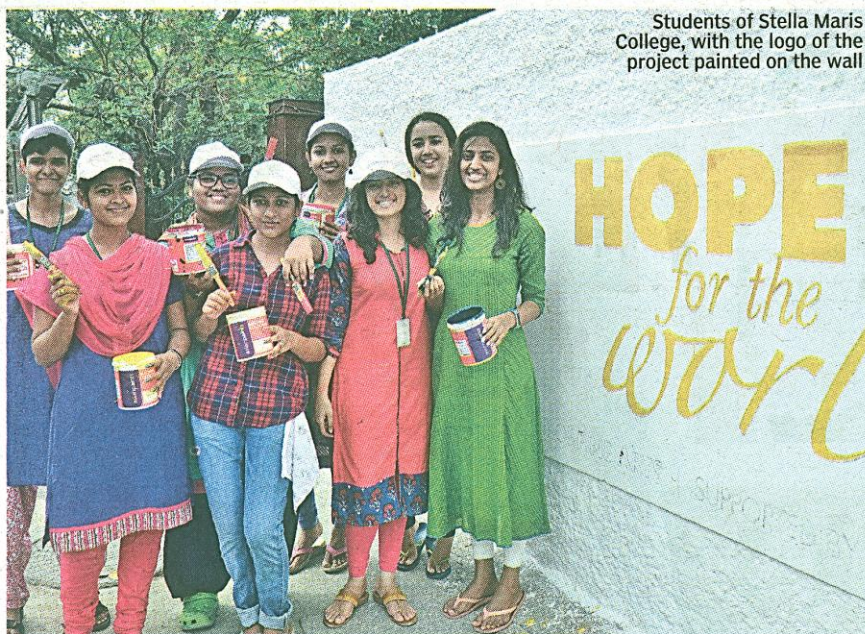


March 16, 2017



Students of Stella Maris College, with the logo of the project painted on the wall

Keeping vig

CRAB Earth Vigil fest conducted at Don Bosco of Arts and Science inter-collegiate fest saw many tests with environment conservation as the main theme overall winners this year Vogue Institute of Technology, Bangalore from the inter-college and the fest also saw eminenters from different fields environment conservation part. Piyush Manu green warrior of Salem the 'Bird man' of Chennai who feeds around 8000 everyday, Pooja Kumar Archana Seker, environmental activists from V Collective, Youssef Olive Ridley Turtle vationist and K Jayabhaskaran, writer, journalist and

GIVING HOPE THROUGH BRUSH STROKES!

Students of the Fine Arts department of Stella Maris College are painting the walls of the campus with murals, which talk about our environment

NIVEDA MANOHAR

DECCAN CHRONICLE

Chennai has seen rough times for two years now — natural disasters like the floods and Vardah cyclone ravaged the city, apart from the recent oil spill that damaged our coastline. With an impending rough summer, college students are doing their bit to try and educate the public about environment conservation.

The department of Fine Arts, Stella Maris College, has come up with the project — 'Hope for the World'. Murals conveying the concept will be painted on the campus walls. The initiative is being



supported by Preeti Garg and Sanjay Tulsyan, founders of Gallery Veda.

"The students are glad to be participating in this project, which gives them a chance to be part of a serious issue and allow them to express their thoughts through the medium of art," says Dr. Margaret Thomas, Head of the Fine Arts department of the college. Whilst depicting man's unity with nature, the painted panels will also illustrate the hostility that man has inflicted upon nature through deforestation, escalation of technology, exploitation of resources, urbanisation and so on. Folk imagery will be interspersed with redolent quotes in the hope of inspiring Chennai to respect and preserve the city's beautiful periphery. "Two hundred students, both under-graduate and post-graduate, will paint approximately 1500 square feet on this theme of hope. I cannot describe how excited the students are about this project," says Dr. Thomas. The students are painting the murals between 6 am to 9 am and from 6 pm to 7 pm, braving the heat. The murals will be completed by March 20.

Preeti Garg, one of the founders of Gallery Veda, expressed her delight in helping students, adding that it is a step towards making art accessible to everyone. "I was a part of Art Chennai, an initiative purely for public interest. It was a way to have the public involved in art by installing artwork at different places in the city. The college approached Gallery Veda to collaborate with them for the campaign, which also serves the

same purpose. The gallery is sponsoring the material needed for the work, whereas the creative aspects are taken care of by the students of the department. It is in the prime locality of the city, giving the artwork maximum visibility. We are sponsoring, but apart from that, the main reason why we are doing this is because we are all for art being inclusive," Preeti says.

The panels will have recurring figures, to maintain a theme and convey a story, making the public understand the theme better.

The reason why we are doing this is because art has to be inclusive

— PREETI GARG, GALLERY VEDA



Students painting the campus walls

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