

Vol.37

ANNUAL REPORT

2024-25

VERY SPECIAL ARTS INDIA



Vision of an Inclusive community Strength in shared resources Artistic expression that unites us all

MISSION STATEMENT

"No mental or physical challenge need ever limit the human potential to create and excel."

VSA Stands for:

- **Vision of an inclusive community.**
- **Strength through shared resources.**
- **Artistic expression that unites us all.**
- **Economic self-reliance through vocational training.**

VISION

Promoting the creative power in people with disabilities. To create an inclusive society where each member gets a chance to learn a vocational skill and exhibit their talents, earn their livelihood and build a sense of self worth.

WHO ARE WE AND WHAT DO WE DO

Established in 1986, Very Special Arts India (VSAI) is a non-profit organization working with the disabled and underprivileged young population of India. The organization was conceived to fill a very special slot. It seeks uniquely to work with disabilities via remedial therapies including dance, drama, music, visual arts and crafts. Using the arts as a tool for social, educational, emotional and vocational rehabilitation, VSAI attempts to nurture talented artists, provide them with a platform to display their accomplishments, build self-esteem and facilitate their smooth integration into mainstream society in which they have as much a right to belong as anybody. In recent years, VSAI also provides vocational training to children with special needs and underprivileged youth to make them self-reliant. Every volunteer and worker in VSAI follows the credo: to fortify the belief of those less privileged, that, no mental or physical challenge need ever limit the human potential to create and excel.

A BEACON OF TRUST

CAPT. SUDHIR KAPOOR PRESIDENT



Dear Valued Supporters, Donors, and Friends,

I am honored to write to you as the President of VSAI, an organization that has been at the forefront of empowering special and underprivileged children for many years. Our mission is close to my heart, and I am thrilled to share with you the incredible work that we are doing to make a difference in the lives of these incredible children.

At VSAI, we are dedicated to providing all-round training to our special children, enabling them to become independent and self-assured individuals. Our team of highly capable educators works tirelessly to ensure that our children receive the best possible education and support. We are constantly striving to diversify the imparting of skills to our special children, ensuring that they are equipped with the tools they need to succeed.

We believe that every child deserves to know the real world, regardless of their physical or mental abilities. Unfortunately, many of our special children are dis-franchised from this world due to circumstances beyond their control. At VSAI, we are dedicated to bridging this gap, and our training programs are designed to be comprehensive and wide-ranging, covering a multitude of spheres.

Our staff and teachers are renowned for their empathetic handling of our special children. We understand that each child is unique, and we tailor our approach to meet their individual needs. Our children are encouraged to participate in a variety of social activities, which we arrange regularly. These activities, along with our field trips, help to broaden their horizons and build their confidence.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to our team of dedicated office bearers who work tirelessly to ensure the success of VSAI. We are special because of the efforts of our Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Members, Director, Cultural and Vocational Coordinators, Special Educators, Trainers, and last but not least, our Administrative Manager. Each and every one of them is a core strength of our organization.

I would like to extend my warmest thanks to our well-wishers and donors, who help us in helping these incredible children. Without your support, we would not be able to make the difference that we do. Your generosity and kindness are the backbone of our organization, and we are forever grateful.

JAI HIND!

OUR GUIDING LIGHT

DR. MEERA SINGH,
PH.D, FOUNDER SECRETARY & MEMBER



Dear Friends, Supporters, and Staff of VSAI,

I am writing to you as I bid farewell to my role as the Founder Secretary of VSAI. This decision has been a difficult one for me, but I am confident that it is the right time for me to move on.

As I look back on the journey of VSAI, I am filled with pride and gratitude. I have had the honor of working with an incredible team of staff who have dedicated their hearts and souls to our cause. I believe in each and every one of them, and I know that they will continue to carry forward the mission of VSAI with passion and commitment.

I also want to express my deepest gratitude to all of you who have supported us over the years. Your generosity, volunteerism, and advocacy have been the backbone of our organization, and I am forever grateful.

Most importantly, I want to reaffirm my belief in the cause of VSAI. The work that we do is crucial, and I am convinced that it will continue to make a profound impact in the lives of those we serve. I have no doubt that VSAI will continue to thrive and grow, and I will always be a proud supporter of this incredible organization.

To the staff of VSAI, I want to say thank you. Thank you for your tireless efforts, your compassion, and your dedication. You are the heart of VSAI, and I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to work with each of you.

As I move on to new chapter in my life, I will always carry VSAI in my heart. I will continue to support and advocate for this amazing organization, and I hope that you will stay in touch.

Thank you again for being part of this incredible journey.

Warm regards,
Meera Aunty

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

SONIA SAHNY
DIRECTOR, VSAI



As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude as I look back at the remarkable achievements of our special students and vocational students. Their sincerity, dedication, and perseverance have been truly inspiring, and it has been a privilege to witness their growth and development.

Our special students have consistently demonstrated their artistic talents, showcasing their skills through various exhibitions and performances. Their passion and enthusiasm are a testament to the impact of our programs on their lives.

Our vocational students have also made significant strides, acquiring valuable skills that have empowered them to become more independent and confident individuals. Their progress is a direct result of the tireless efforts of our staff, who have worked diligently to provide them with the support and guidance they need to succeed.

