

**Artreach + KNMA Teaching Fellowship with Rainbow homes**  
**Final Report by Aastha Mishra**



The journey of art has its exceptionality, every picture portrays an individual's innermost expression and thoughts whereas the materials and surroundings also add narrative to the image-making. Moreover, the material has its own tactility, history and individual connection which helps to bring out a profound display of ideas and its appearance.

Throughout this fellowship, our main approach has been making children engage in understanding the different aspects of visual art by introducing them to a small glimpses of history, techniques with easily available material , that they can playfully combine with their creative thinking.

This report includes our experience and insight during the course of fellowship and the personal observations of the participants in care homes. It discusses the method and the methodology used and scope of building the process further.

This Teaching Fellowship started from December 2021 to April 2022 with children from RAINBOW HOMES( Kilkari Home). I conducted these workshops with a group of 10-12 participants both offline and online via Zoom. In collaboration with the Artreach team, we decided to work alternately with one offline and one online workshop. Unfortunately, because of the covid scenario, most of our workshops were restricted to the online platform but throughout the workshop, the Artreach team was very supportive in terms of guidance in designing the course and making arrangements helping me building bond with the children because of their constant support, the workshop went on smoothly and due to the online sessions, children from other care homes like UDYHAN CARE AND KHUSHI HOMES were also able to join us.

These workshops were conducted on alternative Sundays and roughly lasted about two to two and a half hours. The points I mainly worked on for this fellowship were Relationship with and

- *Understanding of one's surroundings ;*
- *Guidance on new techniques to develop fresh imagery which was unknown before by giving them a reflection on elements and principles of art and by showcasing examples from art history and artist's life to provide a glimpse of our journey of art in past.*
- *Creating art with available materials*

The purpose is to establish their creative thinking, and motivation for self-discovery along with helping them understand their surroundings through the medium of art.

Also, giving them the motivation to

continue the exploration of their artistic journey with or without someone mentoring them. Through these exercises, my main agenda was to provide a new perspective of learning, that also highlights their growth, and self-involvement as well. Using art as a tool to think, in diverse ways in different situations seemed important.



## WORKSHOP

We began each workshop with an icebreaking exercise which was either visual or movement , listening and assuming (observation) based, and sometimes we added music, idioms, and random shapes to make it more playful and fun. Then I introduced the concept for the workshop with a presentation slide that included references and different artistic approaches to it. Later on, we asked them about their reading, understanding, and their perception of it, after which I gave them a live demonstration of the techniques to give them an idea of how they can use the materials and we tried some basic drawing to make them understand what other way is possible or they can explore and try in their image-making. Then the main time slot was dedicated to their making and towards the end of the session, we used to have a small discussion about their ideas, the story of the work, and what they feel about their imagery.

# ICEBREAKER GAMES SKETCHES WITH AUDIO, MUSIC, AND SHAPES



## WORKSHOP -1 ( 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cave Paintings)

In this workshop, children create their version of cave period-inspired images where they were portraying their stories and imaginations on paper. We crumble the sheet to create wall texture .In the first part of the session, we showed them images of CAVE PAINTING OF BHIMBETKA, LASCAUX, ALTAMIRA and we had a discussion on their reading of those images. Later on, providing them with quick, basic & simplified construction of human and animal drawings which they can use in their image-making.



KIDS WORKS







## WORKSHOP -2 -FIGURE STUDY WITH COLOR THEORY

The workshop involves a brief introduction to colors theory and the construction of human drawing and with these, they created a composition.



