

WRITERS INC

★ CRESCENT EDITORIAL E- MAGAZINE ★



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MERANI

FICTION - NON-FICTION - POETRY
ART - PHOTOGRAPHY



crescentlitsociety



crescentwritersguild

VC incharge and Registrars' Desk



It gives me such immense satisfaction that the Crescent Writers' Guild never fails to bring out the different shades of Crescent beautifully in every edition of the student e-magazine. 'MERAKI' provides an opportunity to unleash the artist, photographer, and writer amidst budding talents, encouraging to bring out the best in themselves. The magazine continues to provide a platform for the artist to articulate their thoughts through their work. I congratulate the team on publishing the magazine on time.

Dean Student Affairs' Desk

Meraki - leaving an indelible imprint on others' lives. A name rightly chosen for our magazine. As Crescentians, we have chosen to do this through words.

"Words", a small word but has always had a huge impact on our lives. History has taught us, on one hand, that words can bring tears, it can make you LOL, it can offer a helping hand in creating and building societies yet on the other hand it can incite rage and destroy civilizations as we know it.

It is YOUR time to build a society that oozes positivity. Student and energy are synonymous, and it is through writing/ photography/ art/ science (anything that you are passionate about) that you train your mind to discipline thoughts and ideas for the fruition of a better world.

This magazine provides you the much-needed platform as a student community to introspect your abilities/ creativity and deliver your best to the world.



Professor and Crescent Literary Society Staff Coordinator

We would like to extend a special thanks to our staff coordinator Dr. P. Rathna for being the most encouraging personality throughout our journey.

Editor's Note

Each time the magazine is released, members of the Crescent Literary Society feel something special, a feeling of having accomplished something truly admirable. It's because of everything that happens behind the curtains while putting together our magazine. 'Meraki' happens to be one of the largest collective efforts put together by the team, and it is only possible thanks to the parent club keeping us all together as a family.

'Meraki', the winter edition, holds a lot of content that most of us can relate to our daily lives. The articles and poetry were felt by the heart then written by the pen, giving them a certain touch of magic, and conveying their story from a unique point of view. A lot of tears, empathy driven thoughts and heartwarming smiles were put behind each of them. Needless to say, this edition contains a wide spectrum of emotions, held within a few pages.

We have had a wonderful time editing and compiling every write-up that showed up our way. Each one of them showered an essence of raw emotion through words, something that will always make writing beautiful and vulnerable.

If you have submitted a write up that isn't in this edition, don't let it dishearten you. My advice to you is to keep conveying the emotions that sets you apart from others through words, and keep submitting your write-ups!

We aim to reach out to as many readers and writers in our college as possible. To become a part of our clan, all you have to do is turn in your entry at crescentwritersguild@gmail.com. You can get in touch with us on Instagram [@crescentlitsociety](https://www.instagram.com/crescentlitsociety) or visit our website www.crescentliterarysociety.in





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Making The World A “Greta” Place

~ Vikram Venkat, 1Y, EEE
and Amreen. S, 1Y, IT

For a while now, a Swedish name has gone viral across all forms of media. With millions of followers garnered globally, this person's actions have stirred interest in a well-known niche across the world.

In 2015, this would have been about Felix Kjellberg and his YouTube channel, PewDiePie. In 2019, it is about Greta Thunberg and her activism regarding climate change.

Back in August 2015, Greta had a dream – to save the planet from getting destroyed. And with determination, she hooked herself up with a sign, and protested in front of her school – gradually, her fellow students joined hands with her agenda as well. Fast forward to 2018, Greta's name was all over the news for having given a speech at the United Nations' Climate Change conference in support of ... well, the destructive properties of climate change. The clue's in the name, I guess.

Earlier this year, she was featured on TIME magazine's cover page, which also branded her a "Next Generation Leader". She was also featured in Vice's thirty-minute long documentary titled "Make The World Greta Again", which included Greta's first protest at her school and beat me to my pun.

In September of this year, the torch for a climate strike was lit, which lasted for a week. This stirred global interest, which inspired people around the globe to rally for a better future. In Chennai, students of schools and colleges boycotted classes on the 20th of September (a Friday) on the occasion of the strike – this was supposedly aimed at drawing the attention of the chief minister, Edappadi K Palaniswami.

While there are opinions regarding how the media is utilizing her Asperger's like a shield against criticisms and why her speeches are nothing different from what healthy, regular environmentalists and politicians have preached for the past decade, I digress. Greta's actions, if anything, have the attention of the masses directed towards a pressing issue. If they can help increase awareness and inspire people to take action, then her movement is, in fact, a job well done.

SIZE: ZERO

~ Insha Ishrat, 2Y, B. Sc. Biotechnology

Why are we prisoners in our own bodies?
Trapped between bones, flesh and fat;
Not liking where we stay at?

Our sizes are scaled by people caged with
poignant thoughts- Defining happiness by the
gap between the thighs and flat abs.

To feel good and pretty, they ask us to
leave carbs and dairy, be size zero yet
curvy.

Their ideas of perfection, are based on
the society's selection, But not inner
satisfaction and content.

They ostracize us for loving our own selves, Not
realizing that we are all unfinished yet sufficient, we are
never too less for ourselves.



SIZE



~ Saniya Mirza, 1Y,
ECE

The pressure that people put on each other and themselves for their bodies to look a certain way, that is a socially acceptable norm of “being attractive” or “pleasing to their eyes”, is unbelievable. And their reasons to back this up are ever more annoying. The most recent one I heard being said to someone I know was: **“Lose weight or how would you ever get married?”**

If all the guy is worried about is my weight and appearance then please, by all means, don't marry me.

The constant comments that people have to face from their family, their peer groups, sometimes even random strangers about their appearance, time and again affect people a lot. There are girls who are absolutely normal and healthy but are conscious about their weight to a point where they starve themselves.

There are girls who suffer from conditions like anorexia where they can't eat anything without throwing up. As a result, they tend to be very thin and suffer from health issues but because they are thin, they're sometimes looked at and considered as body goals. But seriously no, 'that' is not body goals. That's just a stigma so deeply ingrained in you that you're not seeing the fact that everyone is built differently and that's alright. Fat does not mean ugly or disgusting, or unhealthy or any derogatory word that it has been equated to. You can be overweight and healthy, you can be underweight and healthy and you can be either and unhealthy as well. Your size doesn't matter, your health does. And your size doesn't define you, your personality does.

Unless you want to make changes in your body for your own sake, your happiness, your satisfaction, or your health, you don't have to change a thing about your body. You're beautiful the way you are.

MILLENNIALISM

AN OPEN LETTER

~ Samyuktha Prasanan, 3Y, CSE

I am a woman who raises my voice only when my surroundings mute my thoughts. I am a woman who fears the judgment of society before supporting something that could spark controversy. I am a woman who lives a free life inside the novels that I read but is imprisoned by reality. I am the woman you see every day, living under a rock, trying to leave a good impression on anybody and everybody. I am the one who thinks before smiling, for I was taught about evil intentions the hard way. My nationality surely doesn't justify the fear that holds me back from evolving, it is society, eyeing everything I am through suspicion.

