

Rocking good time at Barisan youth music fest
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PETALING JAYA: Local talents rocked at the Barisan Nasional Youth Music 2011 competition.

Joining the hundreds at the music fest was Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

He presented prizes to the winners of various categories, including solo, vocal and band during the closing ceremony yesterday.

The crowd had a rocking good time. Juliana Yahya, 29, said the event was an opportunity for many up-and-coming artistes to showcase their talent.

"Plus the event is open to all for free.

"Usually tickets to music events or concerts can be expensive and some may not be able to afford it," she said.

Her friend, Wan Mohd Shafiq Samaun, 27, said the competition was a good platform for the public to get to know local talents.

"Those who may not have been fans of certain types of music, may develop an interest after this event," he said.

Twelve finalists competed for the grand prize at the Street Market of The Curve in Mutiara Damansara, from 4pm to 7pm.

The grand champion, Skudap Skudip, walked away with RM30,000 and a recording contract with Universal Music Malaysia.

They were also champions in the band category, earning them another RM20,000.

Skudap Skudip leader Adri Iskandar Mohd Nor said they were surprised with the win as they did not expect the top spot, since the group only managed to practise four days before the competition.

"There are no words to describe how happy we are.

"We were so nervous taking part in such a big competition and now we go home with a big prize," said the 27-year-old.

Barisan Nasional Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin said the Prime Minister was drawn to the event as a new way to engage the youth.

"This is not our usual way of engaging them.

"We were able to be inclusive and reach out to many," he said.

Also present were Home Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein and Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Minister Datuk Seri Noh Omar.

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