



# ARTREACH INDIA

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## changing lives through art

### Volunteer Residency Information

Artreach India is a charitable trust that connects practicing visual artists with NGOs working with children in and around Delhi. Projects are voluntary where the typical outcome of an interaction is a mural in the children's space.

The children really enjoy the process of mural-making: the brainstorming of ideas on paper, during which time they pick up new techniques, the transferring of their ideas on to the wall, and finally the painting. Of course they then get to live with the outcome, and enjoy their work for as long as it lasts.

*"My experience with you was very nice. I don't even know how to draw and paint but you came to Jamghat and did many activities with us. The activities were excellent and I learnt something new about drawing in those two days. I want to say 'thank you' for your guidance and for the beautiful mural!"*

*Arbaz, 13 years, Jamghat*

We have partnered with NGOs Salaam Baalak Trust, Aman Biradari-Rainbow Homes, Jamghat, Karm Marg, Udayan Care, Yuva Ekta Foundation, Vidya, Bal Sahyog and SPYM. Our volunteers have been Indian and International artists (several from the prestigious Royal Drawing School in London). Projects can last from one day to two weeks, depending on the space and time available to the artist.

Artreach takes pride in managing each project with great care and sensitivity so that the experience for all participants is transformative, something they will never forget.

If you are interested in working with a group of children, please email our Programme Officer, Aryan at [artreach.india@gmail.com](mailto:artreach.india@gmail.com).

Before starting, we'd also like to see a CV and one reference and to have a written note on how you would approach the mural making process.

## Experiences of artists:

“The mural at the Jama Masjid Shelter was a unique artistic experience as we collaborated with kids and women who have a life completely apart from ours with often no art, and yet with colour I felt we could connect beautifully! Both days were filled to the brim with conversation and laughter, and somehow through it we ended up with a whole wall of art and many paintings on paper. I found it inspiring to have the kids express themselves so well through drawing, with no training at all. I really enjoyed talking and hearing their stories through the work process as well.”

***Ita Mehrotra, Urdu Park Shelter***

“After two months in Delhi, I spent an incredible last week painting with the children at the Salaam Baalak Trust. I had been drawing a lot on the streets of Delhi, but working on the project allowed me to properly interact with the children. I loved watching the boys' different takes on the project, most had an enthusiasm for painting anything and everything in arms reach, but nothing could beat watching the enormous dedication and attention of some, to painting a line of penguins or the detail on a snake.”

***Tyga Helme, Contact Point II, Salaam Baalak Trust***

“Working with Artreach and the Salaam Baalak Trust was a fantastic and rewarding experience that I shall never forget. In a week we transformed a depressing and claustrophobic room into a bright and uplifting space for the children to live in.”

***Lettie Blackett, Apna Ghar and Contact Point II, Salaam Baalak Trust***

## From our partner NGOs and children:

“Nothing in life is more beautiful than colours, and colours that are spread by you on the wall of our home are even more beautiful because of the love and affection you have put in it. We highly appreciate and admire your hard work and effort. It's only because of you that our walls have become a piece of art in many ways. Your presence gave our children a sea of opportunities to learn new things and look at things differently. You have inspired them to do things in their own ways. Nothing could have better than this. It was an honour to have you with us. Let there be many more such opportunities in future.”

***Rashmi Singh, Home Leader at Kilkari, Aman Biradari - Rainbow Homes***

“Together with renowned artists, they not only created something beautiful and creative for the kids in our centres but also got sponsorship for funding the entire project at both the places. The children immensely enjoyed working on the mural paintings and are very proud of their work. This hands-on experience also helped in teaching children about life skills such as teamwork, the power of imagination, discipline, creativity, enthusiasm for learning new things, and some recognized

their hidden talents. In spite of the constraints in space and resources, the organizers put in their best to ensure that the project was done in a gentle, caring and collaborative manner, bringing out the best in all involved. The artreach project has made a very positive impact on the children in our centres and we look forward to their continuing support in our work.”

***Poonam Sharma, Executive Council Member, Salaam Baalak Trust***

“I loved wall painting. That time doing mural with you was a very good time of my life. I felt very good and was very happy with you. I want you to teach me more. Thank you for coming to Jamghat and spending so much time with us.”

***Faruq, 15 years***