

Star METRO

Three friends, who formed a Penang-based hip-hop band, have made it to the finals of Hitz.TV Blast Off! contest → 7



300 at yee sang tossing session

Event's one of the biggest held in the region



→ 9

Turning tiles into art

Some of the heritage workshop participants showing off their woodcarvings based on motifs which they copied from ceramic wall tiles of houses in inner George Town. They spent three hours working on their masterpieces at the Cheah Kongsi. → 2 & 3



Organised by: **Purnama Jelita** Sendirian Berhad (M) 010101
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Hotlink Presents **Chinese New Year Party @ Upr** 11th Feb 2006 5 pm onwards

FREE ENTRY!

Hotlink Taste Challenge Win CASH Angpows of RM288, RM188 & RM88	Acrobatic Lion Dance Performance by Penang State Champion
Hotlink Lucky Ang Pow Dip Top up your Hotlink and win Great Prizes including RM50 CASH Angpows!	Fun Games Win CASH Angpows worth RM38 and more!
	Live Band, Hip-hop dancers & Fireworks!

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Tourist Info Centre	261 4461
Tourism M'sia Info Centre, Airport	643 0501
Penang Botanical Gardens	227 0428
Kek Lok Si Temple	828 3317
Penang Museum	261 3144
Reclining Buddha Temple, Burma Lane	226 8503
Burmese Temple, Burma Lane	226 9575
Penang Hill Railway (Top station)	829 9412
Penang Hill Railway (Bottom station)	828 3263
Ferry (Georgetown)	210 2363
(Butterworth)	310 2377
Penang Bridge	398 7419
Railway Station, Butterworth	261 0290
Taxi Weld Quay	262 5721
Befrienders	281 5161
Cancerlink Penang's Support and Information Centre	659 3692
Children's Protection Society	829 4046
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Consumers Association Penang	829 9511
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Jelutong	282 5922
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Balik Pulau	866 9444
Butterworth	331 4444
Kepala Batas	575 4444
Bukit Mertajam	538 4444
Nibong Tebal	593 1444

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Public Complaints Bureau	263 6893
State Secretariat	262 1957
Customs	262 2300
Immigration	250 3419
Flight Information	643 0373
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JPI	658 1122/398 8809
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Registration Department	226 5161

HOW TO REACH US

Stay in contact with StarMetro. There is always something interesting happening in your community. If you have a story to tell, call us at:

Penang	15 Jln Mesjid Kapitan Keling Tel> 04 262 4361 Fax> 04 262 3433/261 8000 202 Jln Sultan Azlan Shah Bayan Lepas Tel> 04 647 3388 Fax> 04 647 3371
Prai	2 (1st floor) Jalan Kikik Taman Inderawasih Tel> 04 398 8316 north@thestar.com.my

FULL CONCENTRATION: Cambodian Heang Leang Hong, 33, working on his woodcarving at the Cheah Kongsii in Armenian Street.



A MASTER-PIECE: A participant putting the finishing touches on a woodcarving.



HERITAGE TOUR: Participants admiring the intricate architecture of Khoo Kongsii.

Learning

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STARBITES

Workshop on heritage

What? Learning about cultures and world heritage.

Who? 40 participants from eight countries.

Where? The heritage enclave around inner George Town

LEARNING about history, different cultures and world influences can be interesting.

This is exactly what the 40 participants felt when they attended the Third Sub-regional South-East Asian Training Workshop on "Using Art to Teach About World Heritage" in Penang recently.

The participants, comprising educators, heritage experts, teachers, curriculum developers, archaeologists and heritage site managers and researchers from eight countries - Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Mongolia and Malaysia - were impressed with the wealth of information gleaned from the workshop.

They were given a tour of the heritage enclave in George Town to take a first-hand look at various aspects of Malaysian cultural heritage.

Lino M. Dalay, a heritage consultant of Paete, the Philippines, said he did not have any in-depth knowledge on heritage and cultural values of other countries.

"Now, at least I can get a feel of the real ceramic wall tiles with flower motifs in Armenian Street," said the 46-year-old.

He said the tour to the heritage enclave had certainly broadened his perspective on a lot of issues and topics related to building structures and architecture designs.

Another participant, Fijian Seema Deo, 37, who is staying in Bangkok as UNESCO Education for Sustainable Development officer, said she was thrilled with the warm hospitality while conducting interviews with local traders.

"It is really cool. I got to interview traditional traders and old people to get their oral histories on the town's historical

background," she said.

The five-day workshop last month was jointly organised by Penang Heritage Trust, Arts-Ed and Badan Warisan Malay-sia.

Describing the workshop as "challenging but exciting", Dr Paraluman R. Giron, 60, from the Philippines, said: "It's not my first time to Penang but this time, it was an entirely new experience for me as I was engaged in group activities with people from different backgrounds."

Dr Giron, who is a public schools regional director, said educating the young about the significance of cultural heritage was a difficult task.

