



**AGENDA | ArtIst Foundation in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) and Central Board of Secondary Education, CBSE  
December 18-20, 2019, IGNCA, New Delhi**

**Day I | December 18, 2019 :: Theme :: Arts and Cultural Policy**

The arts are a significant medium through which all children and young people can experience the world. It shapes the development of the child through both its cognitive and nurturing capacities. To foster creative ways of thinking and doing, government bodies have an important role to play to support and redefine creativity in schools. With the thematic focus on policy, the first day will focus on the role of government bodies to shape an arts and cultural policy for developing an infrastructure for a robust arts education sector with innovative curricula, and beyond existing colonial models, including the outdated binaries of art versus crafts. By contextualizing the arts to be the core of teaching and learning, the need for structural reforms and implantations within the schools system will be discussed, alongside the need for an integrated arts pedagogy. Case studies and best practices will complement the panels and culminate with thematic workshops on nurturing a vibrant ecosystem for the arts through a collaboration of various stakeholders.

**Morning Session | 9.30 am – 1.15 pm**

**9.30 am – 10.30 am: Inauguration and Opening Remarks**

Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal (Honorable Minister of Human Resource Development / Secretary of Primary Education), Ms. Anita Karwal (Chairman, CBSE), Ms. Sonal Mansingh (Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha/Guest of Honour), Shri Raghvendra Singh, (CEO Development of Museums & Cultural Spaces, Ministry of Culture), Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, (Member Secretary, IGNCA), Shri Anurag Tripathi (Secretary, CBSE), Prof. Ramesh C. Gaur (Dean, IGNCA), Dr. Joseph Emmanuel (Director, Academics, CBSE), Dr. Biswajit Saha (Director, Training and Skill Education, CBSE), Shri Manoj Kr. Srivastava (Director, Professional Examinations, CBSE), and Ms. Ritu Khoda (Founder-Director, ArtIst Foundation)

**Opening Session**

**10.30 am – 10.45 am: Introductory Speech**

**Contextualizing Creativity: Modules of Visual Thinking, Art Teaching and Learning**  
Sharmila Samant (Artist and Advisor, ArtIst Foundation)



**10.45 am – 11.30 am: Keynote Address**

**The Need of Reform in School Education in India: Research and Policy Implementation**

Shantanu Prakash (Founder, Shantanu Prakash Foundation)

**Tea/Coffee Break: 11.30 am – 11.45 am**

**11.45 am – 12.30 pm: Panel Discussion I**

**Integrated Arts Pedagogy: Framing Policy and Curriculums for the Future**

Arts Integration is a form of teaching where art is the core of learning, through which students can understand other subjects, or the applicability of visual thinking in related curricula. This panel will explore the existing practices of teaching and learning, and formulate how these approaches can be made more participatory, interactive and experiential for the curriculum, through government policies and support.

**Panel:** Anita Karwal (Chairman, CBSE), Hrushikesh Senapaty (Director, NCERT), Shashi Banerjee (Principal, Shiv Nadar School), Arundhati Ghosh (Executive Director, India Foundation for the Arts)

**Moderator:** Shukla Sawant (Visual Artist and Professor, School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University)

**12.30 pm – 1.15 pm: Panel Discussion II**

**Zones of Exchange: Where Living Traditions and Contemporaneity Meet in Arts Education**

Colonialism enacted the art (*masculine*) versus craft (*feminine*) binary in India, relegating the hand-made to the margins of production, exchange and discourse. Institutionalized critiques of this binary emerged in Santiniketan and Baroda in the realm of higher art education in the 1940s and 1950s respectively, and later many artists have addressed this binary in both urban and rural contexts. This panel will contextualize how living traditions can function as the raw material for contemporaneity, and how such contact can be productive for curriculum development in schools in a globalized era.

**Panel:** Ishan Khosla (Artist and Founder, The Typecraft Initiative), Bhajju Shyam (Artist), Molly Kaushal (Professor and Head, Janapada Sampada, IGNCA), Tapati Guha Thakurta (Historian and Author)

**Moderator:** Amrita Gupta Singh (Art Historian and Curatorial Advisor, ArtIst Foundation)

**Lunch: 1.15 pm – 2.00 pm**



## **Afternoon Session | 2.00 pm – 6.00 pm**

### **2.00pm - 2.30 pm :: Paper Presentation**

#### **Art and the Republican Universe: The Modern School, Delhi, 1947-1961**

With the coming of Indian Independence in 1947, there was an earnest quest for a Republican universe. A turn towards art was to provide the premises for such a universe, and there were serious efforts to create a robust art curriculum for the schools in India which it was argued would help children locate themselves in their proper historical and political contexts. The process of citizen-making was thus deeply connected with providing the future citizen these contexts through art. Teaching, however, also required a proper pedagogy. Thus, citizen-making entailed the search for a proper pedagogy. This paper will present these ideas with through a case study of The Modern School, Delhi, envisioning a new historical juncture for creating a dynamic pedagogical regime through art teaching practices.

