

# THE ORIGINALS

## 36TH FOUNDERS' DAY

### 36 Questions with the Cultural Captain

**1. TOT: What was the first zoom meeting you attended today?**

**CC:** My lessons? My first lesson was Commerce.

**2. TOT: How does it feel to conduct Talent practices in person but Founders' online?**

**CC:** It's a really different experience. Something very challenging but I love a challenge like this.

**3. TOT: What angers you the most during a practice?**

**CC:** People not showing up and making excuses.

**4. TOT: What are the virtual punishments for being late to practices?**

**CC:** *[Right after this question was asked, the interview was interrupted by the arrival of a participant, who seemed to be a middle-schooler, and to the complete amusement of the team present at that moment, the Cultural Captain called her out on being 30 WHOLE MINUTES LATE for her practice session. Her excuse was that she did not know the timings and when the coordinators contacted her, her phone was not with her. The irony of this happening, just moments after the CC said that she disliked it when people made excuses was immense. - TOT]*

**5. TOT: According to you what is the biggest milestone during practices?**

**CC:** Having all the participants present and on time.

**6. TOT: If you could have one person working with you as a helping hand, anybody from the alumna or the present student body, who would it be?**

**CC:** Sanskriti Saraff

**7. TOT: Who do you believe would have won Talent this year?**

**CC:** It's difficult to say that because the practices and final show aren't always the same but all the houses had a very good chance at winning. Everybody was putting their best efforts in.

**8. TOT: Who is your favourite M/D teacher?**

**CC:** Ma'am Pika, dancing with her was one of the things that got me interested in M/D. She is definitely my favourite.

**9. TOT: Who would you like as Vice-Captain from the batch of 2022?**

**CC:** Anybody who is willing to support me and work with me at the same pace.

**10. TOT: Which Cultural Captain do you admire from the previous years?**

**CC:** Himani Narula and Saanvi Singh. Can't choose between the two.

**11. TOT: According to you what makes you different from the Cultural Captains of the past, other than the fact that you are conducting a virtual event?**

**CC:** The responsibilities of a Cultural Captain were very new to me because I never saw myself as a Cultural Captain. So being clueless about the work initially but yet being able to handle the duties and receiving compliments about it is what makes me different.

**12. TOT: Which dance/drama show has been your favourite from the previous years?**

**CC:** When I was in grade 6, that would've been the year 2014, we did a show on Durga and the Navavtar. That show was the one which was the best.

**13. TOT: One character you wished to play in a school play but couldn't?**

**CC:** I am not into acting.

**14. TOT: What is the Light & Sound and Backstage name this year?**

**CC:** Nothing specific for now except what Ma'am Meeta calls them, the Audio-Visual Squad. We've not decided a name as of yet.

**15. TOT: Who is more cooperative, the House Captains or the White House?**

**CC:** Everybody has been cooperative. I worked with the House Captains during Talent and the White House during all the virtual events. They were both equally there to support me and made sure that I never felt the absence of a vice.

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## 36TH FOUNDERS' DAY

### MY LAST YEAR'S JOURNEY

~ Himani Narula, Class of 2018

As a Cultural Captain of Mussoorie International School, I realised that it was the motto, "traditional values and modern outlook" which I had to uphold with every assembly, every conference, every event, every competition and every celebration. As a performer, most of my school days had gone on stage but I realised after becoming a cultural captain that there is lot more hard work involved in making a performance a success which starts right from our music teachers who make the composition to our dance teachers teaching us to perform on that composition and then finally to the backstage and light and sound department who add the spark with the right volume of the mic or the timings of the curtain.

My first big event as a Cultural Captain was the Talent Fiesta and as the name suggests it gave talent of every kind a platform to flourish. After Talent was a huge success, I felt a bigger responsibility on my shoulder to make Founder's Day an even greater event. With each and every student being a part of the orchestra to carrying forward the legacy of celebrating Indian mythology in the form of a play, Founder's Day is a journey which binds the diverse students and faculty into one big MIS family.

Throughout my journey as Cultural Captain, I did face a lot of challenges but every challenge taught me something new and gave me the strength to deal with the next one. Not to forget mentioning the support of my Cultural Vice-Captain, music, dance and art department and my Crew who would always make it easier.

