



Sushmita Sen crowns Shirin Akter Shela.



PHOTOS: COURTESY Shirin Akter Shela

What to expect at Litmosphere's 'Expecto Patronum!'

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Popular online book club Litmosphere is set to host the creative event, *Expecto Patronum!* with the aim to bring book lovers and fans of JK Rowling's *Harry Potter* series together.

The event will showcase merchandise from different shops and feature activities, panel discussions and other exciting arrangements.

Scheduled to take place from 10am to 6pm at BSM Group at 13, Tejkunipara, Farmgate Bus Stand today, the event has no age restriction. The tickets for the event are BDT 360.

Partnered by Ruhaani Wedding, the event will have shops by Litmosphere, Newton's Archive, Epilogue, Kraftz, Ace of Spades BD, The Bangladeshi Design Project, Subhu Bakes, Made With Love, Good Ol' Outfits, Sugar Shots, and The Red Window. Participants can battle to win exciting prizes from the activity sponsor, Ace of Spades BD.

Tasnuva Ashraf Umama, creator of the platform Healthy Minds and Nayeema Reza, creator of the platform, Hobby Ki? will participate in a panel discussion on why compassion and hobbies are important for mental health, moderated by journalist and writer, Sabrina Fatma Ahmad. The event will also feature a

Shirin Akter Shela wins Miss Universe Bangladesh

The beauty pageant competition Miss Universe Bangladesh, concluded with crowning the winner, recently. Shirin Akter Shela became the first Miss Universe Bangladesh 2019. She was crowned by the former Miss Universe (1994), Sushmita Sen, an Indian actor.

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The journey began with more than 12,000 registrations. In the last three months, with eliminations and boot camps, a winner was chosen at the grand finale.

Shela is a third-year student of the Department of Physics, Dhaka University. She hails from Thakurgaon and wants to work for the society. "My father is a member of the Border Guard Bangladesh," she said. "I have grown up watching him fight for the country. He is a great inspiration for me. I will also work for the betterment of my country, which begins from today!"

Sushmita Sen expressed her excitement about being at the show. "I am super excited to be a part of this event," she said. "It is a momentous

occasion because we are making history by sending the first ever representative of Bangladesh to Miss Universe. My heartiest congratulations to the winner and all the participants. This is your moment of glory, seize it!"

The first and second runners up are Alisha Islam and Jessia Islam, respectively.

Miss Universe Bangladesh is the franchise owner for the pageant, from Bangladesh. It is an association comprising of RIZ events, Off Track and Trilogy. Rizwan Bin Farouq is the Chairman of Miss Universe Bangladesh. Sohel A Chaklader Duke, Shafik Islam, and Mithun Zaman are directors of the company.

"Miss Universe Bangladesh will be the brand ambassador of Bangladesh as she will compete with participants from 130

countries at the 63rd Miss Universe, to be held in USA, on December 8," said Rizwan Bin Farouq, Chairman, Miss Universe Bangladesh. "I am confident that she will mark her identity there and make the country proud!"

Along with Sushmita Sen, the other judges of this grand event were singer-actor Tahsan Khan; Kaniz Almas Khan, Managing Director, Persona; Tootli Rahman, President, Bangladesh Heritage Craft; Rubaba Dowla, Founder, Pulse Health Care; Farzanah Chowdhury, Managing Director, Green Delta Insurance; Rafiul Islam, Managing Director, Flora Bank; Dr Zareen Delawar Hussain, Athar Ali Khan, former Cricketer/Commentator and Star Faruque, former Miss Ventura County California and Johnson County USA.



lecture on animal care by animal rights advocates, Zahid Hussain and Rabita Arefin from Care for Paws.

Visitors are welcome to take photographs with Kai, the dog, at a booth. All proceeds from the photographs will go to Care for Paws. At the 'Choose Your Patronus' section, participants can pick a beautiful piece of artwork from a collection created with submissions from all over the country.

In Table Quidditch, a version of the fictitious sport from the world of *Harry Potter*, participants can pick their teams and take turns trying to score goals with the 'Quaffle', by aiming it at the opponent's hoops. The event will also host Tarot card reading and crystal ball reading sessions.

Two-day Baul festival concludes in Manikganj



ZAHANGIR SHAH, from Manikganj

Sanskritik Biplobi Sangha (SABIS) organised a two-day Baul festival, on October 23 and 24, at their auditorium in Manikganj, in observance of the 129th death anniversary of Fakir Lalun Shah.

Andha Baul Shah Alam Sarkar from Natore, prominent Shah Selim Reza from Manikganj performed at the festival. Nasrin Ahmed, Habib Sarkar, Emily Parveen, Kajal Moni and Khadija Hassan Kothe also performed

Lalon Sangeet. Earlier in the evening, a discussion meeting was held. Chairman of the Manikganj District Council Advocate Golam Mohiuddin, President of the District Unit of Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, advocate Deepak Kumar Ghosh, SABIS's Vice President Tusheranti Sarker Topu, Joint Secretary Sukumar Gupta, treasurer Kamal Ahmed Komol and writer Mosharrif Hossain addressed the audience. Cultural personalities Shamsul Alam and Rozina Mahmud Rupakatha conducted the discussion.



Ferdousi Mazumder



Monirul Islam

Three cultural icons to receive GITANJALI SHONMANONA PADAK 2019

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Marking their 15th anniversary, Gitanjali Lalitakala Academy has arranged a two-day event today and tomorrow, at the auditorium of Small and Cottage Industry Training Institute, Uttara. The programme will be inaugurated by Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor, Mohammad Atiqul Islam. National Professor Rafiqul Islam, advisor, Gitanjali Lalitakala Academy, will preside over the programme.

This year, artist Monirul Islam, poet Muhammad Nurul Huda and actor Ferdousi Mazumder will receive the



Nurul Huda

PHOTOS: STAR

Gitanjali Shonmanona Padak 2019 in the arts, literature and cultural categories, respectively.

Today's event will begin with the award ceremony, followed by the unveiling of the Gitanjali souvenir, certificate distribution, a two-day children's photo exhibition by Shokal Belar Pakhiand a cultural programme.

On the concluding day, Advocate Sahara Khatun, MP, will be present as the chief guest and Dr Md Abu Hena Mostafa Kamal, NDC, Secretary, Cultural Affairs Ministry will be present as the special guest.

TV WATCH



The third season of the popular pupper show, 'Khatta Mitha' will air on Fridays and Saturdays on Duronto TV at 9:30 am and 7:30 pm. The programme is directed by Mithun Hasan and Mohammad Ali and researched by Dr Rashid Harun.

PHOTO: COURTESY