

Bangladesh Cultural Festival
 Venue: Nandanmancha, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
 Date: Jan 1-18
 Time: 4:30pm daily

Solo Exhibition
 Manifestation of the Human
 Artist: Md. Mainuddin
 Venue: La Galerie, AFD
 Date: Jan 2-18; Time: 3-9pm

Drawing Exhibition
 Celebrated Violence-5: Wound
 Artist: Dilara Begum Jolly
 Venue: Kala Kendra
 Date: Dec 26-Jan 20
 Time: 2-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition
 Alluvial Soul- Soil- Symbol
 Artist: Kalidas Karmakar
 Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattacharya Gallery, Bangladesh National Museum
 Date: Jan 3-24
 Time: 9:30am - 7pm

Solo Painting Exhibition
 What I Talk About When I Talk About Life
 Artist: Shameem Subrana
 Venue: Gallery Twenty One
 Date: Jan 9-31; Time: 12-8pm



Celebrating Life under auspices of ARTISTIC HERITAGE

ZAHANGIR ALOM
 In an extravagant event attuned to the country's eternal heritage, Standard Chartered Bank and The Daily Star honoured talents at "Celebrating Life 2015" in the spheres of photography, lyrics and film. The theme of the eighth award-giving ceremony was "Celebrating the Heritage of Bangladesh". A palace-shaped stage was set up inside the Hall of Fame of the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre on January 10. The three recipients of this year's lifetime achievement awards, Farida Akhter Bobita, Afzal H Chowdhury and Alauddin Ali, were handed to them, followed by audiovisuals on their life and work. It was followed by the presentation of awards for film, lyrics, and photography. After the award ceremony, the audience was enthralled by the performance of two renowned artistes -- Sabina Yasmin and Syed Abdul Hadi.



(Top) Sabina Yasmin and Syed Abdul Hadi perform; a section of the audience.

They performed songs penned by Alauddin Ali. Syed Abdul Hadi superbly performed golden oldies like "Jonmo Theke Jolchhi", "Emonoto Prem Hoy", "Ekbar Jodi Keu" and "Achhen Amar Muktar" while Sabina Yasmin beautifully rendered timeless songs "Shoto Jonomer Swapno", "Dukkho Bhalobeshe", "Keu Konodin Amarey Tho" and "Ami Achhi Thakbo". Cultural Affairs minister

Asaduzzaman Noor, in his address, put emphasis on artistic, musical, cultural and sports activities for young minds alongside their academic activities. "Journalism does not mean only bringing out a newspaper, but also taking part in the entire process of building a country, with a conspicuous conscience and a solemn spirit of patriotism. We, The Daily Star and Standard Chartered Bank, have been

inspiring creative minds and giving them a solid platform to flourish their faculties in films, photography and lyrics for the last eight years. Thus, we think of building an artistic Bangladesh through this effort," said Mahfuz Anam. Jointly hosted by Aupee Karim and Mohammed Nawaf Naser, the gala programme included a rendition of a song written by Mohsin Ahmed, that won the first prize in the lyrics contest. Popular band Chirkutt performed it. The band also performed several of their hit numbers and the classic "Dhono Dhanno Pushpo Bhora". The gala event included Celebrating Life Photo Exhibition, which was inaugurated by Asaduzzaman Noor. It featured winning photographs of this year's contest. The event was coordinated by Star Showbiz Editor Rafi Hossain. Star Showbiz, Channel i, Ekattor TV, Anandadhara and Zaheen Music were partners of the event.

