

SCHOOL OF ARTS PRESS

# Newsletter



SUNWAY UNIVERSITY

AUGUST 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 lecturers and students' projects, an international art festival, a book launch, and graduation showcases!

## The School of Arts Press

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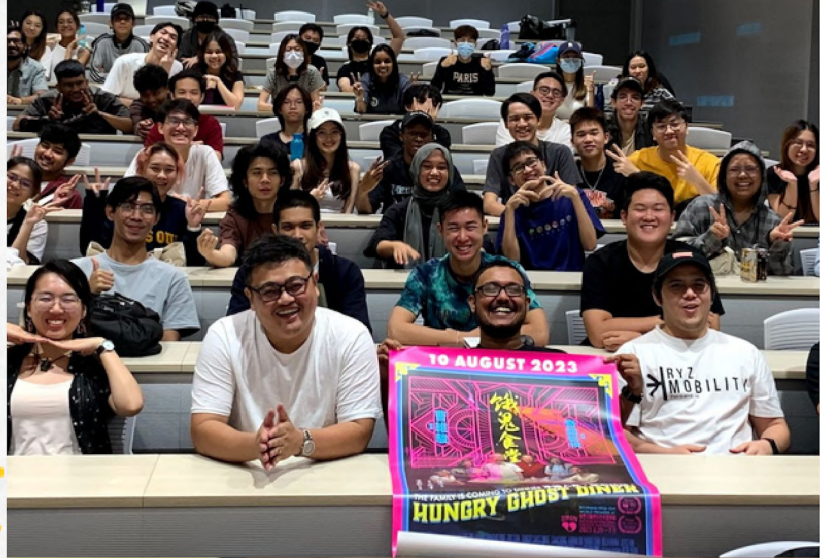




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# Message From The Dean

August is a month of celebration as we conclude the semester through recitals, exhibitions, and screenings of our students' hard work. "ONE FOR ALL" marked the very first time we've held an inter-department showcase, as we aim to unite our academic departments under the larger umbrella of the School of Arts. The School of Arts also hosted the inaugural annual ArtBeats Festival in collaboration with our partner Lancaster University, in which we successfully collaborated with staff, visiting artists and students from Malaysia, UK and Indonesia. I would like to thank our academic and administrative staff as well as our students for their tremendous effort in making both the showcase and the festival such a success!

**PROF. MATTHEW MARSHALL**





The two following articles were intended for the June 2023 issue. However, they have been delayed due to an oversight by the team. We sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.

## Ms Priyadharshini Ahrumugam Conducts Talk and Training Session on Cyberbullying

Ms Priyadharshini Ahrumugam from the Department of Communication conducted a talk on 13th April and a training session on 27th May on the issue of Cyberbullying to Sunway College and Sunway University students. She has experience researching cyberbullying since 2018 and has undergone a Train-the-Trainer training for 'Media Heroes', which is a preventive intervention programme conducted by Free University of Berlin, Germany. As a global citizen who supports SDG3 - primarily the promotion of mental health and well-being, she aims to educate all segments of the community to disengage in cyberbullying behaviours through improved skills/empathy building.



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of Brighter Futures

Mind Matters

### Media Heroes Programme

An interactive training session

**Date:** 27 May 2023 (Saturday)  
**Time:** 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
**Venue:** Function Room 3, Graduate Centre  
**Food:** Lunch Provided

Scan Me!

Limited Seats Available!  
Certificate provided upon completion

Organized by  
**SUNWAY UNIVERSITY** **LIFE** **PCV** **GREEN**

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**Ms. Priyadharshini Ahrumugam**  
Awarded FRGS (Co-Investigator) in cyberbullying  
Trainer for "Media Heroes" programme



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of Brighter Futures

Mind Matters

### CYBERBULLYING

An Interactive Workshop in Understanding and Addressing

**Date:** 13th April 2023  
**Time:** 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
**Venue:** Function Room 3, Uni Building

Scan to Register!

