

Editorial

"I take joy in growing and expanding my awareness."

- Deepak Chopra

Happy New Year! *"Synergy is what happens when one plus one equals ten, or a hundred, or even a thousand! It's the profound result when two or more respectful human beings determine to go beyond their pre-conceived ideas to meet a great challenge."*

Dr. Stephen Covey

The last couple of months, we have witnessed the "I To WE" philosophy played out in our successful fundraising efforts and events. Spreading Awareness of the cause via social media and our events accelerated the importance of the early detection message in keeping with the October International breast cancer awareness month.

The collaborative efforts of artists through the Gallery Art & Soul, PASSAGES and Khelshala, as well as all the various donors, sponsors and well-wishers had one and only one motive - to serve and provide to those who are compromised and less privileged! The altruistic contribution of all at Gallery Art & Soul, their tirelessly working towards a bigger cause selflessly is commendable. A big Thank you!

Kaya Shewakramani

AWARENESS DRIVE

2nd November 2018:

Passages was part of the NGO Mela at the Willingdon Club, Mahalaxmi. Spreading awareness of several charities to the member community of the club ; this was a well attended event organized by Aarti Vakil.

22nd December 2018, Mumbai:

Passages was given a stall at the **Cusrow Baug Sports & Welfare League at the Annual Christmas Fair** on Saturday, 22 December 2018.

Thank you to Arti Vakil and Farzin to help Spread. the awareness message to the Parsi community.

The cARTpet Project 21st October 2018 at Blue Sea, Worli:

A spectacular display of a limited edition of hand woven art carpets in wool and silk, curated by Brinda Miller and Tarana Khubchandani were exhibited for sale. The artworks were from renowned names in the Indian art world namely Ram Kumar, SH Raza, Jehangir Sabavala, S.H.Raza, Badri Narayan, Krishen Khanna, Anjolie Ela Menon, Manu Parekh, Satish Gujral, Thota Vaikuntam, Rekha Rodwittiya, Sudhir Patwardhan, Senaka Senanayake, Shuvaprasanna, Suryaprakash, Paresch Maity, Brinda Miller, Baiju Parthan, Sujata Bajaj, Seema Kohli, Jayasri Burman, Neeraj Goswami, Rini Dhumal, amongst others. A big heartfelt thank you to all the contributing artists.

The event was well attended by artists, well wishers, donors and art lovers. Part proceeds from the sales were donated towards the "Illness to Wellness" program of the PASSAGES ' Medicine Bank. Through this patients are supported for chemotherapy and radiotherapy through the entire duration of the treatment.

The afternoon event was hosted graciously by Blue Sea. Our sincere gratitude to Neelu & Joy Kapur, along with Neelima Daruwala and her team at Blue Sea. It's only with help of such patrons that we continue to spread the message of early detection and awareness, along with the importance of the Breast Self Exam.

The ROJA girl Madhoo Shah was wonderful as the MC for the days program and highlighted the activities that PASSAGES attempts to do over the last 20 years.

Well known Bollywood stars Suneil Shetty took up the mantle once more to stress the importance of early detection, while re iterating the importance of regular check ups. PASSAGES was commended for their efforts in this area.

Our three guest medical specialists, Dr. Vinay Deshmane (Oncosurgeon), Dr. Vijay Haribhakti (Oncosurgeon) and Dr. Duru Shah (Gynaecologist), in their very informative talks covered a variety of topics regarding the same. Pertinent questions were also raised by a very interactive audience. The session was followed by Brunch and a vocal performance by the very talented Sarosh Nanavaty , Shaun Khubchandani and Payal Kilachand. Over 250 people attended this event and appreciated the efforts, donating generously towards the cause.



Volunteers acknowledgments :

We are grateful to the following for volunteering their time and contributions. Without these PASSAGES ' Pink Angels' our team would be incomplete.

Deepa Navani, Deepa D'sa, Rashna Doongaji, Jaya Kewalramani, Gautam Shewakramani, Saanchi Gilani, Tejeshwar Sharma, Binaifer Havaladar, Payal Kilachand, Kanchan Khubchandani, Deepa Khubchandani, Kanchan Parikh and Payal Wadhwa.