Short film festival in port city

MINHAJ UDDIN, Chittagong
 With a view to produce young talented filmmakers, a 15-day film festival was inaugurated at Chittagong on Sunday. A total of 10 short films of young filmmakers are being exhibited in the festival at Theater Institute Chittagong till January 25 apart from a five-day training workshop for aspiring filmmakers from January 12-16. The festival is organised by Chittagong Short, an organisation of young filmmakers, in association with local Daily Azadi. The inauguration ceremony was held at the Chittagong Press club on Sunday. Chittagong Short founder Ismail Chowdhury said this year the motto of the festival is "Cinema for Humanity". He said the festival will provide an opportunity for young filmmakers to learn about filmmaking and would



Guests and participants at the opening ceremony. PHOTO: STAR

broaden scope for a change in the industry for betterment. Young filmmaker Raihan Rafi said the young filmmakers would make good films in future and represent the country in the international arena. "We are getting one or two good films every year in the present condition of our film industry. The festival would motivate young filmmakers to make more good films", he hoped. Among others, Wahed Malek, managing editor of Daily Azadi was also present. The ten films that would be exhibited in the festival are "Pinjor", "The Wheel of Life", "Shopner Shikore Holud Collage", "Maa", "Kolaboti", "Kunnas", "Obosthan", "The Load", "Osamajik" and "Akash Neel Er Khoje". Besides, Screening of Chittagong Short documentary on "Hajar Bochorer Chattagram" would also be held on January 25.

NEWS bytes

No extended-cut DVD for TFA

While "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" has only been in theatres less than a month, talks have already been happening regarding the DVD version. Star Wars fans are wondering how much new material they can expect once the home version of "The Force Awakens" is available. Director JJ Abrams recently opened up regarding what will be included in the DVD version of Episode VII. He said: "There will be deleted scenes, but not an extended version... I don't know what the longest cut was. Probably, if it were with credits, close to two hours and 50 minutes was the first cut." While that might be disappointing for some fans, the promise of deleted scenes in the DVD is exciting. If the original length of "The Force Awakens" was so long, then it can be surmised that there may be a handful of deleted scenes to enjoy once fans can own copies of the movie.



Source: **Cinemablend**

"The Revenant", DiCaprio win big at Golden Globes

In a night full of surprises, "The Revenant" and "The Martian" dominated the top film prizes at the 73rd Golden Globes, while Amazon's "Mozart in the Jungle" and USA's "Mr. Robot" overcame intense competition to nab the highest television honors. The awards overflowed with unusual choices, new faces and enough bad language to send the censors into an early grave. "The Martian," a science fiction thriller, was honoured somewhat inexplicably in the comedy category, with even its director Ridley Scott expressing shock at the designation while picking up the best picture statue. Scott, however, was passed over in the directing category in which Alejandro G. Iñárritu, who last year lost out on the Globe before going on to win an Oscar for "Birdman," was called to the stage for "The Revenant". Brie Larson and Leonardo DiCaprio helped cement their front-runner statuses picking up acting honors in a drama for their work in "Room" and "The Revenant" respectively. Jennifer Lawrence was recognised for her work as the creator of the Miracle Mop in "Joy". Matt Damon overcame competition from the likes of Steve Carell ("The Big Short"), Christian Bale ("The Big Short") and Mark Ruffalo ("Infinitely Polar Bear") to pick up a Best Actor in a Comedy statue for his work as an astronaut stranded on Mars in "The Martian". Kate Winslet scored a best supporting actress statue for her work as Apple founder Steve Jobs' assistant in "Steve Jobs". Aaron Sorkin who penned "Steve Jobs" won the best screenplay. Sylvester Stallone earned a best supporting actor award for returning to



Jennifer Lawrence



Leonardo DiCaprio



Lady Gaga

the ring in "Creed". Amazon's "Mozart in the Jungle" prevailed over better-known shows such as HBO's "Veep" and Netflix's "Orange is the New Black" to score a Best Comedy Series statue. On the drama front, HBO's "Game of Thrones" and Fox's "Empire" proved no match for the hacker thriller "Mr. Robot" from USA. Rachel Bloom won the Best Actress in a TV Comedy for her work as an obsessive former flame in "Crazy Ex Girlfriend". Lady Gaga, best known for her chart-topping

music, was singled out for her work on "American Horror Story". "Inside Out" scored a best animated feature award, and "Son of Saul," a Holocaust drama from Hungary, captured the best foreign film statue. Other winners of the night included Lady Gaga for "American Horror Story: Hotel" (Best Actress in a Limited TV Series), Ennio Morricone (Best Original Score, "The Hateful Eight"), Jon Hamm (Best Actor in a TV Series - Drama, "Mad Men"), Taraji P Henson (Best Actress in a

