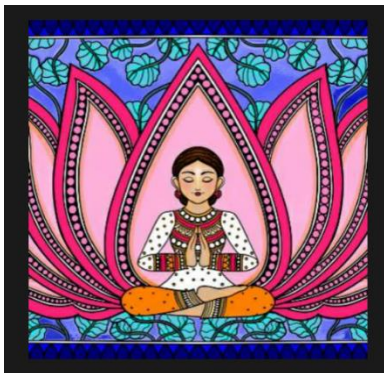
The session was conducted by **Ms Snehal Dnyeneshwar Pingate**, SYBA student, and an expert in Mehendi, Embroidery, Nail Art, Doodling, Lettering, Make up, Hair Style, Portraits and Rangoli. She is winner of a number of Intercollegiate events. She was selected for Fine Arts events of Youth Festival, Cultural competitions conducted

by University of Mumbai.

More than 30 participants attended and made it successful. Mr Chris Menezes, TY B Com student, extended words of gratitude to Ms Snehal at the end of the session. The following are images sent by students post the session. It definitely seems to have inspired a breed of artists to actively create more beautiful artworks.

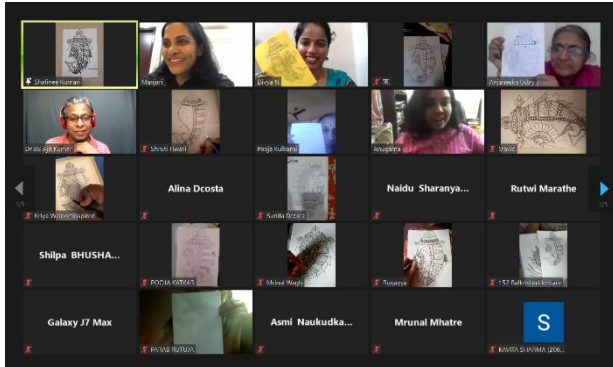
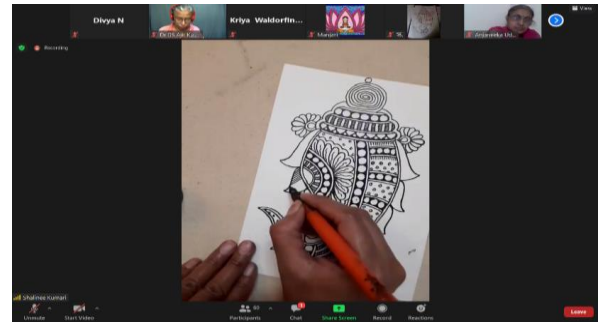


An evening to soak in the pleasures of Indian Art



When people around the world have become wary of the computer screens, the team decided to collaborate with Studio Amoli, pioneers in introducing the beautiful and diverse Indian Folk and Traditional Art to a varied audience through curated workshops. The workshop organised by the Cultural Committee, in association with the BAMMC department, catered to an audience in the age group ranging from 6 to over 50 years. It was open to all students, Alumni members, VPM family and anyone willing to learn this artform.

The session was moderated by Ms Manjari Naidu, one of the entrepreneurs behind Studio Amoli. She delved into the history of Madhubani art with a short video which was followed by a live creation of an art work by Ms Shalinee Mishra, an internationally acclaimed artist in tow with Ms Anupama Ralegaonkar, the co-founder of Studio Amoli.