When I joined the school in 2014 I would hear people talking about "MIS culture" and I wondered what it meant, but after a year of holding the badge, I knew that the culture of MIS resides in the heart and soul of its people.

### A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

~ Vanshika Choudhary

In current times, the word 'tradition' is likely to evoke different responses from different people, be it in the sphere of religion, politics, art, culture, or discipline. Tradition, culture, and values are some concepts which will have very positive associations for some, and outright hostile for others. At MIS, it is an honour to be acknowledged as an educational community with a strong and unique value system. We learn to value our culture and traditions that inspire us to be loyal, truthful, and committed. Rooted in the belief of the empowering 'GAYATRI MANTRA' we embody the power of tolerance, acceptance, and respect for one another.

For many decades, MIS has been the core of a community that has continued to value its history and

traditions. All the MISTars are guided to achieve great heights and make an impact on society. When speaking about an international school, what does it mean to have a Tradition of Excellence? Is it something that can be measured or counted? Let's find out!

Mussoorie International School's tradition of excellence has always been embracing holistic development. Continuously, oriented towards innovation and improvement simultaneously considering the traditional values and ethics.

By providing global education, with firmly founded Indian values, and cultures, our school sets up a precedent in the domain of quality education. The tradition manifests itself in school spirit, with 'DHIYO YONA PRACHO DAYAT' as our

school motto, reflecting 'Who we pray to propel our intellect'. MISTars are taught to perform havan and religious ceremonies during occasions. It is an absolute blessing to have an institute that offers holistic development, with its esteemed values.

Established in 1984, MIS has completed its 36th year carrying forward its legacy of tradition. With each year ending, we see several beautiful and passionate leaders set to accomplish their goals with those initial ethics instilled in them. We believe that MIS is not just a school, it is our MIS family that has been home to many girls, from over 27 countries for the last three decades and has reinforced their lives in an environment that includes the traditional values and modern outlook.

## 36TH FOUNDERS' DAY

*(Continued from Page 1)*

**16. TOT: What is the one thing that could save humanity?**

CC: Everybody accepts everybody else just the way they are.

**17. TOT: Talent or Founders'?**

CC: Founders'.

**18. TOT: Drama or Orchestra?**

CC: Orchestra.

**19. TOT: Light & Sound or Backstage?**

CC: Backstage

**20. TOT: Working as a backstage member or leading them?**

CC: Working as a member. I wanted to lead them after working as a member, but that's initially how I started.

**21. TOT: If you had to give up on one to remain in the other which one would it be? Gayatri House or White House?**

CC: Hmm.. to choose between either of the two! I believe, I don't have to completely leave out any, regardless of the situation because even if I am in White House, my heart, for whenever the house needs me, is blue.

**22. TOT: One thing you always have during practices.**

CC: A diary and a pen.

**23. TOT: You have played the egg shaker for the last three consecutive years. True or false**

CC: Not THREE consecutive years but two, so false.

**24. TOT: You have not let anyone touch your hair with a pair of scissors since grade 9. True or false?**

CC: I would say since grade 5, so true.

**25. TOT: Since you read a lot, what novel should I have read by now?**

CC: My preference in books is quite different but if you're into fiction, then Fynn, my personal favourite. Also, Seeking Crystal because that's the first book I read.

**26. TOT: One book you wish you would have written.**

CC: Harry Potter. I guess that's quite famous.

**27. TOT: Have you read a novel in the backstage when you were not supposed to?**

CC: No, not when I wasn't supposed to.

**28. TOT: If you ever wrote an autobiography, what would you name it?**

CC: A girl who can achieve, whatever she aims for.

**29. TOT: What is the most absurd nickname anyone has ever given you?**

CC: A close friend has named me, Sniggupiggu.

**30. TOT: What motivates you to get out of bed every morning?**

CC: My mom.

**31. TOT: When did you realise that you missed having a Cultural Vice-captain?**

CC: Numerous times. Especially, when I have my phone flooding with excuses stating why they can't attend practices. I wish I had somebody to help me to reply back.

**32. TOT: Which founders is the most unique according to you?**

CC: The founders I worked for, then this year.

**33. TOT: What did you participate for in your first founders?**

CC: A ballet performance for the English play.

**34. TOT: What is your opinion about the myth that the Cultural Captain gets hurt every year?**

CC: I hope that's not true.

