



# ICCR

भारतीय सांस्कृतिक संबंध परिषद  
Indian Council For Cultural Relations



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Sydney  
स्वामी विवेकानंद सांस्कृतिक केंद्र, सिडनी

## ICCR in Australia Newsletter Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre August 2024



*Flag hoisting ceremony at the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Consulate General of India Sydney*

### I. Director's Desk

Namaste and Greetings from the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre.

It has been a busy month for all of us as we had numerous events to celebrate our Independence Day and highlight Bharat Week from 12 to 19 August 2024. With the Consulate General of India in Sydney, we organised 15<sup>th</sup> August cultural celebrations at the famous Sydney Crickey Ground, planned the visit of the super talented ICCR empanelled troupe - the Punjab Cultural Society with numerous performances and workshops in Sydney and Adelaide, hosted the 'Partition Horror Remembrance Day' to remember the unprecedented human displacement and forced migration, and shared books on India's rich art and cultural heritage with the Paramatta City Libraries. With our Consulate in Perth and The Anjelms Project, we supported 'The Stitching Stories', a textile exhibition as a part of the ongoing Indian Ocean Craft Triennial 2024. To know more about our events, please connect with us 'ICCR in Australia' on Facebook and Twitter.

Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Level 2, 265 Castlereagh Street, Sydney 2000.  
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## II. Activities

The Consulate General of India in Sydney and the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre hosted the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) empanelled troupe, the Punjab Cultural Society led by Shri Ravinder Singh Ranguwal. Numerous workshops for students and performances for the community were organised in New South Wales and South Australia. The troupe also performed for Independence Day at the Centre in the morning and grand evening reception held by the Consulate General of India, Sydney and the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre at the prestigious Sydney Cricket Ground.



The Punjab Cultural Society had a folk-dance workshop for the children and teachers at the Sydney Sanskrit School at Wentworthville Public School. Over 100 students, teachers and parents had a fun time participating. The troupe also performed and introduced various traditional musical instruments to the students.

*Bhangra workshop at Sydney Sanskrit School*

The second workshop was held at Swastik Dance Academy in Blacktown. Dance students from the local community and the Indian diaspora learnt Bhangra and Malwai Giddha. Folk songs were also presented during the workshop.

*Folk dance workshop at Swasti Dance Academy, Blacktown*



On 15 August morning, the Punjab Cultural Society performed after the Flag hoisting by the Consul General. With performances of the varied folk dances including Jhumar, Gatka and Sammi were colourful and vibrant. It was greatly appreciated by the community.

*Independence Day of the Republic of India*

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The Consul General of India, Sydney hosted a reception and cultural evening on the 78<sup>th</sup> Independence Day of India at the iconic venue Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) on 15 August 2024. This was the first time a performance for the first time a performance was held at SCG. The Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency, Honourable Margaret Beazley, Premier of New South Wales The Honourable Chris Minns, Multicultural Minister, Honourable Steve Kamper, and Opposition Leader of New South Wales, Peter Dutton along with over 1500 members from business, community and cultural fields attended the event.



*Independence Day reception*



The evening had 25 cultural performances by 60 artists including the First Nation people of Australia, ICCR empanelled troupe 'Punjab Cultural Society' led by Shri Ravinder Singh Ranguwal, talent from the Indian diaspora and songs from Dheekshitha Venkadeshan 'Dhee'. Mr AP Shreethars exhibition of single-line sketches of prominent monuments from Australia and India was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Governor, Premier, Multicultural Minister and Opposition Leader.

*Cultural evening on the 78th Independence Day of India SCG on 15 August 2024*

A workshop on Punjabi folk dance was also held at Plumpton High School for the students and teachers of the Indo-Aust Bal Bharathi Vidyalaya - Hindi School (IABBV) school. Students from multicultural backgrounds thoroughly enjoyed learning new forms of Indian dance and enhancing their cultural experience related to India.