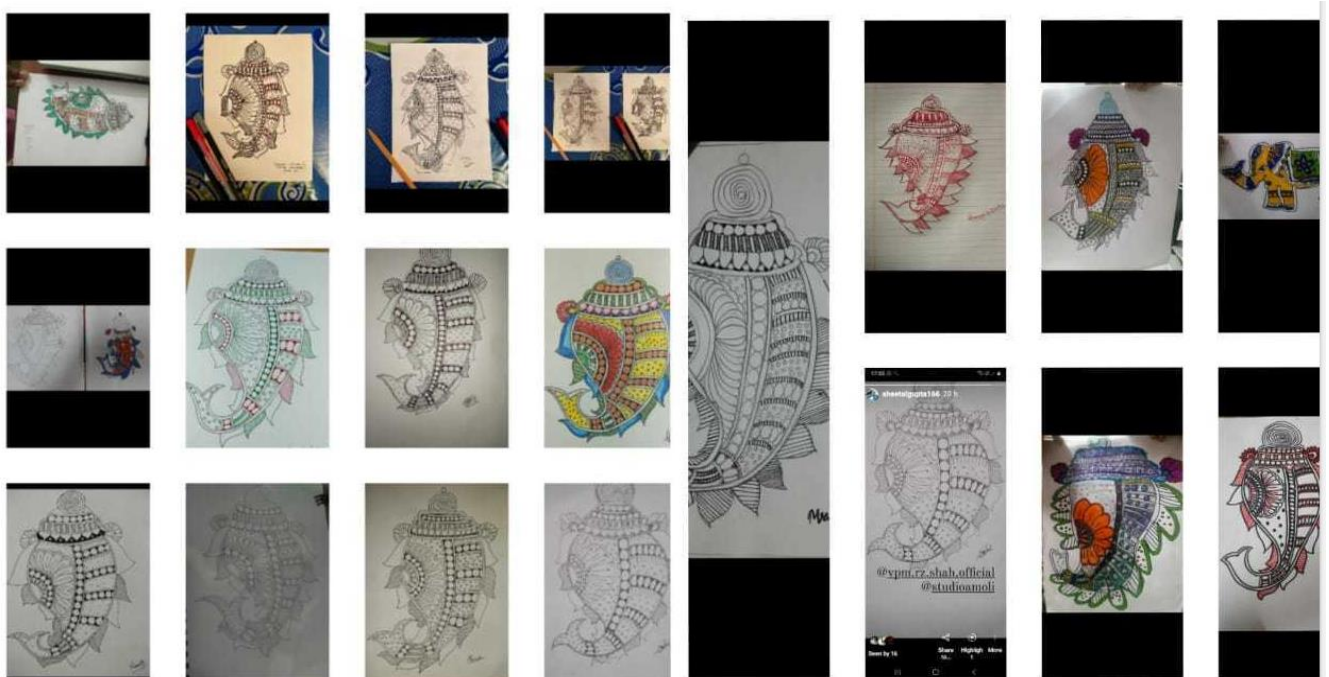
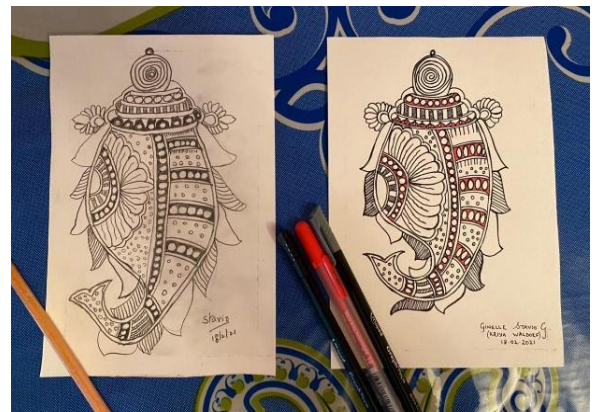


Attended by over 60 participants from across the globe and hosted by Ms Sejal Khandagale, SY BAMMC student, the session's success reflected in the completed art works and the messages that poured in post the session.

Says Rutwi Marathe, a participant, "I am 10 years old and I cannot sit at one place for long time. But for this session I sat at one place for more than one hour with full concentration. Thank you."

