



SHOWCASE SHOWCASE SHOWCASE

25TH & 26TH AUGUST

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NEWSLETTER

ORIGINS OF SHOWCASE

From drafting and re-drafting endless plans to the relief of running smoothly on the final day, Modern High School International (MHSI) presented ShowCASE, our first-ever offline fest, celebrating the theme of Integration and Inclusivity.

Focusing on the philosophy of CAS (Creativity, Activity and Service), one of the core components of the IBDP, the fest enabled students from various schools to participate in worthwhile activities, celebrate their talents and lead with compassion via service. The CAS programme emphasises developing well-rounded individuals who thrive in the classroom and also have a good social influence through their actions. CAS paves a path of learning and growth so our students can ShowCASE our real potential and become tomorrow's change-makers.

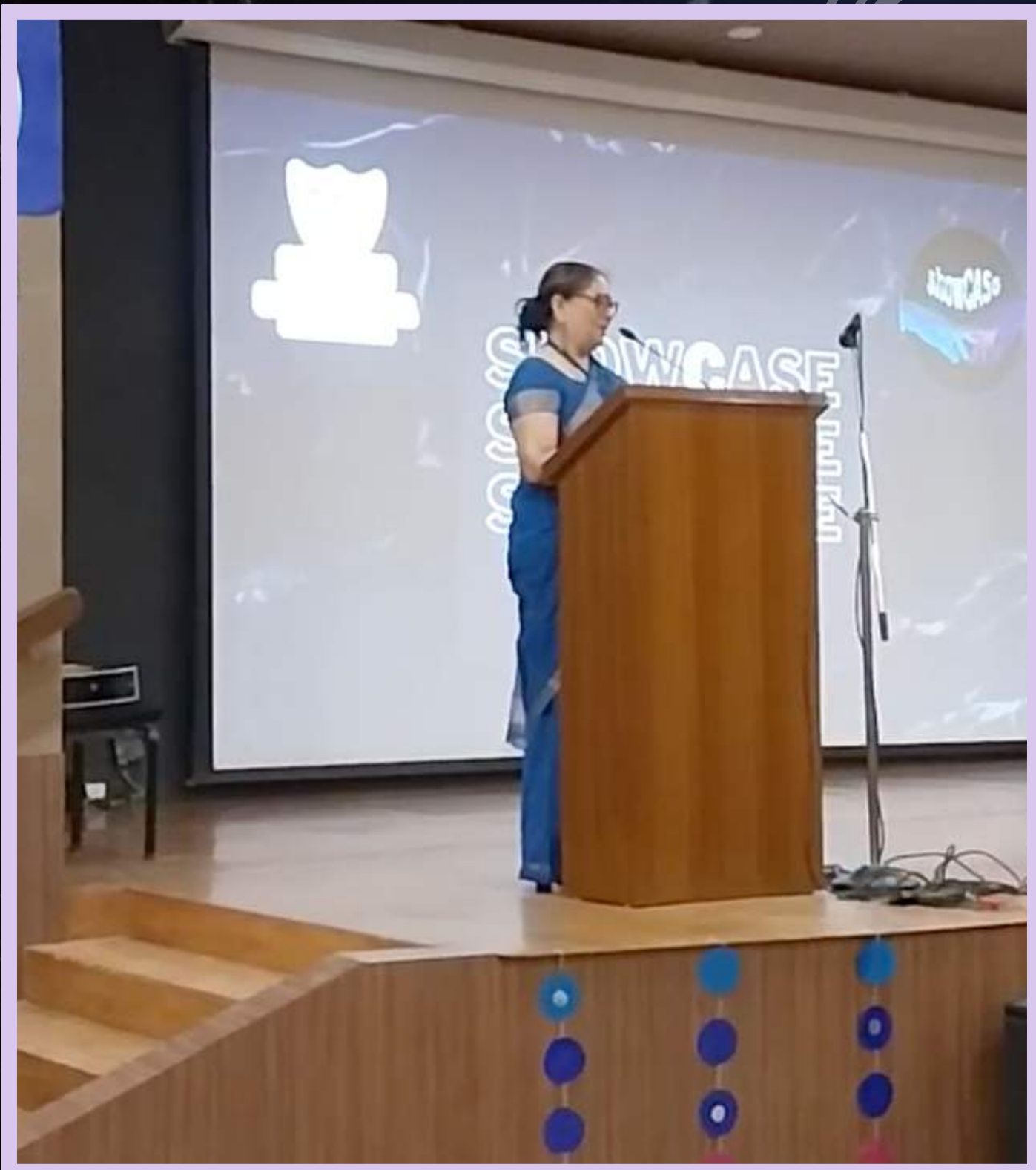


Ms Asmita Chatterjee, the CAS coordinator at MHSI, provided an insider's account of the origins of the fest two years ago. She said, "The idea for ShowCASE is actually that of