

UMS plans to turn faculty into tourism hub, says VC

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) hopes to turn its Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Heritage into a tourism hub as well as the State's Ethnic Cultural Centre via its newly launched Borneo International Visual and Performing Art Exhibition 2015 (Neortex).

"We hope the government through the Tourism Ministry will be able to help us in realising this matter," said UMS Vice Chancellor Professor Datuk Dr. Mohd Harun Abdullah during the launching of the programme at the university's Recital Hall here, Wednesday.

Neortex was held to offer opportunity to its students to promote their artworks. Their masterpieces will be showcased at the Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Heritage (FKSW) from May 16 to June 6 for public viewing.

Harun also said he believed the programme will help them to achieve better understanding towards the cultural arts of Borneo.

Assistant Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment, Datuk Kamarlin Ombi said the event was held in line with the government's aim in having cultural arts as a contributor to the nation's income resources.

The carnival also acts as a platform to gather the various cultural art products from various field of Arts which upholds the arts of Borneo in the State, national and international level, he said.

According to him, other countries such as Brunei Darussalam, Thailand and Indonesia also participated in the programme.

"The main objective of the event is to ensure that all of the students' artworks reach international standard and to widen their collaboration in terms of creative ideas with those of other countries turning UMS into an icon for Asian and world cultural art conference," he said.