

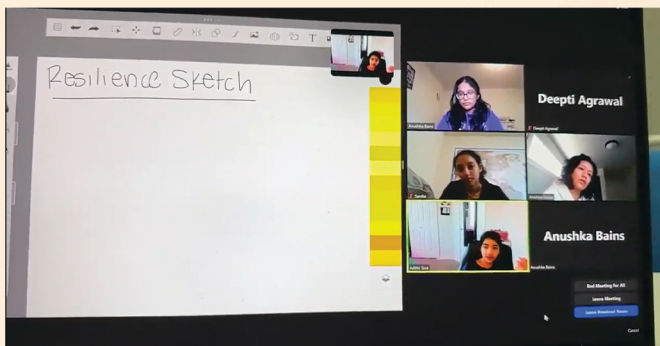


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Editorial Team : Harini Thiagarajan,  
Anishka Gogoi, Anvika Bheemarasetty

## FOCUS GROUP STUDY

Recently **Kavya Selvakumar, Harini Thiagarajan, Vrinda Rathi, Anushka Bains, Anishka Gogoi, and Ananya V** each conducted their own focus study groups. Younger students from Deepti Designs discussed the topics Resilience, Self-Reflection, Vulnerability, Stepping Up Together, and Community Rising, to create creative compositions. Kavya, an alumna from Deepti Designs, adds, "I loved seeing how art brought everyone together to promote social change and awareness. My group, specifically, worked on producing an idea for self-reflection and in the end, we decided on an Indian girl in modern clothes looking into water and seeing herself wearing traditional Indian wear. We also decided to incorporate a 'Tree of Life' to symbolize how our history and background can shape the person we are today! All in all, I am really proud of all the artists and bright minds that collaborated on this wonderful project and am honored to have been a part of this!"



## IACS WORKSHOP

At the beginning of the month, Deepti Designs partnered with IACS to host another art workshop. Over 45 kids from IACS participated, with volunteers **Ananya, Anishka, Aadhya, Srinidhi K, Srinidhi M, Prisha, and Keerthana** leading the groups. The groups worked on bringing to life the five sketches from the focus group study event by adding some color. The canvases built will be auctioned in the IACS annual fundraiser gala, Milan, in March. Overall, the kids had a great time painting together and the canvases turned out beautiful!



## NAYAKAR ART

Deepti Designs is hosting yet another workshop in partnerships with **Aditiyeva Studios**, this time highlighting **Nayakar art**. Nayakar art is a century old art form originating in Tamil Nadu and features bold figurines, sharp lines, and a very unique color scheme. The Nayakas



used to work as chief-men for Vijayanagar rulers and later became independent when the empire fell. In fact, the word Nayaka translates to "leader in all aspects". The Nayakas were also great patrons of architecture, the arts, and literature. The workshop will be taught by Shilpa Shastra artist **Ms. Shanmughapriya** on February 18th, 19th, and 25th online from 8:30-11:30am.

Visit [www.deeptidesigns.com/nayakar](http://www.deeptidesigns.com/nayakar) to register!

# HTCC TEMPLE MURAL

It is exciting to announce that we are in the last leg of the HTCC Temple Mural project! The core team comprising of **Ms. Deepti Agrawal, Ms. Nikita Thakalath, and Ms. Deepthi Ganesh** has been tirelessly coordinating the effort for over six weeks and the 13ft x 18ft wall mural is almost ready in all its glory. There have been an upward of 500 man-hours employed in the project with over 35 volunteer artists enthusiastically contributing their time, energy and efforts into bringing this vision to life. The story "Govardhan Giri" has been depicted in the painting which is a popular cultural folklore. Krishna is shown lifting the mountain on the little finger of his left hand while the villagers seek shelter under it.

This project is an excellent endeavor of bringing Madhubani culture back to its traditional form. In olden days, groups of women met up in the afternoons and worked on murals together while chatting, singing folk songs and telling & retelling stories from scriptures. A similar environment was created at the site location over last six weeks where the artists bonded over art while winging their creativity. We thank the volunteers for stepping up and helping out.



## CHERIYAL WORKSHOP

On January 28th and 29th, Deepti Designs hosted the **Cheriyal Workshop** with Aditiyeva Studios. The art was of a Kanuma or Mattu Pongal scene as January is month of the Pongal harvest festival. The artist featured was **Mr. Dhanalakota Vinay Kumar**, who taught the art of Cheriyal. Cheriyal is a type of scroll painting from Telangana originating in the 13th century and is unique to other Indian arts because it uses regular human figures to show daily life instead of only mythological epics. Mr. Kumar inherited the art practice from his father Mr. D. Vaikuntam, who is a National Awardee and taught the art to his four sons.

Mr. Kumar's works are showcased in prestigious museums all over the world and Deepti Designs is very delighted to have had the opportunity to Collaborate with him.



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Deepti Designs has been invited to host yet another workshop at the **KCLS Lakehills Library** in Bellevue.

We would need four volunteers for the event! Please reach out to Ms. Deepti Agrawal if interested. The date and time are as under -

**March 12th from 2pm-4pm**

Events > **Madhubani Art: Design a Wooden Bookmark**



Madhubani Art: Design a Wooden Bookmark

Sunday, March 12, 2023 Add to Calendar  
2:00PM - 4:00PM  
Lake Hills

### CONTACT INFO

Contact: Maria  
Email: [mmark@kcls.org](mailto:mmark@kcls.org)

### Lake Hills

Address:  
15590 Lake Hills Boulevard  
Bellevue WA 98007

Get Directions  
Phone: (425) 747-3350

Monday: 10:00AM - 5:00PM  
Tuesday: 1:00PM - 8:00PM  
Wednesday: 1:00PM - 8:00PM  
Thursday: 10:00AM - 5:00PM  
Friday: Closed

## QUIZ

Congratulations to **Lakshmi Egappan** for being the first to finish last crossword puzzle within 3 hours!

The next Crossword is right here - [bit.ly/february\\_crossword](http://bit.ly/february_crossword)

The first person who accurately finishes the puzzle will be featured in our next edition. Please send a screenshot of the solved puzzle to [newsletter.thebeacon.dd@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.thebeacon.dd@gmail.com)