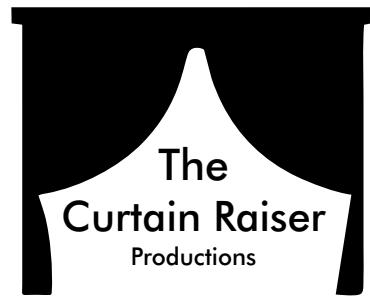


The Curtain Raiser

Productions



1.1 Introduction:

The Curtain Raiser, a student-founded body, is dedicated to strengthen the social awareness and development process through art based development approach specially using the unique platform of Theatre.

The organization aspires to present inspirational messages for social awakening through art and culture. Interactive theatre, documentaries, audio visual communications, social media and other art based activities are the best medium that serves the purpose. We are determined to promote art, culture and civic sense without espousing religious, ethnic, political, gender or any other biases.

We are striving hard to promote intercultural harmony, through theatre and audio-visual communications that leads to develop a moderate society where noble values are respected, patience is practiced, tolerance prevails, opinions are valued and above all individual's freedom is ensured.

We enlighten and encourage our audience to become self-determined thinkers for being socially responsible and active members of the society. We intend to motivate them to participate in our art-based social development activities.

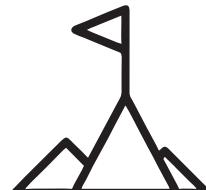
We enlighten and encourage our audience to become self-determined thinkers for being socially responsible and active members of the society. We intend to motivate them to participate in our art-based social development activities.

1.2 Vision



We yearn to evolve a society that is tolerant, harmonized, peacefully just, democratic and flexible enough to accept each other despite of the differences of ethnicity, language, ideology and faith.

1.3 Mission



Through art-based cultural activities, audio-visual communication, theatre and other performing arts, we are keen to promote and play our part to preserve our art and culture for the brighter face of our society and the establishment of such atmosphere where there is no exploitation and oppression on the basis of language, sex, faith, ideology or race etc.



1.4 Aims & Objectives:

- We are aimed at promoting art & culture in our society for developing tolerance, peace and harmony as art and culture can really fruitful in this regard.
- Through interactive communication, we intend to deliver strong messages for the establishment of harmony among different ethnic groups.
- We are passionate to evolve and strengthening cultural ties among different strata of society and by doing so they will be able to create space for each other.
- Our purpose is to utilize audio-visual communication for the promotion of values of forbearance and acceptance of the people belonging to different ethnic groups in a society.
- We are motivated that performing arts can do wonder for creating peaceful environment by developing inter-faith understanding.
- We are focusing on the fact that we must 'agree to disagreement' and that is only possible when there is interaction between different social groups.



1.5 Our Goals& Future Plans

- Devising innovative interactive communication among different community groups for the establishment of strong bonds between them.
- Developing and strengthening interactive communication for expanding outreach and contributing to the process of social change.
- Promotion of capacity building and enhancement of knowledge & skills of the marginalized social groups' i.e. women and minority etc.
- Develop a proactive and sustainable interactive communication institute for promoting arts, culture and communication in communities.
- To create peaceful, democratic & just society
- Collaboration with government, civil society, educational institutions & other stakeholders.
- Using interactive communications as tool.
- Developing linkages with like-minded people & organizations.

1.6 Our Core Expertise:

- Theatre
- Street Theatre
- Cultural Events & Activities
- Event Management
- Documentaries
- Short Films
- TVC & DVC
- Radio Plays & programs
- Training Workshops



1.7 Our Strategic Partners:

Ministry of Environment & Climate Change

Ministry of Youth Affairs KPK

Murree Arts Council

NAB

Lahore Arts Council

Alhamra Arts Council Lahore

The Fred Hollows Foundation (INGO) Regd.

Snow Leopard Foundation Regd.

Azeem Educational Conference Regd.

IMPGC H8 Islamabad

Hamara Ghar Orphanage Regd.

