

PROGRAMME



1-31 OCT

aboutkuchi/ng.com









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OR SCAN HERE.



WELCOME



Message from The Honourable **Dato Sri Haii Abdul** Karim Rahman Hamzah

- Minister of Tourism Creative Industry and Performing Arts Sarawak
- Minister of Youth. Sports and Entrepreneur Development Sarawak

I warmly welcome you to our capital city of Kuching, Sarawak for the 5th edition of The What About Kuching (WAK) Festival 2023. As we celebrate the 60th anniversary of Sarawak's independence this year, my ministry and I are delighted to continue our involvement as the main sponsor of this unique initiative driven by our creative communities.

Since its inception in 2017, WAK has played an exemplary role in our yearly events programme as Sarawak's open-access, multi genre festival. Attracting participation from all quarters and especially the youths exemplifying the spirit of "BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY," WAK unites all of us in a month-long extravaganza of colourful events.

WAK's lofty mission of becoming an iconic international festival for the arts, culture and lifestyle. aligns well and is in tandem with our overall vision for Sarawak's development. I wish to congratulate our creative community partners and the WAK team for once again delivering an impressive array of events for everyone in October 2023.

Featuring 29 collaborators from as far as Scotland and established world class talents offering 53 unique and 159 daily events spanning music, dance, theatre, arts. crafts, gastronomy, and more, WAK 2023 promises to be another engaging edition.

Throughout October, Kuching will come alive with festivities. I urge you all to embrace the many live performances, exhibitions, workshops and more to show your support for our creative communities. My family and I eagerly anticipate joining you at these exciting events. To our creative talents, I wish you success in your endeavours, and to WAK's audiences, I'm confident you'll be entertained by the incredible talents showcased.

Let's come together to celebrate the arts, culture, and lifestyle at WAK 2023. This shared experience strengthens the bonds that make our community and Sarawak truly remarkable.

Once again, I welcome all to this unique celebration, a colourful part of our 60th anniversary of Sarawak's independence celebrations. Thank you, and let the festivities of WAK 2023 begin!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS & PARTNERS

MAIN SPONSOR





EVENT PARTNERS





















STAGING PARTNERS





TECH PARTNERS







DESIGN PARTNER

E-HAILING PARTNER





MARKETING PARTNERS



SARAWAK TRADE AND TOURISM OFFICE BRUNEI







MEDIA PARTNERS























VENUE PARTNERS





























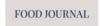






















HOTEL PARTNERS















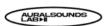
EVENT ORGANISERS

EVENT SUPPORTERS



























































































































THE WAK FESTIVAL

Every October since 2017, Kuching turns into a buzzing hub of activity, taking the tail end of the tourist season and stretching it with an entire month of exciting events celebrating arts, culture, and lifestyle at a grassroots level.

Our incredible journey began in 2017 where a team filled with passion led by our festival's visionary directors, Donald and Marina, encouraged the numerous communities in Kuching City to showcase their respective contents under a collective festival umbrella, known as 'What About Kuching Festival - Celebrate Arts, Culture & Lifestyle,' or simply WAK.

The name was a happy accident from someone mishearing the list of potential festival names, interjecting with the question "What about Kuching?"

What about it indeed?

WAK is a community-driven, month-long, open access celebration of the arts, culture and lifestyle happening every October centered in Kuching city and greater Kuching.

As a community driven event, WAK relies on the support and collaboration from all quarters of the government. Special thanks go to our main sponsors the Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts Sarawak, our city councils DBKU and MBKS, all related agencies and the entire private sector spectrum together with our creative communities.

This close collaboration enables us to ignite Kuching city with a myriad of events ranging from art shows, installations, music gigs, theaters, comedy, dance, talks, workshops and many more.

After a trying 2 years hiatus with the global pandemic, WAK returned in 2022 to an overwhelming record level support from both the creative communities staging their events to audiences attending them.

2023 marks the 5th edition of WAK and sees us going back to basics, revisiting spaces, reconnecting with our roots and reimagining the people's connection to their aspirations, dreams and visions.



To celebrate the arts, culture and lifestyle to a global audience thereby creating greater appreciation and support of these amongst the local community.

OBJECTIVES

- Enhance greater tourism arrivals to benefit the local economy
- Provide platforms for personalities to showcase their different pursuits
- Create awareness, educate and garner a greater appreciation of these pursuits
- Foster regional and international collaborations to elevate local standards

MESSAGE FROM THE WAK TEAM

Fresh from the resounding success of the largest What About Kuching Festival (WAK) in 2022, we are absolutely thrilled to present you with the fifth edition of WAK in 2023. This year, we bring you a fresh theme and a reimagined outlook that promises to be even more exhilarating and vibrant.

WAK 2023 proudly joins in on our state's celebrations of Sarawak's 60th Anniversary of Independence. We are honored to contribute to the festivities this year, adding to the rich tapestry of our state's history and culture.

We are delighted to acknowledge our continued partnership with the Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry, and Performing Arts (MTCP) Sarawak as the WAK 2023 Main Sponsor. The unwavering support from MTCP has been instrumental in bringing WAK to life year after year.

We are also excited to renew our ongoing relationships and welcome new partners within our community of dedicated staging, tech, venue partners and generous sponsors. Thanks to the generosity of these community of supporters, we are able to ensure that the many creative communities participating in WAK 2023 benefit from some support in staging their respective events.

This exemplifies the private sector support that has been a cornerstone of WAK since its inaugural edition in 2017. On behalf of our many creative communities, we extend our heartfelt appreciations to all our partners, sponsors and supporters for their continued commitment. Together, we aim to shape a brilliant future for the WAK movement.

As an open access platform, each edition of WAK evolves organically. We are excited to welcome new collaborators from near and far, and we eagerly anticipate your events in October. We also wish to express our gratitude to past collaborators who continue to stage their events with us this year, as well as those who have chosen to take a break in 2023. We hope to welcome you back in future editions.

If you wish to contribute anything that can enhance our young, open-access, month-long festival in any way, we will be thrilled to hear from you.

With a good list of events spanning the entire month of October, there's bound to be something for everyone. We hope to see Kuching abuzz with festival-goers from all walks of life. We wish everyone a joyous and fun-filled festival at WAK 2023. Let's come together to celebrate art, culture, and creativity like never before!

The Festival Directors & Management Team What About Kuching 2023

PLANNING YOUR SCHEDULE

While the Kuching city center may seem compact, it can get quite busy during certain times of the day. It's worth planning ahead; venues may look deceptively close to each other, but traffic and parking can get challenging. Sometimes it's faster to walk! You can't go too wrong by allowing yourself ample time to arrive. There's always some place nearby to explore or rediscover and local kopitiams/coffee shops or street food stalls to get refreshed in. The best thing about Kuching city is that small wonders are found at almost every corner.

HOW TO BUY TICKETS

If events are ticketed, please contact the event organiser directly to secure your tickets. All ticket proceeds will be channelled to the event organiser.

STAY CONNECTED

Be the first to get the latest news, updates and media by following us on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and TikTok accounts @ aboutkuching

Show your love by sharing your photos, videos, and experience with us and the world by tagging @aboutkuching and using the hashtag #WAK2023

View a digital version of this programme booklet at aboutkuching.com

PICTURE THIS

The images in this programme booklet are sourced from our official photographers and event organiser. If by any chance, you find your photos used without your permission, please contact the respective event organiser with your feedback.

LET'S GO GREEN #OUICKFLYERWAK2023

Change begins with each of us.

Support our sustainability efforts by tagging #QuickFlverWAK2023 on your social media posts. For more information, visit us at aboutkuching.com

usage.



Inspired by the open-access festival giant, EdFringe, we're embarking on a trial run of #QuickflyerWAK2023. This initiative aims to reduce paper consumption, acknowledging that traditional flyering, while effective promoting shows, has an adverse environmental impact due to its heavy paper

Introducing #QuickflyerWAK2023, a weekly event during the festival where we call for Instagram pitches. You can simply search for the hashtag and explore the digital versions of flyers that have been instagrammed on that day. It's akin to a streamlined flyercollection experience, without the need to physically collect and carry paper flyers.

WAK 2023 MERCH Limited Stocks, GET yours now!







WAKA: Your Guides to the WAK Festival Magic

Ever wondered who adds that extra dash of charm and assistance to your WAK Festival experience? Say hello to our WAKA - What About Kuching Festival Ambassadors - a group of passionate individuals of all ages who embody the spirit of the festival. They are the friendly faces that make your WAK Festival journey truly unforgettable.

