National Institute of Design filmmakers win laurels at Asia documentary festival

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AHMEDABAD: Two students of film and video communication of National Institute of Design (NID) won laurels at Jeevika Asia Livelihood Documentary Festival, New Delhi.

NID officials said Diamond Band, a documentary project film by Samridhi Dasot, won the first prize in Student Category at the festival. Another documentary, Hide Under My Sole by Shradha Jain, got special mention of the jury.

“The film revolves around a brass band called Diamond Band from Jamalpur area of Ahmedabad playing at weddings. While most people know these bands only for their performances, I wanted to explore what lies behind these entertaining performances. I planned to dig into the lives of the performers, their interests, what they feel about their profession and life,” said Samridhi. She was guided by Arun Gupta, a faculty of film and video communication.

Shradha’s film covered craft pockets making famous 'Jutis' situated in the Malwa belt of Punjab. "The film applauds the artisans who have put their heart and soul into making Jutis. More than the physical endurance, it highlights the emotional aspects of the craftsmen involved," said an NID official.

The festival was held from August 31 to September 2. It was ninth edition of the documentary festival dealing with issues of livelihood in Asia. Organized by the Centre for Civil Society, the festival is part of larger livelihood freedom campaign 'Jeevika' which helps develop public policy measures to clear the path for free enterprise.

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