

Entrepreneurs honoured

38 business leaders receive M'sian edition of Asia-Pacific awards

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IN RECOGNITION of the achievements of outstanding entrepreneurs in Malaysia, 38 prominent business leaders took home awards at the Malaysian edition of the Asia Pacific Entrepreneurship Awards (APEA) 2014.

Since 2007, hundreds of entrepreneurs have won this highly sought-after award by Enterprise Asia, a non-governmental organisation that promotes fair and equal opportunities for emerging entrepreneurs.

"APEA remains one of the toughest and most competitive awards for entrepreneurs and those who win go home knowing that they are the cream of the crop," said Enterprise Asia chairman Tan Sri Dr Fong Chan Onn in his opening address.

A regional award for entrepreneurship held in 12 countries across Asia, APEA provides a platform for companies to be recognised for entrepreneurial excellence so that they may play a part in building Asian economies.

Present to officiate at the awards ceremony was Deputy International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Lee Chee Leong.

Lee congratulated the winners and emphasised on the importance of entrepreneurs in developing the nation.

According to Fong, the winners were selected from hundreds of nominees after being put through a six-month vetting process with the appointed independent audit firm, in which they had to meet stringent criteria and high standards of excellence.

This year, Enterprise Asia named Permodalan Nasional Berhad chairman Tun Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid the winner of the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award at the Grand Hyatt Kuala Lumpur recently.

Joining him in the special category was Tropicana Corporation Berhad founder and chairman Tan Sri Danny Tan, who bagged the Entrepreneur of the Year award.

Westports Malaysia executive chairman Tan Sri G. Gnanalingam and Elabram Systems group managing director Mikel Yaw won the Special Achievement Award and Young Entrepreneur of the Year awards respectively.

Another 16 entrepreneurs were chosen as winners in the Outstanding category while 18 more were chosen for the Most Promising category, representing every industry from retail to telecommunication.

A small charity auction was also held at the gala dinner to raise funds for ChildFund Asia.

Other editions of APEA will be held in Hong Kong, the Philippines and Thailand in the coming months to recognise the achievements of entrepreneurs in each respective country.



- 1 Fong (front row, fifth from left) and Enterprise Asia president Datuk William Ng (front row, third from left) with all the award winners. Fourth from left is Ahmad Sarji.
- 2 Fong (left) presenting the Entrepreneur of the Year Award to Tan.
- 3 Lee delivering his opening address at the event.
- 4 Fong (second from left) presenting the Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award to Yaw. With them are Enterprise Asia president Datuk William Ng (left) and advisor Tan Sri Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak (right).

Hypermart distributes race packs to Kid's Run participants

By PRIYA MENON
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THE atmosphere at the Giant hypermarket in Shah Alam was charged with excitement as children and parents picked up their run pack for the upcoming Giant Kid's Run and Family Day 2014.

A portion of the carpark at the hypermarket was turned into a mini carnival site for families to shop and have fun while picking up their run packs.

There were goodies on sale and a race clinic was also held for the children to prepare themselves for the big day.

The run, set to be held at the Shah Alam Stadium on Sept 16, is in its fourth year running. It is aimed at inculcating healthy living among children.

GCH Retail (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd marketing general manager, said they had received positive feedback from previous years and decided to make it an annual event.

They had 3,000 participants last year and believe they can achieve a target of 5,000 participants for this year's race.

Participants for this year's race.

"We have 3,000 participants registered so far and we are expecting walk-ins on the day of the race as well. This year we also opened registration all over the country," she added.

On the day of the carnival, Giant has organised events for families and children who do not qualify for the race including, hot-air balloon rides, stilt-walking, as well as high jump and costume fun run.

The run has four categories — four to six year olds (1km), seven to eight year olds (2.5km), nine to 10 year olds (3km) and 11 to 12 year olds (3.6km).

Prizes include RM50 to RM500 Giant vouchers for contestants in the youngest category. Winners in other categories will receive Giant vouchers worth RM100 to RM1,500. The three first-prize winners (for the three older categories) will also receive a trophy while contestants who complete the race will receive a medal.

For details, log on to www.giantkidsrun.com.



Warm-up lesson: Some of the participants in the Giant Kids' Run and Family Day 2014 taking part in the race clinic after collecting their run packs recently.