

Kartik Sawhney

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: Kartik Sawhney

Date of birth: June 22, 1994

Nationality: Indian

Parent's name and occupation

- **Father:** Ravinder Sawhney (businessman)
- **Mother:** Indu Sawhney (homemaker)



Contact details

- **E-mail ID:** sawhney.kartik@gmail.com, kartiks2@stanford.edu

Language proficiency: English, Hindi, French

Schools attended:

- Stanford University, CA, USA (B.S., Computer Science-class of 2017)
- Delhi Public School, R.K.Puram, New delhi (Grades VI-XII)
- Delhi Public School, East of Kailash (Jr. School, DPS, R.K.Puram) (Grades I-V)
- National association for the Blind (initial grooming)

Academic Profile

Class	Subjects studied	Aggregate percent/CGPA
IX	English, French, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Foundation of Information Technology	CGPA-10/10
X	English, French, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Foundation of Information Technology	CGPA-10/10
XI	English core, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science	93.4%
XII	English core, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science	95.8%

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Recipient of the prestigious `National Child Award For Exceptional Achievements` for the year 2009 for exceptional ability in the field of academics from the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Govt. of India. This is the highest award in India to honor young achievers and is awarded to only 25 exceptionally meritorious students from across the country every year.**
- **1st All India Rank and 3rd International Rank in the 11th National Cyber Olympiad 2011 (level I) (out of nearly 50,000 students) organized by Science Olympiad Foundation**
- **1st All India Rank in the 8th National Cyber Olympiad 2008 organized by Science Olympiad Foundation**
- **1st State Rank and 4th International Rank in International Informatics Olympiad 2008 (out of nearly 450,000 participants) organized by the Computer Literacy Foundation**
- **2nd State Rank and 12th International Rank in the International Cyber Olympiad 2009 organized by Eduheal Foundation**
- **Recipient of the National Talent Search (NTSE) Scholarship for the year 2009 from the NCERT, New Delhi (1000 students). This is regarded as the most prestigious scholarship in the country at the High School level.**
- **10th State Rank in the 14th National Science Olympiad 2011 (level I)**
- **Received the Junior Science Talent Search (JSTS) scholarship 2010 conducted by Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi**
- Selected for the prestigious Khemka fellowship from the Global Education and Leadership Foundation in recognition of outstanding leadership potential; also selected as a member of the Leader's Forum
- `Gold Medal` awarded by the school for outstanding academic performance for seven consecutive years from 2005-2012
- **`Gold Medal` awarded by the school for outstanding performance in the field of IT and Computer Science**
- **`Class Topper` ever since grade V**

AWARDS AND HONOURS

- Won the `Best Challenger Award` in the Global IT Challenge for Youth with Disabilities 2012 at Incheon, South Korea in October 2012 competing with contestants from over 28 countries
- **`Gold Medal` in English Word Processing (15+ years) at the age of 16 in 3rd National Abilympics 2010 held at Jabalpur; selected to represent India at the 8th International Abilympics at Seoul, South Korea**
- `Gold Medal` for Cadbury Bournvita Quiz Contest-Confidence Championship 2005 organized by Derek O'Brien and Associates Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata
- Honored with the `Arman Dogra Memorial Award` for being the best student of the year 2008-2009
- Honored with the G. Bhaskar Award for exceptional performance in academics, curricular activities and for possessing humane feelings for all

PROFESSIONAL COURSES

- a. `Internet: Beyond the Basics` from the Hadley School for the Blind, Illinois, USA
- b. MS Excel from the Hadley School for the Blind, Illinois, USA

RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCES

- **`End the `Book Famine` with better technology, attitudes and copyright law` - perspective paper has been selected to be published by the UNICEF in its flagship publication `State of the World's Children Report` 2013. The paper discusses web accessibility and access to material in electronic formats for the print impaired community. This is the only paper from India in this report.**
- Conducted a survey to evaluate the status of corporal punishment in India, receiving over 5000 responses, findings of which have been reported to the Ministry of Human Resource and

Development, Govt. of India, urging the department to strengthen the current laws on this issue, while also requesting to ensure implementation

- Developed a software `STEM Made Easy` which consists of two independent modules aimed at making Science and math education accessible and enjoyable for the blind.
 - i. The `Verbal Describer` returns textual description of the figures/diagrams in grade XI and XII Science textbooks (published by the National Council For Educational Research and Training, New Delhi)
 - ii. The `Graph Describer` provides a verbal explanation of the commonly used curves. It further allows for an auditory feedback that allows the blind student to visualize the curve without actually seeing it.

