



Department of Mass Communication and Journalism,
St. Joseph's College,
North Point, Darjeeling,
WB – 734104.

Departmental Report- June 2024 to June 2025

Submitted by: Dr. Smriti Rai, HOD, Department of Mass Communication & Journalism.

Event Report: Meet and Greet Session with “Tara” Team, officially selected for Marche Du Film, Festival De Cannes 2024.

Time: 10:30 AM onwards

Date: 05.06.2024

Venue: MR Hall Auditorium, St. Joseph's College.

No of student participants: 98

List of achievements: Interaction with filmmakers, actors and intensive discussion about film making.

The Department of Mass Communication and Journalism at St Joseph's College, Darjeeling, hosted an engaging interactive session with the esteemed filmmakers of "Tara: The Lost Star," a captivating Nepali-language social drama directed by renowned Sikkimese director, Samten Bhutia. The event, held in anticipation of the film's worldwide release on June 14th, served as a platform to celebrate the film's recent selection for screening at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival. Director Samten Bhutia and lead actor Shyama Shree Sherpa, alongside actors Kiran Dahal from Nepal and local talent Deoraj Sherpa, graced the occasion with their presence.

Attendees were treated to invaluable insights into the making of the film, its poignant storyline, and the remarkable journey of bringing Himalayan narratives to a global audience. Filmmakers shared their experiences, underscoring the significance of this milestone for both the region and the broader film industry. The selection of "Tara: The Lost Star" for screening at the Marché Du Film, the official film market of the Cannes Film Festival, was hailed as a remarkable achievement, showcasing not only the rich cultural heritage of the Himalayas but also the growing acclaim of regional cinema on the international stage.

Participants expressed their enthusiasm and pride in witnessing a Himalayan film garner recognition at such a prestigious event. The event highlighted the talent and dedication of filmmakers from the region, marking a pivotal moment in the history of Sikkim's burgeoning film industry. As anticipation builds for the film's Cannes debut, "Tara: The Lost Star" promises to shine a spotlight on Sikkim's cinematic prowess, captivating audiences worldwide with its compelling narrative and vibrant depiction of Himalayan culture.

Vikram Rai, Head of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism at St Joseph's College, Darjeeling, emphasized the department's commitment not only to imparting mass media skills but also to promoting local cinema from Darjeeling and Sikkim. Established in 2005, the department has been a beacon for nurturing talent and fostering creativity in the region's film community. The interactive session concluded with heartfelt applause and best wishes for the filmmakers as they embark on this exciting journey to Cannes, carrying the aspirations of the region's film community with them.



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Event Report: Frames 2024- Annual Student Music Video and Short Film Festival

Time: 10:30 AM onwards

Date: 07.06.2024

Venue: MR Hall Auditorium, St. Joseph's College.

No of student participants: 120

List of achievements: Interaction with industry experts and discussions on film making.

This festival is an important exposure for the students of the department to showcase their talents. There were a total of 3 entries comprising of short films and music video. The winner of the short film festival was Sangharsh# Support Local artist which dealt with supporting local artists. The music video was won by Anoutho, as it was a remarkable story about finding motivation against all odds. The judge was Mr. Rinchen Sherpa, former student of the department, who has now ventured into professional filmmaking.





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Event Report: Parents teaching meeting of 1st, 3rd and 5th , and 2nd , 4th and 6th Semester students

Time: 10:00 AM onwards

Date: 31st August, 2024, and 22nd April, 2025

Venue: MCJ Seminar Hall, St. Joseph's College.

No of student participants: 105 and 98

List of achievements: Interaction with parents, development of students discussed, upcoming university results discussed.

Parents teachers' meeting was conducted for all odd and even semesters after the publication of results. Students' progress, attendance, activities and their zeal towards class hours were discussed individually by the faculty members with guardians. As parents raised concerns regarding the overall attitude towards graduation, the department cleared the air, as Mass Communication is a skill driven course citing the work and placements of former students. Parents although was disappointed with the results, as the students were putting less efforts, however, the students too feeling the disappointment and the gravity of the situation, assured their own parents and guardians regarding better results.





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Event Report: Inspiria College - inter-college festival Insvaganza

Date: 11th and 12th March, 2025

Time: 12:00 PM- 3:00 PM

Venue: Inspiria College , Siliguri.