Throughout the entire month of October, you'll find our WAKAs stationed at every event venue. They are your go-to guides, ready to enhance your festival experience in a multitude of ways:

Ticket Maestros: Need tickets for that must-see performance? Our WAKAs are your ticket gurus, ensuring you get the best seats in the house.

Merchandise Masters: Looking for festival merchandise to commemorate your visit? WAKAs can help you pick out the perfect keepsakes.

Information Hub: Lost in the festival frenzy? WAKAs are here to provide all the information you need, from event schedules to venue maps.

Event Ushers: They'll make sure you find your way to the right events, venues and seats with ease.

Recommendation Experts: Not sure which events to attend? WAKAs are your festival insiders, offering personalized recommendations based on your interests

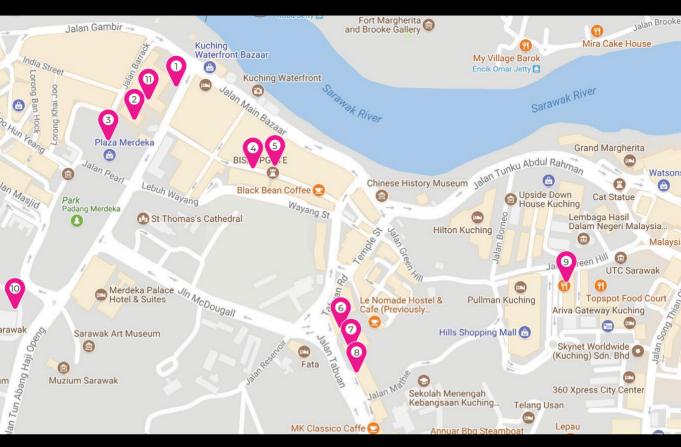
Online Survery: WAKAs will also be engaging with festival-goers to collect valuable feedback through the WAK Festival online survey. Your input matters, and our WAKAs are here to make sure your voice is heard!

These dedicated WAKAs are the heart and soul of the WAK Festival, ensuring you have the best experience possible.

So, when you spot one of our WAKAs in their signature festival attire, don't hesitate to say hello, share your thoughts, and make the most of your WAK Festival adventure with their invaluable assistance. WAKA - What About Kuching Ambassadors: Your festival guides, your friends, and your keys to unlocking the magic of WAK Festival!



EVENT VENUES



VENUES ON THIS MAP

- 1. Old Court House Gardens
- 2. Old Court House Auditorium
- 3. Plaza Merdeka
- 4. Carpenter Street, Back Alley
- 5. Bishopsgate (Drunk Monkey)
- 6. Havana Cafe
- 7. Think & Tink
- 8. The Borneo Hotel
- 9. Culture City
- 10. Borneo Cultures Museum
- 11. Old Court House South Wing & The Courtyard

VENUES NOT ON THE MAP

- 12. Black Bean Coffee @ Tabuan Desa
- 13. Dewan Sri Bunga Rampai
- 14. Chemsain Auditorium

- 15. Chemsain Hall
- 16. My Placa Coworking Space
- 17. AEON Mall Kuching Central South Court
- 18. tHe Spring, Lot 11B 1F (next to Switch)
- 19. tHe Spring, Padini/Daiso Foyer 1F
- 20. tHe Spring, Premier carpark
- 21. Track and Dance Studio, Emporium Kuching
- 22. Au Mango Farm, Matang
- 23. Canaan Square, Courtyard
- 24. Aeroville Mall, 1st Floor
- 25. Magic Cubicle, 3rd Mile
- 26. LaPromenade Mall, Outdoor Carpark
- 27. LaPromenade Mall, Exhibition Hall
- 28. Sarawak State Stadium. Field C & D
- 29. REDEEMS Center, Kampung Apar, Bau, Sarawak
- 30. Kampung Annah Rais, Kampung Temurang, Kampung Git and Kampung Danu

EVENTS BY DATE 1-7 OCTOBER

EVENTS BY DATE 8 - 14 OCTOBER

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1 OCT SUN		8 OCT SUN	
Call of the Tribes	24	tHe Spring's Sundown	25
Sarawak Drum Community Drum Shed	24	La Promenade Oktoberfest	26
WAK Sunset Music with Ready By Two	25	Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild	26
tHe Spring's Sundown	25	Photographic Exhibition	
La Promenade Mall Oktoberfest	26	Wild About Kuching: Nature Talking	29
		Enchanting Fitness: Ballet Fusion &	30
2 OCT MON		Barre Magic	
tHe Spring's Sundown	25	Tuak Crafting Workshop	30
		Wild About Kuching: Going Wild!	31
3 OCT TUE			
tHe Spring's Sundown	25	9 OCT MON	
		Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild	26
4 OCT WED		Photographic Exhibition	
tHe Spring's Sundown	25		
		10 OCT TUE	
5 OCT THU		Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild	26
tHe Spring's Sundown	25	Photographic Exhibition	
La Promenade Oktoberfest	26		
		11 OCT WED	
6 OCT FRI		Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild	26
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La Promenade Oktoberfest	26		
Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild	26	12 OCT THU	
Photographic Exhibition		Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild	26
		Photographic Exhibition	
7 OCT SAT			
tHe Spring's Sundown	25	13 OCT FRI	
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Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild	26	Photographic Exhibition	
Photographic Exhibition			
Borneo Trail Classic 2023	27	14 OCT SAT	
Musical Theatre Workshop with Abel Law	28	Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild	26
Wild About Kuching: Nature Talking	29	Photographic Exhibition	
		Rainforest Hat 2023: Gotta Huck Em All	31
		An Honest Day Out	32
		Sarawak Coffee Ceremony 砂拉越咖啡道	33
		An Evening of Songs	33
		What About Kuching Open Mic	34

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EVENTS BY DATE 15 - 21 OCTOBER

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Rainforest Hat 2023: Gotta Huck Ém All	31	Street Food Fiesta @ Carpenter Street	39
Sarawak Coffee Ceremony 砂拉越咖啡道	33	Projek Spektrum	39
The Amalgamation of Traditional & Modern	34	What About Music: Sidewalk Symphony	40
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Belle Sisoski: A Masterclass "Production Process"	35	World Storytelling Fringe Festival 2023	57
Belle Sisoski: A Showcase	36	21 OCT SAT	
Artistically About Kuching	41	Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild Photographic Exhibition	26
16 OCT MON		Ink of the East	38
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Artistically About Kuching	41	What About Music: Sidewalk Symphony	40
		Colours of Life:	40
17 OCT TUE		Organic Tie-Dye & Clay Beads	
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Photographic Exhibition		Artistically About Kuching	41
Scottish Traditional Dance Workshops	37	Inventories: Beyond the Empiric	41
Artistically About Kuching	41	Those Were The Days	43
		Virtual SpeedFest:	43
18 OCT WED		Igniting Dreams, Empowering Futures	
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Scottish Traditional Dance Workshops	37	Artstravaganza: Mini Arts Carnival	
Meet, Mend & Textile Sustainability	38	Theatre Workshop	42
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19 OCT THU		Music Workshop	45
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Meet, Mend & Textile Sustainability	38		
Artistically About Kuching	41		

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EVENTS BY DATE22 - 28 OCTOBER