I am also delighted to highlight the progress of our primary remediation students, who have shown remarkable improvement in their foundational skills through our targeted interventions. With personalized attention and support, these students have demonstrated significant gains in their academic and cognitive abilities, laying a strong foundation for future success. It's heartening to see them build confidence and develop a love for learning.

Our commitment to excellence extends to our staff as well. We have prioritized regular professional development opportunities to not only enhance the skills of our educators and trainers but also provide them with avenues for mental nurturance. Through workshops, training sessions, and peer support, our staff have been able to stay updated on best practices, manage stress, and maintain their well-being. This investment in our staff has had a direct impact on the quality of education and care we provide to our students.

I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our staff for their unwavering dedication and commitment to our students. Their passion and expertise have been instrumental in driving our programs forward and making a meaningful difference in the lives of our students.

We are also deeply grateful to our donors, whose generosity has enabled us to continue providing high-quality programs and services to our students. Their contribution has been invaluable, and we are thankful for their trust in our organization.

To our volunteers, I express my sincerest gratitude for their selfless commitment to our cause. Their time, energy, and expertise have been essential in supporting our programs and helping us achieve our goals.

As we move forward, we remain committed to providing opportunities for individuals with special needs to grow, learn, and thrive. We look forward to continuing our work with the support of our staff, donors, volunteers, and the community.

LIVES TOUCHED THIS YEAR



SPECIAL
EDUCATION

550

REMEDIAL
EDUCATION

40

CANDLE
MAKING

40

1,000

+

BEAUTY &
WELLNESS

40

BLOCK
PRINTING

80

COMPUTER
EDUCATION

250

TAILORING &
WEAVING

100

SPECIAL EDUCATION

2024-2025: A Year of Unbridled Joy and Growth

Over the past year, from April 2024 to March 2025, our special students experienced a diverse range of activities and events that fostered creative expression, exploration, and holistic learning. We kicked off the year with the successful Sangeet Baithak, followed by exciting picnics, intern visits, and a spectacular annual dance and drama event that showcased their artistic talents. The festive season brought joy and creativity, with our students participating in Diwali and Christmas celebrations, creating decorations, and enjoying art, storytelling, and cultural enactments with volunteers. The year concluded with a focus on holistic learning, featuring vibrant celebrations, educational visits, and essential life skills development. Throughout this period, we maintained an inclusive and supportive environment, provided diverse learning experiences, and engaged volunteers who shared their expertise. We're proud of the progress our students have made and look forward to continuing to nurture their growth, learning, and joy in the years to come.



Theatre Class in Action



Cooking Class in Action



Weaving Class in Action



Pottery Class in Action



Block Printing Class in Action



Dance Class in Action



Yoga Class in Action



Tailoring Class in Action



Candle Making Class in Action



Music Class in Action



INTER SCHOOL CONTESTS

Very Special Arts India (VSAI) provides a platform for students with special needs to showcase their talents, build confidence, and become inclusive members of society. To achieve this, VSAI organizes various inter-school contests and festivals throughout the year, held either at their center or a hired auditorium/space. These events celebrate the students' diverse talents, promoting inclusivity and appreciation.

The festivals feature students' performances, artwork, or other creative expressions, and every participant receives recognition for their efforts. To foster a sense of fair competition and appreciation, awards, medals, and participation certificates are distributed to all students. Additionally, snacks are served to all participants, creating a welcoming and celebratory atmosphere.

By hosting these events, VSAI aims to:

- Provide a platform for students to showcase their talents and abilities
- Foster confidence and self-esteem among students
- Promote inclusivity and diversity in society
- Encourage fair competition and sportsmanship
- Recognize and appreciate the efforts of all participants

These festivals not only celebrate the students' talents but also contribute to their overall development, helping them become more confident and active members of society.



***Computer Festival,
December 6th 2024***



***On The spot Painting Competition,
March 12th 2025***

Annual Rangoli Competition, April 19th 2024



Carrom Competition, May 10th 2024



Yoga Festival, February, 21st 2025



Sangeet Baithak, April 25th 2024

Harmony of Talents: VSAI's Sangeet Baithak Celebrates Musical Excellence



On April 25th 2024, Very Special Arts India hosted a Sangeet Baithak at Alliance Francaise Auditorium, Lodhi Road, bringing together around 125 students from 14 schools. The event showcased the musical talents of students with special needs, highlighting their knowledge, skills, and creativity.

The performances included solo songs, group compositions, and instrumental pieces, all carefully prepared by the teachers to boost the students' cognitive abilities and functionality. Some students demonstrated remarkable skill and perfection in playing various instruments.

The event recognized the achievements of all participants, with medals and certificates awarded to each student. The top three schools received trophies, with Balwant Rai Mehta School securing first place, Jaspal Kaur School taking the second place, and The Sri Ram School Mousari securing the third position.

The program concluded with the National Anthem and a warm applause for the performers. This event underscored the value of music in supporting children with learning disabilities, attention issues, and emotional behavioral disorders. By promoting calmness, focus, and discipline, music proves to be a powerful tool in educational development. For children with special needs, music offers a positive and holistic approach to learning and growth.

Credit: Ms. Shashi Jagota

Annual Dance & Drama Festival, August 23rd 2024

Celebrating Unity in Diversity: 25th Annual Dance & Drama Show



On August 23rd, we proudly hosted our 25th Annual Dance & Drama show at the prestigious India International Center, Lodhi Road. This grand event was a testament to the power of art and culture in bringing people together. With over 125 students from 14 diverse schools participating, the show was a vibrant celebration of unity and creativity.

