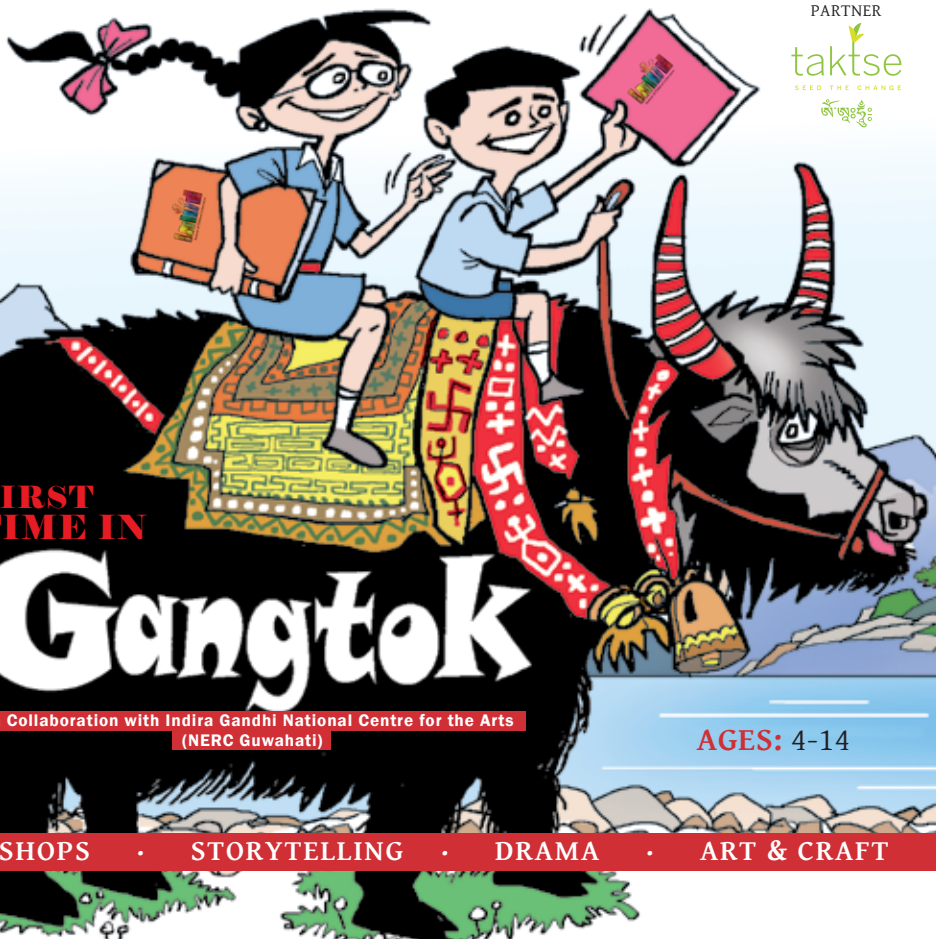




Festival of Children's Literature



PARTNER



**FIRST  
TIME IN**

# Gangtok

In Collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts  
(NERC Guwahati)

**AGES: 4-14**

**WORKSHOPS · STORYTELLING · DRAMA · ART & CRAFT**

**20+ SPEAKERS · 59 SESSIONS**

**Dates and Time:** June 28<sup>th</sup> 2019 Schools' Day 9:30 AM to 3 PM | June 29<sup>th</sup> 2019 Open Day 11 AM to 4:30 PM

**VENUE: TAKTSE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**



Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi



**BRINGING CHILDREN  
AND BOOKS TOGETHER  
SINCE 2008**



**INTERNATIONAL  
EXCELLENCE  
Awards 2017**  
In association with THE PUBLISHERS  
ASSOCIATION

Entry on first come first seated basis

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इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र  
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

## ABOUT IGNCA

The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) is visualized as a Centre for encompassing the study of arts, each form in its own integrity, yet within a dimension of mutual inter-dependence and inter-relatedness.

