Malini Kalyanam, a multi-faceted personality, dons many versatile roles - Social activist, Pottery artiste, Holistic healer, HR Consultant, Soft Skills trainer, Yoga therapist, Environmentalist, Freelance writer and Health Insurance Advisor. She started her career as HR head in a multinational company. But she soon discovered that her passion was with artistic pottery. Although her tryst with pottery started in her 40's the yearning commenced as early as when she was 5 years old. Clay, as a part of Mother Earth is a powerful medium of expression and her very fascinating journey unfolded to supplement her environmental and social activities using the same.

She commenced a WhatsApp group called Plant Green Vistas which teaches people everything on gardening and conservation of nature, including ABC of Composting where one can make their own manure and recycle organic wastes. One saves money in the process apart from going organically self-reliant. Needless to add, be energetic and confident too. It teaches one to be self-sufficient. When you teach others to be self-sufficient one changes oneself and subsequently the world.

Malini gave up a lucrative job where she earned a lot of money which many people including her family and friends thought was a ridiculous idea, not understanding her passion for clay that sprang inside of her. Her inner voice which prompted her to give up her job has guided her ever since. She has no regrets whatsoever as pottery has taken her places. Art is not what you see but what you make others see and she hopes Indians will look at art the way the Westerners do.

Her art has taken her close to people including several celebrities in various fields and she realizes that her inner voice or higher self can never go wrong.

Malini as a Reiki Grand Master uses this knowledge to even decide on the kind of people she meets. She says, "Rely and tune in through your heart always and never with your mind, for your heart tells you honestly what to do, whereas your mind is forever wavering, akin to a mad monkey possibly making wrong decisions." She quickly cautions: "Listen to your body signals. If your stomach churns, it is an indication to you that certain people are to be avoided." She goes with the flow that nothing is difficult or impossible and allows Divine will to prevail over hers.

Malini feels that she has learnt ample in life by sculpting with clay. She learnt that it is possible to mould people like molding clay and as a soft-skills trainer, imparts programs using pottery as a 'Therapy and an Art'. But this is a continuous process. It has to be ingrained in people, but unfortunately most soft skill trainers bake the clay before molding, thus resulting in half-baked individuals!! She however

MOULDING WITH CLAY

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