

Noble initiative: The young musicians performing in 'The Sound of Merriment' charity concert in aid of Caring Old Folk's Home.

Raising funds through music

Money to help old folk's home relocate

By YIP YOKE TENG

teng@thestar.com.my

Photos by SHAARI CHEMAT and courtesy of PERSATUAN RUMAH CARING KAJANG

GROUP of young musicians organised a concert to raise funds for Caring Old Folk's Home in Kajang, which is facing eviction.

The young talents put together a memorable concert of international standard, much to the enjoyment of the audience at the hall of the New Era College recently.

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Themed "Sound of Merriment",
the concert brought together
Western and Chinese classical
music on the same stage.

World harmonica champions Aiden Soon and Evelyn Choong kick-started the evening with Time's Scar and Time is Like A Song. This was followed by a Chinese classical music performance Escar Ensemble.

The orchestra, comprising 40 musicians from Kajang Yu Hua High School's alumni, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Universiti Putra Malaysia, UCSI University and Multimedia University, showcased the exquisiteness of the classical works.

Pianist Emily Ng's emotionallycharged renditions elevated the Chinese tunes.

The evening was brought to a climax when Fresco Harmonica Ensemble founded by Soon and Choong took to the stage.

The home-grown group had emerged champions in many international competitions including the World Harmonica Festival in Trossingen, Germany (2009) and the 7th Asia Pacific Harmonica

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Mesmerising: Ng giving a dazzling rendition.

East meets west: Soon performing with Escar Ensemble.

Caring home moving to Sungai Tangkas

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Festival in Hangzhou, China (2008).

Caring Old Folk's Home founder Wendy Yap said the committee had decided to move the home from Taman Muhibbah to Sungai Tangkas, instead of continuing with its protest against the Kajang Municipal Council for issuing the eviction order based on complaints from a neighbour.

"We understand that charitable

organisations are not supposed to be run in housing estates but there has never been a zone drawn in the local plan, so where should we go?

"We have decided to buy a plot of land offered to us at RM432,000 although it is worth RM1.2mil. We need to raise funds for the purchase, and to build a four-storey building.

"That will enable us to help more needy people," she added.

Yap said the association would organise more concerts to raise

money.

Caring Old Folk's Home, which houses 30 residents, falls under the care of Persatuan Rumah Caring Kajang.

The association also ministers to 104 single-parent families.

Its committee plans to use the four-storey building for an old folk's home, orphanage, office as well as recreational space.

To help, call Yap at 012-238 0043.



International excellence: Fresco Harmonica Ensemble has won a bagful of international awards.