**Paper:** Rakesh Batabyal (Associate Professor, Centre for Media Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University)

### **2.30 pm - 3.00 pm :: Paper Presentation**

#### **The Constituency of Folk Art: Assimilation in Contemporary Art Education**

With the increasing formalization of knowledge, 'modern' pedagogic practices concerning art have inherited a separation between the 'classical' and the 'folk' arts. The category 'folk' (folk theatre, folk literature, or folk music) is laden with heavy connotations, and involve politics of inclusion and exclusion. This paper will historicize this context in its 19<sup>th</sup> century western romantic ideals and orientalist ethos, moving beyond binaries to formulate integrationist insights for contemporary arts education.

**Paper:** Avishek Ray (Assistant Professor, National Institute of Technology, Silchar)

### **3.00 pm – 3.30 pm :: Best Practices :: Case Studies**

#### **Project Sector 8, Akshara High School**

Timira Gupta (Executive Director, Akshara School)

## **High Tea: 3.30 pm – 3.45 pm**



### **3.45 pm – 6.00 pm :: Thematic Workshops**

#### **Interplay between Creativity, Context and Innovation: Empirical Approaches**

This workshop will be for principals and teachers who will interact with experts through ideation circles and empirical approaches to understand how creativity, context and innovation are related to each other, and what are the tools of such application in schools through policy frameworks. There will be six ideation circles facilitated by our invited scholars and education professionals, which will culminate with short presentations of the findings of each ideation circle.

**Facilitators:** Susanne Buch Nielsen (Associate Professor, Via University College, Denmark), Sophie Voegelé (Researcher, Zurich University of the Arts, Switzerland), Penny Hay (Senior Lecturer, Bath Spa University, United Kingdom), Rizio Yohannan (CEO, Marg Foundation), Charlotte Leech (Co-Founder, Loka Foundation)

**Participants:** Seminar Registrants

### **Day II | December 19, 2019 :: Theme :: Teaching and Learning Practices**

The arts deserve a central place in the curriculum in schools as they are very important for young people to broaden their minds for developing kinaesthetic, visual and rhythmic intelligences. Schools should encourage and celebrate those who want to study art, music, drama or design – and those who wish to study maths and languages, too. There is also a vital need for a child/youth art movement to develop a philosophical soul in our contemporary time that is marred by socio-political turbulence, economic inequalities, resurgence of religious fundamentalism and climate change. With the thematic focus on pedagogy, the second day will focus on sustainable models for art education, ideas for a convergence of museums and schools, and metaphorical thinking to foster artful and experiential modes of teaching and learning. Case studies and best practices will complement the panels and culminate with thematic workshops on practice-based research modules in arts pedagogy.

### **Morning Session | 10.30 am – 1.00 pm**

#### **10.30 am – 10.45 am: Children's Presentations**

#### **10.45 am – 11.30 am: Panel Discussion I**

#### **Landscapes of Imagination: Creative and Practical Approaches to Arts Education**

Albert Einstein believed that imagination is more important than knowledge. Other practitioners assert that the arts are a form of knowledge. How can we harness the imagination of a child to apply thinking out of the box for the development of a child? The processes of



visual inquiry involve perceiving, conceiving, expressing and reflecting, and metaphorical thinking enables

students to generate meaningful discursive thoughts. This panel will explore these ideas for arts education.

**Panel:** Susanne Buch Nielsen (Associate Professor, VIA University College, Denmark), Sophie Voegelé (Researcher, Zurich University of the Arts, Switzerland), Penny Hay (Senior Lecturer, Bath Spa University, United Kingdom), Dilbur Parakh (Trustee, Aseema Charitable Trust, Mumbai)

**Moderator:** Amrita Gupta Singh (Art Historian and Curatorial Advisor, ArtIst Foundation)

**Tea/Coffee Break: 11.30 pm – 11.45 pm**

**11.45 am – 12.30 pm: Panel Discussion II**

**Museum Education and School Education: Necessity of Convergence**

Museum education aids in strengthening the role of non-formal education and had been recognized as the core of a museum's service to the public. They offer spaces for study, observation, critical thinking, contemplation and dialogue. Such non-formal education offers a diverse range of educational experiences and should ideally complement formal education in every country. In India, there are a limited number of arts museums and support for such spaces are rather constrained. This panel will explore the possibilities of museum education converging with school education within such limited patronage, offering tools to expand this convergence through innovative collaborations and models of exchange and dissemination.

