



SW Newsletter

Feb'23

"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you."

B.B. King



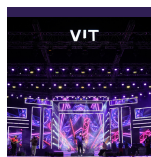
Clear Morning View, VIT Lake -By Tanishq Niraj Shah (22BMA0020)

Monthly Highlights



01. Heritage Visit Vellore

Office of Students' Welfare Office at Vellore Institute of Technology successfully organized a one-day Heritage Visit to Vellore.



02. Riviera'23

Riviera 2023 had the theme of Revive the Era, while we took forward the 20 year-old legacy with grace, caution and pride.

"When you are doing any work, do not think of anything beyond. Do it as worship. As the highest worship and devote your whole life to it for the time being."

Swami Vivekananda



Heritage visit Vellore – Golden Temple and Fort Temple



After a severe pandemic, on 11th February 2023, our Student Welfare Office at Vellore Institute of Technology successfully organized one-day Heritage Visit Vellore for the International students of the class of 2020. Embarked on a tour to visit two of the most significant historical places in South India: The Golden Temple & Vellore Fort and traveled in a VIT bus. The first destination was the Golden Temple and visited the main temple, were captivated by its beauty, and learned about its history. The students also took blessings from the god and had a group photo taken to commemorate the visit. The group then proceeded towards the Vellore Fort after a short recreation time on the way. At the fort, the students engaged in sightseeing and explored the architecture and history of the monument. The fort has a rich historical and architectural significance, having been built by the Nayak Dynasty and later fortified by the Vijayanagara Empire. During the tour, the students were able to witness the grandeur of the fort, which was surrounded by a moat and had multiple gateways. They also explored the fort museum, which showcases various artifacts, including weapons, sculptures, and coins from different eras. The foreign students expressed their gratitude to the university authorities for organizing such an informative and educational trip. The tour enabled them to learn about the rich cultural heritage of South India and helped them gain insights into the country's diverse history and traditions. In addition to sightseeing, the students engaged in team-building activities during the bus journey, which allowed them to connect with each other and share their cultural backgrounds. They sang songs from their home countries and shared stories about their unique traditions, language, and food. The team-building activities helped the students to get to know each other better and appreciate the cultural diversity within the group. The international students from different countries shared their experiences and perspectives, which fostered a sense of unity and understanding. The activity also helped them to appreciate the similarities and differences between their cultures and build lasting friendships. The tour was a valuable learning experience that created lasting memories for the students. The Student Welfare Office has introduced the 'Cultural Experience + Base' model, which is an organic blend of traditional culture and study tours. The Student Welfare Office thus plays an important role in the development of cultural exchange. As a bridge and envoy of cultural exchange between countries, it helps to spread the best of Indian traditional culture to the rest of the world.



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Rivera'23

Rivera is the Annual International Sports and Cultural Carnival of VIT, Vellore. With all of its beauty and prominence, it is one of South India's largest student fest, boasting the most notable entertainers in the Indian entertainment scene. Since its inception in 2002, Rivera has grown not only in terms of student participation but also in the quality and quantity of events, media coverage, and international recognition has reached insurmountable heights. The aim is not only to nurture leadership qualities among students but also to bring oneness among the student communities. This 4-day saga witnesses over 45,000 students from 700 universities and colleges from 45 countries in Asia, Europe, and Africa. From swimming to cricket, from comedy shows to music concerts, from literary events to gaming competitions, from marathons to cultural parades, Rivera has it all!

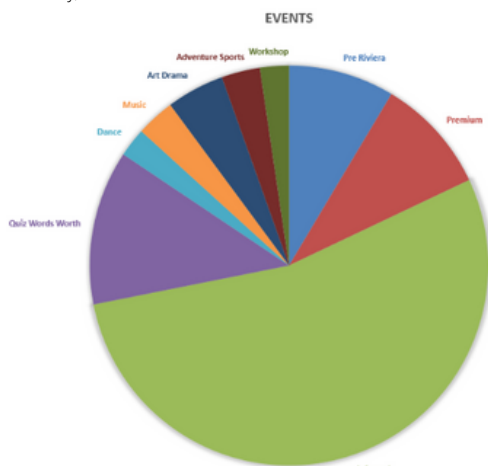
The four-day cultural and sports fest of VIT Vellore, Rivera 2023 had the theme of Revive the Era, while we took forward the 20-year-old legacy with grace, caution, and pride.

