VIDYA is a charitable organisation that specializes in the education and empowerment of less-privileged children, youth and women through working with them at an individual level. Our nationally-recognized programs include schools, remedial education, computer training, adult literacy, skills training, microfinance and social entrepreneurship.

As we continue with our efforts to create a holistic space for all our stakeholders, we are happy to share with you the highlights of our work in Delhi NCR region in this issue. The mid-year 2017 saw a broad range of activities from sports to acting, skill development workshops and festival celebrations.

We thank you all for your endless support, encouragement and significant contribution towards the cause we support.
All India Senior Secondary Examination 2017

Someone has rightly said, “Be proud of every step you take toward achieving your goal” and on this note we would like to share that our first batch of class XII has graduated with flying colors. They have all done us proud with their commendable performance in the All India Senior Secondary Examinations 2017.

It gives us immense pleasure to share that three of our students cleared the JEE- Joint Entrance Examination for getting admissions to engineering and architecture colleges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Student</th>
<th>Marks (%)</th>
<th>Subject stream</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mayank Sharma</td>
<td>82.8</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vikram Sarkar</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richa Thakur</td>
<td>79.4</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandeep Sharma</td>
<td>77.6</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manisha Joshi</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Investiture Ceremony**

Our budding front runners were honored for their leadership acumen and achievements at the VIDYA Investiture Ceremony. As they continue to channelize their efforts, we are excited to guide them at every step and see our little caterpillars transform into beautiful butterflies.

**Mentoring Program**

While our students were preparing to step out into the professional world, a mentoring program was launched to ensure that they continue to climb the success ladder easily. The VIDYA School Mentoring Program aims at motivating students to make prudent and pragmatic choices as they stand on the threshold of making important decisions about their careers. Students are mentored and encouraged to optimize their own learning experiences and explore their potential to develop skills that would enable them to be the person they want to be.
Creativity always helps a child to unleash his/her true potential. Our students participated in a plethora of activities from May till October. Ranging from painting to reading, theatre, sports and raising awareness, the students got a chance to explore their talents more intricately through these activities.

**Visits**
While the senior team of KPMG volunteered to spend a day with the ASPIRE students whom they mentor, volunteers from the Royal Bank of Scotland conducted a range of engaging workshops wherein the students got an opportunity to brainstorm about interesting topics like ‘Mysteries of the sky’, ‘Automotive-the future of cars’, ‘World in 2030’ and many more.

**Football Match**
The ‘DO GOOD FEEL GOOD’ day witnessed a gripping football match. The volunteers and students came together to form four teams namely United club of VIDYA RBS, Let’s Get Messi, Dribblers of Gurugram & Football Controllers. The students thoroughly enjoyed interacting with the volunteers.

**VIDYA Scholars Program**
25 VIDYA scholars from grade IX & XI have collaborated with Khan Academy to sharpen their understanding of math concepts. The VIDYA scholars program primarily aims at ensuring that gifted children are able to fulfill their potential.

**Reading and Math workshop**
To enhance reading and mathematics skills of the students, an interactive workshop was organized. The session by Ms. Mansi Sarkar not only aimed at improving their skills but also helped them in building interest in the subject using creative tools. The mathematic concepts were explained in relation with the Egyptian pyramids.

**Teachers’ Training Program**

> “Who dares to teach must never cease to learn.” - John Cotton Dana

Teachers of the VIDYA School attended training programs which focused on flexibility and innovation in the classroom. The Teachers’ Training Programs are dedicated to giving teachers the tools they need to reach their students through basic materials and effective pedagogies. The workshop was conducted by Learning & development expert Ms. Radhika.
**World Health Day**
In keeping with the spirit of the World Health Day, Manisha Sharma, the school counsellor conducted a workshop for students of class II & III to raise awareness about personal and social hygiene.

**VIDYA PTS**

**Parent-Teacher Meeting**
The PTM for the First Term Examinations was attended by all the parents. The PTM was followed by a session on Personal and dental hygiene by Dr. Asisam Kalsi.

