

Pehchaan: Building Presence, Voice, and Identity

Who We Are

We're Aadya and Anisha—11th-grade students who believe that confidence isn't just a skill, it's a lifeline.

I'm Aadya, a passionate debater fluent in Hindi and English, with a deep-rooted love for drama and performance. Having worked with underprivileged children, I've seen firsthand how hard it is to find your voice when the world rarely stops to listen. I was part of an organization that focused on this cause, but now, I'm ready to build something of my own—something rooted in voice, identity, and change. Having won several accolades in debating and drama, I'm committed to using my skills to empower others and inspire transformation.

I'm Anisha, a national-level debater and published storyteller. Ranked among the top 10 speakers at the British Parliamentary Nationals, I've led and won speaking competitions across formats—from extempore to poetry. With a background in public speaking and youth leadership, I'm driven to use these tools to help others express who they are—with confidence and pride.

Pehchaan is our way of paying it forward—a peer-led program that helps middle-school girls from underserved communities step into their own identity with courage, expression, and self-belief.

1. Objectives

To help middle-school girls (primarily from Grade 8–9) from underserved communities express themselves with confidence—whether in classrooms, competitions, or daily conversations—using storytelling, peer connection, and guided activities.

2. Why This Matters

Many girls from underserved backgrounds are capable, thoughtful, and creative—but often lack the space, mentorship, and confidence to speak up.

At an age where hesitation sets in and self-doubt creeps up, *Pehchaan* offers them a platform to speak—not just fluently, but freely.

Our aim is not fluency in English or mastery. It is helping them take the first confident step toward expressing who they are.

3. Why It's Beneficial for Your NGO

- **Delivers a low-cost, high-impact program** that builds on your girls' natural strengths.
 - **Connects girls with relatable mentors** who've competed at national-level debate and drama forums and know how to draw out voices that hesitate.
 - **Adapts the format to your girls**—whether they prefer Hindi or love telling stories, we meet them where they are.
 - **Ends with tangible transformation**—each girl earns recognition and creates a performance they can be proud of, shared with their families and your team.
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4. Target Group & Partners

- **Who:** 4–6 girls from Grade 8 or 9, identified by your team.
 - **Why Them:** This is the age when girls start hesitating to speak up, especially in public. The closer age gap with our mentors helps create a more open and trusting space.
 - **How Chosen:** Through your internal selection, based on interest and commitment. We'll tell the girls that they've been selected for their potential—which builds self-worth even before we begin.
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5. What Makes This Different

- **Offline, not Online:** All sessions happen at your center—no tech gaps, no screens.
- **No one-size-fits-all:** Once we meet your girls, we customize the sessions to fit them.
- **Confidence-first, not grammar-first:** We focus on expression, not correction.

- **Real impact, real showcase:** Every girl completes the program with a “This Is Me” speech in front of a small audience—recorded for the girls, their families, and you.
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6. Structure and Key Features

5–6 sessions, offline, held weekly at your NGO’s space.

Each session focuses on one key aspect of self-expression (tentative and adaptable):

- **Building Comfort and Trust**
(Creating a safe space, warming up to self-expression)
- **Speaking About Myself**
(Introducing yourself with confidence in Hinglish)
- **Telling Personal Stories**
(Turning lived experiences into stories worth sharing)
- **Improving Body Language and Voice**
(Posture, tone, and non-verbal confidence)
- **Thinking and Responding on the Spot**
(Handling real-world prompts and impromptu ideas)
- **This Is Me**
(Final self-intro speech in front of an audience)

Progress Measurement:

We record a short video at the beginning and at the end—so the girls (and you!) can see how much they’ve grown.

7. Incentives & End Deliverables

- **Certificates & Prizes** for each girl, plus any additional recognition you’d like to offer.
- **Before & After Showcase Videos**, capturing each girl’s transformation—with consent.
- **Peer Mentor Roles:**
Girls who complete the program can co-facilitate future batches. They’ll act as peer

mentors — guiding juniors, leading warm-ups, helping others find their voice. It gives them a real title and leadership experience

- **A Space That Belongs to Them:**

This is more than a skill-building class. It's a space to be heard, valued, and seen.

8. What We're Looking For

We're looking to collaborate with an NGO working with middle-school girls (ages 12–14) who would be open to hosting a short, high-impact pilot.

We'll handle the design, content, and facilitation of 5–6 weekly sessions. All we need from your side is:

- A small group of 4–6 interested girls,
- A quiet room at your center, and
- Feedback sharing after sessions

Together, we can create a space where your girls are heard, celebrated, and empowered

We'll take care of everything else—planning, facilitation, and documentation.

9. Long-Term Vision

- Build a grassroots network of expressive, confident girls across Delhi
 - Scale this as a repeatable model across schools and NGOs
 - Create a leadership pipeline—from participants to peer mentors to facilitators
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Let's Talk

We admire the work your NGO does to uplift girls—and we'd love to be part of that journey.

If this program feels aligned with your mission, we'd be happy to take it forward.

We're excited to listen, learn, and collaborate.