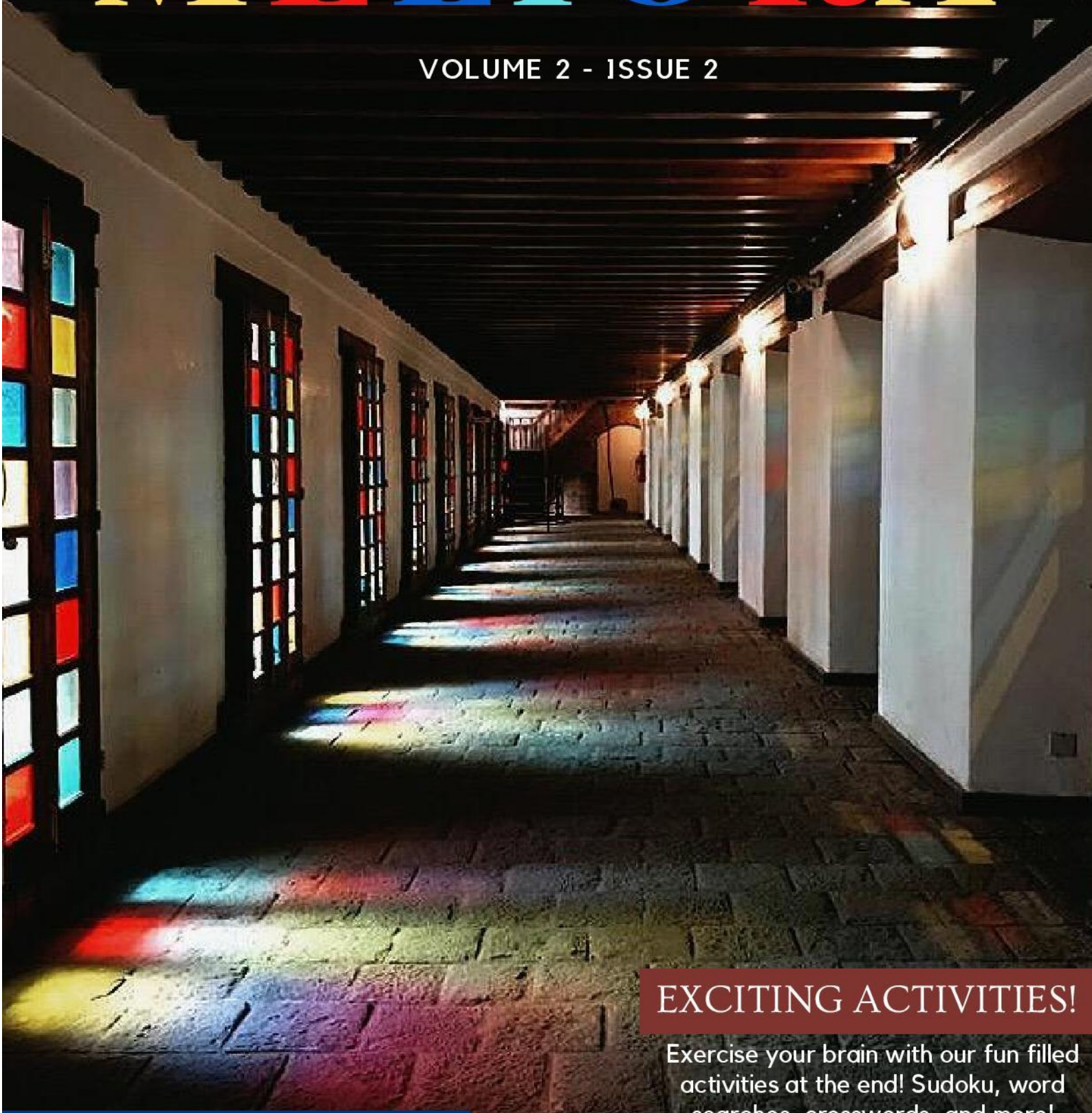


A PODAR WORLD COLLEGE INITIATIVE

MELIORA

VOLUME 2 - ISSUE 2



EXCITING ACTIVITIES!

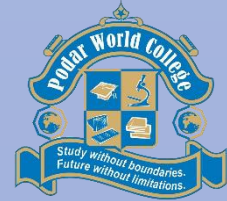
Exercise your brain with our fun filled activities at the end! Sudoku, word searches, crosswords, and more!

TUNES FOR AUGUST

90's vibe or modern tunes, we've got you covered when it comes to music!

COVER PHOTO BY DRISHTI MEHTA
COVER DESIGN BY MADHURA BAKSHI





Since I joined Podar almost 2 decades ago and then later took up the deanship in 2014, the enormous talents, capabilities, achievements and potentials of our senior leadership team, faculty, staff, students and alumni have never stopped to amaze me. Our teaching faculties are leading scholars, best teachers and experts in their respective subjects. Our students are among the brightest in Podar and our alumni are some of the most influential in their own profession. Podar has always been highly regarded and consistently ranked as the country's top educational institution since its foundation in 1927. Podar is committed to excellence in the delivery of education and providing students to access highest quality teaching, learning and recreation services.

Ensuring Podar remains at the leading edge; in 2017 our new education building was completed in Mumbai at our Santacruz campus. The largest redevelopment projects in the Mumbai city in recent years, this 155000 sq. ft. facility with basement plus ground plus 7 floors will transform the delivery of interdisciplinary teaching in Mumbai. Podar is wholly focused in developing future leaders who make a difference worldwide. We take pride in providing rigorously evaluated programme which is globally recognised and respected qualification from the University of London. The University of London International Programme offers undergraduate degrees in economics, management finance and the social sciences to students worldwide. Academic direction for these courses is provided by London School of Economics and Political Science. Our curricula put together the strengths of global excellence with regional relevance and a focus on India.

Innovative content, market-oriented enrichment programmes, international exchanges, internships, mentorship programme, active student organisations and a highly globalised student base nurture communication and leadership, on top of the pursuit of academic excellence.

You are sincerely invited to get to know more about us and our undergraduate programmes. I look forward to the opportunity of welcoming you to join our family – where successful leaders of the future are nurtured.

Dean,

Dr. Mrs. Vandana Lulla.

Podar World College

Editor's Note

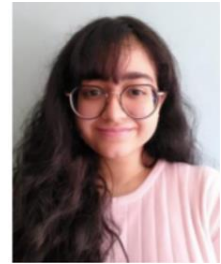
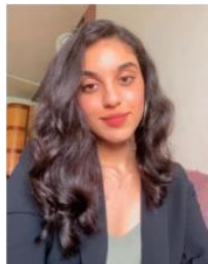
Welcome to Meliora 2.2! This issue comes with more changes in the magazine, and we hope you like them as much as we do.

Working on Meliora has been quite a journey for me, being an editor for 2 consecutive years, and we are in continuous pursuit of making every issue the best possible version, much like the meaning behind the name of our magazine, to grow. Our team has worked so well together on this, which is why I'm really proud of this issue!

This magazine is a safe space for you to speak your heart out, and we've seen so many articles do that! It's interesting to see and understand different perspectives, which is what I look forward to everytime we're putting this magazine together.

I don't want to keep you waiting here and be a bummer, so go ahead and flip through the pages! We hope you love it as much as we did putting it all together!

Drishti Mehta



Welcome to the Vol.2 Issue 2 of Meliora, where we are in continuous pursuit of the betterment of knowledge and growth. This magazine is for the students, by the students of Podar World College!

This volume has a few new changes again, and we're hoping you like it! It features RCPCs event highlights from August which were held by Sports, Community Service and our Editorial avenue. We have a special event highlight this issue, of our Installation! Meliora is a place to share your opinions, talents, and anything that you want to share, and we can see that reflecting with so many amazing pieces coming in. This issue covers two poems and articles that cover topics ranging from literature to the economy and much more. The artworks of this issue show off our students' talents and are very visually appealing!

From multiple Google Meets about layout, plans, editing with a lot of diversions, this magazine has materialised before you in its entirety. This issue has something for everyone and we hope you like it and continue to enthusiastically participate for the future issues!

Team Editorial

This is an accepting and open community,

so let's be respectful of all authors

and producers of the amazing entries in this magazine.

The views expressed are not endorsed by college but are their own.

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Closure

The first thing that comes to my mind when I think of 'closure' is the hours of heartache; from trying to figure out where I went wrong, to questioning my own self-worth, to my insides contorting every time I cross a familiar place or hear a reminiscent song. And every time, after a failed friendship or relationship, we ask for one thing at the end, closure. Where is it? How do we get it? Why didn't we get it? Will we get it? Don't we deserve it?

