

To, Media Education and Research Centre, University of Kashmir, Srinagar Kashmir.

Date: April 2, 2024

From,
Menaka Rodriguez,
Executive Director,
India Foundation for the Arts (IFA),
Bengaluru.

Sub: Project Coordination of IFA Foundation Implemented Project (Foundation Project Number: 2023-P-1-052)

Dear Madam / Sir,

It is my pleasure to inform you that the proposal submitted by Dr. Syeda Afshana to IFA, (in response to the Request for Proposals under the programme Arts Education – National School Project) has been selected for implementation, with the Foundation Project Number: 2023-P-1-052. This Foundation Project implemented by IFA under Arts Education, will engage sixth to seventh-grade students from the International Educational Institute, in Braripora Bonakoot village, Bandipora, Kashmir UT, connecting them to the local histories, heritage and cultural expressions of the region. Dr. Syeda Afshana, Professor, Media Education and Research Centre, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, Kashmir, will be the Coordinator for this project, which will start on March 25, 2024 and end on August 24, 2025.

The project titled *Pholwen Toer* (Blooming Buds), uniquely involves local artists practicing Papier Machie and Bhaand Pather as mentors and facilitators fostering a sense of pride and ownership among the younger generation. By offering children a safe space to explore and express their oral narratives and stories, *this project* becomes a platform for reclaiming their voice and identity. Through the creative medium of art, children find an outlet to process their emotions, confront their experiences, and find solace in the rich tapestry of their cultural heritage. The outcome of the project will be a public performance and an exhibition.

Considering the conceptual and socio-cultural importance in school education, I hope that you will extend your support towards Dr. Syeda Afshana undertaking this arts integrated project.

Thanking you,

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Menaka Rodriguez

India Foundation for the Arts

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