Prior to the official start of Rivera, pre-events were held that included both sports and cultural activities. The festivities began on February 11th, 2023 with a competition called "school-a-coaster," which was designed for government school students and featured spelling and math challenges. The event drew 550 participants from 16 schools in and around Vellore and awarded cash prizes totaling 30,000 rupees.

As part of the Rivera celebration, a marathon was organized to raise awareness about mental health. Held on February 23rd, 2023, the marathon attracted more than 3000 students from VIT as well as 1000 external participants. "Run for Mental Health" was followed throughout the marathon.

Rivera 2023 was officially declared open in the inaugural ceremony that happened on 23rd Feb, 2023 with Indian International Cricketer and Former Indian Team Captain Mr. Ajinkya Rahane as the chief guest for prize distribution to the marathon winners.

Rivera 2023 saw an enormous growth both in terms of number of participants and the number of events. This time, we saw inclusion of 62 new events which translates to almost of 43% of total events. This list includes, but is not limited to 16 premium events, 52 formal events, 73 informal and gaming events. Pre-Rivera Events commenced on 11th of February. We had a total of 11 Pre-Rivera Events among which there were events based on Sports, Music, Art, Comedy, etc.



Rivera'23 also witnessed 4 Societal benefit Events. 23 sports events for men and 13 sports events for women were organized under the Pre-Rivera sports. 19 sports events were organized for Rivera Sports which included Cricket, Handball, Volleyball, Tennis, Table Tennis, Football, Basketball, Badminton, Throw ball, Snooker, Chess, Athletics, Mr.Rivera are among the few to mention

Agaaz, our own comedy event which featured reputed comedians like Biswa Kalyan Rath, Rahul Dua, Gurleen Pannu and Ashish Solanki. We also had Fitness based event, Zumba 6.0 that gave its participants the glimpse of joy filled fitness training.

On the February 19th we had a very Popular & Premium Tamil Cultural and Heritage event called Sangamam. It was graced by talented artists like Pugazh, Abhishek Kumar, On the streets of Chennai, Sam Vishaal and Maanada Mayilada (Vikram Dance team). The event seem to be the trailer to the cultural extravaganza of Rivera 2023, fun-filled and fantastic.

Also, on the 19th day of February, we had a Pre rivera Telegu event called Jaagruthi. It had people coming from various walks of life. One of the renowned speakers was Vamsee Krishna reddy, Ajay (Ayejude), Br Shaik Shafiulla and Krisna Chaitanya Reddy. Jaagruthi was organized to create social awareness and have discussions over different perspectives of the same issue of concern.

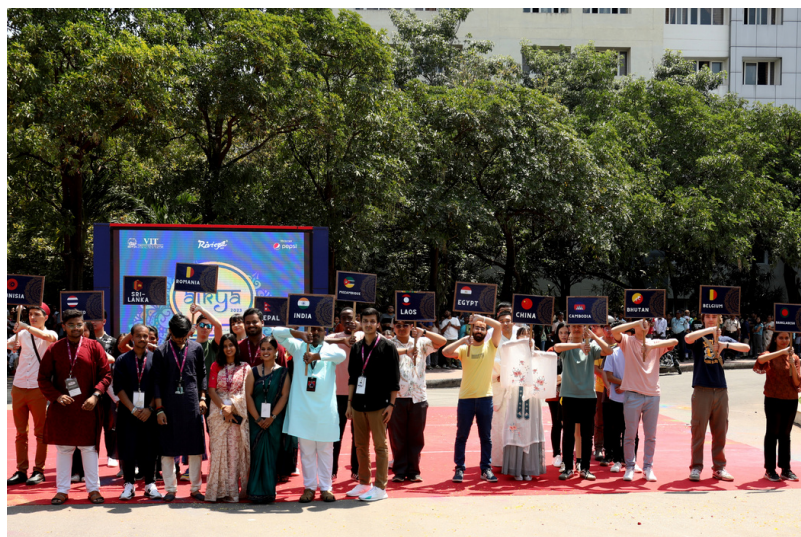
The premium events also boasted an astounding line up of dramatics, music and dance events. The total number events and sports participants in Rivera 2023 were 47000+ students.