**35. TOT: A message for the aspiring cultural captains.**

CC: It is an arduous job but you just need the support of all. Don't be scared, it's an amazing job if you know how to manage your time and are willing to work for it.

**36. TOT: A must in MIS is...**

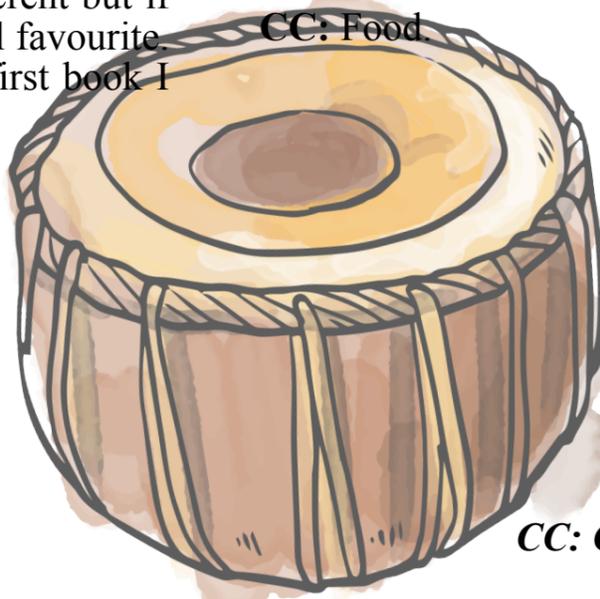
CC: Food

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“Learn the rules like a pro, so you can break them like an artist.”

~ Pablo Picasso

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*\*TOT: The Originals Team  
CC: Cultural Captain, Snigdha Jain*

## 36TH FOUNDERS' DAY

### THE MIS FEELING

~ Melonee Maibam

With a heavy suitcase and blessings from my mom, the campus of MIS welcomed me wholeheartedly. My new identity, my folio number, given on 9th of March, started my whole journey of being a vulnerable Melonee to the best Melonee in me. With its famous motto "Traditional Values, Modern Outlook", MIS gave me the chance to learn what the world had not prepared me before. From the exposure of surreal opportunities to facing wreckage of emotions, I grew up tremendously in an environment where my voice is

heard out loud. The arms of my housemother supported me when tears spilt out of my eyes. With delicious and healthy food, the warmth present in the dining hall and sharing meals were forms of affection I craved for the most, and I cannot thank my teachers enough for finding the talent in me, buried deep. With fights, I might have lost quite a few people but the lessons they left behind remain engraved in me. Being in an outspoken class as well did not make me any less of an extrovert, with every memory we have spent, I still cherish. My first talent gig to

my initial snowfall, all those pictures and polaroids, are still in my luggage, eagerly waiting to go back to MIS. Every vacation gets harder as I realise how I adapted to MIS. The constant reluctance to pack my stuff to go back home comes not from lethargy, but from the hesitation to leave this abode of mountain queens. MIS has truly wrapped the deepest cores of my heart, an emotion I can hardly express but rings in the hearts of all Mistars. The same luggage I brought first to MIS, the same luggage will carry my memories from there.

### MAKING OF FOUNDERS

~ Nirali Sawartha

While the world is flying in the face of the outrageous COVID-19, we, the MISTars have planned onto exhibiting the 36th Founders' Day 2020 on a virtual platform. The idea of this event was initiated during a meeting held by the school Council Body along with students from the Class of 2022.

Further, the Cultural Captain took the helm and the countdown to the event began. We had fifteen days to bring this entire show together. After hours of countless meetings and discussions, a plan of action was ruled out and the word of the first-ever virtual Founders' Day was spread. Expeditiously, numerous students enrolled for participation in various events and a routine practice session was set in motion. Indian folk dances, Contemporary dance, Indian and Western music and an English Skit were worked upon enthusiastically. Thereafter, a stupendous crew of supremely talented editors came into possession. With the wild-eyed and incomparable co-operation of each creditworthy individual, we are proud to present this show amidst this pandemic.

