

Poetry and Music
Title: An Evening of Poetry and Music with The Versemongers and Friends
Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
Date: April 20
Time: 7 pm – 10 pm
Tickets: At the venue for BDT 300 (BDT)



Art Exhibition
Title: The Work of Creation - Kazi Ghiasuddin
Venue: Bengal Shilpashar, Dhanmondi
Date: April 5 – May 18
Time: 12 pm – 8 pm



Musical Evening
Title: Star Melodies' Loko Gaaner
Shurey Borshobor
Venue: The Daily Star Centre
Date: April 20
Time: 6 pm onwards



Theatre
Title: Draupadi Parapara
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: April 23
Time: 7 pm



Workshop on Songwriting
Title: Artistic Arsenal
Facilitator: Labik Kamal Gaurob
Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
Date: April 20
Time: 5 pm – 8 pm



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEMEL



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LRB

The show must go on!

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

At a Pohela Boishakh programme held at a restaurant in the capital, LRB resurfaced as 'Balam and the Legacy' to put on a performance in tribute to the late great Ayub Bachchu. The band had earlier announced on April 5 that Balam would take the mantle of LRB lead vocalist and guitarist, after AB tragically passed away last October. However, disputes with Ayub Bachchu's family and LRB members over the continuation of the band put up questions about the continuation of

LRB and its legacy.

Ahnaf Tazwar Ayub, the legend's son, cleared the air in an emotional facebook status yesterday.

"I'm letting the remaining members of LRB (or Balam and the Legacy as they're calling themselves now) know that they're free to perform as LRB as they chose to initially," writes Ahnaf. "I wish them the very best and hope they achieve great success and keep Sollo's music alive. I wish LRB all the success they can achieve." Ahnaf also clarified that even though the band would never be

the same without AB, he is a national treasure, and his music and legacy should continue by any means possible.

The band members had earlier said that the name was changed from LRB to 'Balam and the Legacy' so as to respect the sentiments of the family. However, the band is yet to make a comment after the recent statement made by the family. As the maestro himself used to say, "the show must go on!", fans will certainly hope for the music to play on in memory of the great Ayub Bachchu.

FARJANA AHMED ANNAN

The Distressed Children and Infants International (DCI) and Rights and Sight for Children (RSC) organised a press conference on Children Rights and Sight, in collaboration with Hotel Tropical Daisy, at the hotel premises yesterday. DCI is a US based non-profit organisation headquartered at Cheshire, Connecticut and aims to protect children by focusing on their health, education, family rights, sound psychological growth and other basic opportunities. Protecting children's eyesight and creating awareness about different ophthalmological diseases are also among DCI's top objectives. Children who are raised abroad, and are from financially solvent families, are encouraged to sponsor underprivileged children residing in Bangladesh and maintain friendship by writing letters or through social media. This programme is part of the initiative 'Children Helping Children'. RSC Chairperson Dr Abdul Mazid and Dr Ehsan Hoque, the Founder and Executive Director of DCI addressed members of the

press at the conference, where the latter mentioned, "I used to be bullied because of my poor eyesight when I was young. I understand the psychological distress a child goes through while dealing with such issues in their childhood and adolescence." He further added, "I have always focused on counseling pregnant women on the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle for the sound development of their children. I am pleased to say that this organisation shares the same motives as I do, to promote ways of improving children's health."

The press conference ended with an announcement of the upcoming annual awareness concert titled 'Journey for Child Rights and Sight', on April 19 at Krishibid Institution Bangladesh (KIB) auditorium. DCI Goodwill Ambassador Sabina Yasmin, DCI Advocate Hassan Abidur Reja Jewel, Benuka Institution of Fine Arts, and other renowned Bangladeshi performers will partake in the concert. Renowned actor and DCI Goodwill Ambassador Babita Akhter will welcome the guests via a video message.



PHOTO: KAZI SALAHUDDIN RAZU



'Family Crisis', directed by Mohammad Mostafa Kamal Raz, will be broadcast on NTV at 9:40 pm. The show features Shahiduzzaman Selim, Sharmili Ahmed, Rosy Siddiqui, Monira Mithu, Sabnam Faria and Runa Khan among others.