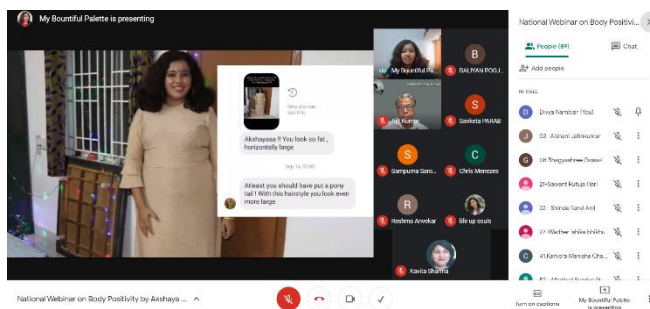
"Thank you very much for this lovely workshop. Both of us created the art work together and look forward to some more," chimed Mr Stavio Gonsalvez and Mrs Ginelle Stavio Gonsalves, a couple who joined for the session.

Mr. Mrunal Mhatre, SY BAMMC student, summed it up for all with his words of gratitude, "Art is magic and sometimes, a little magic is all we need to tune back into the melody of our lives! They say we should be thankful for everything that happens in our life, it's all an experience." Definitely, a beautiful experience.



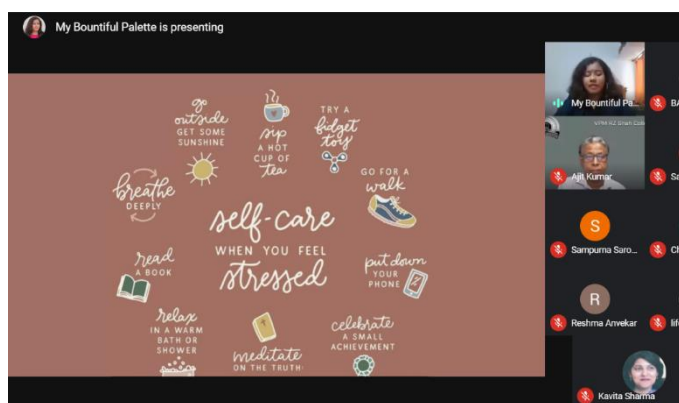
National Webinar on Body Positivity

Stop trying to fix your body. It was never broken.
-Eve Ensler



Women's Day couldn't have been celebrated without boosting the confidence of women and men who co-exist with them! That's precisely why the Women Development Cell, Cultural Committee and BAMMC department got together to organise a National Webinar on Body Positivity by Ms Akshaya Aiyer, a Youtuber and Self Make-Up Coach, on Mar 8, 2021, on the occasion of International Women's Day.

It was hosted by Ms Vinaya Naik, TY Bcom student, who perfectly introduced the speaker and oriented the participants to the webinar with a beautiful start. “One might wonder why a make-up coach would speak about body positivity. It's a thought that comes from our inherent thinking about 'make up' as a way to hide our suspected ‘flaws’,” she said. “But, Ms. Akshaya considers make-up as a way to accentuate the unique beauty each of us possesses here. She has been conducting self-makeup masterclasses and has trained a lot of students in her workshops. And today we are extremely elated to have such an inspiring personality with us.”



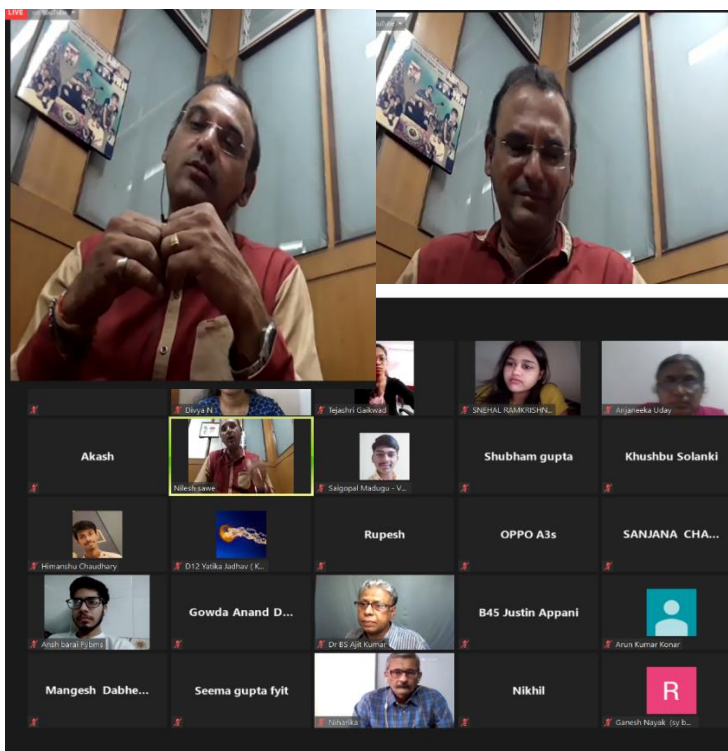
Ms Akshaya took the audience on a journey by quoting examples from her own life. She stressed on the importance of self-love, good mental health and body positivity in establishing holistic wellness.

