

# A global youth conference

An upcoming event in Mumbai offers students a platform to explore their talents, build upon innovative ideas, and develop global leadership qualities

Students in Mumbai can look forward to an exciting two days on February 2 and 3, 2019. The Global Youth Conference (GYC) 2019, powered by Invoke Inspire, takes place at the C P Goenka International School in Thane, and features a variety of sessions focusing on science, technology, the arts, games and much more.

The concept is the brainchild of Prerna Dharap, Founder and Director of Invoke Inspire, an organisation that offers children a platform to explore their talents and build upon their own innovative ideas.

Prerna, who had taught at Arya Vidya Mandir School for nine years before giving up formal work to deal with personal issues, launched Invoke Inspire in October 2018, along with Darshan Amrute, a motivational speaker and life coach.

Teaching came naturally to her—when she was in the ninth standard, she taught creative writing to children younger than herself—but she realised that that there was far more work to do than a syllabus could ever cover. At a time when solar energy was in the news, a little girl in her school had come up to her and suggested that perhaps energy could be generated through the footfalls of children on the playground. "A couple of years later, I read about a young engineer implementing such an experiment at Nagpur station," she says. "If I had encouraged her idea in some way, it would have made such a difference to her!"

Last year, when she launched a book of poems by her school-going daughter Nakshatra Dharap, it occurred to Prerna that there were many talented children who did not have avenues to showcase their ideas and skills. Invoke Inspire was born as a result of this realisation.

One of the students she was particularly impressed by was Surya Ramesh, a youngster



13th annual SANMUN (Sandefjord and Nesbru Model United Nations) conference held near Oslo



Prerna Dharap

who spends his weekends at various Model United Nations (MUN) sessions. "He must have attended about a 100 of them," she remarks. Surya organised the Jambhai Narsee Model United Nations—the largest MUN in entire Mumbai

during the 2017 calendar year, and over the past four years, has worked with multiple schools to promote their MUN and debate programmes. He is now curating the maiden event of The Global Youth Conference-Mumbai Chapter as Founder and Secretary General.

A key difference between this event and MUN sessions is that GYC will go beyond politics into areas such as art and business. "If a student is interested in business, he or she will run away if you ask the person to give a talk on the Yemen civil war," Prerna laughs.

GYC, then, will have 12 committees spanning a range of subjects to cover all interests. The UN Investors Conclave will have social entrepreneurs conceptualising and generating a business plan and then pitching the idea to a mock panel of judges to try and get them to invest and endorse their business plan.

The United Nations Women's programme, in this age of #MeToo, will focus on difficulties women face across the globe, and ways to solve them; the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD) is for budding technologists, scientists and engineers; Art for Change will lead to collaborative art, with sales collections being given to an underprivileged school; a Hackathon will encourage students to solve problems through a design approach.

The Gaming Zone will get students to work in groups to create new and interesting games based on Science, Art and Mathematics, movement and other subjects. Through this, Prerna hopes to drive the message that board games and physical games were a crucial leisure and social activity before our digital age. There are several other committees, including an unusual one called Trump Cabinet, focusing on how a powerful and controversial leader counters Russian aggression in Europe and Syria.

Another important committee is the Teacher Task Force based on the United Nations model; Prerna plans to present the deliberations to UNESCO'S Teacher Task Force.

The participation fee for this unique event is ₹2000 for two days, which includes lunch. For more details, log on to <https://www.gyc-mumbai.com/>.

## « CONFERENCE

### DESIGN SEMINAR

'Design, Culture, and History - The Idea of Objects in Modern and Contemporary India Seminar' is being organised by The K R Cama Oriental Institute, Mumbai. Curated by Dr. Kaiwan Mehta, it takes place on January 5 and 6.

