

Art and craft attract the crowd



KUALA LUMPUR: Tham Lee Kong smiled as she watched her two children adroitly sewed threads into their felt flowers.

Her daughter Lin Yong Qi grinned from ear to ear when she proudly showed off her finished flower to her.

"Look, Mum, I've finished!" said the shy eight-year-old.

Tham's children were among the participants at the Felt Craft demonstration at the "Community Centre" in FemmeCity 2010 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre yesterday.

She said she brought her children to check out the event but was pleasantly surprised that art and craft demonstrations were being held at the venue.

"I usually work long hours, so this was a great opportunity to spend time together as a family," she added.

Tham said art and craft taught children to be patient and improved their hand-eye co-ordination.

Another excited art and craft lover was Sallly Ho.

"I came to FemmeCity specifically to join the handicraft activities," said the 55-year-old retiree, who praised *The Star* for organising a fair that catered to all ages.

"Doing handicraft helps keep the mind active, especially at my age," she said, before getting ready for the next demonstration on making wire art jewellery.

She hoped that such activities would be a common feature in all exhibitions.

The FemmeCity crowd was also drawn to the Tupperware auction, also held at the "Community Centre".

Throughout the three-day fair, the public was encouraged to exchange their used mineral bottles for one TupperDollar each at the Go Green booth. The "dollars" can be used to bid at the auction.

Wong Wai Kin was one of the lucky bidders at yesterday's auction.

"I am very happy that I managed to get a limited edition serving tray," she said.

The 57-year-old had only 10 TupperDollars when she entered FemmeCity.

"However, five strangers kindly gave me their dollars and I ended up with 79 TupperDollars," said the retiree.

She said she enjoyed her time at the event and even made a new friend there.

"I will be meeting up with her after this," she added.

An environmental activist, Kok Sok Leng, said she exchanged 60 mineral bottles by collecting them from friends for her TupperDollars.

She said such an activity helped to "kill two birds with one stone".

"I did something good for the environment and in return, I received new Tupperware items," she added.

Pictures by AZLINA ABDULLAH and DARRAN TAN



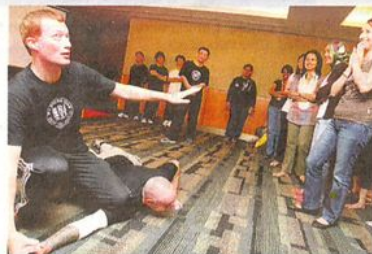
Belly good: Belly dancing instructor Nancy Bakhshy leading her students through a routine during a demonstration of the dance at the FemmeCity 2010 event in the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre yesterday.



Cool in black: Models showcasing jewellery from Poh Kong during a fashion show.



Green idea: Participants bidding at the Tupperware auction.



Protect yourself: Self-defence instructor Jerome Blanes demonstrating a move to participants during his "Introductory Workshop to Street Self-Defence".



Deft hands: Tham helping her children, Lin Jin Loong, 10 (left), and Yong Qi, to make felt flowers.

Yummy demo: *The Star* food columnist Amy Beh presenting her steamed herbal-flavoured fish with mushrooms during a cooking workshop.



Bag it: Models showing Che Che New York handbags.