### SIMON SAYS

1. Camera kholo!  
*Cambridge Coordinator*
2. Long into my sin's ID.  
*Head Ma-Panther*
3. She can do drive.  
*Yana Chauhan*
4. No here you needs to do little more practice.  
*H.O.D. Maths*
5. We studied during four hours.  
*Santoshi House Captain*
6. I would request the house to attend the open ceremony.  
*Lakshmi House Captain*
7. Who say what?  
*School prefect, Avni Shroff*
8. When will send it?  
*Veera Balhara*

## 36TH FOUNDERS' DAY

### विद्यालय की विकास-यात्रा

~ विष्णु झा, H.O.D Hindi

गायत्री माँ की कृपा दृष्टि से, गुरुवर का आशीर्वाद मिला।  
 ३१ जुलाई की शुभ बेला में, एम०आई०एस० का प्रादुर्भाव हुआ।  
 दुनिया को राह दिखाने को, संस्कृति का पाठ पढ़ाने को।  
 पाटल कलियों-सी बालाओं को, जीवन का श्रेय बताने को।  
 चकाचौंध कर सुमार्ग पर लाने को, संस्कार समन्वित शिक्षण को।  
 जन-जन तक पहुँचाने को, संस्थापक का सपना साकार हुआ।  
 विद्यालय भू पर आकार लिया, विद्यालय भू पर आकार लिया।  
 ३४ बच्चों को साथ लिए, शाला की यात्रा आरंभ किए।  
 समय के कुछ ही कालखंडों में पुष्पित पल्लवित हुए संस्थान।  
 कम पड़ गए संस्था के भी साधन, बढ़ता गया शाला का मान।  
 फिर शुरु हुआ हवन अनुष्ठान, फिर शुरु हुआ हवन अनुष्ठान।  
 मनता था हर साल स्थापना दिवस, करके संस्कृतियों का गुनगान।  
 संस्कृतिक प्रस्तुतियों से बच्चों ने, हर साल किया इसका सम्मान।  
 अपनी सफलता के स्वप्नों पर, निरन्तर बढ़ता रहा संस्थान।  
 किन्तु बीस में आकर कोरोना ने, लगा दिया इस पर अल्प विराम।  
 सौभाग्य न सब दिन सोता है, आगे देख अब क्या होता है?  
 विद्यालय का सिद्धांत अटल था, नव तकनीक पर आधारित था।  
 भारतीय संस्कृति का नव उत्थान, भारतीय संस्कृति का नव  
 उत्थान।  
 साहस करके विद्यालय ने तकनीक आधारित प्रस्तुतियों से।  
 परंपरा विद्यालय की सबने, रखा अक्षुण्ण और अविराम।  
 संस्कृति भारती अमर रहे, नूतन तकनीक का हाथ पकड़।  
 सदा अग्रसर विकास परिपथ पर, विद्यालय का होगा सम्मान।

### किसे कहते है मिस्टार?

~ अदिति बरनवाला

किसे कहते है मिस्टार?  
 जो पाँच बजे उठ कर भी,  
 फील्ड में बात कर पाए।  
 हर चीज के लिए मैम गाला के चक्कर लगाए,  
 बंक मारने के लिए जिसको सीस्टर अंजू की याद आए।  
 यह सब खूबी होने पर ही वह मिस्टार कह लाए।  
 असैम्बली में जो जन्मदिन मनाने से कतराए,  
 राजमा-चावल जिसका पसंदीदा हैं बताए,  
 फाउंडर्स और टैलेंट का बेसब्री से जो करें इंतजार,  
 मैम मीता के बदलावों से जो खिलखिलिये,  
 यह सब खूबी होने पर ही वह मिस्टार कह लाए।  
 जैम सैसन और होली जिसने स्कूल में मनाया,  
 मोमो के लिये जो लंबी लाइन में खड़ हो पाया।  
 हाउस मदर से समय पर न उठने के लिए डाट है खाई,  
 जिसने अपने दिल में गायत्री, लक्ष्मी, संतोषी के लिए जगह ब  
 नाई।  
 यह सब होने पर ही वह मिस्टार कह लाए।  
 जिसके दोस्त ही दुनिया बन गए।  
 स्ट्रीट्स बातों का केंद्र बन गया।  
 संजय अंकल का नाम ही पता जिसे।  
 कुछ भी हो जाने पर भी वो अगर मसूरी को अपना घर कहे।  
 तभी ही वो एक मिस्टार कह लाए।

## MIS BIENPLUS QU'UNE ÉCOLE

~ Mr. Pankaj Mishra, H.O.D French

Mussoorie International School est connue pour entretenir la tradition indienne. Le but de cet établissement est de transmettre tous les types de connaissances à ses élèves provenant de chaque coin du monde. Cette école donne à ses étudiantes l'opportunité de présenter leurs talents principalement acquis au sein de ses locaux et encadrées par leurs équipes de professeurs.

