

Perayaan Warisan George Town 2023 2023年喬治市入遺慶典

2023 - ஆம் ஆண்டின் ஜோர்ஜ் டவுன் பாரம்பரியப் பண்பாட்டு விழா















BEACHAMPION OF GEORGE TOWN'S CULTURAL HERITAGE

George Town Heritage Celebrations 2023 is a community-based project by George Town World Heritage Incorporated (GTWHI) that we curated since January this year. It is a joint collaboration with 37 partners to put together more than 20 Cultural Workshops, 18 Community-Led Programmes, WarisHunt, and George Town Discovery Walk to celebrate George Town's 15th anniversary as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

These interactive and educational programmes help to highlight George Town's diverse yet inclusive multicultural social fabric. They also enable us to identify and document our cultural heritage so that we are well equipped to address its issues and challenges. This is necessary to safeguard and promote the Outstanding Universal Values of George Town as a World Heritage Site.

George Town Heritage Celebrations emphasizes accessibility and inclusivity so that everyone may get to experience, learn, and appreciate the cultural elements that contributed to George Town's alluring heritage charm. More importantly, we are using this as a pathway to connect with the youths so that they could become champions of cultural heritage.

Lastly, I would like to thank the GTWHI Board of Directors, GTWHI team, George Town Heritage Celebrations production team, George Town Heritage Celebrations participating communities, partners, volunteers, and supporters for their contributions in making this year's celebrations possible. Above all, I would like to thank the State Government of Penang for its commitment to investing in community-based empowering programmes such as this.

I wish all celebration-goers a lovely and enjoyable evening in this melting pot of cultural heritage. Let's celebrate our identity as real Malaysians tonight and be a champion of George Town's cultural heritage.



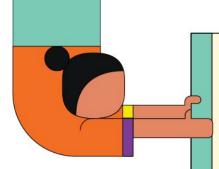
Dr Ang Ming Chee

General Manager, GTWHI

Executive Producer, George Town Heritage Celebrations 2023

15 June 2023

GEORGE TOWN HERITAGE CELEBRATIONS 2023 PROGRAMMES



25 March 2023

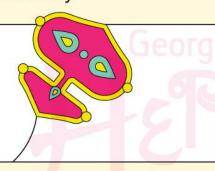
Sobhakritu Ugadhi Panduga

Telugu Association Of Malaysia Penang and Seberang Perai Branch

March - June 2023

Penang Writers Workshops: Inheritance

Malaysian Writers Society



1 and 8 April 2023

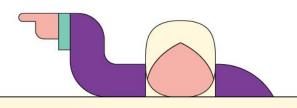
The German Community of Penang: Tracing the German Heritage Trail of George Town

Malaysian-German Society

16 April and 28 May 2023

Prewar Japanese Legacy in Penang: Heritage Walk in Former Japanese Settlement in George Town

Malaysian-Japanese Society



22 April 2023

St. George's Day Carnival 2023

St. George's Church Penang

4 June 2023

Vasakhi - Unity Above All

Persatuan Wadda Gurdwara Sahib Pulau Pinang

GEORGE TOWN HERITAGE CELEBRATIONS 2023 PROGRAMMES

7 July 2023

7.00am George Town Discovery Walk

6.00pm - 10.00pm

George Town Heritage Celebrations Cultural Workshops

Interactive and family-friendly activities

22 - 23 July 2023

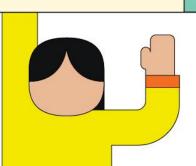
Thai Traditional Martial Arts: Muay Boran

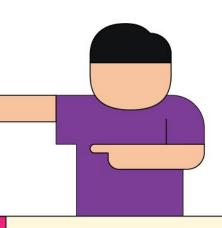
Penang Siamese Committee Association

15 September 2023

State Chinese (Penang) Association: Anniversary Celebrations

State Chinese (Penang) Association





9 July 2023

9.00am - 12.00pm

WarisHunt

George Town Cultural Heritage Interactive Game



12 - 13 August 2023

Penang Eurasian Fiesta 2023

Penang Eurasian Association

14 November 2023

Gujarati New Year Celebration 2023

Gujarati Samaj Penang

GEORGE TOWN HERITAGE CELEBRATIONS 2023 PROGRAMMES

The Nur Light

Arts-Ed

North Malaysia Malayali Semajam: Amazing Race

North Malaysia Malayali Samajam

Walkabout in the City 2023

Penang Hidden Gem

Thai Pak Koong Temple - Ng Suk Heritage Painting Contest 2023

Tokong Thai Pak Koong (Ng Suk) Tanjong Tokong Grinding Local Spices and Pounding Flour