*Folk Dance performance at Plumpton High School.*



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The ICCR troupe, the Punjab Cultural Society led by Mr Ravinder Singh Ranguwal performed traditional Punjabi dances for the Teeyan festival with over 350 women participating. It was organised by Ace Home Decor in Adelaide.

*Teeyan festival in Adelaide*

The Consulate General of India, the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Desi Australia and CYD Media organised a workshop and performance with the ICCR troupe, the Punjab Cultural Society led by Mr Ravinder Singh Ranguwal in Adelaide. The workshop received an overwhelming response from community members of diverse age groups.

*Punjabi folk dance workshop in Adelaide*



*Partition Horror Remembrance Day exhibition*

The Consulate General of India, Sydney and the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre organised the 'Partition Horror Remembrance Day' exhibition. Consul General, Dr S Janakiraman, and the chief guest, Colonel Sahni opened the exhibition.

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The Consulate General of India Perth and the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre collaborated with The Anjels Project to support 'The Stitching Stories' as part of the ongoing Indian Ocean Craft Triennial 2024. Consul General of India in Perth visited the textile exhibition.

*Indian Artisans in Perth*

For the Art and Creative Industries session at the Australia India Youth Dialogue 2024 held at the University of Sydney, Director SVCC shared her learnings and experiences from the India Australia cultural space with the talented cohort from India and Australia.

*Director SVCC as a panellist at AIYD*



### III. Invites



*Bhagavad Gita and Subhashitam competition*

The annual Bhagavad Gita and Subhashitam competition held by Sydney Sanskrit School at the premises of Marsden Road Public School. Director SVCC was present as the guest of honour.



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Janmashtami festival was organised by the Hindu Council Australia. Director SVCC was present for the event on invitation.

*Janmashtami*


## IV. Upcoming Events



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*Routes 2 Roots*<sup>®</sup>

### Live Interactive Classes




**Puppet Making**

Timing : 02:00 PM to 02:45 PM IST


Thursday

Date : 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2024  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2024




**Madhubani Painting**

Timing : 03:00 PM to 03:45 PM IST



**Rangoli**

Timing : 02:00 PM to 02:45 PM IST



**Henna (Mehndi) Design**

Timing : 03:00 PM to 03:45 PM IST

Tuesday

Date : 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, & 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2024

**Free REGISTRATION**  
for International Candidates

*Bring out the artist in you ...*

Free online interactive classes for Rangoli, Puppet making, Madhubani Painting and Henna (Mehndi) design has been announced by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations to encourage Indian art forms.

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The Consulate General of India, Melbourne and the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre in collaboration with author, Nandita Chakraborty are participating in the 'Two Worlds Collide' exhibition at the Melbourne Fringe Festival in October. Artists from India and Australia will be participating. Do visit the Sol Gallery to see it.

A PRESENTATION OF ARTISTS EXPOSITION  
BY

**SHIPRA ANAND**  
DIGITAL UX PROFESSIONAL/CREATIVE ARTIST  
MELBOURNE - AUSTRALIA

**NANDITA CHAKRABORTY**  
NEURODIVERGENT WRITER & PRODUCER OF TWO WORLDS COLLIDE  
MELBOURNE - AUSTRALIA

**SAMANTHA LORD**  
FIRST NATIONS ARTIST (BULJITTI TRIBE)  
MELBOURNE - AUSTRALIA

**LAURA BAILEY**  
EMERGING MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTIST  
MELBOURNE - AUSTRALIA

**AKSHAY GANDHI**  
THEATRE ARTIST & FACILITATOR  
MUMBAI - INDIA  
INTERNATIONAL ARTIST

**ROHIT BHASI**  
ILLUSTRATOR, PAINTER, MURAL ARTIST  
BENGALURU - INDIA  
INTERNATIONAL ARTIST

**TWO WORLDS COLLIDE**

PART OF  
**MELBOURNE FRINGE FESTIVAL**

**FRINGE**

World's First Book to Gallery - 2 Weeks only  
Only at SOL Gallery  
**3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER - 13<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2024**

*A conversation with the world*

## V. Contact Us

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