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# Students from across the world to host online concert to raise funds

Vinamrata Borwankar | TNN | Jun 13, 2020, 12:01 IST

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In 2013, Mrinalini Somani, a young musician, along with her friends from the Cathedral and John Connon School, Fort formed a group called WE to give children from all backgrounds to showcase their talent.



*Representational Image. (Getty Images)*

MUMBAI: Not ones to be deterred by the on-going Covid-19 pandemic, a fundraising rock concert conceptualised by city based students will be hosted online this year. The two hour long concert on Saturday evening will have 192 students performing to raise Rs 50 lakh for the Salaam Bombay Foundation.

In 2013, Mrinalini Somani, a young musician, along with her friends from the Cathedral and John Connon School, Fort formed a group called WE to give children from all backgrounds to showcase their talent. The group has since roped in students from more schools and hosted a yearly concert in the city to raise funds and give children a stage.

“We couldn’t let the pandemic stop us from doing the good we have done for so many years. During the lockdown, I had seen so many concerts happening online so we decided to do the same. Not only will we be able to reach more people, we have also been able to find performers from across the world, said Mrinalini who is studying in the USA but back in the city due to the lockdown. The online feed of the concert will have a button on screen where viewers can donate for the cause.

Among those performing this year, 150 are from private schools of Mumbai, UK and USA and the remaining 42 those supported by foundation, which is founded by Mrinalini’s mother. Students from across the world are choreographing and practicing performances using the mobile phone. “My phone did not have the internet pack but my uncle paid for it when he found out that I wanted to practice for my performance. We have been seeing instructional videos and trying to do our best. We miss the fun and travel we did during the previous concert that happened in Mumbai on stage,” said Kashish Saroj, a student of a civic school in Jogeshwari and a participant.

Funds raised will be used to address the paucity of food and essential supplies and to provide uninterrupted creative and vocational skill development through e-learning opportunities.

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