

2016

Report
Department of Youth Welfare
2015-16





Forward



Education in the arts and arts in education are two closely related, but distinguishable, aspects of a question which needs to be thoroughly discussed from various viewpoints (Lawrence K Frank, Studies in Art Education, 1960). The Department of Youth Welfare at Cochin University is trying to address this issue and attempting to edify students, teachers and decision makers for last few years. Arts and freedom are two closely related concepts and both aim the enlightenment of students as individuals. The arts cultivate creative thinking which leads to other supplemental skills such as problem-solving which ultimately benefit students across disciplines. Unfortunately, we realize it is not an easy task. Breaking away from traditional pattern or convincing it is too hard.

The Department has organized many programmes during the last academic year. We missed many too. We were unable to participate in the Zonal and National Youth Festivals last year. But still we are proud, we did few at its best with best flying colours.

We are obliged to many great personalities inside and outside the University, who have supported us. We would like to thank Members of the Syndicate, Honourable Vice Chancellor, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Registrar and Finance officer for their support. Dr. A.B Bhasi, Controller of Examinations have been always with us with a pleasant heart. Special mention goes to many teaching and non-teaching staff who always supported our initiatives. Last, but not the least, I would like to thank, the most essential element of the Department, an amazing group of students who made a science and technology University as a University with heart.

Dr. P.K Baby
Director, Students Welfare

"If young people have an inherent pull to create, which we believe, then the arts must be integral to students' education, rather than viewed as separate."

- Virginia McEnerney in Education Week
Teacher



Actor Training Workshop

Theatre is a powerful tool to develop a well-rounded personality. Most students lack confidence and are painfully shy, due to a fear of failing to meet the expectations of adults, bullying or just loneliness. By enacting different roles, students feel the skin of others and imagine themselves in others shoes.

Department of Youth Welfare, Cochin University of Science and Technology in association with Pattanam Rasheed School of Acting organized a four day professional actor training workshop for the people who are interested in theatre and cinema during 06th to 09th August 2015 at University campus. Selected 30 people were admitted for the workshop. Sri. Murali Menon, known theatre and film actor inaugurated the workshop on 09th morning at Students Amenity Centre. Dr. P.K Baby, Director, Department of Youth Welfare, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Sri. Rajesh Sharma, known film actor, Amal Raj Dev, Theatre Artist and Camp Director and Sreejith Ramanan, Theatre spoke in the occasion. The aim of the workshop was to release students and young people from psychological knots by providing them a space to express themselves freely. 12 students from the University were selected to attend the camp.



Known theatre – film actors, Murali Menon, Rajesh Sharma, Amal Raj Dev and Sreejith Ramanan, K.C Santhosh and Gokulan interacted with students in various sessions. The major themes were on theater games and exercise, mind and body co-ordination, concentration, interaction, improvisations, spontaneity, creative

thinking and expression, chemistry building, critical thinking and analysis, clowning, expressions, communication and connection and action on stage. The third day evening witnessed an amazing solo performance 'Raagini' enacted by Amal Raj Dev, written & Dir. by K.R. Ramesh. The camp discussed various aspects of the performance in detail.



The camp brought people together because every activity was built through collective efforts- participants passed through a process for team making, community building, administration, leadership development and communication. The camp increased Intellectual skills such as negotiating, creativity, organizing and planning and Social skills such as sharing, cooperation, negotiation and coordination. It also enhanced the value and self-esteem, pride and accomplishment, feeling of safety and protection, development of sense of self and individuality among the participants.



All India Inter University Music Festival

Department of Students Services, Mahatma Gandhi University organised a National Inter University Music Fest and Competition during 24th -27th Sept 2015 on the occasion of 'Nadam 2015- the International Music Enclave' under the aegis of the Inter University Centre for Studies in Science of Music.



Ms. SHWETA MENON, B. Tech, Model Engineering College, Thrikkakkara participated in Classical Vocal Solo (Hindustani or Karnatic), Mr. JUDE P. MAXSON,

B. Tech, School of Engineering, CUSAT participated in Light vocal solo (Indian), Mr. DILEEP S., B. Tech, School of Engineering, CUSAT, participated in Classical Instrumental Solo (Percussion) and BHAVANA V.B, B. Tech, School of Engineering, CUSAT participated in Classical Instrumental Solo (Non-Percussion).