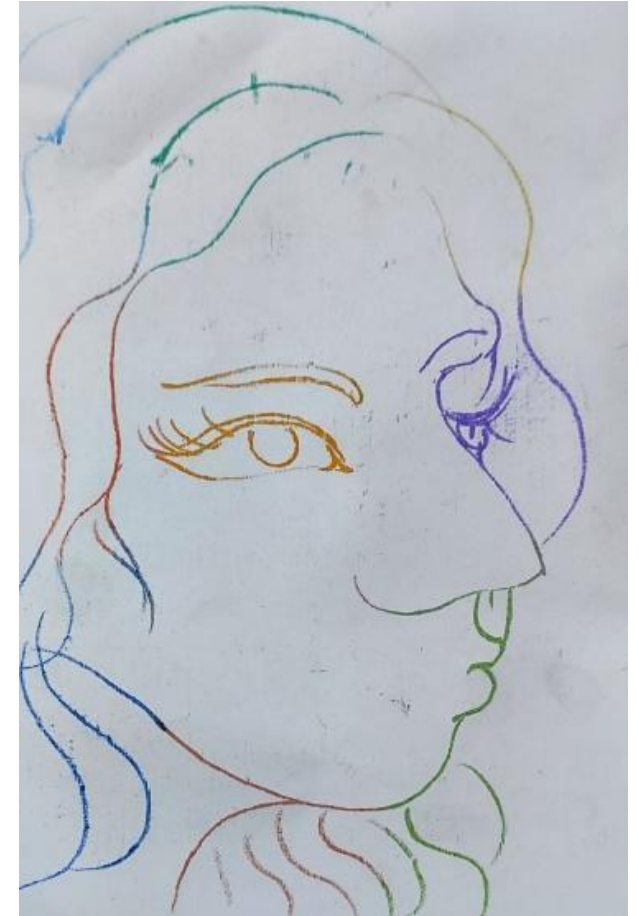
## WORKSHOP -3 – PORTRAIT (MONOPRINTING)

In this workshop, I introduced them to portrait drawing and taught them the proper construction of portraits in the first phase of the workshop.

In the second phase, we made portrait monotype printmaking with oil pastel and pencils.



Demo work



## WORKSHOP -4 ( NATURE STUDY )

In the first phase of work, I showed the participants a slide presentation of artists' paintings that uniquely portrayed nature and ask them to observe the visual difference and representation in each artwork.

K.G Subramanyam



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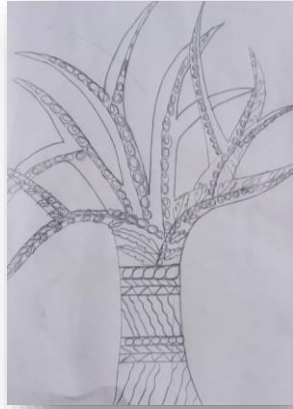


Then I showed them real images of mundane trees, then they made drawings of trees using charcoal, impressions, designs/patterns, lines, and colors ( any two or three shades)

reference image example



All of them produced intriguing artworks in the end.



## WORKSHOP -5 COLLAGE

In this activity, we showed them collage works of Binod Bihari Mukherjee, and later on, they made a collage with available materials ( newspapers, magazines, rough sheets, pencils leftover, and found materials which are available in their surrounding). This exercise's main agenda was to process the sensitivity of different materials when they merge with an idea of what kind of imagery will reflect the combination of these two.

