

Surojit Academy Celebrates World Puppetry and Mime Day



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Surojit Academy, located on the Assam Engineering College campus, celebrated **World Puppetry Day** on March 21 and **World Mime Day** on the same occasion, though it is officially observed on March 22. This year's theme for World Puppetry Day was **“Robots, Artificial Intelligence, and the Dreams of Puppets.”**

The event featured a speech by **Binita Devi**, recipient of the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar and director of Surojit Academy, on the role of artificial intelligence in puppetry. **Abani Sharma**, a leading puppeteer from Assam who has performed in India and Spain, was felicitated at the event. **Dr. Kuldeep Patgiri**, another Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar awardee, attended as a distinguished guest.

Puppet and Mime Performances

As part of the celebrations, two puppet plays were staged:

- **“Dui Bondhu”** (*Two Friends*), directed by **Dhruba Jyoti Kalita**, using glove puppets.
- **“Prakriti Ki Sikh”** (*What Nature Teaches*), directed by **Pranab Jyoti Rabha**, using rod puppets.

The puppetry performances featured **Kristi Rajbongshi, Palak Koiri, Hardik Sarma, Kaustabh Choudhury, Angarag Mohanta, Anshuman Das, Trishna Kalita, Pranab Jyoti Rabha, Arya Jibran, Adrika Choudhury, and Karishmita Talukdar** as puppeteers. **Hardik Sarma** directed the music, while **Dhruba Jyoti Kalita and Ganesh Boro** handled lighting.

A **mime performance** titled **“The Siren Bell”**, directed by **Debprateem Goswami**, was also staged, featuring **Kristi Rajbongshi, Hardik Sarma, Anshuman Das, and Kaustabh Choudhury** as performers.

Sattriya Dance Performance

In the evening, a **Sattriya dance performance** took place under the direction of Sattriya dance guru **Holi Ram Bora Bayan**. Dancers **Lani Kakoti, Arya Jibran, Hritika Kalita, Manshree Das, and Baibhavi Das** mesmerized the audience with their artistry.

A Cultural Gathering

The event saw participation from students, academicians, artists, and cultural enthusiasts from schools, colleges, and universities. **Dhruva Jyoti Kalita and Deepa Mahanta** hosted the event, while **Karishmita Talukdar** delivered the vote of thanks.

Through this celebration, **Surojit Academy successfully highlighted the significance of World Puppetry Day and World Mime Day**, bringing these traditional art forms to life for an engaged audience.

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