

UMS grad's inspirational film wins Lim- kokwing's Best Screenplay Award

DE 24.02.2021 P.03

KOTA KINABALU: "Penjara Seni" (Art Prison), a film by Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) graduate Siti Nursyahirah Mohd Anwar won the Best Screenplay Award at the recent Limkokwing Youth International Film Festival.

Nursyahirah, 24, said the achievement was unexpected as she faced a tough competition from the other international participants.

The short film, which was also made for her final year assignment in UMS, tells a story of her father Mohd Anwar Mahmud Chuchu and his journey as an artist.

"I chose my father's story as his story is touching and it should be told to the public to inspire those who have the same passion," she said.

"I want the people to be more aware of the struggles faced by self-taught artists and the talent gifted on someone should not be assessed based on his or her social status.

"My father used to tell his life experiences and I felt that I need to do something to enhance public awareness."

On her achievement, she hoped there would be more such festivals organised in



Nursyahirah (left) and her father.

the country.

"At the same time, I hope the government can provide more funds for art enthusiasts, especially filmmakers as there are many talented people who faced difficulties in pursuing their works due to financial constraints, including me.

"I also hope the quality of art enthusiasts in Malaysia will continue to progress on par with their international counterparts," she said.

Themed "Celebrating the Creativity of Youth", The Limkokwing Youth International Film Festival was taken part by participants from China, Iran; Pakistan, Brazil, India, Philippines, Botswana, Swaziland, Syria and Krygyztan aside from local participants from the National Art, Culture and Heritage Academy (Aswara) and the host Limkokwing University.

For more information, visit filmacademy.com.my.