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Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild Photographic Exhibition	26	Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild Photographic Exhibition	26
Tuak Crafting Workshop	30	Street Food Fiesta @ Carpenter Street	39
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Colours of Life:	40	Halloowish Talent Perfomances	48
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Making Activities		Halloowish Boo Story-Telling	49
Inventories: Beyond the Empiric	41	What About Music: All That Jazz	49
Artistically About Kuching	41	Lan Berambeh Cuti-Cuti Malaysia	57
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Igniting Dreams, Empowering Futures			
Padawan Raft Safari	46	28 OCT SAT	
		Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild	26
23 OCT MON		Photographic Exhibition	
Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild	26	KempComfort Experience:	27
Photographic Exhibition		Crafting Unforgettable Camping Memories	
Inventories: Beyond the Empiric	41	Street Food Fiesta @ Carpenter Street	39
Artistically About Kuching	41	Artistically About Kuching	41
VII (Process Peek)	47	Inventories: Beyond the Empiric	41
		VII (Performance Show)	47
24 OCT TUE		Halloowish Talent Perfomances	48
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Artistically About Kuching	41	by Auralsounds Lab	
VII (Process Peek)	47	Fun With The Acoustic Guitar with Az Samad	51
25 OCT WED		Haunterland	51
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Inventories: Beyond the Empiric	41	Halloowish Charity Run and	52
Artistically About Kuching	41	Costume Contest	
VII (Process Peek)	47	COSMIC WARP pres. THE ALLIANCE	53
		Lan Berambeh Cuti-Cuti Malaysia	57
26 OCT THU		Mini Travel Fair	
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KempComfort Experience:	27
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Inventories: Beyond the Empiric	41
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A fusion of taste, stories and unity	
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What About Music: Forever Young	56
Lan Berambeh Cuti-Cuti Malaysia	57
Mini Travel Fair	
30 OCT MON	
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Artistically About Kuching	41
Inventories: Beyond the Empiric	41
Halloowish Talent Perfomances	48
31 OCT TUE	20
Wild About Kuching: Into The Wild Photographic Exhibition	26
Artistically About Kuching	41
Inventories: Beyond the Empiric	41
Halloowish Talent Perfomances	48
Handowish latent Ferromances	40







CULTURE

MUSIC

CALL OF THE TRIBES

ⓑ 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Old Court House Gardens

□ FREE

About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.

& Alex Ang +6016-875 4842

Ooohahhhh! Brace yourself this year for a one of a kind spectacle that will bring the rumble of the jungle to our city streets. A vibrant display of colour, rhythms and theatrical narrative woven together with the thundering heartbeat of Kuching's culturally diverse community. Come and find out what is happening at this monumental culmination that transcends the boundaries that define who and why we are. No spoilers!



SARAWAK DRUM COMMUNITY DRUM SHED

(b) 5:30 PM

Old Court House Gardens

☐ FREE

About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.

Alex Ang +6016-875 4842 Sheldon +6010-439 0894

What happens when you gather a bunch of drummers and their drum kits in one place? A syncopated cacophony of interlocking beats and grooves, or a senseless racket of deafening sounds and noises. Come and find out together as our local drumming community heralds the month of October with this epic summit. If you got the beat in you, then bring your sticks and join us. We will save a seat for you.



the SPRING SUNDOWN

台 Sun 1 Oct - Sun 8 Oct

LIFESTYLE

(b) 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM

tHe Spring's Premier Carpark

☐ FREE entrance

A tHe Spring

% +6082-238 222

As the sun sets, tHe Spring's Premier Car Park comes alive as the stage is set and the venue is lit up with stunning lighting, cosy seating areas and a vibrant atmosphere. tHe Spring's Sundown is the place to be to enjoy the good vibes, fun beats and the oh-so-tasty bites from a diverse range of food vendors. Whether you're here with friends, family, or fellow party legends, the good times will be UNLEASHED!



WAK SUNSET MUSIC WITH READY BY TWO

MUSIC

(b) 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Old Court House Gardens

FREE

About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.

& Alex Ang +6016-875 4842

Kick up your feet and rest your weary bones as twilight creeps across the auburn sky. Chill with us, sing with us, dance with us into the welcoming embrace of night. Cherished songs and melodies that bring out the best in you. Don't miss this chance to enjoy a moment with Ready by Two, a new collaboration between Reening and Fransiska!



LA PROMENADE MALL OKTOBERFEST

☐ Sun 1 Oct. Thu 5 Oct - Sun 8 Oct LIFESTYLE

- (9 6:30 PM 11:30 PM
- ☐ FREE entrance
- A La Promenade Mall
- **%** +6019-816 8866

Oktoberfest is returning for the second time to La Promenade Mall on Sept 14-Oct 8! With double the number of food and drinks, a better sound system, larger stage and free parking, you can revel and indulge with live bands performing for you every night. Experience a unique four-week Oktoberfest celebration, from Thur -Sun weekly starting from 6.30pm.



WILD ABOUT KUCHING: INTO THE WILD PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION*

片 Fri 6 Oct - Tue 31 Oct

- (9) 10:00 AM 10:00 PM
- Padini/Daiso foyer, 1F, tHe Spring Shopping Mall
- ☐ FREE entrance
- About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.
- & Alex Ang +6016-875 4842

This year Wild About Kuching brings to you images of Borneo's vibrant biodiversity through the gifted eyes of some of Kuching's talented and aspiring nature photographers - Explore fauna and flora through rarely seen images of Borneo's unique natural heritage in a one of kind interactive experience.

Featured Photographers: Chien Lee, Bruce Teo and Gawen Breteche-Lo

*Photographic works exhibited are for sale.



KEMPCOMFORT EXPERIENCE: CRAFTING UNFORGETTABLE CAMPING MEMORIES

台 Sat 28 Oct - Sun 29 Oct

- (9) 10:00 AM 4:00 PM
- Au Mango Farm, Matang
- Ticket price includes 1 camping meal & goody bag. 12 years & above: RM80 11 years & below: RM20
 - Early Bird: RM65
 - University Students: RM65 (Present student card/ID)
- A BBC by Kempzee
- & Tom Low +6017-852 8113

Introducing the concept of "glamping", - a delightful blend of luxury and outdoor adventure. Attendees will immerse themselves in camping ambiance, learn essential camping safety tips, explore a second-hand camping gear flea market, discover recommended campsites (including new ones), and indulge in mouthwatering campfire cuisine. Contact us for an overnight package.



BORNEO TRAIL CLASSIC 2023

Ħ Sat 7 Oct

SPORTS

- 0:00 AM 5:00 PM
- Redeems Centre Bau
- □ 15 years & above:

50K (ULTRA Championship): RM309 - RM349 21K (TRAIL Championship): RM219 - RM239 7K: RM129 - RM149

10: RM109

5 - 14 years:

Kids Trail Run

1K & 3K: RM39

Bold Warrior Adventure & Exploration Club (BWAEC)

& Ms Penina Crystal Philip +6017-290 9496

This is the 7th stop of the Spartan Trail World Championship under the Spartan Trail brand where racers from all across the globe will travel to the illustrious land of Sarawak this October to compete in 3 main trail categories: 50KM, 21KM, 10KM & 7KM be crowned the Borneo Trail Classic champion by racing through one of the world's oldest tropical rainforests.



MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP WITH ABEL LAW

片 Sat 7 Oct

- 12vrs

- 10:30 AM 12:30 PM: Children 7 12yrs
 1:30 PM 4:30 PM: Teens & Adults
- ♥ Chemsain's Hall, Chemsain□ 13 years & above: RM1807 12 years: RM150

Abel Law

& Abel Law +44-7306-651101 WhatsApp only

Ever wanted to perform in musicals like Les Miserables or Miss Saigon? All will be revealed in this 1 day workshop/masterclass with professional theatre actor Abel Law. Participants will go through a comprehensive process of learning the basic theatre foundations of singing, acting and dance; as well as insight on the ins and outs of the professional world of musical theatre and how to prepare for a career in the Arts.





WILD ABOUT KUCHING: NATURE TALKING

Ħ Sat 7 Oct & Sun 8 Oct

NATURE

- Sat 7 Oct | 1:30 PM 4:30 PM
 Sun 8 Oct | 1:30 PM 2:30 PM
- O Lot 11B, 1F, tHe Spring Shopping Mall (next to Switch)
- 12 years & above: RM20 (per talk)
 Concession:

Students and Seniors (above 65): RM10 (per talk)

(Present student card/ID)
11 years & below: FREE

(Must be accompanied by adult and present ID)

MNS, WCS & WWF members: FREE (Present membership card)

About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.

& Alex Ang +6016-875 4842

If the wild could speak, what would it say to us? Nature Talking is a series of talks given by several individuals sharing their unique stories and experiences in the field of nature photography and wildlife research and conservation.

