

**WELCOMING REMARKS FOR
PRESS CONFERENCE ON GEORGE TOWN FESTIVAL 2019-2020**

BY

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GEORGE TOWN WORLD HERITAGE INCORPORATED

(VIP SALUTATIONS)

Members of the Media

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good morning and welcome to George Town World Heritage Incorporated (GTWHI). We thank you for joining us in today's press conference in which we will officially announce the contractor for George Town Festival 2019 and 2020.

In 2010, George Town Festival was inaugurated by George Town World Heritage Incorporated to celebrate George Town's inscription as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Dato' Maimunah Mohd Sharif, the General Manager of George Town World Heritage Incorporated (2010-2011) had said the planning for the Festival was to actively engage the people living in the World Heritage Site. The Festival was to be a catalyst for creating a sustainable and liveable city. In her interview with the media (Penang Economic Monthly, June 2010), she had mentioned her KPI for George Town Festival was "to improve the quality of life for the people who live here, as the more connected the residents are to the city, the more they would want to be involved and own the programme".

With the generosity of our sponsors, hard work of the contractors, artists, and local partners, and support from the media partners and festival-goers, George Town Festival has over the past 9 years gained international recognition for showcasing world-class performances and installations with collaborations from international and local artists. We are immensely grateful that the Festival has grown and bloomed so incredibly well with all your support.

As many of you may know, we have called for the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Festival Management and Production for George Town Festival 2019 - 2020 from September to November 2018. The Panel of Evaluation to review the proposals was chaired by YB Yeoh Soon Hin and consisted of members that were appointed by the Board of Directors of GTWHI. They have screened and shortlisted 3 proposals from the total 9 proposals that were received.

My sincere appreciation and gratitude go to the GTWHI Board of Directors for collectively selecting the contractor and for the continuous support in all our endeavours. We also thank the media for the support in providing wide coverage of the Festival since its inception.



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Historic Cities of
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We hope that George Town Festival will continue its momentum as the region's leading festival and expose George Town to local and international programming, giving our communities a chance to indulge in an eye-opening, and truly memorable festival experience.

Thank you.