
SIBU INTERNATIONAL
DANCE FESTIVAL
Website:www.sidfestival.com
Facebook:SibuInternationalDanceFestival
Call for
Artists
节 目 征 集
詩巫國際舞蹈節
2027
13th
Contemporary, Traditional, Percussion,
Physical Theatre, Children's Dance
A Festival of Movement, Music and Expression

SIBU INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL (SIDF)
13th Edition
(28 August – 1 September, 2027)

1-Introduction

1.1. Organized by Hornland Dance Theatre, Sibu, Malaysia, a non-profit organization.

The Sibu International Dance Festival (SIDF) was initiated and organized by Hornland Dance Theatre in Sibu, Malaysia. It made its debut in 2012 with Sibu Municipal Council's acknowledgement and support.

Now, under the support of the Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts Sarawak, SIDF will accommodate more international groups.

Conceived as an annual event, SIDF is planned to be held during the mid-term school holiday in the second half of the Malaysian academic year, in Sibu—the largest town in the central region of Sarawak. Situated along the Rejang River, the longest river in Southeast Asia, Sibu provides a distinctive cultural and geographical setting for the festival.

1.2. Date and activities of SIDF 2027

The **13th edition** of SIDF will be held **in 28 August** – **1 September, 2027 (five days)**. The components of the festival are:

1. Gala and Opening Night
2. Dance Oasis - Folk Dance, Line Dance, Indigenous Dance, Street Dance, Contemporary Dance, Percussion, Theatre Work, and Children Dance
3. Dance Concert
4. Dance Workshop
5. Dance Seminar
6. Outdoor Performance at Sibu Central Market and Wisma Sanyan (shopping mall)
7. Outdoor Site-specific Performance at University of Technology Sarawak (UTS), Sibu
8. International Food and Handicraft Fair

The activities of the festival extend from indoor to outdoor stages, and even onto the corners of the streets. It aspires to draw and encourage more people to join the festival, and be more directly and personally involved with the performers and their performances.

1.3. Performance types and age eligibility

The festival is open to all forms of performing arts, including dance and theatre, encompassing both traditional and contemporary expressions. It welcomes participants of all ages (with a minimum age requirement of 10 for child participants), races, and cultural backgrounds, both locally and internationally.

SIDF welcomes a wide range of performances, not limited to dance, but also including works that combine movement, percussion, theatre, and other forms of artistic expression.

1.4 A world celebration of dance platform

SIDF also aims to become the world platform for artists and arts organization on local, regional and international levels to exchange dialogs, concepts, experiments, explorations and display the diversity of dances, and of course, to facilitate the development of tourism, arts and culture in this region through this event.

13th Sibu International Dance Festival 2027 General Conditions

1. Date of Activities start and finish: Aug 28, 2027 – Sept 1, 2027

2. **Date of Arrival**: Aug 28, 2027. Before 6pm.

3. **Date of departure**:

The departure date and time will depend on the activities in which the participating groups are involved:

- Groups not participating in the International Dance Concert: Before 1:00 PM on 31 August 2026.
- Groups participating in the International Dance Concert: Before 1:00 PM on 2 September 2026.

The final arrival and departure arrangements will be communicated by the organizing committee in the official invitation.

2. Activities of SIDF 2026

1. Gala and Opening Night
2. Dance Oasis - Folk Dance, Line Dance, Indigenous Dance, Street Dance, Contemporary Dance, Percussion, Theatre Work, and Children Dance
3. International Dance Concert
4. Outdoor Performance at Sibu Central Market and Wisma Sanyan (shopping mall)
5. Outdoor Site-specific Performance at University of Technology Sarawak
6. Dance Workshop
7. Dance Seminar
8. International Handicraft and Food Exhibition
9. Fun Dance
10. Outdoor Drawing and Painting Competition

3. Group size: Each group may include up to 14 members only (12 dancers, 1 director/staff, 1 choreographer).

4. Support from the Organizer

4.1 **Transportation**

All participant groups for SIDF should arrive at Sibu on **28 August 2026 before 6pm** and leaving on the **2 September 2026 before 1pm**. (Or according to the agreed dates as per the official SIDF invitation.)

Participants are responsible for their flight transportations and expenses both to and depart from Sibu. **SIDF does not pay for the flight expenses for the participants**.

During the stated period of SIDF, the organizer will provide local transportation to all sites of the official activities, including the transfer between Sibu airport and hotel. Participants will have to provide correct flight information and update the organizer if the flight time changed.

However, transportation will only be provided according to the time prescribed on SIDF 2027 scheduled transport timetable. For transportation outside of the timetable schedule, participants will have to pay for the transport fee.

