



EARTHIAN
Art Foundation

PRESENTS



CHILDREN'S ARTS
FESTIVAL 2025

VAISHAKHARE



Supported by



**Dorf Ketal Chemicals
India Ltd.**

**Vaishakhare
villagers**



संकल्प से सिद्धि

**Indivish welfare
Foundation**

Introduction

With the collaborative support of **Dorf Ketel Chemicals India Ltd., Indivish Welfare Foundation, and the residents of Vaishakhare village**, Earthian Art Foundation successfully organized the “Bhingari” Children’s Arts Festival 2025 on 13th and 14th December 2025. The festival was held in the historically significant village of Vaishakhare, located in Murbad Taluka, Thane District, and was celebrated with great enthusiasm and community participation.

While cities regularly host various art festivals, children and communities in rural areas rarely get the opportunity to experience such cultural platforms firsthand. With the intention of bridging this gap and providing rural children and villagers exposure to diverse art forms, the concept of Bhingari was envisioned and implemented. The year 2025 marked the second edition of this festival.



Summary

The Bhingri Children Art Festival 2025 was a joyful and successful celebration of creativity, community, and cultural exchange. Designed primarily for children and villagers, the festival brought together over 200 young artists and more than 400 adult attendees for a lively weekend of art-making, performances, and shared meals.

Key highlights:

- **Participation:** 300+ children and approximately 800+ adults attended, including parents, teachers, volunteers, and villagers.
- **Registration & logistics:** External visitors registered via Google Forms so organizers could coordinate food and accommodation. No participation fees were charged.
- **Hospitality:** Food and lodging were graciously provided by Vaishakhare villagers. Each household hosted 1–2 families depending on capacity, while some homes accommodated groups of 10–15 visitors.
- **Diverse performances:** Nine vibrant performances showcased a rich tapestry of art forms—spanning classical and traditional dance, clowning, miming, theater, storytelling, origami, and more—delighting audiences and inspiring young artists.
- **Community spirit:** Local hosts, volunteers, and organizers worked together to ensure smooth operations, generous hospitality, and warm interactions between visitors and villagers.
- **Outcome & interest:** The event was a major success. Following the festival, neighboring villages have expressed keen interest in hosting the next Bhingri Children Art Festival.

Overall, the festival not only showcased the artistic talents of children but also strengthened community bonds and set the stage for future, expanded local collaborations.

Reach



Direct Reach

1,000+

50,000+

Indirect Reach

Geographical Reach

**6
Areas**



- Murbad
- Mumbai
- Thane
- Pune
- Nashik
- Palghar

Impact

- **Cultural preservation and exchange**

Nine diverse performances helped preserve and showcase traditional art forms alongside contemporary expressions.

Children gained exposure to varied cultural practices, fostering appreciation for both local traditions and creative innovation

- **Community strengthening**

Cross-village connections formed between Bhingri and neighboring communities, breaking down geographical barriers. Successful collaboration between 200+ children and 400+ adults demonstrated intergenerational cooperation

- **Economic and social empowerment**

Village households gained experience in organized hosting and event management. No-fee model proved that community-driven initiatives can be sustainable through collective effort. Local resources and skills were leveraged effectively, showcasing village capabilities

- **Artistic development**

200+ children experienced hands-on learning in multiple art forms (origami, performance arts, creative expression). Young participants gained confidence through public display of their work and interaction with diverse audiences. Exposure to professional performances (clowning, miming, theater) inspired creative exploration.

- **Regional influence and scalability**

Neighboring villages requesting to host future festivals indicates successful model replication potential. Event demonstrated feasibility of decentralized, community-hosted cultural programming. Established foundation for rotating festival model across multiple villages.

- **Educational and personal growth**

Children developed social skills through interaction with visitors from outside their immediate community. Host families gained cultural exchange experience and hospitality management skills. Participants experienced art as a bridge between communities, fostering empathy and understanding.

- **Long-term community development**

Created template for future collaborative events that strengthen rural cultural networks. Demonstrated village capacity for large-scale event management without external infrastructure. Established Bhingri Children Art Festival as a regional cultural landmark with expanding reach.



