

21 May 2009

MALAYSIAN STUDENT WINS NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS AWARDS IN LONDON



Siti Khadija seated at the front row, third from the left

Siti Khadija Jaafar walked away with the Best Non-native English Speaker awards during the International Speaking Competition in London. The 19-year old Taylor's College student with her speech entitled "The Gift" spoke about the importance of organ donation. She was accompanied by her fellow Malaysian participant Sebastian Lim Bao Jiu from SMK St Joseph, Miri.

Siti Khadija and Sebastian Lim represented Malaysia in London after emerging runner-up and winner respectively at the English Speaking Union of Malaysia (ESUM) – The Star – HSBC Public Speaking Competition in Kuala Lumpur in March.

This annual competition, a collaboration between HSBC Bank Malaysia Berhad, Star Publications and English Speaking Union of Malaysia (ESUM), is open to Malaysian students between 16 and 20 years of age, aimed at teaching them the essential skills in public speaking and promoting the use of the English language among students.

The competition also encourages students to think of current issues, ranging from global warming to cultural diversity, which may affect them or society in general.

The HSBC Group supports the public speaking competition organised by the English Speaking Union (ESU) in 32 countries and territories. HSBC Malaysia has been supporting this programme since 2003.

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