Organized by  
**SUNWAY UNIVERSITY** **LIFE** **PCV** **GREEN**

Created and governed by the  
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Awarding the Skills of Tomorrow

**Ms. Priyadharshini Ahrumugam**  
Dept of Communication Lecturer, Sunway University  
Pursuing a PhD in Higher Education  
Awarded FRGS (Co-Investigator) in cyberbullying  
Trainer for "Media Heroes" programme

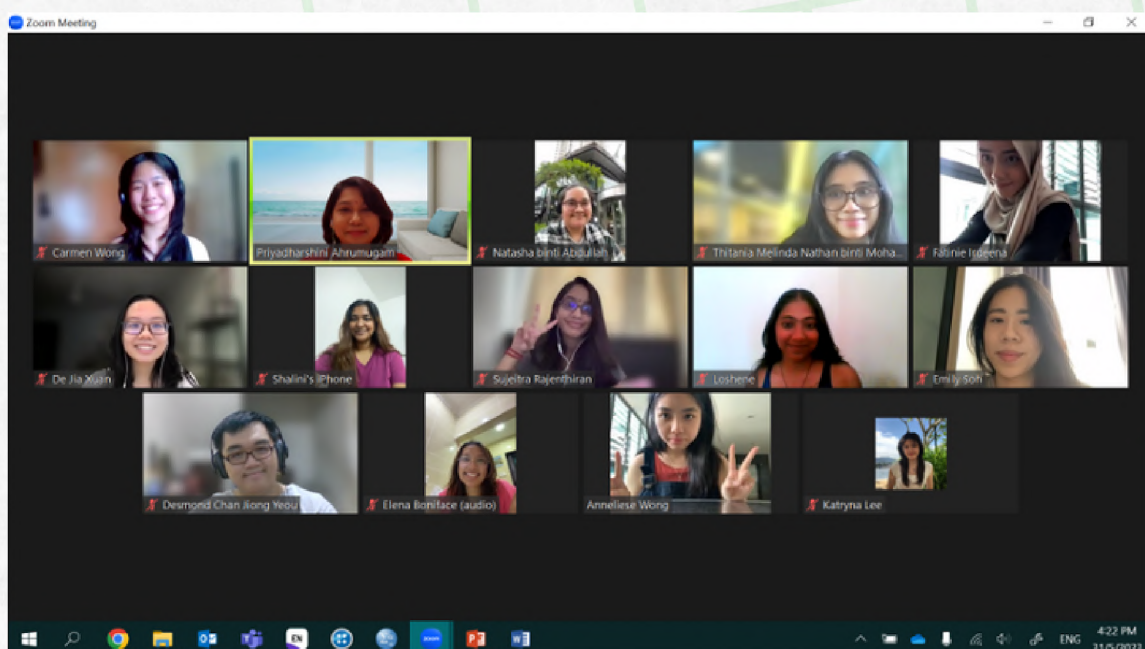
(Photo source: Ms Priyadharshini Ahrumugam)



# DOC Students Turn Judges for the Sunway-Oxbridge Essay Competition 2023

The Sunway-Oxbridge Essay Competition took place for the 10th consecutive year this year, and DOC students once again participated as preliminary judges to select top entries from Category A (13-15 years). This year, the shortlisting took place on the 6th of June at the Library Instructional where the judges shortlisted the top 155 essays from a total of 1477 entries!

This phenomenal feat was achieved by our group of dedicated students, namely: Desmond Chan Jiong Yeou, De Jia Xuan, Choo LeAnne, Carmen Wong Ching Li, Shalini Menon A/P Sreedaran Menon, Natasha Binti Abdullah, Sujeitra A/P B. Rajenthiran, Fatinie Irdeena Binti Illyia, Anneliese Wong Zi En, Kaylee Teo Hui Ying, Thitania Melinda Nathan Binti Mohammad Ashraf Nathan, Katryna Lee Jo-Lyn, Loshene Tamil Shelian and Emily Soh Weng Yan.



(Photo source: Ms Priyadarshini Ahrumugam)



# Dr Fiona Wong Shares About “Wayang Kulit Kelantan” At Malaysian Design Archive

On 10th June 2023, Dr Fiona Wong E Chiong was invited by the Malaysian Design Archive to deliver a talk entitled, “Wayang Kulit Kelantan: A Disappearing Cultural Heritage?” at Rumah Attap in Kuala Lumpur. Since 2022, Dr Fiona has conducted and delivered talks at various institutions and conferences about the Kelantan shadow play stemming from her PhD research and thesis at University Malaya. Kelantan master puppeteer Tok Dalang Pak Rahim bin Hamzah also shared his expertise during the session and demonstrated the voice narration of specific character puppets, even conversing in the Kelantanese Malay dialect with the audience!