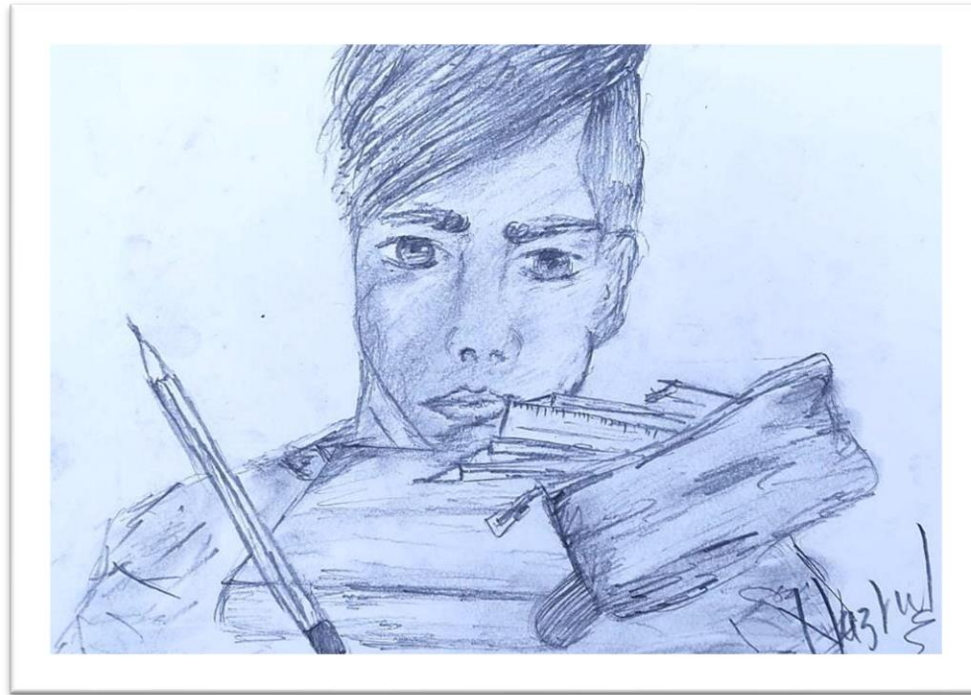
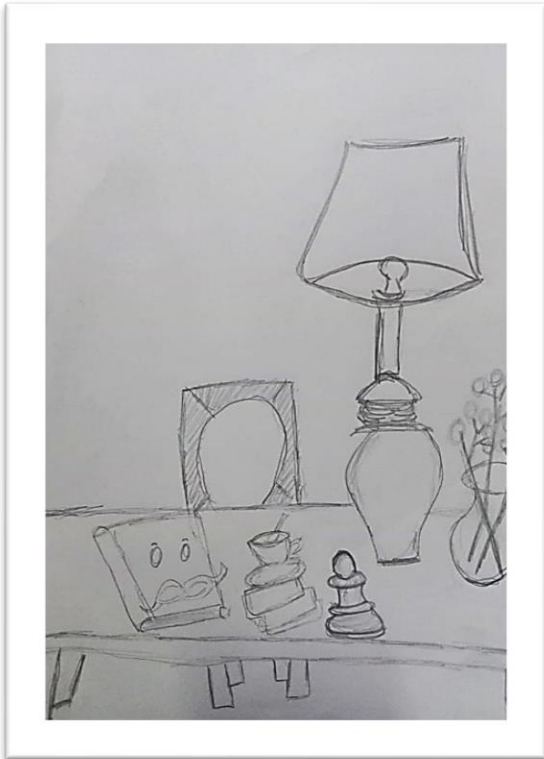




## WORKSHOP 6

### STILL LIFE WITH SELF

In every activity, I tried to merge the old lessons with the new ones so that participants will be able to recall their previous learnings. In this activity, they made a version of their self-image with inorganic objects. Each work displays inimitability and silent conversation they did with objects.