Talk Schedules

Sat 7 Oct 1:30 PM "Time, Change:

"Time, Changes of Season in Bako"

Sabariman Hassan

Sat 7 Oct 2:30 PM "Karst of Sarawak and Their Bountiful

Biodiversity" Izneil Nashriq

Sat 7 Oct 3:30 PM "The Lady and The Snake: A Glimpse of The Pit-Viper" Veronica Martin

Sun 8 Oct 1:30 PM "Wallace's Sarawak Assistant: The

Unknown Backstory and Fate of Ali" Dr Jerry Drawhorn





ENCHANTING FITNESS: BALLET FUSION & BARRE MAGIC

🗎 Sun 8 Oct

DANCE

- (h) 10:15 AM 11:30 AM
- Track and Dance Studio, Emporium Kuching
- Appropriate for ages 15 and above. Limited to 15 pax RM40
- A Ballet Fitness by Aidwina
- & Aidwina Aidan Wing +6016-878 7048 WhatsApp only

A dynamic fusion of ballet, yoga, pilates, and strength training that transforms you from head-to-toe. Elevate your fitness in a safe, welcoming space for all genders and fitness levels. These sessions will be accompanied with invigorating music to empower and challenge you. Don't miss this unique experience where ballet technique meets fitness training, led by dedicated instructor Aidwina. Renew your body and spirit with us.



TUAK CRAFTING WORKSHOP

☐ Sun 8 Oct, Sun 15 Oct Sun 22 Oct LIFESTYLE

- (9) 2:00 PM 5:00 PM
- Magic Cubicle, 3rd Mile
- Restricted to ages 18 and above.

 RM150 per pax (Limited to 15 pax per session)
- A Borneo Tuak Korner
- & Diana Bong +6013-801 9003

Delve into a journey of culinary exploration and traditional heritage in this uniquely engaging Tuak Crafting Workshop. Participants will be given a comprehensive understanding of the intricate fermentation process, time-honored recipes, and hands-on experience in preparing this traditional local beverage. Conducted by a prominent selection of local brewers, this event is perfect for culture enthusiasts and those curious to savor the local flavors of Sarawak's most celebrated traditional beverage.



WILD ABOUT KUCHING: GOING WILD!

Ħ Sun 8 Oct

NATURE

- (9) 3:00 PM 4:30 PM
- O Lot 11B, 1F, tHe Spring Shopping Mall (next to Switch)
- ☐ 12 years & above: RM30 Concession:

Students and Seniors (above 65): RM15 (Present student card/ID)

- 11 years & below: FREE (must be accompanied by adult and present ID)
- About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.

& Alex Ang +6016-875 4842

Going Wild is a wildlife and safety presentation designed to educate the public in an up-close and personal interactive session with some of Borneo's more notorious denizens. This year we are doing a special Snake and Venomous Animal Safety Demonstration. Are you ready to Get Wild?



RAINFOREST HAT 2023: GOTTA HUCK ÉM ALL

台 Sat 14 Oct & Sun 15 Oct

SPORTS

- (7:30 AM 7:00 PM
- 9 Field C & D, Sarawak State Stadium
- FREE
- A Rainforest Ultimate
- & Haydn Nazrin +6010-239 2903

This October, expect jaw-dropping throws, gravity-defying catches and heart-pounding action, as 7 player teams from all over the world descend upon Kuching City and go head-head in an intensely fun frisbee competition aptly known as "Ultimate". Witness the sportsmanship; feel the camaraderie unfold in this competitive, non-contact, self-refereed sport. This year, the theme is Pokémon! So if you love sports and would like to know more about Ultimate frisbee, come and raise your badges and witness an intense Ultimate Pokémon League!



AN HONEST DAY OUT

Ħ Sat 14 Oct

© Conference: 12:00 PM - 5:30 PM Showcase: 6:00 PM - 00:00 AM

HAUS Kuching

☐ Early Bird RM40 (Limited to 100 seats)
Pre-Sale RM50 (Limited to 150 seats)
General Admission RM60 (Limited to 200 seats)

A Darren Teh

& Darren Teh darrenahm@gmail.com

Led by Darren Teh; lead singer of KL pop rock group An Honest Mistake, this is a one-day mini music conference and showcase featuring a mixed line-up of artists from Kuala Lumpur and Kuching. The conference will feature workshops and master classes pertaining to a variety of topics ranging from music production, music business and music marketing. Find the elusive answers to the most coveted questions about the music industry in this no-holds barred sharing session of unbridled honesty.

Showcase Lineup: An Honest Mistake (KL), Trophy Knives (KL), S4dKL (KL), Steff Fleur (KCH), Hey! Leave A Message (KCH), Dance On Your Grave (KCH), Macha Kaca Mata (KCH).





SARAWAK COFFEE CEREMONY 砂拉越咖啡道

🗎 Sat 14 Oct & Sun 15 Oct

LIFESTYLE

(b) 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Plack Bean Coffee @ Tabuan Desa

🖾 12 years & above: RM 50 Limited to 20 persons per session Session in English and Mandarin

A Black Bean Coffee & Tea Company

& Manggo Tan +6012-897 1952

A ceremony to appreciate specialty coffee produced in Sarawak. Listen to the story behind coffee production in Sarawak. See how three varieties of specialty coffee are prepared in three distinct brewing processes - pour over, siphon and espresso. Engage in discussions while savouring each brew's nuanced aroma, fragrance and taste. Come partake in this sensory experience of local coffee culture complemented with light refreshments.



AN EVENING OF SONGS

Ħ Sat 14 Oct

MUSIC

© 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

O Chemsain Auditorium

☐ Front Rows: RM100 (Limited to 80 seats)
Middle Rows: RM65 (Limited to 66 seats)
Back Rows: RM40 (Limited to 80 seats)

A Dolce Chanticleer

Sabrina Tnay +6016-868 1611 Joan Lau +6011-3123 5829

Attention all Kuchingites, the Dolce Chanticleer Choir is here! Bringing you an evening about songs and music. From Choral music, Chamber groups and Musical Theatre, expect a broad selection of songs ranging from classical opera to modern contemporary. This evening we celebrate the gift of music by our community for our community.



WHAT ABOUT KUCHING OPEN MIC*

片 Sat 14 Oct

(8:30 PM onwards

O The Borneo Hotel

FREE entrance

About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.

& Reening Lau +6012-894 1289

*Open Mic participants required to register before 14 Oct, Limited Slots

Are you ready to showcase your talent or simply enjoy an evening filled with incredible performances? Look no further! The WAK Open Mic is back to provide the perfect testing ground for you to seize your moment and express yourself. Be it stand up comedy or music, the open mic is a safe space for you to hone your stage skills and connect with fellow artists and music enthusiasts in your own community. Your future self will thank you.



THE AMALGAMATION OF TRADITIONAL & MODERN

🗎 Sun 15 Oct

MUSIC

 Lot 11B, 1F, tHe Spring Shopping Mall (next to Switch)

☐ 1-session: RM40 3-session: RM100 5-session: RM170

At Adau

& Meldrick Bob +6011-2188 9097

A series of informative and intimate talk sessions and demos on modern applications of traditional musical instruments brought to you by At Adau. As travelling Creative Ambassadors of Sarawak, At Adau aims to entertain, educate and empower both current and future Creative generations. Open to all ages, we believe that Music & the Arts are essential cornerstones for cultivating and personifying your identity!



TRACK & DANCE POP-UP DANCE SHOW

Ħ Sun 15 Oct

DANCE

(b) 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

South Court, AEON Mall Kuching Central

FREE

A Track & Dance

& Shaleen Tay +6010-982 6991

Transcending the boundaries of dance genres, age groups, and backgrounds, Track & Dance Pop-Up Dance Show brings to you an exhilarating and versatile dance showcase featuring their talented ensemble of students, instructors and guest performers. Together, these gifted individuals will come together to deliver a breathtaking spectacle that celebrates both unity and diversity by incorporating Street Dance, Gymnastics, Ballet, Oriental Dance and more.



BELLE SISOSKI: A MASTERCLASS "PRODUCTION PROCESS"

📋 Sun 15 Oct

MUSIC

(5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Culture City

□ RM40

Package RM80:

Masterclass + Showcase (refer to next event)

About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.

& Alex Ang +6016-875 4842

Farouk Kamil +6012-889 1410

If you're a music lover that loves scrolling through social media, her catchphrase: "What if this song was played with ethnic instruments?" might ring a bell. Belle Sisoski, the prodigal internet sensation is here to conduct a special masterclass that will reveal the secrets behind her exquisite mastery in music production, solo performing gears, content creation, and social media marketing techniques.



BELLE SISOSKI: A SHOWCASE

Ħ Sun 15 Oct

(8:30 PM - 9:00 PM

O Culture City

Pre-Sale: RM50 Door Price: RM60

Package RM80:

Masterclass (refer to previous event) + Showcase

About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.