Day One – 13th December 2025

Arrival and Welcome of Goshta Dindi

To cultivate children's interest in books and reading, Goshta Dindi a walking storytelling initiative was led by Mr. Hrishikesh Dabholkar, editor of Pune-based Kulfi magazine. As part of this initiative, he walked from Murbad to Vaishakhare, starting on 8th December, covering approximately 60 kilometers. Along the way, he visited 15 schools and conducted storytelling and interactive activities in two villages.

On 13th December, Goshta Dindi reached the festival venue. The culmination of this journey marked the ceremonial beginning of the Bhingari Festival, followed by the warm welcome of guests and participants.

The painting exhibition was inaugurated by all the dignitaries.

Davandi

Accompanied by the Goshta Dindi, villagers, artists, guests, and art lovers collectively marched through the village, announcing the festival through the traditional Davandi method. Maintaining this cultural tradition, the entire village was invited and gathered at the main festival venue.



Inauguration Ceremony

The inauguration of the Bhingari Children's Art Festival was conducted in a unique manner. The invited guests **Mr. Santosh Jagdhane from Dorf Ketel Chemicals India Ltd., along with Mrs. Natasha Mishra, Mr. Nilesh Nimkar; and Mr. Viraj Gharat from Indivish Welfare Foundation along with the children**, inaugurated the festival by freely drawing shapes and filling colours of their choice on a blank canvas.

The idea behind this was to help everyone reconnect with their inner child and to encourage them to participate in the festival by colouring freely and joyfully.

Swarup Drum – A Story of Inspiration

Swarup, a young boy from Vaishakhare village, showcased a drum set he had creatively assembled using discarded cans. His passion for music and determination impressed many, leading to community support that enabled him to receive a brand-new drum set. The festival commenced with Swarup's drum performance, offering a powerful message of dreams, resilience, and collective encouragement. We thank again to **Dorf Ketel Chemicals India Ltd.** for providing this drum set to this brilliant child.

Welcome Address and Guest Speeches

The inauguration was graced by Mr. Nilesh Nimkar, Director of Quality Education Support Trust (QUEST). With his extensive experience in the education sector, he guided children and parents through a brief yet impactful address. Mr. Santosh Jagdhane from Dorf Ketel Chemicals India Ltd shared his warm words of encouragement with audiences.

On behalf of Indivish Welfare Foundation, Mr. Viraj Gharat, representing the village community, extended best wishes for the festival.



Concept Note Reading

The organizing team shared the vision behind Bhingari to offer rural children and communities meaningful artistic experiences. An overview of the two-day festival schedule was presented, along with a brief introduction to Earthian Art Foundation's year-long work with children across various regions.

Innus' Speech – Storytelling Performance

Invited artists Kalpesh Samel and Rahul Lamkhade presented a storytelling performance depicting the life of two schoolchildren. Rahul portrayed the character Innus, a child delivering a speech inspired by everyday observations of his home life. Written by Wasim Bari Maner and directed by the performers themselves, the simple narrative resonated deeply with the audience.

Singing Performance by Children from Khewre Village

Children from Khewre village, associated with the Kumba Project, presented a group singing performance. A total of 28 children participated. The songs written and composed by Deep Dabre included:

- Bhingari Davandi Song (inviting people to the festival)
- Ekach Jag (celebrating diversity and environmental awareness)
- Doka Firla, Gelo Shahrat (contrasting rural roots with urban life)

The performances were widely appreciated for their meaningful lyrics and melodious compositions.



Kathak Dance Performance

Classical Kathak performances were presented by Mayur Shitole, Siddhi Abhay, and Kalyani Kulkarni from Pune. As this was a first exposure to classical dance for many villagers, the artists explained the form during their performance, making it engaging and educational.

The Decision – Mime Performance

Mime artist Sanket Khedkar delivered a captivating performance using only body movements and expressions. His act introduced the audience to the art of mime and emerged as one of the main highlights of the day.



Trak Dhoom – Drum Circle

Students from Pune-based Trak Dhoom Djembe Academy, led by Mr. Nitin Satav, performed a drum circle using West African instruments. The rhythm and coordination showcased global musical traditions and enthralled the audience.



Gauri Dance

Artists from the nearby Banachi Wadi tribal village performed the traditional Gauri Dance. About 20 performers participated, presenting the small Gauri dance, characterized by vibrant movements, rhythmic singing, and community coordination.



