Breeze started off this year as a quiet fest jostling for Friday morning packed with classes. The first day had some hiccups with setup, and students trickled rather than flooded in. But as they lingered, participating in an event here and there, the numbers steadily increased. Today, as we enter the last day of Breeze ’14, there is an almost palpable excitement in the air accompanied by reluctance, of sorts, to let the fest wrap up and daily activity take over.

There is, we admit, a sentimental undertone in the air today. That may just be hangover effects of the Ballroom dance for some, but for those who have seen Breeze grow with the University the close of this year’s fest marks yet another year of first and second and umpteenth plans, of experiments, disasters and roaring successes. There’s a pride of sorts associated with pulling off a three-day event extravaganza in a remote village where our nearest neighbors are the deer and peacocks strutting around, and we’d like to congratulate the Organizing Committee for doing it as well as they did.

Sure, there were goof ups. Heck, there’s still the entire day for more of them [and we can’t deny that we’re rubbing our hands in anticipation of being able to report them]. But what’s a fest with events that all start on time, no loafers who stumble onto an event and somehow manage to walk away with the first prize and no sudden screech from the sound system, which has almost become synonymous with every SNU event? Insipid and uninspiring, we say. And insipid, good reader, we are not.

We’ll try to contain the tears of pride that are threatening to spill over, hide our faces and surreptitiously blow noses in order to assume an air of professional aloofness as we cover the final day of Breeze ’14. Stay with us to savour the final hours of excitement and revel in the sense of unbounded freedom before the curtains fall, the audience takes leave and we bow out.
Snuphoria is continuing to bring out excellent musical talent with its string of performances and competitions, Western Vocals being no exception. The competition was a real musical treat to classic western fans. There was a total of twelve teams participating giving the large audience plenty to cheer about.

The performances were totally mesmerizing with students on both vocal and instrumental performing well. Also the excellent choices of songs by the participants made the crowd go crazy.

A special mention to Aayush Bhattacharya’s number ‘Patience’ by Guns & Roses which was an absolute treat.
**Balloon Minefield** was by far one of the most entertaining events for both participants and audience, who were actively cheering and prodding contestants along. The game itself was very simple, with teams having to ferry balloons from one side to another using their legs and one member having to remain seated on a balloon without bursting it. Hijinks ensued, with contestants providing an immense amount of entertainment as they struggled to get the maximum number of balloons.

**Face Painting**, organized by the Creative Club, saw a very high turnout and some extremely innovative ideas. Participants had to work in teams of two, with one acting as the 'canvas' and the other the painter. Participants had to bring their own paints, and some begging ensued as some had forgotten all about that. Luckily, there was plenty to go around. We were impressed more by the models patience than anything, knowing how hard it is to sit still for a minute, let alone an hour. They sat still while the other member of their team let their creative side out and painted some very impressive scenes using the face, bringing in questions of identity, faith, peace and other supposedly intellectual pursuits one would not associate with a painting competition. It was, in short, a well conducted event which probably could have benefited from a quick public display of the final looks.

**A Slap Here, An Idiot There**

I pretty much could not form a coherent sentence when I saw RJ Amit, the Chief Guest for the Fashion Fiesta, spontaneously [according to members of the OC] take the stage and spout sexist, racist, misogynistic and homophobic comments all in the span of about twenty minutes.

Let’s just start with the basic clarification that dude, ‘girls not having to do any work’ is not chivalry, in this century at least. Nor is ‘being a man’ standing in public and having a woman slap you for no reason whatsoever. It is not macho or brave in any way. If anything, it makes you look like an idiot for getting whacked around to entertain others.

RJ Amit’s fabulous sense of humour didn’t stop there, of course. He went on to express great shock at how the girls never felt like slapping the guys at SNU [consider, perhaps, that they’re nice guys?]. “Kaisa college hai yeh jahan ladkon ko thappad marne ka mann nahin karta?” Excellent. You come to a University in which men behave like decent human beings and treat women like decent human beings, make fun of that and try to make the men feel like perhaps they’ve been doing something wrong. We don’t need to look far to understand why women in this country are eve-teased and harassed if these are the kinds of dialogues that are spouted by self-proclaimed youth icons.