Laugh with Aakash Gupta -hosting Mr.Aakash Gupta, an Indian actor, standup-comedian, and theater performer who shared the title of co-winner of the stand-up comedy competition television series' Comicstaan, Thalia and Melpomene which was a stage play competition, with the muses of comedy and tragedy brought up an evening filled with drama. Khalbali- a street play competition, that addressed the topical events and social phenomena, taking issues directly to the hearts and homes of people. Anthyakshari and Chitram was a celebration of the Telugu cinema industry, Resonance - Western Electric and Raaga reggae - Eastern Fusion Band were musical events which hosted student bands of the western electric and eastern fusion genres, IEYS (India Emerge Youth Summit) was a culmination of some of the top public speakers in the student community who shared their experiences as well as guided the participants on their journey to be veteran speakers, Silent Disco was aimed at showcasing the essential fact that fun does not have to harm the environment. It aims to spread the message of 'Reduce Noise Pollution' while giving the participants a memory to remember throughout their lives, VIT's Got Talent (VGT) showcased the unique talents of the students of VIT and reward them for the same, Unarv 2.0 hosted numerous malayalam youtubers who will entertain and interact with the participants. Thamizhi hosted multiple tamil celebrities including Vivek Mervin, Athulya Ravi, Ma Ka Pa Anand and Sarath Khuraishi who graced the event and made it fun filled and super special for the participants.

Apart from these, the second day Rivera saw one of the grandest events of Rivera 2023, Infusion 5.0. saw participants from over 15 different countries performing their exotic folk dances and music, to show that the world is a better place when we are united as one.

Aikya

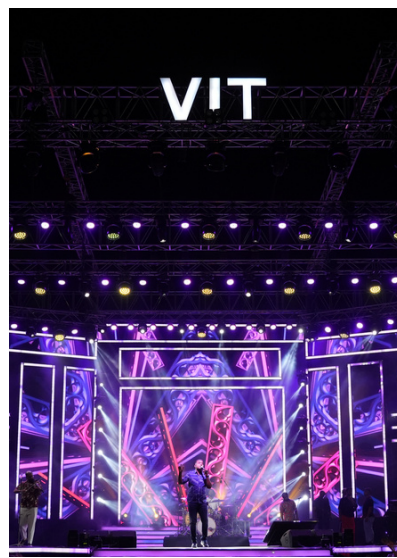
A personification of Unity in Diversity, AIKYA marked the beginning of Day 3. With, an exhilarating performance from students representing the various states of India was a show of grace and grandeur.



Armaan Malik and Thaikkudam Bridge

Day 1

23rd February - Renowned Bollywood singer Armaan Malik and the eclectic South Indian rock band Thaikkudam Bridge graced our stage as special guests on Day 1 of Riviera '23. Their breath-taking performances took us to a different world.





*Javed Ali and Andrea
Jeremiah*

Day 2

24th February - Bollywood playback singer Javed Ali and the versatile South Indian actress and singer Andrea Jeremiah gave us mesmerizing performances on the Day 2 of Riviera23'.





Nalayak band

Day 3

25th February – On the third day of Pro Show, the renowned Chandigarh band, who are known for their enthralling live performances and electric music performed in the evening. The Band's upbeat music made the evening exciting for the students of VIT University.





*DJ Progressive Brothers
and Raashii Khanna*

Day 4

26th February – On the fourth day of the Pro-Show, Sunny Sharma and Karan Bhalla, an Indian electronic music duo band from New Delhi presented the evening performance. They are music producers, DJs, singers, songwriters, and music producers. Riviera 2023 had Indian actress Raashii Khanna for the valedictory ceremony which was marked with the prize distribution for the overall sports and overall events and cultural winners. The overall sports was won by NIT, Trichy and the overall events and cultural was bagged by VIT, Vellore. Day 4 Proshow celebration followed the valedictory ceremony.



