

# Making Sibling Partnerships Successful

SHABABA IQBAL

Humairah Shams and Sarah Shams, founders of Made With Love, a charming online art boutique; and Arshia Atiq and Fabiha Atiq, who started The Curious Crate, Bangladesh's first book-based subscription box, share with Star Youth about what makes working with siblings worthwhile.

#### OPEN COMMUNICATION

Being honest with your words plays a central role in sibling partnerships. "Whether it's something we think the other can do better, or minor decisions, we have a safe space to express ideas," says Sarah, who manages the day-to-day operations at Made With Love. Her younger sister Humairah, a marketing and e-commerce student at BRAC University, is the artist and designer. They introduced their brand in August, 2016, at an exhibition named "Carousel of Chaos." They have different products ranging from writing materials, mugs, and stickers to art prints, cards, and bags. Sarah and Humairah claim that open communication, be it casual



(From left) Humairah Shams, Arshia Atiq, Fabiha Atiq and Sarah Shams

what agitates and motivates the other. "Having defined responsibilities keeps things structured and gives us the freedom to foster our strengths," Arshia shares.

#### SHARED VISION

Setting your ego aside for the vision of the business and the strength of your partnership is central to working with your sibling. Both Arshia and Fabiha love reading and wanted to create something exciting for bibliophiles. "Going into it, we had the support from our parents and we were confident that we are the right people to do it," says Arshia. When asked how does working together affect their relationship, Humairah says, "There are long hours but it's fun because you have your sister to rely on and share the highs and lows with."

When you start a business with your sibling, it is important to find the middle ground between being too comfortable and too considerate. However, making the most out of the advantages that come with being family can be considered the key role that makes sibling partnerships successful.

## PODCAST ALERT!

RASMIA RAHMAN AMREEN

Whenever Fardeen Munir commutes to and fro his school and residence, it takes him at least two hours before he can reach his destination. While stuck in the heavy and notorious traffic of the Dhaka city, Fardeen, alike most of the youths of his age, has the option of browsing through Facebook, checking Instagram stories, listen to music or even create hilarious (yet amusing) Snapchat stories. Besides using social media, the traffic scenario can also be used to listen to podcasts; a term still unfamiliar to the mass public of Bangladesh. Fardeen not only listens to podcasts, but, is also involved in creating his own.

"A TV show without the visuals," - this is how the 12 grader of Sir John Wilson School defines a podcast. "These audio files can be downloaded from the internet to a computer or mobile device and later be listened to. I started listening to podcasts since grade eight on topics of my interest, like theatre, poetry, electronics, gadgets and more. Not only did they help



Fardeen Munir

Fardeen also talks about how meaningful contents can be made. As he explains, step 1 is to chalk-out a plan and makeup your mind that you are doing this not to achieve validation, rather, you have a passion for it. Step 2 is all about getting into action and recording the podcast using a microphone like the Blue Yeti or simply, your smart phone. Step 3 involves editing the digital file by using software like Adobe Auditions or Logic Pro. Next, step 4, is to upload your final work on your website or on a SoundCloud account. Finally, last but most importantly, market your work.

"The steps are fairly easy once someone gets the hang of it," Fardeen adds.

On asking about his future plan regarding the unique venture, he expresses to have released at least a hundred podcast episodes before joining university. "I wish to use my podcasts to bridge between the rural and urban voices in our country too," Fardeen expresses.

To access the mentioned podcasts, visit [show.munirhasan.com](http://show.munirhasan.com)

quench my thirst for knowledge, but also, helped turn my idle time spent behind traffic to more productive."

Breaking distance barriers, Fardeen has released podcasts of notable and successful Bangladeshis scattered all over the world through his programme called "The Munir & Munir Show." The personalities



[www.youthop.com](http://www.youthop.com)

## Youth Opportunities

### Lester B. Pearson International Scholarship Programme 2018-19 in Canada

Each year approximately 37 students will be named Lester B. Pearson Scholars. These scholarships recognise outstanding students from around the world, including international students studying at Canadian high schools. This is U of T's most prestigious and competitive scholarship for international students.



Deadline: December 1, 2017 | Scholarship

### The Global Student Challenge 2018



Experience the life of a Corporate Executive and run your own virtual company. Ultimately, get noticed by top corporates and get recruited for your dream job or internship!

Deadline: December 31, 2017 | Competition

### Commonwealth Youth Awards 2018 in the UK

The Commonwealth Youth Awards for Excellence in Development Work 2018 aim to raise the profile of young people and highlight the contribution they are making towards developing a fairer, sustainable, peaceful, and prosperous future for the Commonwealth.



Deadline: December 14, 2017 | Awards

### Digital World 2017 in Dhaka



The slogan "Digital Bangladesh" carries a great significance for the Government of Bangladesh in order to ensure development through digitalization. As a part of this continuous process, a mega ICT event called "Digital World-2017" is going to take place at Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC), Aargaon, Dhaka.

Deadline: Ongoing | Conference



Dhrubotara Youth Development Foundation (DYDF) has celebrated their 17th founding anniversary countrywide on November 10, 2017, at the Galesia Resort in Banani.



PHOTO: COURTESY