Most times, we don't get closure from the others involved. And the times we do, I'm not sure it's ever really helped to reduce the pain that accompanies the end. But here's the hard truth, no one owes you closure. Yes, it's terrible and heart-wrenching, and you may want or need it, but it's not on them to give you that. And no, it doesn't mean that the way it went down was okay. But their 'closure' continues to give them power over you.

To say that you need closure from them means you're still depending on them and giving them a way to control how you feel. To wait continuously for a satisfying reason after which you believe your life will return to a semblance of normality will only elongate your suffering. Even after a long time, hearing about them or remembering something about them

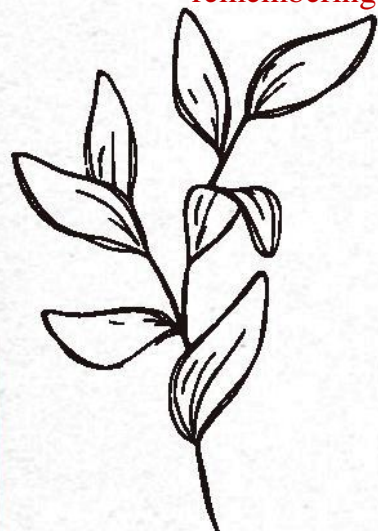
will still spell out pain whether you get that closure or not. I'm not old enough to guarantee that but I hope I'm wrong and that after a long time there's no bitterness left. But I am old enough to

say that with the bitterness, try to look at the memories in a happier light. I'm sure most of you have heard "don't ever regret something that made you smile", and as hard as it is, I wholeheartedly believe that the saying is right.

Life is short, and anything that has made you happy should be appreciated. Be kind yet clever and polite yet powerful (Taylor Swift said it best!). But change is inevitable (yes, Thanos level) and that means some relationships will inevitably fail. There's nothing wrong with you, or them. You're just growing up, and you will grow till the very end.

If you seek closure, go ahead and try but if you don't get it, don't get down in the dumps or wait around. You are not a situation that needs handling, you are strong enough to pick yourself up and move on. It may not be immediate but you will get there. You do not need their approval or their reasoning. You are not a grenade destroying things around you, you are human and you are changing. You will meet many people in this life and some will stay and grow with you but some may choose to grow away from you. That is not on you, that is on them. Learn to accept and move on. Find people that know your worth, but first, know your own.

Avanti Morarka



Kids These Days

Kids these days have it so easy, back in my day we had a job and a house, says an Old Person. A rather common statement, it refers to the many things.

In the 1980s, the tuition in the public American universities was \$3,190 per year in *today's money*. Today, the average tuition is upwards of \$20,000 a year. This, bundled with an average debt of \$37,172. That's up from \$20,000 just 13 years ago. Not to mention the increasing interest rates, which most of us can witness first hand, as our fellow students sell a kidney to afford a basic bachelor's in an American university. I recall talking to my friend a week ago and hearing him cry over the obscene interest rates. As for the latter part of the statement... well, back then in the 1980s, it cost \$68,714 to buy a house, and \$3,600 per year in rent. Today, the cheapest state costs \$8,700 a year to rent, and the cost of buying houses has shot up by about 40%. Posting for entry-level jobs in the US fell by nearly 68% in 2020, the World Economic Forum reported. It cited a 2018 study that found 61% of jobs described as entry level required at least three years of experience.

"Today's graduates are expected to arrive on the job with a range of in-demand skills they would have once developed in the early years of their career," according to the World Economic Forum. "This includes training in technical skills, fluency with data, and other new modes of literacy that are table stakes in an increasingly tech-driven knowledge economy." What does this mean? It means we're living in an era that has rapidly evolving technology. My python skills will be outdated by the time I graduate in 3 years. There is no winning here.

"Kids these days have no attention span." This statement reflects more on the parents than it does on the kids. Here, I'm referring to the parents who hand their kids YouTube and call it a day. Perhaps it's because they themselves are addicted to technology, or perhaps it's to "keep their kids head of the learning curve" when it comes to tech, these parents forget they are the child's first teacher: monkey see, monkey do. If mommy is on the phone all day watching YouTube, why should I have to watch TV? This results in the child being exposed to questionable context (see Elsasgate in YouTube culture), while also losing the patience of sitting through an ad break, or waiting for the next cartoon to come on. In the quest to raise "tech-savvy" *three year olds*, these parents sacrifice the one thing they cannot learn later in life: patience. Gone are the days of reading to your kids, or Saturday morning cartoons. Hello to the age of immediacy.

"Kids these days are so vain." To quote Bo Burnham "They say it's the 'Me' generation. It's not. The arrogance is taught or it was cultivated. It's self conscious. Social media is the market's answer to a generation that demanded to perform, so the market said 'here, perform everything to each other, all the time, for no reason'." Why did this quote stick out to me? Because it's a more nuanced take on social media. So often it is snubbed by people, including myself that we forget to ask, but *why* do the little girls like to dress down? *Why* do we all seek validation from other people? My guess is, quite simply, we didn't get it from our parents. The media is so obsessed with looks and gossip and misery, we turned to each other, to our peers, to seek love and validation. We aren't vain, we're desperate. It's not us, it's them.

"I'm a cool parent, I buy my kids alcohol!" is personal favorite of mine. It's no secret to anyone that knows me, that I am extremely anti-alcohol. Parents that pour drinks for their kids at the age of 16 because "I'd rather you drink in front of me" and then whine about the rising binge drinking rates. Socially, everyone's accepted it as a norm; a thing the rich do. You wouldn't teach your kid to binge on sugar, would you?

Why are these statements made in the first place? Ranging in intensity, all of the above stem from the same feeling: envy. Envy of their kids, of their peers, of their grandkids. Technology moves so quickly; the older generations may feel left out. Trends move so quickly; it can get overwhelming for the *kids* let alone their parents. Noting from the "Gen Z vs Millennial war" on Tiktok (yes really), all of the outrage stems from... nothing. It's just millennials making fun of actual children, the way their parents' media mocked them. Well, actually, the media was less personal and harsh on millennials, this was just white people bullying each other.

The point I want to end on is very simple. Be good parents. This article stems less from a place of annoyance, and more of anger. Again, monkey see, monkey do. By setting poor examples, the kids will grow up to hate their kids. Rather than harping on them for things that are a byproduct of issues like inflation and political instability- all of which was caused by the previous generation- perhaps solving the problem from the root is a better way forward.

The world has always been cruel and unkind to everyone who isn't earning seven figures, doesn't have white skin, and born with a penis. In a world where inheritance tax exists, we can't afford to continue this cycle.

Kids these days aren't lazy. Kids these days aren't vain. Kids these days don't have it easy. They're kids. And if they turn out poorly? Well, they didn't raise themselves, did they?

Ruchi Mishra



I Hate Love Stories

Some call it love; I call it bewitched. For there is a pain in being caught in that spell and a liberty in the freedom of being alone.

I've grown up watching typical Bollywood romance movies every other weekend and the love depicted in those movies was something I wanted for as long as I can remember. Growing up I realised just how toxic, problematic and suffocating this love was that was being advertised everywhere. Movies in which the protagonist is happy and not in a relationship, are comparatively less and I think that's where the problem lies. Why are relationships romanticised to us? Why are we not shown the work that is put into it, the pain, the everyday struggles, the compromises, the sacrifices?

Love is a trade; a give and a take of time, energy, emotions, pleasure and company. Not only romantic love but any love is like a business deal in my opinion. There's a lot of risk involved but it is an investment; you invest yourself in that person. Relationships aren't all rainbows and sunshine, it involves a lot of difficulties and long term sacrifices to make it work. People should be aware of this before they get into one, and a great way of that could be realistic movies and series centred on love. Movies often promote many problematic and toxic behaviours such as stalking or harassment until the person gives into them and 'loves them' or manipulation and coercion of consent.

Boy-girl relationships in Bollywood are portrayed in a way that the guy is almost always in charge of initiating the relationship by performing several

chauvinistic gestures to win over the girl. They also have the dominant role while the girl is submissive, soft spoken, shy and depicted as a trophy. Not being shown enough movies with more queer love and relationships is a problem in itself, but even the depiction of heterosexual relationships are sexist and one-sided. It's all about the chase and as kids watching these movies and dancing to their songs, we believe and are given the illusion that this is love and this is what it is supposed to be like. The movies mostly involve the girl giving into the guy's wishes and desires and never being vocal about her own. That isn't what a successful relationship in your future should or would look like. You can't give and give because you will run out and become empty. Yes, the sacrifices and changes and compromises are needed but there needs to be a line which, in typical Bollywood movies, is non-existent. The character changes their personality and belief only in the name of love. And that isn't okay. Your individualism matters even in a relationship.