The Caring Community Regd.

National Institute of Health

Government Dyal Singh College, Lahore

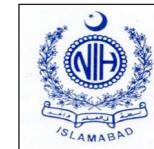
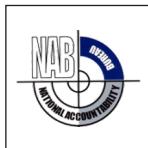
National University of Modern Languages Islamabad

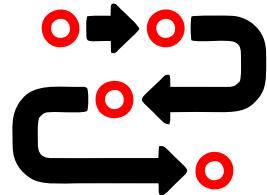
Quaid I Azam University Islamabad

National University of Medical Sciences Rawalpindi

Mirpur University of Science and Technology AJK

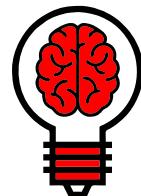
Alhamra Arts Council Lahore





2. Working Approach & Methodology

Interactive & Audio-Visual communication is a complex undertaking. It is a strong medium for the infusion of ideas among its audience. Quality ultimately depends upon each input and must be ensured at every stage of the process from pre-production to production and also in its post project reporting. We understand the whole process and we are striving hard to promote the noble values of patience, forgiveness, respect of other's point of view and cultural diversity through theatre and videos.



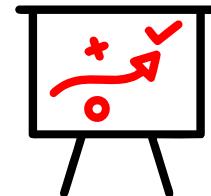
2.1 Creative Approach:

The foundation of our creative approach is content driven. We start our creative process by working with our project partners on multidisciplinary concepts and our content development team first defines the theme, main storylines and messages that are to be conveyed through the interactive & audio-visual communications etc. Then we immerse ourselves in the content, provided either by the partners or by our own research. Only then we have a thorough understanding of what needs to be conveyed. So we start to make decisions about how best to convey it.

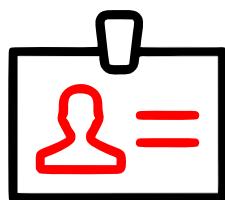
We develop production paths for all our projects, identifying any unknowns, potential problems and unanswered questions. From the production path, we create detailed production schedule. We recognize that strict adherence to a schedule of completion for each component is a key to stay on budget.

We identify the target audience for each message to be conveyed earlier than the content development process to ensure that the communication programs are going to educate and move its audience.

2.3 Our strategic working of is based on the following steps:



- Human Resource development
- New talent hunting
- Involvement of all related stakeholders
- Establishment of own academic and campus setups for grooming and knowledge sharing
- Seminars, workshops and people to people contact both inland and abroad
- Research & Surveys & in depth needs and capacity analysis of the potential disciplines.
- Trainings
- Collaboration with donor agencies, government, international and multinational companies
- Collaboration with local government.
- Collaboration with COs, NPOs, CSOs, NGOs, Research institutes, Universities.
- Utilization of such collaborations for the maximization of stakeholders' involvement in socio-economic activities and development.
- Events



3. Personal Profiles:

The Curtain Raiser is a students'-founded body possessing young artists belonging to different well-reputed universities having diverse experience in the field. The team members have won numerous national level nominations and awards across the country.

Detailed portfolio of team members and the productions will be furnished upon further request.

4. Company Management

4.1 CEO/Director:

Muhammad Ali Farooqi is presently enrolled in PhD Pakistan Studies at QAU Islamabad. He is working as a joint secretary in "Azeem Educational Conference (Regd.)", and as a Bureau Chief in Monthly "Azeem English Magazine". He has worked as the President of "Quaidian Dramatics Club, Quaid i Azam University, Islamabad" for four years. He is also the founder of The Curtain Raiser. The Curtain Raiser, a student-founded body, is dedicated to strengthen the social awareness and development process through art based development approach specially using the unique platform of Theatre. He has led his team across several national level drama competitions and festivals across the country.



