

# Leading developers honoured

Awards recognise those that made significant impact to property industry's growth

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Leading developers in the real estate industry and their projects were honoured at the fourth StarProperty.my Awards 2019.

This year's awards saw a total of 24 categories with 45 entries on projects contested, including in six new categories.

Organised by StarProperty Sdn Bhd, the event was aimed at recognising developers that made significant impact to the growth of the property industry while also recognising the growing need for sustainable development and social consciousness.

The prestigious All-Star Award – recognising exemplary developers that have consistently created and added value to their property projects – was awarded to 11 firms, including Gamuda Land, LBS Bina Group Berhad, Mah Sing Group Berhad, Matrix Concepts Group, and Malaysian Resources Corporation Berhad (MRCB).

The All-Star Award was also won by Paramount Property Development Sdn Bhd, SP Setia, Sime Darby Property Berhad, SkyWorld Development Group, Sunway Berhad and Tropicana Corporation Berhad.

The inaugural WOW Award (public building) was awarded to Johor Land Berhad for its Sultan Iskandar mosque project.

The StarProperty.my Readers' Choice Award was clinched by LBS Bina Group Berhad, MRCB and SP Setia.

The Big Heart Award was given to Mah Sing Group Berhad for its Best Corporate Social Responsibility.

The awards were presented by



**Industry's best:** Housing and Local Government Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin (eighth from right) with the All-Star Award: Top Ranked Developers at StarProperty.my 2019 Awards. Also present are Star Media Group chairman Datuk Fu Ah Kio (sixth from left) and Star Media Group adviser Datuk Seri Wong Chun Wai (seventh from right). The winners are (from right) Gamuda Berhad deputy group managing director Mohammed Rashdan Yusof, LBS Bina Group Berhad executive director Datuk Cynthia Lim, Mah Sing Group Berhad chief executive officer Datuk Ho Han Sang, Malaysian Resources Corporation Berhad (MRCB) group chief operating officer Kwan Joon Hoe, Matrix Concepts Holding Berhad group managing director Ho Kong Soon and Paramount Property chief executive officer Beh Chun Chong. Also (from left) SP Setia Berhad president and chief executive officer Datuk Khor Chap Jen, Sime Darby Property Berhad chief operating officer of township development Datuk Wan Hashimi Albakri Wan Ahmad Amin Jaffri, SkyWorld Development Sdn Berhad founder and group managing director Datuk Ng Thien Phing, Sunway Property deputy managing director Tan Wee Bee and Tropicana Corporation Berhad managing director Ngari Siew Siang.

Star Media Group group adviser Datuk Seri Wong Chun Wai.

At the event, Housing and Local Government Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin said it is the ministry's mission to provide a roof for all Malaysians.

"We want to make sure the needs of all Malaysians, especially the B40 group, are looked into in terms of

housing, which is also in line with the international sustainable development goals," she said in her speech.

In his speech, Star Media Group chairman Datuk Fu Ah Kio said issues, such as walkability, design, public and green spaces are increasingly critical to urban development and creating sustainable cities.

He added the younger and socially-conscious generation want to buy a house that not only has monetary value, but built responsibly and in line with their social consciousness.

"Developers who embrace the changes with building technology and new forms of ownership will lead the way forward," he said.

The StarProperty.my Awards

2019 showcase will be held at The Curve, from March 14 to 17, featuring the winning developers and their award-winning projects.

The awards are sponsored by Eastern Decorator.

For more information on the award programme, please visit: <http://awards.starproperty.my/national/2019/>

## Christians observe 40 days of Lent

**GEORGE TOWN:** The solemn season of Lent began with Christians packing various churches for evening mass to mark Ash Wednesday.

The Church of Our Lady of Sorrows in Macalister Road was packed to the brim with close to a 1,000 parishioners.

Madelaine Yap, 55, from Sungai Petani, said she had been observing the 40-day fasting period over the past 20 years.

She said she decided to attend mass at the church as she was visiting some friends here.

"I make it a point to fast with only

a drink in the morning and pray throughout the day.

"I will only break fast in the evening at 6pm. But there is no rigid practice as it is a period of abstinence from anything be it food, drinks or entertainment," she said.

A. Arulando, 74, said he has been observing Lent for 15 years.

"During this period, I only take two meals a day and refrain from eating meat.

"I also spend more time praying and do not consume alcohol," he added.

Monsignor Aloysius Tan presided over mass in front of a full con-

gregation. Ash Wednesday marks the start of the Lent season for Christians.

On this day, in the Catholic church, priests place on the foreheads of parishioners ash in the shape of a cross.

Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before Easter in the Christian calendar.

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Lent is a season of reflection and preparation as Christians fast for 40 days, culminating in the celebration of the Holy Week that reaches its climax with Good Friday and Easter Sunday.



**Holy day:** The blessing and distribution of ash during mass on Ash Wednesday at the Church of Our Lady of Sorrows in Penang.

## The Star's Johor bureau wins big at media awards



**All smiles:** (From left) Mohd Farhaan, Benjamin and Zazali showing off their mock cheques and trophies at Persada International Convention Centre, Johor Baru.

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**JOHOR BARU:** The Star's Johor bureau won big at the annual Johor Media awards when it bagged a total of four prizes including the coveted Menti Besar's Award.

Bureau Chief Nelson Benjamin bagged two awards for the Best Cultural Tourism Award for his article titled "More than a country" and for Best Economic News with his article "Foreign traders disrupt business run by locals".

Journalist Mohd Farhaan Shah won for the Best Sports News with his article "Nurse who packs a punch" while Zazali Musa took home the Menti Besar's award which came with cash prize of RM3,000.

All the other winners walked away with cash prize of RM2,000 for each category together with a certificate and trophy.

Benjamin said that he was proud of the team's success for the seventh consecutive year and attributed their win to the commitment and teamwork.

"This year all our journalists and our photographer were all nominated a total of 22 times in five categories including for environmental photography and for the English print media categories.

"This is a testimony of the team's hard work in producing good and relevant news reports," he added.

In his speech, Johor Menti Besar Datuk Osman Sapian said a total of 232 entries were received for 34

categories, which were judged by a panel from the Malaysian Press Institute (MPI).

He said the annual event was held to recognise the contribution of the media outlets in the state.

He added that media played an important role in social and national development by being opinion leaders.

"When the new Pakatan Harapan government promised a free media, the freedom comes with an obligation to be fair with every report published," he said, adding that media organisations should not resort to publishing misleading or unverified news just to increase readership.

Besides the state government, there were also 15 other corporate sponsors for the event.