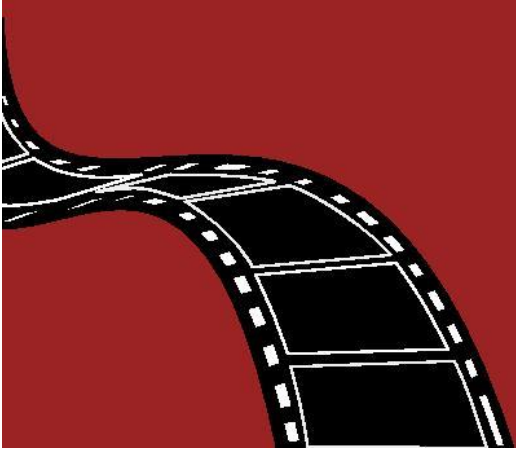




These movies create expectations that are unattainable, play out scenarios that will never happen and make us believe problematic behaviour is normal. Love is complicated but cinema is such a malleable and influential medium that their depiction is important. Dynamics in love should not just be 'boyfriend and girlfriend' or 'husband and wife', but should also be 'wife and wife' or 'boyfriend and boyfriend'.

Casual and serious relationships that don't end with a happily ever after should be shown. Not everyone loves to get married and have kids, some don't even have the opportunity to and it is unfair to make movies revolve only around that typical love story. Movies can be so much more impactful if they switch it up and actually get love right. A man following me home singing a degrading song won't make me blush, it'll only make me pull out my pepper spray and leave me traumatised.

Suhani Singh





Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara

The movie's cast includes Farhan Akhtar as Imran, Hrithik Roshan as Arjun, Abhay Deol as Kabir and Katrina Kaif as Laila, as the main lead. The movie is about three best friends taking a road trip in Spain where they learn about each other, about themselves as well as face their fears head on. Each character, in fact, has a lot to learn.

Arjun is a workaholic who thinks money is the only way of survival since he experienced it the hard way, having to pay off a lot of debt that was left on his mother and him, when his father died. He is so consumed by his superficial needs that he loses his girlfriend. However, taking a dive in the deep sea helped him discover happiness in things beyond work and money. He sets an example for all those who prefer to prioritise work over oneself or their loved ones. He makes you want to apologetically reach out to that friend you ignored because of work.

Kabir's story starts with him being stuck in an "I didn't even propose" marriage with Natasha. He is often seen to be the peacemaker in the trio. His confusions about his own love life makes his character look all the more realistic. He is fun-loving and that 3am friend anyone can count on; who would

be at your back even if he is going through a perplexing time. Everyone would want a friend like him, wouldn't they?

Imran keeps on poking fun at almost everyone in the group throughout the movie and is an artist in every sense of the word. He shows that sometimes we hide our problems by writing about it in poems or diary entries, which isn't always beneficial.

He never fails to be zestful with his friends. His character perfectly shows why you shouldn't let your inner demons consume you, despite the endless number of times life pins you down.

He also shows that sometimes it is okay to have fun as we are all so consumed in our personal lives and do need a break.

Laila is radiant and the most inspiring one because she lives without limitations, regrets and monotony, which is something everyone would admire about her. Her impeccably impressive urge to hold on to her dreams and all that gives her substantial happiness in life, ends up inspiring even her exact opposite in the movie, Arjun. Her dialogue "A man should be in a box only when he is dead" is totally awe-inspiring and thought-provoking. She shows that we should not think about tomorrow and do what we wish today, as she rightly said, "Seize the day my friend, phele iss din ko puri tarah jiyon phir 40 ke baree mein sochna".



Dhruv Chhikara



The Moot Solution To Poverty

“If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.” Those were John F. Kennedy’s precise words and they do not fail to highlight the need for helping the destitute. Keeping this in mind, most governments make social security and welfare payments to citizens. While it is often said that social security and welfare hand-outs are essential in modern society for improving the socio-economic prospects of citizens, many say otherwise.

It is the fundamental right of individuals to have access to the basic necessities – food, clothing and shelter. The impoverished though, lack the affordability to satisfy their demand for even these essential commodities. It is due to such circumstances that the government’s role to provide financial support to these groups of people is imperative. This is highlighted by the International Labour Conference, according to which social security is a basic human right that ensures social peace and social inclusion.

It is an indispensable tool that facilitates eradication of absolute poverty by ensuring that low-income earners have access to at least a minimum level of income to suffice their needs.

Not only this, but such financial support provided by the government can also serve instrumental in curbing inequality in society. It is often the case that inequality begets higher crime rates since the destitute resort to crime to financially sustain themselves.

The violence undertaken by migrants at Unnao railway station in India serves as a classic epitome for the same. These migrants were facing a dire scarcity of food and water during the COVID-19 pandemic due to lack of income. As a result, they vented out their frustration by damaging property and vehicles, and even pelting stones at police constables. So, when the disparity in income and wealth between the rich and poor reduces, such instances of violence would also automatically reduce.



Moreover, it can be argued that it is the moral duty of the financially well-off to support those incapable of fending for themselves. According to the Bhagvad Gita – a 700-verse Hindu scripture – one who enjoys abundance without sharing with others is indeed a thief. While one can say that it's a matter of ethics or corporate social responsibility, undertaking philanthropic deeds should really be done with a genuine desire to help for obtaining the best results. The satisfaction that one receives from engaging in the act of giving is truly immense. It is not uncommon to find magnanimous individuals, but what the world needs is an increasing number of them.

However, social security and welfare payments are criticised for the part that it creates a disincentive to work. As of 2018, people in Hawaii are entitled to \$50000 per annum with minimum contribution to work. It is such scenarios which can create a poverty trap, wherein, people are better off living on state benefits rather than working. Therefore, the real motive of increasing employment in the economy is not fulfilled.

Additionally, certain recipients of unemployment benefits squander the money they receive on demerit goods. They indulge in consumption of alcohol and other drugs in lieu of skilling themselves for better employment prospects.

This is corroborated by a research undertaken by two M.I.T economists, Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo, which revealed that the world's poor spend approximately 2% of their income on their children's education and larger proportions on alcohol and tobacco. If this is how financial assistance provided by the government is going to be misused, it doesn't justify the need for governments to dole out large sums of money which would simply increase the budget deficit.

Hence, to improve the effectiveness of these payments, governments can restrict their usage by determining the use that the funds might be put to. It could also offer services such as education and training programs more than financial aid. In this way, the government knows that the funds are actually being put to good use. It is the government's responsibility to ensure welfare of all citizens sans neglecting the impoverished. Social security and welfare payments are one way of achieving this and thus, they are essential in any modern society.

*Meeghna
Girishankar*



Holiday Cheer

“Dad, stop it!” Desmond screeched as his dad continued to rub the cold ball of snow in his face. “It’s even colder than the swimming pool! I’d rather spend my day off by the fireplace.” Shay sighed in disappointment.

“Get used to it! When I was your age, me and my friends used to throw balls as big as basketballs on each other’s head. One time, one of us actually got hospitalized too, it was quite a big injury. But it sure was hilarious.”

Now, normally a revelation like this would be considered quite a shock by the child who idolised their dad. But for Desmond, this was normal. In fact, he’d heard multiple such stories where his dad had tortured or troubled several people. For fun, you know.

As they walked into their cosy little home in the middle of the street, a familiar smell of oak and cinnamon hit their nose.

“Mom, where are you?”

“Kitchen, honey! Making your favorite blondies! You wanna have one?”

“Always mom! Blondies are literally the best thing I’ve ever had.”

“Those blondies again. Didn’t we eat enough of these over Christmas?” Shay scoffed.

Kayla shot him a cursory glance as Desmond eagerly took one out of the pile.

“Baby, why don’t you go check your mail? Auntie Beth and Sam sent you extra presents this year for being on the swim team and winning the Mathlete quiz and Model UN! I’m so proud of

you!” She ruffled his hair to his annoyance, eliciting a ‘it’s not really that much’ from Desmond, who walked up to his room.

“The hell is your problem Shay?” Kayla asked him as she walked up to the couch where he sat with his legs up.

“You’re always smothering that kid as if he was some golden boy. It’s excruciating to watch all the flattery.”