& Alex Ang +6016-875 4842 Farouk Kamil +6012-889 1410

What About Music 2023 presents prodigal multi-instrumentalist and internet sensation Belle Sisoski. This 17-year old self-taught producer and singer-songwriter has amassed over 100 million views on all social media platforms, captivating a global audience with her mercurial reimaginings of contemporary pop hits orchestrated with Sarawakian ethnic instruments. Don't miss this electrifying showcase taking you to the forefront of what the future holds for the shape of music to come.



SCOTTISH TRADITIONAL DANCE WORKSHOPS

☐ Tue 17 Oct & Wed 18 Oct

DANCE

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (7 - 15 years)
 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (16 years & above)
 Limited to 15 pax per session

 ${f @}$ Track and Dance Studio, Emporium Kuching

RM60

A Ell Sinclair

& Eleanor Sinclair +44-7769 746195 WhatsApp Only

Learn the basics of traditional Scottish dance. This workshop will cover Scottish Ceilidh dance, Highland dance and Scottish Step dance traditions. Led by tutor Ell Sinclair, these workshops will give participants a grounding in three of Scotland's traditional dance genres. Learn a Ceilidh dance from Scotland's popular social dance tradition. Discover your inner Highlander through the highly competitive Highland dance. Explore the rhythms and sounds of the percussive Scottish Step Dance. Water bottles, trainers and soft dance shoes recommended.





MEET, MEND & TEXTILE SUSTAINABILITY

🗎 Wed 18 Oct & Thu 19 Oct

LIFESTYLE

(b) 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

O Lot 11B, 1F, tHe Spring Shopping Mall (next to Switch)

FREE

A Grace Sinclair

& Grace Sinclair +44-7766 945677 WhatsApp Only

Clothing repair and environmental sustainability in the textile industry drop-in sessions.

Prolonging the life of our clothing is a creative eco-action many of us can take once we know how. These sessions will provide a space to learn hand-sewn mending techniques, share your own textile repair skills and find out about the environmental sustainability movement in the textile industry. Beginners and experienced menders welcome. Make sure to bring along your items for mending with experienced Scottish sewer Grace Sinclair.



INK OF THE EAST

户 Fri 20 Oct - Sun 22 Oct

- (b) 10:00 AM 10:00 PM
- Lot 11B, 1F, tHe Spring Shopping Mall (next to Switch)
- Prices per/tattoo are to be discussed and paid between Clients & Artisan on site.
- Black Out Tattoo Studio x At Adau
- & Bob Meldrick +6011-2188 9097

Tattoo Body Art is an inextricable aspect of Sarawak's indigenous culture and spiritual identity. So much so that iconic Bornean tattoos are world-renowned in the global tattoo arena. Should you desire to be a canvas, Blackout Tattoo Studio and their highly-skilled Artists are here to leave an indelible mark on you. Results are permanent, so choose wisely. Get inked by some of the best Tattoo Artists Sarawak has to offer.



STREET FOOD FIESTA @ **CARPENTER STREET**

片 Fri 20 Oct - Sun 22 Oct Fri 27 Oct - Sun 29 Oct LIFESTYLE

- (9) 3:00 PM 00:00 AM
- Back Allev Carpenter Street
- FREE
- A Kaldi PLT
- & Keith Chin +6017 811 1321

Indulge your senses at the Carpenter Street Culinary Fiesta, a vibrant and delectable street food festival nestled in the heart of Kuching, Sarawak, Immerse yourself in a captivating gastronomic adventure where the rich cultural heritage of Sarawak comes alive through its diverse flavours and aromas. Come with an empty stomach and an adventurous spirit as you savour the best of Sarawak's culinary treasures amidst the lively and picturesque setting of Carpenter Street.



PROJEK SPEKTRUM

户 Fri 20 Oct - Sun 22 Oct

THEATRE

- (9) 8:00 PM 10:00 PM
- The Borneo Hotel
- Adults: RM20 Students: RM15

12 years & below: Free

(must be accompanied by adult and present ID)

- A Persatuan Apresiasi
- & Daniel Dahiri +6014-580 4490 Azeerah +6017-834 5793

Experience an exciting and innovative contemporary theatre project aimed at providing a platform for new and emerging theatre directors to showcase their creative approaches to performance art. Expressed in a stylistic plethora of movement and engaging dialogue, Project Spektrum explores the expansive realm of relationships between absurdity and reality. How will these creative new directors showcase their playful ideas? What can we discover from their artworks?



WHAT ABOUT MUSIC: SIDEWALK SYMPHONY

台 Fri 20 Oct & Sat 21 Oct

(E) 8:30 PM

Bishopsgate (Drunk Monkey)

FREE

About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.

Alex Ang +6016-875 4842 Farouk Kamil +6012-889 1410

This year, we make the cityscape a canvas for the musical brushstrokes of Prodigy String Quartet and The Band Lab. From classical compositions to modern contemporary hits, join them in relishing this celebration of life in all its vibrant colours, as they transform the ordinary to the extraordinary by unleashing artistic expression upon Kuching's urban backdrop.



COLOURS OF LIFE: ORGANIC TIE-DYE & CLAY BEADS MAKING ACTIVITIES

🗎 Sat 21 Oct & Sun 22 Oct

LIFESTYLE

(h) 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Southcourt, AEON Mall Kuching Central

RM25 per activity

Ashly Nandong X Ally Enterprise X At Adau

& Bob Meldrick +6011-2188 9097

A fun-filled program packed with engaging activities for your young ones and yourself; offering a memorable addition to your weekend activities. Brought to you by Ashly Nandong & Ally Enterprise and organised by At Adau, this family-centred workshop utilises all organic, child-friendly materials and colouring. Don't miss out on the fun and come take part in this special community-bonding experience.



ARTISTICALLY ABOUT KUCHING

🛱 Sun 15 Oct - Tue 31 Oct

ARTS

(b) 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Padini/Daiso foyer, 1F, tHe Spring Shopping Mall

FREE

About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.

& Georgina Koh +6013-816 1282

"Artistically About Kuching" is not just an exhibition; it's a celebration of Kuching as a City of Crafts, an honour bestowed by the World Crafts Council. It's a platform that brings selected artists and artisans together to explore new boundaries of their creativity, fostering an ecosystem where higher art forms thrive and continue to enrich our lives. Join us in this celebration of art, culture, and the boundless human spirit.



INVENTORIES: BEYOND THE EMPIRIC

🗎 Sat 21 Oct - Tue 31 Oct

ARTS

(b) 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Padini/Daiso fover, 1F, tHe Spring Shopping Mall

FREE

A Iqbal Hashim

& Igbal +6016-849 8704

A thought provoking and conceptually intriguing curated art exhibition that offers a unique perspective on seemingly mundane everyday objects. Through the subjection of these items in a variety of scale and contexts, this exhibition comprising of art pieces displayed through a multifaceted diversity of compositional media and experimental approaches, by an equally diverse array of contributors, aims to provide an introspective look of our own worldview through the 'inventories' we make in our daily life.



ARTSTRAVAGANZA - MINI ARTS CARNIVAL (THEATRE WORKSHOP)

THEATRE

DANCE

Ħ Sat 21 Oct

(b) 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Sarawak Plaza

12 years & above: RM10 13 years & below: RM5

A Sekolah Seni Malaysia Sarawak

& Raynold +6011-2187 1194 WhatsApp Only

"ARTSTRAVAGANZA" is a mini arts carnival and workshop that encompasses principal fields of music, dance, theatre and visual arts. This year, the theatre workshop will introduce the 'Improvisational theatre' where dialog, characters, and story are created spontaneously by its actors on stage. Participants will have the opportunity to showcase what they have learned at the end of the workshop.



ARTSTRAVAGANZA - MINI ARTS CARNIVAL (DANCE WORKSHOP)

描 Sat 21 Oct

(b) 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Sarawak Plaza

ER RM10

Sekolah Seni Malaysia Sarawak

& Mr Raynold +6011 2187 1194 WhatsApp Only

"ARTSTRAVAGANZA" is a mini arts carnival and workshop that encompasses principal fields of music, dance, theatre and visual arts. This year, the dance workshop will educate participants about the movements and cultural significance of the Melanau Dance tradition. Participants will have the opportunity to showcase what they have learned at the end of the workshop.