ACTIVITIES

Music

- **Performed for and blessed by the former Presidents of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and Mrs. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, President of Austria, Princess of Thailand, Prime Minister of India, Chief Minister of Delhi, Lt. Governor of Delhi, first lady of Malaysia etc.**
- **Performed with/for several eminent singers and musicians including Pt. Ravi Shankar, Usha Uthup, Maestro Gerald Wirth (conductor/artistic director of Vienna Boy's Choir), Raja Reddi and Kaushalya Reddi, Padma Shri Shobna Narayanan, Nafisa Ali, Abhijeet Sawant and the Fame Gurukul finalists**
- **Selected as the top 10 students from Delhi to receive personal mentoring from internationally acclaimed Pt. Ravi Shankar for an international project in 2009**
- **In June 2007, visited Austria as a member of Global Children's Choir for Peace and performed Indian as well as German, Latin and western compositions in the Austrian Presidential Palace and the Golden Hall, holding the distinction of being the second Indian choir ever at such a stage**
- Participated in the National Bal Shree Camp 2004 (President's Award) after qualifying the first two levels of the contest-State and Zonal levels in the Creative Performance category (top 40 students from the nation)
- **Featured in several prominent newspapers and TV channels including Hindustan Times, Times of India, the Hindu, Asian Age, Dainik Jagran, Pioneer, Sahara, CNN IBN, DD-Bharti, Sadhna TV, Sony Entertainment Television, among others.**
- Subject of documentaries by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and DD-Bharti
- `Red Tie` awarded by the school for outstanding performance in Music

Model UN

S.No.	MUN Conference	Organisers	Achievement
1.	DELMUN 2011	American Embassy School, New Delhi	Best Delegate Award
2.	INMUN 2011	Ryan International School, Noida	Best Delegate Award
3.	PWSMUN 2012	Pathways World School	Best Delegate Award; Secretary General's Best Delegate of the Conference Award

- Interacted with the President of India, Sh. Pranab Mukharjee on the occasion of children's day on November 14, 2012, sharing my perspective on the future of India

Writing

- Articles/essays published in various magazines and newsletters including Government magazine
- One of the poems was selected as the `Best Poem` in an international poetry competition 2012 organized by the Korean Society for the Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities in October, 2012

LEADERSHIP

- **First blind student in the Central Board of Secondary Education, Delhi to take up Sciences at the Sr. Secondary Level (grades XI and XII) in India**
- One of the first blind student in India to use computer for school education
- **Head Boy, Delhi Public School, R.K.Puram, New Delhi: helped organize several school events and maintain decorum**
- Co-ordinator, Poetry Recitation (class X), Le Crayon d'Or, French club, DPS, R.K.Puram: organized French poetry recitation competitions for grade X students
- Member, school music choir (grades VII-XII): won several interschool Zonal and national level competitions
- Member, Global Children's Choir for Peace (grades VI-IX)
- Member, Mozart Children's Choir of India (grades IX-X)
- Member, Awareness for Autism Society, DPS, R.K.Puram (grades IX-XI): conducted advocacy sessions and workshops to bring about more sensitivity and awareness on the issue

SOCIAL INITIATIVES/COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Child Rights Ambassador for Children's Advisory Board of Plan India
 - i. Represented CAB at several board meetings of Plan India and also at a 'stakeholders meeting' wherein officials from India's National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) deliberated on a national Child Protection Policy
 - ii. Recorded radio programs on child labour, education and bullying
 - iii. Conducted seven sessions in Delhi schools to spread awareness of social issues affecting children including child labour and corporal punishment
- Member, Young Voices, Leonard Cheshire Disability
 - i. The group took up the matter with Delhi Metro regarding the inconvenience caused to disabled passengers. The organization has published revised guidelines in respect of disabled passengers, and a positive change is observed.
 - ii. The group also requested the Central Board of Secondary Education and the University of Delhi to modify their examination policies to better address the needs of the disabled candidates, and both the organisations have amended their guidelines.

PAID INTERNSHIP

- Resource Person, Computer Literacy Program, national Association for the Blind, new Delhi: This program was aimed at empowering the teachers to better train students in the use of assistive technology. My role was to demonstrate different facets of assistive technology, and at the same time, train in software development under IT experts. In this capacity, I also acted as an accessibility tester and advisor for Indian Institute of Technology, Madras in one of their assistive technology projects.
- Advisor for the 'Access to Math and Science' project undertaken by the Xaviers Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged (XRCVC), Mumbai

FOREIGN TRAVELS

S.No.	Place visited	Purpose	Year
1.	South Korea	Global IT Challenge for Youth with Disabilities	2012
2.	Austria	Cultural exchange	2007