**Panel:** Roobina Karode (Director, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art), Tejshvi Jain (Founder-Director, Rereeti/Revitalizing Museums), Poulomi Das (Consultant, Museum and Heritage Spaces), Avni Sethi (Founder-Director, Conflictorium)

**Moderator:** Sharmila Samant (Artist and Advisor, ArtIst Foundation)

**12.30 pm – 1.00 pm :: Paper Presentation**

**Intersections of Museum Learning, Arts Thinking and Educational Psychology in Last Two Decades**

The 'uncertainty' of the future is the monster under the bed that almost every innovator worth their salt is claiming to find a solution to. It is also important to note here that the panic also emerges from interconnectedness of these transformations, which affect both the personal as well as the planetary future. Against this backdrop, formal and informal learning sectors are now



in a rush to innovate teaching and learning at the early, middle and high school levels. They appear to be in a rush to pick the new-age bouquet of learning, and experiment with global practices, a rush that brings them to external consultants from varied fields, but are

often not in-depth

practices. Through case examples at Flow India, this paper probes the need to build sustainable mind-sets and modules, while engaging with play, tinkering, uncertainty and transformation.

**Paper:** Shailza Rai (Research Specialist, Flow India)

**Lunch:** 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm

**Afternoon Session | 2.00 pm – 6.00 pm**

**2.00pm - 2.30pm :: Paper Presentation**

**Art, Ecology and Everyday Life: Creating Curriculums for Young Minds (EKW Project)**

Disappearing Dialogues is a platform for creative engagement and cultural expression and has been collaboratively working in the East Kolkata Wetlands (EKW) over a period of three years. Through these years, this platform has engaged with various stakeholders in a bid to foreground the immense ecological and environmental contribution the EKW has in sustaining everyday life in Kolkata. The EKW itself is sustained by the collective practices of the peri-urban wetland community who see wastewater as a nutrient, as something to be preserved as it enhanced their livelihood opportunities. At present, developmental and environmental threats render this socio-spatial landscape fragile, susceptible and vulnerable. Through art, performance, installations, workshops, exhibitions and DIY activities, this project engages with the local youth and lot of effort has been made to address the local school curriculum to imagine a lively and vibrant future. This paper will present the challenges, processes and outcomes of the EKW project.

**Paper:** Nobina Gupta (Founder-Director, Disappearing Dialogues)

**2.30 pm – 3.00 pm :: Best Practices :: Case Studies**

**Slam Out Loud**

Jigyasa Labroo (CEO and Co-Founder, Slam Out Loud)



**3.00 pm – 3.30 pm :: Best Practices ::  
Case Studies**

**Problem Se No Problem**

Avani Patel and Sreya Majumdar (Design Strategist and Visual Designer, Tinker Labs)

**High Tea: 3.30 pm – 3.45 pm**

**3.45 pm - 6.00 pm :: Thematic Workshops**

**Creating Living Curriculums for Schools: Engaging with the Social**

This workshop will be for principals and teachers who will interact with experts through ideation circles and applicable approaches to understand how the arts and society are interrelated and the culture of care that is needed to create relevant living curriculums for children, and what are the tools of such solicitation in schools. There will be six ideation circles facilitated by our invited scholars and education professionals, which will culminate with short presentations of the findings of each ideation circle.

**Facilitators:** Susanne Buch Nielsen (Associate Professor, Via University College, Denmark)  
Sophie Voegelé (Researcher, Zurich University of the Arts, Switzerland), Penny Hay (Senior Lecturer, Bath Spa University, United Kingdom), Rizio Yohannan (CEO, Marg Foundation)

**Participants:** Seminar Registrants

**Day III | December 20, 2019 :: Theme :: Transforming Curriculums**

By recognising and valuing arts and cultural pedagogy in both schools and communities, we can find new connections that will offer hope for a creative, cultural future. The arts have the power to bring together people and is increasingly vital when so many things can divide us, and behavioral changes in children can be stimulated by reform, innovation, eclecticism, syncretism and rhizomatic thinking. Advocacy through the arts can produce shifts by promoting a mix of old and new cultural models to enable generative action. By channelizing these models to local needs, differences can be understood productively for our common and collective good. Notions of affective pedagogy for transformational curriculums will be discussed, along with tools of action research in classrooms. Case studies and best practices will complement the panels and culminate with thematic workshops on universal access to a creative education across Indian schools.



