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# A showcase of artistic skills

## Art competition opens window of opportunity for special community and youth

**R**ESORTS World Genting organised the second edition of the "Malaysia through the Eyes of the Artist" art competition in conjunction with the 1Malaysia Contemporary Art Tourism Festival 2013.

Still reeling from the success of last year's event, the competition in May was divided into two categories – the slow learner and physically disabled category and the youth category for those aged between 18 and 25.

This year, 40 participants submitted a total of 48 pieces of artwork.

At the launch of an art exhibition showcasing the artworks recently, Tourism Ministry secretary-general Datuk Dr Ong Hong Peng presented the prizes to the winners.

Also present were Resorts World Genting senior vice-president (public relations and communications) Datuk Anthony Yeo, Chinese ambassador Chai Xi, Cuban ambassador Ruben Perez Valdes, Laotian ambassador Khamphan Analavan, Thai ambassador Krit Kraichitti, Cambodia embassy's Charge De Affairs Oum Bopha and Vietnam Embassy political counselor Pham Tuan Nam.

The judges of the competition were Artseni Gallery founder artist Phillip Wong, renowned art writer and curator Ooi Kok Chuen, renowned artist and Aswara lecturer Suzlee Ibrahim, Prof Datuk Raja Zahabuddin Raja Yaacob, who is Unisel's Faculty of Art & Design professor for graphic design and Resorts World Genting vice-president (public relations and communications) Katherine Chew.

"This competition and exhibition aims to give the special community and youth the opportunity to showcase their talents during Malaysia's Art Festival, which has been held between July to September since 2011.

"It is also to promote the development of their artistic skills," said Yeo.

The first-prize winner in the slow learner and physically disabled category went to Ismail Rakib from the Foot & Mouth Association with his painting called "Old House Old Game".

Ismail won RM6,000 and a four-day, three-night holiday for two persons sponsored by Star Cruises worth RM4,000.

The second prize went to Damien Wong Sher Yin, whose painting was entitled "Jom Masak". He took home RM3,000 and a three-day, two-night stay at Resorts World Sentosa, which comes with two tickets to the Universal Studios Singapore.

Third-prize winner Varick Wong Lai Lik won RM2,000, a three-day, two-night stay at Awana Hotel and two tickets to Resorts World Genting's resident show his painting "The Taste".

Meanwhile, in the youth category, the first-prize winner was Izzat Aziz for his painting "Cerita Warung", who won RM10,000 worth of prizes.

"Hidangan Kita" by Nor Fadilah Mohd Khalil won her the second prize, which was RM6,000 worth of prizes, while Dai Sim Yee who drew "The Eye" took home prizes worth RM4,000 as third-prize winner.

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**Intriguing artwork:** (From left) Khamphan Analavan, Krit Kraichitti, Yeo and Dr Ong admiring the winning painting by Ismail Rakib at the exhibition recently.