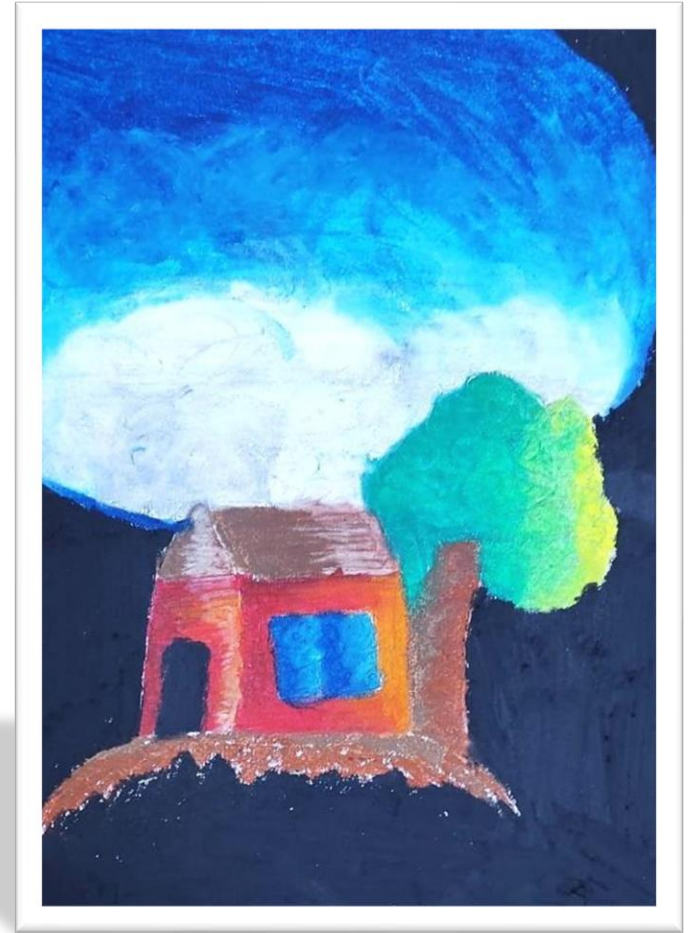
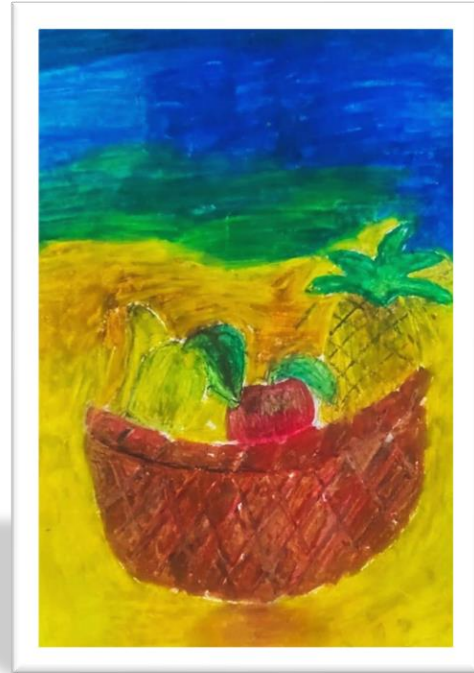
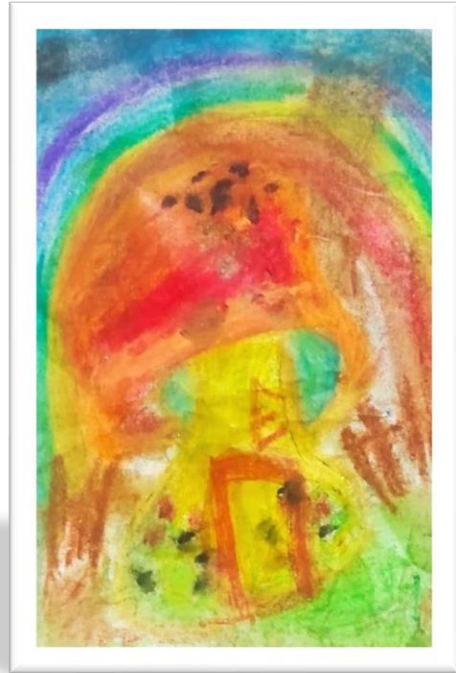
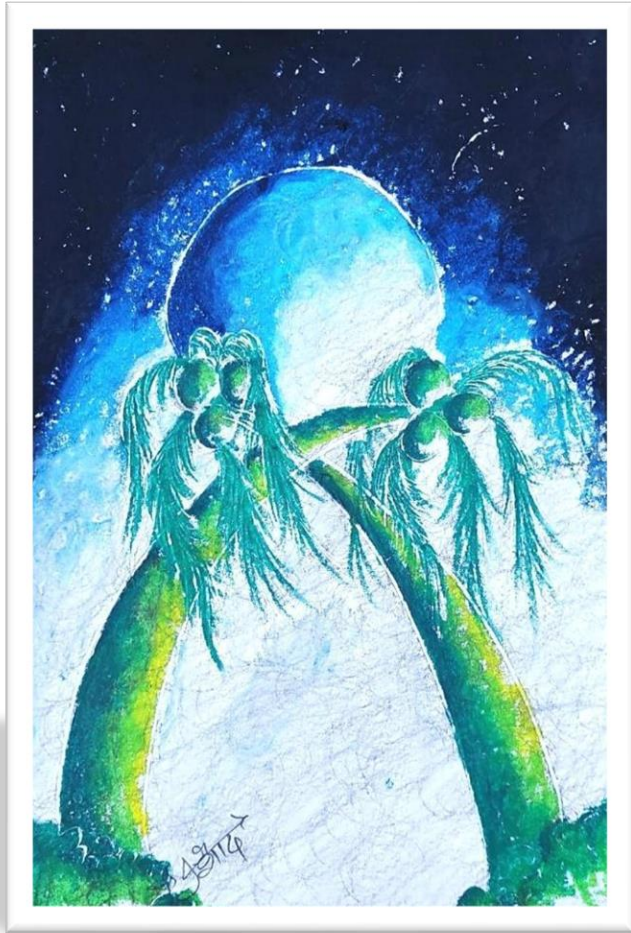