Established under Ministry of Culture, Government of India, IGNCA serves as a major recourse Centre for all the arts. It undertakes research, publications and documentations of various art forms and community specific studies.

The IGNCA's North East Regional Centre (NERC) was established in Guwahati; Assam with a view to preserve and promote the cultural traditions and practices of different tribes and communities of Northeast India.



## ABOUT BOOKAROO

Bookaroo, a public charitable trust, endeavours to make books come alive through interactions between children and creators of books and storytellers.

The festival, which has travelled to 12 cities (11 in India and one in Malaysia) and has completed 32 editions in 10 years, focuses on 'Reading for Pleasure'. Bookaroo is also a winner of the Literary Festival Award at the London Book Fair's International Excellence Awards, 2017. This is the first time that an Indian children's literature festival was recognised at the international arena.

# MESSAGE

## Hello Gangtok,

Back in 2009, when a group of students came to Bookaroo Delhi all the way from Gangtok's Taktse International School - led by their indomitable principal, Maria Lauenstein - nobody could have foreseen that these visits would become an annual ritual.

As it turned out, a November visit by a select bunch of Taktse's students was much looked forward to - both by us and Taktse itself - every year. Curious visitors in Delhi would watch as the group from Taktse honoured visiting speakers, and even the Bookaroo team, with scarves bang in the middle of the festival grounds.

Their visits were well-planned and managed, they would have researched which sessions to attend, when to go the festival bookstore and, of course, meet the authors and illustrators for the inevitable book-signing ceremony or chat with the storytellers. Unfortunately, however, not all the Taktse children could come down to Delhi to participate in the fun.

It was four years ago when we first felt that if all of Taktse cannot come to Bookaroo, the festival would go to Taktse - someday. That day has arrived.

This year, we took the decision, thanks to a big helping hand from the school. Mr Sonam Paljor Denjongpa, the director, made this decision an easy one by providing the resources to take this forward.

We take this opportunity to thank IGNCA's (Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts) North Eastern Regional Center, the Ministry of Culture and Sahitya Akademi as well as Takshila Educational Society for making this dream come true.

Gangtok, please welcome all our speakers and we hope you have as much fun as we had in bringing it to you.

**Swati & Venkatesh**  
Festival Directors

9:30-10:30

### STUDIO

**FUR, PURR, MEOW** | Praba Ram  
(with Kavita Singh Kale)

A story-hour that has a read-aloud story and some colouring fun featuring a shape-loving cat and a full-moon-loving kitten. Sounds purr-fect, doesn't it?

11:00-12:00

### KAHANI TREE

**STORY-GO-ROUND** | Asha Nehemiah  
Listen to some funny and magical stories by Asha Nehemiah.

**WOMAN OF THE MATCH!** | Bhagirathy  
Ramya would rather play cricket than with her dolls or mess around with crayons or play with building blocks. But her father, the spoilsport, says cricket is a boy's game. Does Ramya get her way?

Supported by Book Lovers' Program for Schools

All sessions are on first-come-first-seated basis. Some sessions can seat only limited numbers. Please cooperate with our volunteers in their efforts to maintain this.

If only  
**ASHA NEHEMIAH**  
could make  
magic hair-oil  
and nightmare-  
preventing sachets.



12:30-13:30

### DOODLE WALL

**TIPI TIPI TAP, WHICH COLOUR DO YOU WANT?** | Tanya Kotnala

Got green? Got blue? Oh! That's number two! Fill in the colours; refer to your numbers and witness the drawings unfold on the Doodle Wall with illustrator Tanya Kotnala. (Limited Numbers)  
Supported by Scholastic India

### CRAFTY CORNER

**ROLLING SNAIL** | Neetu Sharma  
Craft a snail that rocks and rolls.  
(Limited Numbers)

**BANDANA TULACHAN**  
likes getting lost  
and exploring the  
unknown... mostly in  
her imagination.





9:30-10:30

### KAHANI TREE

**CARNIVAL OF ANIMALS** | *Deeptha Vivekanand*

It's a story party with goats, cows, lions, elephants and other creatures. Laugh, sing and dance while you listen to timeless tales from faraway places.