La journée du fondateur est une grande fête de cette école, organisée chaque année pour l'anniversaire du fondateur de cet organisme. Tous les élèves, chaque professeur et les employés ont hâte de voir arriver cette journée. En effet, chaque étudiante est fière de montrer son talent à ses parents et aux invités sous forme d'une pièce, de musique, etc.

En plus de la connaissance par les livres, la connaissance de la spiritualité est pratiquée chaque samedi, c'est ce qui donne son caractère unique à cette école et cela se ressent clairement lors de la journée du fondateur. L'année dernière, une pièce, partie de la mythologie indienne, était jouée par les élèves. Cette pièce était basée sur l'amour et la séparation de la Déesse Radha et du Dieu Krishna. Le rôle de ces légendes a été parfaitement interprété par les élèves et l'orchestre formé par toutes les étudiantes, environ 500, était merveilleux. Cet événement laisse un souvenir important et intarissable. On entend toujours dire dans cette école, << Vive la journée du fondateur et Vive la culture indienne >>. La raison est toute simple...

## 36TH FOUNDERS' DAY

### TINY EUPHORIC INCIDENTS

~ Tenzin Nyidon

28th July, one of the happiest days for me throughout the year. Want to know why? Here it goes.

Founders' practices can be extremely tiring, some may fall dead asleep on the bed or some may just sleep during practices, as for me, I have never fallen asleep like any of the above-mentioned situations but trust me most Mistars do. Classes almost never take place, most students are either busy with the class exhibitions or their dance practices, some working for the backdrop and others working enthusiastically behind the scenes. Special mention? Our light & sound, backstage team.

Preparing the backdrop might sound thrilling but honestly, this can be one of the most troublesome tasks at times.

Here comes the crucial part, not being able to decide whether to go buy tuck or numero uno the practices. I remember how our Cultural Captains for the former years would “verbally-attack” us for being late.

Anyways coming to the time of the day that makes me, let's simply say “happy” because this word carries a huge amount of weight. The night practice

for the school orchestra, we begin our practices late evening on the setup stage outside on the tennis court. Well it mostly rains on that very day every year, I honestly don't know why, but here is the catch: we get to spend an immense amount of time with our friends. Getting soaked in the rain while leaving for dinner in the dining hall. It is euphoric, even if it means getting soaked in the downpour for five minutes. After dinner going back again to the practice spot means getting drenched again but a little less this time. We practice until 8 pm, yes, this is the only time of the year we get to stay out until late with our friends, but what makes me sad is knowing that this day in a year has to get over.

