

FOREWORD

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh and greetings to all.

Praise be to Allah S.W.T for his blessings and the opportunity to gather in this beautiful hall to enjoy a concert with the theme “**Eclecticism**” in celebration of the launching of **Dewan Konsert Seri Budiman**. The concert is organised by the **Conservatory of Music, College of Creative Arts (CCA) UiTM** which comprises students, lecturers, alumni, and partners from the Malaysian creative industry.

The history of music education at UiTM began in 1986 when it was introduced as an elective course in the Arts and Design programme at Institut Teknologi MARA or fondly known as ITM. This was the beginning of the field of music in higher education and the acknowledgement of its capability of generating the country's economy through the development of human capital in arts and humanities sciences.

As the pioneer of music at the tertiary level in Malaysia, UiTM once more has charted the course and created history with the establishment of a purpose-built concert hall to fulfil the needs of performing arts, the demands of the national creative industry standards, and the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA).

After more than 30 years, music students now have **Dewan Konsert Seri Budiman** which is at par with other concert halls found at many international universities. The concert hall provides a conducive teaching and learning environment as a training ground for these students to face future challenges in the creative and education industries locally and internationally. **Dewan Konsert Seri Budiman** is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities including a recital hall, practice studios, classrooms, and recording and multimedia studios built for the purpose of delivering an authentic and supporting environment for music students.

The concert hall, formerly known as Dewan Seri Budiman, was upgraded after fully considering its proud history and heritage values, which are synonymous with convocation ceremonies before the Dewan Agung Tuanku Canselor was commissioned.

I am very proud of the **Dewan Konsert Seri Budiman** and hope that with this high-quality performing space, UiTM's academic reputation will soar to greater heights, leading to wider recognition of the **Conservatory of Music, College of Creative Arts (CAA)** as the trailblazer of tertiary music education in the country and ultimately ranked as one of the best in the field of performing arts in the future.

On that note, my heartfelt gratitude to all involved in the concert tonight. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

Before we indulge in the music performance tonight, let me quote a wise saying from the Greek philosopher Plato on the role of music in our lives:

“Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything.”

Thank you and I wish you a fantastic concert experience.

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