**Gandhi Jayanti**
The little stars of the PTS colony celebrated Gandhi Jayanti this year with the Swachh Bharat mission and pledged to keep their surroundings and community clean. They also participated in a cleanliness drive in their school.

**Counselling Session**
A counselling session for students on “good touch bad touch” was also conducted by our counsellor Ms. Aarti Sharma.

**Play on Equality**
The students of grade II performed a Nukkad Natak to create awareness about the importance of treating everyone as an equal.

**Diwali 2017**
Diwali was celebrated by decorating the classes with diyas, candles and bandanwars. The students and staff gathered at Bal Vihar for Pooja and lunch.
**Global Handwashing Day**

In collaboration with Rotary, SDMC & VIDYA celebrated the Global Handwashing Day through an event, ‘Our Hands, Our Future’. On the same day artists from Sambhav Kala Kendra performed an informative skit for the students on the importance of washing hands regularly.

**VIDYA HAUZ KHAS**

**Special Assemblies**

The students conducted special assemblies, recited poems and participated in quizzes to celebrate the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi & Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri.

**ASIR Assessments**

In September ASIR assessment was conducted and the students of class I were assessed for English, Hindi and Math.

**Diwali Celebrations**

As a part of the Diwali celebrations diyas, candles and rangoli making activities were organized for the children.

**BAL VIHAR SCHOOL**

Diwali at Bal Vihar was not only about making diyas and candles but also ensuring that students celebrate a safe Diwali. Special assemblies were conducted by the students to raise awareness about global warming and a street play was performed on ‘Say No To Crackers’.

They also recited poems and emphasized the use of mustard oil and earthenware diyas for the festival.
The Pappankalan Community Program has been in existence for about 15 years now. Through initiatives like Beyond School classes, Silai classes for women and NIIT computer courses, we have been impacting around 5000 people who live and work in Dwarka. This year during September and October the community members enthusiastically celebrated the festive season.

**Teachers’ Day Celebrations**

The children expressed their admiration and love for their teachers by taking up the roles of their teachers. They came dressed as their respective teachers and took classes for juniors.

**Gandhi Jayanti**

The students learnt about the teachings and principles of Mahatma Gandhi and his role in India’s freedom struggle.

**Dussehra Celebrations**

The festival was celebrated in the community by sharing the story of Ramayana with the children. The children were thrilled to hear about the victory of good over evil. In reference to the story of Lord Ram a drawing competition was also organized for the children.
**VIDYA- OKHLA CENTRE**

With the constant support of Fena Foundation, the VIDYA Okhla Centre has been running computer programs for children who cannot afford computer courses themselves. The second batch (48 students) successfully completed the NIIT Computer program this September and received the certification for their diligent efforts.

**On International Literacy Day**, a theme based program was conducted for the students. Sessions on digital literacy were conducted which included video screening, interactive discussions on the digital India scheme and the role of digital knowledge in a globalized world. Other sessions were also conducted which focused on education for the girl child & the importance of basic literacy. The students participated in a rally which was organized to create awareness in the community. Slogans like “SAB PADHE, SAB BADHE” & “GANDHI JI KA Yahi THA KEHNA, ANPADH BAN KE KABHI NA REHNA” were raised.

[Image of students participating in a rally]

**VIDYA DEEP PROGRAM**

Started in March 2017, the Vidya Deep Program at Delhi IIT campus aims at providing basic computer literacy, life skills and spoken English skills to the employed youth of the community to help them scale up their capabilities. The computer course comprises the NIIT curriculum & 40 students have got a NIIT certification after having passed the exam.

The third batch for the Vidya Deep Program commenced on 3rd October in which 16 students have been enrolled. The students have found the program highly beneficial & a great learning experience for them.
**VIDYA- MANDIRA WOMEN'S PROGRAM**

The Usha Silai Centre was started in Gurgaon in September. Ten women from the less privileged section of society were enrolled. The vision is to empower these women by imparting lessons in basic literacy, life skills, spoken English and a course in tailoring through a partnership with Usha. Federal Mogul has very kindly consented to fund this project and an MOU has been signed between VIDYA and Federal Mogul. A co-coordinator and an instructor have been appointed to run the program efficiently. The women are enthusiastic learners and in the first month itself they have learnt to use a few words and phrases to coin simple sentences in English. With reference to sewing they have learnt drafting, cutting and the use of the sewing machine to make finished products as per the syllabus prescribed by Usha Silai.