**SIX BLIND MEN** | *Kapil Pandey*

Can 'listening' help you 'see' better? Is that possible? Find out with Kapil.

11:00-12:00

### CRAFTY CORNER

**UP IN THE SKY** | *Bandana Tulachan*

Create your own pop-up card with all that you see when you look up at the sky. (Limited Numbers)

### DOODLE WALL

**HERE BE MONSTERS!** | *Priya Kuriyan*

Creep or crawl... draw on a wall... monsters for all! (PS: You're not allowed to bawl) Limited Numbers  
Supported by Karadi Tales



**BHAGIRATHY,**  
a theatre actor, uses  
puppets to spread  
the joy of reading.

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12:30-13:30

### THE TURRET

**SLURP, GOBBLE, CHEW** | *Praba Ram*

Trek to the high mountains of Ladakh to meet Tsering and his neighbours. Join Praba Ram for this slurp-worthy tale, Thukpa for All, as she shares community stories from Ladakh.

14:00-15:00

### STUDIO

**MY MONSTER AND ME** | *Chador Wangmo*

Where does your monster live? In your room? In the playground? Chador prefers her monster to be in the corner of her book. Join her to put yours there too! (Limited Numbers)

### CRAFTY CORNER

**BATTLE OF THE BRUSHES** | *Bandana Tulachan and Canato Jimo*

Two artists... one story... It's a showdown between two illustrators as they draw, paint and sketch for their lives while an unknown story is read out to them... (Limited Numbers)

Art-man  
**CANATO JIMO**  
loves singing,  
travelling and  
watching books  
come alive.

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9:30-10:30

### THE TURRET

**THE WIGGLY TOOTH** | *Reshma Thapa-Gurung*

Teeth have a will of their own. Bunu's loose tooth refuses to come out until she hears about a Himalayan tradition. Know more about it.

11:00-12:00

### THE THEATRE

**FEATHER TALES** | *Deepak Dalal*

Birds. God gave them wings. Humans built cages. Join Deepak Dalal to find out what happens to the fabulous but caged Peregrine Falcon. Wait. There is more. Meet some flamingos and the stunningly beautiful Paradise Flycatcher too.

Supported by Puffin India

**CHADOR WANGMO**  
becomes a  
storyteller when she  
wants to escape  
chores at home.



12:30-13:30

### KAHANI TREE

**SING ME A STORY** | *Canato Jimo*

Beat a drum, shake a shaker, strum the strings and join in a song. Come sway to the rhythm of the beat and add a tune to your story with Canato Jimo.

Supported by Pratham Books

**ICKY! OOKY! BUBBLY SHUBBLY!** | *Bhagirathy*

Chinna's father has a problem. Chinna won't touch any of the delicious food he has cooked for her. So he devises a secret plan but does he succeed? Find out with storyteller Bhagirathy.

Supported by Book Lovers' Program for Schools

14:00-15:00

### DOODLE WALL

**MONKEY BUSINESS** | *Chewang Dorjee*

What happens when you monkey around with monkeys? Find out with Chewang Dorjee in this delightful art session. (Limited Numbers)

Supported by Tulika Books

### THE TURRET

**MAPPING GANGTOK** | *Kavita Singh Kale*

Have you seen an illustrated map? Let us make one for Gangtok and post it to a friend in a different city! (Limited Numbers)

Not only does he  
love eating momos,  
**CHEWANG  
DORJEE**  
can also create  
fascinating art.