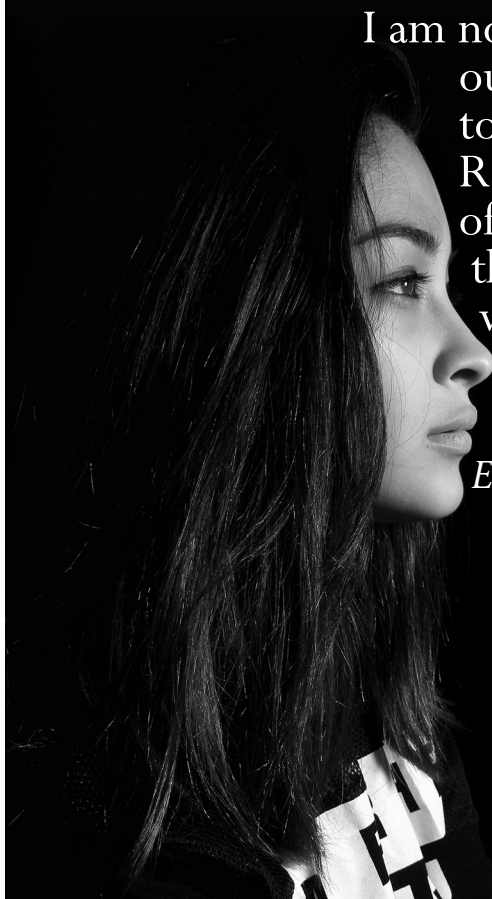
I was taught from a young age about the superiority of men, inside the household and outside, even out on the streets. I was taught that women must abide by the rules that men lay out, that marriage wasn't sharing love but instead turning into a housemaid who is never paid. I saw society looking down on the LGBT community, and it planted a seed in my head that they were different. I heard the gasps of society whenever a widow remarried; when a woman worked late-night shifts; when a man and a woman shared a friendly joke; when a group of friends hangout, and when a woman stood up for herself.

I am no outsider to the inside jokes of society, I am no outsider to the glares and gazes, I am no outsider to the shadows and secrets.

Raise a child who will value all people, regardless of their gender. Raise a child who will learn that their voice can be the loudest. Raise a child who would never 'judge a book by its cover'. Raise a child who will, in turn, raise a better society.

Editor's Note for the reader:

Visit www.tiny.cc/decmaq and www.tiny.cc/merakise19 to read the first and second part of this series.



BREAKING TOXIC MASCULINITY

~ Lazim Rasheed, 3Y, Mechanical
and Anjana Badrinath, 2Y, ECE



Skipping through the corridor
I heard cries at a distance
approaching I witnessed a boy of
my age
frightened out of his wits
his fists guarded him yet trem-
bled
“Fight! Fight!”
chanting brewed the atmosphere
it screamed celebrations.
The other boy who looked a year
older
boasted about how this would
be his 15th win
I prayed that
let this be different from the
movies
wishing that the hero
would gather courage
only to tell that
he doesn't want to fight
followed by a round of applause
from the audience.
I wished that breaking people
only to take trophies
from their pain
would become a weakness
not strength.

Sipping coffee
I heard the aunties in the cafe
Chattering away about the lives
of
their sons
One aunty talked about
how her son orders his wife
around,
she boasted that
“What he says is final”.
Another aunty complained
about
how her son loves pink,
how he loved to wing his liner,
Making him very ‘girly’ to be a
man
her face scrunched up
as if she could taste her words.
I understood why
women fall prey to
men's disrespect and violence
As they're made to believe that
stereotypical women are weak
that they define disgust,
everything they must not be.

I went to my neighbour's place
to comfort the ten-year-old boy
who always carried himself
with one of the brightest smiles
looked beyond devastated to
have lost his role model,
the best man in his eyes,
his dad.

His mother whispered that
he shouldn't let a tear roll down
his eyes
that breaking would make him
not only weak
but undesirable.

It was very devastating for me to
watch
the most cheerful boy turn life-
less
isolating himself from everything
he had known
barely smiling
plastering his face with layers
same, yet, different
for the 'decoration'.

I wished that day
his mother would've uttered that
acknowledging your emotions
makes you stronger than those
who keep it in a closet.

'Boys will be boys' is
something we need to scratch
off our books
for its roots lead us to peril
says the feminist
for men and women.

~ Anjana Badrinath, 2Y,
ECE

California roads,
I'm standin' here alone.
With either side on fire
tar burnin',
hell turnin',
I'm smiling through
the tones.
You don't have
to smile all the way,
you can lie here
take my shoulder, stay;
but you know
it's not that simple,
it's never that simple,
'cause I was
sculpted from rocks
that weren't meant
to turn to sand.
I was molded,
forming these roots
where I stand
with veins showing, veins
and not an inch of
the pain showing,
pain that bent and
choked me as I lay.
Pain that would
make me wanna say
I'm sorry, but
I'm as human as you,
I don't want this,
can't keep
hurting this way.
I'm honest, but
that comes with
a price to pay.

So listen now,
I'll travel these
California roads alone,
you know me;
I'm stricken and
you're danger prone.
So cry for me, baby
cause I can't
cry no more.
Cry for me, baby
'cause I gotta be
strong for us both.

~ Lazim Rasheed, 3Y,
Mechanical

Will planting trees help us anymore?

~ Tasneem Juzer, 2Y, Biotechnology



Hello, diary, my name is.., well I am not sure. But there are a few creatures who reside on me, out of which, one of them referred to as human, call me “Earth”.

I think I am going to die soon, because of lung failure, but my dear diary, I am still not ready to die.

Humans or if I call them by their accurate name “homo sapiens”, are petrifying at times. They keep on blurting, addressing me as their mother, yet they don’t respect and take care of me.

Humans emit roughly up to 30 to 40 billion tons of the greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide, into the atmosphere each year. If they continue this, it will heat me up, and they are the ones who will suffer the most.

They have polluted me so much, without taking any measures and now when they have started to realize, they think that if they plant a lot of trees, they can compensate for the loss they made in the past. Silly humans, they are not being pragmatic. I know, how many ever trees they try to plant, they still can’t reduce the amount of carbon dioxide which has accumulated in my lungs. My body is becoming weak every day and the only solution is I need a lot of oxygen which only trees can give me.

I am not being impulsive, diary, I am just being pragmatic.

Here are some of the reasons planting trees in my body won’t help me anymore:

01. There isn’t enough space in my body, since my body is full of creatures, and they all have acquired a particular region to live in. The humans have occupied most of my region not only with their houses but even in the industries. If they grow trees, they will become homeless.

02. A few parts of my region are required to grow food plants and crops on which humans and other creatures survive. If this portion is used for growing trees, they all will starve to death.

An increase in the level of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in my body has led to other kinds of illnesses in me.

Some part of my body suddenly starts burning(wildfire), others start flooding and some experience drought, and trust me, all this hurts a lot. It is slowly killing me and this is because humans are not acting smart enough.

My recent test reports showed that some of my body parts are experiencing diseases, like my Amazon rain forest, which is on fire, my Chennai, it is starting to experience drought and my Mumbai along with others are flooding. I am depressed right now. Sometimes I try to come out of my own problems, like recently when my Amazon rain forest was on fire, I poured rain on it so that the fire subsides. But I can save only up to a certain limit. Also, I have a way of protecting myself. I have always found my own way to recover and sustain myself with or without humans, I will continue to live.

But there is still some hope left, and I am not going to give up and I am sure even my humans won't give up on me. If they ask me for suggestions, I can tell them a number of things, but unfortunately, I don't know how to convey all this to humans. They should ask me since I will know about my own body better than anyone.