Central Muslim Society



Hakka Art Book

Penang Hakka Association

Interpretation Board Installation for Benggali Mosque

Qaryah Masjid Jamek Benggali

Festival Sambutan Ulang Tahun Ke-113 Surau Haji Mahmud Taib Kubang Semang

Yayasan Islam Pulau Pinang





LUMA is a creative studio with a vision to light up arts and culture in Penang, primarily through media production and board game design. In collaboration with Arts-ED, they proudly present their second cultural heritage-inspired board game—Bansan, named after the Northern Peninsular Malaysian Hokkien term for local wet markets.

Traditions come alive in a bansan. As the vibrant hub of a community, a bansan reflects its diversity across different ethnicities, languages, generations, social statuses, and classes. The wet market is said to be the soul of a place and where glimpses of the local way of life can be caught.

Experience Penang's wet market culture in a fun and interactive way by playing this board game specially designed to reflect a bustling market, and trying your hand at the printmaking style used in the art of Bansan. Discover more about Bansan on its social media accounts @bansanboardgame.



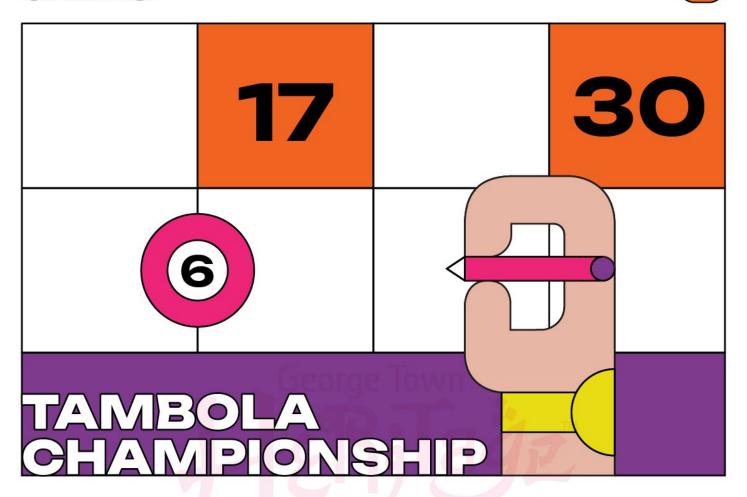












Established in 1919, the Penang Eurasian Association represents a small community of Eurasians who previously resided in Kampung Serani, Pulau Tikus. This community includes Eurasians who sought refuge in Penang, led by Father John Pasqual, after their escape from Phuket in 1811.

The Tambola, a lottery-style board game, is enjoyed by large groups and serves as a means of entertainment that brings the Eurasian community together. Similar to Bingo and Lotto, players are given tickets before a presenter announces the numbers. A full Tambola game comprises nine rounds of number calling.

Engage in a Tambola game during this workshop. Players will receive tickets, each containing six houses. A presenter will call out numbers, while players mark the corresponding numbers on their tickets. The winner is determined by achieving the top, middle, or bottom row in any house, forming the Union Jack, creating the letter L, or shaping the letter T in any house.



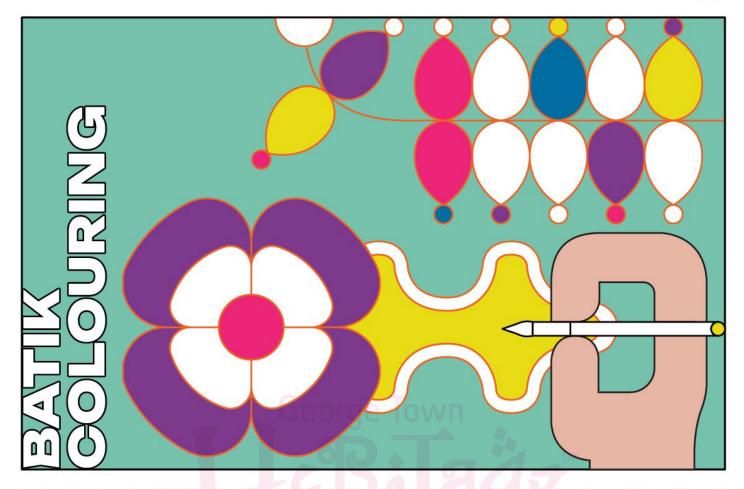












Established in 2016, Warisan Balik Pulau aims to protect the cultural identity of the Malay community in Balik Pulau and foster stronger bonds among its members. With a current membership of 40, the organisation offers traditional cooking and handicraft classes, as well as assistance in organizing weddings and other celebrations.