Kayla gasped. Did he just accuse her of being proud of her son’s achievements? She just loved him, she always pushed him to do all activities to help him have all qualities.

“You never let him just be. He’ll figure his stuff out, he doesn’t need your constant meddling and coddling.”

“Nor does he need your ignorance. Do you even know what grade he is in?”

Shay exhaled loudly and sat up straight. “High school,” he said hesitantly, which made Kayla smirk.

“He’s in his sophomore year, and it’s necessary to do all these things. And all I’m doing is rewarding him for all his efforts.”

“For overworking himself? And then yourself?”

“So what do I do? Just work and send money home? Not interact with my kid till I’m forced to? Or traumatize him with my crazy stories, because I have abandonment issues?!”

Ah, the rawest of nerves had been finally touched. And Kayla realised it from Shay’s eyes which now looked at her with an icy stare.

“What did you just say to me honey?”

“I-I said that you’re too emotionally detached and it’s affecting us all terribly. Do you think, maybe something like therapy, could help you? I could come along, Des could too and we could talk it-” She got cut off by Shay laughing out loud.

“Oh I’m sorry, I just remembered a funny incident about therapy. I’m sorry, but yeah I think we could go you know? Maybe not Des, because he’s too young to understand the seriousness of all this,” he pondered over the thought as Kayla looked at him, surprised that he actually took her suggestion for once.

“I know a guy, I’ll talk to him for a meeting next week, I promise. I know this is for our own good. So, you and me baby, it’s a date.” He held her hand and kissed it, enough assurance for Kayla that he finally wished to do this himself.

Hritvi Acharya

A week later, they visited the therapist who gave them a lot of insight on how Shay's behaviour paralleled many cases of deep seated trauma. He spoke of how Shay had closed himself so much that he couldn't really feel any true happiness or love from anyone, and that's what explained his distanced relations. Kayla felt so overwhelmed by it that she almost broke down. Shay, calm and pensive, intently heard everything and they left the clinic after an hour or so.

“That was nice right? We can work out so many things now,” Kayla said softly as Shay nodded and excused himself to fetch the car.

The next time she greeted him was with wide eyes and a scream that never left her lips.

Desmond was more than shocked when he was called into the principal's office.

“Your mom has been severely injured. She's been run over by a car.”

Note To Self

Dear self,

I wish you would have laughed

A little bit louder,

Cried a little bit harder

Because I'd much, much rather

Have waited a second more

Or known what was in store.

I miss you, and I miss them

It is what it is then.

But if it is what it is,

Is it worth living like this?

We lose jobs and we lose lives,
Someone thrives while someone dies

Now we can just wait

For a day that may never come,

A sun that may never rise,

Our eternal demise.

For we've done so much harm to her,

She is sure to despise

How selfish we are.

Pandemic's a disguise.

I wish you could have listened to

Those that we proclaim wise,

Living every moment.

I love you's and goodbye's,

Should not have been unfinished,

Should not have been said.

For the sins of our fathers,

Maybe we're being bled.

But everything happens for a reason,

Maybe ours is not so great.

You may not be a believer,

But this is most definitely fate.

Call me a defeatist

Or a glass half empty type,

But at this point it seems
Like the glass is fully wiped.

So make the most of the time you have

The final lap, the victory race.

Rephrase, the lap that sends us

Falling down from grace.

As Aurelius always said

"Memento More"

The existence of humankind,

Another chapter in the story.

Iljaan Kheraj

Two Eccentric Characters

‘The world is at it’s last mile towards disappearance – we shall soon see the end of the universe we dwell in!’ said Dr. Zinc with intensity in his eyes and tears rolling off his cheeks.

The audience seated around the stage in the Northwoods park were engrossed in his performance and all they could see on his face was terror.

All of a sudden, a boy threw a paper-ball at his face and screamed – ‘Oh come on, just get this done with, you moron!’ Immediately, Dr. Zinc bounced up, with his long hair flying in the air, he blurted out profanities, which made the audience cringe and leave.

Watching them walk out, Dr. Zinc banged a chair in frustration on the stage with a ‘thud!’

His gaze went to an aged man sitting on a park bench next to lush green bushes, feeding a pack of stray dogs. The old man was staring back at him and had watched the whole episode that took place.

As soon as Dr. Zinc caught the man staring, he looked away flinching. There were two hours till Dr. Zinc’s next performance in the park. To pass his time, Dr. Zinc walked up to the old man and sat next to him.

“Oh, my dear wife, how I love these dogs and feeding them along with you!” said the man continuously

“Ummm wife? There’s no one here oldie” teased Dr. Zinc.

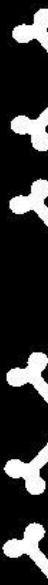
The man looked at him, then pointed towards the wall in front of them – “There she is, my wife. Can’t you see?” replied the man and panted in fury, followed by a series of coughs.

Dr. Zinc clenched his fist, gritted his teeth and responded: “Hey, I am done with getting into fights – I just want some peace of mind. My stage shows are no longer popular in this town. In fact you just saw what happened a few minutes back. There are many such buffoons who I need to deal with everyday. So, I’d request you to be a little kind...please!”

The old man shrugged in response.

Dr. Zinc continued to observe the man. His small eyes, which could pierce through one’s soul, his short unkempt hair that badly needed combing to circulate some sense into his brain, as he kept blabbering to his invisible wife, who was probably dead. He noticed how the man took out meat from a brown sack and fed the dogs at a slow pace, taking his own time.

Zinc petted one dog as he asked the man, “You come here often?”



The man in return said: “You’ve worn a nice perfume. Which one is it?”

Dr. Zinc boasted: “Ahh! It is customized, uniquely blended, just for me!”

The old man raised an eyebrow and replied – “Can I take you somewhere buddy?”

“If it is better than here, please do” chuckled Zinc.

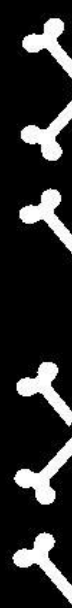
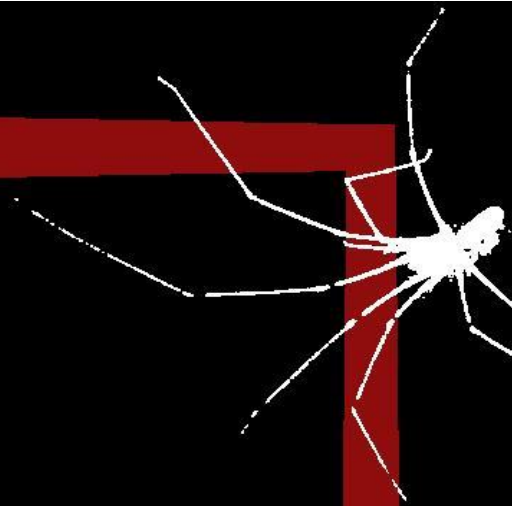
The old man led him to a dilapidated house covered with spiders dancing around in their webs. To Zinc’s surprise the place smelled as though heaven had left its mark on the inside. No perfume could live up to that. However, he saw cats and dogs boiling in huge stoves, cut body parts scattered

around, gazillion bottles with sponge caps and knives.

The old man whispered to Zinc as he picked up a knife – “I am making a perfume that needs living beings to smell this good”

Zinc could only stutter – L.. Li.. Liv.. Living beings?...

Riddhi Dhanuka



The Seasons Of You

When sadness thunders,
Brokenness strikes a lightning,
Agony pours down water,
That is when you will find me.

Dancing,
Dancing in the storm.

You need not worry.
For I will still be able to recognise,

Filter out:
Your tears,
The thick mud of sorrow in it.

The reason,
Why the season runs down your cheeks
And drips tension
onto my umbrella.

And the tears of above -
The dark clouded mind.

For if it is not enough
For the buff dawn,
The brawn Sun
To wipe,
To dry,
All the tears,
And rain happiness,
On you,
On the darkness.

When melancholy snows,

Yearn freezes,
Evocation condenses,
That is when you will find me.

A warm shoulder
A warm shoulder in the snowy cold.
To evaporate your iceberg of tears,
Into a relieving cup of hot chocolate.

You need not worry,
I will be able to recognise,

That,
These are just
Seasons of you.