TV Series - Drama, "Empire") and Rachel Bloom (Best Actress in a TV Series, Musical or Comedy, "Crazy Ex-Girlfriend"). The Cecil B DeMille Achievement Award was handed to Denzel Washington. True to his reputation, Ricky Gervais hosted the evening, with hard-hitting insults to Hollywood's top stars: It took him less than a minute to bring up Sean Penn's interview with Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman at this year's telecast.

Source: **Variety**

PASSING OF A STARMAN

FAHMIM FERDOUS
 "Look up here, I'm in heaven I've got scars that can't be seen I've got drama, can't be stolen Everybody knows me now"
 Those were the first words of the final single David Bowie would get to release, "Lazarus", a day before his 69th birthday and three days before he would pass away peacefully - on January 10. He had been suffering from cancer for 18 months. His love affair with music that began with listening to artistes like Little Richard and Elvis Presley took him on an unmatched journey that, if condensed, would still fill up entire pages of a newspaper. He pioneered an entire music genre - glam rock; experimented with great success on a spectrum of musical styles - from rock 'n' roll to soul, funk, pop, hard rock, electronica to industrial, adult contemporary and jungle, and basically remained an icon for over four decades. He collaborated with artistes ranging from



Tina Turner to Queen to Snoop Dogg; released 27 albums that sold over 140 million copies (before "Blackstar" that came out on January

8 this year), 14 Platinum, 18 Gold and eight Silveralbum certifications (US and UK combined); won two Grammys (one of them a Lifetime Achievement Award, in 2006); was inducted into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame; and was named Rolling Stone's 39th Greatest Artist of All Time and 23rd Best Singer. But it was never just music, when it came to Bowie. He studied dance and theatre, acted in films and theatrical productions by the dozens, married a supermodel, became a character in a video game, lived in Europe where he painted post-modernist paintings, became an art collector of repute. Most iconic of all was without a question his alter-ego of Ziggy Stardust, "the bisexual alien rock super star", for his fifth studio album "The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders From Mars" and its unforgettable single "Starman". All his life, Bowie innovated and reinvented the artist in him, and never ran out of new forms and platforms to express himself - from

1969's "Space Oddity" to his theatrics of Ziggy Stardust and Thin White Duke, to the German genre of Krautrock to post-disco and dance in 1983's "Let's Dance", one of his biggest hits and a stepping stone for the legendary guitarist Stevie Ray Vaughan to the hard-rocking band Tin Man and the release of the art-rock and pop in 2002's "Heathen". And because he treaded so many grounds, Bowie influenced generations upon generations of musicians, from Kurt Cobain to today's Arctic Monkeys and Lorde. Although he didn't perform live much since his heart attack in 2004 and last performed in 2006, the demise of icons like him is like a burn down of a library; you lose so much more than you know. But after an 18-month battle with cancer, maybe all he wanted was to be free, as he closed his last released single, "Lazarus", with: "Oh I'll be free Just like that bluebird Oh I'll be free Ain't that just like me ..."



"Ujan Ganger Naiya" on ATN Bangla

A CORRESPONDENT
 Drama serial "Ujan Ganger Naiya" goes on air on ATN Bangla every Tuesday and Wednesday at 8:40pm. Produced by BBC Media Action and directed by Samir Ahmed and Bashar Georgis, the third season of the series has been created by Anisul Hoque. Monirul Islam Rubel, Rafiqul Islam Poltu, Golam Rabbani and Shusmin Afsana have jointly written the script. Riaz, Tarin, Moushumi Hamid, Dolly Zohur, Nazmul Huda Bachchu, Shatabdi Wadud, Jyotika Jyoti, Lutfur Rahman George, Rawnak Hasan, Maznun Mizan, Shamima Islam Tusty are in the cast among others.