Batik is a traditional art form that has been passed down through generations, serving as a means of preserving cultural stories, values, and beliefs. In Penang, this art form represents the diverse cultural tapestry of the region, blending influences from Malay, Chinese, Indian, and indigenous cultures.

Unleash your creativity with our captivating Batik Colouring Workshop! Participants will have the opportunity to explore a vibrant range of colours and create their own unique masterpieces. Skilled facilitators will be available to provide guidance on colour blending techniques and offer tips for achieving desired effects.



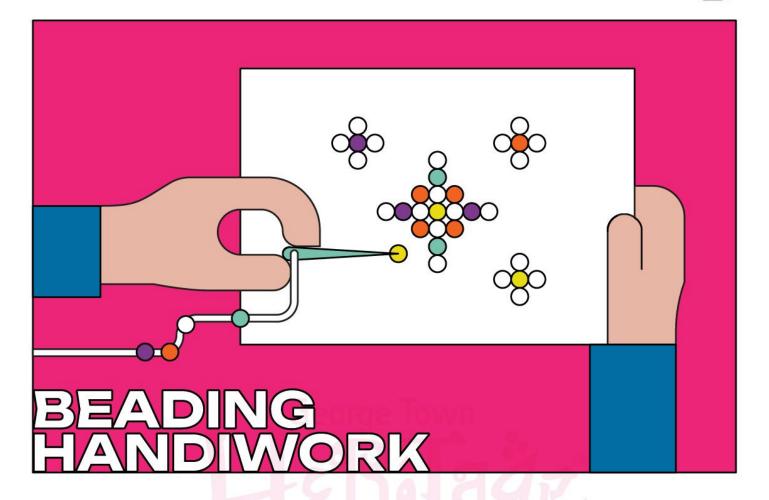












The State Chinese (Penang) Association (SCPA) serves as a hub for Peranakan culture in Penang. Initially known as the Straits Chinese British Association (SCBA), it was established in 1920, two decades after the founding of the SCBAs in Singapore and Malacca.

Beaded craft, also referred to as manik craft, held great importance for Nyonyas in traditional Peranakan households. It was considered an essential skill, as they would sew beads to adorn shoes, skirts, and dresses. The renowned Peranakan beaded slippers showcase the delicate and vibrant beadwork.

Immerse yourself in the essence of beadwork ala Peranakan in this workshop. Participants can choose a design and select the required coloured beads. With guidance, they will learn the intricate process of sewing the beads onto the fabric, crafting their own Peranakan beaded masterpiece.



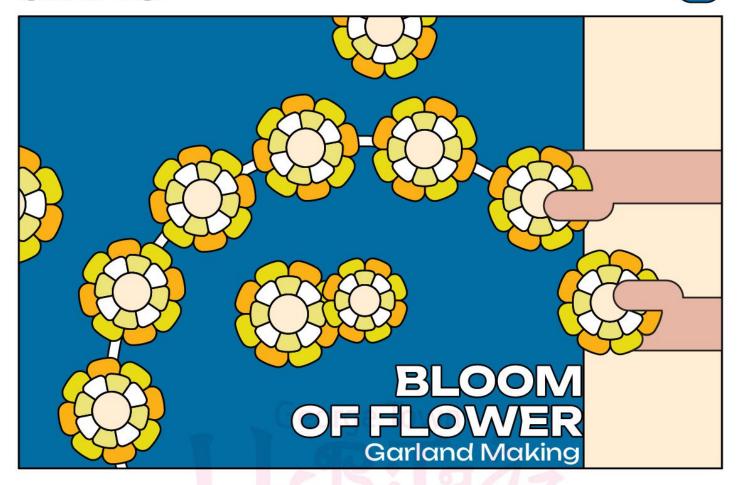












GR Florist, owned by Mr. Gunathan Palrajah, has been in operation since 2002 in George Town. The shop sells fresh flowers that are brought in daily from Penang Hill, Juru, and Cameron Highlands. The shop offers flower garlands for all occasions, from weddings to festive seasons such as Chinese New Year, Deepavali, and Thaipusam.