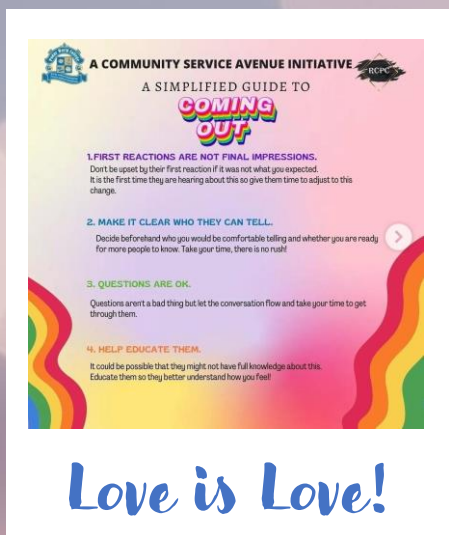
Ryan D Silva

Event highlights



Podar World College's very first Sports Podcast, Free Play, released their first episode with a Special Guest, Yuraaz Arora, who is a national level footballer and swimmer.

He spoke about his journey with sports, his transition from the Indian team to the US team, while practicing hard. Talking about a sports career in India, to the problems that athletes face, he shared his valuable insight. To know more about his incredible sports journey, head to our YouTube channel



Awareness regarding LGBTQIA+ is the need of the hour. The Community Services Avenue recognizes this pressing issue and took it to Instagram to spread awareness about the same by the means of various posts, stories and a QnA session. Being a member of the community is no choice, but standing strong as an ally definitely is. To show our support and acceptance of this important and integral part of our community, quite a few students wholeheartedly participated holding placards with regards to the same.

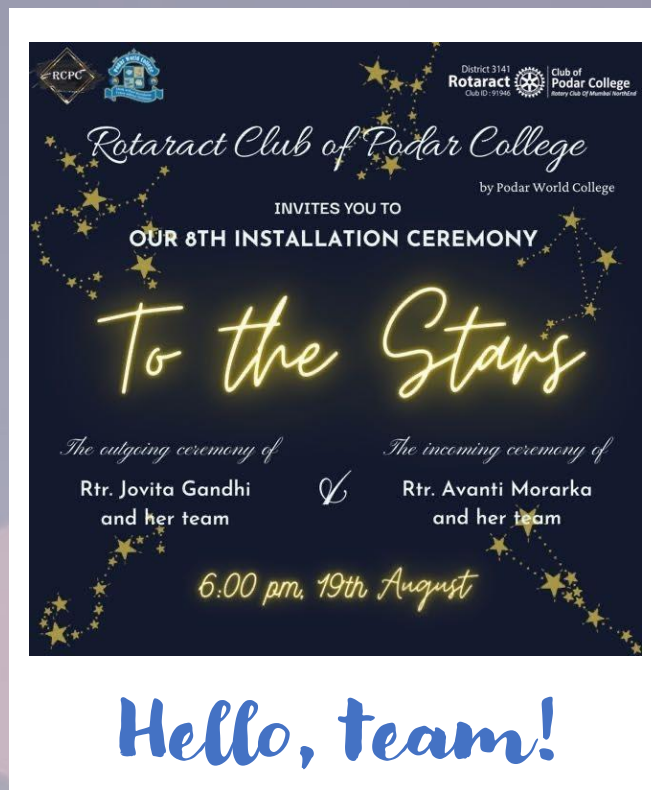


Joining hands with the amazing Editorial team, the Avenue of Professional Development conducted 'Speak Up' on 18th August, 2021. This was a workshop conducted to help people enhance their public speaking skills by providing a theoretical (left brained) and practical (right brained) approach.

The two speakers for the event, Dr Prajna Deo and Mr Sayan Chakraborty, took lead and gave a lot of insight on the same. Dr Prajna spoke about how one can tackle stage fright and what types of obstacles can be avoided while presenting yourself in front of a crowd, whereas Mr Sayan revealed several personal anecdotes where he had to tackle particularly icky social situations.

In the end, the event was very well received and was sure to have impacted the audience positively.

Both teams have several such interesting events coming up so stay tuned for more!



We at Podar World College had our Rotaract Club's 8th Installation ceremony bringing in the new president Rtr. Avanti Morarka and her team while bidding adieu to our last president, Rtr. Jovita Gandhi and her team. Here's a message from the former!

Hi everyone! We had our Installation Ceremony on the 19th of August and it was overwhelming and amazing to say the least. It was definitely hard to imagine beforehand how we would conduct an online installation and still make it fun for those watching and trust me, it was a long process that needed a lot of brainstorming to bring the ceremony to fruition but at the end of the day, it was definitely worth it! It even got emotional when we had the oncoming and outgoing videos and it brought back so many memories about when we looked back at the projects of last year during the previous year's secretariat report. We also had our beloved Dean, Dr Mrs Vandana Lulla share her pearls of wisdom and our district representative, Rtr Bharat Patel and our Zonal Representatives Rtr Sneh Shah and Rtr Saaheb Machra who have given me and the team so much support in so many ways share the virtual mic. I personally had a great time meeting a small part of the team but I really hope I can meet the full team soon face to face!

I look forward to a great year where we achieve even more than we already have (from our site to our youtube to record breaking membership and participation)! Let's go "To The Stars" and beyond!

Thank you everyone for your support from faculty to friends but especially the members of 2021-22 and the rest of the team!

Yours truly,

Avanti Morarka

President 2021-22

TOP 3 ALTERNATE ENDINGS!

Drishti Mehta

Movie: Orphan

Alternate ending: Instead of getting caught, Esther leaves the the icy lake and goes back to her room and dolls herself up. She goes back to her good girl act before the police arrives. This confuses the police, forcing them to send Kate to an institution since there is no one or nothing to really back her up since she doesn't have any hard evidence to prove herself. This is because Max goes into shock due to which she isn't able to explain herself and Daniel is still in coma. This leads to the kids' custody being given to their grandmother. Esther goes to another adoption agency and probably gets adopted to another family. One day, when Kate is out of the institution, she tries to find Esther and expose her truth, but she is nowhere to be found because she probably changed her name or isn't even alive anymore.

Meghna Girishankar

Movie: Sherni

Ending: The main motive of the movie was to prove that man and animal can peacefully coexist, and to thwart the attempts of politicians who had a vested interest in killing T12, a man-eating tiger. So, here's an alternate ending:

When Pintu goes to kill T12, upon the villagers sighting it, he ends up finding only its cubs instead. Finding this to be a perfect opportunity to add to his personal record of his number of kills, he goes to kill the cubs. However, before he can do so, out of nowhere, T12 attacks Pintu and he is pronounced dead.

This raises the wrath of the villagers as despite T12 killing a human, Vidya doesn't wish to kill T12, but only wants to tranquillise it. Nangia, her senior, who disapproves of Vidya's stubbornness demotes her. Soon, the press starts confronting Vidya about this awful incident which took place under her leadership. However, she retorts by saying that she is not regretful and won't agree to kill T12 by buckling under pressure from everyone.

This interview goes viral as it portrays a woman who's unafraid to stand for what she believes in and is willing to risk losing everything to fight for her cause. Gaining support from the public, T12 eventually gets rehabilitated, just as Vidya wanted. Vidya's story becomes the forefront of woman empowerment as she serves as an inspiration for women to not let anyone bog them down. And that gives birth to India's true 'Sherni.'

Sanskriti Singh

Movie: The fault in our stars

Ending: Gus was admitted to the hospital, due to Osteosarcoma consuming his whole body. doctors said that he won't live for long maybe days or weeks, I cried in vain how can he die, when I was the one who was about to explode like a grenade he should have lived! I cried the whole night staying next to Augustus in the hospital.











The next day I came home, I took a bath and sat down with my laptop. I started to research the cure to Augustus I contacted several hospitals, even international gave my contact number to every possible hospital so that I and Augustus could live a little more!! not for infinity but for a small infinity I searched the whole day but reached to no conclusion.

I spent the evening with Gus, by just being with him spending our moments together with eyes full of tears I left on the way home imagining my life without Augustus and suddenly my phone rang, it was an international call from Seattle cancer hospital.

