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Cultural programme for AIDS congress

THE International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific has developed a special cultural programme that complements the official Fifth ICAAP to be held on Saturday.

The Fifth ICAAP Local Organising Committee chairman and the Malaysian AIDS Council president Datin Paduka Marina Mahathir said the cultural programme would allow people to discover the role of different forms of artistic expression in facing and dealing with AIDS.

The events will also be used as a medium to educate and create awareness about issues related to HIV/AIDS.

The cultural programme in and around Kuala Lumpur will take place over several days.

The Kusuma Buana Foundation in Jakarta is holding an exhibition of photographs at Low Yat Plaza Shopping Centre, Off Jalan Bukit Bintang until Oct 28.

The exhibition gives an insight into the life and mind of an Indonesian sex-worker titled Menghadang Mentari Pun Tak Peduli (Even Facing The Sun, I Don't Care).

The National Art Gallery (Gallery 3B) in Jalan Tun Razak will hold an exhibition on drawings by children living with HIV/AIDS from tomorrow to Nov 14.

Dream Diary: Fifth ICAAP Chapter was originally launched on Oct 3 by Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, wife of the Minister of Education.

Tolong, a charity art exhibition, organised by the Malaysian AIDS Foundation and Valentine Willie Fine Arts, will be held from Thursday to Nov 7. The exhibition brings together artists from Malaysia, Australia, Mexico, Peru, Romania, Singapore and United States.

Proceeds from the sale of artworks will be channeled to the Foundation's People Living with AIDS Drug Assistance Fund.

It will be held at Valentine Willie Fine Art, Jalan Telawi 3, Bangsar Baru.

Fabric of Life, the brainchild of art therapist Pamela Whitaker, measuring 75 metres, will be exhibited at the Putra World Trade Centre from Friday to Oct 27.

This fabric contains messages of support and graffiti-style art.

It was worked on for two months by 32 affiliates of the Malaysian AIDS Council.

A play titled Sarong will be held at the HELP Institute Theatre, Damansara from Friday to Oct 31. The comedy is written by Ann Lee and produced by Kualiti Works. Tickets are at RM15 for the public and RM10 for students. Thirty per cent from proceeds of ticket sales will be donated to the Malaysian AIDS Foundation. For details, call Kualiti Works at 03-7167424 or the foundation at 03-4451033.

The opening ceremony of the Fifth ICAAP will start at Dewan Merdeka, Putra World Trade Centre at 3pm on Saturday.

The ceremony is to be officiated by the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Movies, short films and documentaries will be screened at FilmNet Cafe, 3 Lorong Stonor, Kuala Lumpur for the grand Fifth ICAAP Film Festival from Friday to Oct 30.

The movies include Deepa Mehta's Fire and Danny Boyle's Trainspotting.

The Fifth ICAAP Film Festival for all delegates will be held at the

Community Room, Putra World Trade Centre from Sunday to Oct 26.

Closing ceremony of the Fifth ICAAP will be held at Dewan Merdeka at Putra World Trade Centre on Oct 27 at 10am.

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