9:30-10:30

### THE THEATRE

#### STORIES IN SHADOWLAND | Bhagirathy

Let us make colourful puppets and watch all the shadows come alive. (Limited Numbers)

Supported by Book Lovers' Program for Schools

### DOODLE WALL

#### HILLS AND MIST | Chewang Dorjee

Majestic mountains and rolling mist, join Chewang Dorjee to explore this and more through art. (Limited Numbers)

Supported by Tulika Books

11:00-12:00

### THE TURRET

#### DAZZLING DIALOGUES | Shruthi Rao

Go wild with dialogues! How do different people convey the same message? Learn to listen to how people speak – and write authentic dialogues in your stories!

**DEEPAK DALAL** enjoys exploring, researching and writing stories (in that order).

All sessions are on first-come-first-seated basis. Some sessions can seat only limited numbers. Please cooperate with our volunteers in their efforts to maintain this.



12:30-13:30

### THE THEATRE

#### MAGICAL CREATURES AND MYTHICAL ANIMALS | Vinita Srimal Garg

Travel with Kabir and his friends to the deep dark underworld Tataal. What happens next? Who will you meet?

14:00-15:00

### KAHANI TREE

#### PEACH OF A STORY | Deeptha Vivekanand

A magical peach, an enchanted silver flute, a young man and a cockroach. What gives?

#### SHEHZADI MADHUMATI SPEAKS UP |

Kapil Pandey

You will need more than one story to break vows and vices. What will it take for the Shehzadi to speak up?

Promise her good food and great music and **DEEPTHA VIVEKANAND** will be your best friend!



9:30-10:30

## CRAFTY CORNER

**SURPRISE, SURPRISE!** | *Neetu Sharma*  
Surprise your best friend with a hand-crafted, neat pop-up birthday card. (Limited Numbers)

11:00-12:00

## STUDIO

**STORYMATIC** | *Deeptha Vivekanand*  
It's game time! Draw some cards to create a story or a memory. Write it, draw it, act it, sing it! Tell it your way. (Limited Numbers)

12:30-13:30

## STUDIO

**STORY MASH-UP** | *Asha Nehemiah*  
Give your stories a makeover! Experiment with different narrative styles with Asha Nehemiah. (Limited Numbers)

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When he is not telling stories, **KAPIL PANDEY** sometimes runs to work.

14:00-15:00

## THE THEATRE

**BUCH-BOOKED** | *Ruchira Das, Think Arts*  
Journey with Michael Ende's lovely character, Momo, as she travels beyond the boundaries of time with the help of Professor Hora and his strange tortoise, Cassiopeia, to resist the sinister Men in Grey. (Limited Numbers)  
Supported by Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan, Kolkata

Animator **KAVITA SINGH KALE** translates people and cultures into visual stories.



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11:00-12:00

## THE TURRET

**MASK MANIA** | *Kavita Singh Kale*

Do you want to be the king of the jungle? Make your own scary masks with a little help from Kavita. (Limited Numbers)

12:30-13:30

## KAHANI TREE

**SANU AND THE BIG STORM** | *Bandana*

*Tulachan*

Sanu rows her little boat in a storm in Fewa lake, in search of her mother. Will she manage through the elements - mist, wind, rain and hail?

**TUNTUNIR GOLPO** | *Kapil Pandey*

What happens when the Tiny come to the help of the Little to bring down the Big?

Give NEETU SHARMA paper and scissors, some waste, paint to stain and watch her fly.



14:00-15:00

## DOODLE WALL

**IN THE JUNGLE, THE MIGHTY JUNGLE!** |

*Priya Kuriyan*

Come and create a colourful jungle, where your imagination can run as free and as wild as the animals of the forest and fly as high as the trees. (Limited Numbers)

Supported by Karadi Tales

15:30-16:30

## KAHANI TREE

**1, 2, 3... SCRATCH, SCRATCH** | *Canato Jimo*

Why is Manu so itchy scratchy today? Find out with Canato as he reads this story by Dawa Lahmu Yolmo.

Supported by Pratham Books

**HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?** |

*Shruthi Rao*

What does a plant need to grow? How do seeds get from one place to another? Go on a fun journey through the story of Avani and the Pea Plant!