Nature Camp



Department of Youth Welfare, CUSAT in association with Department of Forests and Wild life, Government of Kerala has organised a Nature Camp for selected forty students of the University from 25th and 26th January, 2016 at Charppa Range in Vazhachal Forest Division. The primary goal of the camp was to provide the students with an opportunity to immerse into nature and to get a better sense of understanding and appreciation about the resources and profound beauty of nature. The camp provided the fundamentals for personal and inter-personal improvement in sportsmanship, leadership, and teamwork. The team consisting of 40 contingents started from the campus at 8.30 AM on 26.01.2016, Monday.



The first session started at 11.00 AM by Sri. Keerthi R, IFS, Assistant Deputy Conservator of Chalakudy Forest Division on Biodiversity of Kerala. In the post lunch session contingents introduced themselves in detail. At 2:30 PM contingents we had a great experience through walking in the forest about three hours. It was the first time experience for many. We had a chance to witness Sambar Deer inside the forest. At evening, we went for a bath in a nearby stream which was most amazing and memorable. The water in stream was quite fast and that only added to the fun. We spend about an hour in the stream. Post dinner was mind booming session. Contingents had discussion on various activities which can be done in CUSAT. Contingents came up with some wonderful ideas which could be implemented to make the campus, a better place.

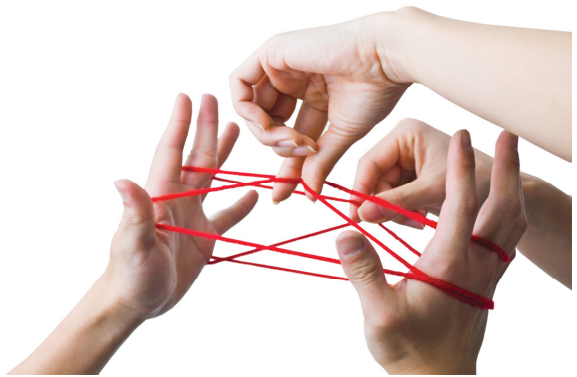


The second day started with an early morning walk at 6 AM on the Vazhachal – Athirapally road. The two sides of the road were of thick forest where animal sightings are frequent. Morning is the best time to immerse ourselves into the nature. We got rare chance to witness Malabar hornbill, wood pecker and Indian giant squirrel from close. After the morning walk, contingents had a session by C.T Joju, Assistant Conservator Officer of the Forest. He shared his rich experiences as a Range officer. Various environmental issues were discussed in the session. Various aspects of climate change and the recent United Nation Climate Change Conference 2015 held at Paris from 30 November to 12 December of 2015 were under serious discussion. The serious effects of climate change in our state and the country made the session relevant. Afternoon of the second day was the valedictory session. Contingents shared their feedback. Certificates from Kerala Forest Department were distributed by Mr. Sadanandan, Range officer. After the camp was wrapped up, the team returned with a bunch of experiences but with a lot of concern about nature. We visited around two hours at Athirappally waterfall on the way. Dr. P.K baby, Director, Department of Youth Welfare and Dr. Mythili, Associate Professor, School of Engineering accompanied the team.



Green Room VI

Cultivating creativity...



Green room is a prestigious programme conducted by Youth Welfare Department, CUSAT every year. Green room has a theme which is relevant to the society. Green Room VI: Cultivating Creativity conducted during Feb 12-14, 2016 was based on the theme of skill development through theatre. The Green Room VI has focused on the understanding the body as key to personality.

Green VI had a fabulous beginning on 12 Feb 2016 at Hindi auditorium and was inaugurated by Mr. T.M Abraham, Vice Chairman, Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Academy. He made a mind blowing speech on the role of drama in the life of a common man and his experience and knowledge added to it. Dr N. Mohanan, Syndicate Member, Sreejith Ramanan, theatre artist and camp coordinator, Devendra Nath Sankaranarayanan, Cine artist, Dr. P.K baby, Director of Youth Welfare were present on the dais. Dr N. Mohanan handed over the memento to T.M Abraham, and Dr. P.K Baby rendered the vote of thanks.



Soon after the inauguration, participants assembled at the amenity centre. With a couple of warm up exercises, the participants were asked to pair up and understand their partner in 10 minutes including his details, likes, dislikes etc. Then the partners exchanged the identity and introduced their partner as themselves. This was a different and interesting experience for the participants, which in turn helped in breaking the ice. The session was followed by dinner and casual talks; both sessions were handled by Devendra Nath Sankaranarayanan, Cine artist Sreejith Ramanan, theatre artist and camp coordinator.

