



Society Activity Report 2020-21 Sabha—The Multilingual Theatre Society

In the academic session of 2020-2021, Sabha, the Multilingual Theatre Society of St. Stephen's College organized and undertook the following events and workshops under its banner:

- 1) Organized and conducted the Orientation of the first-years on 24th November, 2020. The Orientation acted as a medium for the members of the society to interact with the newly inducted first-years and apprise them of the events and culture of the society. It also acted as an ice-breaking session and theatre-related games were played.
- 2) An online 'Facial Expressions Workshop by Mansi Puggal' was organized on 13th September, 2020. Mansi Puggal, the guest for the workshop graduated from St. Stephen's College and the Drama School of Mumbai. The workshop included an exploration of different styles of expression and improvisation.
- 3) An interactive Improv Comedy Show was conducted by the Playground Improv Collective, Delhi. It was organized on 10th October, 2020 in the online mode.
- 4) An online 'Voice Coaching Workshop' was organized on 17th October, 2020. The workshop was conducted by Shreya Bera who is a former faculty member of the Bangalore School of Speech and Drama. She shared her experiences and wisdom of 10 years in the theatre circuit and helped polish speech, tone and other necessary aspects of voice which is essential when playing a role in a drama.
- 5) Sabha conducted its first ever online auditions for the street play vertical; Aadibhav in February 2021. The auditions were conducted in various slots over a course of three-four days and led to the selection of 18-20 members. This was followed by various improvisational, facial expression training and fun sessions so as to maintain the zeal and the energy that a street play performer must have.
- 6) Dastaan-Sabha's Annual Fest was conducted from 14th-16th April, 2021. It was the first time that the fest was held in the online mode and the following events were organized:
 - i) **Playhouse: The Production Competition** wherein the participants' directorial prowess, aesthetic sense and interpretive capacity were put to test. The first position was won by Astitva from Dyal Singh College, the second position by BhaNi-G from Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College and the third position by Astitva, Dyal Singh College (M)
 - ii) **Soliloquy: The Monologue Competition** allowed participants to express their inner thoughts in the form of monologues in front of an audience with the use of the *navarasas*. The winners for the same were Hiral Verma of Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies in the first place, Dhriti Verma of Keshav



- Mahavishvavidyalaya in the second place and Arsh Jain of Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies in the third place.
- iii) **Colloquy: The Dramatic Reading Competition** was conducted in collaboration with the Poetry Society of St. Stephen's College. The competition aimed to encourage multiplicity and diversity of expression and thoughts in the form of poetry. The first place was won by Team Lakshya from Kamala Nehru College, the second place was won by Team Sakriti from Dr BR Ambedkar College and the third place was won by Team Heavy Drivers from Keshav Mahavidyalaya.
- iv) **An interactive session with renowned actor Mr. Shishir Sharma** was organized on 16th April, 2021. The talk aimed to explore the various ups and downs of pursuing one's passion for acting, anecdotes from Mr. Sharma's journey as an actor and how theatre has changed him.
- v) **A panel discussion** with rising theatre artists **Lauren Robinson, Srishti Gautam and Mikhail Sen**. The trio walked down memory lane and reminisced their theatre days in the University and interacted with the audience about pursuing acting beyond college. The discussion was conducted on April 15th, 2021.