For those who arrive earlier than 28 August 2027 and leaving later than 2 September 2027 before 1pm, they will have to pay for their own transport and hotel room expenses.

4.2 **Accommodation**

Depending on the events the participating groups attended, SIDF will offer accommodation between August 28 to September 1, 2027 at RH Hotel Sibu.

SIDF will only provide accommodation to a maximum of 14 members of each group (12 dancers, 1 director, 1 choreographer).

Check in on 28 August 2027 before 6pm, and check out on 1 September 2027 before 1pm. (Dates to be referred to the official invitation.)

The accommodation will be room sharing-based arrangement. Depending on the size of the room provided by the hotel, two to four persons will be sharing a room. **Members from different groups (same genders only) will be arranged to share a room when necessary.**

Participants who wish to have a room to themselves and do not wish to share with others will be required to pay the room charges at the SIDF registration counter during hotel check-in. One room is RM200 per night.

Please note that SIDF is **not** responsible for the expenses of accommodation if the group arrives earlier or departs later than the date and time decided by SIDF.

SIDF is also not responsible for any room service or extra charges induced by participants in their stay during the event.

Participants will be arranged to stay at RH Hotel, Sibu. **Please discuss with group members** and choose whether they are fine with room sharing before sending out your SIDF application.

Address:
RH Hotel
Kampung Nyabor Road,
96000 Sibu, Sarawak,
Malaysia
Contact: 084-365 888
Website: rhhotels.com.my/sibu



5. Meals

During the 5-day period from Aug 28 to September 1, 2027, the organizer will provide meals (breakfast and dinner only; **no lunch will be provided**) to all participants through the assigned Liaison Officer to a maximum of 14 members of each group.

Meals will be paid by the participants if arrive earlier or depart later than the prescribed date and time. The meals will only be served within the stated dining time on the event timetable.

Please **check** with your group members and select their dietary requirements (whether they are vegetarian, allergic, etc.) before sending out your SIDF application.

6. Tentative Program

SIDF 2027 TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Day	Date	Time	Activities	Venue
1	Aug 28	0700-1800	Check in/Participants' arrival	Jasmine Ballroom, RH Hotel
		2000-2200	Opening Gala Night	
2	Aug 29	0930-1100	Dance Talk	Jasmine Ballroom, RH Hotel
		1400-1530	Dance Workshop	Function Room, RH Hotel
		1800-2100	Dance Oasis I	University of Technology Sarawak UTS
3	Aug 30	0930-1100	Dance Talk	Jasmine Ballroom, RH Hotel
		1200-1300	Outdoor Site-specific Performance	Sibu Central Market
		1400-1530	Dance Workshop	Function Room, RH Hotel
		1800-2100	Dance Oasis II	UTS
4	Aug 31	0830-1800	Rehearsal for dance concert I	Jasmine Ballroom, RH Hotel
		1200-1300	Outdoor Site-specific Performance	Ground floor, Wisma Sanyan
		1930-2200	International Dance Concert	Jasmine Ballroom, RH Hotel
5	Sep 1	0830-1800	Rehearsal for dance concert II	Jasmine Ballroom, RH Hotel
		0930-1100	Round-table	Function Room, RH Hotel
		1930-2200	International Dance Concert II	Jasmine Ballroom, RH Hotel
6	Sep 2	Departure		

7. Application:

7.1 **Application Open:** December 1, 2026

7.2 **Application Deadline:** April 30, 2027

7.3 **Required Information**

4.3.1 Overview Information;

4.3.2 Dance Information Form for Outdoor Performance at UTS.

4.3.3 Dance Information Form for Sibu Central Market/ Wisma Sanyan (shopping mall).

4.3.4 Dance Information Form for International Dance Concert

4.3.5 Dance Workshop Information Form;

4.3.6 Dance Seminar Information Form;

4.3.7 Personal Information of Participants;

7.4 Submission of Application

- All the required information should be submitted before the deadline through www.sidfestival.com.
- **Only applications submitted through online form at the website are accepted.**
- Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.
  For further information, please contact: sidfestival@gmail.com .

7.5 Dance photos with costumes are much appreciated

- Please submit 5 pieces of high-resolution pictures of each dance piece in jpeg format.
- Images must be at least 1.5 MB, or 300dpi or width or height of more than 1200px.
- The pictures will be applied for press release and festival booklet.

7.6 Confirmation of participation

- SIDF will send an official invitation to the selected participating group before May 20, 2027.

- No explanation will be given to any groups that are not accepted by the committee of SIDF 2027.