Few tips are:

01. Reducing the usage of plastics.
02. Closing harmful industries.
03. Stop using wood furniture and papers in order to save trees.
04. Take suitable measures to save rainwater such as rain water harvesting.
05. Growing trees and saplings innovatively.
06. Reduce, reuse, and recycle.
07. Use fluorescent bulbs
08. Save electricity
09. Turn scraps into compost.
10. Don't discard harmful chemicals into the river.

They can still save me, or part of me along with saving themselves. They can somehow ignite their minds and take alternative measures to plant trees, reduce some of the harmful industries, reduce the amount of carbon dioxide they emit each year and so on. I hope, I just hope, to live a little longer.

WAR

The warriors are in the arena
The front line flooding.
He can't handle them for long.
Yelling and thrashing,
He is struggling and drowning
He is fighting to keep up with them,
His mind so hazy and his vision blurry
Throat tightening and knees trembling.
Maybe it's too much to handle,
Been strong for too long!
He gives in,
Silently
In a dark corner
Letting them flow down his cheeks
Boys don't cry you say?
Maybe.
But men do!

~ Kaaviya Balakrishnan, 3Y, Biotechnology



Bitter Sweet Reality!

~ Tasneem Juzer, 2Y, Biotechnology

Take me away from my chaotic silence
Fulfilling my guilty pleasures
But with no regrets to ponder upon,
In the near, unplanned future.
Making me more vulnerable
With every sin, I make with you.

Even on a chance of a fresh journey
I would still tend to
Succumb to temptations of your smell.
Rewriting every mistake, I did
Which made me fall for you.

Enjoying the pain from your love
Cuddling with a stress-free life
Stargazing under your arms,
Beneath those stars
Which unspeak a billion dreams
Waiting to be fulfilled soon.

For once, give me a chance
To be worthy of understanding,
Your chaotic, painful life,
Of letting you confide in me.
Together, we could become invulnerable
To the rest of the world around and
Blissfully living within our world.

Labels are only for clothes.

~ Saniya Mirza, 1Y, ECE

We're all so quick to judge each other, right?

See a girl wearing a short skirt, or hanging out with a couple of guys and you assume she's characterless. See a girl covered head to toe and you think she's orthodox, or oppressed. See that same girl talking to a guy and you think she's a hypocrite. See a guy standing alone on the sidewalk, and you think he's probably up to some funky business. See a guy talking to more than one girl and you think he's a playboy. See someone sitting alone and eating by themselves and you assume they must be a loner. See someone arriving in a car to the campus and you assume they're probably a spoilt brat. I can give countless examples and so can you.

Every single one of us are constantly being judged by the people around us. That is inevitable. But judging is supposed to be a purely logical process of trying to figure out what kind of a person someone is. Judging is not forming concrete opinions based on first impressions. Judging is also not assuming things about others based on their appearance. It's supposed to be about reading people through their behaviour. But more often than not, people just end up making assumptions and labelling people based on these assumptions. All these examples I've given are biased opinionated judgments.

We've got to understand that there's a lot more to understand about every person than what is visible to the eye, and light must fall on the simple fact that our judgment doesn't define the person on the other side, but clearly just ourselves. At the end of the day, we're not always who we want to be and we all trace life differently and to respect that and the opinions of others and their way of being is truly poetic in harmony.

DIVINITY

Your body may be a temple, but you are a god to whom it is devoted. You're the spirit so powerful that it needed to be contained behind blood, bones and flesh. Your body, a sanctuary covered in Holy Scriptures disguised as stretch marks. The architecture, so timeless and intricate. The patches on your skin, the marks and tattoos – ecclesiastical paintings. The curves and rolls, sculpted by the finest fingers. Every piercing, decorating your skin, just like the chimes decorate the wind. Incense so exotic and unique. Silk, satin, denim or cotton, whatever the devotees see does not describe the power of the deity. The flowers and the makeup belong only to the shrine, not to the soul that resides within. Let the pilgrims come and go. Protect those who decide to stay. But do not let the mirrors or their words dim your aureole. Don't you let anyone presume to tell you how you may decorate your altar.

~ Kaaviya Balakrishnan, 3Y, Biotechnology



WE STILL BLEED RED

~ Samyuktha Prasanan, 3Y, CSE

When the voices in my head
found you as it's splint,
about to drop dead
but you became the rose to my thorn,
to the many many letters I read,
darling, we still bleed red.
Fingertips that don't reach
anymore, silence that doesn't
dwindle anymore, now teach,
with your heart open and let me in,
I beseech your presence here,
darling, we still bleed red.
The keys on your piano laughed
as we danced,
stepping on our toes,
false alarms now
turning back with a grin,
darling, we still bleed red.
Sculpting time,
we grew busy,
forgetting you were mine
and I, yours,
with glazing eyes all I'll say is,
darling, we still bleed red.



CRESCENT LITERARY SOCIETY ACHIEVEMENT CORNER

S. No.	Participant name	Event Name	College Name	Event	Position
1	Fatah M Aziz	Combat	D. G. Vaishnav College	Business Quiz	Second
2	Mohan	Combat	D. G. Vaishnav College	Business Quiz	
3	Insha Ishrat	Aurora	Madras Christian College	Poetry Writing	Second
4	Sridhar	Mediascape	Madras Christian College	Stress Interview	Second
5	Anirudh	Pinnacle	SRM Easwari Engineering College	Debate	First
6	Mehran	Pinnacle	SRM Easwari Engineering College	Debate	Third
7	Hussain Barad	Aura	PIMS	Debate	First
8	Anirudh	Aura	PIMS	Debate	
9	Barathan	Aura	PIMS	Block N Tackle	Second
10	Barathan	Aura	PIMS	Shipwreck	Second
11	Suhail	Aura	PIMS	Shipwreck	Second
12	Adnan	Aura	PIMS	Shipwreck	Second

LITTLE BIRDIE

~ Kevin Adams Ebenezer, 3Y, Polymer



I see your hair, that dress you wear,
It's plastered everywhere,
The mellow air, these streets so fair,
That heart slaying smile of yours,
And I know, I'm lonely here.

So many faces, take you places,
Girl, you look like aces,
The only case is that your famous,
Now and I can't really care,
Cuz I know I'll be lonely here.

I remember the times when you had braces,
And your smile was the one that I was graced with,
Before all those lights; the stars,
Before all that glitz; those scars,
Your dreams to be on Times Square sprawling,
And me to keep you safe, not sorry,
Then the world swept you away,
And nothing I said could make me stay.

Little birdie at my window,
Bright blue and song unheard,
Take me back to when it started,
Let me hear your every word,
I placed you up in heaven,
Now I'll bring you down to earth,
Hope then you'll hear my voice,
And see, for what it's worth

When you were young, I lost your mum,
The pain, it drowned us numb,
I'd cry with rum, until you come,
It took us years to just move on,
Now it's back, and I'm lonely here.

I leave my door open, hoping some day you'd return,
Just like the old days, you'd come in and say "Daddy I'm home."
Cuz no matter where you are or how good you do,
You know that in the end you'll never bleed blue,
We all still bleed red and I, I bleed for you.

Little birdie at my window,
Bright blue and song unheard,
Take me back to when it started,
Let me hear your every word,
Darling, I can't explain it,
I fear I'll pass above,
Just grace me with your presence,
Cuz love is love is love.