(Photo source: Dr Fiona Wong E Chiong)



# SUN4U Radio Places 4th for the Spirit of College Radio Awards 2022

The Spirit of College Radio Awards is an award presented by the College Radio Foundation to acknowledge college radio station efforts. Stations are voted for by the College Radio Task Force, who aim to celebrate stations that embody the passion and mission of college radio. Out of over 700 stations that participate, only ten stations are chosen for the award. For the year of 2022, the School of Arts' own SUN4U Radio placed fourth. Congratulations to all those involved!

View the full list of college radio stations that have been recognised [here](#).

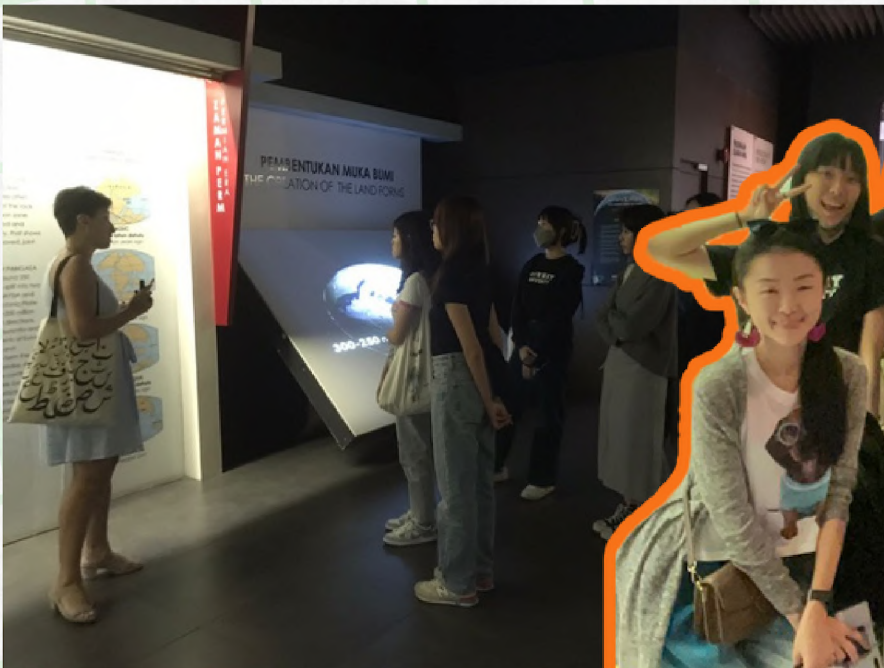


(Photo source: College Radio Foundation )



# Dr Fiona Wong Joined by BDC Students for “History of Art and Design” Field Trip

On the 19th of June, Dr Fiona Wong E Chiong brought BA (Hons) Design Communication students enrolled in the “History of Art and Design” class for a field trip to Muzium Negara at Kuala Lumpur. The trip was in line with an assignment that required an exhibition review of local historical artefacts. Knowledgeable museum tour guide Ms Emna Esseghir further enriched the visit with her explanations regarding exhibits covering four galleries in the museum. This gave the first-year students a good opportunity to learn and discover the artistic and design aspects of historical artefacts including pottery, jewellery, textiles and other crafts.



(Photo source: Dr Fiona Wong E Chiong)





# DOC Students Support Autism Community with Y2K-Themed Rawk Commcert 2.0

On the 27th of July, Department of Communication students held the Y2K-themed Rawk Commcert 2.0. The concert was organised in collaboration with The National Autism Society of Malaysia (NASOM) to raise awareness about autism. Attendees were treated to a memorable evening of food and performances. Through the exciting speeches and content prepared for the concert, the intended message was successfully conveyed, resulting in successful fundraising for the autism community. Besides the crowd's enthusiasm and support, Mr Kumar dancing on stage thrilled everyone even further, contributing to the event's good vibes!