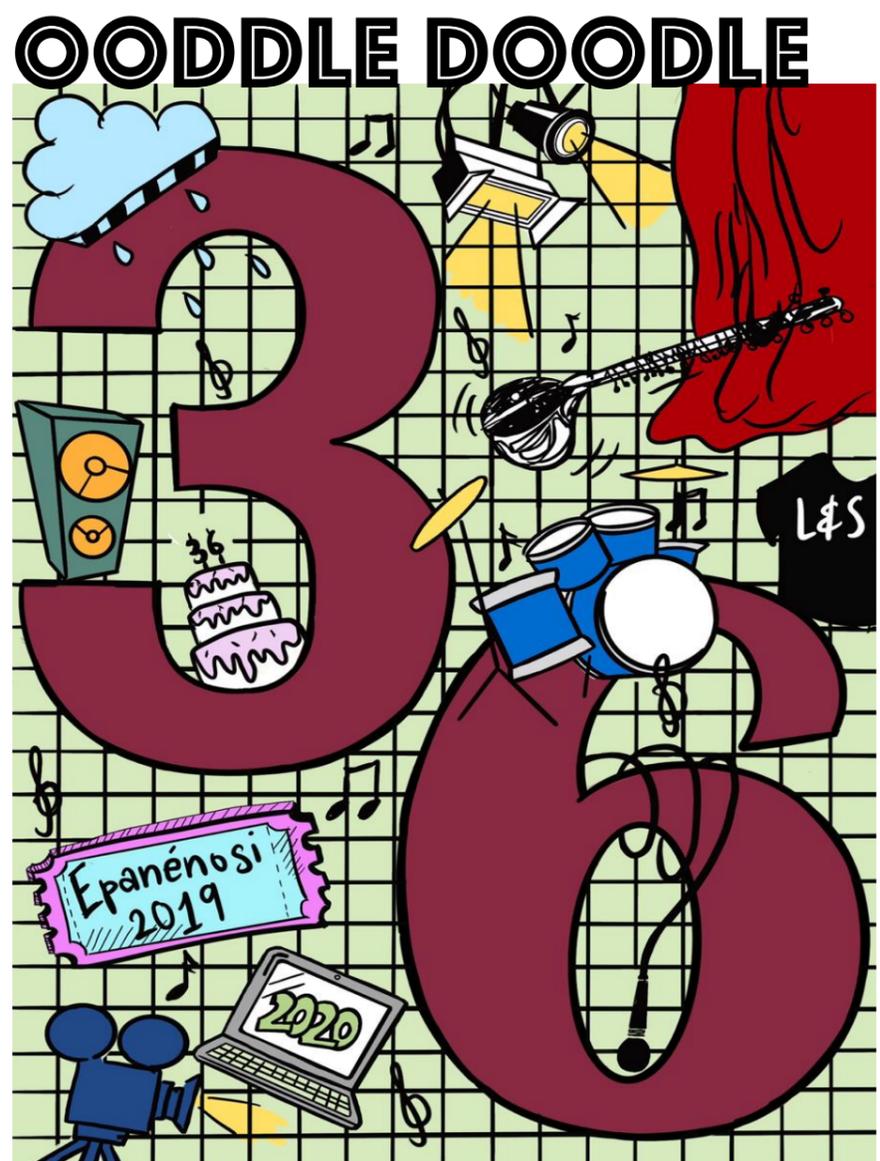
Want to hear something even sadder? Mistars not spending this year with their bosom buddies and not going through all the ruckus in school during Founders'. What we majorly miss is the “Making of the play”, never in my life did I ever imagine that the last year of my schooling will be spent like this, it breaks my heart to imagine it every time but it is what it is, just like they always say. Everything happens for a reason but for now, let's stay safe amigos!

### VIVID VARIATIONS

My lips easily elevate,  
And form the prettiest curve.  
But how difficult has it been  
To show my eyebrows shorten,  
My voice stable and my fire glow,  
Magnificently my emotions flourish.

