

Today's Paper » FEATURES » EDUCATION PLUS

November 26, 2012

We the students



College is where teenagers blossom. A place where they learn, evolve and transform into better human beings. College provides them the opportunity to be responsible and to take up responsibility. During one's college life, apart from one's favourite teachers, it is the student union leader, who is admired the most. The team of office bearers play a positive role within and outside the college campus. Every college union has its own special character, as we find out in this story.

Packs a punch

Stella Maris College, Chennai

Stella Maris students elect their leaders when they are finishing their second year itself, so that they enter the third years with a portfolio. Theirs is the smallest union with only six members in the core team. Their union is completing sixty years in 2012 and celebrations are around the corner. They have a strong alumni association and many illustrious members, most recently, singer Shweta Mohan who was the cultural secretary a few years ago. Their culturals is called Aquilae – "after the constellation" the office bearers are quick to add. Union president Maria Joseph says, "It was an eye opener. We worked within the rules and it was just fantastic. Suddenly this year, we had 21 colleges that entered Stella Maris... People complain that we have so many rules but if you really have a goal, these don't matter."

These college unions are strongly supported by staff advisors who pitch in as and when it is required. Cooperation, responsibility, management, enforcement, team work — all this and much more is what these youngsters learn and what they learn here goes a long way in making them future leaders in their chosen fields.