## WORKSHOP -7

### ART CREATION WITH OIL AND IMPRESSIONS.

The workshop involves the experimentation with texture in the form of the intaglio technique with the use of other hard materials like a pencil or the back of a pencil depressed below the surface so that an impression from the design yields an image in relief and for creating tonal variation we used oil with oil pastels to create an impression of oil painting effect in form of impasto technique. The subject of each artwork participating is imaginary-based.



## WORKSHOP -8 PUPPET MAKING ( CHARACTER DESIGNING )



<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BY7snvr-KUh8wqiUyZyaL3mzsEFQkhjh/view?usp=drivesdk>

It was my second on-ground workshop with Shivangi at Kilkari homes. Workshop showcasing the sarcastic expressions and narration of participant's own created characters, which they made with cardboard cuttings, newspapers, and found materials. In the first phase, they followed the geometrical construction of the human body and animals demonstrated by me, which help them create a character body proposition and also work as a structure. In the later phase, they use their found materials and newspaper cutting to character their puppets.

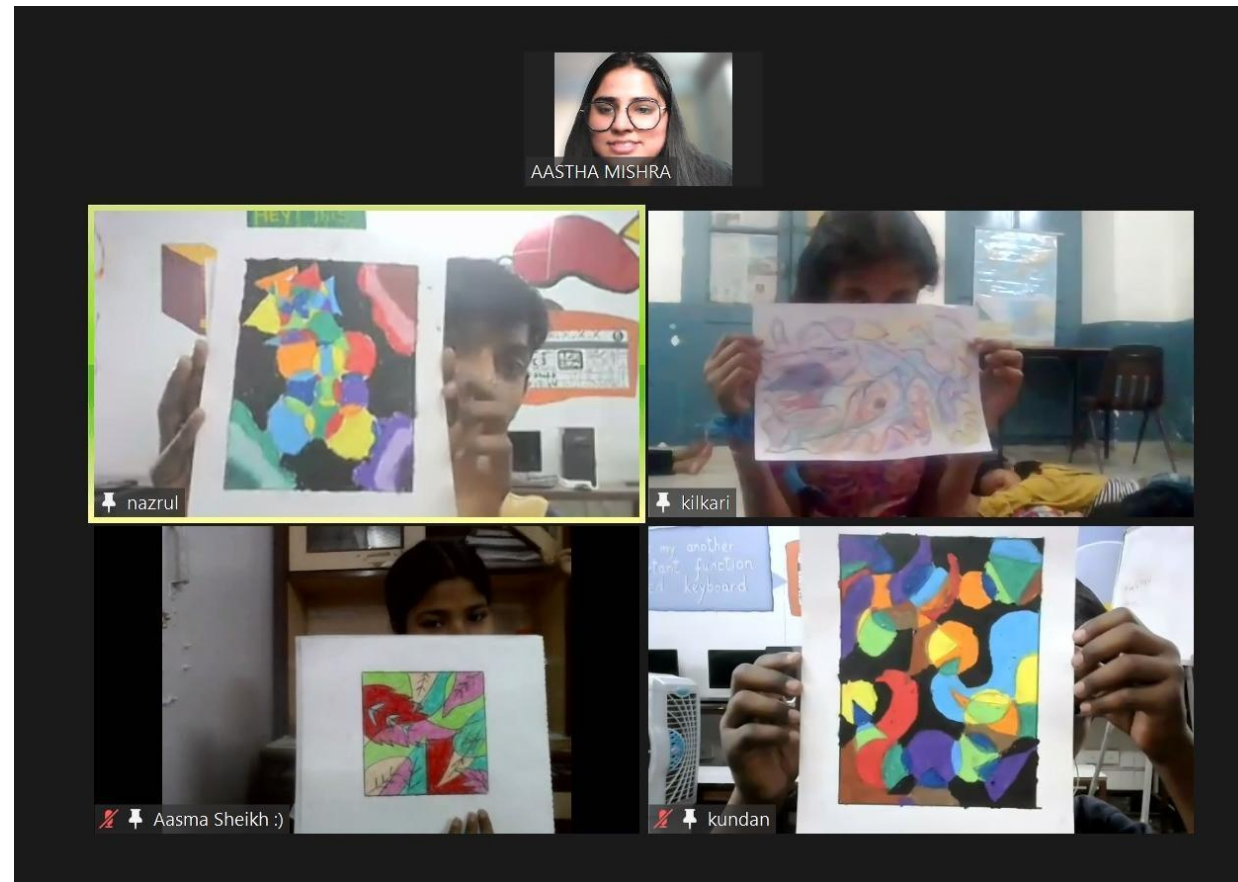
Throughout the process, Shivangi was a great supporter who worked with us and provide us new perspective to make this exercise more exhilarating. She made an animated clip with her phone of these puppets which eventually turn out a marvelous piece.



## WORKSHOP -9

### 2D DESIGN

In this activity, participants compose 2D designs with only 2 dimensions – length and width. They selected elements like leaves, fishes and shapes, etc for their creation and also use their previous sessions' color theory and worked with complementary colors.





## WORKSHOP -10

### CALLIGRAPH AND STENCIL PRINTING

The participants created self-portraits with their surrounded found materials, they use these found materials in a collagraph print and used the impression and texture as background whereas they made stencils of their portraits and compose them together.