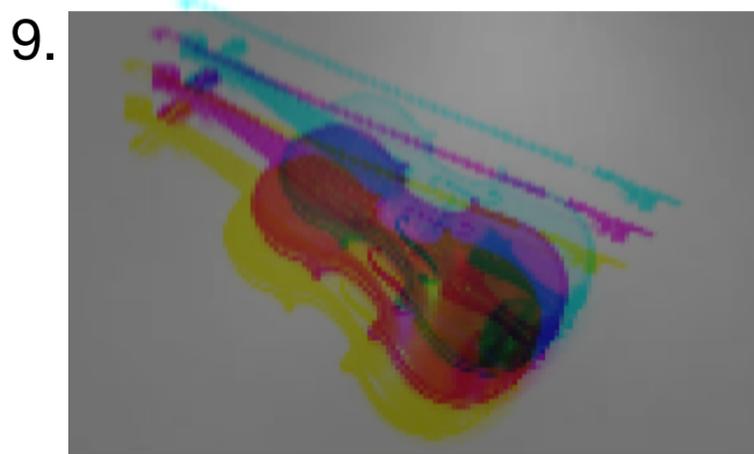
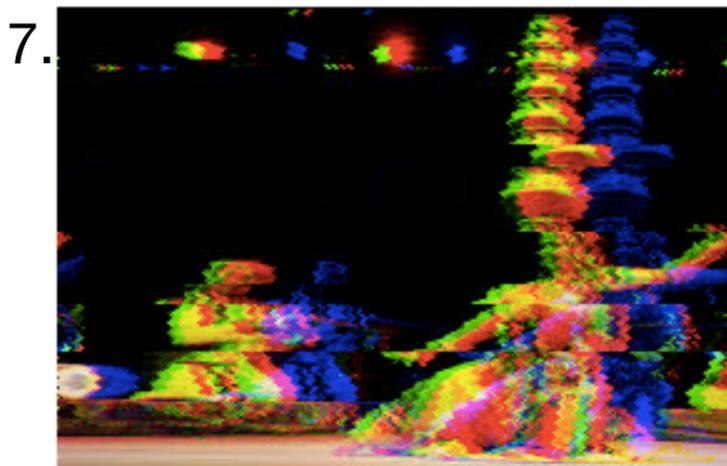
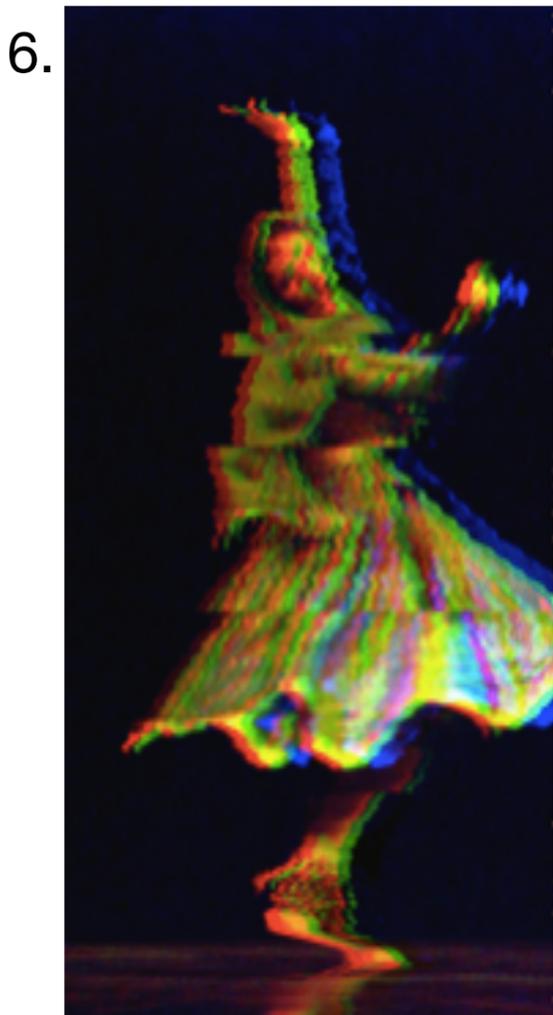
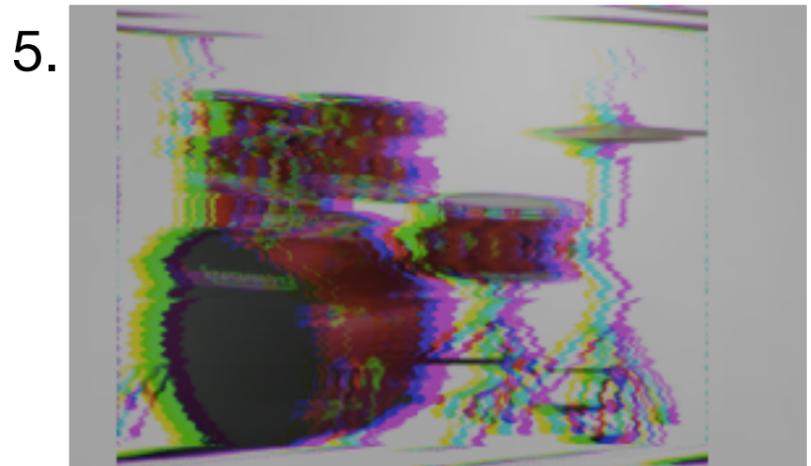
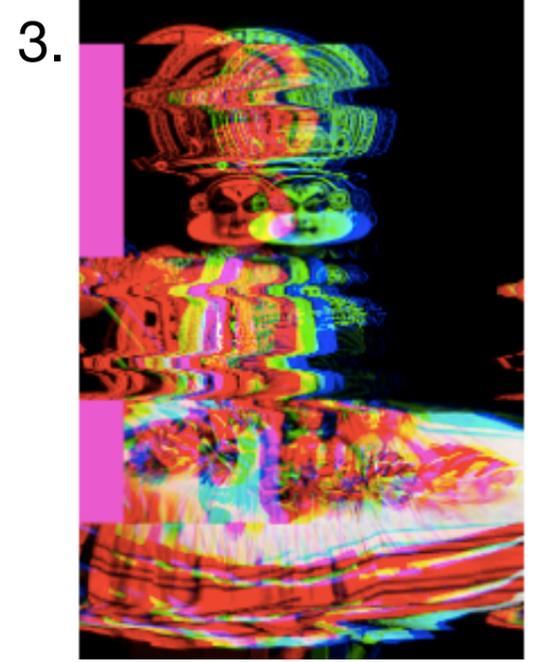
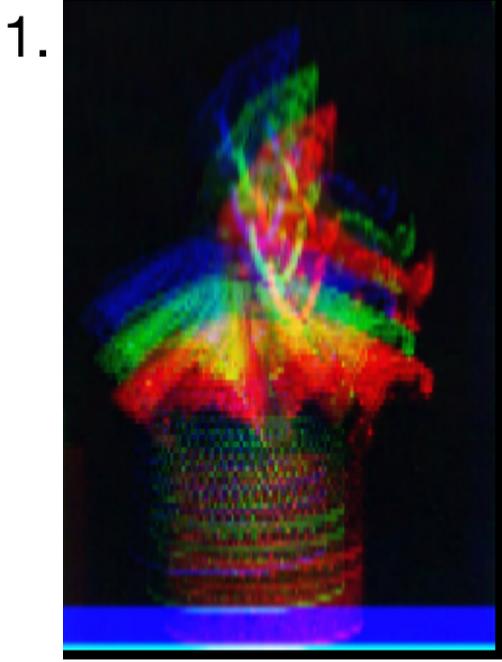
My words shorten with despair,  
And my eyes dilate with grace.  
This is the circus my heart bears,  
What greenery the world owns!