Throughout his journey, he has worked on various themes, in relation to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, including women empowerment, gender violence, child literacy, health issues, mental health, corruption and wildlife conservation through the medium of street theatre, radio dramas, short films, documentaries, live theatre and social media campaigns. He also organized multiple national level drama competitions and workshops to give a platform to youth of the nation to showcase their talent and works in a positive way. His diverse genre of work has resulted in national level acclaim which reflects by his remarkable achievements. In relation to his youth activism, he was featured in the annual blog of 'Theatre Across Borders' by "Thespo", a youth based organization in India. Moreover he has an honor to be part of National Cultural and Film Policy as youth activist and volunteer head. He worked with his team in the National Artists' Convention 2018 held at Pakistan National Council of the Arts and drafted Pakistan's first ever National Cultural and Film Policy.

Being a President of the club, as an actor and director as well, he has led his team and performed on many national platforms in prestigious institutes and not only did he perform but won several major awards. His achievements include;

- “Best Positive Character” at Tehlka 2016
- “Best Actor Male” at The 18th All-Pakistan Performing Arts Festival GIKI 2016.

- “Best Actor Lead” at Youth Drama Festival PNCA 2016.
- “Best Director” at Youth Drama Festival PNCA 2016.
- “Best Director” at NUML, Islamabad 2017.
- “Best Director” at Murree Arts Council 2017.
- “Best Director” at 20th All Pakistan Performing Arts Festival, GIKI 2018.
- “Innovative Youth Award” at SWAT by KPK Government.
- “Best Director” at 21st All Pakistan Performing Arts Festival, GIKI 2019.

Year 2016 has been very lucky for him as he continued achieving more and the greatest. In Youth Drama Festival organized by PNCA he stole the show not only by putting up a great performance and winning hearts but also by winning “Best Actor”, Best Director” and “Best Play” awards.

He is a person who is of a view that exciting things often happen when people step out of their comfort zone and make space to go for their dreams. He believes that doing what you love to do is invigorating; it doesn’t feel like work and could be the most joy you ever experience. Along with Quaidian Dramatics club he also managed NUML Dramatics CLUB for year 2016-17 as President and that too in an impressive way. His team NDC stood

- 1st in “Hamarey Rang Aman k Rang”,
- 2nd in “National Theatre Festival” at The Millennium University College TMUC Islamabad
- 3rd in “Drama Festival” at Murree Arts Council.

His recent production was “Mein Haan Waras” at Alhamra Arts Council Lahore in September 2017. Mein Haan Waras won 20th All Pakistan Performing Arts Festival, GIK, KPK and multiple individual awards at several other competitions.

His organization aspires to present inspirational messages for social awakening through art and culture. Interactive theatre, documentaries, audio visual communications, social media and other art based activities are the best medium that serves the purpose. He is determined to promote art, culture and civic sense without espousing religious, ethnic, political, gender or any other biases.

Striving hard to promote intercultural harmony, through theatre and audio-visual communications that leads to develop a moderate society where noble values are respected, patience is practiced, tolerance prevails, opinions are valued and above all individual's freedom is ensured.

He yearns to evolve a society that is tolerant, harmonized, peacefully just, democratic and flexible enough to accept each other despite of the differences of ethnicity, language, ideology and faith.

He can be found at Facebook with the name of "Muhammad Ali Farooqi"

 FB Page: www.facebook.com/TheCurtainRaiser

4.2 Writer:

Mr. Imran Khan is presently rendering his services as Assistant Professor of English at Islamabad Model Post Graduate College H-8 Islamabad and a Visiting Faculty member at Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad. He has done his M Phil in English Literature from Govt. College University Lahore.

His M Phil has sharpened his skills of creative writings since he himself is a poet, playwright and dramatist. After his appointment as lecturer at Govt. Dyal Singh College Lahore, the dramatics activities of the college were organized by him.

Now he is Incharge of IMPGC H-8 Islamabad Dramatics Club as well as the Editor of the college magazine. He is also the playwright and co-director at the Quaidian Dramatics Club, Quaid iAzam University, Islamabad.