one student of the class of 2022, Vani Agarwal. During the pandemic, they could not do their CAS project outside, so they thought they could do an inter-school fest." Continuing the traditions of the first online version, the names of the events have largely remained the same. The students came up with innovative events that would challenge and help ShowCASE the strengths of each of the participants.

OPENING CEREMONY

The principal of Modern High School International, Ms. Nandini Ghatak, talked about imbibing "flow-state" as the spirit of the fest. It occurs when someone is at one with the task at hand and is completely focused on it, beyond any point of distraction. It is a sense of fluidity between the body and the mind.

She elaborated on the core themes of ShowCAsE, Integration and Inclusion, and their importance in the present social landscape. She declared ShowCAsE 2023 open to resounding applause.



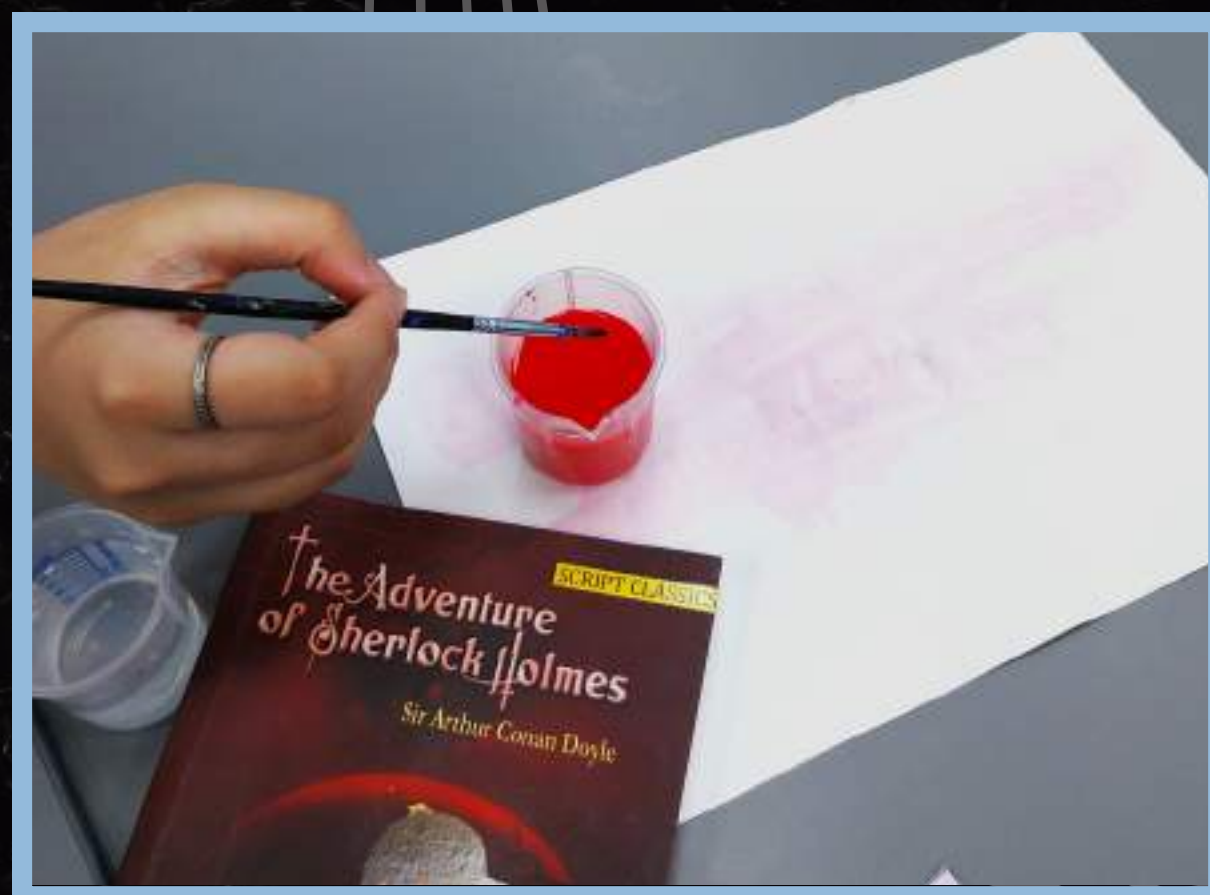
MHSI's band, Badamtish, performed the song 'Yellow', by Coldplay, which is a bright song embodying the spirit and emotions they wanted to convey for the duration of the fest.



