CULTURE

Concert for children with special needs

Generating awareness on autism



PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

(Above) Aadil receiving a crest from the chief guest, Abid performing at the programme



KARIM WAHEED

OCIETY for the Welfare of Autistic Children (SWAC) held a concert to raise funds for its school on April 23. The concert was held at the Ballroom, Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel.

The concert, titled Upolobdhir Shetubandhan, aimed to generate awareness on autism and related issues. Brig General Md Zakir Hossain psc. G (Retd), executive chairman of BEPZA was the chief guest at the

The event started with a performance by Shakila Zafar. The artiste rendered Tumi misthi korey, Tomakey dekhley maunota bhuley jai and one of her all-time favourite, Tumi amar prothom shokal.

Following the performance, Anwar Hossain, chairman of SWAC provided a Power Point presentation on autism, effects of the disability on children. misconceptions about the disability and programmes implemented and planned by SWAC for children with the

Hossain said, "SWAC was formed by parents of autistic children on February 3, 2000. The primary goal was to educate and train these children with 'special needs' and establishing them in mainstream society. The organisation started with six students. Today 60 students are enrolled in the SWAC School in Lalmatia. The organisation also trains and counsels parents of autistic

Autism is a brain-based development disorder, which appears in a child by the age of three. Children with autism have difficulties in communication and social interaction. They also exhibit attention deficiency and repeti-

Autism is often confused with mental illness in rural areas and among the illiterate, underprivileged. One autistic child in 10 can show exceptional skills in areas such as art, music and more.

Aadil Haque, a 16 year-old SWAC student who has demonstrated impressive skills in painting, was honoured at the event. The young artiste has received an award at the competition titled "Egypt in the Eyes of World's Children" arranged by the Egyptian Ministry of Culture for his painting "Golden Cleopatra". Aadil has also received a gold medal by Prime Minister Khaleda Zia for his accomplishment.

The musical performances resumed after the presentation and finalists of the talent hunt Close up 1 took the stage one after another. Abid performed a Tagore song Pagla hawar badol diney and Nowrin sang a melodious adhunik song Krishnachura laal

Rashed presented a moving rendition of Ma. Rinku delivered a very charged performance of the Lalon song, Ved bidhi pod shastra kana. The effects of dhol on bongo, haunting tunes of flute and powerful vocals conjured the feel one gets at Lalon's Akhra (shrine). Beauty also performed a Lalon

song, Shorboshadhon shidhdhi hoy tar and Close Up 1 winner Nolok sang the 'Bari Siddiqui number' Amar gaye joto dukhkho shoy. Artistes Kumar Bishwaiit and the band Renaissance also performed at the programme.

The programme was jointly sponsored by AKTEL, HSBC Bank and Citibank NA Bangladesh.

Creativity

Overcoming disability with art

FAYZA HAQ

An exhibition of paintings by differently-abled children began on April 23. The programme held at the National Museum, was arranged by Action on Disability and Development and the Society of Fine

Khushi Kabir of 'Nijera Kori', said on the occasion: "Our Constitution quarantees every citizen equal rights and opportunities, and makes special considerations for those who are backward or handicapped. Unfortunately our thinking and social system has not allowed us to think on behalf on anyone who is different from the majority perspective as being equal. All communities of people who are marginalised, who have social vulnerability because of a handicap, are equal citizens. Programmes like this encourage people to realise that everyone has capabilities despite some mental or physical disabilities and should not be rejected as social outcastes. Those people participating in the programme should be made confident and feel a part of celebrations."

Professor Mahmudul Hague of the National Museum said, "As an artist I'm keen on this exhibition. Fine art is an important medium. This is something that Rabindranath Tagore resorted to in the last years of his life, to ultimately establish himself as an important modern art exponent in the subcontinent. This exhibition is to encourage the handicapped children and give them something to occupy themselves. Just as people have expressed their desires and feelings through the centuries, so disabled children express their feelings and desires



Visitors at the art exhibition

through painting and should not be ianored.'

Asaduszaman Noor, MP, said, "It was my secret childhood dream to be a painter some day. The children who put their dreams and hopes on paper so perfectly, despite their problems, deserve to be praised. Developed countries have recognised the rights of differently-abled people and so should we.'

Syed Manzur Elahi, the chief guest, also praised the children's work as something unusual and worth seeing.

The paintings that were displayed were a result of a sevenday workshop that was recently held at Rajshahi, Khulna and Dhaka. The participants had come from 23 districts to paint and experiment. One of the young artists was so eager that he said that if he didn't have the money for paints he would work with charcoal. When the young artists met others like themselves they took heart and built up their self confidence. The result of the workshop was that it was proved that differently-abled children too could be promising artists.