Ms Ritika Chavan, FY BAMMC student, expressed warm gratitude on behalf of the college to the speaker and to all the participants from across the country for their presence.

T for Theatre, T for Thrill
A session on Theatre by Mr. Nilesh Sawe

‘Movies will make you famous; Television will make you rich, but theatre will make you good,’
- Terrence Mann.

An exclusive session for all the staff and students and interested participants from outside was organized by Cultural Committee in association with the BAMMC department on Mar 9, 2021. Mr. Nilesh Sawe, Actor and Cultural Co-ordinator at University of Mumbai, was the speaker at 'T for Theatre, T for Thrill', session on Theatre and the nuances of it.



Mr. Sawe, a gold medalist in Theatre, Dance & Music, best known for his films 'Zale Mokale Aakash' and 'Maat'. Apart from a colourful TV and Film career, under his leadership, Mumbai University has bagged Overall Championship at West Zone Inter-University Youth Festival 14 times.

Hosted by Ms. Tejaswi Gaikwad, FYBAF student, with her warm 'Namaste', the session came to life with Dr. B.S. Ajitkumar's introduction of the guest. Also attending the session was a special guest, Mr. Yatindra Pradhan, Cinematographer and Faculty at Rachna Sansad, Mumbai.

Mr. Nilesh Sawe painted a vivid picture of the world of theatre with his experiences, a glimpse of his acting and also breaking into a melodious song, thus enrapturing

the audience. He impressed the audience with his acting and screen presence.

Ms Namrata, FYBAF student, extended vote of thanks on behalf of all. The session ended with a bunch of happy audience departing with some great tips and an added dose of creativity and a confidence boost.



YoutubeLink : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HUA9RoIHLyA>

In the second term of the Academic Year, the Cultural Committee conducted various competitions keeping in mind the interest of many students. The winners of the same are as follows:

Competition	Position	Name	Class
Elocution Competition	FIRST	Vinaya Naik	TY BCom
	SECOND	Tejashree Gaikwad	FY BAF
	THIRD	Chinmay Desai	FY BCom
	CONSOLATION	Ansh Barai	FY BMS
Solo Singing Competition	FIRST	Shreyas Mankar	FY BA
	SECOND	Kirti Shetty	SY BAF
	THIRD	Joy Francis	FY BCom
Online Games	WINNERS	Karan Patil	TY IT
		Muthu Bhava	
		Amogh Sawant	
		Ophir Ahimaaz Nadar	
Oration Competition	FIRST	Vinaya Naik	TY BCom
	SECOND	Chris Menezes	TY BCom
	THIRD	Raj Dharamshi	TY IT
	CONSOLATION	Ansh Barai	FY BMS