The theme "Vasudev Kutumbhkam - The World is One Family" resonated deeply with the audience, highlighting the importance of embracing our shared humanity. The performances were truly mesmerizing, showcasing a kaleidoscope of traditional and contemporary dance and drama styles.

The event was a resounding success, leaving the audience spellbound and enriched by the experience. It not only showcased the talents of our students but also fostered a sense of community and belonging among the participants. We are grateful to all the students, teachers, and staff who worked tirelessly to make this event a grand success.



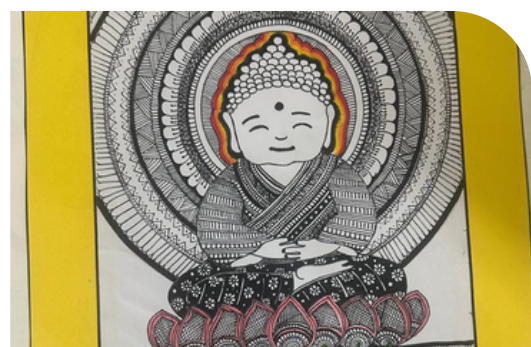
Annual Art Competition, November, 2024

Our annual art competition, hosted by VSAI, is always a huge hit! We receive an overwhelming response, with talented artists from all over the country showcasing their incredible skills. This year, we received nearly 200 entries, which is truly a testament to the creativity and passion of our artists.

The quality of the paintings we received was exceptional. Some of the artworks were truly masterpieces, worthy of being showcased in an exhibition. Our judges had a difficult task, as deciding the cash award winners was a challenge. They had to carefully consider each piece, taking into account the mediums used, the choice of colors, and the precision with which the work was done.

We must applaud the students for their incredible talent and dedication. The attention to detail and the passion they brought to their artworks is truly worth celebrating. We're proud to have such talented artists in our community, and we look forward to showcasing their work in the future.

Some of the artworks we received were truly exhibition-worthy. We can't wait to showcase these masterpieces to the world in the form of exhibits or using these artworks on lifestyle products, sale proceeds of which are shared with the artists!



PICNICS & VISITS

VSAI's Remediation and Special Students were regularly taken for enriching excursions to various places of interest in Delhi. These outings aimed to provide students with experiential learning opportunities, promoting their overall development and well-being.

The visits had a profound impact on the students, enhancing their social, emotional, and cognitive growth. By exploring new environments, students built confidence, developed social skills, and fostered independence. These experiences also encouraged creativity, curiosity, and self-expression.

VSAI's commitment to holistic education is reflected in initiatives like these, which prioritize student welfare and development. These excursions demonstrated the power of experiential learning in empowering students with special needs, promoting their integration into society, and unlocking their full potential.



RAIL MUSEUM VISIT ON MAY 3RD 2024



LOTUS TEMPLE VISIT ON SEPTEMBER 27TH 2024



VISIT TO AIR FORCE MUSEUM ON JANUARY 23RD 2025



VISIT TO MOGLY'S FARM ON FEBRUARY 28TH 2025



DELHI ZOO VISIT ON MARCH 25TH 2025



PARTICIPATION & PERFORMANCES

VSAI's special students showcased their talents and skills by participating in out-of-school competitions and performances. This initiative provided a platform for students to express themselves, build confidence, and develop their abilities.

The experience had a profound impact on student welfare and development, promoting:

- Confidence and self-esteem: Students gained a sense of pride and accomplishment through their participation.
- Social skills: Interactions with peers and judges helped develop communication and teamwork skills.
- Creativity and self-expression: Students showcased their unique talents and abilities.

By providing opportunities for special students to participate in inclusive events, VSAI fosters a supportive environment that encourages growth, empowerment, and inclusivity. This initiative reflects VSAI's commitment to promoting the holistic development of students with special needs.



SPRINGDALES SCHOOL, PUSA ROAD



AKSHAY PRATISHTHAN, VASANT KUNJ



AIRFORCE GOLDEN JUBILEE SCHOOL, SUBROTO PARK

CELEBRATIONS

LIGHTING UP LIVES: THE IMPORTANCE OF CELEBRATING SPECIAL DAYS

Festivals, birthdays, and special days – these occasions bring joy and happiness to everyone's lives. But for our special children and the economically disadvantaged remedial students, these celebrations hold an even greater significance. At Very Special Arts India (VSAI), we have seen firsthand the transformative impact of celebrating these special days in the lives of these extraordinary children.

For children from disadvantaged backgrounds, celebrations can be a rare opportunity to experience happiness and normalcy. Special days like birthdays and festivals provide a much-needed break from the hardships and challenges they face daily. These celebrations give them a sense of belonging, making them feel loved and valued. At VSAI, we are committed to continuing this important work, ensuring that every special child feels loved, valued, and celebrated.



ART APPRECIATION MORNING



MELODIC MORNING MAGIC AT VSAI

Monday morning, February 10th, at VSAI was transformed into a melodic masterpiece. Diego Carnero, a world-renowned cello player from Brazil, enthralled students and staff with his heartfelt performance. In an engaging interactive session, he guided students in creating rhythmic patterns that mirrored life in the Amazon Basin.