The second day started with a refreshing exercise session in the morning. It was quite surprising for many of the participants that their body was not equipped for a demanding exercise of two hours. The sessions of the day focused on understanding the immense capacity of the body which is often unnoticed by oneself. These exercises were a great experience for the participants. 'The looking into eyes of others' exercise was challenging for the participants who was diffident in keeping eye contact. But the air of confidence was visible in the camp after these exercises.



As part of class room performances, a Solo theatre performance '*Theraeduppu*' by Appunni Sasi was arranged on the second day evening. New generation students who are not well versed with drama were literally surprised. This was followed by an interactive session with the actor. The words of the actor who followed his dream of being a drama artist were really inspirational.

The Third day too started with the exercise session in the morning by Sreejith Ramanan. The second session was by Ms. Hima Sankar, Noted film Actress and activist. Hima focused her entire session on the concept of loving the body and expressing the emotions. The exercise of massaging oneself was relaxing. In this busy world, one who is ignored usually is oneself. People usually don't find time for self, and Hima's session was an eye opener. She explained various emotions of a human, along with exercises for the expressing the same.

The next session by Sreejith Ramanan was focused on how to synchronise with others body along with understanding ones own. This exercises like 'Jump and clap in synchro' which seemed to her simple but challenging. Exercises gave insights into the importance for understanding and observing the teammate in making a successful team output.



In the last session, participants were given opportunity to give their feedbacks about the camp. The participants found to be extremely happy with their experience in the camp. The feedbacks were positive and many participants were eagerly looking forward towards the forthcoming endeavors of Youth Welfare Department to associate and to benefit. In short, every participant will at least take home an air of confidence which may reflect in their future activities. Dr. P.K Baby, Director, Department of Youth Welfare, Dr. Sasi Gopalan, School of Engineering, Dr. V. Madhu, Department of Atmospheric Sciences, Dr. K. Ajitha, Department of Hindi and Dr. M Meerabhai, Department of Economics were the faculty in charge of the programme.



World Mathrubhasha Diwas Celebrations

Languages are the most powerful way to preserve and develop culture and to promote it all across the world. International Mother Language Day is celebrated every year on 21st February. The main purpose of celebrating this day is to promote the awareness of language and cultural diversity all across the world. It was first announced by UNESCO on November 17, 1999.



Cochin University of Science and Technology observed World Mathru Bhaasha Diwas in the campus during 23rd to 25th February 2016 under the auspices of Department of Hindi and Department of Youth Welfare of the University. Dr. K Vanaja, Head, Department of Hindi was nominated as the coordinator. Three competitions, Solo song, Elocution Malayalam and Elocution Hindi took place to mark the importance of Mother Tongue as part of the celebrations. Topics given

were for elocution Malayalam and elocution Hindi were 'Mother Tongue and Nationalism' and 'Mother Tongue and Culture' respectively. The music competition was held on 23rd February. Renowned music composer Dr. Suresh Manimala, Dr. M. Bhasi and Dr. A Vijayakumar judged the participants. Jeslin Elsa Jose from School of Management Studies bagged first position and Jude P Maxson from school of Engineering bagged second position. Bharat Chand from School of Engineering and Nayana Gopal from Department of Computer Science shared second runners up position.



Elocution Malayalam was judged by known orator Dr. Joel Andrews, Dr. K.A Zakkaria and Dr. K Ajitha. Prasad M. from the Department of Hindi bagged first position and Amrutha Raj from School of Legal Studies bagged Second Position. Vishnu from Department of Hindi bagged third position. Elocution Hindi was judged by Dr. Rjkumar Meena, Dr. Aneesh K.N and Dr. Girishkumar K.K. Mr. Sonukumar from School of Engineering bagged first position. Prasara S. from Department of Hindi bagged Second Position and Shyju K from Department of Hindi bagged third position.

The closing ceremony and prize distribution were organised at the Hindi Department Auditorium on 25th February. Sri. M Thomas Mathew, known

Malayalam critic delivered the keynote address. Smt. Priya A.S, writer and Kendra Saahitya Academy award winner and Dr. N. Mahanan, Member Syndicate spoke on the occasion. Dr. K Paulose Jacob, Pro Vice Chancellor presided over the function. Dr. K Vanaja, Co-ordinator and Head, Department of Hindi welcomed the gathering and Dr. P.K Baby, Director, Youth Welfare proposed vote of thanks.