- The committee of SIDF 2027 strictly requests the selected participating groups to respond with an **official letter confirming their participation** along with **confirmed flight booking slips** to SIDF before **June 30, 2027**. Failure to submit the required flight itineraries by the deadline will result in the **forfeiture** of participation in SIDF.

- SIDF 2027 takes place during the middle second semester school holiday of Malaysia, and the flight is always full during the school holiday. We advise participants to book the flight ticket to Sibu early. The earlier to book the flight tickets, the price will be cheaper.
  Flight company from Kuala Lumpur and Singapore to Sibu:
  1. www.malaysiaairlines.com
  2. www.airasia.com

3. www.malindoair.com (now known as Batik Air)
4. www.flyscoot.com/en (fly in from Singapore.)
5. www.airborneo.com

8. Performances:

1. Gala and Opening Night – only selected pieces will be invited to perform in the night;
2. Dance Oasis - Folk Dance, Line Dance, Indigenous Dance, Street Dance, Contemporary Dance, Percussion, Theatre work, and Children Dance;
3. Outdoor Site-specific Performance at the University of Technology Sarawak (UTS);
4. Outdoor Performance at Sibu Central Market/ Wisma Sanyan (shopping mall);
5. International Dance Concert.

8.1 2-night International Dance Concerts:

The main concerts will be held in the ballroom hall of RH Hotel, Sibu.

This is a theatre-like performance space which can accommodate about 500 seats.

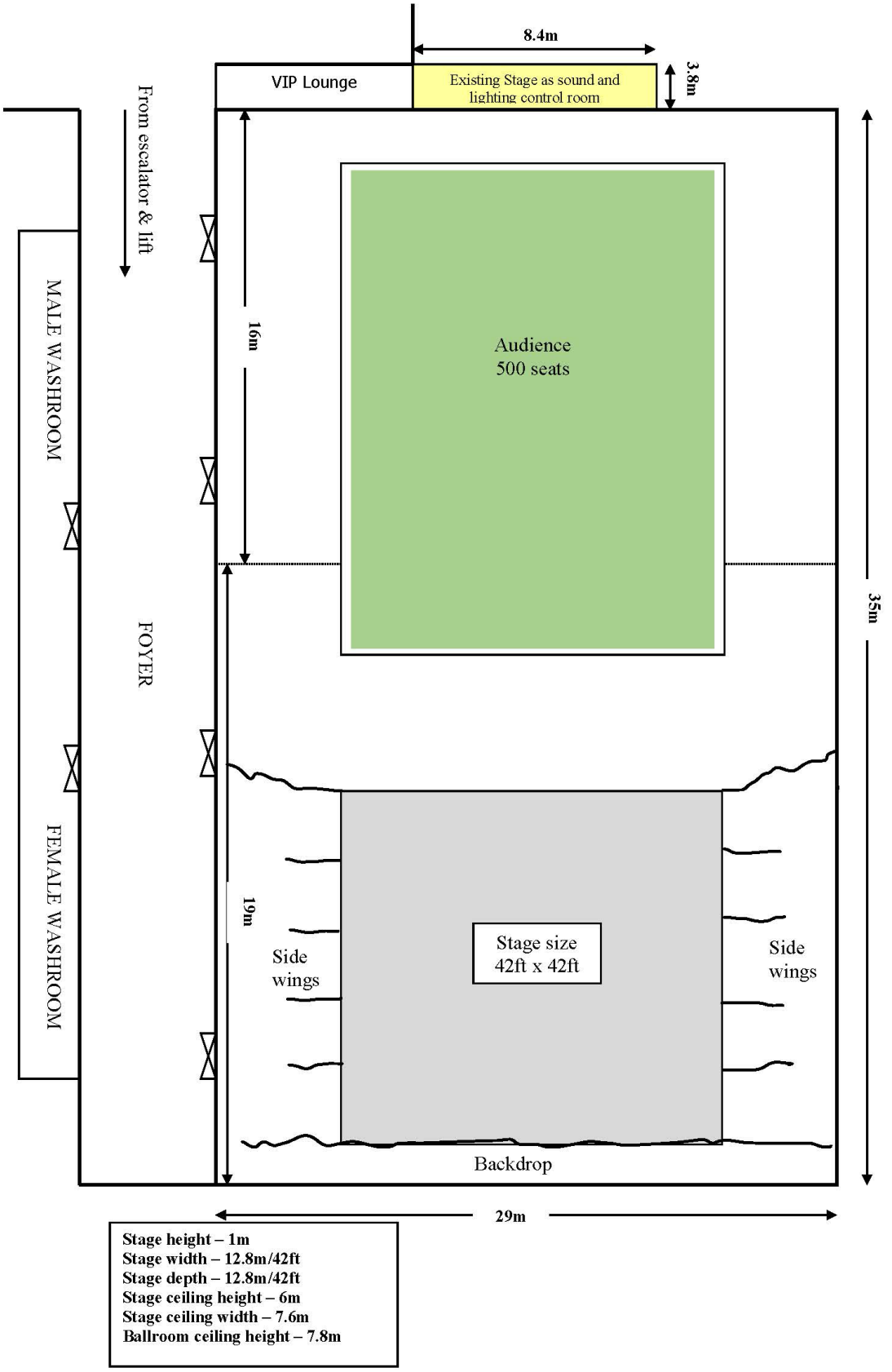
Time duration of each piece: 4-6 minutes, or not more than 15 minutes. The **total performance duration** for the 2-night concerts is **15 minutes per group.**

