

Department of Education  
University of Delhi



Redefining Disability  
through Art

*International Symposium*  
on  
*Redefining Disability Through Art*

**16th & 17th February 2018**

(Under the Aegis of Institute of Advanced Studies in Education (MHRD))

Art provides a great means of self-expression and creativity and allows people to escape from the routine of their daily lives in hopes of coping with life's challenges. Art brings color and excitement into the lives of many children and adults with and without disability giving them a creative arena without boundaries. In addition to the mental benefits, the physical benefits of art are undeniable. Through art an increase in strength, coordination, and concentration in most, if not all, can be seen. It is a general tendency to see art as therapy when it comes to people with disabilities and as talent, creativity and self expression in relation to people without disabilities. In fact we have witnessed diverse artistic abilities among people with disabilities across the globe right from decades before. It is these abilities that make the qualifying phrase 'differently abled' or more contemporary term, 'uniquely abled' meaningful for these persons with disabilities.

In addition to using art as a means of therapy for people with disabilities, as for anyone, it is a medium to educate our community about disabling conditions and an inspirational medium in illustrating the miraculous stories of suffering, struggle and survival. Many persons with disability choose to narrate their stories through their art, while advocating that people with disabilities are essentially more able than they are made out to be.

This symposium aims to examine the complex relationship between the arts and disability by bringing together educationists who work with persons with disability and artists from various genres to throw insights on the interface between the two fields. The symposium will cover the important art forms such as painting, dance, music and theatre. The deliberations and discussions are expected to highlight ways to shape a more inclusive society through opportunities for meaningful collaborations for artistic enrichment and development within the disability sector. This academic sharing aspires to inspire people to develop full and equal access to the arts via awareness and skills and to create an appreciation of inclusivity as central to the vitality and dynamism of the arts. It's about removing a homogenous image of the arts scene, cultivating more access and diversity and creating opportunity. Discussions following the presentations by invited speakers of the symposium are expected to encourage deeper appreciation and understanding of challenges faced by disabled people in the field of art, strengthening the notion that everyone has a part to play in fostering inclusiveness.

# DAY 1: 16.2.2018

9.00 - 9.30 am

REGISTRATION

## **OPENING SESSION**

9.30 - 9.40 am

WELCOME ADDRESS BY Prof. NAMITA RANGANATHAN

9.40 - 10.00 am

*ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM*  
Dr. SAILAJA & Dr. SUSMITA

10.00 - 10.30 am

*DISABILITY AND PERFORMANCE*  
KEY NOTE ADDRESS by DR. PETRA KUPPERS (virtual)

10.30 - 10.45 am

TEA

## **SESSION 1**

10.45 - 11.30 am

*INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING IN DANCE*  
Ms. SWAPNOKALPA DASGUPTA

11.30 - 12.15 noon

*THE BENEFITS OF MUSIC THERAPY:*  
Ms. ELENA & Ms. JOSE

12.15 - 1.00 pm

DISCUSSION ON THE TWO PRESENTATIONS

1.00 - 2.00 pm

LUNCH

## **SESSION 2**

2.00 - 2.45 pm

*BREAKING THROUGH ALL LIMITATIONS - NO BOUNDARIES*  
Ms. BHAVINI MISRA

2.45 - 3.00 pm

DISCUSSION

3.00 - 3.15 pm

TEA

3.15 - 4.00 pm

*EMPOWERMENT ON DISABILITY:*  
Mr. RAJ HUSSAIN

4.00 - 4.30 pm

*CULTURAL EQUALITY & INCLUSIVENESS OF DIFFERENTLY ABLED:*  
VIDEO SCREENING OF PERFORMANCE by ABILITY UNLIMITED

4.30 - 5.00 pm

DISCUSSION ON THE TWO PRESENTATIONS

# DAY 2: 17.2.2018

## SESSION 3

10.00 - 10.45 am	<i>WHEN WORDS ARE NOT ENOUGH: DANCE AND OTHER EXPRESSIVE ARTS</i> Ms. PRITI PATEL
10.45 - 11.00 am	DISCUSSION
11.00 - 11.15 am	TEA
11.15 - 12.00 noon	<i>ART FOR ALL:</i> Ms. SHAHANA CHAKRAVORTI
12.00 - 12.15 noon	DISCUSSION
12.15 - 1.00 pm	<i>BUILDING ABILITIES THROUGH ART:</i> Ms. KAMINI MINOCHA
1.00 - 1.15 pm	DISCUSSION
1.15 - 2.00 pm	LUNCH

## SESSION 4

2.00 - 3.00 pm	PANEL DISCUSSION: <i>INTERPHASE BETWEEN ART AND DISABILITY</i> Ms. PRITI PATEL Ms. SWAPNOKALPA DASGUPTA Ms. KAMINI MINOCHA Ms. NINA Ms. SHAHANA CHAKRAVORTI
3.00 - 3.15 pm	TEA

## SESSION 5

3.15 - 4.00 pm	VALEDICTORY SESSION
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