(Photo source:  
Rawk Commcert 2.0 committee)



# 'Hungry Ghost Diner' Film Team Holds Sharing Session with SOA Students

On the 31st of July, students from the School of Arts and Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Digital Film Production course participated in a sharing and Q&A session with the team behind the supernatural family fantasy film “Hungry Ghost Diner”. The team that visited Sunway University included director Cho We Jun, producer Benji Lim, and lead actress Chen Keat Yoke. Besides sharing the filmmaking process, the team also shared how the film’s songs and original soundtrack was used as part of the film’s promotional strategy. BA (Hons) Digital Film Production programme leader Mr Azmyl Yunor’s song titled “Anak Dara” is also featured in the film.

“Hungry Ghost Diner” premiered in Malaysia on 10th August, be sure to check it out!



(Photo source: Mr Azmyl Yunor)



# Dr Pauline Leong Features

## As Panellist In Asialink Forum

In conjunction with the recent state elections, Dr Pauline Leong from the Department of Communication took part as a panellist in the forum “Anwar's States of the Nation: Six Elections, One Future?” organised by Asialink. She was joined by Prof. James Chin of the University of Tasmania, Dr Wan Rohila Ganti of Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UniSZA), and the Centre for Independent Journalism's Wathshlah Naidu. The forum focused on the analysis of the election outcomes. The panel also had a discussion on the trends in political and social order from the election including the impact they have on Anwar Ibrahim’s prime ministership. During the discussion, Dr Pauline emphasised on the importance of political education and literacy among the youths so that they could critically discern political messages.

To learn more, the full recording of the panel discussion is available [here](#).



(Photo source: Asialink YouTube / Asialink LinkedIn)

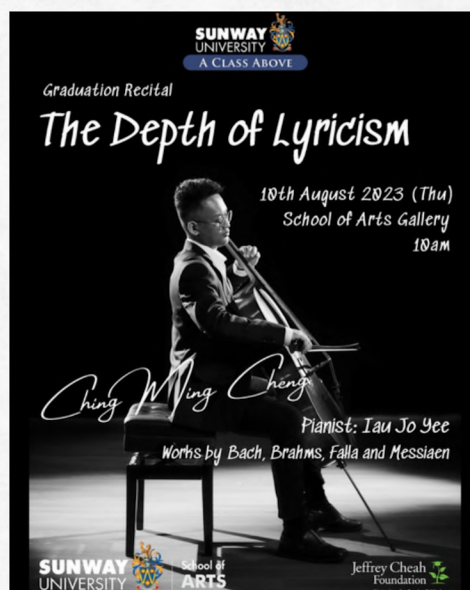
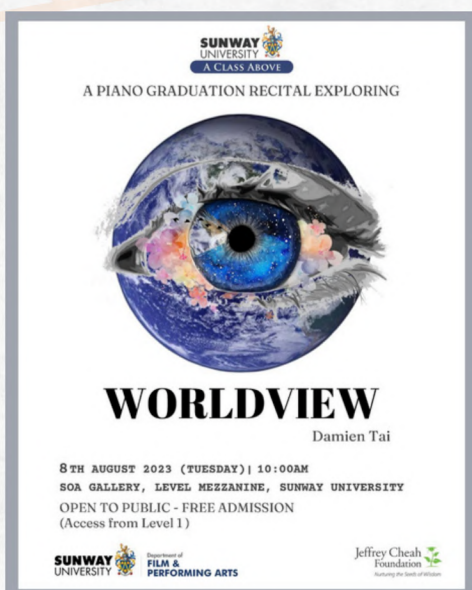


# BA (Hons) Music Performance

## Students Hold Graduation Recitals

The final-year students from the BA (Hons) Music Performance course held their graduation recitals on 8th and 10th August. A total of 6 recitals were held, by Damien Tai (Piano), Tay Jean Ning (Voice), Ching Ming Cheng (Cello), Janice Ter (Piano), Bok Xiao Leq (Piano) and Felicia Santoso (Piano). Each of the students performed in their own unique theme with a mix of works from famous composers and musicians around the world such as Chopin, Beethoven and Franz Liszt. The recitals marked the completion of the students' university journey and celebrated all they had learned in their time at Sunway University.