**4th
Feb'23**

Youth Red Cross Association's CANcer COMBAT

An online event that aimed to bring awareness about cancer through an interactive story session wherein participants were requested to reply with a less-known fact about cancer and one of their favourite celebrities who fought it successfully. Interesting responses were shared on official instagram handle of the club.

**13th
Feb'23**

VIT Community Radio's World Radio Day

On this special occasion, a special live show and Interactive live bytes session was conducted in and among students of VIT where the RJs went around campus of our university and asked people about their knowledge on radio .

**15th
Feb'23**

IEEE Communication Society's Ethical Hacking and Cyber security

On this special occasion, a special live show and Interactive live bytes session was conducted in and among students of VIT where the RJs went around campus of our university and asked people about their knowledge on radio .

**18th
Feb'23**

IETE's Code Quest '23

A coding competition organized by the Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers (IETE) that included timed coding questions. The event was an excellent opportunity for individuals to improve their coding skills and challenge themselves in a fun and competitive environment.

**19th
Feb'23**

RoboVITics's Actuating the Future with Robotics

The event focused on the basics of electronics involving various foundational concepts such as resistors, capacitors, inductors, and sensors along with different types of actuators, including electric, hydraulic, and pneumatic, and how they are used in robotics. The event also focused on the fundamental principles of advanced electronics and how they can be used with actuators to control motion and further explore the various applications in robotics.

SW CCs Conducted a total of 40 number of successful events this month!!



26
Technical



4
Art & Cultural



5
Health & Wellness



1
Literature



4
Social Outreach





Mr. **Harshith Reddy** is currently selected as supply chain management intern in LinkedIn California. He is currently pursuing his masters in supply chain management in the University of Texas, Dallas. He graduated with a B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering from VIT-Vellore in the year 2021 and has also worked as Chairperson of SME - VIT chapter.



Mr. **Prateek Agarwal** leads investments at First Cheque, a fund that was conceptualised to bridge the Pre-Seed gap in India. He now manages a portfolio of 120+ companies and is currently deploying their second fund. He describes his role at FC as the silent cheerleader who sometimes has to act as the horse whisperer. His advice to founders is "It's your business, build it the way you want. Opinions will be many - conviction should be yours."



Ms. **Nikitha Mathew** is working as a teacher at Byju's. During her leadership tenure as Chairperson of Nature Lover's Club in VIT, she invited many Nature enthusiasts to work together for the tree plantation drive- "Adopt A Tree". She initiated the water conservation awareness skit program for college students.



Ms. **Jainy Maria** Kuriakose is a Birder and a Wildlife Photographer. She has published significant findings in renowned journals and contributed photographs to Oriental Bird Club database, field guides and other magazines worldwide.



Mr. **Shreyans Dungarwal** is none other than the guy, who has collaborated with Miss Universe21, Harnaaz Kaur Sandhu himself! He specialises in Portrait and Fashion Photography. He quickly gained notoriety because to his adventurous and experimental shooting style.

Congratulations!!

Sports Achievement



We are extremely happy to announce that **Ms. Nithyasree. U (22MTW0024)** has brought laurels to VIT by **winning Gold medal in the Regional Level Inter Collegiate Tennis tournament for Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Trophy held at Tiruvannamalai.** We appreciate the **dedication and hardwork** show by her.



Our beloved Table Tennis Coach, Mr. V. Veeraragavan, has earned accolades for VIT by Winning Gold Medal in the 2nd Master's Tamil Nadu State Ranking Table Tennis Tournament held at Coimbatore.



Be A College Star ? Scan the code and get a chance to be featured in the SW Newsletter. Join with Us Now!!



- **Talent Forage:** We invite all our students to showcase their masterpieces with talent and skills. Submit your entries by 30th March: designs/articles /artworks or poems- based on the themes: **Rural Development / Women Empowerment**



- **VIT Click:** Click pictures inside/of the campus and mention date, time & location of the same to get a chance to be featured in the next SW Newsletter.



Beautiful view in front of A-Block, -By Mohammad Danish (22BMA0073)



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