Lastly, Anvesha Saraf, a member of the core committee, provided insights into the importance of CAS in the events. Videos looping on the projector expanded on the separate strands of CAS and demonstrated how MHSI students have inculcated them into their daily activities.

ENCASE

EnCAsE was a treasure hunt across the building floors where the participants worked in pairs, receiving their first clues in the auditorium, immediately dashing off as the stopwatch that declared the hunt afoot. From revealing invisible ink on paper with Sherlock Holmes and decoding a light bulb message referencing *Stranger Things* to picking clues out of jelly as Micheal Scott from *The Office* watched over and putting puzzles together like the detectives on *Brooklyn 99*, the participants had the most fun ringing the bell at the end of the hunt.



Prashansa Pasari, a member of team EnCAsE, said, "It's really fulfilling to see everybody enjoying the event, and I'm really relieved that everything has worked out well." She mentioned that they had a lot of ambitious and great ideas for EnCAsE and felt really glad that they were able to execute a majority of them successfully. While there was no shortage of troubleshooting, the team was ecstatic after the outcome of their event.

RECAST

ReCAST tested the participants' intuition, artistic ability and social sensitivity. The topics for the painting focused on social movements such as the Temperance Movement, the Times-Up Movement, the Anti-Nuclear movement, and the Women's Suffrage movement.

With one photographer, a model and two artists, the twist in the tale was a complete ban on communications within teams. Bringing these movements to life on a face was a challenge that the participants embraced and executed beautifully.

"Painting on someone's face for the first time will be fun," said Nirmant Athir, an enthusiastic participant of ReCAST from Don Bosco Park Circus, eager to get his hands colourful. A round of questions and answers with esteemed judges enriched the event with interesting answers from the artists.



CASCADE



CAScade was an event that challenged the physical ability of the participants, consisting of three segments: the obstacle course, the gym setup, and Just Dance. The obstacle setup was divided into two segments, each requiring the participation of two students. Blindfolded navigation through a cone maze was set up for one pair while the other had to figure out how to stack a tower of odd-sized boxes without the use of their hands. Excited spectators cheered on the teams as they walked their way to victory!

The gym setup commanded the physical strength of the participants as it required one of them to hop, skip and jump over a ladder and land on specific spots with their feet tied, while the other participant duck walked, frog jumped and did Bulgarian squats all while their hands were firmly secured with rope.

CAScade finished with a flourish with Just Dance, integrating AI and dance. It challenged their stamina and demanded them to follow a strenuous dance routine wearing glasses that blinked to the beat of their moves.

BROADCAST

"We are taking the theme of inclusivity and integration to another level as we're actually including children from Dhakuria Society For Education & Expression. The entire basis for BroadCAST is collaboration and inclusivity," said Navya Bhagat, the event head of BroadCAST. It was a non-competitive art event that celebrated collaboration and creativity, where participants collaborated with children from an NGO to create artworks. The event started off with the participants from Dhakuria Society For Education & Expression being paired with the schools and setting off to let their creativity flow.