They recently started a new drug trial of OSTEOSARCOMA, that had the possibility to give Augustus a month or a year more. When I heard this I was so overwhelmed so happy it was like we got our little infinity. I ran towards the hospital spoke to the doctors and they gave us a green signal for Seattle and we finally agreed to move to Seattle. Gus started with his treatment it took a week for Augustus to recover but he was healing the drug was reducing the effects. We have a small life we have time to love to be in love to know each other more



music **CHECKLIST**

-  *Wasteland, Baby!* - Hozier
-  *Jolene* - Dolly Parton
-  *Rebel Girl* - Bikini Kill
-  *Sugar We're Going Down* -
Fallout Boy
-  *Pale Blue Eyes* - *The Velvet*
Underground
-  *Outta My Head* - Khalid ft.
John Mayer
-  *Collide* - Howie Day
-  *Never Not* - Lauv
-  *The Good Side* - Troye Sivan
-  *Fallin' All In You* - Shawn
Mendes

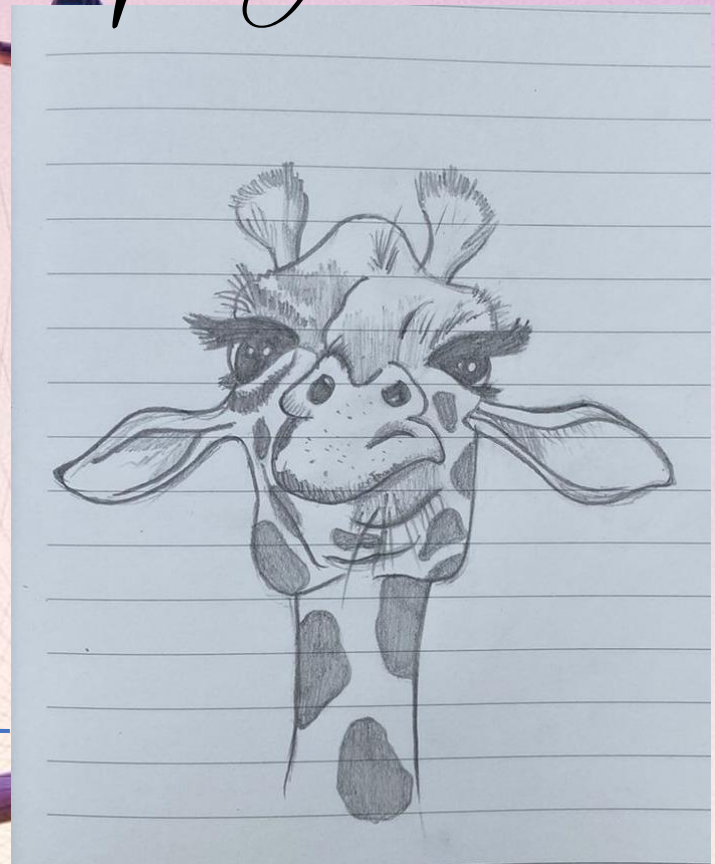
ART and PHOTOGRAPHY



Shreenidhi Nagda

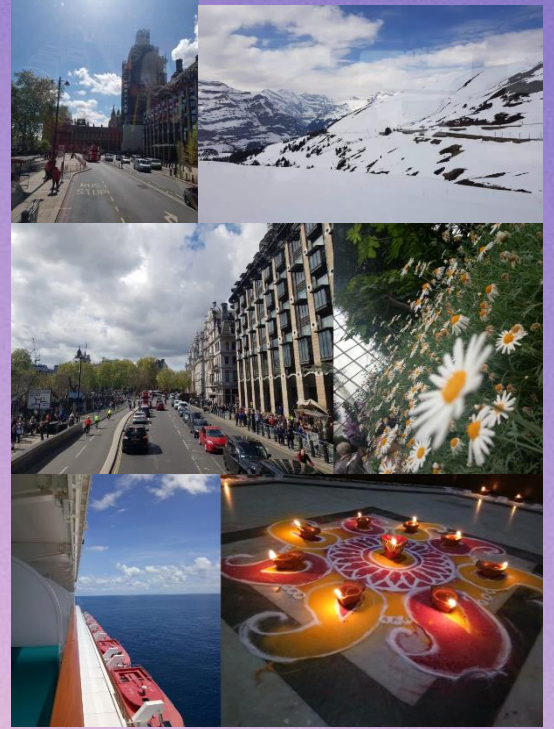


Drishti Mehta





Dhruv Chhikkra



Dhruv Kadam



Kushboo Luniya



Drishti Mehta

ACTIVITIES CORNER!

Modern Family

R	C	A	R	M	I	N	M	L	M	A	I	R	G
L	A	R	N	D	Y	L	A	N	L	I	R	F	M
A	L	E	X	J	Y	A	N	O	R	E	M	A	C
N	Y	N	N	A	M	M	M	L	L	Y	L	M	E
R	O	L	A	R	A	G	R	E	V	I	A	I	O
L	J	U	L	T	R	R	M	T	Y	O	L	L	C
J	L	K	A	M	H	N	N	O	L	A	C	Y	P
L	A	E	E	I	I	T	L	V	D	A	X	L	H
L	X	Y	E	R	L	R	A	I	Y	E	E	L	I
L	C	L	A	I	R	E	H	J	R	H	R	A	L
Y	D	J	E	L	L	E	H	C	T	I	M	N	A
Y	I	C	H	A	L	E	Y	Y	A	A	T	R	L
L	L	C	A	Y	N	M	R	J	X	Y	T	O	E
L	O	R	R	M	G	L	O	R	I	A	E	L	E

CAMERON
MITCHELL
HALEY
MANNY
VERGARA
MODERN
LUKE
ALEX
JAY
FAMILY
GLORIA
DYLAN
LILY
CLAIRE
PHIL

Famous Bands

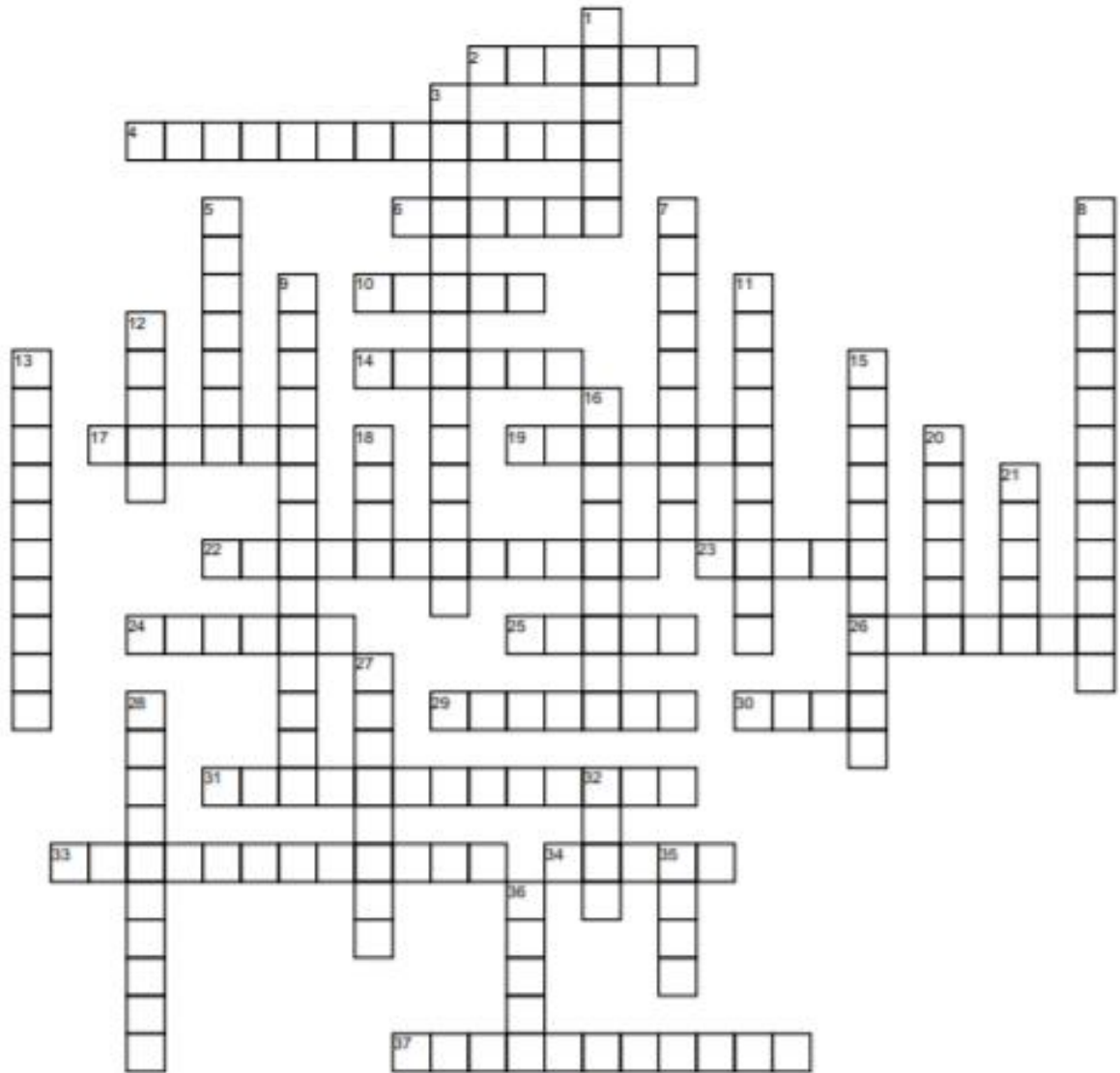
D	T	L	I	T	T	L	E	M	I	X	N	C	S
E	H	O	P	N	T	N	E	E	U	Q	F	N	T
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N	K	C	Y	C	Y	T	O	L	S	C	E	E	K
A	I	U	K	H	Y	E	L	B	E	E	E	T	E
W	L	E	E	T	A	M	C	F	L	Y	T	H	T
E	L	B	O	W	L	B	E	W	B	Y	W	E	H
K	E	H	U	A	P	S	X	E	U	L	O	W	A
G	R	E	E	N	D	A	Y	S	S	M	O	H	T
N	S	B	L	R	L	G	R	T	T	I	D	O	T
N	O	C	I	L	O	K	E	L	E	T	M	H	A
E	H	H	E	L	C	N	I	I	D	Y	A	T	N
N	E	A	N	E	E	I	R	F	I	L	C	E	P
J	N	O	I	N	U	P	U	E	K	R	U	L	B

