

MEDIA BROADCAST:

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ALERT: The National Department for Culture and Arts remains committed in the efforts of promoting dance arts by organizing the Malaysian Dance Festival and Malaysia Children Dance Championship 2019, involving participation of twenty (20) groups from three (3) categories throughout Malaysia selected to compete for the championship at National level this year.

MALAYSIA DANCE FESTIVAL AND CHILDREN DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP 2019 ROCKS THE PALACE OF CULTURE

KUALA LUMPUR 4 September - The Malaysia Dance Festival (MDF) have gone through a long evolutionary process and endured until this day. If we look back at the development, the MDF started as a Drama and Dance Fair that have been held since the 70's. In 1992, the Drama and Dance Fair was rebranded to Malaysia Dance Festival and organized by the National Department for Culture and Arts (JKKN). Until 1999, MDF participations were only opened to professional groups or permanently formed groups. Due to an overwhelming demand from the fans as well as dance arts activists, thus in 2000, JKKN have changed the format by expanding the participation to amateur groups throughout the Nation by only focusing on the Traditional Arts concept. In 2013, another change in concept was done by adding the Modern Dance genre aimed to increase participation and to attract the interest of today's young generation. While in 2015, emphasis was on the Solo contemporary and Traditional Arts concepts in raising the prestige of traditional art in the tourism industry. The competing participants and groups have gone through a highly selective preliminary process at the state level in 2018, with the method of participation was by video submission to the Secretariat of the Competition for evaluation and subsequently shortlisted by the panel of juries to progress on and compete at the national level.

Thus, the National Department for Culture and Art (JKKN), of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia in cooperation with the Palace of Culture organized the MALAYSIA DANCE FESTIVAL (MDF) 2019 on the 3 and 4 September 2019 at Sari Theatre, the Palace of Culture as the finale for Malaysian dance arts fans.

MALAYSIAN DANCE FESTIVAL 2019 OBJECTIVES

To provide opportunities to choreographers and dancers to exhibit high quality, solid and creative dance arts performances as well as developing the nation's creative industry. Inspired by the 2013 and 2015 experiences, the Malaysia Dance Festival 2019 returns to focus on Traditional Medley Dance, Solo Contemporary Dance, while the Malaysia Children Dance Championship has the Duo and Solo, Excellent Arts Coaching Group.

METHOD OF PARTICIPATION

The search for MDF 2019 participants was carried out in 2018 through Video Recordings submitted by participants to State JKKN for evaluation by the Committee and Juries specially appointed by JKKN. For MDF 2019, there are **79 groups comprising 1031 participants** involved throughout the country, whereas the Children Dance Championship had **102 Groups comprising 1480 participants**.

From this total, four (4) Groups and four (4) solo dances were selected totalling 55 participants to compete at the finals of 2019 MDF, while the Children Dance Championship had twelve (12) groups comprising four (4) groups, four (4) Duos and four (4) solos totalling 75 participants.

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

This year's MDF 2019 only emphasizes on <u>Traditional Medley and Solo</u> <u>Contemporary genre</u>. The Traditional genre is the <u>Traditional Dance Medley</u> <u>Category</u>.

i. TRADITIONAL DANCE MEDLEY CATEGORY

Malaysian traditional dance. Scope of traditional dances includes *Joget, Zapin, Inang* and *Asli*.

ii. SOLO CONTEMPORARY

This free style form of dance by appreciating the musical rhythm, emotions, and incorporating story-telling elements other than philosophy which are performed for the audience.

This year's Malaysia Children Dance Championship 2019 only emphasizes on the Excellent Arts Coaching Group (KSBC), Duo Dances and Solo Dances.

i. EXCELLENT ARTS COACHING GROUP CATEGORY (KSBC)

New Creative Dance based on People's Songs

- A creative dance category based on Malaysian folk songs.
- A form of new dance that maintains the Malaysian ethnic and traditional elements creatively in the form of style, appearance, costume, make-up, while upholding the values and culture of Malaysian society.

ii. DUO CONTEMPORARY CATEGORY

Contemporary Dance based on Malaysian traditional elements.

- A dance works that does not cross the boundaries of Malaysian's ethics and culture.
- Features, wardrobe and make-up that respect the values and culture of Malaysian people.

iii. SOLO CATEGORY

Contemporary dance based on Malaysian traditional elements.

- A dance routine that does not offend the manner and culture of the Malaysian society, while preserving the appearance, costume and make-up accordingly

NATIONAL LEVEL COMPETITION

The MDF 2019 national level competition will witness the battle of an overall twenty (20) groups including the Malaysia Children Dance Championship to represent each category which are the Traditional Dance Medley, Solo Contemporary Dance and Duo Dance.