The stringing together of flowers to form fragrant flower garlands is an age-old tradition that holds deep cultural and religious significance in Hindu traditions. These flower garlands signify devotion, beauty, purity, respect, and prosperity. They are used in rituals, weddings, celebrations, temple ceremonies, and as a symbol of welcome for guests. The flowers used in these garlands include roses, chrysanthemums, jasmine, and orchids.

Step into a traditional flower shop setup and immerse yourself in the experience of stringing flowers together to make a garland. Participants will learn how to string *kekwa 225* flowers into a garland using strings and a needle.



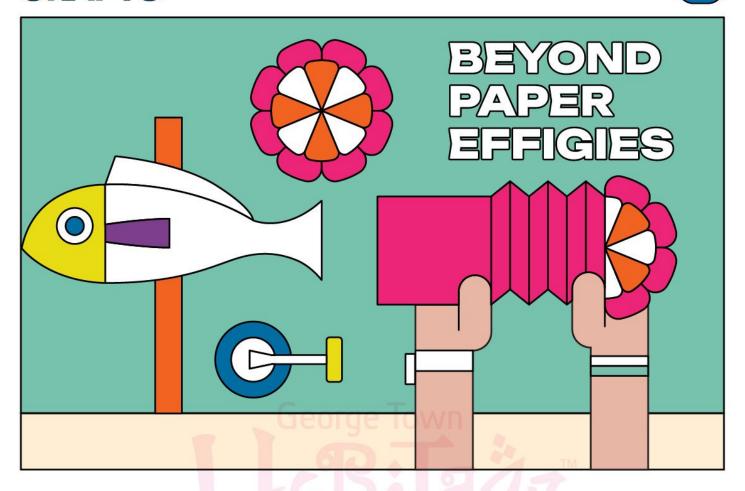












The 358 Custom Effigies Shop, founded in 1998, is operated by Mr Koh Ah Bah and his son, Mr Koh Eng Keat. They create lifelike traditional paper effigies, including houses, vehicles, servants, furniture, as well as paper sculptures of deities.

Paper effigies and sculptures are integral to Chinese Taoist rituals during funerals and cultural festivals like the Hungry Ghost Festival and All Souls' Day. They are burned as offerings to the deceased during funerals and as offerings to deities on special occasions.

Get hands-on experience in crafting a paper effigy. This workshop allows participants to create a paper effigy named 'Nian Nian You Yu', which signifies 'May you prosper every year'. They will learn the entire process, from bending the wires to applying glue and assembling the parts into a complete paper effigy.



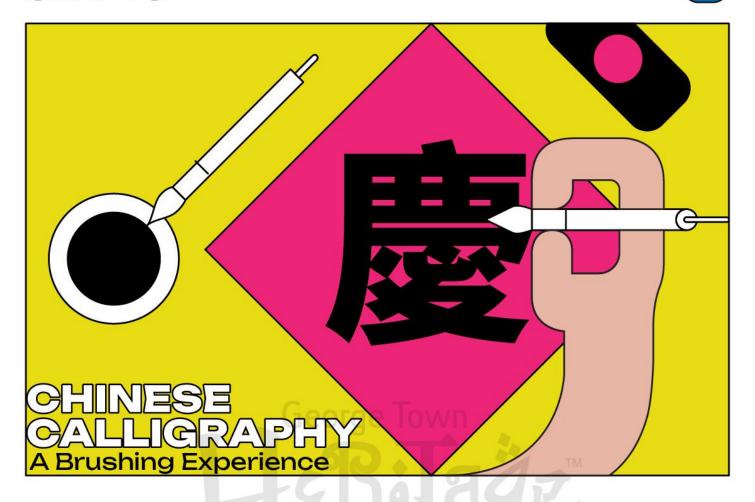












The Calligraphers' Association of Penang was founded in 1986 to promote the art of Chinese calligraphy. Van Hin Book Co. is a traditional bookshop specializing in Chinese calligraphy and painting. They offer a wide range of brushes, inks, papers, and ink stones used in Asian calligraphy.

Chinese calligraphy is a cultural symbol for the Chinese, embodying refinement and intellectual pursuits that have been integral to Chinese civilization. It plays a prominent role in cultural festivals and celebrations, demonstrating the enduring nature of Chinese culture while staying rooted in its historical heritage.

