A people’s palette
Drawing a Broader Canvas

The arts make us whole; they are what endure in civilisations, the intangible that brings life to life. This is true and one emphatically endorses the rhetoric, but we are at a time when the majority of people in the world cannot even dream of bringing that enhancement to their barely sustainable lives. In the Global South, this is the starting point for philanthropies working in the arts.

A report released earlier this year by the nonprofit Sahapedia states that India’s Ministry of Culture has been allocated an average of 0.11 percent of the central government’s annual budget over the last decade. This is the reality that informs how the trickle of funds available for the arts is optimally utilised, how we design programmes and who we design them for, and how we can invest in small, strategic steps that lead to greater realisations.

People and infrastructure are the pillars here. Art is a human construct and practitioners need infrastructure to flourish. Enabling systems are needed to allow for passions, pedagogy and practice to determine lasting expressions.

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1947 Partition Archives launches the Trusts supported Universities Access Program

Week-long conversations with Trusts supported fellows and academics marked the launch of the Tata Trusts-1947 Partition Archives Universities Access Program designed for researchers to access nearly 10,000 oral histories preserved in the 1947 Partition Archives collection.

Till date, 17 fellowships have been completed with 9 more fellows to be engaged between September and November 2021.

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Tata Trusts Art Conservation Initiative

Training Courses in Conservation of Oil Paintings and Stone Sculptures commenced in September and October, at Kolkata Institute of Art Conservation and Himalayan Society for Heritage and Art Conservation, respectively. Designed as intensive practical courses, they will equip the graduating conservators in the practice of conservation of oil paintings and stone.

Previous editions of the newsletter can be accessed here.

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