Among the delightful and thought-provoking entries were that of Hasan from Dhaka, who presented the mother fish with its young ones floating in the river. Labil Akter drew visually impaired people with dark glasses, all three boldly smiling on. Khaja Moyenuddin from Bogra presented entertainers on stage with guitar. Tozammel had differentlyabled children with crutches, facing life bravely. Tapan Kumar Singh from Rajshahi depicted a scene from the countryside, with people going about their work. Sohan from Rangpur had a modern creation with multistoried buildings done in differently coloured rectangles. Buses, homes and people working at their windows were also included. Jarina Khatun from Joypurhat featured a semi- abstract piece with flowers, the moon, and different sections of the paper bearing different subjects with hazy outlines.

CULTURAL FEAST

In aid of theatre activist Jaglul Alam

Title: Bajuk Bansi Antohin Organiser: Songbrita Abritti Charcha O Bikash Kendra Venue: National Theate Stage **Date:** April 28 at 6:45

Title: Disabled Children Art Exhibition Organiser: Action On Disability And Development (ADD) Venue: Bangladesh National Museum Date: April 23-28

Exhibition

Title: First light

Title The UFA FILM POSTERS, Venue: Goethe Institut Dhaka

Photojournalist: GMB Akash Organiser: The Bengal Gallery of Fine Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, House 275/f. Road 27. Dhanmondi

Date: April 17-27 Time: 12 noon-8 pm

Discussion Title: Meet the directors Organiser: Theatrewala

Venue: Mahila Samity Stage

Date: April 28 at 9:30 pm

Gala round of ATN Taroka

KHALID-BIN-HABIB

ATN Taroka Tarokader Taroka, a reality show on ATN Bangla, highlights aspiring singers and actors from all corners of the country. Competition will heat up in the music gala round on May 1. The audience will get an opportunity to witness performances by the hopefuls. The gala round (music) of the show was recorded on April 22 at Bashundhara Star Cineplex Auditorium in the presence of a live audience.

Ten aspiring singers have been selected to participate in the gala round. These upcoming singers had to prove their mettle by performing to a panel of judges, consisting noted musicians and singers. Six singers will be selected. The winners will be selected by the judges and public voting through SMS and internet votes.

At the recording session, the first one to perform was Shammi. Her rendition of Mayabi raatey tarar phool phutechhey received rave reviews from the judges. Next in line was Eka who rendered Money hoy shona bondhu bipodey achhey. Wahid took the stage next and sang an adhunik song, Amar swapno tomar chokhey. Following that Ripon performed a melodious song Phool shundor oi chand shundor. Farhana sang Aj phirey jetey chaina mon. Sabuj sang Tumi phool baganey jeona. Rezwan rendered an original track, Prem ek shukh pakhi. Mridula rendered a romantic number, Godhuli shei bikele. Moulee rendered the track Otithi pakhir moto with great confidence and Chumki wrapped up the show with a rendition of a folk number, Shonrey tora kemon bhalobashey



Participants of the gala round (music)

The 10 finalists are currently at Hotel Sundarban in a grooming camp before the next round begins. The training session is conducted by noted singers and media personalities. During their stay at the camp, the contestants will receive professional training to carry themselves in style.

The programme will reveal fierce competition, spectacular performances and the struggle to stardom laced with gripping drama and high emotions of the participants. The ATN Bangla officials believe that the show will work as a platform to give the youth a direction. Besides, this will also have a positive effect on our society.'

Overall the judges seemed impressed by the performances of the contestants.

Hosted by Alif Alauddin and Khondokar Ismail. the show will be aired on May 1 at 8:50pm.

Bollywood at Cannes

The Cannes film festival has always seen a generous splash of Bollywood through the years and 2006 is no different. The 59th film festival -- which begins on May 17 -- will screen Hindi movies and see a parade of stars.

Aishwarya Rai has been part of Cannes since 2002, when her film Devdas was screened there. The following years saw her either as part of the jury or the glitterati.

This year, her film Provoked will premiere there. Directed by Jagmohan Mundra, it is a true story about a Punjabi woman who settles down in London after marriage, is badly abused and ends up murdering her husband. It remains to be seen whether her film will win her accolades at the Cannes. Music director-turned-film director

Vishal Bharadwaj's next seems just as exciting as his previous films, Maqbool and Makdee. Starring Ajay Devgan, Saif Ali Khan, Vivek Oberoi, Bipasha Basu and Kareena Kapoor, the movie is an adaptation of William Shake speare's Othello. Bharadwaj is still undecided about the film's title.