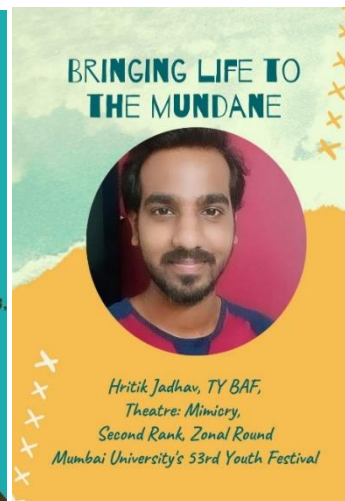
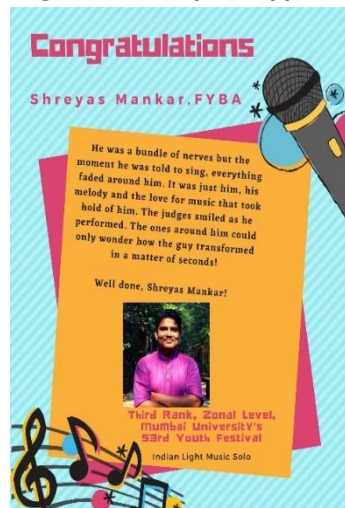
	CONSOLATION	Anushka Rane	FY BBI
Caption Writing	FIRST	Shrinidhi Devadiga	FY BAMMC
	SECOND	Sunita Lodhal	SY BMS
	SECOND	Shweta Routroy	TY BMS HR
	THIRD	Mahalaxmi Chettiar	FY BAMMC
	THIRD	Sakthi Mutraiyyar	FY BAMMC
Mehendi Competition	FIRST	Snehal Pingate	SY BA
	SECOND	Khushbu Rajbar	TY BMS
	THIRD	Sanjana Lad	TY BAF
Solo Dance Competition	FIRST	Sumita Bhintade	TY BBI
	SECOND	Akshita Singh	SY BMS
	THIRD	Siddhi Mane	FY IT
Mandala Art Competition	FIRST	Bhagyashri Ghule	FY BAF
	SECOND	Disha Shetty	SY BAF
	THIRD	Shruti Vaity	FY BMS
Advertisement Competition	FIRST	Ritika Chavan	FY BAMMC
	FIRST	Rupal Solanki	FY BAMMC
	FIRST	Harshada Kunder	FY BAMMC
	FIRST	Aditi Patade	FY BAMMC
	FIRST	Rahul Shinde	FY BAMMC
	SECOND	Pratik Chandorkar	FY BSc
Essay Competition	FIRST(ENGLISH)	Chris Menezes	TY BCom
	FIRST (MARATHI)	Sapna P	SY IT
	SECOND (KANNADA)	Anjali G	TY BMS
	SECOND (MARATHI)	Prajakta K	SY IT
	THIRD (ENGLISH)	Varada P	FY BBI
	THIRD (ENGLISH)	Namrata D	FY BAF
	CONSOLATION (MARATHI)	Chaitali Gurale	TYBMS
	CONSOLATION (ENGLISH)	Nisha Shetty	TYBAF
Photography Competition (Instagram)	FIRST	Shaikh Zishan Ali	TY BMS
	SECOND	Kunal Mishra	FYCS
	THIRD	Komal Singh Rathod	TY BMS (HR)
	CONSOLATION	Niraj Gatla	SY BAMMC
	CONSOLATION	Rupesh Dhindale	FY BAMMC
Instagram Referral Competition Instrument	WINNER	Chris Menezes	TY B Com A
	FIRST	Rugved Khopikar	FYBMS
	SECOND	Gladson Paul	SY BAMMC

Our students also performed exceptionally well in Mumbai University's 53rd Youth Festival. The following are the winners at Zonal and Final Level:

FINAL LEVEL WINNERS:



ZONAL LEVEL WINNERS:



Here's hoping the vibrancy and the fun of the Happy Campus was retained even when the campus went online! All the faculties and student in-charges, kindly take a bow! A plethora of activities was possible only because we came together as a team – a great one at that I would like to believe. The faculties in the Cultural Committee were Ms Anita Lopez, Ms Oindrilla Mukherjee, Ms Nandini Sakpal, Ms Swara Prabhu, Ms Laxmi Shahapure, Ms Gauri Pai and Ms Divya Nambiar.

Mrs. Anjaneeka Uday Chettiar,
Vice Principal & Cultural Committee Convener