

First-time Contestant Bags First Prize in MIFF 2017 Furniture Design Competition



in the furniture industry. It is a platform for young creative minds to showcase their innovative skills in furniture design, draw new talents to the furniture industry, to promote the development of the Malaysian furniture industry and to encourage the creation of a strong identity for Malaysian furniture.

This year's MIFF FDC 2017's theme "Table2Gather" searches for innovative and sustainable concepts of the ubiquitous table-and-chair set for indoor, outdoor or commercial use, while at the same time, incorporates the use of wood in the design.

Guest-of-honour at the Prize Presentation Ceremony, International Trade and Industry Ministry Secretary-General Datuk Seri J.Jayasiri expressed optimism in the domestic furniture industry's resilient growth despite the challenging business environment.

"Exports of furniture increased by 4.2 per cent to RM9.5 (USD2.14) billion in 2016. With more than 2,400 furniture companies, the furniture industry is one of Malaysia's big revenue earners, exporting to more than 160 countries annually," he said.

The next edition of the Malaysian International Furniture Fair will take place from March 8-11 2018 at the new Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC) and Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC).

Victoria Pamela Yap Wei, 26 year-old Johorian, clinched the first prize in MIFF 2017 Furniture Design Competition (FDC) with her design The Able, beating 232 other competitors. She took home RM10,000, a trophy and a certificate for her win.

The Able is inspired by Hong Kong's famed classic tram. The minimalist collection consists of four-padded wood bar stools and a drawer side table that can be turned into a kid's chair. The table has a storage drawer to help keep things neat. Her design uses rubber wood and fabric cushion as its main material and is prototyped by BSL Furniture Sdn Bhd.

The design, Trapezoids Dining Set, by

Zech Siew Ze Chon took home the second prize. Zech's design is a six-seater dining set for indoor and outdoor use. The tabletop is a patchwork of solid wood and veneer. Encouraging closeness and conversations is the overall concept of the design.

Tan Ying Chi, 21 year-old youngsters from Kuala Lumpur won the third prize with her design, Eyelash. Eyelash is a three-piece coffee table set. The chair is comfortable for different sitting positions and also for plus-size users. It has a swing side table and a backrest that resembles an eyelash. The coffee table comes with three eye-shape solid timbers and a metal base.

MIFF FDC was launched in 2010 and is one of the leading young talent accolades