

Iranian artists attending exhibition in Türkiye



IRNA – An international art exhibition called 'Art Day' opened on April 15, with two Iranian artists in attendance. The exhibition's opening ceremony coincided with the World Art Day, in Istanbul.

The show opened with the presence of the deputy mayor of Büyükçekmece region, the gallery manager, the exhibition secretary and a group of university professors and participating artists, and it will be held for five days in the Istanbul Caravanserai Hall.

Curated by Turkish painter Yavuz Deniz, the show features artworks by 25 painters and sculptures from across the world.

Among the works on display are Iranian artist Behnaz Pourang's 'Iranian Lady' and Amir Ahadi's 'Polo Game'.

Pourang was previously the director of the 3rd International 'Color of Peace' Painting Exhibition held in Istanbul, Türkiye.

This international exhibition has been held with the aim of artistic cultural exchange in order to create peace and friendship between nations.

World Art Day, a celebration to promote the development, diffusion and enjoyment of art, was proclaimed at the 40th session of UNESCO's General Conference in 2019.

Seven historical objects discovered and seized in NW Iran



MEHR – Seven pottery objects belonging to the first millennium BCE were discovered in Iran's northwestern province of Zanjan, a local official said.

The commander of police in charge of preserving the cultural heritage in Zanjan pointed out that one smuggler has been detained in this regard, Nasser Habibi added.

The ancient objects, including five pottery jars and two bowls, were seized in Khodabandeh County, he noted.

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16 Iranian children awarded in Japan's painting contest

Arts & Culture Desk

Paintings by 16 Iranian children were awarded at the 30th Annual World Children's Picture Contest in Japan.

Organized by Ie-no-Hikari Association, a total of 9,313 paintings from 56 countries took part in the contest and were evaluated, IRNA reported.

Iran submitted 338 paintings to compete at the Japanese festival.

Baran Ehterami (nine-year-old) received the Gold Prize of the Japanese event, while Maysa Vafa (seven-year-old) won the Silver Prize.

Yasna Zarei, Mersana Dashtizadeh, Delsa Heydari, Elena Omid, and Hasti Najafi were the Bronze Prize winners of the event.

Kamran Khalkhali, Avina Aliasghari, Artina Zaer, Atrin Fardaei, Ava Moqaddasian, and Melissa Tahmasbi received an honorable mention.

The 30th anniversary prizes were given to Barira Tasnim Laya from Ban-



● IRNA

gladesh, Divna Jelyazkova Jelezcheva from Bulgaria, Hyun Ji Kim from South Korea, Zi Feng Chong from Malaysia, Valentin Serghei Turcanenco from Moldova, Matej Sajko from Slovakia,

Thivein Nethdinu Mawalla Vithanage from Sri Lanka, Ninlada Anowannaphan from Thailand, Daria Gurenko from Ukraine and Maho Yaguchi from Japan. The Ie-no-Hikari Associa-

tion works hard to foster the cultures of rural villages by publishing books and a magazine, and implementing various cultural activities.

As part of its diversified

activities, the association has held the World Children's Picture Contest since 1993 to create friendships and mutual understanding between children worldwide.

Six Iranian films to be screened at Moscow festival



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Six Iranian films will be screened at the 45th edition of Moscow International Film Festival (MIFF), slated to be held April 20-27.

Animation movies, 'Loo-petou,' directed by Abbas Askari; 'Bisotun,' by Ali Masoumi; and 'Broken,' by Farzaneh Omidvarnia, as well as a documentary film, 'Ali against Ali,' by Alireza Rafogaran, will attend the event, reported Mehr news agency.

Previously, it was announced that an Iranian documentary film, 'Mama Shokoh's House,' directed by Mehdi Bakhshi-Moqaddam, will participate in the Competition Section,

and a short film, 'Where It Begins,' directed by Amirhossein Talebi and Mohsen Asdaghpour, will be screened at the Short Film Competition Section of the event.

The Russian festival is one of the oldest world film forums (second after the Venice Film Festival). The festival began in 1935; however, in subsequent years, the festival was not held regularly. Therefore, the festival has officially been counted down since 1959, when it was renewed and turned into a regular event.

MIFF is accredited by the International Federation of Film Producers Associations (FIAPF).

1,000-year-old stone tablet may've been a Maya sports 'scoreboard'

An ancient stone "scoreboard" likely used in a soccer-like ball game was discovered at an archeological site in Mexico earlier this week, archaeologists said.

Found at the Maya Chichen Itza site, researchers and archeologists said the circular stone's diameter was just over 32 centimeters (or just over 12 inches), and it weighed 40 kilograms (about 88 pounds), according to a statement from Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History on Twitter.

The stone, which is believed to be a kind of scoreboard, dates from between 800 C.E. and 900 C.E., Science Alert reported.

"In this Maya site, it is rare to find hieroglyphic writing, let alone a complete text," said Francisco Perez, one of the archaeologists coordinating the investigation, according to Reuters.



● SCIENCE ALERT

adorned with a "snake turban," reserved for high-ranking individuals in Maya society.

Experts are now in the process of analyzing and interpreting the stone and taking steps to prepare it for conservation.

Iconography experts identified the two figures on the stone as playing the ball game "pelota" – a team game played with a heavy rubber ball, according to the BBC.

Mesoamerican people played the ball game as a form of traditional practice, and it is thought to have had ritual connotations, per Reuters.

The Chichen Itza in the Yucatán peninsula of Mexico is a historical center of Maya civilization, and it is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.