Congratulations on the successful completion of your graduation recitals!



(Photo source: School of Arts Press)



(Photo source: School of Arts Press)





# DPA Students Perform at the Yayasan Sime Darby Arts Festival 2023

On the 19th and 20th of August, Diploma in Performing Arts (DPA) students performed at the Yayasan Sime Darby Arts Festival (YSDAF) 2023. They performed “DISCORD / DISCARD”, which was specifically curated for the YSDAF. An exploration of home, identity, and belonging from the perspective of Gen Zs and their phones, “DISCORD / DISCARD” was presented by Theatresauce, a director-driven collective that aims to produce innovative experiences that lend a voice to the lives of urban Malaysians. The team comprises director and DPA programme leader Kelvin Wong, and DPA students as the ensemble and technical team.



(Photo source: Mr Kelvin Wong Kee Wai)



# Art Beats Festival Brings Together Creative Minds Internationally

Lancaster University and Sunway University's School of Arts came together to organise the Art Beats Festival, taking place from the 14th to 20th of August. Besides carefully curated exhibitions, students from Malaysia, the UK, and Indonesia participated in film workshops throughout the week. The films they produced were showcased during two-day film screening sessions, where any attendees could participate in masterclasses, enjoy these projects, and learn from experienced filmmakers and artists' creative processes.



(Photo Source: Mishkath Ahmed Rasheed)





(Photo Source: Grace Tan Jia)



# Dr Adrian Lee Launches 'Malaysian Cinema in the New Millennium' Book

Dr Adrian Lee Yuen Beng recently launched his new book, 'Malaysian Cinema in the New Millennium', at Sunway University. Published by the Hong Kong University Press, the book concerns multiculturalism in cinema and how politics and socioeconomic factors have influenced a new generation of filmmakers. It gives readers a comprehensive view of Malaysian cinema in recent decades. During the launch, Pak Hassan Abd Muthalib suggested Dr Adrian write another book about Malaysian cinema while Professor Anis and Professor Dato' Elizabeth Lee asked for the book to be translated to Bahasa Malaysia, so excitement awaits!

Overall, congratulations to Dr Adrian Lee for his successful book launch!



(Photo source: Dr Adrian Lee Yuen Beng)



# Prof. Sabine Chaouche Leads Research Titled “Material Culture and Economy of Stage Production: Costumes in Focus.”

2023 – 1, n° 20

## European Drama and Performance Studies

Creation and Economy of Stage Costumes  
(16th–19th Century)

Edited by Sabine Chaouche



CLASSIQUES  
GARNIER

Prof. Chaouche has recently led an edited volume on material culture from the 16th to the 19th century. This volume examines the economy and creation of stage costumes, featuring articles that explore topics including second-hand clothes dealers, makeup, designers, court entertainments and their workshops, as well as the costumes worn by Italian and French actors.

(Photo source:  
Prof. Sabine Chaouche)



Prof. Chaouche has meticulously crafted a significant piece of research titled "Material and Economic History of Costume at the Comédie-Française: The Bills from the Tailor Pontus (1757-1792)."

Delving into previously overlooked archival documents, this 30,000-word article provides an in-depth examination of the orders placed with Pontus by the Comédie-Française, shedding light on various aspects. These include the production and costs of stage costumes for dancers and actors, their maintenance and repair processes, and even the associated deadlines imposed on the tailor. Furthermore, it explores the fabrics utilised, the applied rates, and the prevailing fashion trends of the time. Ultimately, her work offers a comprehensive assessment of the notion of consumerism within the history of theatre.