~ Scarlet



# 36TH FOUNDERS' DAY

## UNHITCH THE GLITCH



- ANSWERS**
1. Manipuri
  2. Harmonium
  3. Kathakali
  4. Tabla
  5. Drums
  6. Kathak
  7. Rajasthani
  8. Bharatanatyam

## 36TH FOUNDERS' DAY

# *The Diary of a Mistar*

Dear Diary,

Yay! It is Founders'. Nobody knows how eager I was to write this issue, and finally, we are here! While everybody is jittery and is anticipating what is going to happen at 3:30 today, I am here to spoil it a bit for all of you. But don't you worry there is more than just spoilers in this diary entry.

**PROCEED WITH CAUTION! SPOILERS AHEAD!**

Okay so that you have crossed that threshold, nothing is gonna stop me. Let's start with the list of events we have, shall we? We'll have a total of seven dance forms, Lavani, Haryanvi, Kathak, Contemporary, should I name the others? I should not I guess, do not want Snigdha hunting me down with a stake in hand. There is a skit and more performances by both students and the teachers. I think that is all that is going to be spoiled by me, but even if I missed something everybody received mails so, no issue. But this is not exactly what I am here for I am here to give you some gossip behind the making of the show.

So to move on to the important stuff, it is behind the scenes time! I'll go event-wise, first, we have got Orchestra. I have never seen anybody write lyrics in the chat-box, but Mistars made it a reality. While dogs disrupted practice, singers still managed to sing. Next is Haryanvi dance, the dance video was played on share screen while the dancers tried to copy, not gonna lie it was not the prettiest sight I have seen. Honestly, this goes for all the dances, the internet connection made everything look like breakdance. Then there is Rajasthani dance, this practice was a chaos. With a few dancers, hardly joining, the coordinators were in a frenzy. It was hard to decipher if the public was confused or maybe no one was interested, but again why would anyone sign up for something they hold no interest for and make it harder for everybody working?

The skit was something that gave me a lot of content to write about, the coordinators were clueless about what was happening, busy talking to each other on Whatsapp with their cameras off. The room was quieter than a feline on the prowl.

The koala on one of the coordinator's screen did not help much. Oh! How can I forget, one of the coordinators was playing mobile games during practice, scandalous isn't it? While people battled screen barriers, the 'Hello Sisters' line reminded me of James Charles. Oops. Contemporary dance. The only room actually serious and actually doing some practice. Serious to a point where it was boring. That is all for the behind the scenes. I do not have info about everything because well, all practices were not conducted the day I sneaked in, so...

Also, sorry for taking away a portion of the element of surprise, but there is a lot more you will enjoy during the show so make sure you attend.

~ Samiksha Singh



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