The students reciprocated by teaching him the nuances of SARGAM. The highlight of the morning was a spontaneous rendition of 'Sare Jahan Se Achha', with Diego's soulful cello accompaniment. The impromptu performance was a treat for the ears, leaving a lasting impression on all who witnessed it.

What was truly remarkable was how music transcended language barriers, enabling Diego to connect with the students on a deeper level. His ability to respond to their emotions and communicate through melody was a heartening testament to the universal power of music.

PRIMARY REMEDIATION

EMPOWERING YOUNG MINDS: VSAI'S REMEDIATION PROGRAMME MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Very Special Arts India (VSAI) has launched its Remediation Programme for primary students from MCD schools in our area. We began with a humble start, enrolling just 1 student on Day One, and have grown to a remarkable 25 students on our rolls before the summer break. The dedication and hard work of our teachers are truly commendable.

Our Primary Remediation Programme focuses on supporting students from Grades 1 to 5 from government schools. We equip them with essential skills in functional math and language, including both Hindi and English. Our progressive approach ensures comprehensive understanding, teaching concepts from basic to complex.

We go beyond academic support to foster holistic development. Our programme promotes social and general awareness through group participation and discussions about various festivals, encouraging cultural understanding and collaborative learning. We aim to prepare students to navigate and thrive in the world around them.

The Primary Remediation Project at VSAI is a comprehensive after-school programme designed to bridge the learning gaps of first-generation learners from economically marginalized backgrounds. Our dedicated team provides personalized support in languages and mathematics, clarifying concepts and enhancing academic performance.

With over 35 students enrolled, our programme offers activities that promote artistic expression, socio-emotional growth, and character development. Our experienced teachers utilize the best available resources to optimize learning outcomes.

We conduct regular professional development workshops led by trained volunteers and visiting faculty. This commitment to teacher growth directly benefits our students, empowering them to reach their full potential.

At VSAI, we are dedicated to creating a supportive and inclusive environment that enables our students to thrive and succeed.



COMPUTER EDUCATION



EMPOWERING THROUGH DIGITAL EDUCATION: VSAI'S COMPUTER TRAINING PROGRAM

VSAI's Computer Training Program has continued to excel in providing essential digital skills to underprivileged and special children. Our students performed exceptionally well in the NIIT exams, a testament to their hard work and our training quality. The batch examination results in May & November were exceptional, with all students excelling. This success showcases their perseverance and the quality of training provided. Following the achievement, new batches have commenced, continuing the program's mission to equip students with invaluable digital skills.

Regular sessions in 'Communication and English Conversation' continue to build our students' confidence, enabling them to present themselves better at interviews and perform better at school/college.

At VSAI, we remain committed to providing opportunities for underprivileged and special children to acquire valuable skills, build confidence, and unlock their potential. We are proud of our students' achievements and look forward to continuing our mission in the upcoming year.



DRESS DESIGNING & WEAVING



TAILORING PROJECT: A YEAR OF EXCELLENCE AND EMPOWERMENT

We are thrilled to announce that our students excelled in the final Singer Certification exam held in March. This outstanding achievement is a testament to their hard work and dedication to mastering the skills taught at VSA India.

As we celebrate this milestone, we are gearing up to launch new batches starting from 7th April 2025. Our commitment to empowering underprivileged students and promoting education, skill development, and economic independence remains unwavering.

In the previous batch of stitching and weaving, our students celebrated their achievements with a spectacular fashion show titled Black Beauty. This showcase, held as part of their certification presentation in September-October, was a testament to the participants' skills and creativity. The event highlighted the effort and dedication they invested throughout the program, making it a truly memorable experience.

Certificates were distributed during the event, marking the culmination of their journey. This milestone achievement is a reminder of the progress our students have made and the confidence they have gained.

At VSA India, we believe that tailoring and weaving are not just skills, but tools for empowerment. Our programs are designed to equip underprivileged students with the knowledge and expertise needed to break the cycle of poverty and achieve economic independence. We are proud of our students' achievements and look forward to continuing our mission of promoting education, skill development, and economic independence.



BLOCK PRINTING



EMPOWERING CREATIVITY: OUR BLOCK PRINTING COURSE

Our block printing course is a huge hit with students, who are loving the extra practice sessions that help them perfect their craft. The additional guidance is particularly beneficial for students with special needs, who've made remarkable progress in their skills and artistic abilities. This course is all about fostering creativity and personal growth, empowering everyone to excel in this beautiful traditional art form.

The course covers a range of topics, including designing and carving blocks, printing techniques, and entrepreneurship skills. Students learn how to create unique designs, mix colors, and print on various materials like fabric and paper. The course is designed to be accessible to all, with no prior experience required.

What's more, our course has been tailored to support students with special needs, providing them with the tools and guidance they need to succeed. This inclusive approach has led to some truly amazing outcomes, with students showing significant improvements in their confidence and artistic abilities.

Whether you're a seasoned artist or a complete beginner, our block printing course is the perfect way to explore your creative side and learn a new skill. With its focus on empowerment and personal growth, this course is truly a transformative experience.



CANDLE CRAFT

ILLUMINATING LIVES: CANDLE MAKING PROJECT

Our candle-making program is meticulously designed to be a transformative experience for our learners. We aim to enhance craftsmanship by teaching the intricate details of candle making, from wax selection to fragrance blending. This attention to detail fosters confidence among our students, as they develop a sense of pride in their creations.

