

WELCOMING SPEECH BY
PROFESSOR DR MOHAMED IBRAHIM ABDUL MUTALIB
VICE CHANCELLOR OF UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI PETRONAS

RED SONATA FIESTA 2018

Saturday, 30 June 2018
Chancellor Hall, UTP

Yang Amat Berhormat Tuan Ahmad Faizal Dato' Haji Azumu

Menteri Besar of Perak Darul Ridzuan

Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri Dato' Sri Pheng Yin Huah

President of the Federation of Chinese Associations Malaysia

Ho Jia Wei

Project Director of Red Sonata Fiesta 2018

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh, Selamat Sejahtera and a very good evening.

On behalf of Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP), it is my pleasure to welcome Yang Amat Berhormat Tuan Ahmad Faizal Dato' Haji Azumu, Menteri Besar of Perak Darul Ridzuan here to the campus and to the Red Sonata Fiesta (RSF) 2018. I also wish to take this opportunity to welcome the co-organiser of

RSF 2018, the Federation of Chinese Associations Malaysia or HuaZong. HuaZong is no longer a stranger to UTP as they have been co-organising this event with us for five years and on this note, we thank HuaZong for your continuous support towards this event.

For Yang Amat Berhormat's information, RSF was awarded into the Malaysia Book of Records for the Largest Participation in an Arts & Music Championship in 2016. I'd like to congratulate HuaZong and the organising committee for a great show year after year! This is indeed a great achievement!

Ladies and Gentlemen,

RSF 2018 has succeeded in becoming one of the best platforms to encourage the Malaysian community, especially students in all education levels, to continue to study and appreciate the Chinese arts and culture. This event continues to bring people of diverse backgrounds together, showcasing the Chinese culture in a creative way and fostering a spirit of inclusiveness. With the presence of our international friends, our participants tonight are given the opportunity to showcase their talents alongside their international counterparts. This allows for both parties to understand and appreciate the beauty of the arts and culture of each other.

This event continues to open doors of opportunities for our students to be involved in such events. As a university that prides itself in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, we encourage our students to take part in extra-curricular activities, especially in the performing arts. UTP greatly emphasises the nurturing of student talents through the Talent Enrichment Unit of Centre for Student Development. With the combined efforts

of HuaZong, the UTP Management and student community, we hope to produce well-rounded graduates who are both technically skilled and talented in non-academic pursuits through events such as RSF 2018.

Before I end my speech, I would like to once again congratulate HuaZong and the RSF 2018 organising committee for making this event a reality. I also congratulate the sponsors and agencies that have supported this event, to develop students not just academically but also in building their character and talent. I hope that RSF will one day reach the plateau ('plætəʊ) of international recognition and become the nation's most significant arts and cultural event in the future.

Thank you.