No of student participants: 27

List of achievements: Interaction with other colleges, inter-college events encouraged confidence and patients, quick thinking was developed and the streak of competitiveness.

With lively energy and fierce competition across a wide range of disciplines, Inspiria College in Siliguri hosted the inter-college festival **Insvaganza** on the 11th and 12th March, 2025. Many colleges enthusiastically participated in the two-day event, and St. Joseph's College left a lasting impression, particularly in the events pertaining to mass communication.

Pritha Datta, a third-year Mass Communication student from St. Joseph's College, won second place in the Film Quiz competition on the first day 11th of March, 2025. Pritha demonstrated remarkable knowledge throughout five demanding rounds of competition against competitors from six to seven other colleges. These rounds featured questions about media history, famous movie dialogue, identifying Bollywood and Hollywood scenes, guessing actors, and predicting well-known characters. There were eliminations in the competition following each round, with a tiebreaker at the end, which added to the excitement. As a result of her outstanding performance, Pritha was awarded the Runners-Up Trophy and a Certificate of Achievement.

Significant awards were given to St. Joseph's College in both Mass Communication competitions, highlighting the students' skill, originality, and diligence. The students had their outstanding performances in the Film Quiz and Photography Competition. Mass Communication, St. Joseph's College students earned accolades in both the Mass Communication events, giving a testament and witnessing the win of the talent and hard work of their students.





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Event Report: St. Joseph's College Shines at Frameline Short Film Festival

Date: 08.04.2025

Time: 10:00 PM- 5:00 PM

Venue: Department of Mass Communication, North Bengal University,

No of student participants: 12

List of achievements: Quick thinking was formed, a competitive streak was fostered, and confidence and patience were nurtured through interactions with other institutions and intercollegiate events.

The Department of Mass Communication and Journalism at North Bengal University recently hosted “Frameline – A Forum for Cine Art,” a short film festival that brought together young filmmakers from across the region.

Among the participants were students from St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling, who made a strong impression with their creativity and storytelling. The 6th semester students won the Best Cinematography Award for their excellent visual work, while the 4th semester students received the Best Film with a Social Message Award for a film that touched hearts and sparked thought. The students credited their success to the guidance of their teachers and the constant support of Fr. Sanjiv Lakra, Director of the SFC Departments. The event was more than a competition—it was a celebration of ideas, teamwork, and the love for cinema. For the students of St. Joseph's College, it was a proud and inspiring moment.





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Event Report: A Day of Inspiration with UPSC Achiever Ms. Zofila Dotkar

Bhutia Date: 24th April 2025

Time: 3:00 PM to 5: 00 PM

Venue: Police Town Hall, Near Darjeeling Motorstand

No of student participants: 78

List of achievements: Interaction with UPSC topper, career guidance and counselling by Shri Praveen Prakash, IPS.

On 24th April 2025, the Darjeeling Police hosted a heartfelt felicitation and interaction program to honor one of Darjeeling's proudest achievers—Ms. Zofila Dotkar Bhutia, who cracked the UPSC Civil Services Examination 2024 with an impressive All India Rank of 765. The event warmly welcomed sixth-semester Mass Communication and Journalism students from St. Joseph's College, who gathered at the Police Town Hall with curiosity and admiration. The program kicked off with a thoughtful speech from the Superintendent of Police, Shri Praveen Prakash, IPS. He shared valuable insights about preparing for the civil services, touching on the importance of staying focused and not letting today's digital distractions—like Instagram and Facebook—get in the way of big dreams.

After the SP's inspiring address, a bouquet was presented to Ms. Zofila as a gesture of admiration and celebration. Then came the moment everyone was waiting for—Ms. Zofila's speech. She spoke from the heart, sharing her journey, the challenges she faced, and what kept her going. Her words were not just informative, but deeply motivating. The event became even more engaging when students got the chance to ask their questions. Both the SP and Ms. Zofila answered with honesty and encouragement, taking time to explain the three key stages of the UPSC exam process in a simple, relatable way.

By the end of the event, the hall was filled with a renewed sense of purpose. Students walked away inspired—not just by Ms. Zofila's success, but by her humility, clarity, and strength. It was more than a felicitation; it was a reminder that with determination and the right mindset, even the toughest dreams are within reach.





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