

DHRISHIT KHANDHAR

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EDUCATION

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| Jamnabai Narsee International School , Mumbai, India | July 2010-May 2026 |
| -International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP), Grade 11 & 12 | 2024-2026 |
| -International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE), Grade 9 & 10 | 2022-2024 |

STANDARDIZED TESTS

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

ACADEMIC HONOURS & AWARDS

International

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| -Winner, Earth Prize Asian Scholar Award, Selected from a pool of 10,444 participants, Project GreytoGrow | 2025 |
| -Distinction, Avogadro Chemistry Exam, University of Waterloo | 2025 |
| -Distinction, International Chemistry Quiz, Qualified for ICQ Asia Camp | 2025 |
| -Distinction, top 25% in the world, Fryer, Fermat, and Hypatia Math Contest, University of Waterloo | 2023-2025 |
| -Silver Medal, Outstanding Achievement, HKIMO Math Olympiad | 2023 |
| -Gold Medal (top 5% in India), FISO Biology Olympiad | 2023 |

School

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| -Ranked 1st in Math AA HL and English SL, Grade 11 Term 2 | 2025 |
| -Ranked 1st in Math AA HL, Chemistry HL, and English SL, Grade 11 Term 1 | 2024 |
| -Ranked 1st in IGCSE Biology and English, 10th Board Examinations | 2024 |
| -Ranked in the top 5% of the class, Grade 10 and 11 | 2024/2025 |

MARINE BIOLOGY & ECOLOGY EXPERIENCES

Innovation & Outreach

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| Founder, Time and Tide (Intertidal walk club) | 2024-Present |
| -Engaged in intertidal walks by Mr Pradip Patade (Marine Life of Mumbai) to gain direct exposure to marine ecosystems. | |
| -Organised 12+ intertidal walks to educate the public about Mumbai's marine biodiversity. | |
| -Led Saakshartaa Foundation students in interactive learning activities at the beach, teaching them about marine biodiversity and plastic pollution issues. | |

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| Founder, Project GreytoGrow , Mentored by Nirupma Singh, PhD in Bioinformatics, University of Delhi | 2025 |
| -Created a 3-step prototype to purify and reuse greywater, inspired by wetland ecosystems. | |
| -Trained 100+ children from the Saaksharta Foundation to implement the system through workshops and by distributing kits and manuals. | |

Research

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| Independent Research Paper , Mentor Dr Paily Ghanekar, PhD in Microbiology, Mumbai University | 2023-2024 |
| Title: "Microfragmentation as a Coral Reef Restoration Tool: The Role of Genetics, Microbiomes, & Climate Challenge" | |
| -Analyzed how 4 coral species secrete hormones and enzymes during microfragmentation and how extreme environmental stress affects their effectiveness. | |
| -Published in the International Journal for High School Research, December 2025 volume. | |

Internships

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| Intern, Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) , Mumbai, India | 2023/2024 |
| -Contributed to research at BNHS, an Indian NGO focused on nature conservation and biodiversity, under Dr Reshma Pitale, Research Scientist. | |
| -Analyzed migratory patterns of wading birds from Central Asia and their diets in marshlands. | |
| -Studied the impact of local construction on ecosystems and the genomes of crustaceans and fish. | |
| -Assessed moss adaptations before and after bridge construction and how these changes influenced bird diets. | |

Intern, Coastal Impact, Goa, India 2025
-Worked with an NGO focused on preserving and conserving marine ecosystems, under Mr Jeremy Josh, Marine Biologist.
-Investigated testing & research methods near Grande Island, Goa, like concrete tables or Artificial Reefs for coral regrowth.
-Visited the National Institute of Oceanography and gained insights into the latest coral research.

Publication

Freelance Author, Hornbill Magazine, A publication by BNHS 2025
-Published an article describing my diving experiences and marine biodiversity observations in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, June-September 2025 edition.

Marine Life Photography

Photographer

-Published *100 FEET UNDER-Embracing the Serenity*; underwater photography book, with Partridge Publishing. 2025
-Developed professional underwater photography skills while capturing images during trips to Bali, Indonesia, and the Andaman Islands, India. 2023-2025

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES PURSUITS

Independent Research Paper, Mentor Dr Nirupma Singh, PhD in Bioinformatics, University of Delhi 2025
Title: "Evolutionary History of Pulmonary Surfactant Proteins: A Defence Against Fibrosis?"
-Analyzed how the evolutionary history of pulmonary surfactant proteins in vertebrates affects prevention and susceptibility to lung fibrosis.
-Participated in the S.T. Yau Competition and qualified for the first round.
-Submitted the Research paper for publication to the National High School Journal of Science.

Intern, miBiome Therapeutics LLP, Mumbai, India 2025
-Worked for 4 weeks under Ms Nandini Dasgupta, Head of Science at miBiome, a company advancing genome diagnostics through bioinformatics and AI.
-Researched the evolution of gene sequencing devices, such as Sanger sequencing and Illumina sequencing.
-Explored real-world applications of genomics via laboratory visits and demonstrations with technologies like the Qubit Fluorometer & Oxford Nanopore.

LEADERSHIP

Volunteer Teacher, Saakshartaa Foundation (NGO), Mumbai, India 2024-2025
-Taught over 100 hours of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics to low-income 7th-grade students.
-Worked through the complete syllabus, clarified doubts, led revisions, and designed quizzes to reinforce learning.
-Adapted instruction to Hindi to match the students' language proficiency and build comfort with technical terms.

Senior House Captain, Tagore House, Jamnabai Narsee International School 2023-2024
-Led and represented 300+ students. Organized events and motivated student participation in sports and cultural activities.

EXTRACURRICULAR PURSUITS

Photography & Art 2022-Present
-Exhibited paintings and photographs at the Jamnabai Narsee Anand Mela, selling more than 15. 2024
-Ranked in the 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

Open Water Diver, PADI Certified-Advanced Level, Bali, Indonesia & Andaman, India 2022-2024
-Explored an underwater shipwreck to study marine life and practice advanced diving techniques.
-Completed an Underwater Photography course; learned to adjust ISO, shutter speed, focus, & flash in underwater settings.

Author, The Tale of Vinculoca 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.