

IGNCA film screenings at Bal Bhawan

National Bal Bhavan, an autonomous Institute under the Ministry of Human Resource Development invited Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts to showcase some of its films during the National Bal Bhavan Summer workshop.

Every year more than 4000 students from different parts of India come together to learn skills -- from science to integrated activities. The IGNCA screened five films, representing various traditions of India. Children were told to watch the film keenly as there was a quiz after the screening.

Professional storyteller Ms Valentina Trivedi introduced the film to the children and interacted with them briefly before the screenings. After the screening, she elicited comments and reactions from the children and then asked the questions. The hall was packed to its capacity all the days, with at least 500 attending each day.

The students' participation was overwhelming, way beyond what we could have expected. They felt that the films had enriched them. Seeing the response the IGNCA proposes to hold more such screenings for children in Bal Bhawan and elsewhere.

The films screened by the IGNCA were: **'Wangala a Garo Festival,' 'Ganga – A Celestial Journey from Mukhba to Gangotri,' 'Maha Kumbha – In search of the Nectar' and 'Urmi- Fighting for Survival.'**

The Bal Bhavan team of staff and volunteers deserve special commendation for the timely management of students before and after the event for smooth implementation of the program.