Discover the art of brushstrokes in this workshop and create your own Chinese calligraphy. Participants will learn the graceful techniques of this traditional writing style under the guidance of experienced facilitators. They will explore the creation of delicate thin and bold lines to write their names or other Chinese phrases, immersing themselves in the beauty of this ancient art form.



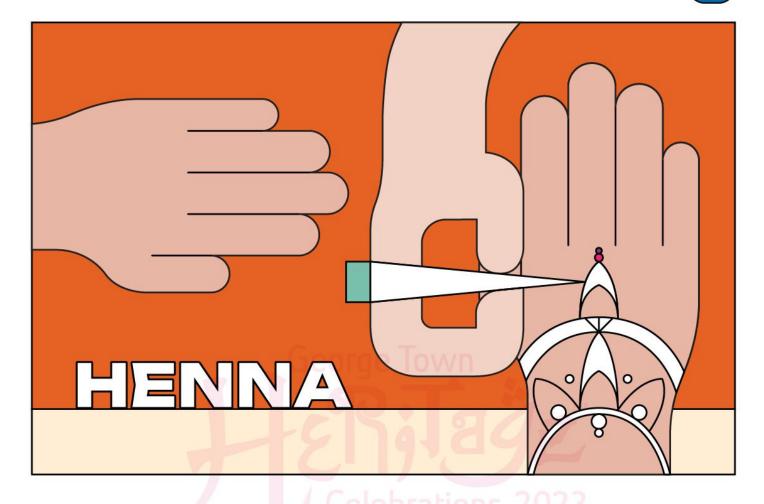












The Penang Hindu Association (PHA) is a non-profit organisation that brings together the Hindu community. It focuses on providing assistance, guidance, and support to needy members of the Hindu community.

Henna is a small flowering shrub with various applications. Its fragrant flowers are used in perfume production, while its dried leaves are used to dye hair, clothes, and create temporary art on the skin. Henna art traditionally adorns the fingertips to the upper arms of Indian and Malay women during celebrations such as engagement ceremonies, weddings, the birth of a child and naming ceremonies. Henna is also believed to possess healing properties and holds cultural significance in Hinduism.

Explore the art of henna body art in this workshop. Participants will learn the techniques and processes involved in creating intricate henna designs.



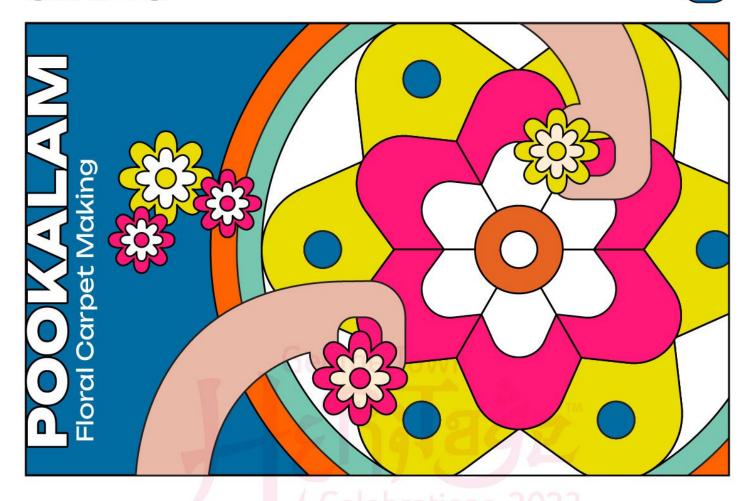












The North Malaysia Malayali Samajam was established in 1951. The organisation was formed to cater to the social and cultural needs of Malayalis in the states of Penang, Kedah, and Perlis.

The Pookalam is an intricate and colourful floral carpet placed at the entrance of Malayali homes during the Festival of Onam to welcome the annual visit of King Mahabali. Onam is a grand Harvest Festival in Malayali culture. It is a 10-day celebration of games, boat races (Vallamkali), and cultural activities, culminating in Onasadya (Onam Feast/Lunch) on the 10th day called Thiruvonam. Traditionally, the making of the Pookalam starts with a single ring of flowers on the first day (Attham) and subsequent rings of flowers of different colours are added daily, until there are 10 rings of colourful flowers.

Learn all about creating a colourful floral carpet in this workshop. Participants will be provided with flowers, petals, and leaves. They will be guided in making a pre-designed Pookalam.