Let’s not forget, of course, the occasional jokes slipped in at the expense of the gay community. Yesterday, we saw a play in which the effeminacy of Karan Johar was basically the funniest thing ever. Today, another person comes in and makes the whole community a suitable target for his need to be cool by implying that other guys are hitting on him but “main waisa nahi hoon”. I spoke to the organizers of the Imprints spoof. They were gracious in acknowledging their oversight of a potentially sensitive situation, but assured us that their spoof was more about the person himself [Karan Johar] than what he may possibly represent and promised to be more conscious in the future. That, I’d say, is being cool. For me, being cool means being sensitive to a community of people who are fighting to be taken seriously as human beings, who are fighting to not be made fun of when they say they love someone. There’s no need to stand at their rallies, but don’t make it alright to turn a part of their identity into a joke.

Members of the Breeze Core Committee claimed to be unaware of the fact that RJ Amit would be taking the stage and of the contents of his speech. That’s fine – you cannot actually predict everything that’s going to happen at a three day event. The fact that not one of them stopped it when they figured out what was happening is not fine. The fact, for that matter, that members of the faculty were present at the event and did nothing is not fine. I sincerely hope that, in future, we formulate some kind of code of conduct not just for students, but also for the people we invite to influence them.
I Could Have Danced All Night

The Ballroom themed night, for which people had spent the past three days arranging dresses, was a great start to a night [well, up until midnight] of partying. The OC got a welcome break from the flurry of phone calls, travel bookings and the likes, while others just got a welcome break from relaxing.

Starting around 8:00 pm, the effect of the night was enhanced by the excellent lighting and choice of music, some of which was performed live by SNU students. Some of the ladies in high heels saw their balance go for a bit of a toss in the uneven ground but once they tossed their shoes aside, they were good to go.

Dresses were gorgeous all round, tuxedos sharp and ambience perfect. No one strayed too far from the expected bounds, so unfortunately no daring fashionista to report. There were a couple of plain lazy slobs [mea culpa], though, who chose to arrive in their regular gear and just enjoy the fabulous DJ.

We have no photos for now, but wait for a combined collage - it'll be worth it!

What To Expect

Tech Talks

Switch Code
Your coding skills won’t matter as much as your coordination with your partner in this one - swap places in the middle, decipher and complete their code.

Venue: CSELab2
Time: 12:00-15:00

Optimize Me
Optimize code according to given space and time complexity.

Venue: CSELab2
Time: 15:00-18:00

Livic Quiz
If Megastructures was your favorite show, this is probably the quiz for you.

Venue: SH002
Time: 13:00-15:00

Ornithopter
Emulate the Wright brothers in this flying machine challenge.

Venue: Intersection
Time: 11:00-16:00

5 Minutes Are Enough
To build an electric circuit? We’re not so sure.

Venue: C205
Time: 11:00-14:00

When

... it's the last day of your fest

Culture Condensed

Beat Master
Dance your way to the top by spontaneously catching the beat.

Venue: Main Stage
Time: 11:00-12:00

Choreotrix
Come up with choreography for a given song and theme. For those with two left feet, watch the participants perform.

Venue: Main Stage
Time: 12:00-14:00

Dumtakshri

Venue: C205
Time: 11:00-14:00

Street Play
The quintessential Nukkad Natak - no mics, no auditorium, just the street and the audience.

Venue: D003
Time: 11:00-13:00

Acoustic JAM

Venue: SH001
Time: 14:00-16:00

The Team

Meghna Joshi
Indranajan Banerjee
Vatsal Shah
B. Deewang
K Kirithigaa
Shri Balaji

Next Edition
Breeze Compiled
A complete summary of all the main events of Breeze, review of food stall prices, general management, interview with the Organizing Committee, Survey Results, Complete Sports Coverage, Day 3 Coverage.

SNU Rascals

Raghu Ram, the producer of MTV Roadies, will be here to conduct an SNU version of Roadies, complete with obstacles, interview questions and awesome prizes! If you think you have what it takes to be a Rascal, be on Stage at 19:00.

Think a Drink, organized by the Culinary Club, wants you to become a bartender for the day and come up with your own mix.

Venue: Mess Time: 15:00-17:00

Big Picture is like the Art Attack of SNU.

Venue: Corridor Time: 11:00-14:00

Cresendo or Battle of the Bands is another popular Breeze event, thankfully being held in the evening so we can actually cheer. A must watch for any rock music fan, with bands coming in from the Delhi/NCR region to compete.

Venue: Main Stage Time: 16:00-19:00