His Drama "Sarisht" and "Girah" have been performed at Youth Drama Festival, Pakistan National Council of the Arts, The GIKI All-Pakistan Performing Arts Competition, FAST University Lahore, IBA Karachi and NUML Islamabad and have secured first positions in these festivals respectively.

His dramas Sarisht and Mein Haan Waaras representing QAU has been nominated for the Thespo'18 Mumbai and Atellier's Act Festival Delhi 2019 respectively. He has won the award of Best Playwright in numerous national level drama festivals of Pakistan.

He has also represented the Dramatics Club of Quaid e Azam University Islamabad on Such TV. Being the student of Ph.D at Quaid i Azam University, he is doing research on Punjabi Resistance Literature.

He has also written two dramas namely "Begangi" and "Qeemat" for NUML Dramatics CLUB NUML Islamabad. His Drama "Begangi" performed by NUML students secured

- First position at National Drama Festival at The Millennium University College TMUC Islamabad.
- Second Position at Murree Arts Council and third position at NESCOM Drama Competition.

As an honorary dramatist, he has written a Drama named "Dr. Salahuddin" for NUMS Dramatic and Performing Arts Society which won NAB Youth Drama Competition and gained third position at Murree Arts Council as well.

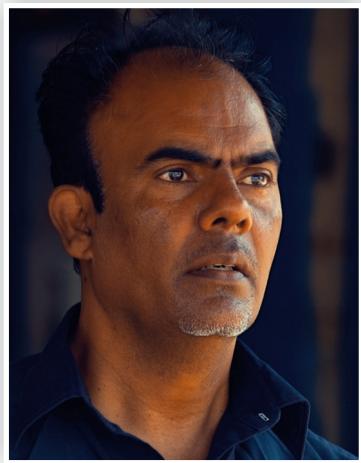
In addition, he has served as a judge at different drama competitions including NUML Film and Drama Festival and Model Girls College F-7 Islamabad. Recently, His Drama "Dr. Salahuddin" was performed at Islamabad Club with the cooperation of Apna Ghar NGO on 13 August 2017. Moreover, some of his poems and short stories have been published in educational and public sector magazines. He has been working as an editor and Assistant Editor for Azeem English Magazine, Gujranwala. His most recent production was Girah which was performed at Theatre Wallay Islamabad and well received by the people of Islamabad and Rawalpindi.

4.3 Techincals Head

Abrar Bazmi with the experience of more than 20 years in the field, Abrar Bazmi adds more professional touch to the team. An NCA graduate and music degree from Yamaha School of Music, Sirilanka, Bazmi shares his expertise in form of technical supervision of the The Curtain Raiser's productions.

He has worked with renowned TV channels and film directors of the country. Alhamra Lahore has hosted his numerous productions from time to time.

He is a prolific music composer and has worked with famous names of the music industry including Sahir Ali Bagga, Sara Raza Khan, Nauman Javed, Abdullah Qureshi, Rafaqat Ali Khan and Aqdas Hashmi. Abraz Bazmi deals with the sounds and music of the whole production as well. He is also associated with Bahria Colleges as a Media Consultant.



4.4 Production Manager

M Awais Farooqi has been part of student theatre since 2015. Being an experienced person in student theatre and universities' drama clubs and head organizer of several drama festivals, he has been an integral part of the team by managing stuff related to the production which includes management, coordination, logistics etc. Moreover, he has worked as President of NUML and NUMS universities' drama clubs.



4.5 Art Director

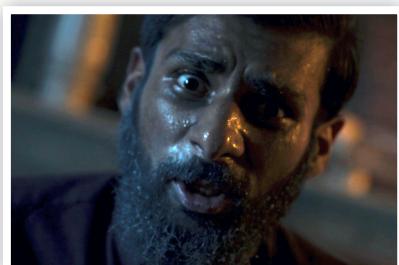
Fatima Altaf is a psychology graduate from QAU. She has been working with the team for four years as an Art Director. She deals with the props, costumes and set designs of the production. In the past few years, she has won several awards for Best Production at youth level and has worked with numerous event management companies for her wonderful designs.