VIRTUAL SPEEDFEST - IGNITING DREAMS, EMPOWERING FUTURES

Ħ Sat 21 Oct & Sun 22 Oct

LIFESTYLE

MUSIC

(h) 1:00 PM - 12:00 AM

Borneo Cultures Museum

- Racing Sim Participation Fee: RM100
 SpeedFest Music Night Entrance Fee: RM50
- Sarawak Esports Association & Metadise Sim Racing
- & Afiq +6012-808 8292 Dylan Ang +6013-802 6696 Darren Kueh +6016-883 8880

Buckle up for an extraordinary journey of inspiration and excitement at "Virtual SpeedFest." This groundbreaking event will take the spotlight at the esteemed "What About Kuching" 2023 festival in Sarawak. Seamlessly combining heart-pounding Esports Racing Simulator with the elegance of a Super Car Show and the empowerment of a Racing Simulator Workshop; crafting an unforgettable experience that resonates deeply with participants and spectators. Through technology, competition and learning, we're here to ignite dreams and empower futures.



THOSE WERE THE DAYS

☐ Sat 21 Oct

(1:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Oulture City

RM50 (on-site purchase)

A Culture City X At Adau

& Bob Meldrick +6011-2188 9097

Calling in a Class Reunion of the 90s' & 2000s' Local Underground Music community! This once in a lifetime music event brings together a plethora of bands such as Ready Steady Go, United Kids of Oi (Ukoi), Automatic The Remote, Ethnic Transmission, and more! Catch our lineup at Culture City this October 2023, brought to you by At Adau in conjunction with What About Kuching (WAK) 2023 Festival!



POUR OVER COFFEE BREWING WORKSHOP 手冲咖啡体验

描 Sat 21 Oct

LIFESTYLE

- (2:00 PM 5:00 PM
- Black Bean Coffee @ Tabuan Desa
- □ Limited to 6 10 pax per session.
 Workshops in English and Mandarin.
 15 years & above: RM 80
- A Black Bean Coffee & Tea Company
- & Manggo Tan +6012-897 1952

Come learn the history of Sarawak coffee and the farm-tocup journey behind the production of Sarawak specialty coffee. Delve into the basics of brewing pour over coffee and experiment with the brewing of three beans (arabica, robusta and Sarawak liberica). By savouring the subtle varieties of aromas and flavours of each bean and comparing your own brews with fellow participants you may discover the taste of coffee that suits your personal preference 找出自己喜欢的味道。



ARTSTRAVAGANZA - MINI ARTS CARNIVAL (VISUAL ART WORKSHOP)

Ħ Sat 21 Oct

ARTS

- (b) 2:00 PM 3:30 PM
- Sarawak Plaza
- □ RM10
- Sekolah Seni Malaysia Sarawak
- & Raynold +6011-2187 1194 WhatsApp Only

"ARTSTRAVAGANZA" is a mini arts carnival and workshop that encompasses principal fields of music, dance, theatre and visual arts. For the Visual Arts Workshop, participants will engage in a 'manual rendering of design products' by using media such as markers and coloured pencils.



ARTSTRAVAGANZA - MINI ARTS CARNIVAL (MUSIC WORKSHOP)

描 Sat 21 Oct

MUSIC

- © 3:30 PM 5:00 PM
- Sarawak Plaza
- ER RM10
- 🚨 Sekolah Seni Malaysia Sarawak
- & Raynold +6011-2187 1194 WhatsApp Only

"ARTSTRAVAGANZA" is a mini arts carnival and workshop that encompasses principal fields of music, dance, theatre and visual arts. This year, the music workshop will conduct a practical tutorial for music of the Bidayuh and lban people. Participants will learn how to play its basic rhythms on traditional music instruments and showcase what they have learned at the end of the workshop.



ARTSTRAVAGANZA - MINI ARTS CARNIVAL (MUSIC, DANCE & THEATRE PERFORMANCE SHOW)

门 Sat 21 Oct

ARTS

- (b) 7:30 PM
- Sarawak Plaza
- ☐ Free
- A Sekolah Seni Malaysia Sarawak
- & Raynold +6011 2187 1194 WhatsApp Only

"ARTSTRAVAGANZA" is a mini arts carnival and workshop that encompasses principal fields of music, dance, theatre and visual arts. This showcase is the cumulative apex of all the conducted workshops where the teachers and students of Sekolah Seni Malaysia Sarawak will perform together in several ensemble settings such as a live band, duo singing/instrumental, a traditional and contemporary dance, or a sketch show. Don't miss this conclusive climax of the Artstravaganza Mini Arts Carnival



PADAWAN RAFT SAFARI

台 Sun 22 Oct

SPORTS

(9) 6:00 AM - 3:00 PM

 Kampung Annah Rais, Kampung Temurang, Kampung Git and Kampung Danu

Kayak categories: RM100
 Open Raft categories: RM200
 Women Open categories: RM200
 Hotel and Tour categories: RM200
 Government Agencies: RM 200

A Grit Event

& Awang Saifeluddin +6016-878 2809

Discover the enchantment of Padawan Raft Safari – an exhilarating bamboo rafting event in Sarawak's Padawan region. Combining nature's allure with thrilling competition, this experience caters to all skill levels. This international celebration uniting four villages is Organised by Padawan Municipal Council, managed by Grit Event Management, and supported by the Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts Sarawak. Navigate challenges, forge connections, and explore untouched beauty at padawanraft.com. Unite nature and competition in this remarkable event.





VII

☐ Mon 23 Oct - Fri 27 Oct (Process Peeks);

THEATRE

Sat 28 Oct & Sun 29 Oct (Performances)

Process Peeks | 9:00 PM - 9.30 PM
Performances | 3:00 PM & 8:30 PM

© Exhibition Hall, GF, La Promenade Mall

☐ Standard Ticket: RM 50 VII Patron Ticket: RM 77

4 theatrethreesixty

& theatrethreesixty +6011-1174 3748

7 creatives, 7 days, 1 week to make sense out of the world we are living in. theatrethreesixty in collaboration with The Faculty of Applied and Creative Arts, UNIMAS create a new theatre experience; written, rehearsed and presented in 7 days exclusively for the WAK 2023 audience. For the very first time we also invite you into the rehearsal room to be a part of 5 free Process Peeks until our run of three performances begins.



HALLOWISH CAR SHOWCASE

户 Thu 26 Oct & Sun 29 Oct

LIFES

(9 4:00 PM - 10:00 PM

O Courtyard, Canaan Square

☐ Free

A Vala, Seeds, & Caws

& Tracy Yong +6016-878 6808

Get ready for a spine-chilling twist on the classic car show experience with our "Halloowish Car Show" during the Halloween festivities! This year, we're combining the love for automobiles with the spirit of Halloween to create an event that's both thrilling and captivating.



HIP-HOP NIGHT (ALL EYES ON US)

片 Fri 27 Oct

MUSIC

(9) 4:00 PM onwards

Old Court House Auditorium

Early Bird: RM20 Door Price: RM30

A CQ Music Malaysia

Sha +6014-208 9279 Jazz +6012-857 2975

Represent Kuching, Hip-Hop Borneo Revolution! Creating a platform for future generations. Passing on the mic to elevate the local scene, for all the young talents to be heard and seen. We got Asyraf Hardy, The Family man, Zemo, Knowno, Tikar Terbang, Siloman, Cozykidd, Special guest from Sabah and Public Noise from Indonesia. The Metrocity Boyz got a new track plan with our host M.C. Wayne: The Family Man. Get with the vibe y'all, get on the bus - See you at the show - All Eyes On Us!



HALLOWISH TALENT PERFORMANCES

台 Fri 27 Oct - Tues 31 Oct

MUSIC

(b) 4:00 PM - 11:00 PM

O Courtyard, Canaan Square

☐ FREE

A Vala, Seed, & Caws

& Tracy Yong +6016-878 6808

Come one, come all, and experience the enchantment of our Halloowish Talent Performances. Be ready to be entertained, amazed, and thoroughly surprised by the incredible talents on display. Bring your friends and family for a night that celebrates the magic and mystery of Halloween like never before!



HALLOWISH BOO STORY-TELLING

台 Fri 27 - Sun 29 Oct

LIFESTYLE

(b) 4:00 PM - 10:00 PM

O Courtyard, Canaan Square

☐ FREE

A Vala, Seed, & Caws

& Tracy Yong +6016-878 6808

Join us for an evening of whimsy and wonder, where the magic of storytelling meets the charm of Halloween. This event promises to be a heart-warming celebration of joy, imagination, and togetherness. Don't miss out on the fun—come dressed in your favorite costumes and let's create unforgettable memories! Open to kids ages 5 - 12.