Short Film Screening

A short film screening was organized to recreate the collective cinema-viewing experience. The animated classic “Dumbo” (1941) by Walt Disney was screened, delighting children and families alike.



Day Two – 14th December 2025

Book Reading Workshop

The second day began with storytelling by Mr. Hrishikesh Dabholkar, who narrated Kapilene Ghetla Zoka using illustrated books. His immersive storytelling style enabled children to experience the story rather than merely listen to it.

Origami Workshop

Origami expert Mr. Milind Kelkar from Pune conducted a hands-on workshop. Children learned to create acrobatic paper folds and various types of hats using newspapers, sparking curiosity and joy among participants of all ages.



Book Reading Workshop

Origami Workshop

Davandi and Flash Mob

A second Davandi gathered villagers for the main events. As the procession reached the venue, children spontaneously began dancing, forming a flash mob. Parents and villagers witnessed their children emerge confidently from the crowd, creating a proud and emotional moment.

Lost and Found – Clowning Performance

Clown artists Yash Yogi, Prithvi Keshari, and Soumya Barhaiya presented a humorous performance about two siblings lost at a fair, marking the village's first exposure to professional clowning.



Theatre Performance by Vaishakhare Children

The play “Will Shringeri Srinivasan’s Cow Stop Mooing?” was staged by children under the guidance of Mr. Nikhil Pujari from Mumbai. Prepared within four days, the play featured animal characters with masks designed by Akshay Shinde, enhancing its visual appeal. Parents expressed immense pride in their children’s performance.

Certificate Distribution

Children from Vaishakhare and Khewre villages were honored with certificates for their year-long participation in the Kumba Project, encouraging them to continue their creative journeys.



Theatre Performance by Vaishakhare Children



Childrens from Vaishakhare Village



Childrens from Kheware Village

Hattamallyachya Pallyad – Professional Theatre

A one-act professional play from Goa was performed by Prajakta Kavlekar, Shravan Fondekar, Pranav Tengse, with support from Vibhav Sawant. The play humorously depicted a village without money, highlighting barter systems and community values.

Earthian Mitra and Special Awards

The Earthian Mitra Award was presented to Mr. Santosh Jagdhane (Dorf Kettle), Paresh Jayshree Manohar (Baramati), and Indivish Welfare Foundation. Special student awards were given to Janhavi Gharat (Vaishakhare) and Samiksha Suroshe (Khewre). Monika Suroshe was honored for successfully coordinating the Kuumba Project in Khewre.

Artist Shivan Choudhary, other facilitators, and photographer Aniket Javalgekar were also felicitated for their valuable contributions.



Hattamallyachya Pallyad – Professional Theatre



Earthian Mitra - Shri. Santosh Jagdhane



Earthian Mitra - Shri. Paresh Manohar



Earthian Mitra - Indivish Welfare Foundation



Special Student Award Janhavi Kharat & Samiksha Suroshe



Origami expert Mr. Milind Kelkar



Kuumba Coordinator Ms. Monika Suroshe



Artist Mr. Shivam Choudhary



Drummer Mr. Akshaj Malashe



Dancer Ms. Deesha Ekar, Ms. Sonal Deshmukh



Photographer Mr. Aniket Javalgekar



Anchor Ms. Rucha Kelkar

Tarpa Music and Dance

Renowned Warli Tarpa artist Barkhu Mokashi from Palghar district performed traditional Tarpa music using a handmade instrument. The infectious rhythm led to spontaneous dancing by children, parents, artists, and villagers alike, creating a powerful sense of unity.



Vote of Thanks and Closing Jam

The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Maurvika Nanore on behalf of Earthian Art Foundation. The festival concluded with a joyful fusion of traditional Tarpa and West African Djembe music, leaving everyone energized and eagerly awaiting the next edition of Bhingari.





The decorations added vibrancy to the event and Thanks Giving to our Supporters

Conclusion

The Bhingari Children's Arts Festival 2025 successfully created an inclusive cultural platform where rural children, artists, and communities came together to celebrate creativity, tradition, and imagination. The festival not only showcased artistic talent but also nurtured confidence, cultural awareness, and collective joy affirming the transformative power of art and communities unity in rural spaces.

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2025



THANK YOU
FOR SUPPORTING US!