Moreover, our program instills a sense of achievement among learners, as they witness their skills evolve throughout the course. We're thrilled to report that attendance has been regular and punctual, with students demonstrating a keen sense of responsibility and safety awareness. This is a testament to their commitment to the program and their own personal growth.

Candle making is an art that requires careful handling of fire, tools, and equipment. Our students have risen to this challenge, taking necessary precautions in the candle room to ensure a safe and secure learning environment. This attention to safety is a vital aspect of our program, as it empowers students to take ownership of their craft.

At VSA India, our mission is to empower students with entrepreneurial skills, confidence, and creativity. We're proud to report that our program has enabled our students to pursue their passions and achieve economic independence. By providing a holistic approach to learning, we're equipping our students with the tools they need to succeed.

Our candle-making program is more than just a skill-building course – it's a journey of self-discovery, creativity, and empowerment. We're proud to be a part of our students' journeys, and we're excited to see the impact they'll make in their communities.



BEAUTY & WELLNESS

OUR BEAUTY & WELLNESS COURSE: A YEAR OF SMALL TRIUMPHS

In the year gone by, three batches of our Beauty & Wellness course blossomed into confident professionals. And, the fourth batch stole the spotlight with a major transformation in March.

We're thrilled to announce the launch of our revamped Beauty & Wellness course, which debuted in March. This comprehensive program is a holistic journey to inner radiance. By incorporating Yoga and Ayurveda, we transcend mere external beauty, nurturing the mind, body, and soul.

Our updated syllabus draws inspiration from ancient Indian cultural practices, weaving traditional elements into the course content. This unique approach enables students to connect with their inner selves, fostering a deeper understanding of beauty and wellness.

Our mission is to empower young and aspiring students with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in the beauty and wellness industry. We cultivate a culture of self-care, self-love, and holistic well-being, guiding students to become radiant ambassadors of wellness. With our revamped Beauty & Wellness course, we're giving students the tools to bloom – inside and out.



INTERNING @ VSAI

FOSTERING SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

We are thrilled to host school and college students who intern with us as part of their social work or community service requirements! Our internships offer a comprehensive and immersive experience allowing interns to gain exposure to a wide array of services and programs within our organization.

Interns get to engage in and contribute to:

- Special and Functional Education: Help create inclusive learning environments for children with disabilities
- Remediation Programs: Support initiatives to improve educational outcomes for underprivileged youth
- Observership in Various Units: Get hands-on experience in diverse areas of our vocational courses

This immersive internship experience is a two-way street: interns gain valuable skills and insights, while we benefit from their energy and enthusiasm. Our collaborative approach fosters empathy, understanding, and mutual respect among all participants.

We welcome and value the participation of our young interns and look forward to continuing our efforts to create a supportive and enriching environment for all involved.

REFLECTIONS

PUSHPA, M.S.W. INTERNSHIP STUDENT

मैं एक एम. एस. डब्ल्यू. (मास्टर ऑफ सोशल वर्क) की छात्रा हूँ और मुझे वेरी स्पेशल आर्ट्स इंडिया (VSAI) में डेढ़ महीने की इंटरनशिप करने का सौभाग्य प्राप्त हुआ। इंटरनशिप के दौरान न भूल पाने वाली प्रेरणा मिली। मुझे स्पेशल बच्चों के साथ काम करने का अवसर मिला, जो बच्चे कला और रचनात्मकता के माध्यम से अपनी भावनाओं को व्यक्त करते हैं। मैंने उनकी विभिन्न कला कार्यशालाओं में सहायता की, जिसमें पेंटिंग, योगा, संगीत, नृत्य, कम्प्यूटर, ब्लॉक प्रिंटिंग और मोमबत्ती बनाना जैसी गतिविधियों में शामिल हुई और उनकी सहायता की, बच्चों के साथ काम करते समय उनके हुनर को करीब से जानने को मिला। मैंने देखा कि वे अपने कार्य को बहुत ही धैर्य रखकर करते हैं। हर बच्चे की सीखने की क्षमता अलग-अलग है, कोई बच्चा बहुत जल्दी सीखता है तो कोई समय लगाता है। VSAI के टीचर और ट्रेनर ने मेरी बहुत मदद की। उन्होंने बच्चों के साथ जुड़ने और उनकी जरूरतों को समझने में काफी मदद की ताकि मैं इन बच्चों को करीब से जान पाऊँ, और उनकी मदद कर पाऊँ। बच्चों के साथ काम करना आसान नहीं था, हर बच्चे का स्वभाव और समझने की शक्ति अलग है। उनको धैर्य रखकर सुनना और उनकी मदद करना जरूरी था।

यह देखकर बहुत खुशी हुई कि कला कैसे इन बच्चों को अपनी भावनाओं को व्यक्त करने और अपनी पहचान बनाने में मदद करती है। यह इंटरनशिप मेरे लिए एक काम नहीं था, बल्कि सीखने का एक मौका था, और इन बच्चों को करीब से जानने का, पहचानने का एक मौका मिला। सबसे महत्वपूर्ण बात यह सीखी कि इन बच्चों के साथ कोई भी प्रयास करो तो वे व्यर्थ नहीं जाता है। समय लगता है, पर उसका परिणाम जरूर मिलता है। इन बच्चों के साथ काम करने में मुझे बहुत अच्छा लगता है।



COMMUNITY SERVICE

FOSTERING SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

At VSAI, we firmly believe that community is the heartbeat of our organization. We're passionate about fostering connections and building relationships that bring people together. We've had the absolute pleasure of hosting several groups of enthusiastic volunteers & students from various institutions regularly, who spent memorable days with our remedial and special students.



VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION AT VSAI



HANSRAJ COLLEGE- VALENTINE'S WEEK COMMUNITY SERVICE

These visits have been a true testament to the power of community and the impact of kindness. We've witnessed firsthand how the energy and compassion of these young visitors can transform the lives of our students. They brought joy, laughter, and smiles to our students' faces, and we couldn't be more grateful.

We're deeply grateful to all the students who took the time to connect with our students and create cherished memories. Their selfless acts of kindness have made a positive impact on the lives of our students, and we look forward to continuing these meaningful interactions.

We believe that kindness has a ripple effect. When we show kindness to one person, it can spread to others and create a wave of compassion. We're proud to be a part of this wave, and we're grateful to our visitors for helping us spread kindness and joy.

We're always looking for opportunities to collaborate with like-minded individuals and organizations. If you're passionate about making a positive impact in the lives of others, we invite you to join us in our mission. Together, we can create a brighter future for our students and spread kindness throughout our community.



**ENACTUS-
MATREYI COLLEGE**

**Students from 4
American universities
spreading joy at VSAI**



**VSAI volunteers and staff
spreading the joy of creating
art with blocks at Sanskriti
School in a workshop on
Block Printing.**



COMMUNITY SERVICE

IMPACT STORY

EXPRESSED BY – HARVEEN KAUR VIII, TANMAYEE DAWAR IX, &
JEEVANYA XI
JASPAL KAUR SR. SEC. SCHOOL



In the heart of Delhi, located in the serene surroundings of Vasant Kunj, Very Special Arts India (VSAI) is an organisation making waves by providing individuals with disabilities a unique platform to explore and develop their artistic abilities. On Wednesday, 13th November, we, the students of JKPS, visited VSAI. The director of VSAI, Mrs. Sonia Sahny, welcomed us and gave us a tour. One of the most inspiring aspects of VSAI is its commitment to skill-building through various vocational programs catering to artistic and practical skills.

In partnership with NIIT, VSAI offers computer labs where participants are trained in essential computer skills, equipping them for opportunities in the modern workforce. This partnership highlights VSAI's dedication to building digital literacy, ensuring that individuals with disabilities are not left behind in the digital age. Another remarkable skill-training program focuses on handloom weaving, where participants not only master this craft but also pass on their expertise to new students, creating a cycle of mentorship. We learned that two people working in the handloom section are alumni of VSAI, reflecting the institution's commitment to providing opportunities to its students. This deeply touched us, as it showcases how VSAI stands by its students, empowering them with self-reliance and dignity.

The visit was a profoundly emotional and transformative experience for us. From the moment we stepped in, the joy and warmth that filled the air were palpable. Together with the students, we participated in various activities like yoga, dance, block printing, and stitching.

We made butterflies out of craft materials, an unforgettable experience, as the students patiently guided us, turning simple materials into beautiful creations. During yoga, we witnessed a unique energy. Every child participated wholeheartedly, their enthusiasm lighting up the room. These moments reminded us of the simple joys of life and the power of inclusion.

The highlight of our visit was playing a game of “passing the parcel,” a room filled with laughter, excitement, and camaraderie. It was not just a game but a reflection of how deeply connected and happy everyone was in this space. The staff and students welcomed us with such kindness that we felt like a part of their family. Saying goodbye was hard, as our hearts were full, and we left inspired by the resilience, creativity, and boundless positivity of everyone we met.

VSAI’s vocational programs truly empower individuals with disabilities. Participants excel in creating handcrafted items like candles, block-printed suits, bedsheets, and dining mats, which reflect their dedication and creativity. The stitching and dress designing section teaches participants to create garments, portable shopping bags, and table mats, opening doors to opportunities in the fashion industry. The beauty and wellness room offers training in makeup and beauty services, preparing participants for the beauty industry while fostering self-care and relaxation.

Throughout the visit, it was clear that VSAI is not just a learning centre but a vibrant community built on kindness, creativity, and inclusivity. We left with a deep sense of respect for this organisation, which stands as a shining example of how art and vocational training can transform lives. VSAI has created a model that empowers individuals with disabilities, helping them lead fulfilling and independent lives.



GURU GYAN

BALWINDER KAUR, Vocational Coordinator- Stitching & Weaving



MY EXPERIENCE WITH UNDERPRIVILEGED AND SPECIAL STUDENTS

When I started working as a Dress Designing Instructor at VSA, my goal was not just to do a job, but to help those girls who, due to certain circumstances, were unable to stand on their own feet or pursue education.

Working with girls as a Dress Designing Instructor has been one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life. Each session is not just about teaching stitching, cutting, and pattern making but about inspiring confidence, independence, and creativity. These girls, despite facing challenges, bring immense passion and desire to learn. It's heartwarming to see how a simple skill can open doors to self-reliance and dignity.

