

**Remarks by Khyati Gupta , participant in the Malvern Zine Project  
at the My City My Art reception**

I was getting myself prepared for another boring summer.

But, not this time.

This time, it was a great summer all thanks to Malvern Zine Project. My experience there was great.

The staff and all the people who were there were dedicated to their aim to make a good magazine, and it was accomplished! Nina taught us several ways to paint. Bigz taught us how we can communicate with people, not just by pictures, but with words that create pictures in our mind. And Dave taught us to make a good comic strip. By looking at this zine, you know how much effort we all put in.

Personally, I learned so much through this program. Sometimes, I wished that summer would never end and we would all just be drawing and writing and having a blast! There were so many things that I learned. I learned that it's not just the drawing that makes the difference, it's the attitude that you express through the drawing that makes it perfect. The drawing techniques from Nina and Dave and the writing techniques by Bigz gave me confidence deep inside me. Not to mention, Tina and Carol were also there to talk to us and gave us ideas that made this program even better!

The influence of the artists was strong and took over me in a good way. They didn't want us to make Michelangelo masterpieces but, they taught us the techniques that were the basic fundamentals of an art piece. This made all the difference and I wanted to learn more and more each and every day. The best part of this entire experience was me was gaining my confidence in arts. Before I attended this class, I didn't know much about drawing and painting until I stepped into this fun-filled place where everyone was having a great time and were making a difference in the community.

If opportunities are given to youth, it's an amazing thing since youth are the future of what the community is going to be like. To me, this opportunity meant a lot. If I would've missed it, I would be sitting in my house doing nothing. Instead, I took some time to go out and meet new people, learn new things and put my best effort to it.

When Tina e-mailed me the poster for this event, it felt great! The picture that I created was on the poster!! I couldn't believe myself but I had to. I would like to thank the entire staff and everybody there that made me discover an artist inside me.

**THANK YOU!**