WHAT ABOUT MUSIC: ALL THAT JAZZ

片 Fri 27 Oct

MUSIC

(b) 7:30 PM

O Dewan Sri Bunga Rampai

☐ Tickets inclusive of dinner
Early Bird: RM88 (until Tue 10 Oct)
Pre-Sale: RM98

Door Price: RM128

About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.

Alex Ang +6016-875 4842 Farouk Kamil +6012-889 1410

It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing, and Kuching's jazz cats are surely swinging to a beat of their own. Featuring an all-star line-up of Kuching's finest - Ezra Alfandy Quintet, Gena Sim, the 3 Dindas and a special guest performance by legendary guitarist Az Samad. Anticipate an unforgettable night of musical brilliance.



LIFESTYLE

MUSIC

ANI-FIESTA 2023

🗎 Sat 28 Oct & Sun 29 Oct

© 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

☐ FREE

A Yuusha Event Management

& Eric +6011-3924 3422 Azmina +6017-220 1102

Ani-Fiesta 2023 is an Anime, Comic & Games (ACG) event that features all things related to anime, comics, and video games. Ani-Fiesta 2023 brings together enthusiasts, creators, and industry professionals to showcase their experiences, engage in interactive activities, participate in cosplay contests, attend panels and workshops, and shop for merchandise. Attendees will be able to immerse themselves in a world of pop culture, art, storytelling, and interactive entertainment, making it a dimension for fans of diverse interests.



MUSIC PRODUCTION & DJ WORKSHOP BY AURALSOUNDS LAB

☐ Sat 28 Oct

(b) 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Havana Cafe

☐ FREE

Auralsounds Lab

& Joel Balan +6012-877 7810

Calling on all new and aspiring DJs and music producers who want to up their game in the industry. Experienced local artists JORL & WNDERSOULS, will be sharing their tips and tricks in the field of electronic music production and the art of DJing in this intimate hands-on music production workshop. Get familiar and crafty behind industry standard gear like the CDJ2000 & DJM900. Your future in music is here and now. What are you waiting for?



FUN WITH THE ACOUSTIC GUITAR WITH AZ SAMAD

☐ Sat 28 Oct

MUSIC

LIFESTYLE

© 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

O Lot 11B, 1F Spring Shopping Mall (next to Switch)

Appropriate for ages 16 and above Regular Pricing: RM80 Early Bird: RM60 Student: RM50

Az Samad

& Alex Ang +6016-875 4842 Yin email: yyboey@gmail.com

(Present student card/ID)

Join Guitarist-Composer-Educator & Berklee College of Music graduate Az Samad for a fun session on learning the acoustic guitar. Discover cooler sounding chords, groovy strumming patterns, fingerpicking, and even percussive guitar playing! Az has shared the stage with Mike Dawes, Adam Rafferty, Stuart Ryan & opened for concerts by Tommy Emmanuel, Pierre Bensusan & Martin Taylor. Get Az's best tips and tricks over his 27 years of playing! Open to all levels, as long as you've played some guitar before!



HAUNTERLAND

(b) 4:00 PM - 12:00 AM

Think & Tink

□ FREE

A Paradise Borneo

& Jai Qi +6012-514 7187

This upscale Halloween market offers an immersive experience for everyone. With live performances, storytelling, films, pumpkin carving, and much more, Haunterland is a feast for the senses, with a wide variety of age-appropriate offerings, a diverse food selection, as well as catering to a broad spectrum of entertainment preferences to spark your creativity through this engaging and enjoyable Halloween experience.



HALLOOWISH CHARITY RUN AND COSTUME CONTEST

Ħ Sat 28 Oct

- (2) 5:30 PM onwards
- O Courtyard, Canaan Square
- ☐ 16 years & above: RM60 15 years & below: RM30 Pet: RM30
- A Vala, Seed, & Caws
- & Shirley Yew +6016-850 7557

Time to get spooky and rally your spirits for a noble cause! Feel the fun and spread the smiles by dressing up in your favorite Halloween attire and join us to make a positive impact on the lives of children battling cancer. Choose between 3 Km or 6 Km and select your adventure of choice - a speedy sprint or a longer jaunt. The proceeds of this activity will generate funds for the Sarawak Children's Cancer Society (SCCS).



WHAT ABOUT MUSIC: Y2K - SOUNDTRACK OF OUR LIVES

☐ Sat 28 Oct⑤ 7:30pm

MUSIC

- Dewan Sri Bunga Rampai
- ☐ Tickets inclusive of dinner Early Bird: RM88 (until Tue 10 Oct) Pre-Sale: RM98 Door Price: RM128
- About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.
- Alex Ang +6016-875 4842 Farouk Kamil +6012-889 1410

Hey guys, remember that time when we thought all our computers were gonna crash and the world was going to end? Those were some crazy times, but if you grew up loving the music of those uncertain years.. then this is your night. Featuring local popular band Mozaik as your host for the evening with special guests Roxy and Adruce Azman; bringing you back to the 2000s.



COSMIC WRAP PRESENTING THE ALLIANCE

台 Sat 28 Oct

MUSIC

- (9) 10:00 PM onwards
- Havana Cafe
- FR FRFF entrance
- A Cosmic Wrap

& Joel Balan +6012-877 7810

Have you ever wondered if Kuching has its own homegrown underground EDM (Electronic Dance Music) scene? For the first time in Kuching, catch JORL and WNDERSOULS, as they dish out mix after mix of their own selection of homebrewed trance in this exclusive extended set showcasing some of Kuching's finest EDM and DJ artistry. Also here to hype up the night is Terryoshi to make a special hip-hop appearance in between their sets. Come and lose yourself in the music. Join the Alliance!



ACOUSTIC GUITAR ARTISTRY: AN INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP WITH **AZ SAMAD**

- ☐ Sun 29 Oct⑤ 1:00 PM 2:30 PM
- Lot 11B, 1F Spring Shopping Mall (next to Switch)
- Appropriate for ages 16 and above Regular Pricing: RM120 Early Bird: RM100 Student: RM80

(Present student card/ID)

- Az Samad
- & Alex Ang +6016-875 4842 Yin yyboey@gmail.com

Is your acoustic guitar playing stale and stagnant? Are you bored of playing the same old guitar chords? Are you tired of jamming with the same strumming patterns? Join Guitarist-Composer-Educator & Berklee College of Music graduate Az Samad for this 90-minute interactive session where you will get to learn & try out new ideas to help improve your skills immediately. Bring your acoustic guitar & leave the session powered-up with new skills to show at your next jam session!



TUAK SHARING & TASTING - A FUSION OF FLAVOURS, STORIES AND UNITY.

苗 Sun 29 Oct

LIFESTYLE

- (2:00 PM 5:00 PM
- My Placa Coworking Space
- Restricted to ages 18 and above. Limited to 35 seats Early Bird: RM20 (Before 15 Oct)

Normal: RM25

A Borneo Tuak Korner

& Diana Bong +6013-801 9003

Take part in a culturally enlightening and palate enriching experience and immerse yourself in the world of tuak - a traditional alcoholic beverage cherished for generations among the Dayak communities of Kuhing. This event will feature a selection of key local brewers and is designed to educate the public on the heritage of tuak, its integration into modern fermentation practices, and its journey through gastronomic evolution.



HOW TO MAKE MONEY & BUILD A SUCCESSFUL MUSIC CAREER WITH AZ SAMAD

Ħ Sun 29 Oct

MUSIC

- (b) 4:00 PM 5:30 PM
- O Lot 11B, 1F Spring Shopping Mall (next to Switch)
- Appropriate for ages 16 and above Regular Pricing: RM100

Early Bird: RM80 Student: RM60

(Present student card/ID)

- Az Samad
- & Alex Ang +6016-875 4842 Yin yyboey@gmail.com

A special session for music students, aspiring musicians, amateur musicians and even experienced professionals, join Guitarist-Composer-Educator & Berklee College of Music graduate Az Samad for this no-holds-barred tell it all session to help you grow your music career to greater heights. You will find out about important aspects of career planning, marketing, how to use social media without losing your social life, practical finances & business tips and how to have a happier career as a working musician.





WHAT ABOUT MUSIC: FOREVER YOUNG

苗 Sun 29 Oct

MUSIC

(E) 7:30 PM

O Dewan Sri Bunga Rampai

☐ Tickets inclusive of dinner Early Bird: RM88 (until Tue 10 Oct)

Pre-Sale: RM98 Door Price: RM128

About Kuching Sdn. Bhd.

