

ANNUAL REPORT



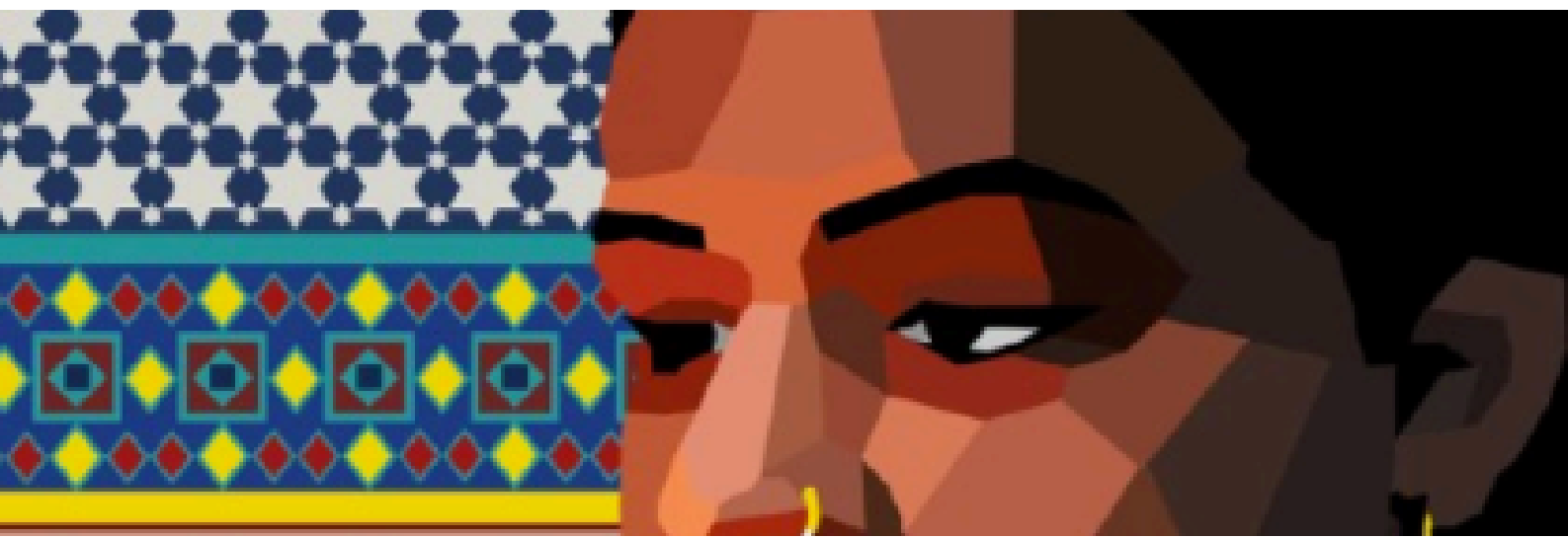
2020 - 21



ABOUT

Aravani Art Society aims to embrace the people from the Transgender Community, friends from the LGBTQIA+ communities and a few cis - allies by creating consciousness, well being through art, awareness & social participation.

Aravani Art Society is a Trans-women and cis-women led art collective that aims to create a space for people from the Transgender Community, to come together to create, collaborate and work on several Artistic projects. Our work of art happens in collaboration with Transgender artists who have been trained to paint and execute commissioned art projects.



VISION

While the visibility of Transgender people, Gender non- confirming people and folks from the queer community is increasing in popular culture and daily life, they still face everyday discrimination, stigma and systemic inequality. Aravani Art Society's mission is to bring about change in the way the society views the LGBTQIA+ community by advocating the idea of reclaiming spaces in this world through different art projects and raising awareness to create a voice for the community through the Arts.

MISSION

We advocate **the idea of reclaiming spaces in the society** by creating different art projects to raise awareness and **to create a voice for the community.**



We are finding magical ways to engage with the people from the Transgender community and other LGBTQIA+ people to come out in the public spaces and feel confident, safe and belonged.

We are slowly working with cis- women from other marginalized communities and the informal sector to widen our spectrum of intersectionality and it is a need of the hour.

We create safe spaces for alternate voices through art.