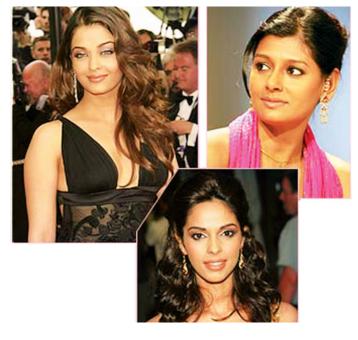
Sudipto Dey's The Last Monk tells the story of how a young couple is influenced by Buddhism. An unconventional film, it has already been screened at the Rotterdam film festival and the Mumbai Academy of Moving Images festival, Next stop: Cannes,

Besides films, Cannes will see a bevy of Bollywood stars like Preity Zinta, Kareena Kapoor, Ajay Devgar Aishwarya Rai and Karan Johar.

Cannes has also invited filmmaker Dev Benegal's script called Road. Movie in the 'Atelier' (workshop) section. Only 15 scripts have been

selected in the category from across the world.

Source: Internet



TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY

All programmes are in local time The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme

News Bulletin

News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am.12:10 pm. 2:00 pm. 3:00 pm. 4:00 pm. 7:00 pm. News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm.5:00

pm.8:00 pm. News (English) at 3:00 pm. 10:00 pm. Late Night News (Bangla and English)

CHANNEL-i News (Bangla) at 7:15 am. 9:00am,

2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15 am. Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 7:00 am.10:00am. 2:00 pm. 7:00 pm. 10:00 pm, 11pm. News (English) 8:20am,7:00pm Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm. Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m,10:00 am, 11:00 am.1:00pm.3:00 pm.

4:00pm.6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am. 12:00 am. 6:15 pm. 9:30 pm. News (Bangla) 7:30 am. 2:00 pm. 5:00 pm.7:30 pm.10:30 pm. Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA

News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 pm. Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm. 11:30 pm. Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30

BBC WORLD Every hour on the hour

Musical Show 09:05 09:25 Sashsoto Jibor 09:35 Open University 12:15

Songbad Potrer Pata Sastho Tatto Cartoon Show 01:30 Sobar Jonno Sikha Computer Round 02:15 02:40 Selected Programn 03:30 Amader Sishu 04:00 Sangita Prothashar allo Shur Anada

05:30 Boi Potro 06:10 Shondha Maloti Programmes Broadcast From **Chittagong Center** 07:00 Quiz Quiz Musical Programme 07:30 Drama Serial: Shap

Onador 10:30 Shei Sur Shei Gan **CHANNEL-i**

Ludu

Drama

Serial: Oronne

Shonabad Potrey 09:30 Bangladesh 11:05 Cricket Online 11:30 Amar Chhobi 12:30 Aaj Dupurey O Citycell Tarokakotho 01:05 Ebong Cinemar 01:45 **Public Reaction** Selected Drama CITYCELL Medha

Bashundhara

Amader Gaan

Sa Re Ga Ma

i-Sports

Live Quiz Show

Antoraler Kotha

04:05

04:30

04:50

05:30

06:35

09:10 09:50 Drama Serial: Amader Anondobari Din Dorpon 11:25 Bangla ATN 11:05 11:35 Three Stujece

Amar Computer 12:15 12:50

Musical Programme 01:30 Cine Gaan 02:30 Drama Serial: Teen Tekka Drama Serial: O Amar Chokkhu Nai 03:45 Aha Ki Anando 04:20 Talk Show: Somosamovik Ispahani Pure Snax Quiz Time 05:10 Talk Show: Nari

Islami Sawal O

Jobab

Shera Radhuni 1412 Drama Serial: Shei Tumi Ei Tumi

Aajker Shokal Drama Serial-Labonno Prova Music Express Cine Gaan Gambhira Single Episode Drama

ntv

08:35

09:05

11:00

11:30

12:02

01:00

02:30

03:50

04:25

05:20

06:20

05:45

Ramijer Ayna Tiffiner Fakey Shada Rater Manush Gallery Apnar Jigyasha Shubho Shondhya Ganer Shomoy Drama Serial Labonya Prova

Drama: Ek Akasher

Khoborer Sondhane Muktangon

Dance Programme

06:20 Aynar Samney 03:30 Drama Serial 08:00 04:00 Shukhnagor Apartmen 05:30 08:30 Drama Serial: Feran Syren 09:00 Shopner Sheri 10:40 Mukto Shonglap

Amader Anondobari

On ntv at 09:50

Drama Serial

Rtv 09:00 Human Nature Documentary 09:30 Programme 10:00 Aaj Potrikay Drama Serial: Rater 11:00 12:05 Drama Serial: Sure Aka Chhobe 01:00 Drama Serial Aguntak

Islamic Programme

02:30

Cast: Tarna Halim, Ahmed Reza Rubel Air Combat Tomar Bina Tarei Geeti Ajker Shishu O Ajker Bangladesh