THE YOUTH OF TODAY

FACTS AND FEELINGS

~ Anirudh S, 2Y, ECE



Ever since the evolution of apes into a more intelligent species, humans have always been highly opinionated. The youth of today is not very surprisingly, into the same habit too which is quite good. Taking a look at the mindset of people a century ago, survival and personal well-being were the most crucially viewed from an individual's perspective. Yet we are looking at a completely different story now. Survival has shifted to secondary importance, as we have crossed that fundamental part of the life cycle. Humans have always been emotion-driven organisms, and at times that might not be the most desirable of qualities, we could expect. Rational reasoning and behavior supported by the weight of evidence are rarely seen in today's youth.

“Vague Tweeting” – This is a new word that came into existence recently. Vague tweeting is the spreading of unsubstantiated claims on Twitter. It's quite common in most Social Media platforms of today. Let's give some context for the accusations I've put forth here. People's claims that the attack on the Indian Army by a group of extremists, which resulted in the demise of valuable human lives from our country, was in fact an “Inside Job” done by the Indian Military, could be taken as a fine example. No evidence or facts which could support their theories were provided by the perpetrators. At the same time, The Government has failed to answer certain unavoidable questions posed by the citizens of the country. This side of the coin too was accepted by a handful of today's youths without any substantial evidence.

The phase where the Pakistani territory was supposedly attacked by The Indian Military too was not given much importance as far as the government's retaliation to enemy camps was concerned. This was a major point of discussion in Social Media platforms, which was once again baseless accusations put forth without the support of evidence. On the other hand, the train burning incident in Gujarat was claimed to be an inside job carried out by evil forces on themselves, which has been a very debatable topic in all platforms of social media. Once again, pieces of evidence were not provided to support their claims.

This practice of making claims based on “The Herd Mentality” is something that the society could live without. What we do need is people who carry out actual research before putting forth a claim, and taking a stand against other people. The voicing of choices and political opinions completely based off of one’s emotional viewpoint and ignoring hard facts is something that won’t deem fruitful for the growth of Humanity as a whole.

Today’s world doesn’t need people who propose their aspect of an argument completely supported on an emotional basis, but instead need people who use facts and logic, with emotion helping the delivery of said argument. Fact-based, evidence-based society has brought us so far as a species, and so the smart choice would be to not post any baseless claims on social media platforms.

CRESHUNT 2020

coming soon

TO LOVE THYSELF

~ Afifa Ameen Sahariah, 3Y, IT

It's 2 a.m. and she's drowning in her own thoughts. The voices of worthlessness, self-criticism and loneliness whisper in her head. She shuts her eyes thinking it will stop, willing it to stop, and yet the whispers grow louder. The thoughts creep into her and it feels like a black alter soul of herself is sitting right beside her. Her tears collect till the waterline and a part of her brain whispers 'you cry 'cause you're weak'. She fights back and rolls her eyes back but a teardrop escapes, and soon they flow as streams. As the streams continue from her eyes, her breath huffs while her eyes puff. The cries only get louder while she struggles to breathe steadily. And as time passes the sobs turn into whimpers, whimpers loud enough that only her soul can hear. Her alter soul murmurs to her about being a disgrace. As the murmurs get louder, her mind wanders into a state of questioning herself. Self-hatred, and self-criticism engulfs her body like an old friend. She gets up thinking that washing her tears can wash out her sadness. As she reaches for the tap, she looks at her reflection in its basin. Her brain manipulates her into thinking how hideous she looks. Any time she looks in the mirror she wants to hurt herself. It's just hard to face the facts, to accept your flaws amidst the feeling of hatred within oneself. The question of loving herself was far behind her thoughts. It is hard imagining the hate she felt within herself except that it was very real. The longer she stared at herself, the longer the hate grew. She couldn't take this anymore. She needed them. She needed her antidepressants. She popped some Xanax pills and chugged some water. She waited for the pills to react and make her happy. She realized they weren't helping. The problem with antidepressants is that it's not just an addiction, it is also the numbness to emotions. No happiness, no sadness, no anxiety, no love or any kind of feeling. She knew this was the stage where even antidepressants don't work. Forget happiness, she couldn't feel emotions. She had to feel it from within. She needed self-acceptance. Accepting the fact that there was nothing wrong with her and that she was beautiful the way she is. If only she could love herself.

**WHAT DO THE HEADS HAVE TO
SAY?**



As Deans, HODs, and professors often have so much on their plate, we students rarely get to know them. So, here's what the Crescent Writers Guild did; we borrowed five minutes of their time and interviewed them to bring them a step closer to you. The concise of the interview is as follows.

Preesha and Farheen of Biotechnology interviewed Dr. Hemalatha (Professor and Dean, School of Life Sciences)

Q. Do you think humanity and the environment are developing in harmony with each other? Is there harmony between humans and the environment?

I can't say there is harmony between humans and the environment but it would be great if it is available, and I really hope there is harmony and co-existence someday. It's just that, people are selfish and so is the government that they exploit our natural resources.

Q. Do you think the various governments and politicians around the globe are giving enough importance to environmental issues? And if you were the Prime Minister of India, what measure(s) would you take in order to protect our environment?

There have been many legislatures and rules formed but they are hardly being implemented. So, on paper, yes, environmental issues are being acknowledged, but governments find it difficult to produce desirable outcomes as the involvement of the public is poor. A promising change cannot be brought out without sensitizing people.

I would definitely take stringent measures to prevent cutting of trees and promote afforestation. I would also make sure that waste segregation and management are done efficiently to promote a cleaner, better and more sustainable environment.”

Kareem and Navneet of Mechanical Engineering interviewed Dr. Rasool Mohideen (Professor and Dean, School of Mechanical Sciences)

Q. As the automobile industry is in a slump worldwide due to a new global emission standard, what do you think, as an accomplished engineer, upcoming students should do to push the automotive industry forward?

Due to the regulations, there may be a decline in production and other issues. But without automobiles, there is no movement. Motion is a sign of life. We are moving toward electric vehicles. But considering India's situation, we cannot directly jump into electric vehicles, but rather hybrid vehicles. There will always be a demand [for engineers]. Maybe the government may revise its regulations so that there will be a boom in the automotive manufacturing sector. As students, you should focus on electric vehicles, though only the propulsion is electric, our basic systems such as the drivetrain, suspension systems, mechanical linkages are still mechanical devices and one cannot altogether jump into electrical replacements. Only the battery management system (BMS) and the electric fuel source will be new. So, we should equip our students with more knowledge on the electrical engineering side of things also. We have to develop their expertise in these fields. Regenerative braking is one thing that is new and is used to regain some electricity from braking, and it also helps to dampen some of the mechanical stresses in the braking system. Here at our university, we are working on friction composites, which is brake-related material development. We are working to replace asbestos in commercial braking systems with synthetic alternatives which cannot harm the environment.

Samyuktha and Fatah of Computer Science and Engineering department interviewed Dr. Sharmila Shankar (Professor, Computer Science and Engineering)

Q. How is today's education taking a toll on the teachers?

In today's day and age students are way more equipped and are smarter than the teachers, as everything is easily available online. As everything is evolving at a rapid speed, the teachers need to keep themselves updated and need to be trained with new technologies. Although everything is available online, classroom teaching is a necessity and cannot be overlooked just because "everything" is available online and what matters is how and what is taught in the classroom. Previously teachers used to take notes and teach the students, but with today's technology the students are well equipped and the teachers need to be well prepared to handle smart students. We want to teach things deeper, but the students just want to study to pass their exams.