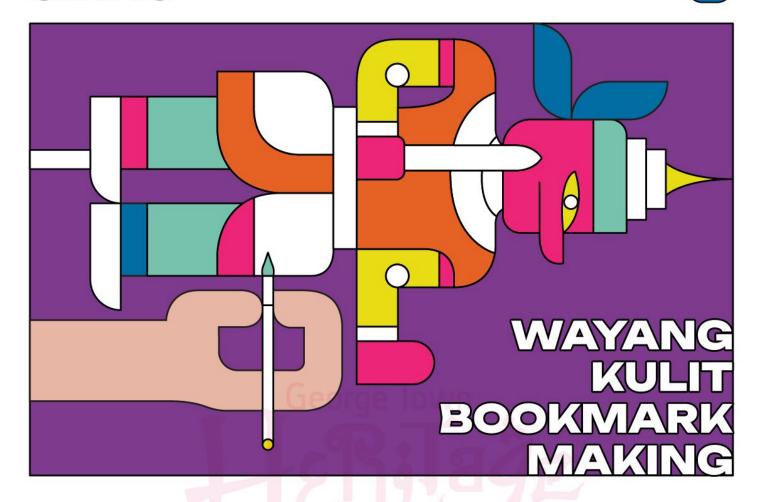












The Wak Long Music and Art Centre was established by Mr Mohd Jufry bin Yusoff who is a third-generation Wayang Kulit puppet maker. The centre actively participates in traditional cultural performances such as Wayang Kulit and traditional Malay dances across Penang, Kedah, and Perlis.

Wayang Kulit is a traditional form of shadow puppetry that holds cultural significance in Penang and Malaysia. Wayang Kulit performances, held during festive and cultural events, narrate stories based on Malaysian folklore, legends, and historical narratives accompanied by traditional music. These performances not only entertain but also convey moral values, traditions, and serve as a medium for cultural education.

Interested in making a Wayang Kulit puppet? In this workshop, participants will learn to create Wayang Kulit characters on bookmarks. They will be guided through the entire process of tracing the puppet's shape using a lightbox and colouring the puppets on specially-designed bookmark templates.















The Malaysian-German Society Penang was established in 1962 to promote friendship and understanding between locals and Germans in Penang. The society regularly celebrates cultural festivals from both Malaysia and Germany, bringing locals and Germans closer together and fostering a better understanding.

World-renowned music composers Johann Sebastian Bach, Ludwig van Beethoven, Felix Mendelssohn, and Richard Wagner are testament to Germany's dominance in the classical music field. Germany's cultural and musical influence in Penang is also evident, with several notable Penang musicians who were graduated from musical academies in Germany.

Experience playing a musical instrument and delve deeper into German classical music. This workshop allows participants to try their hands on musical instruments while learning about opportunities to study German language and classical music in Germany.













DEMONSTRATIONS



Established in 1993, the Badan Warisan Masjid Melayu Lebuh Acheh (Acheen Street) Pulau Pinang aims to promote fellowship and mutual understanding among its members. It focuses on preserving the culture and heritage of Masjid Melayu.

Majlis Persandingan is a traditional Malay wedding reception. The kompang is played to welcome the bride and groom as they enter the reception before proceeding to an elaborately decorated wedding dais. Bunga rampai is distributed to guests during the wedding reception as a token of appreciation. It comprises an aromatic combination of shredded pandan leaves and flowers that symbolise the joy of the marriage.

Create your own fragrant bundle of bunga rampai in this workshop. Participants will learn to shred pandan leaves and flowers for mixing. The mixture will be sprinkled with perfume before being wrapped into a bundle using a mesh bag. Additionally, there will be a demonstration of traditional Malay music during the workshop.















Liga Muslim Pulau Pinang, also known as the Penang Muslim League, was established in 1949 to oversee the welfare of Muslims in the state. The founders are Indian Muslims who created a platform to advocate for issues concerning their community.

The Thirumana Vaibavam is a traditional Indian Muslim wedding celebration that combines Indian and Islamic traditions. It is a celebration where the community comes together to honour the union of the couple. The couple will exchange vows in the presence of their friends and family, followed by a reception filled with music, dance, and food.

This workshop showcases the unique cultural practices and traditions of the Thirumana Vaibavam. Participants will have the opportunity to witness a fusion of Indian and Islamic customs practiced in an Indian Muslim wedding celebration. They will observe the Mehndi, Sangeet, and Nikah ceremonies held during the wedding celebration.