03:30

04:00

04:30

05:00

05:30

06:00

07:00

08:30

09:00

09:30

10:15

12:00

02:15

04:00

06:30 Rtv Exclusive 06:35 Sonali Rupali 08:00 Drama Serial: Shimul Tolir Ghat 08:50 Jibon Charcha 10:50 Concart **CHANNEL 1** 08:40 Shuprobhat

Bangladesh Cartoon 10:30 Bangla Feature Film 01:30 Shuktara 02:00 Baul Mella

Bioscope

03:00

Neel Nakphool On Channel-i at 08:25 pm Single episode drama The cast: Zahid Hassan, Tazin Ahmed

Drama Serial: Nakol

Poshak

Cyborg

A Simple Wish

Drama Serial: Rode 9:30 Lethal Weapon 2 New On The Big 11:45 Chok Malle Dekhi Screen in April Music Show 12:15 The Forgotten Zila Bulletin Baul Mella STAR MOVIES Akar Ikar 10:00 The Whole Ten Yards Drama Serial: Nakol 11:45 **Engagement Ring The** 01:15 Faultline Drama Serial: Rode 04:45 Instinct Ganer Kotha Kothar 04:50 Runaway Jury Gaan 07:00 The Triumph **HBO** 08:35 Living Daylights The

10:50

12:30

03:50

Sylvia

Air Rage

Personal Effects

Runaway Jury

07:45

Death Becomes Her

Final Destination 2

STAR PLUS Kasautii Zindagii Kay 01:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa 02:00 Rhahhi

02:30 Kesar 03:00 Saarrthi nki Saas Bhi Kabhi 3:30 Bahu Thi Kahiin To Hoga 04:30 K.Street Pali Hill 05:00 V Trailers - Star Plus 05:30 Shaka Laka Boom 06:00 Shaka Laka Boon

06:30 Lilo & Stitch The Little Mermaid Kumkum - Pyara Sa 08:00 Akkad Bakkad Bambey 08:30 Pvaarkedonaam

Ekraadhaekshyaam Kasautii Zindagii Kay 10:00 Kavyanjali Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii 10:30 Kvunki Saas Bhi Kabhi 11:00 Kahiin To Hoga 11:30

12:00 K.Street Pali Hill STAR WORLD

11:30 12:30 Still Standing 01:00 Frasier The A Team 01:30 Oprah Winfrey Show 02:30 Bold And Beautiful 03:30 05:30 The Simpsons 06:30 07:00 The King Of Queens 07:30 Friends Seinfeld 08:00 08:30 Kevin Hill The O.C.

North Shore

Seinfeld

10:30

11:30

Friends **DISCOVERY** 12:30

For Women Only In Therapy 01:30 Wild Discovery 02:30 **Detective Stories** 03:30 Truth or Scare 04:00 Popular Mechanics for 04:30 Wild Discovery 05:30 Greatest Ever Challenge 06:30 07:30 Wild Discovery 08:30 Science Frontiers

Just A Game

Planet Earth

Building the Biggest

True Crime Scene

NATIONAL **GEOGRAPHIC** Strange Days On 11:00

9:30

11:30

\$100 Taxi Ride Air Crash Investigation Be The Creature 03:30 04:30 Backvard Science 04:45 Doc Eureka Croc Chronicles S2 05:30 Crittercam-Wildtech Adventures 06:00 **Snake Wranglers** 06:30 Storm Stories 07:30 Be The Creature Showreal Asia National Geographic's

10:30 Interpol Investigates **ESPN**

Champions League Extra Semifinals #1 10:30 Highlights (T) Cricket Gold (R) English Premie 02:30 League Highlights (R) 03:30 **Enalish Premier** Football League

The Football Quiz (T) Fifa World Cup Preview 09:30 **Uefa Champions** 10:00 Inside The Game (T) 10:30 Sportscenter India Sportscenter Asia

Asian X Games

STAR SPORTS Chequered Flag (R) 12:00 12:30 **English Premier** Football League (T)

Tna Wrestling

Programming (T) 05:30 International Motorsports News (T) 06:30 Tna Wrestling Programming (R) 07:30 Hitz (R) Cricket Classics Sehwag's Best (T) 08:30 Ecb Internationa

04:30

10:02

10:30

10:00

10:00

11:00

Tna Wrestling Programming Tna Wrestling **TEN SPORTS**

WWE: Raw

Italian League

Cricket

Born To Play: Masters

12:00 Trans World Sports 02:00 Caribbean Classics 03:00 Legends Martini World Cup 03:30 05:30 Hockey World Cup: Finals Highlights 07:30 WWE: Smackdown 08:00 Gamer TV India in West Indies 08:30 09:30 Legends: Heights of

Borderline

German League

Highlights:Round 31