MCFLY
PSY
ELBOW
WESTLIFE
PINK
TAKE THAT
COLDPLAY
FLEETWOOD MAC
LITTLE MIX
WANTED
THE KILLERS
GREEN DAY
THE WHO
UNION J
BLUR
BUSTED
MUSE
QUEEN

6					9			4
	8	9	5				1	6
5				6		3		9
8	3	1				7		5
	2						6	
9		7				8	4	2
2		6		1				8
3	7				6	9	2	
1			3					7

2						6	9	
	5				3			
1	7				9	4		5
		3		2	5		1	8
				4				
7	2		3	8		5		
5		2	6				4	1
			5				7	
	6	7						3

Marvel Crossword Puzzle



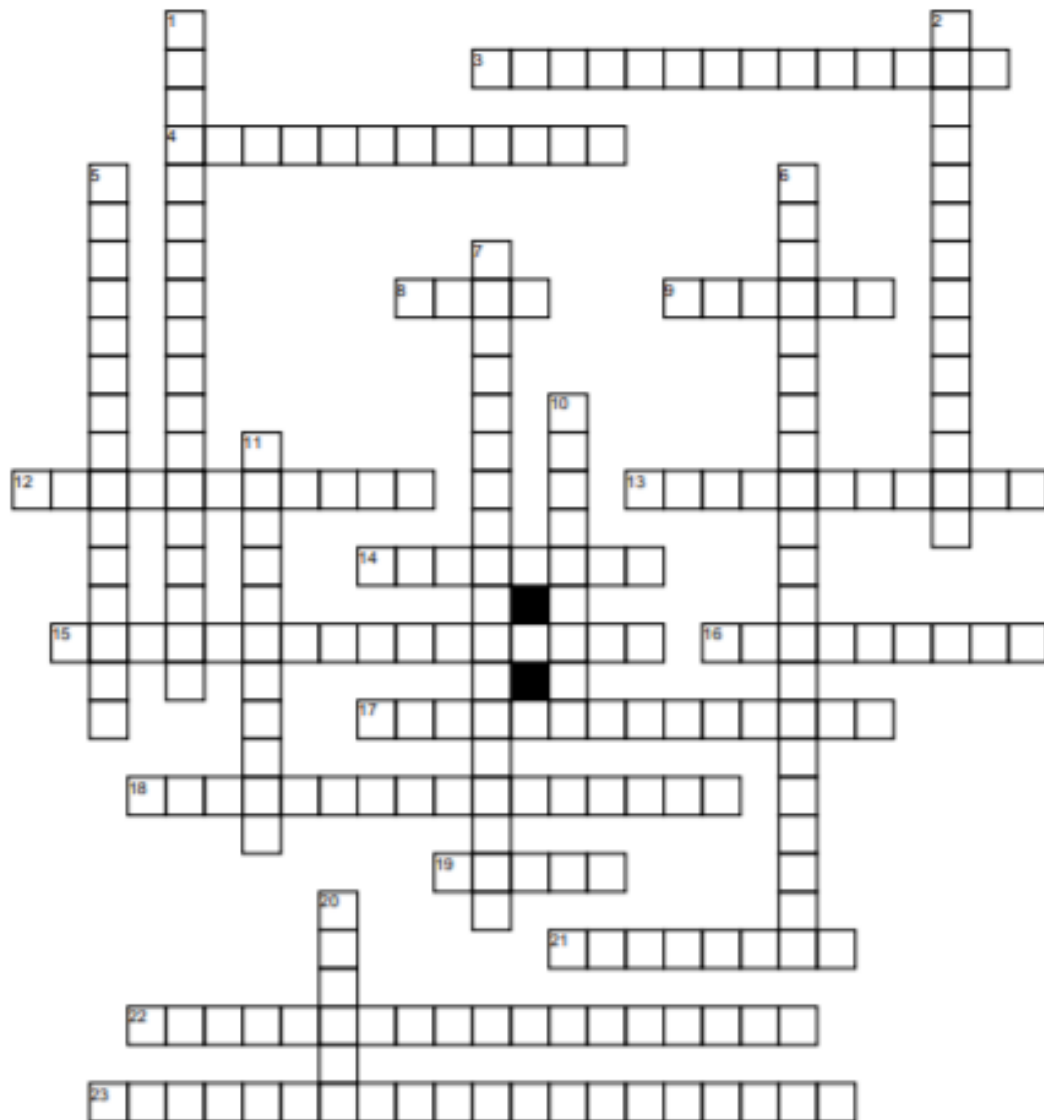
Across

2. Wields infinity goblet; obsessed with finding infinity stones
4. aka Doctor Doom
6. Robot; mind gem rests in his head
10. Rock Monster
14. Tech that allows him to fly; in the comics he has wings
17. Green alien with a sword
19. Billionaire; also know as Tony Stark
22. Warrior of Wakanda
23. Plant
24. Raccoon
25. Spiderman's nemesis that's and African animal
26. Spiderman's nemesis; quick _____
29. Incredible eye sight; wields a Bow and Arrow
30. Ice giant; god of mischief
31. Telekinesis
33. Metal Beast sent form Asgard
34. Flying whistle
37. Superspeeder

Down

1. Possesses shrinking tech
3. Can't see
5. Spiderman's nemesis that gives off an electric current
7. Friendly, neighborhood _____
8. aka Green Goblin
9. The First Avenger
11. Emits high temperatures
12. Wants the infinity orb
13. Sheild Agent; aka Natasha Romanoff
15. "Made of rubber"
16. Claws
18. Giant Green Rage Monster
20. Robot with artificial intelligence; wants to reform the world
21. Spiderman's nemesis; black goo
27. Peter Quill
28. Juggernaut
32. Prince of Thunder; Oden son
35. The destroyer
36. Octopus doctor