Some of the topics assigned included LGBTQIA+, gender equality, and cultural appreciation, among others. The teams immediately got to ideating and planning out their artworks, sketching away at their rough sheets and canvases. The room was full of excited chatter as the teams started mixing their paints and blocking in their shapes.

BROADCAST DISPLAY

All the artworks made by the participants of BroadCAST were displayed in the Gurukul. They were carefully placed on easels, with small write-ups attached to them. Teachers and students were gazing at the paintings as the young artists explained the ideas, thoughts and meanings behind their artwork.

The event was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Soumen Halder from Dhakuria Society for Education and Expression said, "All of us had a lot of fun making this painting, I really enjoyed myself."



The judges went around the Gurukul analysing each painting and making their way through the crowd of participants, students, and teachers. The artists from each team proudly stood by their artwork, while also admiring the art made by other participants. It was an enriching experience that served to raise awareness about relevant social issues.

PERFORMANCE BY DHAKURIA E&E NGO



The performance by the children from Dhakuria Society For Education & Expression showcased a vibrant display of Eastern dance forms. With a burst of colors and infectious energy, the young dancers gracefully moved with traditional steps and formations. Their performance beautifully intertwined elements from various Eastern dance styles, seamlessly transitioning between rhythmic footwork, graceful hand gestures, and emotive expressions. The choreography reflected both the cultural heritage and the youthful spirit of the children, leaving the audience captivated and uplifted by their heartfelt performance. Ms. Gargi Sen, the dance and mathematics teacher of the non-profit organization mentioned, "Our children are very excited because they are getting an opportunity to be in a completely different environment, and we always encourage them to participate."

GUEST PERFORMANCE



The guest performance was by the band, Waiting List, that included Aditya Majumdar, a talented musician. Since his debut in 2018, he has carved an impressive path in the music world. He emerged onto the scene as part of the True Roots Ensemble, playing in the Indian Classical Fusion Act.

He has performed across India and from Amsterdam to Bali. He has been accepted in Berklee College of Music and the Berlin Conservatory, and been published in *Rolling Stone* among other magazines.

He played songs from his anthology and definitely made the audience shed some tears with his soulful voice.

CLOSING CEREMONY

The Closing Ceremony was the culmination of a fantastic two-day offline fest, the first of its kind for MHSI.