Adnan and Mehran of Electronics and Communication Engineering department interviewed Dr. E. Manikandan (Assistant Professor, Electronics and Communication Engineering)

Q. Crescent Sat is our own institute's ambitious project spearheaded by the students of our institute consisting of mostly the ECE department, accompanied by the help of blooming scientists at Space Kidz India. What are your views on it, Sir?

As we are about to talk about Cres Sat, I would firstly like to appreciate the effort and steps taken by our Vice-Chancellor along with the help of project director who so happens to be the dean of electronics, Pr. Kaja Mohideen to initiate a project of such grand scale which will bring pride and glory to our institution. The main objective of this satellite is to enhance and showcase the ability of the students to perform at an international level. By working on Satellite applications, students will learn about the different techniques not just theoretically, but also work on it practically. Apart from that, it is our duty as engineers to address certain problems and solve them and one among them is agriculture. We all know that Agriculture is the backbone of our nation but still faces so many problems. By using Crescent Sat as a payload, we can help the farmers to understand the vegetation index and to monitor the health of the crops. 20 students from different streams and the scientists from Space Kidz India helped put together a prototype of the payload which was recently launched from the spaceport ground, Siruseri. This showcases the talents of the students and their desire to achieve more and more while showing how people from different platforms can come together and help each other achieve success in important endeavors. Hence, I think the success of Crescent Sat will help the institution initiate more projects which will lead to the betterment of students of our institute.

Editor's Note for the reader: The interviews were ideated and compiled by
Kaaviya Balakrishnan, 3Y, Biotechnology.

*Would you like to see more of these interviews? Who do you want us to interview next?
Let us know at crescentwritersguild@gmail.com.*

IN CONVERSATION WITH: INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



Editor's Note for the reader: This conversation took place between Anirudh, Lazim, Mohan, Kaaviya (Crescent Writers Guild) and the international students. So the next time you spot them on campus, say hai maybe? Making them feel home isn't too far is the least we can do. After all, it's Crescent and its always been about inclusion.

Recently our institute has become home to a set of international students from Ghana, West Africa. Being away from home is a challenge in itself, but being in a completely different country could make it all the more difficult.

That is why a bunch of students from the Crescent Writers Guild took it upon themselves to become friends and find out how to make them comfortable in this home away from home.

A concise of it has been given here as an interview.

Q. What are the things that have not changed even though you're away from home / what's common between there and here?

When you look at the relationship between the people, the people here are quite reserved, but back home people are open. They greet each other well back home. But here, if you don't talk to the person, they don't talk to you. The weather is the same, with no change, and the same weather.

Q. How has Indian cuisine welcomed you?

Some of the food here is very nice, but our problem is that they are too spicy, really spicy. In Ghana, we rarely have rice, but here rice is everything. But still, we have a lot of options to eat, like samosas, and we can visit KFC, etc., and that's really good.

Q. What's the thing that resonates with you the most?

The fact that people are quite reserved here. And the professors are really willing to help us. The environment, the Green Nature of the environment, it's really good. There is a lot of discipline on the campus also. The education system is really good and result oriented.

Q. What is the difference in the education system? Teacher's attitude, student's attitude, etc.?

Previously the education was just basically exams, exams, and exams. But now it is competence-based. The students are made to apply what they have learned in order to move forward, which is really good. The teachers and students are very friendly, the teachers are very helpful and come forward to help us. But, there is the language barrier.

Q. Things that you do, here and there, and what can make

it better?

The routine is mostly academic. It would be really great if we are provided with some indoor activity. We used to play Football. Table Tennis is really good, we haven't played it here. There are no board games here, like, dame (draughts), etc. Another area of concern is Sanitizers, just water is nothing, and it's a very serious issue.

Q. What do you miss from home?

(laughs, and points at his friend) He would want to say he misses his wife. But we all miss our family, food, they are the major things. Our local food, we really miss it.

Q. As an educational institution, is the education provided here good?

As a general concern, if I should put it that way, the general concern is that we have quality education. The lecturers are really patient, the classroom population is not too large, very flexible and the competence-based evaluation is also very helpful. It's really good, when you complete university, one should be able to be entrepreneurial, and establish one's own business and have a lot of technical knowledge.

Q. How are the colleagues?

We don't really talk to Indian people. People rarely open up. People are cool, but they don't open up. It's not difficult to approach people for us, but they don't approach us (laughs). That's just the cultural shocks.

Q. Has it been easy to establish conversation?

(laughs) We haven't talked to Indian women as much. We are afraid to talk to them. When we go to town, people are afraid of us. If we go and talk to people, they just run away, but inside the campus, they are really friendly. Here (Crescent campus) people are reserved and receptive but don't open up as much.

Q. Is India like how you imagined it would be?

India was represented differently back in Ghana, they said there is not much water here, but as we see the water is well flowing. And the economy is really good.

LEXICON

Curated by
~ Mohan, Mechanical, 4Y

SHUFFLE IT UP

Rearrange the letters of the words in capitals in each sentence so as to form new words according to the clues given.

Example: Change **cheater** into an instructor (**Teacher**)

1. Change **dealer** into a head of a group.
2. Change **present** into a long legless reptile.
3. Change **enlarge** into an army officer.
4. Change **finder** into someone you trust.
5. Change **terrace** into one who provides food

JUMBLED PAIRS

You are given a list of words in pairs. You must take one letter out of the first word and add it to the second one. The letters in both words must then be rearranged to form words that have some relationship with one another.

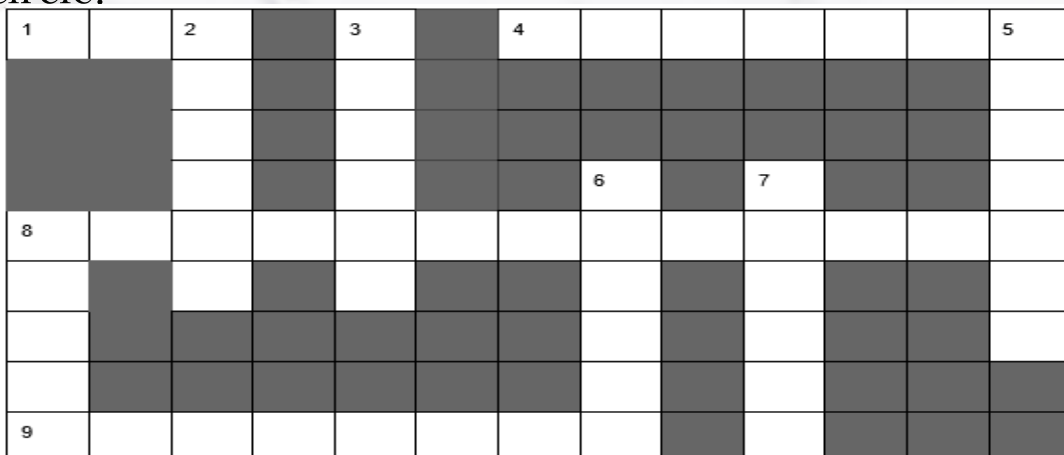
Example: Fleet and sate (**Feel and taste**)

1. Grapes and grade
2. Corks and tone
3. Write and year
4. Stir and miser
5. Heats and corn

IN CIRCLES

There are no clues given to this crossword puzzle but all the words define different parts of the circle.

