

WHAT'S ON



Group Art Exhibition
Title: His Dream World
Venue: Shilpalay, Dhanmondi
Date: December 27 – January 11
Time: 3 pm – 8 pm



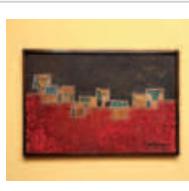
Workshop
Title: Kata Kuti - Collage Workshop by Kazi Tahsin Agaz Apurbo
Venue: Studio 6/6, Mohammadpur
Date: January 25, 2020
Time: 11 am – 6 pm



Cultural Festival
Title: Bangladesh Shanskritik Utsab 2020
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: January 3–23, 2020
Time: 4 pm–8 pm



Musical Evening
Title: Plugged Out IV – One Night Stand
Venue: Counter Culture Club, Dhanmondi
Date: January 31, 2020
Time: 5 pm onwards
Tickets: BDT 300



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Breaking Ground: Modern Art in Transition
Venue: Subir Choudhury Exhibition Hall, Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi
Date: Dec 17 – Feb 15
Time: 1 pm – 8 pm (Except Sundays)



(Back row, from left) Kamrun Nahar Shila, Foysal Ahmed, Hanzala Han and Chowdhury Shahid Kader. (Front row, from left) Abul Khair, Rafiqun Nabi, Anisuzzaman, Selina Hossain, Asaduzzaman Noor and Abul Hasnat.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF BENGAL FOUNDATION.

A memorable birthday for CHAMPA

SHAH ALAM SHAZUL

National Award-winning actor Champa celebrated her birthday yesterday. Starring in nearly 200 films in Bangladesh and beyond, she has a highly successful career. Currently, she is gearing up for the release of her film, *Bishwa Shundori*. In a recent conversation with *The Daily Star*, the seasoned actor talks about her birthday and more.

How did you celebrate your birthday yesterday?

My loved ones wished me at midnight. I was at home during the day, and went out to dinner with my sisters, daughter, son-in-law, grand-daughters and others. My cook baked a cake for my birthday, which was a sweet surprise. It was a low-key, but memorable celebration.

How do you feel as you look back on your life on this special occasion?

With every birthday, I come to realise that life is too short and we should enjoy every moment of it. Now, I prioritise spending quality time with my loved ones, especially my grand-daughters.

Did you receive any special birthday gifts from your fans this year?

I have received many gifts and flowers from my fans. It means a lot to me that they all took a little time out from their busy lives to send me something. I feel very blessed to receive so much love and appreciation from them.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

ZAHANGIR ALAM

Reputed literary magazine *Kali O Kalam*, honoured four young wordsmiths with the Young Poet and Writer Award 2019 on January 4, at Bengal Shilpalay in Dhanmondi. The award recipients were poet Hanzala Han, writer Kamrun Nahar Shila, essayist Foysal Ahmed and author Chowdhury Shahid Kader.

Hanzala Han received the award for his collection of poems, titled *Jolporider Dwip-e*, while Kamrun Nahar Shila received it in the fiction category for her work *Laalbeji*. Foysal Ahmed won the award in the essay-research-play category for his research work, *Syed Nazrul Islam Mohajiboner Protikriti*, and Chowdhury Shahid Kader received the award in the Liberation War-research-literature category for *Muktijuddhe Bharater Chikitsa Shohayota*. A documentary on the award recipients was also screened at the event.



Sitarist Sohini Majumder performs at the programme.

Eminent litterateur Selina Hossain graced the occasion as the chief guest, while renowned artist Rafiqun Nabi, seasoned thespian and elocutionist Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, attended the ceremony as special guests. Abul Khair, Chairman of Bengal Foundation,

delivered the welcome address. Abul Hasnat, Editor of *Kali O Kalam*, delivered the vote of thanks. National Professor Anisuzzaman presided over the programme.

Each of the award winners received a crest, a certificate and prize money

of BDT 1 lakh, in recognition of their literary works. Professor Bishwajit Ghosh, Vice-Chancellor, Rabindra University, spoke on behalf of the jury. Luva Nahid Choudhury, Director General of Bengal Foundation, hosted the event.

Asaduzzaman Noor recited several poems composed by Rabindranath Tagore, Sunil Gangopadhyay, Syed Shamsul Haq and others. The event concluded with a solo sitar recital by Sohini Majumder, a student of Bengal Parampara Sangeetalay. Supantha Majumder, another student of the Bengal Parampara Sangeetalay, accompanied his younger sister on the tabla. The siblings' *jugalbandi*-style recital of *Raga Kirwani* captivated the audience.

Kali O Kalam has been conferring these awards to young poets and writers since 2008 in five categories. 47 poets and litterateurs have received the awards till date.



(From left) Faizul Latif Chowdhury, Professor Salimullah Khan, Kajal Rashid Shahin, Ashique Reja, Kudrat E-Huda and Emran Mahfuz

PHOTO: MONON MUNTAKA

Poet Jasim Uddin's birth anniversary celebrated

Arts & Entertainment Desk

Marking the 117th birth anniversary (January 1) of eminent poet Jasim Uddin, popularly known as *Palli Kobi*, *Kaler Dhoni* organised a discussion session, in Batighar at Bishwo Shahitto Kendro, recently. Professor Salimullah Khan was the chief guest of the event. Researcher Faizul Latif Chowdhury, journalist Kajal Rashid Shahin, along with novelist Kudrat-E-Huda spoke at the event, among others.

Editor of *Kaler Dhoni*, Emran Mahfuz hosted the event, while Chief Editor Ashique Reja started the event with his welcome speech.

Professor Salimullah Khan said, "Just as *Iliad* and *Odyssey* represent Greek civilisation, Jasim Uddin's *Nokshi Kanthar Maath* and *Shojon Badiar Ghat* represent Bangladesh and Bengali culture and civilisation." The speakers look forward to knowing the poet more through researches.

After the discussion session, a special edition magazine, *Bangla O Bangalir Kobi*, was launched. The 500-page magazine features 53 essays from creative and contemplative writers, portraying Jasim Uddin in a unique way. It also showcases some rare pictures, letters and selected works by the eminent poet.

'Shera Rondhonshilpi' to begin from January 31

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

This year's edition of the cooking reality show, *Shera Rondhonshilpi*, will begin from January 31. The title sponsor of the contest is Meizan Palm Olein, while Omera LPG is the premium sponsor of the show. Sharif Home Appliance, Emirates and National Hotel and Tourism Training Institute are the supporting event partners. The show will be aired every Friday night on ATN Bangla. The show is presented jointly by The Bangladesh Monitor and ATN Bangla.

A press conference was held at Pan

Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, where the date of the programme and names of the selected participants were announced, recently.

Kazi Wahidul Alam, Editor, *The Bangladesh Monitor*, Mohan Khan, Advisor-Programme and Mir Md Motaher Hasan, Advisor-Admin, Sales and Marketing from ATN Bangla, Faisal Mahmud, Manager Marketing from Bangladesh Edible Oil Ltd, Nafees Intiaz Karim, Manager-Brand and Market Communication, Omera LPG and Parvez A Chowdhury, General Manager Commercial, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation, were present at the event, among others.

An expert jury committee primarily selected 40 participants, ten each from four regions of the country.

Primarily selected participants will take part in a grooming and final selection session on January 11. Six participants from each region will be selected to compete in the contest.

Out of 24 final participants, the top two will be crowned as the 'Shera Rondhonshilpi' and 'Ditiyo Shera Rondhonshilpi', respectively. For their extraordinary knowledge on nutrition, one participant will be awarded the 'Professor Siddika Kabir Trophy'.



PHOTO: COURTESY