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Customised wedding cake

Flaunting the fondant

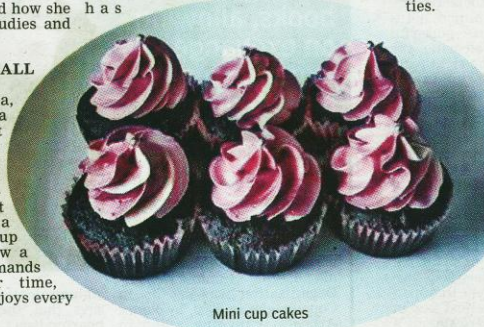
Multi-tasking college student Kavitha Sathya is all set to open her cafe and boutique soon, combining her passions!

PRIYANKA SHANKAR

DECCAN CHRONICLE
Kavitha Sathyan is a 24-year-old college-goer from Stella Maris, but she's not just a student! Juggling on her mind are what to bake for the evening, what materials to choose for her apparel designs and which medium to work on a painting next week. She is a professional baker who also designs and paints during the free hours! In a chat with us, she talks about her interests and how she manages her studies and profession...

HOW IT ALL BEGAN:

For Kavitha, baking was a means to get out of depression she was facing due to the loss of a close family member. What started off as a hobby to fill up free time is now a career that demands a lot of her time, although she enjoys every minute of it.



Mini cup cakes

One day, a craving for chocolate dragged Kavitha to a famous cafe in the city. To her shock, the cake which she bought was hard and tasteless. So, she decided to test her hand at baking. "My first brownie was a burnt piece!" laughs the self-taught baker. Now she bakes in bulk every week. Having established her own brand of bakes, 'Sugarlicious', she custom bakes for orders through her Facebook page and other contacts in the city. Her friends help delivering them, but in some cases, she chooses to meet the customers herself.

Kavitha has

set up many stalls at exhibitions in different parts of the city — and the college canteen, impressed with her work — also places orders from her! In addition, two bakeries in the city have a contract with her.

Kavitha's baking space is her kitchen at home. "My mom kicked me out of her kitchen because I overheat her's! So, I set up my own kitchen in the first floor of our house. I encourage customers to visit and check the hygiene and cleanliness themselves, before placing the orders," adds the college-goer. Asserting that she makes an expiry check on every product she purchases, she states that it is one of her biggest priorities.

Adding that she always likes to experiment with substitutes for her products, Kavitha says, "A mix of healthy and tasty is always better."

Reaching out to people by conducting baking work-

shops, this Chennai baker is creating a revolution in baking in her own style. She also regularly posts videos with step-by-step procedure on how to bake complicated recipes at home. For her, baking is not just a profession but a great stress-buster.

STROKES AND SEWS

Taking up designing after completing a course in stitching, Kavitha also dons the role of a designer and tailor. Although she still hasn't started taking custom orders, she designs and stitches clothes for friends and family. "I have my college to focus on too. After I'm done with college, I might take up orders for clothes," adds the multi-



lemon zest cake

tasker.

"I also fancy acrylic, paintings on canvases," shares Kavitha.

AN ENTREPRENEUR IN THE MAKING

The young baker and artist wants to establish her own cafe in the city. The cafe will be a restaurant combined with a boutique. The idea is ready and she now awaits the right time to establish her own spot. Thanking her mother and friends for all their support, she concludes, saying, "During my time of depression, if it weren't for their constant encouragement, I wouldn't be up on my feet."



Kavitha Sathya

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— KAVITHA SATHYA, STUDENT BAKER

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