



NEWS FROM HOINA HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

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Her Artistic Talents Shine

*By Lily Streaker
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Student*

Exploring a new culture completely different from everything I have ever known was an eye-opening experience that I will remember for the rest of my life. I was touched by every person I came in contact with, and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to visit HOINA in India.

I had the honor of painting two walls at HOINA, where I could come up with the designs on my own, pick out the colors, and complete them on my own time. I was completely flabbergasted and excited after being asked if I would be interested in the task. Overjoyed by the thought of Dr. Fyfe and Mrs. Large thinking of me as an artist really meant the world to me. I knew I had to create two aesthetically pleasing and meaningful ideas to represent York College, the inevitable beauty and wonder of HOINA, and what it has done in India to change these kids' lives. First, I started the wall that



Lily stands at the wall that she painted on the HOINA campus.

was near the chapel. Keeping in mind this was a painting that would remain on this wall for a year or so, I wanted to create something not only memorable but also pleasant for the children to look at every day. I decided to use a picture of a really great composition that I had taken the first day of the entrance to HOINA with the astounding and vibrant color of the pink fence in contrast with the green

vegetation and the blue on the roof of the security stand. I added a York College flag inside the gate, to represent our being there with the specific year we came, and a rainbow to symbolize a truly special and joyful place such as I had never seen before.

Painting outside and listening to the birds and other peaceful sounds was an incredible experience. What stuck out to me the most was how

continued on page three

HOINA Grad Responds to COVID Crisis in India

[Editor's Note: In the midst of the pandemic, our HOINA grad, Hema, has been working with her medical school, doing COVID-19 testing and contact tracing in the city. Medical care can be hard to obtain by the poor when there is no disease outbreak, so you can imagine how difficult this situation is. Our prayers are with Hema, her classmates, and all the front-line workers, who are caring for so many patients. So far, our campus remains untouched. We have had an Indian board member and family affected, so we do ask for your prayers that our HOINA people would be protected and safe.]

Greetings,

This is Hema, and I'm studying in my 3rd year for BHMS (Bachelor of Homeopathic Medical Science).

I like to write a letter to you, because Mom tells me that you are helping in our work and giving your best. I honestly say that, today without HOINA it's very difficult to imagine our lives. You people are helping so many number of lives. Such a pure heart you have. We are so fortunate though our parents were died, God arranged you people for us and showing his love through you. We love you.

Thank you so much, Hema



Above & left: Hema gathering data from the public regarding the COVID-19 crisis in India. Below: Hema and her medical science classmates.



Artistic Talents

continued from page one

eager and willing the children were to keep me company or even assist me in painting. From a distance, they would see me painting and run from wherever they were just to say “Hi” to me, or to help me paint in any way they could. They would ask me where each color should go or where they should stop painting. I had never had helping hands before when working on a large piece, but I truly loved the collaborative process! Spending time with the kids was one of my most memorable and favorite parts of the trip besides the art I was graciously asked to create. I felt like this is where I really connected with the boys and girls. We talked about topics that were more specific to each particular child because we were in a quiet place where the environment was perfect. I learned so much about how different the schooling process is, the government, job opportunities, weather differences, and so on. The highlight of my day was to do something I love in such a magical place, alongside the sweetest children.

The second wall I was asked to paint was the wall right by Mrs. Large’s apartment on the top of the girls’ courtyard and dining hall. This wall was significantly bigger, and I was intimidated at first but definitely up for the task, of course. I had a thumbnail sketch or two I created. After Mrs. Large picked her favorite, I got to work immediately. My design was a colorful almost abstract background filled with colorful shapes, with the main focus being the letters of HOINA, all in uppercase but hollow, where I would create pictures inside the letters that I felt really embodied India or that were specific to the orphanage. Unfortunately, I fell very ill, so I was not physically able to finish the second wall, which I was, and still am, very disappointed about. However, Mrs. Large, being the wonderful person she is, said she liked it just how it was, which made me feel great.

This unforgettable trip has woken me up on the inside, not only artistically, but in every other way, shape, and form. HOINA has touched me in a way I have never felt before, because I can genuinely say that I have experienced true happiness, kindness, and love in such a unique way that will stay with me forever.

Christmas Needs at HOINA

This year we hope that all of our children will be back on campus by Christmas. While that decision ultimately



remains with the Indian government, we are hopeful that things will start to open back up in a few months. We want to be sure to have funds for a proper celebration ready for our staff and children. The distance between our HOINA children and those on campus has been deeply felt. Please pray that this pandemic will soon be under some semblance of control. When it is, we know that families and friends around the world will be ready to rejoice and come together again.

HOINA’s Christmas Fund allows us to buy gifts for our children and give bonuses to our Indian staff members who do so much to run our homes with dignity and love. Please consider sending something to our office with the coupon on page 4.

HOINA is a 501(c)3, tax-exempt organization with international headquarters located at:

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October 2020

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