Department of Youth Welfare, Cochin University of Science and Technology has organized a Music Workshop: 'The sound of the Music' at CUSAT on 27th and 28th February 2016. The mission of the camp was to bring the love of music and learning to the youth. The workshop was officially inaugurated by the Noted Malayalam film Director and National Award Winner Sibi Malayil at 10.00 a.m on 27th February 2016. The function officially started with an incovation of a song written by ONV Kurup and sung by Jude P Maxon. Dr. Suresh Manimala music composer briefly explained about the camp. Dr. David Peter Registrar of CUSAT, Presided over the function. Director of Youth Welfare welcomed the gathering and Dr. Vijayakumar of Department of Mathematics proposed vote of thanks. Dr. David Peter S., Registrar handed over the memento to Sibi Malayil.



Soon after the inauguration, participants assembled at the auditorium for session one. In the first session Dr. Suresh Manimala started with introducing himself and narrated the story how he became a music director after completing his B. Tech



and MBA. He also explained his experiences with great singers and music directors. The session two was a presentation on the basics and technical aspects of singing. He explained the participants about the scientific principles of music, how it originated sound production, ideas about frequency and harmony, voice characteristics and method of singing. He said that voice must reverberate in our chest, He mentioned the difference between noise and music, and how each note is uniform wave. Session three also was a continuation of the basics and technical aspects of singing which covered the topics like how to modulate your voice, what is pitch, different types of ragas and importance of lyrics.



The evening of the first day of the music workshop was with two great maestros, - Mr. Berny, famous music director of the Malayalam film industry and Ms. Chithra Arun, Known singer. Mr. Berny played several musical instruments like guitar, key board, bulbul etc. He talked about how Hindustani music differs from the Carnatic music. He also explained few technical terms in music such as, timber of a song, major scale and minor scale for a song etc.

Ms. Chithra is a highly versatile singer, blessed with such a lovely pleasant voice. She sang few old Malayalam songs which were originally sang by P Susheela, S Janaki and Latha Mangeshker and the session was like a laboratory experiment for music students.



The second day morning session started at 9:30, with the same energy and enthusiasm. Dr. Suresh Manimala explained about the essentials to keep in daily life as a singer. He made explained some of the relaxation techniques that he used to do and suggested some medicines. Then he showed us different kinds of microphone and explained that each person have to select a unique microphone which suites them the most. He started the post lunch session by explaining the basic understanding about music and during the session he asked everyone to sing in front of the audience and explained to them the mistakes that they were

making while singing. The participants were given opportunity to give their feedbacks about the camp. The participants found to be extremely happy with their experience in the camp and have decided to form a choir team in CUSAT. The whole workshop ended by 6.00 p.m.



Walk With Scholar

Walk with a Scholar (WWS) scheme is a programme designed by the Directorate of Collegiate Education, Kerala as a specialized mentoring programme for students in Under Graduate Programs in Arts, Science and Commerce and to provide guidance for their future. The scheme introduces the idea of mentoring and is build on the concept of mentor as a 'Guide' and 'Friend'. The Scheme aims at giving necessary orientation to students in need, to prepare them for employment and give them necessary guidance, motivation and necessary mental support to identify appropriate areas for higher study as well as employment.

The Department of Youth Welfare is arranging facilities in consultation with various Departments over the last few years. As a part of the programme students from St. Mary's college, Sulthan Bathery, Wayanad requested to visit the University. 30 graduate students visited the Marine Science campus on 25th February, 2016. Dr. N. Chandramohanakumar, Adjacent Faculty, Department of Chemical Oceanography and Dr. Shyju interacted with the students. The students were given an opportunity to visit various labs and other research facilities in the campus.



