

About Uddami

UCTC (Uddami Computer Training Centre)

UCTC SCHOOL

We teach practical, job-oriented computer skills to the underserved in Kolkata. The basic UCTC course is free on a first come, first serve basis. Our students are young people who know computer skills will get them a better job and women who would like to acquire employable skills that would give them some financial security. All of our students are from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

Achievements

- Three UCTC teachers are graduates of our school:
 - RABIA KHATOON
 - MAHUA BERA
 - SOMNATH SARDAR
- 51% of 37 students enrolled this year were women
- 18% of our students this year were deaf
- Four of our graduates are working as computer teachers in other NGOs: Somnath Sardar, Rabia Khatoon and Sukla Mazumdar in **Tomorrow's Foundation** and Sanchita Gharami in **Daywalka Foundation**.

UCTC WEBSITE

The website is now updated entirely by Rabia Khatoon, one of UCTC's teachers. Rabia keeps our current student photos up to date, uploads our students' webpages and creates new webpages as needed. <http://www.uddamiindiafoundation.org>

UCTC LIBRARY

Our library has books in English and Bengali. The library is open to all UCTC students and graduates as well as students and teachers from the local community. Books are often donated by local members of the community and visitors to UCTC.

UCTC SPOKEN ENGLISH CLASS

Due to repeated requests from our students we offer a free spoken English class on Saturday morning. The class includes students, friends and three teachers from **Parivari**, a primary school in Lake Gardens.

Workforce Development & Partnering – Uddami Partner Project

The method of teaching computer skills we have developed in UCTC has been spreading to other organisations in Kolkata. During the last two years we have helped three other organizations (**New Light**, **Tomorrow's Foundation** and **Daywalka Foundation**) develop a computer program based on the UCTC model.

We encourage small classes and hands-on training. When we partner with another organization we provide our curriculum and expertise. Our graduates who teach are great role models because they are usually from the same background as the students that they teach.

PARTNERS

- **TOMORROW'S FOUNDATION** - we continued and expanded our joint computer program at the **Kalighat Tomorrow Foundation Computer Centre** with the help of a grant to TF from GOAL INDIA FOUNDATION. Three UCTC graduates have been placed in this school as teachers. The program introduces the computer to students of TF's school. Twenty-five older students are following a more advanced vocational computer curriculum (a smaller version of the UCTC course) to get them ready for a job.
- **DAYWALKA FOUNDATION** - we placed one of our graduates, Sanchita Gharami, as teacher of their computer program. DAYWALKA is new to Kolkata but they have been working with trafficked women and girls in Nepal since 1995.

Of Interest

- **UDDAMI COMPUTER TRAINING CENTRE is mentioned in a best-selling book in Spain** by Hernan Zin called LA LIBERTAD DEL COMPROMISO along with five other projects - two in Kolkata, one in Tibet and two in South America.
- **NIVEDITA PAL**, UCTC's Founder and Director, **added Bengali text to a slide presentation** that will be used for a research project on hepatitis prevalence in the sex worker population of Kolkata. This presentation explains all types of hepatitis in detail.
- Our **graduates SANJAY DAS and SOMNATH SARDAR** are **tutoring** two six-year-old boys from the locality **in English**.
- A business in Salt Lake has agreed to take on **two Uddami graduates as interns** to train them in the areas of data entry, software testing, web site development, word processing and transcription. These interns will be paid a small stipend for a three month-long internship.

Future Plans

- Develop a shorter Uddami curriculum for partners that will include mainly vocational skills.
- Research other partners that wish to set up a computer programme.
- Keep the number of female students to 50% or more.

Acknowledgement - thanks to these individuals and organisations for their invaluable support:

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Mrs. Harshamanjari Nanda

New Light

Miss Nivedita Pal

Uddami India Foundation
End of Year Report - 2005



Miss Rabia Khaton
shuktara
Tomorrow's Foundation