

## DHRISHIT KHANDHAR

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### EDUCATION

Jamnabai Narsee International School, Mumbai, India	2010- May 2026
-International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme	2024-2026
-International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) -Grade10	2022-2024

### STANDARDIZED TESTS

-SAT-Total-1510; Math-790; English 720	2025
-IELTS 8 overall; Listening-8.5, Reading-9, Writing-7.5, Speaking-7	2025

### ACADEMIC HONOURS & AWARDS

#### *International*

-Earth Prize Asian Scholar Award - Project GreytoGrow	2025
- Annual Avogadro Exam (Chemistry contest) University of Waterloo Certificate of Distinction	2025
-CEMC Math Contest-University of Waterloo Fryer, Galois, and Hypatia: Certificate of Distinction	2023-2025
-HKIMO Math Olympiad: Silver medal	2023
-FISO Biology Olympiad: Gold medal (Top 5% in India)	2023

#### *School*

-Grade 11 Term 1 topper in Math AAHL, English and Chemistry	2024
-Grade 11 Term 2 topper in Math AAHL and English	2025
-Topped the school in Biology and English in IGCSE 10th Board Examinations	2024

### MARINE BIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY EXPERIENCES

#### *Innovation and Outreach*

<b>Project Grey to Grow</b>	2025
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- Created a 3-step prototype to help purify and reuse greywater mimicking the wetland ecosystem  
Educated 100+ children of Saaksharta Foundation (NGO) to implement the system by conducting workshops and distributing free kits and manuals.

Winner-Earth Prize Asian Scholar Award -Selected from a pool of 10,444 participants

<b>-Founder, Time and Tide (An Intertidal walk club)</b>	2024 - Present
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Attended several intertidal walks under Mr. Pradip Patade from Marine Life of Mumbai to gain experience

Arranged several Intertidal walks educating people about the marine biodiversity on Mumbai's shores

Encouraged participation of Saaksharta foundation (NGO) students by taking them to the beach and educating them

#### *Research*

<b>-Research paper on Coral micro-fragmentation - Mentored by Paily Ghanekar (PhD in Microbiology, Mumbai University)</b>	2023 Winter onwards
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Wrote a research paper on “How do changes in evolutionary mechanisms and environmental stress affect micro-fragmentation in coral species and their microbiome?”

Analysed how different coral species secrete different hormones and enzymes in response to the process of micro-fragmentation and how extreme environmental stress reduces its effectiveness.

Accepted for publication in International Journal for High School Research-December volume

### ***Internships***

#### **-Bombay Natural History Society(BNHS), Mumbai, India**

**2023/24**

BNHS is an Indian non-government organisation dedicated to nature conservation and biodiversity-Summer intern under Dr Reshma Pitale-Research scientist.

Analysed migratory patterns of wading birds from Central Asia and their diet in marshlands.

Explored how construction work in the area affected the ecosystem and genomes of crustaceans and fish.

Investigated adaptations undergone by moss species by collecting samples before and after a bridge's construction and how it affected the birds' diets.

#### **- Coastal Impact,Goa, India**

**2025**

A non government organization involved to preserve and conserve marine ecosystem -Summer Intern under Mr Jeremy Josh,Marine biologist

Investigated the testing and research required for coral regrowth near Grande Island, Goa

Investigated the testing and research required for coral regrowth

Visited the National Institute of Oceanography; gained insights into the latest research about corals

### ***Publication***

#### **-Hornbill Magazine -A publication by BNHS**

**2025**

Published an article describing my diving experience and marine biodiversity in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.(June-September 2025 edition)

### ***Marine Life Photography***

#### **-100 Feet Under-Embracing the Serenity**

Published a book on underwater photography by Partridge publishing

**2025**

Learnt professional underwater photography and captured moments during my trip to Bali,Indonesia and Andaman Islands,India

**2023-2025**

### ***Online Courses***

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## **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES PURSUITS**

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**Research Paper on** “Evolutionary History of Pulmonary Surfactant Proteins: A Defence Against Fibrosis?” -Mentored by Dr Nirpma Singh(Phd in Bioinformatics-University of Delhi) **2025**

-Analysed how the evolutionary history of pulmonary surfactant proteins in vertebrates plays a role in the prevention and susceptibility of lung fibrosis in different vertebrates.

-Participated in S T Yau competition -Qualified for the 1st round

- The research paper has been sent for publication to National High School Journal of Science  
**miBiome Therapeutics LLP**, Mumbai, India 2025
- miBiome brings advanced genome diagnostics through bioinformatics and AI-summer intern under Ms
- Developed insights on the evolution of gene sequencing devices
- Explored and understood the real-world applications of genomics via on-site laboratory visits and demonstrations

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## LEADERSHIP

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**Senior House Captain, Tagore House**, Jamnabai Narsee International School 2023 - 2024  
House Captain of over 300 students  
Organised multiple events and encouraged students to participate in all sporting and cultural activities.

## EXTRACURRICULAR PURSUITS

**PADI Certified Advanced Open Water Diver**, Andaman Islands, India and Bali, Indonesia 2022-24  
-Completed the Advanced Open Water diving course and explored an underwater shipwreck.  
-Completed the Underwater Photography course and learnt how to control ISO, shutter speed, focus, and flash underwater.

**Photography & Art** 2022-Present  
Exhibited paintings and photographs at the Jamnabai Narsee Anand Mela, selling 15+. 2024  
Ranked in top 50 out of 120,000+ entries in the Hashtag Kalakar Art Contest. 2024  
Organised a fluid art workshop; taught 100+ students at the Jamnabai Narsee Anand Mela 2023  
Completed a four level photography course with Tina Dehal Photography 2022 - 2023

**Author, The Tale of Vinculoca** (A fantasy book on a utopian future) 2023  
Selected by school teachers based on my interest in English literature to author a short book, published by BriBooks.  
Wrote about a mechanised utopian future where select students from sectors were escorted to experience the natural world

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## SKILLS AND INTERESTS

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