

MICA's annual theatre festival 'Sankalp' on a roll

Vasundhara Vyas Mehta | TNN

Ahmedabad: The curtain is ready to rise and the stage is set. Students are also eager to get an hands-on experience of the entertainment industry. They also wish to take this as an opportunity to interact with the city audience.

Sankalp 2008, the annual theatre festival of Mudra Institute of Communication, Ahmedabad (MICA) is all this and more. The event epitomises endless efforts, long man hours and limitless creativity.

The three-day festival will start on November 28 and will be held at the Natrani amphitheatre. Sankalp 2008 will take a look at contemporary socio-political issues in their latest act, 'Khalish'. The play is an Hindi adaptation of Mahesh Dattani's 'Final Solutions'.

"The best part of this event is that it is wholly and solely managed by the students. Be it scripting, directing, acting, technical work like sound and lighting or getting sponsorship to selling tickets. This is one event that all the students of the institute relate to as there is a participation of over a 100 students every year," said Aditi Maliwar, a second year student of MICA.

Johaam Matthai, another students and one of the four directors of the play said, "The play that we have chosen because of the importance of it in the present context. The play is based on the communal strain that exists in the society today and has dealt with the issue very well. It tries to deal with the issue of inherent prejudice among us all. My experience directing the play with three other directors was amazing because each of us brought a different angle or style which was our own contribution to Khalish."

"The play presents different shades of communalism prevalent among Hindus and Muslims. This is an attempt to underline the stereotypes influencing collective sensibility of one community against another," said another member of the crew. The play examines difficult questions like blame, pain and guilt through the lens of three generations of a middleclass Gujarati family that shelters two Muslim boys during a communal riot.



Students of the group Khalish at MICA