Students with their artworks









The whole fellowship was a great experience and exposure for me. The artreach team was an amazing companion throughout the fellowship. Both Shivangi and Anarya helped to understand the process, in terms of building the course, and handling the workshop and guided me in each area patiently.

However we faced some challenges also, the on-ground workshop is more convenient as compared to the online, but I found that some of the students were not able to connect on the online platform because of the unstable connectivity or technological issues whereas on the ground they perform with full enthusiasm and their final exams date clashes also affects our batch strength because they were so occupied with their own studies. From what I observed and discussed on a regular basis with kids, they also wanted the technical aspects of the art process, especially for the students studying in 10th, 11th, and 12 th class, who wants to learn art in detail. They have a brilliant & creative minds and seek to learn something new daily. Another area that they enjoyed a lot is working with new materials and techniques.

The advantage of the online classes was that the students from other homes also were able to attend the sessions, all of them are brilliant young artists in their own unique ways. The online platform helps in removing the distance and allows more children to explore with creativity.

Students absolutely love to narrate their creations, they associate wonderful stories which they create while image-making. In the end, when they present their artwork and explain it to us it fills them with joy.

Art doesn't have any perfect picture, it is what we mold gradually with our thought, emotions, and imagination. Artreach initiative helps them in collecting their pieces and providing them routes to their art journey.