No 8 for example refers to the line running all the way across the circle.



SILENT LETTERS

When the following words are spoken, at least one letter in each of them is not pronounced. Indicate in the brackets which of the letters is silent.

1. Answer ()
2. Lodging ()
3. Gnarled ()
4. Psychiatry ()
5. Tongue ()
6. Height ()

WORD FUSION

There are numberless English words that can be broken up into shorter words

MAR GIN; WAR DEN; CAN DID ATE; NOT ICE ABLE- which have hardly anything to do with the original word.

From the given clues find the two three-letter words that combine to form a third new word having an entirely different meaning.

1. A vehicle- a playful kitten
2. To place- to become free of
3. To succeed- to endeavour
4. Settled down- knock slightly on the door
5. To damage- an alcoholic drink

PALINDROMES

The palindrome is a word, sentence or paragraph that reads the same backwards as forwards. POP LEVEL DEED REFER etc.

The letters of each of the words are jumbled below. Rearrange them to form palindromic words

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. VIICC | 6. DRIVERIDE |
| 2. EDDE | 7. RIVEREV |
| 3. FODEDOI | 8. HASSH |
| 4. WEDED | 9. PERREAP |
| 5. KEE | |



ART GALLERY

Asnija,
3Y



Saijayashree,
1Y, B. Com.
General

Priya
Dharshini, 2Y,
Biotechnology



*“Every artist was first an amateur”
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson*



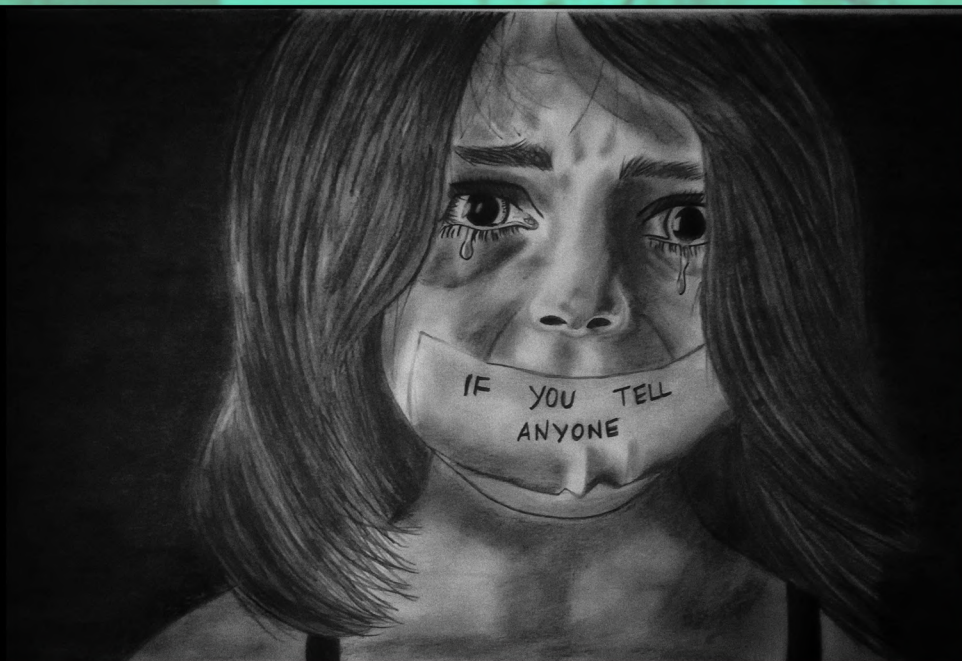
S. Ashifa Nazreen,
2Y,
Biotechnology

M. S. Sunil
Raaj, 3Y,
Mechanical



Madhumita, 2Y,
Biotechnology

Asnija
Fathima, 3Y,
Biotechnology



*"Every child is an artist.
The problem is how to remain an
artist once we grow up."
~ Pablo Picasso*



Nivedha, 2Y



CRESBR®ADCAST

ASSAM FLOOD RELIEF

A JOINT EFFORT TAKEN BY ROTARACT CLUB OF CRESCENT

~ Ashima Yusuff, 3Y, ECE

On the 14th of July, 2019, a massive flood had overtaken Assam due to continuous down-pour. Thousands of homes had been destroyed and the roads were hosed with fallen trees and electric poles. This deluge had increased the water level of the Brahmaputra River affecting around 28 lakh people in the three North-Eastern states, one of them being Assam.

The Rotaract Club of Crescent along with a group of volunteers from various NGOs and clubs in Chennai, Kochi, and Guwahati had collaborated in order to render service and support to the affected. Their focus was on supplying relief materials like wheat, paste, brush, soaps, medicine, blankets and other basic necessities to the destitute. Several collection points had been set up at various places around Chennai in search of invaluable donations and volunteers to aid in the gathering of relief materials, the Rotaract Club of Crescent, being one of those volunteers. The club had campaigned around the entire campus with 'We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give' being their slogan. This created awareness among colle-

ge students about the Assam floods and educated them about the lack of basic amenities in the fellow state. The students had thus begun helping through donations from the 23rd of July and a sum of about Rs.23,000 was collected within a short span of just 5 hours. The relief materials were then bought by the members of the Rotaract club on the 24th of July which included tarpaulin, mosquito nets, torch lights, flattened rice, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, sanitary napkins, flour, pulses, coffee powder, tea, milk powder, tablets, and pain relievers among others. These materials were packed in cartons and carefully handed over to the collection points in Tambaram which were then sent by train to Assam.

All in all, even though the project 'Do for Assam' had been executed within a short period of time, the Rotaract Club of Crescent had not only achieved their aim of collecting relief funds for Assam but also had triumphed in teaching the young students that 'their little contributions could also make a huge difference in the society.'

ORIENTATION 2019

AN INTERACTION WITH THE FRESHERS OF CRESCENT

~ Samyuktha Prasanan, 3Y, CSE

Everyone walks in through the gates of their college with very high hopes of learning and having fun at the same time, though there is a voice at the back of their minds that says grades are indeed very important. The nervousness of meeting new people, the joy of finding a soul-sibling, and the thrill of wanting to know the unknown... The first day, or rather the first year of college does that. This year, all the clubs in Crescent wanted to make the new batch of students feel at ease, the orientation program was initiated. The Crescent Literary Society decided that this was the right time to find and inspire talent in the literary section, a section that doesn't turn heads that very often.

The orientation stretched out over two days, all the clubs of the college had to brief the freshers about the dynamics of the clubs. The Crescent Literary Society decided to take a different turn this year, by not just briefing the students but also giving them a live perspective into the activities going on in the club.

The club demonstrated shipwreck, mock debates, block and tackle, ship bait and poetry slam. They also elaborated about the other clubs under the umbrella of the literary society, which includes the Crescent Writer's Guild, the Crescent Debate Society, and the orator's club. The members made a special effort to make the club seem more welcoming, by showing them how close the club is with an almost family-like bond that runs deep in the club and that all the members hold each other in high regard, showing a lot of respect to one another. Occasionally making jokes and inducing comic elements in the running activities lighted the mood up.

Understanding the problems the members individually faced as to when they were freshers, they worked on giving a more interactive, personal, and open experience to them. The students were then asked to describe themselves in 'one word' which served as an icebreaking session.

