

Distinctive Practice: Earn While You Learn

Objectives

- To provide opportunities to students to earn while learning to meet their expenses.
- To expose the students to the world of work before actual employment.
- To give students hands on experience to boost confidence to face the world of competition.
- To instill the students with a sense of belongingness and involvement in the development of the College.
- To inculcate in the students values of hard work and dignity of labour.
- To channelize the energy of the young students in positive activities.

Context

In the present context, owing to the increasing rate of inflation, many students are unable to pursue higher education. In order to address this problem, the Dept. of Fashion Designing, SD College, Hoshiarpur provides a great opportunity to the students to meet the expenses of their studies through an initiative called “Earn While You Learn”. Besides, this program is aimed at improving the skills of the students, boosting their self-confidence and making them independent. In this direction, the department organizes a number of workshops and exhibitions.

Practice

This initiative of “Earn While You Learn” teaches students to make handicrafts which can bring them a handsome earning. Students can learn bakery items, pottery, making decorative items, and various types of fashion designing items. Besides, skills like rangoli making, poster making, clay modeling, rakhi making, etc. are also taught to the students. The items prepared by the students are mostly sold out in various exhibitions organized in the college. During 2019-2020, the Department of Fashion Designing conducted an Art & Craft Workshop on 2/8/2019; a Mehandi designing competition on 14/8/2019; a Mehandi Application on Karva Chauth on 16/10/2019; an Eggless Baking Workshop on 16/11/2019. Besides, students prepared gifts for resource persons during National Seminars organized by Dept. of Computer Science on 19/2/2020, and by Dept. Languages on 7/3/2020. Apart for this, under this scheme, students also prepared masks which were donated to the general masses during the lockdown period.

Evidence of Success

“Earn While You Learn” attracts variety of students because it does not only provide them with an earning but also boost their confidence to support themselves and their families as well. Every year, the college organizes various exhibition-cum-sales in the college which is a testimony that the college is providing the students with a truly meaningful skill.

Resources Required

This initiative does not require any resources which are beyond the reach of the students. The college has already provided them with a fully-equipped fashion designing lab. The raw material is easily available and the students also use discarded items to develop attractive pieces of art.

Challenges

Although, the said activities were successfully concluded, yet the journey throughout the year was swarming with various challenges. The major challenge was posed by COVID-19 which hit the various activities under this initiative like workshops and exhibitions. Besides, the absence of an adequate job market, and fair markets to sell the products are major challenges for this scheme.