The Sikh Naujawan Sabha Malaysia is a voluntary organisation that was formed in 1967. It started out as a small regional organisation, and today, it is an established national body.

Sangeet Ki Raat is a pre-wedding ceremony that is held according to Punjabi customs. This ceremony is hosted by both the bride's and groom's families and is usually attended by family members, relatives, and friends. During the ceremony, the dholak drums will be played while there will be singing, a dance party, and a dinner.

Learn all about Punjab's culture and rituals in this workshop that will simulate the fun festivities of a Sangeet Ki Raat. Sikh women will be crooning traditional songs to the accompaniment of drums by the men. There will also be Bhangra dance performances. Participants will get a chance to experience the tying of turbans by professionals.















Dikir Barat Suara Mutiara (DBSM) is a Penang-based non-governmental organization (NGO) dedicated to introducing and preserving the culture of Dikir Barat. DBSM aims to restore the originality of Dikir Barat and upholds its dignity for all communities.

Dikir Barat, a musical form native to the Malay Peninsula, involves group singing, often in a competitive setting. Typically performed by groups of ten to fifteen members, Dikir Barat is deeply rooted in Malay traditions, oral history, and folklore. It serves as a means of storytelling and plays a crucial role in promoting Malay cultural heritage. It also creates awareness on current issues and the beauty of the language.

Experience the traditional art of Dikir Barat in this workshop. Participants will learn about the different segments, such as the singing of pantuns and dance movements by the awok-awok with the leading tukang karut, and immersing themselves in the captivating world of Dikir Barat performance.















Established in 2000, the Wak Long Music and Art Centre offers various traditional music workshops, including Muzik Gamelan, Muzik Asli, Wayang Kulit, and Muzik Kompang. They also actively perform Muzik Gamelan, Muzik Asli, and Wayang Kulit across Penang, Kedah, Perlis, and Perak.

Joget, a traditional dance of Malaysia, is performed at cultural events and weddings. It traces its origins back to two popular Portuguese folk dances, Branyo and Farapeira. Having European roots, Joget emerged in Malacca during the 16th century. The dance is characterized by its quick tempo, and its music incorporates influences from Chinese, Indian, Western, and Arabic traditions.

Discover the art of joget in this workshop, where participants will learn the dance's quick tempo and intricate foot and hand movements. This is a dance for couples who playfully tease each other as they dance without physical contact while showcasing the beauty and rhythm of joget.



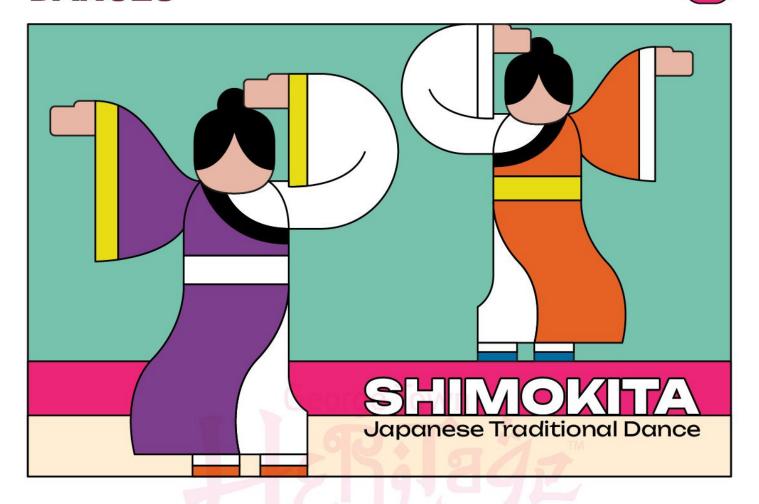












The formation of the Malaysian-Japanese Society in 1967 was driven by the substantial presence of Japanese businessmen in Malaysia. Its main objective was to strengthen ties between the people of both nations, emphasizing the exchange of technical, scientific, and cultural knowledge.

The Japanese Traditional Dance is one of the cultural activities of the Japanese community in Penang. These dances, performed during celebrations, are shared with and enjoyed by the local community. The dance performances bring together participants of diverse races, ages, and backgrounds. They serve as a means of empowering the community and fostering interest in traditional dance among the younger generation. Popular dances like Shimokita Ondo, Tanko Bushi, Tokyo Ondo, Doraemon, and Hanagasa Ondo continue to be cherished by the Penang community.