Writing prompts were given to the students while the writers of CLS patrolled around the class, inspiring and motivating each one to bring out the writer inside them and pen down all their unsaid emotions and expound the thoughts floating around in their aesthetic minds. The writing sessions paved the way to a very beautiful poetry slam held in the aero department which was a new sight to see, a boy had refused to recite his poem out of nervousness. To his surprise, he found all the members of CLS and his classmates sitting down around him, reassuring him like family and listening to his poetry in comfortable silence, dismissing away all his aponia in front of the audience.

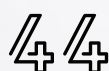
There were also comic efforts by Sridhar to highlight a member of the Tamil Bigg boss and the reason that the person should be given the captain's life jacket in the event of a shipwreck. Barathan performed a block and tackle on the arguments single people have with themselves, weighing out the pros and cons of being in a relationship.

Hussain and Anirudh made efforts to present a mock debate on the topic of Government jobs vs Private jobs. In other words, speaking was plentiful too as were the papers that piled up.

The students were briefed on the clubs and their achievements on the go. The writers moved around the classes trying to motivate the students to write their minds out so they could creatively voice their ideas and be able to recognize the magic in their minds. The writers also recited excerpts from their pieces, so the freshers could take inspiration from them. The orators who performed various activities on stage also invited students to show their talent upfront which was indeed very fruitful.

Members of the club had their dose of fun as they helped their juniors figure out what they were doing. Finally, the question araised of how many students were truly interested in joining the Crescent Literary Society and surprisingly quite a few came forward, marking the triumph of the induction program.

A glimpse of the occasion can be viewed through the photographs below.





LITFEST 2019 x TEACHERS' DAY

~ Fatah M Aziz, 4Y, CSE

Quoting Ana Monnar, *“Whatever is going to happen will happen, whether we worry or not”*.

Perhaps this is the first time in the history of Crescent Literary Society that above 250 individuals registered and participated in The Lit Fest that held exclusively literary events.

On the 5th of September, the day of LITFEST 2019, I woke up feeling the fluttering of butterflies in my stomach hoping that everything would go as planned, but the almighty had other plans for the day. Our institute which usually closes by 4:10 PM had planned to close by 2:30 PM on that day so our management could organize a function for showing appreciation and gratitude to our teachers and staff on the occasion of Teacher's Day, who have put in the time and effort to make us better people. I would be lying if I said that I did not panic at all. But as the saying goes, whatever happens, happens for good. Just as we had planned earlier, the event wrapped up by 3:30 PM even though a few of the audience had to leave early as the buses were scheduled to

leave by 3:00 PM and we had to postpone the valedictory function.

The day started with Write-a-thon which comprised of Creative writing, Haiku and Caption-it, along with lexicon, Triple Threat and Shipbate, followed by a round of Spell bee and Elevator Pitching. We took a short break around 12:30 PM so that the judges could consolidate all the scores and declare a winner for their respective events. The break was followed by Turncoat and Stress Interview. It is usual for our students to feel a bit drowsy after a heavy lunch, but on the contrary, they were well focused and enjoying every minute of the performance put forth by their fellow students.

The day was an extremely memorable one and it would not have been so without the help of my fellow office bearers, Dr. P. Rathna, our Faculty Coordinator and Major General Gurdeep Narang, our Dean of Student Affairs and the participants. My hearty gratitude to all our well-wishers and congratulations to all the winners.

A glimpse of the occasion can be viewed through the photographs below.



ART DECATHON

~ Ashika, 4Y, Biotechnology

Crescent Creative Strokes, one of the art clubs in our institute successfully organized an intra-college art competition called Art Decathon on 8th August 2019. The idea behind this grand event was to celebrate Youth Day through the performance of various art and crafts.

The day started with the inauguration ceremony which was held in Mechanical Science Seminar Hall. The occasion was graced with the presence of Dr. A. Azad – Registrar, Dr. M. S. Sheik Mohammed – Dean of Academic Affairs, Dr. Nikhat M Hamza – Director (HR) and FTA and Dr. S. Rasool Mohideen – Dean of Mechanical Sciences.

Dr. Syed Mohamed – Staff Coordinator of the club delivered the welcome address followed by Ms. Ilakkiya – Ms. Lead of the club. The inauguration was finally signed off with the Vote of Thanks by Ms. Hikmathunnisa S.N. – Club Manager.

Various colorful events such as Rangoli, Face painting, Sculpture, Mehendi, Calligraphy, Pictionary, Blind Attack and Do

What I Say were organized simultaneously at the Food court and Mechanical Science block in the morning session followed by traditional, fun-filled games such as Tug of War and Lemon & Spoon at Basket Ball court in the afternoon session.

The events were judged by Dr. Moon Moon Hussain – Assistant Professor of Economics Department as well as the office bearers of the club. The winners for these events were finalized and certificates were distributed jointly by Ms. Ashika – President of the club and Dr. Syed Mohamed – Staff Coordinator.

It should be noted that over 500 students participated in Art Decathon which was made possible by the joint efforts of both the office bearers and volunteers of Crescent Creative Strokes

A glimpse of the occasion can be viewed through the photographs below.



AICE 2K19

~ Aysha Munawwarah, 4Y, Biotechnology

The organizing committee, the Sakinah sisters from the hostel along with the Crescent Islamic Society-Girls (CSI-G) and Final years engaged the students for the entire day as they participated on stage, exhibiting their talent in elocution, presentation, etc. and off-stage events like Asma ul husna, qiraath, etc. As well as literary events which were all in full swing.

The event was held on the 28th of August, 2019, a beautiful Wednesday, from 9:15 A.M.-4:10 P.M. The venues toggled from Seminar hall 1 in the

morning to seminar hall 2 in the evening.

The inauguration was held from 9:30 A.M. - 9:50 A.M. continued by the events of the morning batch which took place from 9:50 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. Lunch break followed by the prayer lasted for 50 minutes (1:10 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.). The evening slot was held from 2:30 P.M - 4:00 P.M. The entire gathering had a strength of 130 students.

Spectators reported that the event was lively and implied the importance of prayer and other Islamic concepts.



AARAVAM 2K19

A CULTURAL EXTRAVAGANZA ON THE OCCASION OF ONAM

~ Samyuktha Prasanan, 3Y, CSE

Onam is one of the biggest festivals in Kerala. Every house is decorated with flowers of every colour, happiness that swarms in every heart because it's the festive season. Early mornings with the entire family laying out flowers to welcome the king "Mahabali", preparing delicious food and sweets (Payasam) with so much of love...

But this year, B. S. Abdur Rahman Crescent Institute of Science and Technology in Chennai was no less than the galore in Kerala. The Malayalee students and staff came together as one big family and organized both indoor and outdoor events, that left a lasting impression on everyone.

The preparations started about 3 weeks before the event's date, the 19th of September. Everyone gathered in the college gallery and put forth their ideas, not only were ideas exchanged but so were names and friendly chit chats. While all the final year students organized the agenda, all the others engaged themselves in choreographing dances, making song mashups and what not.

'Aaravam' Happened on the 19th of September, the day started as the boys brought in the flowers for decorations. Everyone sat together as the petals were plucked and withered into beautiful designs. Students gathered into the auditorium and sat back as the professors occupied the front seats and enjoyed the indoor events. After the lamp lighting ceremony, the indoor events started with a bang.

