AMD 2012 grand finale this Saturday

BY VALENTINE TAWIE SALOK

KUCHING: Dayak equivalent of the Grammys, the Anugerah Musik Dayak (AMD) 2012 is in on this Saturday 24 November, finally.

With months of preparations and roadshows statewide, the organiser, Dayak Artists and Musicians Association (DAMA) committee members, helmed by Balai Ringin Assemblyman Snowdan Lawan, are ready to roll for the grand finale of the biennial event.

To be held at the state-of-the-art Dewan Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra (DeTAR Putra) of the Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) campus in Kota Samarahan, near here, this AMD is the second to be held under DAMA.

The one in 2008, dubbed Dama or Dayak Music Awards was organised by Dayak Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) under a committee helmed by former minister Dato Sri Celestine Ujang Jilan. In 2010, the first AMD was held in BCCK. It was the first in a series of awards helmed by Snowdan, after DAMA was formally registered by Registrar of Societies (ROS) in March 2010.

This biennial event with tickets priced at RM30 and RM50 each, is the most-awaited moment for Dayak artistes as victory in any of the categories up for competition is a great recognition for any artiste.

The list of AMD finalists was published earlier. There are 17 awards up for grabs. Topping the awards are the three lifetime achievement awards, namely one each for the Iban, Bidayuh and Orang Ulu categories. Due to requests, New Sarawak Tribune obligingly lists once again the nominees for the Best Male and Best Female categories. Those nominated for the Best Male (names and albums in italics) are Donny Lang (Ai Mataku Beraie), Gabriel Fairuz Louis (Genggam Jariku), Halley (Kumang), Inochi (Rachun Dalam Pengeringda), Rickie Andrewson (Pengerindu Bu Ujang Cherita and Teddy (Bengal Rose). Nominees for the Best Female category are Doris Nuji (Aku Rindu), Juliana Maring (Begulai Sejalai), Melissa Francis (Beserara Enggau Ai Mata), Nofea Maring (Beserara Sejalai), Natalie Ibas ak Jum (Bintue Taap Bauh), Rosiana Urai (Ati Kami Indu) and Wendy (Dara Jala Pisit). Meanwhile among those nominated for the related categories include newcomer Aldrich Lional Kamuan (Hevance) with the album Sada Ati, Depha Masterpiece with Kumang, Embat Lala for the album Beserara Enggau Ai Mata, Ellison Ludan for Pengiran Tu Enda Ulih Tagang and Macmillan Jua of Ethnic Transmission for the album Ethnic Transmission. AMD 2012 is an event not to be missed. Tickets are still available at various joints including HOLE 19 at Kuching, Dayak Cafe at Kota Samarahan and those interested may enquire at 082-368739 (Soda).