Learn the steps to the Japanese Shimokita Dance in this workshop. Led by performers from the Malaysian-Japanese Society, participants will learn the basic steps of the enjoyable Shimokita dance.



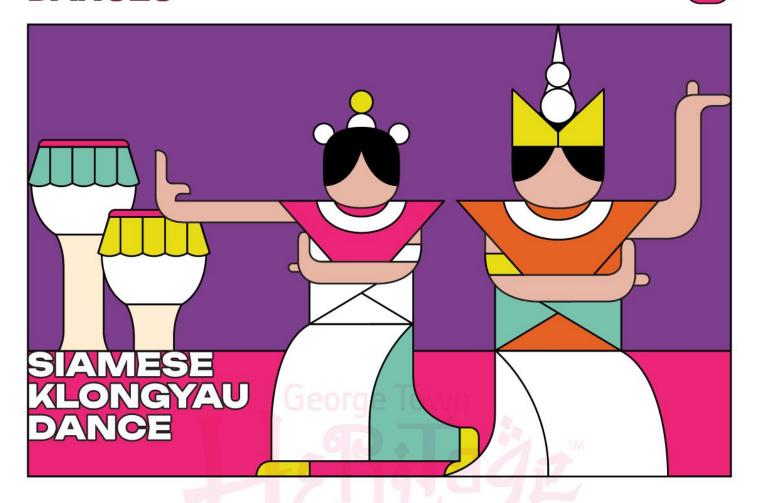












The Penang Siamese Committee Association, established on 21 September 1976, is a registered organization aimed at promoting unity, cooperation, and development within the Malaysian Siamese community.

The Klongyau dance is from central Thailand. It is usually performed during festive occasions such as weddings, cultural festivities, and monk ordination ceremonies. It is a dance that accompanies the playing of the Klongyau. The Klongyau is a long traditional drum that is slung over the shoulders and played with hands. It is played in many festival parades in Thailand, Malaysia, Laos, Burma, and Cambodia.

Immerse yourself in the Klongyau dance during this workshop. Participants will learn to dance to the beating of the Klongyau. They will learn the steps and movements of the dance to the upbeat pulsing of the long drums.















Established in 1950 and officially registered in 1951, the Gujarati Samaj Penang is the oldest Gujarati society in Malaysia and Singapore. Its purpose is to address the social, cultural, and economic interests of the Gujarati community.

The Raas Garba is an energetic and playful dance that is commonly performed before weddings and festivals. It encompasses both Raas and Garba, which are traditional Gujarati folk dances that encourage participation from everyone. This dance form serves as a unifying factor within the Gujarati community, fostering a sense of togetherness and unity. It infuses the festive atmosphere with vibrancy and joy while also providing a means to express devotion, spirituality, and gratitude.

Join this enjoyable workshop where individuals of all ages and backgrounds can come together to dance the lively and exuberant Raas Garba. Dancers will encircle an earthenware lamp or an image of a goddess as they engage in this high-energy Gujarati folk dance.













DANCES





The Penang Grocers' Association Lions Dance Group has been active for over 80 years. They have participated in events such as the Penang Fiesta Lion Dance, Chingay and the Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation Procession. The group's skills were learnt from Master Woo Can, a master of the He Shan style lion dance, and renowned martial arts masters like Master Lim Kam Loon and Master Ong Beng Soon.

The Lion Dance is a traditional Chinese performance art that replicates the movements of a lion in a lion costume and an elaborate lion head. It is performed during festivals, special occasions, and particularly during Chinese New Year to ward off negative elements.

Immerse in the power and elegance of manipulating the lion head in this workshop. Participants will have the opportunity to handle the lion head and become part of a lion dance performance, while being guided by experienced lion dancers.













GEORGE TOWN HERITAGE CELEBRATIONS TEAM 2023

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Programme Producer

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Production Execution

Avant Garde Grafik (Uncle Robin)

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Tan Hock Kheng

Master of Ceremony

Nicholas Ong Isabelle Oon Ng Kim Theng Kho Ying Han

Organised by













Our Partners











































































All information in this booklet is correct at time of printing. Get the most updated programme details from:

- https://gtwhi.com.my/
- heritagecelebrations
- **f** George Town Heritage Celebrations
- https://www.youtube.com/@gtwhi116