"Through the workshop, I have learnt creative ways to collect data of history and cultural heritage in a systematic order," she said.

UNESCO culture consultant Patricia Alberth, who is also the coordinator of the workshop, said it was a meaningful event as "there are so much to learn from people from different countries and I made many new friends during the workshop".

Praising Penang as a wonderful heritage city, Alberth, from Germany, said many of the heritage sites on the island, such as Cheong Fatt Tze Mansion, were well taken care of.

Besides providing time for interviews with the local people to help find out more about the city's history, heritage conservation, traditional trades and food, the groups were also taught woodcarving.

Janet Pillai, 51, a co-ordinator for the arts education programme under the Penang Educational Consultative Council

about heritage via art



CULTURAL EXPERIENCE: A participant, who wants to be identified only as Lean, tracing the motif of a ceramic tile at a house in Armenian Street.

(PECC), said the tour was aimed at promoting 'Education for Sustainable Development' and innovative teaching approaches through creative arts.

"This is a field trip and participants can gain hands-on experience on learning heritage values and cultural richness through their down to earth approach.

She said some of the participants, who were educators, would benefit from the tour as they could include these cultural studies and heritage val-

ues into their teaching, especially in subjects like Geography and History, to make it livelier for students. Penang Heritage Trust (PHT) president Dr Choong Sim Poey said the workshop was also aimed at helping design educational projects to teach younger generation world cultural and historical heritage.

"We aim to look at how teaching could be done through arts," he said during the closing dinner held at Cheong Fatt Tze mansion.



TRADITIONAL CRAFT: Participants observing a candle maker at work at the Goddess of Mercy Temple in Jalan Mesjid Kapitan Keling.



Pillai: 'Participants can gain hands-on experience on learning heritage values and cultural richness'

What's Up

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> **THAIPIUSAM FESTIVAL PROCESSION:** The silver chariot procession bearing the image of Lord Murugaperumman in conjunction with the Thaipusam Festival will start about 6.30am tomorrow from the Nattukottai Chettiar Temple, 138 Penang Street.

The festival will be celebrated at the temple from tomorrow to Sunday. Kavadi bearers will come to the temple to fulfil their vows.

The procession route is Penang Street, Lebu Chulia, Gat Lebu Chulia, Lebu Victoria, Gat Jalan Prangin, Lebu C.Y. Choy, Jalan Magazine, Jalan Datuk Keramat, Jalan Utama and Jalan Air Terjun.

> **PAY YOUR ASSESSMENT AT MOBILE COUNTERS:** The Ipoh City Council will set up mobile counters at several places to enable ratepayers settle their assessment.

The counters will be at Pengkalan Emas Mall in Pasir Putih (Saturday and Sunday), The Store on Jalan Kampar (Feb 18 and Feb 19) and Giant Hypermarket in Tambun (Feb 25 and Feb 26). They will be opened from 2pm to 10pm.

The council is also offering a 30% discount on parking compound fines paid at these mobile counters. Those who pay their assessment at the counters will be entitled to a 50% discount on their parking compound fines.

> **CLOSURE OF CONSULATE:** The Royal Thai Consulate-General, Penang, will be closed on Monday on the occasion of Makha Bucha Day.

> **FLAG DAY:** The Malaysian Red Crescent Society, Penang Branch, will hold its annual flag day on Feb 18 and Feb 19 to raise funds for the society. For details, call 04-8275678/828678.

> **MIME & PHYSICAL MOVEMENT COURSE:** The Actors Studio Greenhall, Penang, is organising a course on mime, stage movement and physical theatre from 7.30pm to 10pm from Feb 13 to Feb 18. Ulrich Gottlieb will conduct the course. The students will have two performances on Feb 18 and Feb 19. For details, call 04-2635402.

> **BLOOD DONATION CAMPAIGN:** The Sungai Petani Hospital blood bank is embarking on a blood donation drive to replenish the hospital's blood supply.

Those who wish to donate must be between 18 and 60 years old and have a clean bill of health without diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, heart problems, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C, and asthma. For details, call the hospital's Pathology Department at 04-4213333.

> **HEALTHY LIVING TIPS:** Yoga dance-exercise, detox-breathing, mind-relaxation and healthy living tips are on at 7.30am every Wednesday and Saturday at the Penang Municipal Park (formerly known as Youth Park). For details, call Helen at 013-4301 229.

> **TAKING UP TAMIL:** Dhyana Ashram Penang Branch is conducting Tamil Language Classes for adults and yoga for a healthy living at 356-V Lengkok Pemancar, Glugor. For details, call Saras Devi at 04-8299511/6551 021.

> **PALLIATIVE CARE:** Charis Hospice provides free palliative care for all cancer patients, irrespective of race and religion. It offers home care services given by a team of trained and experienced medical professionals and volunteers.

The centre is at 26 Lintang Paya Terubong, Penang. For details, call 04-8266757.