

SCHOOL OF ARTS PRESS Newsletter



SUNWAY UNIVERSITY

JUNE 2023



About us

School of Arts Press (SOAP) is Sunway University's School of Arts monthly newsletter in which we highlight and provide information on student and staff achievements, past events as well as a notification platform for upcoming events.

Issue highlights

In this month's issue, SOAP highlights the School of Arts' lecturers' and students' achievements, a Lunchtime Concert, and exciting workshops and projects!

The School of Arts Press 📖

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Message From The Dean

In what felt like no time at all, we have completed the first half of the year! Time flies by quickly when we busy ourselves with our work, which certainly is the case here at the School of Arts. Our students and staff continue to make names for themselves and the school with their many endeavours that reach beyond the four walls of the university. In particular, I would like to congratulate the CMAT students and alumni for representing Sunway University at the Malaysian Jazz Piano Festival. May this mark the first of many engagements in the industry.

PROF. MATTHEW MARSHALL



See Hua Daily News Features Dr Fiona Wong Kulit Kelantan Research

On the 20th of April, Dr Fiona Wong E Chiong and her research on Wayang Kulit Kelantan, a type of traditional Malay performing art, were featured in Sarawak's See Hua Daily News. Titled "Light and Shadow, The Art of Narrating and Singing", the article showed Dr Fiona's involvement in various discussions concerning the art. Despite Wayang Kulit Kelantan being part of Malaysia's cultural heritage, there is a lack of awareness among locals. Therefore, Dr Fiona aims to share her expertise with knowledge gained from her research and mentor, the late Malay traditional performing arts scholar Prof. Dato Dr Ghulam-Sarwar Yousof.

2023年4月20日 星期四 06

特别企划

诗华日报

光与影 说唱的艺术

你不知的皮影戏

文：王蔚 摄影：王蔚

皮影戏是一种叙述故事的古老艺术。从远古时期，人们用两个身壳的木偶表演，唱着无调的神话与传说。随着时光的流逝，皮影戏逐渐演变成一种多幕人偶剧形式。由于木偶身壳的雕刻精美，皮影戏在民间广泛流传。在马来西亚，皮影戏主要分为两种：一种是传统的皮影戏，另一种是结合了现代科技的皮影戏。皮影戏不仅是一种表演艺术，更是一种文化传承。在马来西亚，皮影戏主要流行于马来半岛和东马地区。皮影戏的表演形式多种多样，有的使用传统的皮影，有的使用现代的塑料或纸制人偶。皮影戏的表演通常伴随着传统的音乐和唱腔，具有很强的观赏性和艺术性。皮影戏的起源可以追溯到中国古代，后来传入东南亚地区。在马来西亚，皮影戏有着悠久的历史，是当地文化的重要组成部分。皮影戏的表演通常在夜晚进行，通过灯光的照射，使观众看到皮影在幕布后的活动。皮影戏的表演内容丰富多彩，包括神话故事、民间传说、历史故事等。皮影戏的表演形式独特，具有很强的艺术感染力。皮影戏的传承人正在努力保护和传承这一古老的艺术形式，使其在现代社会中继续发扬光大。

照亮皮偶

观众：女神说故事下去的力

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戏偶：完美体态

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角色：左为皮影 右为皮偶

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他与她

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(Photo Source: Dr Fiona Wong E Chiong)

Brightfeather Ensemble

Performs at SOA's Lunchtime Concert

The Lunchtime Concert continued in the month of June with the Brightfeather Ensemble. It took place at the School of Arts Gallery on the 1st of June. The Brightfeather duo consists of violinist Benjamin Hoffman and pianist Irene Kim, who aim to bring hope and strength of music to international audiences. Besides performances from the Brightfeather duo, the concert also presented joint performances between the duo and Dr Andrew Filmer. The audience even stood a chance to enjoy a duet performance with Dr Andrew on the viola and SOA's Dean, Prof. Matthew Marshall on the guitar.





(Photo source: School of Arts Press)

CMAT Students and Alumni Perform at the Malaysian Jazz Piano Festival

On the 9th of June, Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Contemporary Music (Audio Technology) students and alumni represented Sunway University at the Malaysian Jazz Piano Festival! Taking place in the Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (klpac), they performed alongside student bands from other institutions, including the International College of Music (ICOM) and UCSI University. Part-time lecturers Dr James Boyle, Ali Aiman, and CMAT programme leader Ms Christine May Yong also attended the event to show their support.