# “One For All” Graduation Showcase Unites Various Forms of Art

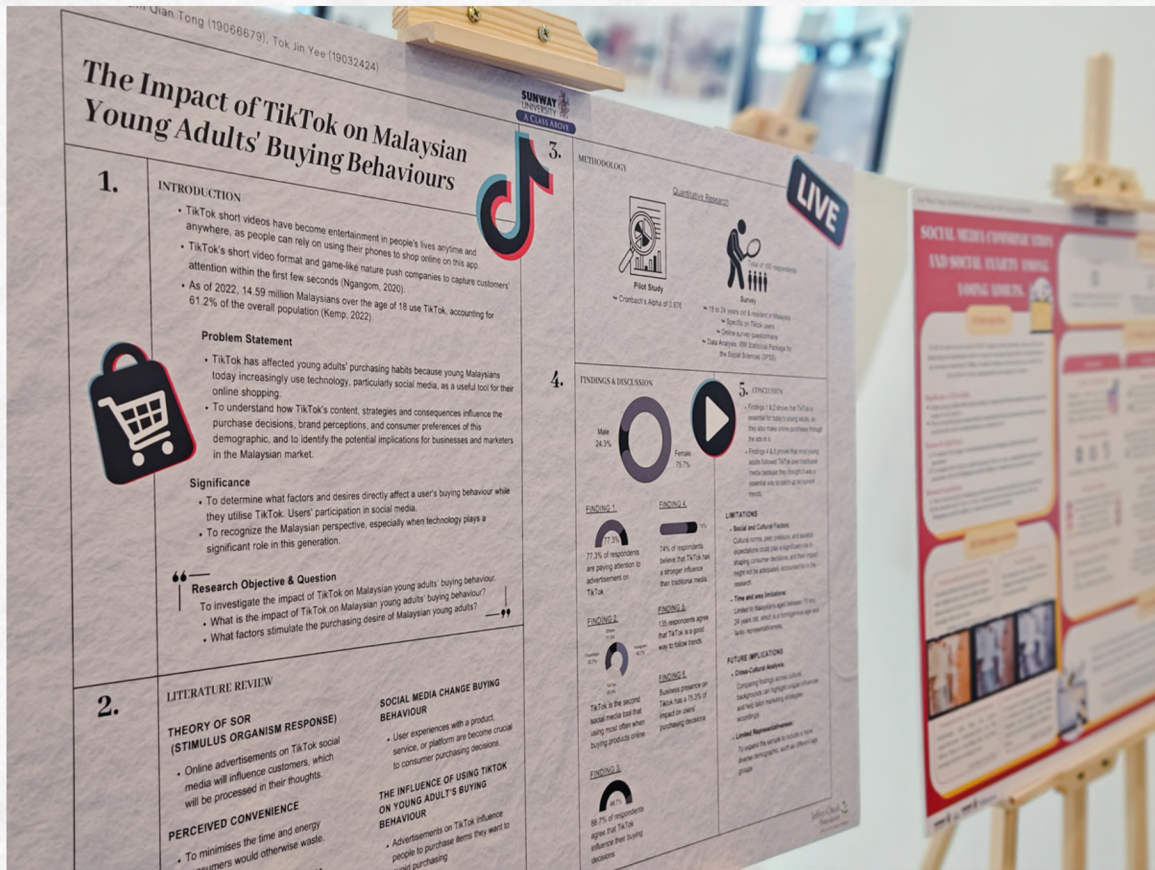
“One For All”, the School of Arts’ first combined showcase, was held from 15th to 20th August! The title “One For All” was chosen to reflect the unity of various art forms in creating a harmonious masterpiece. The showcase featured student works from the Department of Art, Design and Media, the Department of Film and Performing Arts, and the Department of Communication. The showcase was packed with an assortment of activities including exhibitions, performances and screenings. Students were able to display their hard work and growth throughout their academic journey during the showcase.



(Photo Source: School of Arts Press)

*Ms Maslisa Zainuddin saying a few words at the Opening Ceremony of “One For All” on August 15th.*





(Photo Source: School of Arts Press)

*Communication students' research projects on display as posters in the Gallery.*



(Photo Source: School of Arts Press)

*"The Light Show", presented by Interior Architecture students at the SOA Gallery.*





(Photo Source: Andrew Tan)

*Contemporary Music (Audio Technology) students performing at their End of Semester Showcase in JC1.*



(Photo Source: School of Arts Press)

*The Music Performance Alumni Ensemble performing at the SOA Gallery.*





(Photo Source: Ghazi Alqudcy)

*Digital Film Production students holding a Q&A session at The Big Bang Film Screening in Lecture Theatre 6.*



(Photo Source: School of Arts Press)

*BA (Hons) Music Performance Student Showcase.*





**Thank you for reading the  
August 2023 issue of the School  
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