We examine their spaces of innovation, the places of their history and create room to learn by transforming this knowledge into a form of public art. The streets are a particularly important place to do our work, as it is in these public spaces that the bodies of Transgender identifying people attract violence, harassment, social negligence and pressure. Cis - women and young girls from other marginalized groups are also vulnerable and susceptible to unsafe situations.



Our mission seeks to respond to various lived experiences, stories and real life situations by creating spaces that encourage exchange, discussion, openness and debate surrounding gender identities using art as a tool.

**Better
Together**

INTRODUCTORY MESSAGE BY THE PRESIDENT

For the past few years I have been using public art to **enable social participation**, to engage peacemaking and to create awareness around social issues. As a wall muralist, freelance artist, amateur anthropologist, story keeper and the founder of Aravani Art Society, my purpose of using the Arts for the betterment of the society collectively has been a driving force and the encouragement has brought us this far. Aravani art Society is a **collective for people** from the transgender community, queer community, children, women and sometimes men. We have formed a collective to access public spaces, to break stereotypes, creating awareness and **more visibility to celebrate** unity and equality with the people from the **Transgender community**, sex workers and the informal sector by and large. By making art together we are seeking to gently reshape these politics of **inclusion and exclusion** that surround gender identities. The struggle for **accepting and understanding** the identities of Transgender individuals exists in each society, race, and class. We are now **finding more magical ways** to engage the community to come out in the public spaces and feel confident, safe and belonged.



GOVERNANCE

The Aravani art society is registered under the Society Registration Act 1960, with the association of seven committee members as follows:

- Poornima Sukumar - President
- Sadhna Prasad - Vice President
- Aditi Ashok Patkar - Secretary
- Karan Kaul - Treasurer
- Nila M - Committee Member
- Chandrakumar N - Committee Member
- Shanthi M - Committee Member

Details of the Members

Poornima Sukumar

Designation: President

Occupation: Business

Sadhna Prasad

Designation: Vice President

Occupation: Business

Aditi Ashok Patkar

Designation: Secretary

Occupation: Employee

Karan Kaul

Designation: Treasurer

Occupation: Employee

Nila M

Designation: Committee Member

Occupation: Employee

Chandrakumar N

Designation: Committee Member

Occupation: Employee

Shanthi M

Designation: Committee Member

Occupation: Employee



on formation of the society



Bangalore,
October 8, 2020

LEGAL COMPLIANCES

The ARAVANI ART SOCIETY has been registered under, the **Society Registration Act 1960**. We have the legally complied **80G** and **12A** Certifications and PAN and GST registered for the operations.



YESTERDAY
TODAY
EVERYDAY

IN-HOUSE MEETINGS

Our In-house meetings is all about,
Collective decision making,
Addressing the challenges,
Setting goals, discussion on on-going projects
and it also becomes a safe place to share their
day to day chores, problems and difficulties
they face in the society as a community.

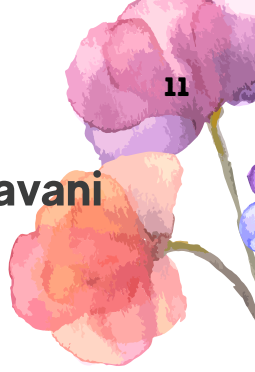




We meet all the teams of the Aravani art society in Bangalore, Chennai, Mumbai and Delhi at different intervals of time.



Meeting with the Aravani Bangalore team and Mumbai team



VOICE FOR THE COMMUNITY

OUT REACH

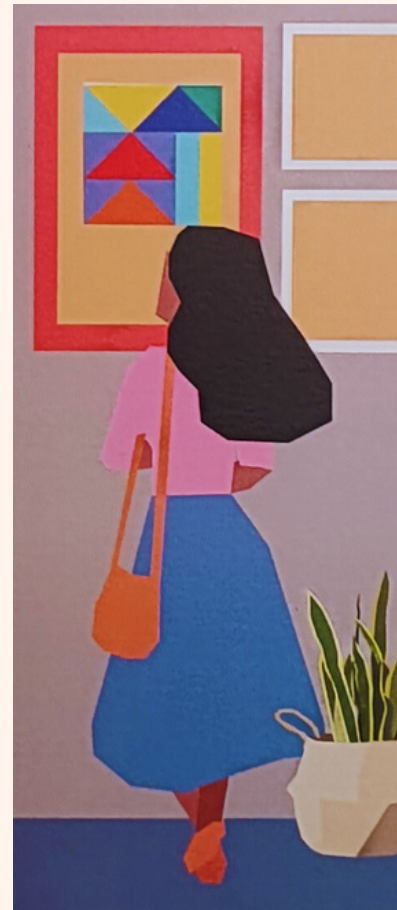
October - February

PHOTOGRAPHY WITH KANIKE

In collaboration with Kanike Studios

The workshop and the process has been enriching with the heartfelt stories and musical event by our transgender artists.