PRABA RAM's 'purr-suits' include concocting soups and growing vegetables.





11:00-12:00

## KAHANI TREE

**BUT WHY?** | *Bhagirathy*

Why is the sky so high? How did the tiger get its stripes? Why is the sea so blue? Why is grass green? Why is the sun hot? Why is a dog a man's best friend? Do you know why? Let's explore! (Limited Numbers)  
Supported by Book Lovers' Program for Schools

**F IS FOR FEELINGS** | *Tanya*

We all get worried when our parents get sick. Find out how a young girl copes with her mother's illness. (Limited Numbers)  
Supported by Scholastic India

## STUDIO

**LOOK AT ART** | *Ruchira Das, Think.Arts*

Did you know that the great artist, Paul Klee, loved cats so much that several of his paintings feature them? Join us to discover more about the artist and make your own Klee-inspired artwork. (Limited Numbers)  
Supported by Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan, Kolkata



When not illustrating, PRIYA KURIYAN is swinging off to places far and near.

12:30-13:30

## DOODLE WALL

**SNIP! SNIP!** | *Canato Jimo*

How would you like to style your hair today? Perhaps a crazy mohawk, some purple curls, or a very high ponytail. Join Canato in creating your own characters with the craziest hair in town. (Limited Numbers)  
Supported by Pratham Books

14:00-15:00

## THE THEATRE

**TROUBLE WITH MAGIC** | *Asha Nebemiah*

Magic can be fun. Magic can cause trouble too. Create your own brand of trouble and go on a magical adventure with author Asha Nebemiah. (Limited Numbers)

15:30-16:30

## DOODLE WALL

**CHARCOAL FUN** | *Kavita Singh Kale*

Ever wished you could fly on a windy day in the sky? With a pinch of imagination and a bunch of charcoal sticks, Kavita takes you on a flight on the Doodle Wall. (Limited Numbers)

## CRAFTY CORNER

**FRIENDS FOREVER** | *Neetu Sharma*

Make everyday a friendship day with these lovely friendship bands. (Limited Numbers)

**RESHMA THAPA-GURUNG** loves to bake and read Horton Hatches the Egg.

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# SESSIONS & VENUE

SATURDAY, 29 JUNE 2019 **AGE 8 – 10**

11:00-12:00

## THE THEATRE

### THE MAGICAL WISHING TREE |

*Vinita Srimal Garg*

Meet Kabir and his friends who are on a quest to find the all-powerful wish-granting tree, Tathastu. Here is your chance to make your wishes come true too.

12:30-13:30

## THE TURRET

### SPY KIDS | *Shruthi Rao*

Want to be a spy? Learn all about secret codes and messages and make up a code that nobody else can decipher! (Limited Numbers)

## CRAFTY CORNER

### SUPERHEROES ANYONE? | *Neetu Sharma*

Craft a superhero-in-action marionette using just paper, pen and strings. (Limited Numbers)



**RUCHIRA DAS**  
find ideas  
everywhere and  
transforms them  
for children.

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14:00-15:00

## KAHANI TREE

### BUGS UNPLUGGED | *Deeptha Vivekanand*

Listen to stories about intelligent insects and beautiful bugs that will make you go bzzzz, whizz, whirrr!

### MAKDI MAUSI TO THE RESCUE | *Kapil Pandey*

People of the Earth - Wake up! It is time to act now. Our good old *makdi mausi* will not keep coming back to save the day.

## CRAFTY CORNER

### PLANT A GARDEN | *Bandana Tulachan*

Let's create a colourful garden in a bowl with our favourite plants. Keep a lookout for pesky paper bugs! (Limited Numbers)

15:30-16:30

## THE TURRET

### MYSTERY FUNDAS | *Asha Nehemiah*

Put zip and fizz into your stories. Asha Nehemiah shares her most mysterious story-writing tips.

