

A PLATFORM UNVEILING THE IMMENSE CREATIVE POTENTIALS OF 500 UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN, ‘MAKKALA RAAGA’



[THE OPTIMIST CITIZEN](#) JANUARY 31, 2018 2K VIEWS

To bring forth the talents of those whose potentials otherwise remain hidden behind rags of dust, filth, discomfort and unrest, Makkala Jagriti, an NGO working with children and youth from the underprivileged communities, is holding an event ‘Makkala Raaga’, at **Chowdaiah Memorial Hall in Bengaluru on February 2nd, 2018.**

The event marks the 15th year of Makkala Jagriti’s establishment and this esteemed platform will ignite the dreams of several children from marginalized communities who have had no opportunity to perform in front of a huge audience and showcase their talents. Makkala Raaga, meaning ‘Symphony of the Children’ is an ensemble of 500 children and youth from the underprivileged and marginalized communities to showcase the rich cultural heritage, diversity and inclusiveness of Karnataka. In this captivating two hour dance – drama musical, children will be portraying the philosophical and geographical heritage of Karnataka through a dance drama musical through classical and folk traditional dance forms: Kathak, Kamsale and Gee GeePada, subtly involving martial art and yoga postures as well. These children, who face deprivation at multiple levels, seldom come across opportunities to showcase their immense talents, apart from the annual PrathibhaKaranji competitions, conducted by the Department of Education. The privilege of performing on a grand platform in front of a huge audience remains

a distant dream to these children. Having worked with underprivileged children for more than 15 years, Makkala Jagriti has witnessed the lack of opportunities and exposure to the underprivileged children. The event is a culminated effort of working with children to provide them exciting opportunities in non-academic avenues such as fine arts, performing arts, sports and martial arts to ensure their holistic learning and development.



Makkala Jagriti, meaning ‘Awakening of Children’, established in 2003, is an NGO that creates learning spaces, which transform children and youth from marginalized communities into confident, capable youngsters who can access mainstream opportunities. They achieve this by setting up Holistic Development Learning Centres in Government Schools, Community Centres and Govt. Homes for Children. By entering into a formal collaboration with the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan, Department of Education in Karnataka to set up Learning Centres within Govt. School to provide holistic learning and development, the organization strengthens the public education system. Their children have managed to carve a unique path for themselves in a challenging and competitive world. The interventions of the organization have impacted nearly 23,000 children so far. It is currently working in 90 Anganwadi Centres for enhancing school readiness of children aged 3–6 years, 32 Holistic Development Learning Centres in Govt. schools and community centres for children aged 6 – 14 years and 2 Yuva Cafes for the empowerment of youth aged 15 – 30 years.



The organization takes immense pleasure in thanking the sponsors and supporters of the event like Spark Capital, the title sponsor, and event sponsors like Target and many other individual donors, who have donated through crowdfunding on Global Giving, Impact Guru and other sources.