The highlight of the event was the 'Chenda Melam'. The people who were hired for the day did not disappoint the audience one bit. The auditorium was roaring with excitement as the sound of the 'Chenda' resonated throughout.

Once the indoor events came to an end, the day continued outside, in the ground with games for all the girls and boys wearing traditional clothing, but not before the 'Chenda melam' went around the college to let the entire populace know about the celebrations that were happening. The day went on and before they knew it, it was time for the 'Sadhya'.

Variety of authentic Keralite food was all set to be served in the food court. The students served the food to the professors came in batches. Everyone was satisfied with the food as well as the show. And as the food serving came to an end, the malayalees of Crescent a.k.a the Cres-Mallus had the rest of the day to themselves as they played songs and danced to mark the end of the day. Of course, everyone took pictures with the “Mahabali” who changed his outlook with his swagger, coolers and poses!

Everyone dispersed with the happiness and memories that were made that day, Aaravam 2K19 was a huge success. The pictures circulating on Instagram, from personal accounts to all the public pages of the college show that the event was very well received.

A glimpse of the occasion can be viewed through the photographs below.



INTRAMUN

~ Fatah M Aziz, 4Y, CSE

CresMUN conducted its first-ever annual INTRAMUN on the 4th of October 2019. The event commenced with the introduction of all the delegates and the chairperson, followed by a talk on the origin of the United Nations – why it was formed and what it does.

Combating Bioterrorism was the agenda for the day. There were around 30 participants in the event. The first motion of the day was given a time of 90 seconds to present their motion.

The delegate of Afghanistan was the first speaker of the day, she spoke about bioterrorism in Afghanistan and conveyed that their country is ready to help other countries in combating bioterrorism. Next, the delegate of South Africa spoke about the intentional and unintentional impacts of using microbes and called all the nations to come up with an idea. The delegate of the Philippines spoke about the deliberate use of bioweapons and quoted examples of anthrax and plague then requested for collaboration for protection. Followed by the delegate of Ukraine who proposed that his nation has nev-

er possessed any biological weapons and activities and said that his country will help resolve the problem by lending help to any other nation and is ready to accept help. The delegates of Iran, Kazakhstan, China, Turkey, Switzerland, Japan, USA, Israel, and Russia put forth their nation's ideologies and the steps taken by each government to resolve and respond actively to the future actions involving bioterrorism.

The second motion was proposed by the delegate of South Africa for the commencement of an unmoderated caucus for 15 minutes and at the end of this session, it was decided among the delegates for the formation of a regulatory body that will set standards for bioterrorism.

The GSL continues as the delegates of Italy, South Africa, North Korea continued their nation's tenets. Then as per the motion raised by the delegate of Switzerland to switch to a moderate caucus for the next 20 minutes on "International body to regulate chemicals & biological components and international standards" the moderate caucus took

place, as there was no one against it. The delegate of Russia began it by giving a suggestion to make the weapons passive. The delegate of the Philippines conveyed that they come forward to form a committee with the countries that have proper labs in order to do research on solving the issue. But the delegate of USA states following Russia's idea may be expensive so alternatives have to be thought of. The delegates of Israel and South Africa put forth their ideas. The Swiss delegate spoke about the dumping of substandard medicines in underdeveloped countries and also added that it cannot make any profit. The delegate of Ukraine called over other countries to invest in research in his country as they have about 4,000 microbiology labs and also considering the 20 percent reduction in funding by Trump in the USA. Then delegates of North Korea, Yemen and Iran spoke out their opinions. While Vietnam and Kazakh said they will go with the USA and Pakistan will go with Russia since India joined hands with the USA in this regard. That was the end of the moderate caucus.

The delegates then continued to speak their opinions on Bio-weapons Convention (BWC). The delegate of Mexico stated that they have joined hands with the USA on a bio natural project to have a check on diseases. Followed by Mexico, North Korea, Norway, Syria, Russia, Switzerland and Ukraine put forth their views. The next GSL was started off by the representative of Vietnam. After that, according to the motion passed by the delegate of swiss there was an unmoderated caucus for a time period of 10 minutes. Then the GSL continued to take place, were in the delegates from China, Yemen, Israel, North Korea, Philippines, Japan, Switzerland, South Africa, India, and Pakistan spoke about the effective functioning and regulation of the BWC and the future implementation and statutory functioning of well-planned management.

WORKSHOP ON DIFFERENT DEBATING STYLES AND ETIQUETTES

~ Farheen, 4Y, Biotechnology

A workshop on Different Debating Styles and Etiquettes was conducted by the Crescent Debating Society in association with Crescent Literary Society on October 2, 2019, in the Seminar Hall of MS block. The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Arthi Jayaraj, Founder and Director of Learning Advantage Chennai and a Toastmaster associate. There were 22 participants from different branches and years and 2 organizers.

The session started at 10 am with Ms. Arthi giving a brief introduction about herself and her organization. She followed it by introducing the students about the origin of debate and its necessity in a society. She explained the different styles of debate, their advantages and where they are applied such as Lincoln - Douglas style, Parliamentary debate, and One Rebuttal debate. She made volunteers roleplay a few debating styles as well and provided feedback after every demo.

This was followed by explaining the principle layout of a debate presentation addressing five key components - attention, need, solution, visualization and call for action. To give more of experience, the students were split into four groups, each group was given a topic and were asked to apply all the components in their presentation. Each presentation was reviewed and given feedback. The session was concluded by explaining different kinds of listeners and how to approach public speaking by having each type of listener in their mind.

The facilitator used a Power-Point presentation for a better understanding of concepts. The session was concluded with a vote of thanks and honoring Ms. Arthi with a memento.

On the whole, it was a very useful workshop for the students, especially for the members of Crescent Debating Society with many takeaways that will help them win other debate competitions.

WORKSHOP ON CREATIVE WRITING AND SPOKEN WORD POETRY

~ Samyuktha Prasanan, 3Y, CSE

A creative writing workshop which was conducted on the 20th of October by Ms. Fiona Kezia Winston was a huge success for the Crescent Literary Society.

Fiona Kezia Winston is a writer, Ph.D. scholar, published poet, spoken word artist, amateur boxer & a guest writer at Women's web and feature writer at WE magazine, India.

She was one among 20 poets chosen from all over India by Delhi Poetry Slam to attend the Poetry Retreat at Goa (Oct 2015) and was mentored by Canadian Poet Laureate Jamaal Jackson Rogers and American educator Nicole Sumner. Since then, Fiona has performed in over 20 open mics and conducted poetry workshops, in and around Chennai and is associated with Open Sky Slam poetry and Airplane poetry.

The workshop started at 9:30 as the participants showed up on a rainy morning. Everyone assembled at the Management block,

SM 101 as Fiona started spinning her magic.

She spoke about various topics out of which a few were writing structure, reading space, writing space, metaphors, capturing aura, creating and killing characters, overcoming writer's block and story plot. The session was very interactive, her love for literature and books were evident from the way she gave examples from the top of her mind.

The hours sped by as she taught and simultaneously joked about a lot of things. The crowd comprised of 23 participants which included a few orators with not much knowledge about writing. The feedback that was given at the end of the workshop expressed how useful and informative the session was. Fiona was a ray of motivation for everyone there.

The participants returned with a handful of fun, skills, and memories. The rain sure didn't stop a bunch of writers and learners from making it to an eventful day!

Crescent Writers Guild



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and REPORTER
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