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Events mark 100-day countdown to Games

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - Sukom Ninety Eight Bhd launched two events today to mark the symbolic 100-day countdown to the KL98 Games which began last night.

The first was the launching of limited editions of prints of sports images. Ten of Malaysia's artists have been invited to submit a piece of work each depicting their individual interpretations of the Commonwealth Games.

The chosen artists, all from different disciplines, are Redza Piyadasa, Long Thien Shih, Raja Shahrman Azzidin, Khalil Ibrahim, Ismail Hashim, William Harald-Wong, Juhari Muhammad Said, Yusoff Idris, Alex Tan and Fatimah Chik.

Their works will be produced in limited edition, each numbered and autographed individually. Only 350 sets of prints will be produced.

The first edition set will be presented to Queen Elizabeth II of Britain, who will officiate at the closing ceremony of the games. An exhibition of the original works will be held while a set of limited edition prints will be displayed at the main stadium in Bukit Jalil throughout the Games.

Officiating today's launch at the company's headquarters in Serdang was its chief operating officer Datuk Seri Abdul Manaf Ibrahim.

The second event launched was an art competition for primary schoolchildren entitled "Kuala Lumpur 98 Sukan Komanwel XVI - Malaysia Boleh".

Organised by the company in collaboration with the Education Ministry and Nestle Products Sdn Bhd, the competition will take place on Aug 9 at the indoor stadium, National Sports Complex, Bukit Jalil.

It is open to government and private primary schools in the Klang Valley.

Deputy Education Minister and chef de mission of the Malaysian Commonwealth Games contingent Datuk Khalid Yunus, who launched the competition, said it was aimed at making children aware of the Games.

"With the Games drawing closer we would like to build up excitement and anticipation throughout the nation. Everyone's involvement in the Games is valued, including children's."

Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, the wife of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, will award prizes for the 50 best entries.

The art competition is sponsored by Genting Theme Park, Wira Club and Faber Castell which will provide the art material.

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