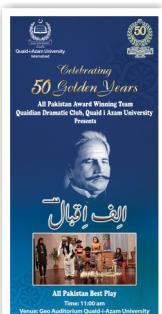
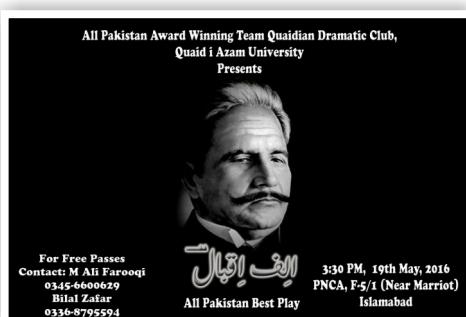
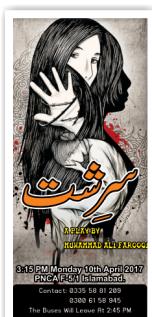
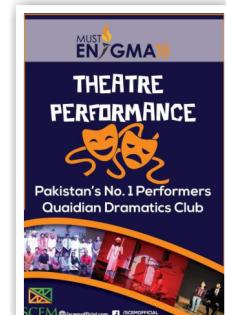
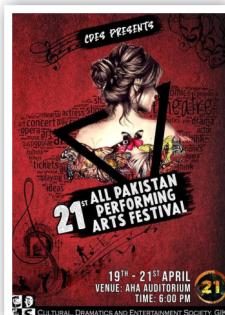
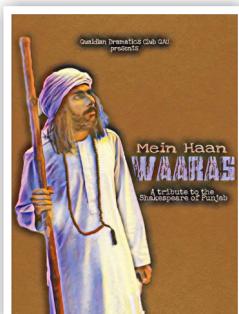
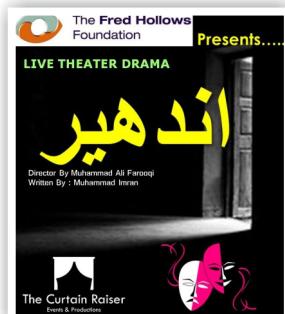
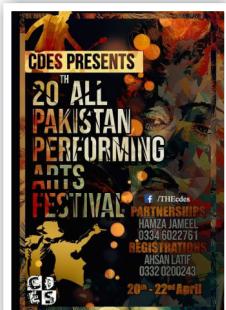
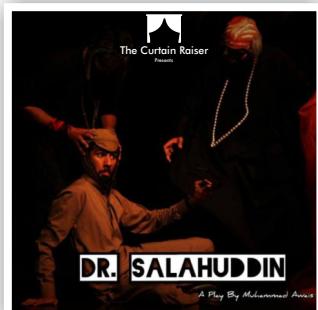
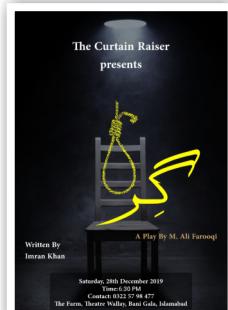


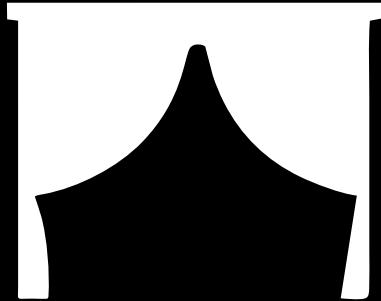
4.6 Cast

Other members of our team are young enthusiasts who are striving to bring a change in society through contemporary Theatre, applied drama and radio broadcasting. Each member in our team has an honor of performing in prestigious institutes and national platforms throughout the country and holds a number of awards at youth and national level.



Plays





The Curtain Raiser Productions



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