Aretha Franklin posthumously awarded with Pulitzer Prize Special Citation



The Queen of Soul made history by becoming the first individual woman to earn a special citation prize ever since the introduction of the Pulitzer Prize. The Pulitzer board said the award was given to Franklin for "her indelible contribution to American music and culture for more than five decades."

Aretha Franklin was also the first woman inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987. The marvelous musician sold millions of albums and won countless awards, including 18 Grammys, the National Medal of Arts and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, among many others.

She breathed her last at the age of 76, at her home in Detroit on April 16 last year.

Other artists who were honoured with a special citation include the likes of Duke Ellington, Bob Dylan, John Coltrane, Thelonious Monk, George Gershwin, Ray Bradbury, William Schuman, Milton Babbitt, Scott Joplin, Roger Sessions, Richard Rodgers, Oscar Hammerstein II and Hank Williams.

Protik Theatre completes 33 years

MINTU DESHWARA, back from Habiganj

To celebrate their 33rd anniversary, prominent company, Protik Theatre, organised a three-day programme at the Deondi Tea Garden in Habiganj recently. The company was founded on April 14, 1986. The programme featured an award ceremony, dance and musical performances, songs as well as theatrical productions.

Protik Theatre also honoured numerous people for their notable contributions to the society. Sipa Yadav, the first BCS female professional in the tea garden area, Bijoy Rudro Paul, the president of Shopno Kuri Somaj Koyllan Sangstha, Anumoy Verma, a

network engineer from the Local Government Engineering Department, among others, were presented with bouquets and crests.

Khowai Theatre staged Chandalika and Protik Theatre staged Pujar Saj on the first day of the programme. Rajar



PHOTO: STAR

Notun Jama and Griha Sotru Bibhison were staged as well. A discussion session, with researcher Dr Fazle Elahi as the chief guest, was also held.

The adviser of Protik Theatre, Gius Uddin, chaired the session, which was facilitated by the president of the company, Sunil Biswas.

Biswas established the theatre group in 1986 with the primary aim of combating drug addiction by educating the children of tea-garden workers. Being one of the few graduates in his community, he had very little support at the time. In the beginning, he did not have any sponsors either, and he produced the plays from his personal savings. Today, Protik Theatre has a total of 80 members. Their activities also aim to prevent social issues such as child marriage and illiteracy. They also recently received the SM Solaiman Padak.

Pohela Boishakh celebrations at Manikganj

To celebrate Pohela Boishakh, the district administration arranged a cultural function at Bijoy Mela Mancha in Manikganj recently. Artistes of different cultural organisations including Udichi, Sangskritik Biplobi Sangha, Shishu Academy, Shilpkala Academy, Manikganj Sahitya O Sangskritik Sangsod and Shilparath performed songs and arranged dance recitals.

ZAHANGIR SHAH, from Manikganj

Jahid Maleque Sawapan, the health and family welfare minister and lawmaker from Manikganj-3 constituency, was present at the function, presided over by SM Ferdous, the deputy commissioner of Manikganj.

The district administration also organised a horse-racing competition at Shahid Miraz-Tapan Stadium and lathi khela and kabaddi competition at the Bijoy Mela ground. A rally was also arranged, in which members of Shishu Academy, Manikganj Municipality, academic institutions, social and cultural organisations took part.

Manikganj Press Club organised a kite-flying competition at the Bijoy Mela ground as well. A large number of people attended the event. After the competition, SM Ferdous, the deputy commissioner of Manikganj, handed over prizes to the winners. Golam Mohiuddin, the chairman of district council and Sudeb Kumer Saha, the general secretary of District Sports Association,



were the guests while Golam Sarwar Sanu, the president of Manikganj Press Club, presided over the event.

Another kite festival and art competition were

organised by Shatadal, a socio-cultural organisation, on the bank of the river Jamuna at Aricha Ghat. Many kids took part in the art competition and were presented with prizes afterwards.