# Dear Partner,

March at VR Ambarsar was brought alive by the sixth edition of the Punjab Art Initiative, transforming the Centre into a vibrant cultural hub. Centered on the theme The Future Is Now, the month featured immersive installations, bold artistic interventions and literary experiences that made art more accessible and community-driven.

As the festival extended into early April, it set the tone for more thoughtfully curated, creative engagements ahead.

Warm regards,
Team VR Ambarsar

## HIGHLIGHTS

### PUNJAB ART INITIATIVE

6th March – 5th April 2026

The sixth edition of the Punjab Art Initiative commenced at VR Ambarsar on 6th March 2026 with the theme The Future Is Now, inviting artists to reflect on how contemporary practices respond to and imagine the future. This iteration, hosted at the Centre, brought together 40 artists from across Punjab, Canada, Curaçao of the Punjab Art Initiative. The opening ceremony featured the unveiling of the Kala Kumbh, the lighting of the traditional lamp, and a cultural folk performance by artist Glen Dawus, setting the tone for a dynamic and inclusive celebration of art and expression.

### FINE ART | SCULPTURES INSTALLATIONS

6th March – 5th April 2026

Artists and students from Khalsa College Amritsar, Khalsa College of Education, Lovely Professional University, BBK DAV College for Women, and the Bhagat Puran Singh School for the Deaf came together to present a compelling range of installations and sculptural works. Exploring themes of environmental sustainability, social inclusion, and evolving human connection, the showcase reflected the spirit of The Future Is Now through immersive and thought-provoking artistic responses.

### POCKETS OF HOPE UNESCO EXHIBITION

6th March – 5th April 2026

In collaboration with the UNESCO Regional Office for South Asia, VR Ambarsar presented the Pockets of Hope UNESCO Exhibition, showcasing photo stories from the Pockets of Hope initiative. The UNESCO Chair in the Bhagavad Purana Programme, an exhibition from Bangladesh and landscapes from across the globe, adding an environmental and globally resonant dimension to the festival experiences.

### PUNJAB IN FOCUS

6th March – 5th April 2026

The Punjab in Focus Art Gallery presented a thoughtfully curated photography exhibition capturing stories, landscapes, and everyday moments from across the region. The showcase reflected Punjab's rich cultural fabric while also highlighting its evolving urban identity through a visual storytelling lens.

### BASEMENT ART PROJECT

6th March – 5th April 2026

The Basement Art Project reimagined an underutilized space within VR Ambarsar as an immersive contemplative environment. This initiative underscores how unconventional spaces can be transformed into compelling cultural touchpoints within the Centre.

### ART BAZAAR

6th – 8th March 2026

The Art Bazaar at VR Ambarsar emerged as a vibrant and curated marketplace of locally crafted handicrafts, textiles, and contemporary creative expressions. Drawing on the Centre's ongoing commitment to intersection of culture and commerce while offering visitors an immersive cultural experience rooted in creativity.

### PAPER MÂCHÉ WORKSHOP

14th March 2026

The Paper Mâché Workshop offered participants a hands-on exploration of a traditional craft form, combining creativity with cultural expression. Participants worked with colour and pattern, blending creativity, learning, and appreciation for sustainable art practices.

### TOY MAKING WORKSHOP

21st March 2026

The Toy Making Workshop engaged students in an enjoyable and hands-on creative session. Under the guidance of expert facilitators, participants explored the process of turning ideas into form, creating an interactive and engaging learning experience.

### LITERARY FESTIVAL

20th – 29th March 2026

A key highlight of the festival, the Literary Festival unfolded as a lively book fair spanning genres and audiences, engaging readers, students, and families alike. Open mic sessions and poetry recitals brought forward diverse voices, creating moments of expression, reflection, and connection throughout the festival period.

### ART IN MOTION

23 March 2026

One of the more distinctive highlights of the month, Art in Motion combined movement and live painting in a dynamic performance that transformed the human canvas in real time. The act encouraged audiences to experience art beyond static forms and engage with it as something fluid, evolving, and deeply expressive.

## UPCOMING STORE

### Krishna Jewels

Krishna Jewels is set to bring an authentic and elegant jewellery shopping experience to VR Ambarsar, curated for the discerning customer. Known for intricately crafted designs that blend traditional charm with contemporary appeal, the brand will add a distinctive new offering to the Centre's retail mix.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAM

17 April 2026

The Young Artists Program at VR Ambarsar will feature a Watercolour Competition bringing together students from schools and institutes to showcase their creativity. The initiative is designed to encourage young artists to explore colour and expression and express their ideas through art while building imagination, skill, and confidence.

### WATER COLOUR WORKSHOP

7th April 2026

As part of the ongoing Punjab Art Initiative, VR Ambarsar will host a Watercolour Workshop for emerging artists and students. The session will offer participants a relaxed, practical and engaging opportunity to deepen their understanding of the medium.

### BAISAKHI CELEBRATION

13th April 2026

VR Ambarsar will celebrate Baisakhi with an event that brings together vibrant music, traditional performances, and festive energy, reflecting the spirit of Punjab and the joy of the joyful community-led celebration at the Centre.

### VR WEEKENDER

11th & 25th April 2026

VR Weekender is set to bring alive a vibrant celebration of music, creativity, and community. With a lineup of local musicians, engaging performances and a platform for young artists, the initiative will continue to build on the Centre's existing artistic and community-driven identity.

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