Among other things, the seminar will focus on: Design, Culture, and Civilisation - the debates through 1851 Crystal Palace and the formation of art schools in India; Design and the National Object - archaeology, popular culture, and defining the Indian Aesthetic; Institutions and Individuals that shape a National Visual idiom - Mulk Raj Anand, Charles and Ray Eames, Kamaladevi Chhattopadhyay, etc; Design Debates framing the Regional and the Vernacular - the Festivals of India, and the movements that demand for a resurrections of the 'local', among other things. Scholars presenting their new research include Annapurna Garimella, Abigail McGowan, Tapati Guha-Thakurta, Tasneem Mehta, Ranjit Hoskote, Rahul Mehrotra, Mustansir Dalvi, Deepti Mulgund, Rahaab Allana, Sudeshna Guha, Gauri Bharat, Seema Khanwalkar, Judy Frater, Radhi Parekh, Abin Chaudhury, Mortimer Chatterjee, and Kaiwan Mehta.

Where Dr. Sir J J Modi Memorial Hall at the KR Cama Oriental Institute, Fort

When January 5 and 6, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Registration Delegate fees ₹2000 per person, which includes a Seminar handout, kit, tea and a lunch box on both the days.

Student fee ₹500 on production of ID cards.

Contact Yasmin Khan at [thekrcamaoi@gmail.com](mailto:thekrcamaoi@gmail.com) or [krcamaoi123@gmail.com](mailto:krcamaoi123@gmail.com)

Contact : 91-22-22843893

## YOGA DETOX



The New Year is here and it's time to detox from festive indulging; head to Yogisattva, Khar (West) for the Vinyasa Yoga Class followed by a detoxifying brunch curated by Yogisattva founder and CEO - Raveena Taurani.

The word 'vinyasa' can be translated as "arranging something in a special way", for example, yoga poses. In this class, Raveena Taurani, a certified plant-based chef and Yoga teacher, will teach you how to coordinate movement with breath to flow from one pose to the next.

The detox-themed Vinyasa Yoga Class is followed by an all organic, vegan and gluten free Detox Yoga Brunch! The menu includes Green Smoothie Bowls, Detox Vegan Salad, Raw Vegan Pizza Slices and Raw Glow Bars. Raveena will share health tips as well.

Where Yogisattva, Pinnacle House, 7th Floor, 15th Road, P. D. Hinduja Junction, Khar (W)

When Sunday, January 6, 11 am to 2 pm

Price ₹3000 (per person - includes the Yoga session followed by brunch).

Register [raveena@iamayogisattva.com](http://raveena@iamayogisattva.com) or log on <https://www.yogisattva.com/>

Call 91 9867455009

## « GETAWAYS



### BICYCLES FOR TOURISTS

Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC) has introduced bicycles at tourist spots, Ganpatipule and Mahabaleshwar, with cycling posts created. Bicycle tours can be available at ₹20 for one hour and ₹100 for 24 hours at Ganpatipule. Similarly, gear bicycles are available at ₹100 for one hour at Mahabaleshwar due to its hilly terrain. These bicycle tours will offer dedicated cycle tracks.

## A RUSTIC EXPERIENCE

If you looking for a short getaway, visit Hillview Farmhouse at Dahanu. Organic plantations of Chickoo, Mango, and Coconuts surround the homestay at the tribal village Kosbad. Try your hand at a quick Warli tutorial. The homestay offers an on-request date of 'Tarpa Nights' (Adivasi Dance) at an added cost. A Vintage Village Trip and a Barbeque Nite add to the experience.

Where Hillview Farmhouse, Near Jain Mandir, Kosbad Hill, Dahanu Rd.

Contact 9665316001

Visit [www.hillviewfarmhouse.in](http://www.hillviewfarmhouse.in)



## WINTER PACKAGES



Countryside Adventure Holidays has organised packages to Sri Lanka (₹30,000 onwards, seven nights); the North East - Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland and Manipur from December to March and Arunachal from March to April. (₹39,000 onwards per person, 5 nights) and Spiti: Land of the Grey Ghost (Fixed Departure) in Himachal Pradesh, with the chance to spot the endangered snow leopard (February 22 - March 5)

Email [info@countrysideindia.com](mailto:info@countrysideindia.com), or log on to [www.countrysideindia.com](http://www.countrysideindia.com)

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