

RECOMMENDATIONS

Australian Film Festival

August 15-16
Australian High Commission in Bangladesh hosts an Australian film festival on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Australia and Bangladesh.

Art exhibition

August 2-15
Artist Fakrul Islam holds a solo exhibition of his works at the gallery of Alliance Francaise, complete schedule of which will soon be announced.

Sculpture exhibition

August 12-18
A sculpture exhibition of artist Ferdousi Priyobhansini begins at Bengal art gallery at Dhanmondi in the city.

Children's art exhibition

August 9-13
A children's art display starts at DRIK gallery in the city and continues everyday from 3 to 8 p.m.

Dance Festival

September 15-17
A dance festival is to be organised by Nriya Dhara, a local dance institution, at the auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum at Shahbagh in the city that will be participated by over 100 danseuse from across the country including tribal performers from Marma, Santal, Pankho, Chakma and Manipuri communities.

A seminar on the trend and status of Bangladeshi folk dance will also be held during the three-day session that will be attended by reputed dance artists, instructors, critics and cultural personalities from across the country.

Dance

Reviving tribal heritage

Local dance institution to host a festival in cooperation with the Bengal Foundation

AZIZ AMIRUL

NRIYA Dhara, a leading dance institution of the country hosts 'Bangladesh Dance Festival', a three-day event from September 15 to 17. This displays dance disciplines of several origins from across the country, in cooperation with the Bengal Foundation, a top promotion house of cultural affairs in Bangladesh.

Various dance heritage of the country unknown to the common people come under fresh observation and creates opportunity to save threatened section of the communities, if any.

The festival includes performances by danseuse from communities of Chakma, Marma, Manipuri, Santal and those from ordinary folk population apart from Dhruvadi and classical dance artists of the subcontinent.

The first day of the festival presents a Manipuri dance and a dance drama performance by artists of the Bulbul Lalitkala Academy. A seminar titled, 'Bangladeshi dance: Trends, practice, limitations and opportunities' is on schedule along with presentation of dance by tribal artists of Marma, Chakma, Tripura and Pankho communities. In addition, Jhankar Lalitkala Academy presents dance drama. The third day of the festival witnesses a Santal dance, performance from different dance organisations of the capital.

Nriya Dhara, co-hosts of the festival has revealed its complete schedule and plans for the festival at a press conference that took place on August 6. Dance instructors and performers Tamanna Rahman,



Manipuri dance

Munmun Ahmed, Dipa Khandaker, Kabirul Islam Ratan, Anisul Islam Hiru apart from art and cultural personalities like Mustafa Monwar, Kamal Lohani, Ramendu

Mazumder, Rafiqunnabi, Selim Al Deen, Rahija Khanam, Laila Hasan, Jubaida Latif, Naila Khan, Niloufar Zafarullah, Sara Zaker, Shimul and Nasiruddin Yousuf, Lubna Mariam,

Rawshan Ara Begum and Minu Haq, one of the chief organizers and founder of Nriya Dhara, were present at the meet.

Nriya Dhara, a young and motivated dance institution has been set up by a group of energetic and enthusiastic cultural activists who aim at reaching the peak of the arena with their self-help, dedication and spirited attitude and performance.

A total of some ten issues have been fixed for implementation by the members of the institution who want to arrange regular dance events in and outside Dhaka. This will be through a minimum entry fee, and will arrange free dance training for less the fortunate children of the society, and aims at publishing books, journals and newsletters on dance and related matters, and also hopes to arrange dance festivals at a space of every two years.

During the last one year since September 2001, the organization has been able to earn a good reputation with the country's dance connoisseurs as it held free training camp for street children; arranged charity event for local HIV/AIDS foundation; arranged memorial meet for renowned dance instructor and artist late Komol Sircar; sponsored workshop at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy that was coordinated by Manipuri danseuse Kalavati Devi from India, took part in the dance ceremony of Asian Art Festival, and took part in dance events in different television channels during Eid vacation.

A number of charitable activities of Nriya Dhara included collection of fund through stage performance for ZONTA-III and the same for the ailing dance master Abul Kalam.

Event

Honouring the media

Zia Shishu Academy presents an inspiring cultural show

CULTURE DESK

AT the Ball Room of Hotel Sheraton, Zia Shishu Academy arranged a cultural show on August 5, in honour of those related to the cultural and media world of the country. On behalf of the academy, its Chief Advisor and Minister for Science, Information and Communication Technology, Dr. Abdul Moyeen Khan, patron and State Minister for Finance and Planning, Shah Mohammed Abul Hossain, and patron and Member of Parliament, Hafiz Ibrahim invited journalists from the radio, television, private TV channels and newspapers, and personalities from the cultural field of the country.

The cultural programme opened with a heart-felt and inspiring patriotic song 'Paye paye chole jai Bangladesher gobhire.' Mahmud, a student of the Academy from

Chittagong, presented a well-picked folk song, 'Shorbonasha Padma nodi ro kachhe shudhai.' A group dance on harvesting and another with the song 'Smriti jholomol shunil mather kachhe' of Runa Laila, which followed, were spectacular and rhythmic. Two solo-acting performances one against dowry, and another against destruction of nature and environment pointed out the two existing drawbacks of our society. The rich regional cultural heritage of Bangladesh was demonstrated by a couple of regional songs, while a song presented a promise to establish children's rights.

A discussion session followed the cultural show, in which the speakers were Professor Abdul Momin Chowdhury, Vice Chancellor of National University, State Minister S. M. Abul Hossain, and Al-hajj Mohammad Mosaddek Ali, Political Secretary to the Prime Minister. In

his speech, Mosaddek Ali drew attention of parents and asked them to take care of their children so that they do not have to turn victim to social maladies like drug-addiction and terrorism. Professor Chowdhury wished that the academy would one day turn from today's 'little spark' into a 'fire-ball' of talent.

Their presentation of a number of Hindi songs, however, did not seem to go with the spirit and purpose of the academy, which aims at preserving our cultural richness and spreading it all over the world. The academy also strives to mould today's children as a generation inspired by the spirit of education, honesty, patriotism and human values. At the same time, it pronounces its commitment to establishing children's rights by eradicating child abuse and child trafficking from the society.

Anniversary



Renowned artists perform tagore songs at Public Library auditorium in the city on August 6 in observance of the nobel laureate's death anniversary

TV GUIDE

Table with 2 columns: Time and Program Name. Includes Ekushey, ATN Bangla, Channel-i, and BBC World.

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