**PRESIDENCY COLLEGE**

Kempapura, Hebbal, Bangalore – 560024  
Reaccredited ‘**A+**’ by NAAC

NIRF Ranked College

**CENTRE FOR MEDIA STUDIES**

**FILM CLUB**

**FILM REVIEW WRITING WORKSHOP and CONTEST**

**DATE: 10/08/2017**

The Nuanced Art of Film Review Writing

The Film Club organized a film review writing workshop on August 10, 2017. Pop culture enthusiast and avid cinephile, Ms. Parinitha Shinde from St. Joseph’s College conducted the hour long workshop on how to write a film review. Ms. Shinde began the workshop by asking participants to describe, in a sentence, a movie that they had recently watched. Taking cues from participants’ responses Ms. Shinde went on to point the importance of a balanced approach to film reviewing.

Participants were then asked what rules one must follow to write a good film review. To the utter amazement of the audience, Ms. Shinde claimed that there were no rules, no formulaic approaches to writing reviews. The emergence of new media had changed the traditional methods of reviewing films and had made it more democratic and open to several styles. Using slides, Ms.Shinde ran through an overview of the best film critics, from Roger Ebert to our very own Anupama Chopra, to demonstrate the diverse approaches to film reviewing.

Ms. Shinde then went on to speak about the essentials of review writing. While agreeing with the participants’ views on the importance of objectivity and fairness in reviewing, she said what was imperative in a good review was that reviewers justify the stances they take. According to her, reviewers who lauded or criticized without validating their views lost audience credibility.

Before wrapping up the workshop, Ms. Shinde screened the critically acclaimed Mathieu Ratthe film *Lovefield.* Participants had to write a 150 word review based on what they had learnt in the workshop. Responding to some of the reviews, Ms. Shinde reiterated the importance of ensuring that opinions did not hang in the air without proper reasoning.

The interaction came to an end with the screening of the Oscar award-winning short film *Paperman,* followed by a film review writing contest.

More than thirty students of BAJ took part in the competition and Aarushi, I BAJ, Suneha, II BAJ and Aditya Kedia, III BAJ won the first, second and third prizes respectively.

By Ms. Soumya R