Working with these special girls was an emotional and inspiring journey for me. Though they may be mentally or physically different, their willingness to learn and confidence is no less than anyone. During the class, I observed how they slowly learned to cut fabric, drafting, cutting, and create simple kurti. When they wore the first kurti made by their own hands, the joy and pride in their eyes were priceless. Every day spent with them gave me a new sense of purpose and energy. This experience taught me that with trust and patience, every special child can polish their talent and shine in their own way.

During my time at VSA, I learned many new skills such as block printing, weaving, candle making, and how to create new products. This experience has been a transformative journey for me. I've learned to appreciate the value of creativity, hard work, and dedication. I've also learned to believe in myself and my abilities. VSA has been an instrumental part of my growth, and I will always be grateful for the experience.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & WELFARE



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES: A YEAR IN REVIEW

Throughout the year, our organization conducted a series of workshops aimed at enhancing the skills and knowledge of our staff members. These workshops were led by external experts and covered various topics relevant to our staff's professional growth. We hosted workshops on the following topics:

We hosted workshops on the following topics:

- Observation and Assessment of Students
- Elements of Report Writing
- Behaviour Modification
- Remediation in Academic, Cognitive, and Social Areas

These workshops were attended by staff members from special education, primary remediation, yoga, and other areas. The sessions provided valuable insights and practical strategies to improve staff practice and enhance student outcomes.

We were privileged to have Ms. Gaurika Bhalla lead several of these workshops. Her expertise and guidance were greatly appreciated by our staff members. Ms. Bhalla's sessions on Behaviour Modification and Remediation in Academic, Cognitive, and Social Areas were particularly insightful, providing staff with evidence-based strategies to address the needs of children with special needs.

Our professional development program is designed to support the ongoing growth and development of our staff members. By providing opportunities for training, workshops, and knowledge sharing, we aim to empower our staff to excel in their roles and make a positive impact on our students' lives.



VOCATIONAL STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & WELFARE



VOCATIONAL STUDENT DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Throughout the year, our organization implemented a comprehensive program of workshops for vocational students, designed to foster their emotional, social, and professional growth. This initiative comprised a diverse range of topics, carefully selected to address the multifaceted needs of our students. We were privileged to collaborate with a team of experts, comprising professionals and volunteers from their respective fields. Their shared expertise and passion ensured a holistic growth experience for our students, empowering them to develop the skills, confidence, and resilience needed to succeed in their chosen vocations. The workshops included:

- Improving English Speaking and Communication Skills: Enhancing language proficiency and confidence in communication conducted by Ms. Sonia Sahny.
- Social Media Marketing: Equipping students with the skills to leverage social media for personal and professional branding conducted by Ms. Natasha.
- Health & Nutrition: Promoting healthy lifestyle choices and nutrition awareness by Ms. Sonal
- Yoga & Mindfulness: Fostering mental well-being and stress management techniques by Ms. Neha Agarwal
- Art Therapy: Encouraging creative expression and emotional intelligence conducted by Ms. Pallavi Pant.

By providing this comprehensive program, we aim to equip our students with the tools necessary to thrive in all aspects of their lives.



HEALTH WELFARE

HEALTH IS WEALTH: A REPORT ON VSA INDIA'S HEALTH INITIATIVES



As part of our ongoing commitment to promoting health and wellness in our staff and students, VSA India organized two significant events during the past year.

Eye Check-up Camp

On November 13th, we successfully hosted an eye check-up camp for staff and students, in collaboration with the Center for Sight. This initiative provided an invaluable opportunity for over 100 students and teachers to get their eyesight and cataract tested. We are grateful to the Center for Sight for their support in making this event a success.

First Aid Training Session

On Friday, March 21st, 2025, we partnered with CK Birla Hospital to conduct a comprehensive training session on First Aid at VSA India. This informative session attracted over 50 enthusiastic students, staff members, and parents who were eager to learn essential life-saving skills. The training session, led by experienced medical professionals from CK Birla Hospital, covered critical topics such as basic first aid techniques, wound management, and emergency response procedures. The interactive session included hands-on demonstrations, real-life scenario discussions, and Q&A sessions, ensuring that attendees gained a thorough understanding of first aid principles.

We are thrilled to report that the students, staff and parents who attended the session expressed their appreciation for the insightful training and are now better equipped to respond to medical emergencies with confidence. At VSA India, we believe that health is indeed wealth, and initiatives like these are essential to promoting a healthy and safe community.

TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE



The Annual Staff Lunch for staff and volunteers was hosted on December 20, 2024, and proved to be a memorable and enriching event. The program featured captivating performances in theatre and music, showcasing the talents of our students, alongside a vibrant fashion show presented by the graduating batch of the stitching course. This year, as always, the event stood out as a testament to the creativity and hard work of our students, leaving all attendees inspired and proud.



HOW TO SUPPORT VSAI

SUPPORTING OUR MISSION: THE BACKBONE OF OUR SUCCESS

At our NGO, we offer all services completely free of charge. This allows us to reach and support a wide range of individuals who might otherwise lack access to essential resources.

To sustain and expand our initiatives, we rely heavily on generous donations from individuals and groups who believe in our mission. Our work is significantly bolstered by the invaluable contributions of volunteers from within India and around the world. These dedicated individuals selflessly offer their time, skills, and expertise, playing a crucial role in the successful execution and growth of our programs. We deeply appreciate and value their unwavering support and commitment.

