

Gunavathy Chandrasekaran



While Polio may have may have affected GunavathyChandrasekaran physically, restricting her movement on crutches, she has proved with her determination and innate confidence that no obstacle is too hard, for this warrior to overcome. A woman on a mission to prove that her disability hasn't won, Guna, as she is popularly known, is an acclaimed quilling artist known for some

of the finest products, handcrafted by her.

Hailing from an educated family of medical practitioners in Tamil Nadu, Guna had a polio attack at a tender age of two that severely hampered her gait. Restricted movement compelled her to drop out of school after Grade 10 and get married at the age of 16. However, an art lover in her was not ready to succumb to a life confined to her home.

Quilling happened accidentally in her quest for new forms of artwork, when her friend's daughter gifted her earrings made of paper. Guna was fascinated by the art and decided to pursue it further. She decided to create some products with quilling papers and that led her to explore her artistic talent. Now 42, Gunavathy runs a successful business 'Guna's Quilling' that specializes in exquisite handmade paper products like jewellery, wall arts, greeting cards, miniatures, company logo's and more.

Quilling is not just a means of income for Guna, it is a true reflection of her potential and ability. Her unique and extraordinary creations with paper have won her several laurels. A member of the Quilling Guild, UK, she was invited to attend the British Council Workshop in July 2014. And in July 2015, she was invited by the British Council to deliver a guest lecture on her journey. She also gives motivational speeches and organizes quilling workshops at schools and colleges in Tamil Nadu. As a social entrepreneur, she has also trained several housewives and employed many of them in her company.

Guna recognized her innate talent through a simple art of quilling and now aims at helping other woman to understand their strengths. She wants to help specially-abled people learn this craft, which will open up different possibilities for them.

