

Cambridge choir serenades for a good cause

THE Jeffrey Cheah Foundation (JCF) and Sunway University recently hosted its fifth benefit performance, "Choral Serenade to Music", featuring a performance from University of Cambridge's Choir of Gonville and Caius College at Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa in Petaling Jaya.

The highlight of the night was a special tribute to Malaysia's musical heritage with Tunku Zain Al-'Abidin Tuanku Muhriz, the second son of the Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan, Tuanku Muhriz Ibni Almarhum Tuanku Munawir, and JCF trustee, accompanying the choir to perform an arrangement of Malaysian folk songs.

Under the direction of Dr Geoffrey Webber, the college choir also performed music from classical to contemporary composers, such as Mozart, Franz Schubert, John Tavener and Cheryl Frances-Hoad, accompanied by the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra.

Webber said: "We are here not only to perform to a discerning audience, but also to highlight music and the arts in education. We are delighted to be part of this meaningful occasion that will see a worthy philanthropic organisation benefit from a scholastically and socially ambitious foundation."



Tunku Zain Al-'Abidin Tuanku Muhriz on the piano accompanying University of Cambridge's Choir of Gonville and Caius College.

Sunway Group chairman Tan Sri Dr Jeffrey Cheah, who is also the college's Gonville Fellow Benefactor, said Sunway University's academic and research ties with the University of Cambridge went back to 2014 with the establishment of the Jeffrey Cheah Professional Fellowship Fund.

"JCF is a strong believer in the role of music and the arts in providing a holistic and well-rounded education for our youths. JCF also strives to make quality higher education affordable and accessible to deserving Malaysians."

He said the JCF had disbursed almost

RM300 million in scholarship and would hand out another RM60 million next month.

This year, the proceeds from the event will go towards purchasing eight dialysis machines for National Kidney Foundation's kidney patients in Sabah, Sarawak and Selangor.

Cheah presented a cheque for RM400,000 to NKF president Tan Sri Datuk Dr Abu Bakar Suleiman.

Proceeds from previous JCF benefit concerts have gone towards other communities in need, from the visually disabled to scholarships for marginalised youth.

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