The short dance works will either be arranged to be performed in one single night, or be slotted into two different nights of the dance concert.

Copied or imitated dance works are not permitted to be performed in the dance concert.

Applications without viable video links containing rehearsal or finished performance piece will not be considered. The video links must be made accessible via YouTube or other video hosting sites.

Floor Plan for International Dance Concert at Grand Jasmine Ballroom, RH Hotel, Sibu.








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8.2 Locations of Outdoor Site-specific Performance at the University of Technology Sarawak

The outdoor site-specific performance will be held at UTS Sibu, where audiences will surround the performers for a close-up viewing and experience.

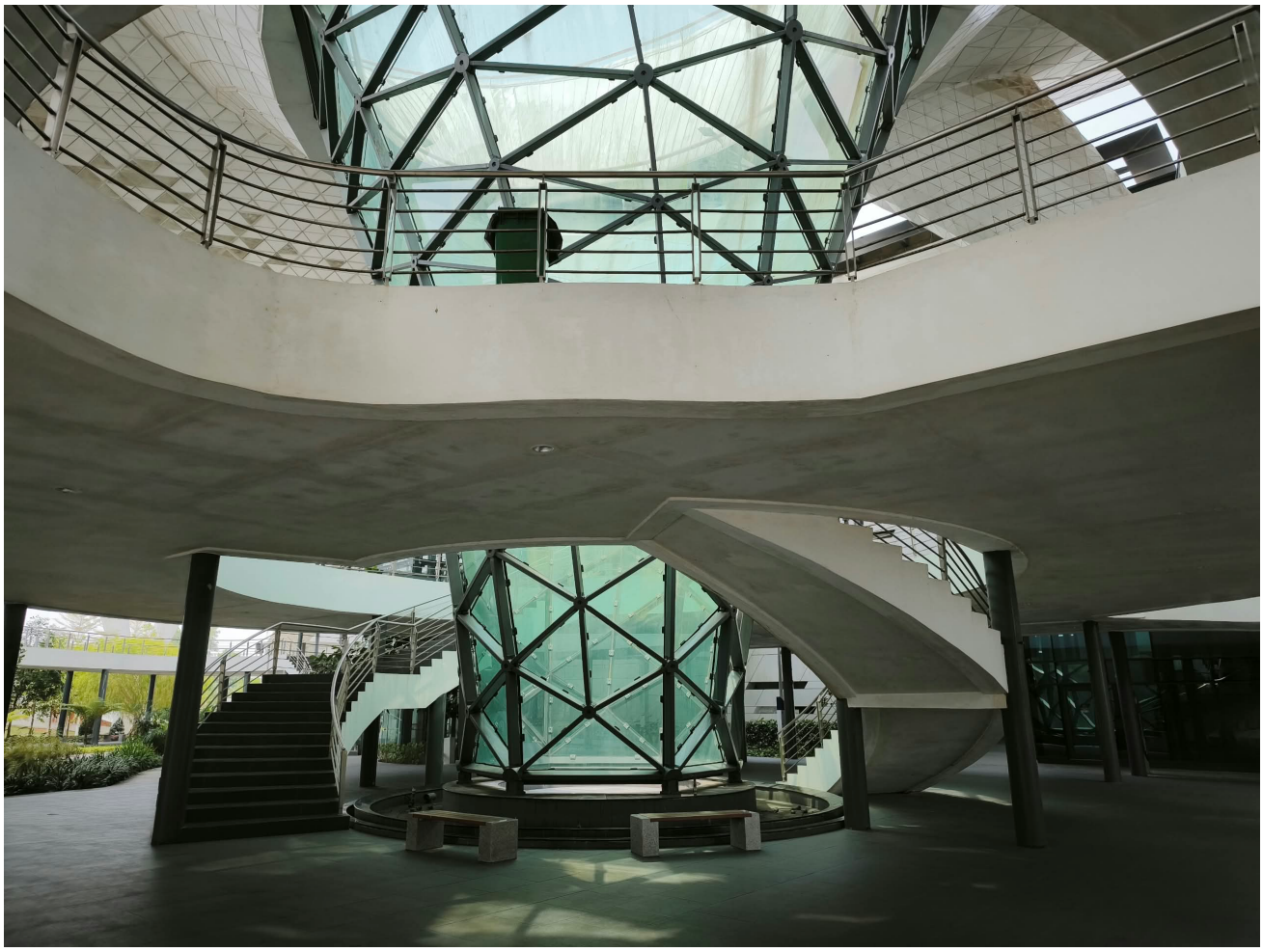
Each dance group's performance will last 5 to 10 minutes.