Following this, we had a beautiful exhibition called, "KATHEGALA KANIVE", at their studio space. We had a lot of visitors and we were overwhelmed with the response to the show.





musical event by the
Transgender community ¹⁴



Inauguration



PROJECTS OF THE YEAR

October

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA METRO STATION -

The mural is a recognition and acknowledgement of **'Lions of COVID'** and was inaugurated in the presence of Bengaluru police commissioner Kamal Pant, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Commissioner Manjunath Prasad, member of Parliament from BJP PC Mohan, Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited MD, Ajay Seth, and Sandalwood actor Samyukta Hornad. Conceptualized by the team at **95 Mirchi**, 'Lions of COVID' is a way of saying thanks to frontline workers.







November

AAROGYA SEVA -

A wall mural collaboration with, "**Doctors for Seva**", an international organisation that brings together doctors, surgeons and other health care workers to volunteer in places of need. For this, we painted their premises in Jayanagar, **Bangalore**.

The organisation has been very instrumental through the pandemic for various supplies and medical work.





December

AUSTRALIAN CONSULATE -

Canvas painting for the **Australian Consulate** in **Chennai** representing the friendship between the two countries Australia and India.



February

LOVE GROVE COMPOUND WALL, MUMBAI -

The artwork consists of everyday people from macho Mumbai so that we remember that the city moves because of its people, the colours, textures and patterns.







March

FLOATING CANVAS PROJECT -

Beautification of a long wall in a area in **Mumbai** called, Prabhavathi. The theme was to focus on the **forgotten side of Mumbai** which is its **Flora** and **Fauna**.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS



October

A SPECIAL SHOW WITH RADIO MIRCHI 95

The mural we painted in **SWAMI VIVEKANANDA METRO STATION** is a recognition and acknowledgement of '**Lions of COVID**'. Conceptualized by the team at **93.5 Mirchi**, '**Lions of COVID**' is a way of saying thanks to frontline workers.





December



BUGURI LIBRARIES -

Buguri libraries work with children from the waste pickers' community. Their first library in Bengaluru's Banashankari was a small rental space close to the community where waste pickers live. The library was inaugurated on 26th of November, 2017 with Children painting the walls along with our Transgender community.