Alex Ang +6016-875 4842 Farouk Kamil +6012-889 1410

Calling out to all you fair folks, young of heart and vibrant of spirit. Your long awaited annual event is back this October so put on your Sunday best as Cat City Band belts out your favourite tunes from yesteryears. Strap on your line-dancing cowboy boots to get your boogie on with Hi-Breed Country Band. Don't go home so early because the night is still young and so are you.







WAK POP-UP

WORLD STORYTELLING FRINGE FESTIVAL 2023

台 Fri 20 Oct & Sat 21 Oct

LIFESTYLE

- ⑤ Fri 20 Oct | 2:00 PM 9:00 PM Sat 21 Oct | 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
- South Wing & The Courtyard, The Old Court House, Kuching
- FREE entrance
- A Hamsa Media
- & Pn. Zuraini Anuar +60 12-212 0737

The rich tapestry of intangible heritage, embodied in folklore through folktales, legends, and myths, confronts an imminent threat of extinction, particularly within the cultural realms of Sarawak and Sabah. Without proactive measures to document and safeguard this invaluable heritage, its preservation hangs in the balance.

In response to this pressing concern, a collaborative effort between our organization, the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC), the Intangible Heritage Association, and UNIMAS has been initiated. We have taken the initiative to organize an inaugural festival aimed at introducing and nurturing a heightened sense of care and reverence amongst the local populace for this intangible heritage.







WAK POP-UP

LAN BERAMBEH CUTI-CUTI MALAYSIA MINI TRAVEL FAIR

🗎 Fri 27 Oct - Sun 29 Oct

LIFESTYLE

- (h) 10:00 AM 10:00 PM
- Plaza Merdeka, Kuching, Sarawak
- ☐ FREE entrance
- A Tourism Malaysia Sarawak
- Kevin +6019-349 7761 Idawati +6016-852 9577 Office +6082-246 575

The Lan Berambeh Cuti-Cuti Malaysia Mini Travel Fair in Kuching, Sarawak, is a vibrant and culturally enriching event that invites travelers and locals alike to explore the beauty and diversity of Malaysia. This mini travel fair promises an exciting glimpse into the wonders of Malaysia.

Key highlights of the event include:

Travel Showcase: Visitors can discover a wide range of travel destinations within Malaysia, from stunning beaches and tropical islands to lush rainforests and bustling urban centers. Various travel agencies and tourism boards will be present to provide information and deals on holiday packages.

Cultural Performances: Experience the rich tapestry of Malaysia's cultural heritage through captivating performances, including traditional dances, music, and arts. This offers attendees a chance to immerse themselves in the nation's diverse traditions.

Exclusive Promotions: Look out for special discounts and promotions on accommodation, tours, and travel packages, making it an ideal opportunity to plan your next adventure within Malaysia.

Interactive Activities: Engage in fun and interactive activities, such as games and contests, that offer a chance to win exciting prizes.

Family-Friendly Atmosphere: The event is family-friendly, ensuring entertainment and activities for visitors of all ages, making it an excellent opportunity for a weekend outing with loved ones.

The Lan Berambeh Cuti-Cuti Malaysia Mini Travel Fair celebrates the beauty, culture, and hospitality of Malaysia, making it a must-visit event for anyone interested in exploring the country's diverse landscapes and traditions. It's a chance to plan your dream vacation, taste local delicacies, and experience the warmth of Malaysian hospitality, all in one place.

OUR WAK CHAMPION

AI VIN WFF

We are profoundly grateful to Alvin Wee for his dedication and impact in echoing WAK's mission as our first ever WAK Champion.

Hailing from Kuching and now based in Los Angeles, California, Alvin Wee is a distinguished music mixer, recording engineer, and music producer renowned for his work in film, television, virtual reality, and video games.

Alvin is known for his exceptional mixing on projects such as Marvel Studio's "She-Hulk: Attorney at Law" (2022), "Encanto" (2021), "Top Gun: Maverick" (2022), "No time to die" (2021), Kingsman: The Secret Service (2014) and many more.

One of Wee's most notable achievements is his outstanding music mixing for Disney's Academy Award-winning Animated Feature, 'Encanto.' This film has garnered over 15 award nominations, including the prestigious Golden Globe for Best Animated Feature and Best Original Score. In collaboration with Germaine Franco and the sound team behind 'Encanto,' Alvin was also honoured with the Cinema Audio Society (CAS) Award for Outstanding Achievements in Sound Mixing.

His recent recognition as the Gamechanger Of The Year at The BOH Cameronian Arts Awards 2023 underscores his continued impact in the industry. Alvin also dedicates his talents to local projects, such as the productions of "Malaysia Prihatin" (2020) for Hari Malaysia and "Sarawak Gemilang" (2021) for Hari Sarawak

Visit his website at alvinweemusic.com and his Instagram @weethewalrus.

WAK OFF SEASON



Kicking off What About Kuching Off-Season in 2023, with In Conversation with Alvin Wee, we are breaking away from the traditional October schedule, as WAK extends its presence beyond its regular season.

Bringing you more to celebrate arts, culture and lifestyle not just in October, but all year round. If you wish to participate and support our Off Season calendar, do drop us an email at info@aboutkuching. com.

Photo Credit: Daniel Kim, The Laterals

THANK YOU

FOR SUPPORTING YOUR COMMUNITY

Massive props to each and every one of you who made this shindig unforgettable!

The story of Kuching and its people is not just written in history books; it's a living, breathing narrative that we create together, each day by celebrating arts, culture and lifestyle. You're the life of our city, and we can't wait to do it all over again in 2024!



#WAK2023

DISCOVER MORE ONLINE

MAIN SPONSOR



COMING SOON

ABOUT KUCHING GUIDE (AKG)

A Guide to What's Good in Kuching



Up next, we're excited to introduce the 'About Kuching Guide.' Your ultimate Kuching city guide for all things Kuching. From top-notch routes, captivating places of interest, intriguing stories, to our personal favorites when it comes to drinks and food, the coolest hangout spots this guide will lead you to the very best experiences in the city.

#BACKTOBASICS PODCAST WITH SOCIALLY.ORGANICALLY



Welcome to the brand-new podcast that's taking you #BacktoBasics! Brought to you by Socially. Organically in collaboration with the What About Kuching Festival 2023. In this exciting first season, we're diving deep into the heart and soul of the festival, exploring the stories of the people who make it all happen. Together, we're going to peel back the curtain and reveal the stories that inspire us, the moments that led us to the festival, and the challenges we've faced behind all the so-called glitz and glam.

Coming soon on Spotify.

WATCHOUT FOR WAK 2024

BE OUR COLLABORATOR

Do you have an event that is the right fit for WAK? Submit your Proposal when our Call for Proposal opens. Keep an eye on our social media @aboutkuching and our website aboutkuching.com for the announcement!

BE OUR PARTNER & SPONSOR

Come and experience the WAK journey and co-host events with creative communities in October. For more information and to discuss opportunities, please contact us at info@aboutkuching.com

BE OUR AMBASSADOR (WAKA)

Everyone could use an extra hand. Affectionately called the WAKAs, these driven and friendly volunteers help WAK build, foster, and engage the creative community. There are many ways you can help while you meet people and learn things, so if this sounds like you, head on over to aboutkuching.com to sign up.



THE WAK TEAM



The WAK Festival Team is a coming together of super-talented folks with big dreams for taking this fest to global stardom. Not your average bunch - they're all about cooking up fresh, mind-blowing ideas that pump up the festival's profile each time.

What really makes them shine is their burning passion for arts, culture, and the whole lifestyle scene. It's the secret sauce that flavours every choice they make. They're on a mission to expeditiously boost our local creative scene and spread the festival's magic to both our local crowd and festival audiences from all over the globe. Inclusiveness is key.

As true Sarawakians, they understand that it's all about celebrating diverse cultures, and they're all in for it. But here's the kicker - they're not doing it solo. They're unwavering in building awe inspiring partnerships with collaborators from all quarters because they know teamwork makes the dream work.

The team is on fire to put Kuching city and Sarawak on the global festival map. Their inexhaustible energy and unfailing dedication are the turbo boosters for the festival's growth, transforming the charming city of Kuching into the ultimate festival hotspot in the region.

