



BUILDING A CLEAN NATION

ASHLEY SHOPTORSHI SAMADDAR

Crushed cola tin cans, battered plastic bottles, pieces of worn out paper and rotten pieces of expired food – these elements not only ruin the beauty of our city, but also bring about many diseases such as diarrhoea, flu, and cholera, to name a few. With pollution being one of the prime drawbacks in our way to a well-built society, BD Clean aims to clean not only Dhaka, but the whole nation. 14,000 BD Clean members work voluntarily, with their sets of mops and brooms, to clean dustbins, streets, school buildings and any other places where humps of dirt have piled up. "In June 2016, I saw a picture of a rubbish heap outside the dustbin and could not bear to look at it. Even though there was a dustbin just around the corner, poly bags full of rotten food and other wastes were just lying around openly on the streets," says BD Clean's founder, Farid

Uddin, upon asking about how they came up with the initiative's vision. BD Clean has been working for the last two years in 48 districts, including Dhaka. Every weekend, the volunteers gather up and set off to their cleaning mission in Cumilla, Tangail, Narayanganj and many other cities across the country. Besides cleaning the dustbins and streets, they also take rotations, creating awareness about cleanliness in different places. They also carry out sessions to increase awareness about safe disposal of wastage in the areas they work in. BD Clean also helps to facilitate dustbins with the help of the Dhaka City Corporation. BD Clean operates through different teams specifically opted for their respective areas, communicating with the inhabitants of Tangail and Gopalganj. Today, they have earned the title of one of the best youth social welfare teams in the country.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Rise Up For Women Conference 2018

AFSANA AZIZ NITOL

On December 10, the premises of Hotel Galesia and Resort Limited in Banani was filled with art, music, poetry and good vibes. The day was dedicated to all the women who were victims of sexual violence and assault. The event was a part of the 16-day long campaign (November 25 - December 10) titled, 'Rise up for Women Conference 2018', organised by Radio Shadhin 92.4FM, in association with UN Women, Brac, Manusher Jonno Foundation, Acid Survivors Foundation, Engaging Men and Boys Alliance, CSKK and Bangladesh Mahila Parishad. Throughout the day, children participated in a painting competition. Musicians including Labik Kamal Gaurob, a band from the indigenous community named F Minor, and others entertained the crowd with musical performances. During the event, women spoke about their experience of violence and abuse which made a lot of people aware of the severity of the situation. The day came to an end with a panel discussion, moderated by Mir



PHOTO: COURTESY

Fazle Rabby, Aly Zaker - Chairperson of Asiatic360, Sara Zaker - Vice Chairperson of Asiatic360, Neville Ferdous Hasan - Managing Director of Radio Shadhin, Shaheen Anam - Executive Director of Manusher Jonno Foundation, Mahtabul Hakim - Program Analyst of UN Women and Asif Saleh - Senior Director of Communications and Strategy at Brac, were also present during the dialogue.



www.youthop.com

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

Deutsche Welle (DW) Journalism Traineeship in Bonn and Berlin, Germany

Deutsche Welle is looking for young people from all over the world, who are interested in a comprehensive and exceptional journalism traineeship program. DW is a German broadcasting house that works all over the world. DW is looking for open-minded people full of creative ideas.

DEADLINE: January 10, 2019 | Internship

Global UGRAD Exchange Program 2019 in USA



The Global Undergraduate Exchange Program (Global UGRAD) brings future leaders to the US to experience their educational system, share their culture, and explore US values. Global UGRAD is administered by World Learning on behalf of the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

DEADLINE: December 31, 2018 | Full Scholarship

Swedish Institute Scholarships for Global Professionals 2019

The Swedish Institute Scholarships for Global Professionals (SIGSP) programme is part of the Swedish government's international awards scheme aimed at developing global leaders who will contribute to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

DEADLINE: February 14, 2019 | Full Scholarship

Baby Pixels presents Baby Photography Exhibition 2018

YOUTH DESK

While wedding photography has become tremendously popular over the years in Bangladesh, baby photography is still quite an unexplored area. Considering the demand of newborn photography in the country, Baby Pixels started its journey in 2016 with many experienced photographers and artists. They capture photographs of newborns, blending western styles of baby photography with Bangladeshi themes.

Baby Pixels recently arranged the first ever baby photography exhibition in Bangladesh at Drik Gallery. They launched it with an online quiz before the event, in which the winners received a free birthday photoshoot for their children from Baby Pixels. Moreover, participants of the competition received a



PHOTO: COURTESY

10 percent discount card for any service from Baby Pixels. In the event, the organisers arranged beautiful sets where the participants enjoyed free photography

services. "Baby photography was always present in Bangladesh, but the style was different. In our childhood, our par-

ents took us to studios to take beautiful pictures in front of floral wallpapers. Now, the times have changed, but the demand is still there," said Anika Rahman, the co-founder of Baby Pixels. "Families now want to record memories starting from the pregnancy to the toddler years. We want to help parents capture these beautiful moments in creative ways." Starting from village cowboys to brides, superheroes and Disney characters, Baby Pixels offers a wide range of concepts for photographs with their artistic ideas and set designs. Along with the artist team, which comprises of mothers, Baby Pixels also has a team of skilled and renowned young photographers. Apart from new parents and customers, many old clients of Baby Pixels also attended the exhibition and made it a success.