Business organizations



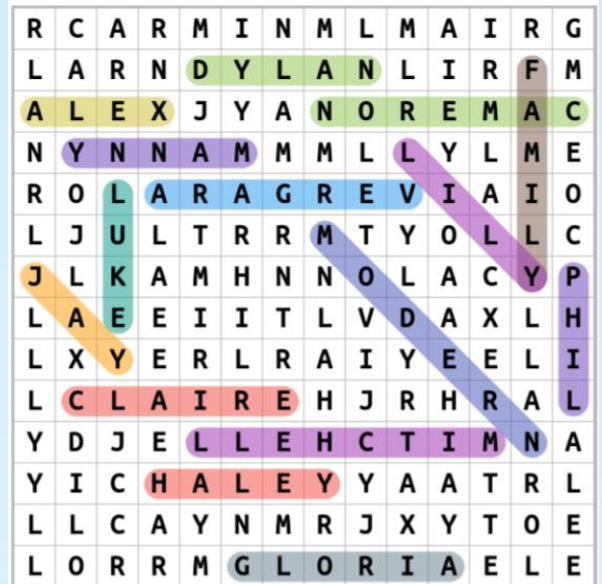
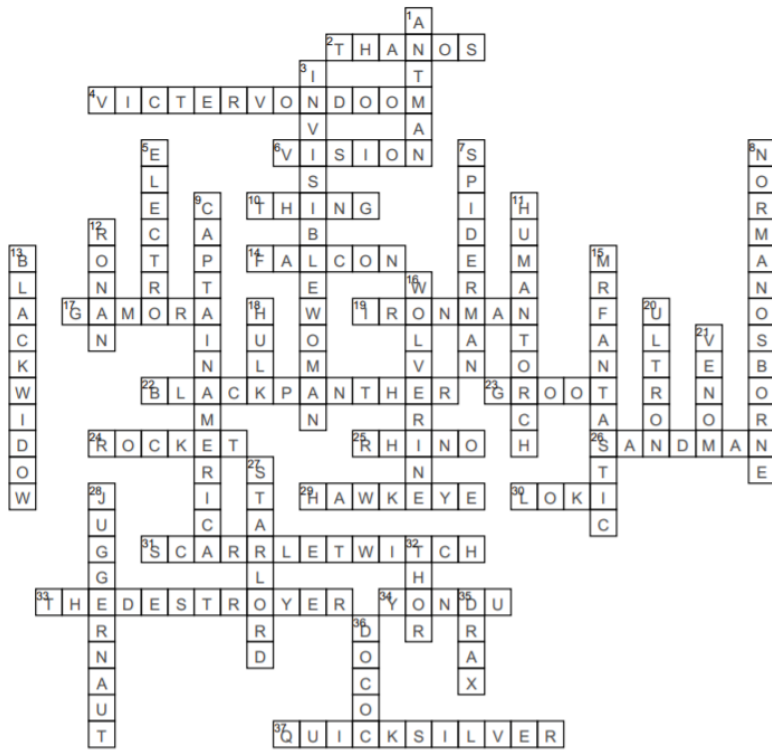
Across

3. The combination of two or more firms involved in different stages of producing the same good or service
4. Makes decisions about CELL.
8. A formal contract to repay borrowed money
9. Products available in the marketplace
12. A legal entity made up of shareholders
13. The death of an owner ends the business and it must be reestablished in the new owners names
14. Combines productive resources to make final goods or services
15. The owners of the corporation cannot lose more than what they paid for their stock if the corporation fails
16. Legally bound to pay debts
17. When the company is taxed on its profits then shareholders are taxed again on the dividends they earn from the company
18. Combination of two or more firms in the same market with the same good or services
19. Ownership in a corporation
21. Corporate profits paid to shareholders
22. One partner is the general partner and the other is usually "silent" only providing money
23. An establishment formed to carry on commercial enterprise

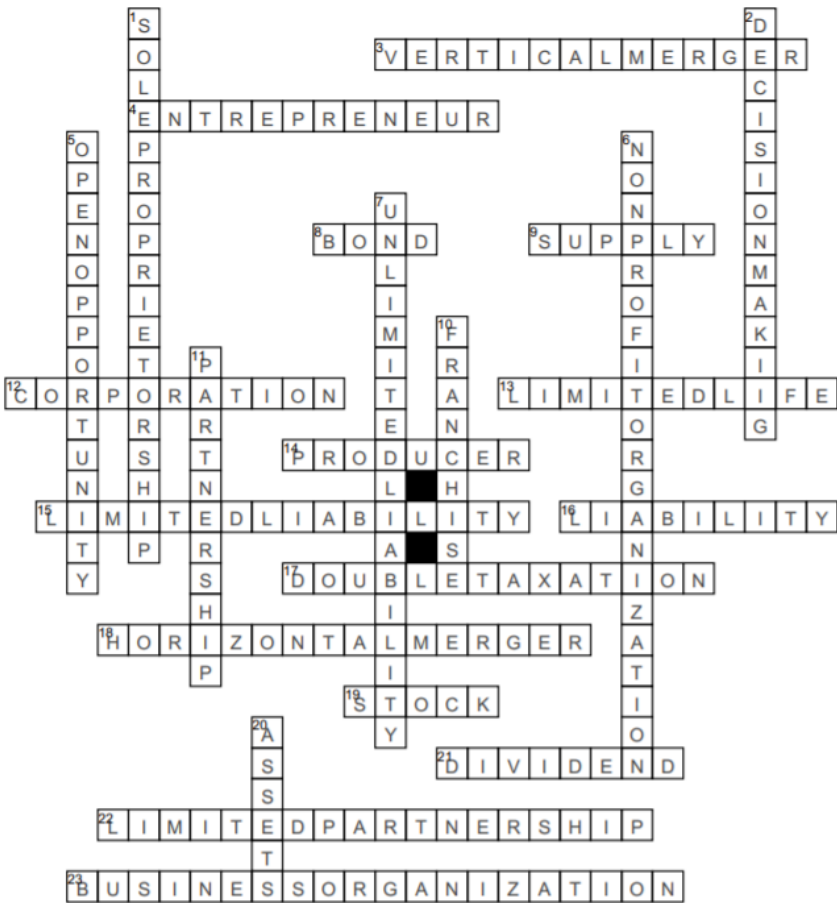
Down

1. A business owned and managed by a single person
2. Refers to the entity responsible for the day to day operations of the business
5. Everyone can compete in the market place
6. Institution that functions as business but does not turn a profit
7. Ones personal assets can be seized to pay business debts
10. A semi independent business that pays fees to a parent company in exchange for the rights to sell a good or service
11. A business owned and managed by two or more people
20. Anything of value or belonging to you

Marvel Crossword Puzzle



Business organizations



6	1	3	2	7	9	5	8	4
7	8	9	5	4	3	2	1	6
5	4	2	8	6	1	3	7	9
8	3	1	6	2	4	7	9	5
4	2	5	7	9	8	1	6	3
9	6	7	1	3	5	8	4	2
2	5	6	9	1	7	4	3	8
3	7	8	4	5	6	9	2	1
1	9	4	3	8	2	6	5	7

2	3	4	1	5	8	6	9	7
9	5	6	4	7	3	1	8	2
1	7	8	2	6	9	4	3	5
6	4	3	9	2	5	7	1	8
8	1	5	7	4	6	3	2	9
7	2	9	3	8	1	5	6	4
5	9	2	6	3	7	8	4	1
3	8	1	5	9	4	2	7	6
4	6	7	8	1	2	9	5	3

UPCOMING EVENTS

Follow our events here!



@podarworldcollege_pwc
@rcpodar
@socialresponsibilitypwc
@entrepreneurshipclubpwc
@culturalclubpwc

Rotaract Club of Podar
College on YT

September Events :

- 2nd: Seminar on Personal Boundaries
- 6th: Interactive Workshops with NGO
- 9th: Online Self Defence Workshop
- 12th: Shark Tank Screening
- 14th: Seminar on being Self Aware and Inclusive
- 15th: Poetry Slam
- 17th: IPL Auction
- 18th: Hindi Diwas Celebration
- 19th: IPL Night
- 21st: Carrom
- 23rd: Sign Language Workshop
- 24th-30th: Fast Fashion Week
- 25th: Workshop on Excel/Python
- 27th: Raising Awareness on Fuel Prices

"WHEN SOMETHING IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH, YOU DO IT EVEN IF THE ODDS ARE NOT IN YOUR FAVOUR." – ELON MUSK

ALTHOUGH WE HOPE THE 1ST ISSUE OF VOL. 2 OF MELIORA HAS TOUCHED YOUR HEART, WE ARE SO PROUD TO HAVE PUT FORWARD ISSUE 2, EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE TIMES WHEN WE THOUGHT THIS ISSUE WOULDN'T WORK AS GOOD AS THE PREVIOUS ONE. WE CAN'T WAIT TO GIVE YOU MORE ISSUES AND MAKE THIS THE MAGAZINE WE ARE ENVISIONING!

"IF EVERYONE IS MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER, THEN SUCCESS TAKES CARE OF ITSELF." – HENRY FORD

OUR TEAM WORKED SO COHESIVELY LAST ISSUE AND WE CONTINUE TO DO THAT THIS ISSUE TOO, WITH SOME INTERESTING BANTERS IN OUR MEETINGS. THESE LITTLE BANTERS THAT WE HAVE DURING OUR MEETINGS IS WHAT MAKES OUR TEAM SO SPECIAL!

OPINIONS ARE ALWAYS USEFUL, EVEN IF THEY ARE NOT IMPLEMENTED, WHICH IS WHY WE WELCOME YOU TO GIVE US FEEDBACK!

P.S. WE HAVE A SPECIAL ISSUE COMING OUT FOR YOU SOMEWHERE IN THE MIDDLE OF AUGUST, SO STAY TUNED FOR THAT!

SIGNING OFF,
TEAM EDITORIAL

**See you next
month!**