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`More locals should take part in Lifa 2000'

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - More Malaysian artistes should participate in the Langkawi International Festival of Arts 2000 to be held at the Ibrahim Hussein Museum and Cultural Foundation (IHMCF) beginning Oct 26.

Festival organiser Datuk Ibrahim Hussein said to date, only 10 local artistes had registered for the 10-day festival compared with 200 foreign artistes.

He said local artistes should grab the opportunity to participate and interact with their foreign counterparts from Asia, Europe, South America, Africa, Japan, and New Zealand, including international celebrities from the big screen, television, theatre and designers.

"The 200 foreign artistes will perform, create and inspire visitors at the IHMCF, which was launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in 1992.

"Besides helping promote Langkawi as a tourist destination, having the festival there will also create a difference between Lifa 2000 and other renowned international art festivals," said Ibrahim at a Press conference at his residence.

The festival will display a fusion of all aspects of the arts from outdoor scenes to paintings, sculptures, acting, dancing and singing.

It is organised by IHMCF with the co-operation of the Langkawi Development Authority, with the White Helmets Foundation in Rome, Italy responsible for bringing in all the foreign participants.

It is also supported by the Kedah government, Malaysia Airlines and several hotels and resorts in Langkawi.

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