

‘KITAB HIJAU’ BEST SHORT FILM, JURY PRIZE TO ‘NIGHTINGALE’

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Mamat (second right) presents the Best Short Film award to Muhammad Farhan (right). — Photo by Chimon Upon

KOTA SAMARAHAN: ‘Kitab Hijau’ by Muhammad Farhan Idris bagged three awards, including the much coveted Best Short Film, at the 12th Mini Film Festival (MFF) by Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) here on Wednesday evening.

Held in a packed Experimental Theatre at the university’s Faculty of Applied and Creative Arts, the film also won Best Production Design and Best Videography that went to Nur Nazurah Rosli and Muhammad Farhan respectively.

Another top prize for the night, the Special Jury Award, went to Muhammad Nurudin Shaari of Playhouse Film for ‘Nightingale’.

Prolific Malaysian director and screenwriter Mohammad Mohd Khalid, also known as Mamat Khalid, presented awards for Best Short Film and Best Director which went to Nurul Fasihah Mansoor for her work in ‘MyMoon’.

“Being a director is the best job (in film making) but the responsibility is very big. The director has a heavy responsibility to the entire production. The pressure can be overwhelming but bear in mind, the reward is fantastic,” he said before presenting the award.

This year’s MFF, themed ‘An Innovation of Cinema’, challenges young film makers to apply innovations in their work to further develop the local cinematic scene. At the same time, the award celebrates and give recognition to the achievement of young film makers here.

Another top winner for the night was Chen Yong Jiam who took home Best Sound Design and Best Editing for the film 'Reincarnation'.

The evening kicked off with the award for Best Poster, which went to Mohd Azizan for the film 'Rebelusi'. Kesheekha Kaliappan won Best Advertisement/Public Service Announcement for 'Depression is a Silent Killer' while Best Visual Effects went to Mohammad Firdaus Hassan for 'The Fort'.

Jaya Sangar Krishnan won Best Experimental Video for 'Vicky' while Zizi Qairy bagged Best Animation for his artistic work on 'Simalunggun, Clash of the Warrior'. Overall, 20 awards were presented in this year's MFF.

Other winners were Iswandi Salim for Best Script in '2 PM' and Muhammad Afiq Akram who won Best Documentary for his film 'Alunan Harapan'.

In the performing role awards, Mike Chuah Bee Seong won Best Actor for his performance in 'Back' while Jessie Lee Tze Yin won Best Actress in 'Before I Sleep'.

Best actor in the supporting role went to Bryan Ng for 'Ron & Stan: Rob a Shop' while Patimah Uni won Best Supporting Actress for 'Dough of Memories'.

For the Best Crew awards, exclusive for MFF production members among the first, second and third year Cinematography Programme students, Mohd Amnan Mohd Amin and Deng Mee Hung were Best Crew (Male) and Best Crew (Female) respectively.

Mohd Khalid who was guest of honour was pleased with the quality of the film entries this year.

"I've been invited to many final year film project presentation by students from throughout the country and I'm happy with the final project of Unimas students showing that Unimas has been successful in producing good promising talent. I congratulate you all for your achievement," he stated.

Famed for his involvement in hit films such as 'Puteri Gunung Ledang' and 'Zombi Kampung Pisang', the bubbly film maker advised students to strive hard and work on improving their skills and knowledge.