A big thank you to contributions from TouJours cookies , COO (Country of Origin),The Candle company, Lyn nail art, Vanilla Meil tarts and desserts.

A huge vote of thanks to Wiz craft who sponsored the set up for the afternoon & Floral stems - Manisha Pamnani created an enchanting ambience to support the Pink ribbon cause.

A big thank you to Zampa & Sovereign wines for adding cheer to the afternoon. Donations from several young entrepreneurs increased the medicine bank funds.

Breaking Barriers 27th November 2018, At Jehangir Art Gallery:

The fundraiser "Breaking Barriers" held in collaboration with Passages, Gallery Art & Soul and Khelshala (an NGO) showcased at the Jehangir Art Gallery. Both organizations working to change and impact lives of others.



The magnificent Galloping Filly horse sculptures designed by celebrated sculptor Arzan Khambatta and various leading and contemporary Indian artists had adopted the sculptures gave each filly head an individualistic signature style ; transforming it into a highly coveted work of art. Part proceeds from the sale of these horseheads were donated towards the Passages Medicine Bank.

Our young CAS student Viir Khubchandani from Cathedral School gave an informative presentation on KHELSHALA -an organisation from Chandigarh - that runs an institute providing sports, yoga and nutrition to 80 under privileged children.

Eminent film personality, Ms. Twinkle Khanna, graced the show and in her address, emphasized on the fact that with privilege comes social responsibility – a point that was appreciated by all present!



The show stopper of the evening was Sujata Bajaj's 8 foot sculpture designed by Arzan Khambatta..

It was a memorable evening, bringing together the cohesive effort of 3 organizations.

TMM - United Way Mumbai Marathon

21st October 2018

at Blue Sea, Worli:

The event showcased the great spirit of this city in supporting the many charities and causes. Passages had some young, athletic Pink Angels who enthusiastically took part in the Marathon to raise awareness for the Cause of early detection and necessity of regular screenings. We had 5 runners this year.

A big thanks to Tanya & Akshay Khubchandani, Neha Lodha, Tanvi and Ankita Mittal.

Ankita Mittal, has been a Marathon Runner for the past 10 years, and has successfully completed 9 full marathons and 14 half marathons. She ran in support of PASSAGES to raise funds for the cause. Thank you for helping us make this event such a stupendous success.



VOLUNTEER SPEAKS



Ritu Saraf went to visit the medicine distribution camp held at CAMA Hospital on 24th Dec'18. In her words..

This was my first time in CAMA Hospital, Mumbai. I went to witness the PASSAGES medicines distribution camp, which is held Bi-Monthly. This turned out to be an impactful moment, when I saw a huge que of people patiently waiting outside the consulting room where the PASSAGES workers sat with bags full of free medication, & waiting their turn to receive their monthly doses. The line stretched outside the building as well.

They came from the remotest villages of Maharashtra & in few cases the local staff & relatives stood in line to collect medicines to courier to their loved ones in far off villages. Two staff members from PASSAGES were very friendly & sympathetic with the patients & their families, explaining them the doses & helping them with any other queries. Most of these people were regulars & I managed to speak with many to understand the importance of this MEDICINE DISTRIBUTION CAMP. The patients depend on these medicines & are tremendously benefited with the treatment. The medicines distributed are Letrozole Tablets & Tamoxifen Tablets.

Both these are for BREAST CANCER treatments. I realised that there are hundreds of women in need of these medicines & cannot afford quality treatment. Thus when good quality medication is offered to them, it is a life saving moment for these people. I realised that there can never be enough of these medicine camps. Hence when we donate for the Medicine Bank, it translates into multiple life saving moments & is the true sense of HOPE in the lives of patients & their families.



This work must go on & it is only that the support of the donors which makes for more under privileged people get help & hope in their lives.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Health Screenings in collaboration with Kasturi foundation to be held on 10th February 2019

“Fun Surprise” workshop on 28th February 2019 from 11 am -1pm with Arzan Khambatta. Limit 20 persons.

Passage’s “Sharing is Caring” Women’s Day celebration lunch on 7th March 2019 from 12.30 pm to 3 pm.