We are proud to foster an inclusive and diverse environment, welcoming students from various backgrounds, mental health professionals, other working professionals, homemakers, and individuals from all walks of life.

There are numerous ways to get involved and make a meaningful impact:

- Donations: Financial contributions help us maintain and expand our free services.
- Volunteering: Participation by sharing your expertise in our educational and training programmes and workshops enriches our community.
- Events: Simply being an audience member at our children's performances, competitions, and exhibitions shows support and encouragement.
- Purchase of products: Purchasing products made by our students, like candles, woven articles of everyday use and block printed tableware/clothing help us in generating funds for the organisation and generating employment opportunity for the students, thereby leading to their financial support.

Every form of support, whether through donations, active volunteer participation, attendance, or purchasing from VSAI, significantly contributes to the fulfilment of our mission. Your involvement not only aids in the practical aspects of our work but also provides emotional and moral support to the children and individuals we serve.

Join us in making a difference! Together, we can continue to empower and uplift communities, creating a brighter and more inclusive future for all.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*Thank you for being a part of our mission. Your support means the world to us!
We are grateful for your time, resources and donations.*

CEVA FREIGHT INDIA PVT LTD

A J S SAHNEY
AAMIR
AANCHAL KHURANA
AARGUS GLOBAL LOGISTICS PVT LTD
ADESH MANJIT SINGH
ADITYA KAKKAR
ADITYA KAPOOR
AKHILESH KUMAR SINGH
AMBITA VERDI
AMRITA BHALLA
ANUBHA MUKHERJEE SEN
ASHTBUJ OCEAN MOVERS PVT LTD
ASIAN ADVENTURES
BHARAT BHUSHAN SAHNY
BHARTI DEVESHWAR
CEVA FREIGHT INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
C.P. WORLD LINES PVT LTD.
CAPT SUDHIR KAPOOR
CHANDER PAL
CHANDRIKA GROVER
DEEPANSHU YADAV
DELHI PREMIER ROTARY SERVICE FOUNDATION
DINESH KUMAR
DR. ANJAN PRAKASH KAUR
GAURIKA BHALLA
GITANJALI SARAF
GITIKA KAPOOR
GLOBAL CARGO SERVICES PVT LTD.
GUPTA FAMILY FOUNDATION
GURSHARAN KAUR
KAAKUSHTH GLOBAL LLP
LAGNAM SPINTEX LIMITED
MAJ JASBIR SINGH
MAMTA KOCHHAR
MANJULA PAL
MANOJ AILAWADHI
MAYANKA KAPOOR
MEERA SINGH
MOHD MOHSIN
MOHIT KUMRA
MONIKA KHANNA
MURSALIN
NAGENDRA MALIK
NAINA KAPOOR
NATASHA DEMPO
NEERAJ JAIN
NITIN KUMAR
PALLAVI PANT
PRIYA DEY
RAJIV KUMAR
RAKESH YADAV
RAMRAHISH
RANJEET SINGH RAWAT
RAVI INDRA SINGH VERDI
RAVINDER MALIK
RAVINDER SINGH CHALHOTRA
REENA KAPOOR
RITU DESAI
ROHIT KHOSLA
S & G COMPANY
SAHELI BHATTACHARYA
SAHNY SECURITIES PVT LTD
SALONI BUDHIRAJA
SANDEEP ANAND
SANDEEP MEHTA
SAVITA JOSHI
SELAN EXPLORATION TECHNOLOGY LTD
SETU SOCIETY FOR EMPOWERMENT AND TRADE
UPLIFTMENT OF ARTISANS
SHIVANI CHANDER
SHUBHAM
SNEH AWASTHI
SOCH FOUNDATION
SONIA SAHNY
SUJATA APPLIANCES
SUMAN JHUNJHUNWALA
SUMANT BHARGAVA
SUNILA AWASTHI
SURJETET SINGH RAWAT
T LAKSHMIPRIYA
UGGAR SAIN JAIN CHARITABLE TRUST
VINOD KUMAR
VIPIN
VIPIN GAUR
VISHAL MANRAL
WORLDWIDE SAFETY PVT LTD.
YOGESH KUMAR

*Sorry! if we missed your name; it was purely unintentional.
We wholeheartedly appreciate your support.*

MANAGEMENT

President	Capt. S. Kapoor
Vice President	Veena Thapar Nidhi Gupta
Secretary	Ambita Verdi
Treasurer	Sonia Rasdeep Singh
Executive Members	Dr. Meera Singh Priya Dey
Director	Sonia Sahny
Administrative Manager	Ajay K Singh
Cultural Coordinators	Neeraj Kapoor Diksha Upriti Nikhil Sharma
Vocational Coordinators	Deepak Ram Balwinder Kaur Mohammed Irshaad Baiju
Special Educator	Pooja Singh
Teacher	Sonal Khosla Priyanka Indu
Trainers	Mukesh Om Prakash Paras Sharma Mandeep Singh Pinki Chandravanshi Shanti Vijay Pal Ram Kishor Neha Agarwal Ravita

Very Special Arts India

Plot No. 3, Sec-C, Institutional Area, Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj

New Delhi-110070, India.Tel: 011-46075972, 9910924238

Email: vsartsindia@gmail.com Website: www.vsartsindia.org