## STUDIO

### STICK YOUR TONGUE OUT | *Praba Ram*

Find out all about the red pandas of Sikkim, the pygmy hogs of Assam, the leatherbacks of the Indian Ocean and other fascinating animals unique to the subcontinent, living in varied habitats across the country. Peppered with fun facts about animal tongues! (Limited Numbers)

**SHRUTHI RAO**  
charms her  
daughter with  
stories and loves  
long walks.

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# SESSIONS & VENUE

SATURDAY, 29 JUNE 2019 **AGE 10 - 12**

11:00-12:00

## CRAFTY CORNER

**STAR-STRUCK** | *Bandana Tulachan*

Bring a little stardust into your life through the beautiful galaxy-themed mobile decoration.  
(Limited Numbers)

## DOODLE WALL

**IF I HAD A SUPERPOWER...** |

*Priya Kuriyan*

Can you imagine yourself as a superhero? What would your powers be? Would you fly in the sky or run at the speed of light?  
Draw out your wildest dreams for they might come true! (Limited Numbers)  
Supported by Karadi Tales

Nutritionist and foodie **TANYA** is trying to revive the local cuisine of Uttarakhand.



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12:30-13:30

## THE THEATRE

**WILD INDIA** | *Deepak Dalal*

Embark on a journey from the blue, blue waters of the Arabian Sea to the forests of Ranthambore, and on to the tall snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas. Learn about coral seas, tigers, and the mysterious snow leopard in this awe-inspiring session with Deepak Dalal.  
Supported by Puffin India

14:00-15:00

## THE TURRET

**YETI TALES AND MORE, FROM BHUTAN!** | *Chador Wangmo*

She will be coming 'round the mountain, your storyteller from Bhutan bringing stories of the Yeti and more.

**TANYA KOTNALA** loves travelling to rural India to learn local art and crafts.



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# SESSIONS & VENUE

28 & 29 JUNE 2019

AGE 12 – 14

14:00-15:00

## STUDIO

### THE SMART BIOGRAPHER | *Shruthi Rao*

Bring people alive on your pages! Find out how to research and write an interesting biographical sketch. Hunt for fascinating facts, zero in on reliable sources, and watch out for pitfalls. (Limited Numbers)

15:30-16:30

## THE THEATRE

### WILD INDIA | *Deepak Dalal*

Embark on a journey from the blue, blue waters of the Arabian Sea to the forests of Ranthambore, and on to the tall snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas. Learn about coral seas, tigers, and the mysterious snow leopard in this awe-inspiring session with Deepak Dalal.

Supported by Puffin India



VINITA SRIMAL  
GARG chose  
writing and  
trekking over a  
career in media.

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## ALL DAY

### A PASSAGE TO POEMS | *Simrin Tamhane*

Ever touched, felt, smelled or tasted a poem? Poet Simrin Tamhane shows you how to and then create a long scroll of never-ending poems.

SIMRIN TAMHANE  
grew up in Sikkim,  
recording her  
memories in poetry.



## ALL DAY

### GORGEOUS GANGTOK | *Team Tapestry*

Capture the unique sights, sounds and stories of Gangtok in this colourful patchwork curtain. Supported by Tapestry

TEAM  
TAPESTRY



Sonira Mehta (left)  
hoards clothes  
and lives out of her  
suitcase

Chitrupe C (right) loves  
dancing to the rhythm  
of her surroundings.

A wandering  
illustrator, Harjot  
Khalsa (centre) enjoys the  
simpler things in life.

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# THE BIGGER PICTURE

The only way **Asha Nehemiah** could make magic hair-oil and nightmare-preventing sachets was to put them in her books. She writes action-packed mysteries and funny stories for all ages.

**Bandana Tulachan** is an illustrator and picture-book artist from Kathmandu. She likes getting lost and exploring the unknown... sometimes in streets and alleyways, sometimes between trees and mountains, but mostly in her imagination.