(Photo source: Christine May Yong)

In preparation for the programme, Ms Christine and technical executive administrator Andrew Tan ran band auditions, with the chosen student lineup being:

- Keys: Khang Xin Yi and David Chok
- Guitars: Brandon Cheong and Caleb Wong
- Drums: Alex Lee
- Vocals: Ryan Pynam, Harith Syed, and Nicole Cheah
- Bass: Andrew Tan

An alumni band was also assembled, featuring:

- Keys: Choo Cheng Qin and Than Yuan Ling
- Bass: Emmanuel Wong
- Guitars: Daniel Lee and Aven Phang
- Vocals: Chloe Liew
- Drums: Adrian Kee



(Photo source: Andrew Tan and Christine May Yong)

The School of Arts Hosts ASEAN Digital Literacy Programme

On 10th June 2023, the School of Arts, Sunway University partnered with Asia Centre to host the ASEAN Digital Literacy Programme with the objective of building resilience against misinformation and disinformation. The Train the Trainers one-day workshop was attended by 25 participants from the industry and other academic institutions, including DOC staff Dr Padma Pillai, Dr Pauline Leong, and Priyadharshini Ahrumugam. Facilitated by Dr James Gomez and Lina Sakina Salim from Asia Centre, the participants learned about information disorder and how to identify different types of disinformation as well as recognising different ways to address this issue.

The ASEAN Digital Literacy Programme (ADLP) is initiated by the ASEAN Foundation with the support of Google.org. Click [here](#) to find out more.



(Photo source: Dr Pauline Leong)

Dr Pauline Leong Features As Panellist in FCCM Panel Discussion

On the 12th of June, Dr Pauline Leong from the Department of Communication took part as a panellist in the panel discussion “State of the Media: Freedom is not Free” organised by the Foreign Correspondents Club of Malaysia (FCCM). She was joined by YB Teo Nie Ching, Deputy Minister of Communications and Digital (KKD), and Datuk Ho Kay Tat, CEO of The Edge Malaysia. The discussion involved the feasibility of free and independent press in the Malaysian media landscape. Dr Pauline shared the necessity of media literacy among Malaysians to enhance the appreciation for journalism efforts and ethics. To learn more about the event, [click here](#).



(Photo source: Dr Pauline Leong)



(Photo source: Dr Pauline Leong)

SOA Postgraduate Students Holds Successful Book Donation Drive

From the 1st to 26th of June, Postgraduate students from the School of Arts organised a Book Donation Drive that aims to promote appreciation for reading and to provide educational resources to underprivileged children and teenagers. The purpose of the donation drive was also to encourage sustainable practices among the audience. The Book Donation Drive received an overwhelming response from the community, with over 600 books collected within the first week! The donated books catered to various interests across diverse genres, including fiction, non-fiction, and self-help among others.



(Photo source: Yusra Dadou)

Safe and Sound Workshop and Forum

Organised By DPA 21' Cohort

On 24th June 2023, the Diploma in Performing Arts 2021 cohort organised a workshop and forum titled: "Safe and Sound: Prioritising the Safety of the Blind Community" in fulfilment of their Community Service module. The event was in collaboration with the Society of the Blind in Malaysia (SBM), in hopes of creating a better understanding between the blind community and sighted people.

Guest speakers, Dr Lim and Mr Loke, addressed three main issues that the public can provide help to the blind and the disabled community alike.

Those issues are:

1. Avoid obstructing the tactile paving on the sidewalk
2. Consider employment for the blind community
3. Consider registering to be an organ donor

The guest speakers emphasised on the importance of volunteers, social support and better regulation. Towards the end of the forum, Dr Lim did a demonstration on the app "Be my eyes" which will assign a sighted volunteer to assist them via live chat. The forum closed with questions from the floor which were answered in detail and with an open mind by the guest speakers.



(Photo source: Teoh Yu Wen)



**Thank you for reading the
June 2023 issue of the School of
Arts Press Newsletter.**

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