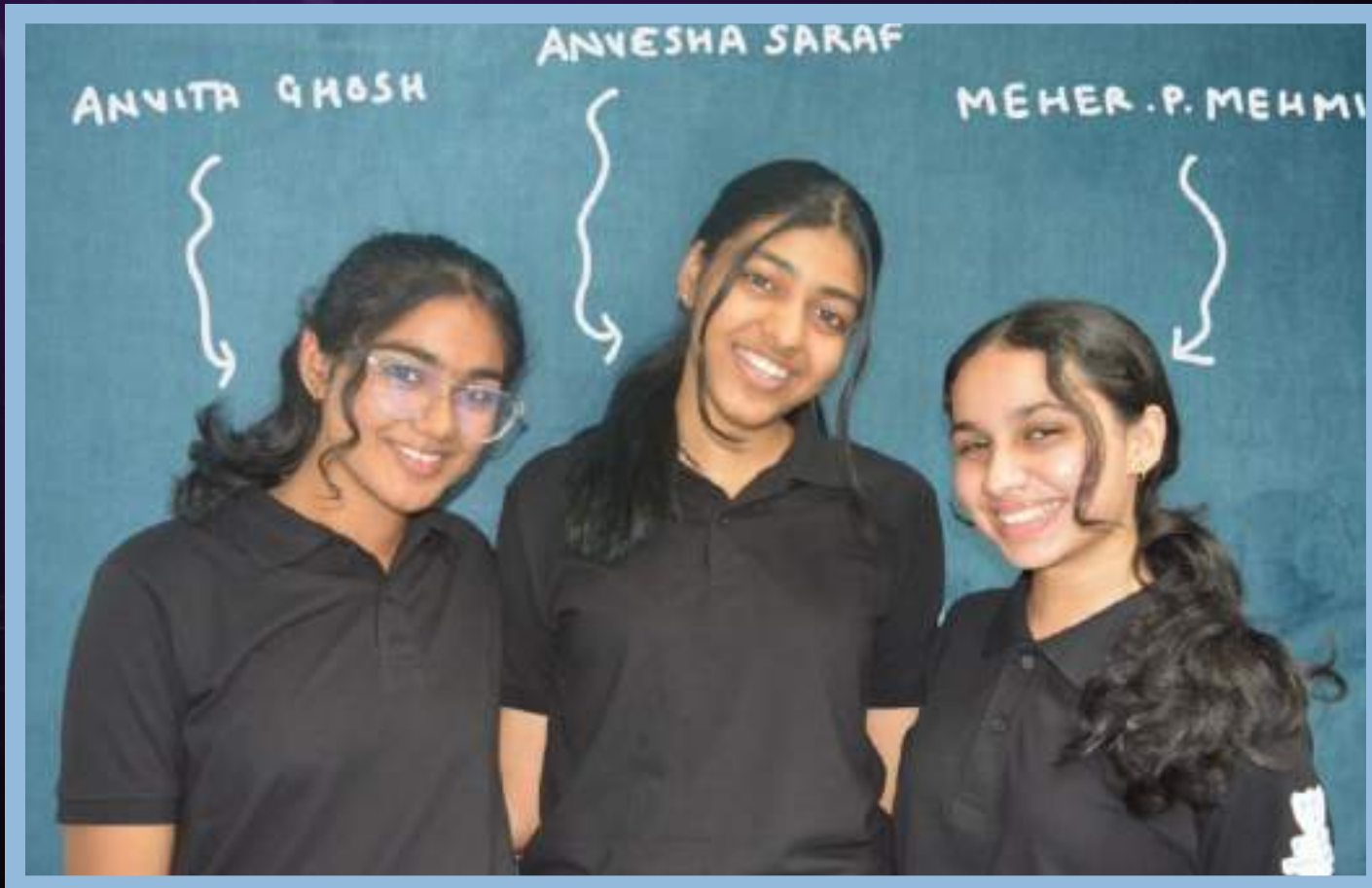
For Day 1, the winning prize for EnCAsE went to Don Bosco School, Park Circus, and the winner for ReCAsT was Modern High School for Girls. For Day 2, the winner of the only competitive event, CAsCade, was Modern High School for Girls.

Ms. Somali Mitra, Head of Administration and Support Services, proposed her vision for ShowCAsE 2024 to, "reach out to other international schools in other cities... We have to plan things in such a way that either it's like a showcase- cum exchange program or we could do a kind of a hybrid fest."



TEAMS

Core Commitee



Social Media & Tech Team



Art & Design Team



Logistics Team



TEAMS

Team BroadCASt



Team CAStade



Team ReCASt



Team EnCASe



EDITORIAL TEAM



QUOTES & BITS

"Showcase is the first event that Modern High School International is hosting. We have had about a year of planning behind it and a lot of hard work that has gone behind."

~Ms. R. Som

"ShowCASE wasn't just a 2 day fest for me - it was almost a year's worth of ideas, meetings, sleepless nights and chaos come into vision; I thoroughly enjoyed this journey."

~Anvesha Saraf

"I've seen my colleagues, our teachers who were very busy these past few weeks, but I'm quite liking today, and I wish every day were like this one really."

~ Dr. B Das

"IB Visual Arts talks about the cultural context, from where you are beginning. We have tried to show the journey by using the alpana motif with a blend of modernity."

~ Ms. I Bharadwaj

"We are talking about inclusivity and it's just not us we should be thinking about. Going beyond ourselves, looking to the community, reaching out to the community, thinking about people who are not always as privileged as we are and giving us and them an opportunity to learn, because we learn a lot when we are collaborating."

~Ms. S. Sanyal

"The highlight of the fest was the collaboration between the students, with the grade 12s spearheading the whole thing... The rest of the students kind of rising to make sure it happened in the way it was envisioned. Also the fact that the teachers came together to give you the guidance necessary to make it successful"

~ Ms. N. Ghatak



Teachers Core Committee

BEHIND THE SCENES