ഒറ്റപ്പെട്ടുപോയവർക്ക്

ഒരു ഒറ്റയാൾ നാടകം

വി.എം.അഭിജിത്ത്

നൈനാച്ചൻ എന്ന ക്ഷീര കർഷകൻ, പ്രസവിക്കാതെ പാൽ ചുരത്തുന്ന രാഗിണിയെന്ന അയാളുടെ പശു, ഔഷധമുലയുള്ള രാഗിണിയുടെ പാൽ തട്ടിയെടുക്കാണെന്ന സമൂഹം, സാധാരണക്കാരുടെ ജീവിതത്തെയും സന്തോഷത്തെയും ചൂഷണം ചെയ്യുന്ന കമ്പോളവും നിയമവും, കൊച്ചി സർവകലാശാലയിൽ തൊഴിലാളി പ്രമുഖ നാടകപ്രവർത്തകൻ അമൽരാജ് അവതരിപ്പിച്ച ഒറ്റയാൾ നാടകം 'രാഗിണി' നക്ഷത്രമിട്ടത് ഇത്തരം ഒട്ടനേകം സാമൂഹിക യാഥാർത്ഥ്യങ്ങളിലേക്കാണ്.

അനൗൺസ്മെന്റിൽ മാത്രമായിരുന്നു രാഗിണി ഒറ്റയാൾ നാടകം. ദാവപുകർച്ചകളിലൂടെയും, ശബ്ദവിന്യാസത്തിലൂടെയും രാഗിണിയും, സ്വാധീപനും, രാഷ്ട്രീയക്കാരനും, മതേതരവുമെല്ലാം അമൽരാജിലൂടെ കാഴ്ചക്കാർ ആസ്വദിച്ചു. സദസ്സിൽ നിന്ന് അദൃശ്യമായ മുകളുകയറിലൂടെ വേദിയിൽ കെട്ടിയിട്ട രാഗിണിക്കൊപ്പം പ്രക്ഷുഭരെയും നൈനാച്ചൻ കെട്ടിയിട്ടു.

നൈനാച്ചന്റെ എല്ലാമെല്ലാമായ പശുവാണ് രാഗിണി. പ്രസവിക്കാതെ രാഗിണി പാൽ ചുരത്തുന്നു. ഔഷധമുലയുള്ള പാൽ, പശുവിന്റെ സിദ്ധിയറിയുന്നതോടെ സമൂഹത്തിന്റെ പല കോണുകളിൽ നിന്നുള്ള ഇടപെടലുകൾ നൈനാച്ചൻ നേരിടുന്നു. പശുവിനെ സ്വന്തമാക്കാൻ മതവും, രാഷ്ട്രീയവും, കമ്പോളവും, നിയമവും നൈനാച്ചനെതിരെ തിരിയുന്നു. നാടകാന്തം പിടിച്ചിത്തി കഷണങ്ങളാക്കപ്പെടുകയാണ് രാഗിണി.

കൂസാറ്റ് യുത്ത് വെൽഫെയർ വിഭാഗം സംഘടിപ്പിച്ച ത്രിദിന അഭിനയകളെയുടെ സമാപനത്തോടനുബന്ധിച്ചാണ് അമൽരാജ് രാഗിണിയെ അരങ്ങിലെത്തിച്ചത്. ചൂഷണത്തേക്കാൾ ഉപ



കൂസാറ്റിൽ പ്രമുഖ നാടകപ്രവർത്തകൻ അമൽരാജ് അവതരിപ്പിച്ച ഒറ്റയാൾ നാടകം 'രാഗിണി'യിൽ നിന്ന്

രി എല്ലാത്തിനോടും മനുഷ്യൻ പുലർത്തേണ്ട സ്നേഹമാണ് നാടകത്തിലൂടെ പറയാൻ ശ്രമിച്ചതെന്ന് അമൽരാജ് പറഞ്ഞു. കെ.ആർ. രമേഷ് ആണ് സംവിധായകൻ.

സ്കൂൾ ഓഫ് ഡ്രാമയിൽ നിന്ന് ബിരുദാനന്തര ബിരുദം ഫുർത്തിയറാക്കിയ അമൽരാജ് കെ.പി.എ.സി. നാടക സമിതിയുടെ ഭാഗമായിരുന്നു. സിറിയൽ, സിനിമ മേഖലയിൽ സജീവമാണ്. യുത്ത് വെൽഫെയർ വിഭാഗം തലവൻ ഡോ.പി.കെ. ബേബി, രാജേഷ് ശർമ്മ, അമൽ രാജ്, ശ്രീജിത്ത് രമണൻ തുടങ്ങിയവരാണ് കൂസാറ്റ് നേതൃത്വം നൽകിയത്.