**Bhagirathy** is a theatre actor and storyteller. She heads the operations of the Book Lover's Program for Schools (BLPS) which spreads the reading habit, using storytelling, puppetry, and other elements of theatre, in schools all over Tamil Nadu.

**Canato Jimo** comes from Nagaland. He loves singing, travelling and, as part of his day job as an Art Director, watching picture books come to life.

**Chador Wangmo** is a mother of three who occasionally zaps into the role of storyteller and poet when she wants to escape the tedious chores at home, but otherwise is a normal human.

**Chewang Dorjee** is an animation film designer. He loves to cook, illustrate and make small sculptures of characters he creates. Chewang likes to draw and write stories and is currently at NID Amaravati. He lives to eat Momos.

A writer, traveller, trekker and wildlife enthusiast who loves India's wild places, **Deepak Dalal** enjoys exploring, researching and writing stories (in that order).

**Deeptha Vivekanand** tells stories for a living. She loves to be surrounded by words in every form, shape, and size. If you promise her good food and great music, she'll be your best friend!

**Kapil Pandey**, president of the Kutumb Foundation, discovered his passion for storytelling at the grand old age of 30 when he met the Gruffalo in the deep dark wood. When not telling stories, he runs marathons and sometimes goes to work.

# THE BIGGER PICTURE

Being a part of new cultures, meeting new people and learning about them and translating it into visual stories is what interests **Kavita Singh Kale**, the co-founder of Underground Worm Art & Design Studio.

**Neetu Sharma** is an award-winning activity and picture book author-illustrator with over 18 books to her name. Just give her some paper and scissors, some paste, some waste, some paint to stain and she spins magic in her craft.

**Praba Ram** loves stories - about children, animals, food, crafts, mountains, prehistoric life, space, everything! A cat-lover, her other purr-suits include concocting soups, growing vegetables, and supporting childhood literacy.

**Priya Kuriyan** is an illustrator and animation film designer whose forte is the visual art of storytelling. When she's not illustrating, she is usually travelling to places (sometimes imaginary) far and near.

**Reshma Thapa-Gurung**, a teacher and mother of an 8-year-old, loves reading and baking. Her favourite book is Horton Hatches the Egg by Dr. Seuss. She never tires of reading this to her daughter and husband.

**Ruchira Das** wears many hats but she loves the ThinkArts hat the most since it allows her to create and explore imaginative experiences for children through the arts.

**Shruthi Rao** likes to read books, write stories, eat sweets, give her daughter long lectures, and go walking among trees. She once tried doing all these at the same time. It was a bad idea.

**Simrin Tamhane** started to write when she was a student at Taktse International School. She enjoys writing poetry and recording memories of growing up in Sikkim, her stories of growth and the chaos of co-existing in changing cultures and times.

**Tanya** loves eating or talking about food and decided to be a nutritionist. She is the co-founder of Bhuli Art and is trying to revive the local cuisine of Uttarakhand. Get well soon Mamma! is her first book.

# THE BIGGER PICTURE

**Tanya Kotnala** is a fashion designer, illustrator and textile-lover working from a cosy home-studio in Dehradun. She loves travelling to rural India to learn a great deal about the local art and crafts. She founded Bhuli Art.

## Team Tapestry

- A curious soul, **Sonira Mehta** uses her skills as a communication designer to collect stories of her travels as artefacts. She has a penchant for hoarding clothes and living out of her suitcase for prolonged periods.
- **Chitrupi C** is an aspiring industrial designer with an eye for detail. She loves narrating elaborate stories, picking up new languages and dancing along to the rhythm of her surroundings.
- **Harjot Khalsa** is a wandering illustrator who enjoys the simpler things in life. Her adventures find directions through conversations which are then translated to beautiful drawings that she loves sharing.

**Vinita Srimal Garg** used to work in the media. Bored of it all, she gave it up for writing. When she is not scribbling, she is talking to herself, trekking or drinking tea.

# BIRDS OF A FEATHER...







In Collaboration with **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts**  
(NERC Guwahati)



इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र  
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