**SUCCESS STORIES**

**Kaushal (VIDYA Mandira Delhi)**
Kaushal is a bright young girl who is full of determination. Despite her humble background, it was her grit & sincere efforts that enabled her to move towards a life of fulfillment & self-reliance. Upon her successful completion of the VIDYA Mandira program she was placed at the Maruti Driving School as a trainer. Kaushal, may you continue to be confident and soar to new heights.

**Vikram Sarkar (VIDYA School Gurugram)**
Vikram, a student of class XII (Science) began his journey with VIDYA at the age of 5. His father is an embroider & mother a house wife. Despite financial troubles his parents nurtured the aspiration of providing quality education. Admittedly a lazy student at first, Vikram is now a gold medalist in the Science Olympiad. Vikram aspires to be a chemical engineer. We wish him success.
Sanjay Chauhan (VIDYA NIOS)

An alumnus of VIDYA NIOS, Delhi IIT Campus, Sanjay is now a successful graphic designer at the prestigious Societe Generale. He is not only appreciated for his performance but is also admired for his benevolence & altruistic spirit. We wish you luck Sanjay. VIDYA is proud of you.

FROM OUR VOLUNTEERS

“After a month of interning at VIDYA, we are blown away by the warm welcome we have received and the endless opportunities we had to learn. Through researching for work, as well as exploring the school and engaging with students and staff, our understanding of the work VIDYA does grows day by day. Working with this NGO in particular has been an enlightening experience; we have learned a great deal about the challenges that India faces, and the steps that dedicated Indians are taking to confront and mitigate these issues. At VIDYA, education is the most crucial tool in tackling inequality and poverty among less privileged groups in Delhi, as well as across India. We have seen the results of this first hand, and we feel motivated by the incredible work being done here.”

- Ali & Laura from Canada
VIDYA is an NGO registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 and under Sec 6(1) of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act 1976. (FCRA). All donations to VIDYA are exempt under sec 80G of Income Tax Act 1961. Please join us, volunteer with us, donate to us. Give us a call, or drop by our office. We'll be happy to show you around.

VIDYA Integrated Development for Youth and Adults
Block S, Plot No. 3126,
DLF Phase III, Gurgaon
Tel.: 0124-4049559

**Non FCRA Cheque Name:** VIDYA Integrated Development for Youth and Adults
IFSC Code: SBIN0010777 Bank Account: S.B. A/c No. 10773571899 Name of the Bank and Branch address: State Bank of India, I.I.T. Delhi Branch, Hauz Khas, New Delhi – 110016, India
Cheque Name: VIDYA School Gurgaon
IFSC Code: SBIN0014678 Bank Account No: S.B. A/c No.32402839850 Name of Bank & Branch: State Bank of India, DLF City Court, Sikandarpur, Gurgaon

**FCRA BANK TO BANK TRANSFER “SWIFT”** – Code No. SBI NIN BB 547” FOR CREDIT TO: VIDYA Integrated Development for Youth and Adults IFSC Code: SBIN0010777 Bank Account: S.B. A/c No. 10773571617 Name of the Bank and Branch address: State Bank of India, I.I.T. Delhi Branch, Hauz Khas, New Delhi – 110016, India

NOTE: While transferring the funds please obtain your SWIFT No. of your Bank and forward the same to us for issue of Receipt.

Donations to VIDYA in U.S.A are TAX EXEMPTED

Please send through: Friends of VIDYA Office India for Collecte Ac on (ICA) * 3838, Mumford Place, Palo Alto CA 94306, U.S.A.

OR Ms. Aparna Dave, Law Office of Aparna Dave 107, Alderwood Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20878, U.S.A. Email: aparnadave@immigration2us.com