NEWSLETTER

October 2019

Voice of Alhamra

Lahore Arts Council keeping up with the mission of promoting art and different art forms including music has organized a musical contest titled "Voice of Alhamra", inviting melodious voices from all over Punjab. 220 boys and girls from all over Punjab participated in the auditions. A total of 22 participants were selected who further participated in the semi-final round. Sumaiyya Gohar bagged the title of top Voice of Alhamra securing 1st position along with Nazar Abbas & Ghayyas Haider sharing the 2nd position and Ayesha Afzal securing 3rd position. Cash prize of Rs.50,000 for 1st position, Rs.30,000 for 2nd position and Rs.20,000 for the 3rd position along with participation certificates were distributed by the Executive Director, Lahore Arts Council, Lahore.

Visitors at Lahore Arts Council

Provincial Director USAID Punjab Pakistan's Visit

Provincial Director USAID Punjab, Kevin C. Sharp along with other team members visited Lahore Arts Council, Alhamra as a part of strengthening strong cultural ties between the two countries. Chairperson, Board of Governors, Ms. Moneeza Hashmi, Executive Director, Lahore Arts Council, Ather Ali Khan and Director (Art & Culture), Zulfiqar Ali Zulfi accompanied them and briefed the delegation at length about the cultural activities at Alhamra.

Theatre with Purpose

Dengue in Trouble

Lahore Arts Council in order to raise awareness in the masses presented a play on "Dengue", the disease that has been on rise since last decade, and continues to trouble the citizens every year in the monsoon season affecting more citizens every year. A play titled "Dengue in Trouble" was brought for the audience to bring the issue of dengue to the limelight. The play was presented by the students of Alhamra Academy of Performing Arts in which they shed lights on the importance of prevention steps for eradicating the chances of Dengue fever. Minister of Information & Culture for Punjab, Mian Aslam Iqbal was the chief guest of the event.

Jaal

Lahore Arts Council in collaboration with Aks Theatre organized a play titled "Jaal" in Hall 2 of Alhamra. The play is an adaptation of Agatha Christie's crime suspense novel "And Then There Were None" that revolves around the mystery of 10 murders at a deserted house located on an island. Ten people from different fields of life are being invited by unknown host and then each of them gets murdered one by one. The play was directed by Afzal Nabi along with the cast members named Sarfraz Ansari, Zohaib Haider, Gulshan Majid, Zaheer Taj, Aman Chaudhary, Sultan, Imran Armani, Azeem Noor, Hassan Raza and Zoya Qazi.

Aseer-e-Azadi

Lahore Arts Council continuing the mission of standing with the people of IOK and supporting the cause of Kashmir's Independence, organized a play titled "Aseer-e-Azadi" which conveyed the message of peace. The play which was written by Aslam Mughal and Afzal Nabi and directed by Amir Nawaz revolved around the depiction of ongoing efforts of Pakistan in supporting Kashmiris. The wife of Hurriyat Leader, Ms. Mushaal Hussein Mullick was the chief guest of the event.

Exhibition Corner

Kashmir Lockdown

An exhibition titled "Kashmir Lockdown" organized by Lahore Arts Council was held at Alhamra Art Gallery, Mall Road, Lahore. The exhibition featured paintings from 40 artists on the topic of Kashmir Lockdown since last 70 days. Minister for Law & Parliamentary Affairs Punjab, Mr. Basharat Raja along with Executive Director, Lahore Arts Council were the chief guest of of the event.

Alhamra on Wheels: Street Theatre

Street theatre has always been an integral part of our culture. It is a medium of art where performers interact with a wide variety of audience. Lahore Arts Council has recently taken an initiative for the promotion of Street Theatre under the name of “Alhamra on Wheels” in which plays on prevailing social issues will be presented at various locations around the city such as parks, colleges, universities, museums and such other places.

Jahez: Jillani Park

The first play of this series “Jahez” was organized within the premises of Jillani Park. The play revolves around the challenges and burdens of dowry (Jahez). A large number of spectators attended the performance and applauded the actors for putting up a play with the message of saying “NO” to the tradition of dowry.

Jahez: Lahore College for Women University

The second performance of “Jahez” was held at Lahore College for Women University, Lahore which attracted a huge number of university students. The audience appreciated and enjoyed the play as well as applauded the efforts of Lahore Arts Council, Alhamra in the promotion of street theatre and making it a medium for spreading social awareness.

‘’Kuch Yaadein, Kuch Baatein’’

A Monthly Series of Literary & Cultural Talks

Lahore Arts Council has started a monthly series of sessions titled as ‘’Kuch Yaadein, Kuch Baatein’’. This is an initiative taken by the Chairperson, Board of Governors, Ms. Moneeza Hashmi. The purpose of these monthly talks is to bring valuable experiences and memories of iconic personalities from literary, social and cultural sector to the general public particularly our youth. This series has now become a regular feature of Lahore Arts Council and will be organised on the third Friday of every month. The Chairperson, Board of Governors, Ms. Moneeza Hashmi, Executive Director, Lahore Arts Council, Ather Ali Khan and Director (Art & Culture), Zulfiqar Ali Zulfi attended both sittings along with a great number of audience.

Surraiya Multanikar & Rahat Bano

Surraiya Multanikar and Rahat Bano, the melodious voices of Multan, were the first guests of ‘’Kuch Yaadein, Kuch Baatein’’. Surraiya held the audience spellbound by sharing her life story and memories. In the end, both mother and daughter sang songs as duets.

Cuba Aur Vietnam ki Baatein with Mustansar Hussain Tarar

Mustansar Hussain Tarar, renowned novelist, tourist and artist was the second guest of “Kuch Yaadein, Kuch Baatein”. Mustansar shared anecdotes of his travel to Vietnam and Cuba with the audience. He talked about the post-war Vietnam and shared about the life style, traditions and monuments of the Vietnamese. He also talked about the food and everyday life of both countries.

Upcoming Events at Lahore Arts Council

November

- Baba Guru Nanak Festival (5th – 6th November)
- Play “Rung Laye Ga Lahoo” (7th – 8th November)
- Faiz Festival (15th – 17th November)
- Alhamra Drama Festival (19th – 27th November)
- “Kuch Yaadein, Kuch Baatein” – A Series of Monthly Lectures (22nd November)
- National Exhibition (20th November – 6th December)
- Cultural Programme (24th November)