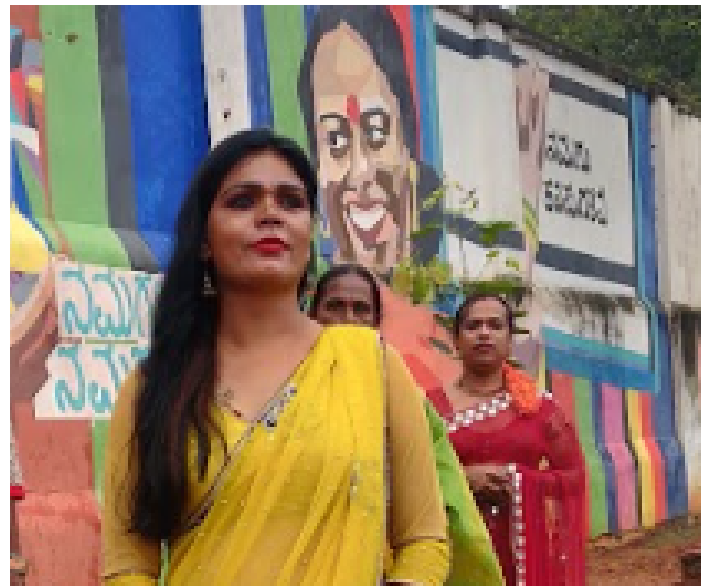


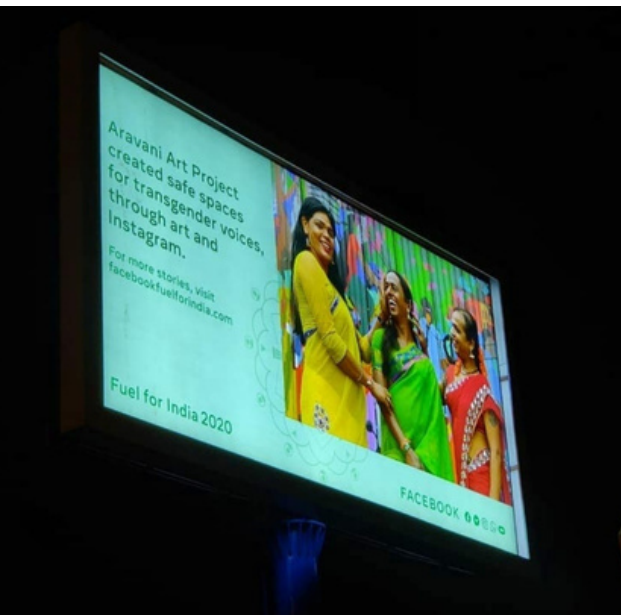
December



HOARDING SHOOT -

The Hoarding shoot was a collaboration with **Instagram**. It was a moment of pride for us, we did not imagine that we would be on hoardings **across India**.







The walls of Swami Vivekananda Metro Station near Indiranagar donned a new look on Monday. Murals, graffiti and patterns celebrating the spirit of frontline workers and healthcare professionals, who are fighting Covid-19, now adorn over 4,000 sq ft area of the station's wall. Ten transwomen and five cisgenders took part in the initiative by Aravani Art Project, a women and transwomen art collective, in collaboration with Nippon Paint Private Limited, in September



“The responses we received have been very interesting. Many applauded our work, some cheered for us and some whistled in appreciation”
Poornima Sukumar |
 FOUNDER OF ARAVANI ART PROJECT

Facebook app Sponsored

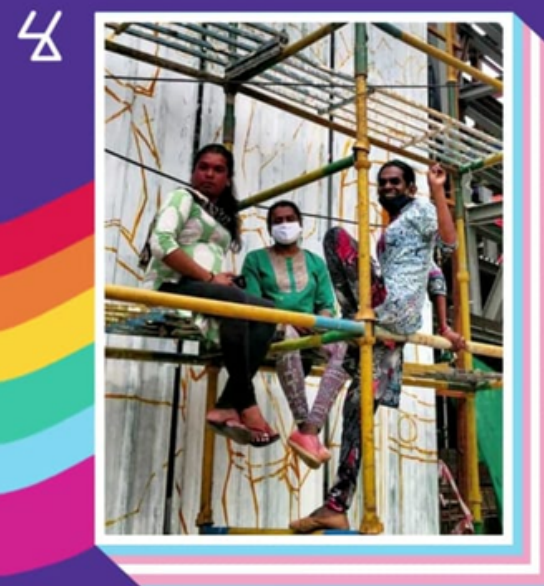
This International Transgender Day Of Remembrance, explore a mural painted by the Aravani Art Project—a collective of cis-gender and trans women, in collaboration with the Museum of Art and Photography
 Drop a ❤️ to show your support to the transgender community 🏳️‍🌈 #ArtOfIndia

To know more, visit:
<https://map-india.org/the-aravani-art-project/>

SALUTING THEIR SERVICES



Members of the transgender community in Bangalore and artists painted the walls of the Swami Vivekananda metro station to pay tribute to Covid warriors. It was an initiative of the Aravani Art Project. DH PHOTO/S K DINESH



Arty makeover

The wall near Worli's Love Grove pumping station has been adorned with a brand new mural. Titled Darroj Mumbait or Everyday Mumbai, it depicts Mumbaikars engaging in daily routines. The theme highlights the fact that the city moves through its people. The mural has been painted by Aravani Art Project, a collective of trans and cis women artists, in conjunction with St+art. Its founder, Sadhna Prasad, said that the goal of this two-week undertaking was to create a design that celebrates the local communities while not being so visually complex that it distracts traffic drivers.





Thank you

INCLUDE | PARTICIPATE | ENABLE through the ARTS

LOVE AND EQUALITY TO ALL

@aravaniartproject 

