

**Konkan Gyanpeeth**  
**Uran College of Commerce and Arts**  
**Best Practice of the Institute-01**  
**(During the Period 2014-2015 to 2018-2019)**  
**Title: knack {search-development-success}**

**Introduction:** Extra Curricular activities encourage the students to show their hidden talent. Our college has a very strong cultural activities. Cultural Committee finds out and promote the interest of the students and give them opportunity to participate in various cultural activities. Due to this participation in various cultural activities, we observe that there is mould in students' personality.

**Objectives:**

1. To find out the hidden talent, career desires in the students in extra curriculum activities.
2. To provide them a platform that helps to boost their confidence, memory, language skills.
3. To promote social awareness among students and frame a broader mind set to eradicate narrow mindedness from the society.
4. To provide them with a great exposure that helps them identify the pros and cons of their interests.
5. To shape their dreams and make them confident enough to withstand the competition and help them to make a better career.

**The Context:**

We believe that apart from syllabus it's the extra curriculum activities that help the students explore their potential and develop their personalities. We help students gain self-confidence and stage daring through involving them in activities such as elocution, debate, storytelling, skit, one act play, mime, mono acting, folk dance and events of fine arts such as mehndi, rangoli, poster making, on the spot painting, clay modelling. The practice has taken its roots since the formative years of the institute but the boom started from the year 2012. The start of the activity has witnesses very low response in the beginning but due to continuous efforts and mentoring it started to improve and has been reaching till the peak stairs in the recent years. The practice is conducted after selection of appropriate students in the month of July in every academic year. The practice is systematically planned by the Chair person and members of cultural committee and is supported by every employee of the institute. We appoint judges possessing versatility in cultural activities and fine arts. The major challenges that we face is convincing students to show up their talent for the first time it requires proper counselling which is done by our professors, lack of infrastructure which we overcome by providing them nearby vacant halls, the most challenging part is convincing the parents as we belong to a rural area parents do not permit their wards for such careers and to change this mind set we conduct several talks with parents through general meetings and have personal talks with them and assure safety and security of their wards.

## **The Practice:**

The practice plays a very important role in the personality development of students as along with the academics they get full support pursuing the desires that help them gain skills such as script writing, voice modulation, character improvisation, language skills, stage daring, sharpens their mind with valuable thoughts that make them adaptable to the changing society and develops broader mind set. We try to imbibe ethical behaviour and sensitization in students by developing a good understanding of the societal matters.

The students are provided with all the amenities and experts in the fields, directors, choreographers, make-up artists, musical instruments, art directors. The halls are made available for the practise sessions throughout the year. The uniqueness of the activity is that every year the college creates awareness about the social problems and works to develop a better society through the medium of street plays, mime, mono acts, one act play which are considered as the effective mediums of spreading awareness and changing the perceptions of the society.

We conduct the selection round in the month of July. Mentors are told to motivate and identify the hidden talent among their mentees. For this, we call the student Coordinators of cultural committee for the campaigning of the programme. The Professional directors Mr. Gaurav Relekar & Mr. Nikhil Palande are called for the further guidance and preparation. The students are then categorised in different activities on the basis of their skills and capacities. The practice sessions start right from the next day of selection and we first start the preparation for the University Youth Festival. We prepare and participate in the competition on various themes that would help to raise a voice for the social issues in the society and help them develop themselves and raise their morale.

All the members of the college actively participates in the practice session by performing various activities of motivation, confidence boosting, themes selection, script writing, etc. On the admission of First Year, the already selected students conduct the talent hunt in them.

The themes are selected on the current societal issues such as road accidents, technology and loss of human touch, Save Girls, Rape cases, LGBT community, anti-plastic, job pressure-insomnia, mother and we, glory of dark, taboos of menstruation cycle, life after death of mom, mob lynching, stop smoking, changing habits & lifestyle, peace. The students and the choreographers put their sincere efforts and continue the practice and performances round the year.

After the University competitions the students are motivated to participate in the various other competitions like Lokankika, Atal Karandak, Ichal Karanji where too we have received special recognitions and rewards. We also try that students get a platform to explore themselves in YouTube Albums. In these years they got many chances to perform in Marathi albums released on YouTube in the songs sung by Shankar Mahadevan, Mangesh Chavan, and Rohit Raut, etc. Even DLLE of or college also benefited of this. Students participates in UDAN festival organised by Mumbai University. The performed street play and received best award in street play competition.

### Participation in activities:

Year	No. of Participants in Intercollegiate Youth Festival	No. of Participants at College Level	No. of Participants in UDAN Festival
2014-15	23	206	20
2015-16	26	192	16
2016-17	28	163	15
2017-18	33	146	13
2018-19	36	123	14

### Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

The major challenges that we face is convincing students to show up their talent for the first time it requires proper counselling which is done by our professors, lack of infrastructure is the next big issue as doing of such activities requires a big space which we overcome by providing them nearby vacant halls, the most challenging part is convincing the parents as maximum students belong to a rural area parents do not permit their wards for such activities and to change their mind set we conduct several talks with parents through informal meetings and have personal talks with them and assure safety and security of their wards. The activity requires huge funds for hall booking, director fees, makeup kits, instruments, costumes, etc which is provided by the college. There are numerous problems but we take all possible measures to overcome them and we have tried to reach the optimum level in available resources