**Morning Session | 10.30 am – 1.00 pm**

**10.30 am – 10.45 am: Children's Presentations**

**10.45 am – 11.30 am: Keynote Address**

**Leading Education Curriculums**

Sachchidanand Joshi, (Member Secretary, IGNCA)

**11.30 am – 12.00 pm: Launch**

**Tribute to Tushar Joag / Launch of Awards for Best Action Research**

Chief Guests: Vivan Sundaram (Artist) and Geeta Kapur (Art Critic and Curator)

**Tea/Coffee Break: 12.00 pm – 12.15 pm**

**12.15 pm – 1.00 pm: Panel Discussion I**

**Affective Pedagogy and Emotional Nurturing through the Arts: A Child-Centric Approach**

To counter the instrumental purpose of the current forms of education, the role that the arts can play is significant while keeping the child at the centre of teaching principles. Arts education promotes emotional intelligence in children, and affective pedagogy is as much about feelings and emotions as it is about learning outcomes. How can emotional and playful ways of learning through the arts inculcate pedagogical innovation to help children develop self-knowledge and awareness of their role as future citizens? This panel will shape these ideas for understanding affective pedagogy.

**Panel:** Sushanta Mandal (Artist), Lokesh Khodke (Artist), Tanu Shree Singh (Author and Positive Psychologist), Charlotte Leech (Co-Founder, Loka Foundation)

**Moderator:** Penny Hay (Senior Lecturer, Bath Spa University, United Kingdom)

**Lunch: 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm**

**Afternoon Session | 2.00 pm – 6.00 pm**

**2.00 pm – 2.45 pm: Panel Discussion II**

**Collaborative Models and Action Research in Schools**





Action Research is a cycle of inquiry or a process of research that refers to diverse evaluative and analytical research methods designed to help educators develop practical solutions, either organizational or academic.

This is an empowering experience for educators as it helps to be more effective in their teaching and interactive skills. At the same time, it aids in developing tools for listening, participating and collaborating with various stakeholders involved with the development of children, including parents. This panel will cite such examples for practical applications in classrooms.

**Panel:** Sangeeta Gole (Director, PEARLS), Pooja Thakur (Principal, The Shriram School), Ramesh C. Gaur (Dean, IGNCA), Rizio Yohannan (CEO, Marg Foundation)

**Moderator:** Arundhati Mitter (Director, Flow India)

### **2.45 pm - 3.15 pm :: Paper Presentation**

#### **Art Integrated Learning: Methods of Support through Education**

Often, when an artist tries to fill in for an educator, the transition is rather challenging and problematic. This paper proposes an articulation for the need of an 'artist-educator' in schools. It will discuss this specially in the light of the recent decision by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) for making art education compulsory in all the grades in CBSE schools. Elucidating on the wide impact of arts integrated learning and teaching as a method, the paper will underline the need for experiential learning pedagogies that will address the gaps in the current education system.

**Paper:** Amritha S. Radhakrishnan (PhD Scholar, School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University)

### **3.15 pm - 3.45 pm :: Paper Presentation**

#### **Relevance of Collaborative Art Projects in the Arts Education System**

The art education system of India exhibits a very peculiar scenario, with the subject existing in the school curricula as an extra-curricular activity. With the continued presence of colonial models of art education, it is important to re-visit examples such as the Santiniketan school and also the Nehruvian ideals for a resurgence of traditional art and culture implicit for the development of the education system in India. This paper will elucidate (with examples) the need for collaborative projects with folk and Adivasi artists within the school curriculum not



only for the psychological development of students, but for sociological improvisation. Collaborative and participatory activities offer the possibility for the formation of the 'folk' within an urban structure, and is very much needed when modern individual identities are

degenerating our society.

**Paper:** Geeti Karmakar (PhD Scholar, Centre for Folk Culture Studies, University of Hyderabad)

### **3.45 pm – 4.15 pm :: Best Practices :: Case Studies**

#### **Approaching Art education through Engagement and Interaction: The Art1st Way**

Ritu Khoda (Founder-Director, Art1st)

**High Tea: 4.15 pm to 4.30 pm**

### **4.30 pm – 5.15 pm :: Art Education Roundtables (AER) White Paper Release 2019**

#### **Translating the AER White Paper into Policy and Action**

**Chair:** Ms. Nirupama Kotru (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture)

**Panel:** Ms. Nirupama Kotru (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture), Dr. Ramesh C. Gaur (Dean, IGNCA), Ms. Ritu Khoda (Founder-Director, Art1st Foundation), Dr. Biswajit Saha (Director-Training, CBSE)

**Moderator:** Amrita Gupta Singh (Art Historian and Curatorial Advisor, Art1st Foundation)

### **5.15 pm – 6.00 pm: Valedictory Session**

Shri Prahlad Patel (Honourable Minister of State for Culture, Independent Charge), Hemlata Mohan (Executive Committee, CCRT/Guest of Honour), Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, (Member Secretary, IGNCA), Prof. Ramesh C. Gaur (Dean, IGNCA), Ritu Khoda (Founder-Director, Art1st Foundation), Dr. Biswajit Saha (Director-Training, CBSE)

### **Cultural Performance (Courtesy, IGNCA)**

#### **Distribution of Certificates to Registrants**