

Campus students showcase design talents

Text and Pix by CASSANDRA ABEYNAIKE

The final presentation of the design students from the University of Moratuwa organised through the Department of Integrated Design, Faculty of Architecture, took place last week.

Dinushka Wijesinghe, Samurdima Upendra, Gayani Kaushalya, Thishani Munasinghe, Janaka Ullandupitiya, Nayanathara Kuruppuarachchi and

Prabuddhi Dissanayake were showcased their creations to national and international academics.

This exhibition was a part of a four year programme where the final year students are enabled to display their creativity and show their skills.

"We don't set a written exam but rather allow them to make their own concept and exhibit what they've understood from

the four year course" said Anupama Nawalage; Lecturer and Coordinator of Fashion and Textile Design Programme for Bachelor of Design. The judging panel included academics from the Moratuwa's Department of Integrated Design, Prasanna Liyanage; Head of the faculty, Professor Nimal De Silva; Director General and Upendra Randeniya; central fund architect. The international

visitor from RMIT University Australia was Professor Sand Helsel and from the National Institute of Design (NID) India were Professor Chitra Wedikkara and Vijai Singh Katiyar.

"We invite design academics from overseas so that no one can criticise the decisions made by the university," she said.

This final presentation for the students of the

design faculty is a step towards the direction of their future career paths.

"These portfolios will create a lot of opportunities for the students that join the industry, nationally and internationally. Further exposure is gained through the foreign visitors as their creativity is highlighted" she added.

Here are some highlights of the event.



Cannonball Run held at Galle Face Hotel



The Cannonball Run is one of the oldest social events celebrated in the leisure sector in the region to commemorate an historic event that had taken place in 1845 was hosted at Galle Face hotel last Thursday.

A host of invitees including Canadian High Commissioner Bruce Levy and British High Commissioner John Rankin and members from the corporate sector participated in this event on the invitation of Sanjeev Gardiner, Chairman of Galle Face Hotel group.

The run starts from near the cannon on the Galle Face Green and ends near the Cannonball placed on a pedestal at the hotel. Chandra Mohotti, Senior Vice President of the Leisure Division said that this year too several rooms were exclusively booked for this event as the event is a globally acclaimed event. The eventful

night ended with a fireworks display. In the 1840s the area adjoining the hotel was used as a practicing ground

for the British Royal Artillery Company and one day a young Ceylon lascar got the yips and shanked a 30-pound cannonball that went off course and ended up in the hotel dining room where it rolled and came to rest beneath a chair but fortunately it did not explode.

The governor at that time Sir Collin Campbell on hearing of the incident arrived to view "the incredible cannonball" and the mischief done. Over the years the hotel has marked this event with the Cannonball Run.

Since then, every March, a traditional 'Cannon Ball Run' was organised by the hotel to mark this event. Participants ran from the cannon on the Galle Face Green and touched the cannon ball kept at the hotel. (SS)

Pictures by Sumanchandra Ariyawansa

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