MALAYSIAN DANCE FESTIVAL 2019 FILLERS -

In enlivening MDF 2019, JKKN have also organized few programmes benefitting the general public and dance art fans in Malaysia. Among them are:

- Sales of Creative Art Industry Books and Goods
- Malaysian Dance Festival Exhibition
- "Dance Talk and Workshop" by:
 - a. Ms. Audrey Kwan, "Russian Ballet Dance"
 - b. Mr. Akshobhya Bharadwaj "Indian Kathak Dance"
 - c. Mr. Zulfarqar Awaluddin@Belalang "In shaping the Soul and Physical Balance of a Dancer's Physique"
 - d. Mr. Hanafi Rosdi Contemporary Dance "Exploration of Creative Ideas and Free Movement"
 - e. Mr. Anthony Meh Improvisation In Dance

"JKKN aspires to create human capital that has strong and solid identity in facing the rapid changes of times and globalization in various sophisticated technology influencing the soul of the young generation today. Therefore, through such programmes, their soul can be filled with noble and cultural values of the Malaysian people," said the JKKN Director General Tan Sri Hajah Norliza Rofli in a statement today.

JKKN in cooperation with the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia are always aware in formulating initiatives to add value, reformation towards transformation and being the catalyst for the nation's cultural art development by proactively supporting and promoting such cultural tourism products.

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APPENDIX

MALAYSIAN DANCE FESTIVAL 2019 FACTS BY NUMBERS				
STAGE	TOTAL GROUPS	TOTAL		
STATE LEVEL	79 groups	1,031 participants		
NATIONAL LEVEL	4 Groups And 4 Solo Dances	55 participants		

MALAYSIAN CHILDREN DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP 2019 FACTS BY NUMBERS				
STAGE	TOTAL GROUPS	TOTAL		
STATE LEVEL	102 Groups	1,480 participants		
NATIONAL LEVEL	12 groups Consisting of 4 Groups, 4 Duos and 4 solos	75 participants		

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE AND GUEST ARTIST -

The Special Performance and guest artist at the Malaysia Dance Festival 2019 features

- Singing by Noraniza Idris
- Contemporary Dance by ASWARA
- Wheelchair Dance by MIDO
- Kuda Pasu Solo Dance by Young Davis Yong Jin Yin
- Borneo Dance by JKKN Cultural Group
- Lat Tali Lat Dance by Genius Tari Group
- Pompei Singing by Genius Tari Group
- Pawana Dance by Palace of Culture
- Indian Modern Dance by Unique Arts, Culture and Heritage Foundation Group
- Chinese Traditional Ensemble Music by Wau Ensemble Group

MALAYSIAN DANCE FESTIVAL 2019 PRIZES

CATEGORY PRIZE	TRADITIONAL DANCE MEDLEY CATEGORY	SOLO CONTEMPORARY CATEGORY
CHAMPION	 CASH MYR 5,000.00 TROPHY MEDAL CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION POSTER FRAME 	 CASH MYR 2,000.00 TROPHY MEDAL CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION POSTER FRAME
SECOND PLACING	 CASH MYR 4,000.00 TROPHY MEDAL CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION POSTER FRAME 	 CASH MYR 1,000.00 TROPHY MEDAL CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION POSTER FRAME
THIRD PLACING	 CASH MYR 3,000.00 TROPHY MEDAL CERTIFICATE OF PARICIPATION POSTER FRAME 	 CASH MYR 800.00 TROPHY MEDAL CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION POSTER FRAME
CONSOLATION	 CASH MYR 1,000.00 CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION POSTER FRAME 	 CASH MYR 500.00 CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION POSTER FRAME
BEST CHOREOGRAPHER AWARD	 CASH MYR 500.00 TROPHY MEDAL CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION POSTER FRAME 	-
BEST WARDROBE AWARD	 CASH MYR 500.00 TROPHY MEDAL CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION POSTER FRAME 	_

MALAYSIAN CHILDREN DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP 2019 PRIZES

CATEGORY AWARD	SOLO	DUO	KBSC
GOLD	 CASH	 CASH	 CASH
	RM1,000.00 CERTIFICATE OF	RM1,500.00 CERTIFICATE OF	RM3,000.00 CERTIFICATE OF
	PARTICIPATION MEDAL	PARTICIPATION MEDAL	PARTICIPATION MEDAL
SILVER	 CASH	 CASH	 CASH
	RM800.00 CERTIFICATE OF	RM1,000.00 CERTIFICATE OF	RM2,000.00 CERTIFICATE OF
	PARTICIPATION MEDAL	PARTICIPAITON MEDAL	PARTICIPATION MEDAL
BRONZE	 CASH	 CASH	 CASH
	RM500.00 CERTIFICATE OF	RM800.00 CERTIFICATE OF	RM1,500.00 CERTIFICATE OF
	PARTICIPATION MEDAL	PARTICIPATION MEDAL	PARTICIPATION MEDAL
CONSOLATION	 CASH	 CASH	 CASH
	RM300.00 CERTIFICATE OF	RM500.00 CERTIFICATE OF	RM800.00 CERTIFICATE OF
	PARTICIPATION	PARTICIPATION	PARTICIPATION
BEST CHOREOGRAPHER AWARD	-	-	 CASH RM500.00 CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION MEDAL
BEST MUSICAL ARRANGEMENT AWARD	-	-	 CASH RM500.00 CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION MEDAL
BEST WARDROBE	-	-	 CASH RM500.00 CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION MEDAL