The performance will start from time 1800 to 2100. SIDF will provide lighting and sound equipment to meet the performance requirements.

Location No.1 – Front Garden



Location No.2 – Rain Collector



Location No.3 – The Square



Location No.4 – The Sky Bridge



Location No.5 – Back Garden



***Please be noted that outdoor performance will be cancelled if the weather creates unsafe performance conditions onsite.**

8.3 **Outdoor site-specific performance at Sibu Central Market:**

The event will be held at the Central Market in Sibu Town, with audiences surrounding the performers and experiencing the performance at close range.

The duration for each dance group's performance is 5-10 minutes. The performance will be held in the day time during the festival period.









***Please be noted that outdoor performance will be cancelled if the weather creates unsafe performance conditions onsite.**

9. Other activities:
9.1 **Dance Workshops**

Those who are interested to share dance skills and techniques in the festival to the public, can assign a representative as the lecturer/facilitator to host a dance workshop.

The workshop facilitators shall provide the organizer their personal profile, the materials about the dance workshop such as printed materials, mp3 format music in USB, and a video link of the dance.

Duration of workshop: 60-90 minutes.

Target participants: Dance lovers or students, or those interested who may or may not have professional dance training background.






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9.2 **Dance Seminar/Talk**

Those who are interested to share dance knowledge, concepts, and choreographing ideas can assign a representative as the lecturer/facilitator to host a dance seminar/talk.

The seminar facilitators shall provide the organizer their personal profile, the materials about the dance seminar such as printed materials, talk slideshow/pdf and mp3 format music in USB (if any).

Duration: 60-90 minutes.

Target participants: The seminar is open to the public.





9.3 **Local Trip**

Local trips will be arranged for participating dance groups interested in exploring Sibu (please let us know). The expenses are borne by the participants. We will pass the contact of those who are interested to the travel agency, and to directly deal with the agents.
The day trip include:

- **Bintangor & Sarikei Countryside**
- **Countryside & Iban Long House**
- **Fuzhou Heritage Trail**
- **The Melanau Heritage Trail**
- **Ulu Sarikei Nature Trail**
- **Sibu Downtown Discovery**
- **Upper Rajang Discovery**
- **Rejang River Cruise**

10. Insurance and other fees

All participants are requested to arrange for own individual travel and medical insurance during the stay in Malaysia. If visa is needed, the visa fee shall be covered by the participants.

11. Cultural Food & Handicraft Showcase (Optional)

Overseas participating groups are welcome to bring traditional food products, local snacks and handicrafts from their respective countries to showcase and share their cultural heritage with other participants and festival visitors.

Participation in this showcase is entirely optional and is not a requirement for SIDF participation.

Please take note of the following conditions:

Food Items: All food items brought into Malaysia must comply with Malaysian customs, quarantine and food import regulations. Participants are responsible for checking the relevant import requirements before bringing any food products into the country. **For example, no food with pork, alcohol, etc.**

Customs Clearance: SIDF shall not be responsible for any food items or other goods that are prohibited, restricted, detained or confiscated by Malaysian customs or relevant authorities.

Handicrafts: Traditional handicrafts are welcome, provided that they comply with Malaysian customs regulations and do not involve prohibited or restricted materials.

Advance Notification: Groups interested in participating in this cultural showcase are encouraged to inform the SIDF Committee in advance and provide details of the items they intend to bring.

Voluntary Participation: Participation is entirely voluntary. Groups that are unable to bring food or handicrafts due to customs restrictions or other circumstances will not be disadvantaged in any way.

12. Dance Props & Customs Clearance

Participants are responsible for ensuring that all dance props and performance equipment brought to SIDF comply with the customs regulations of Malaysia and their respective countries.

Participants must check in advance whether their items are permitted for import and ensure that all necessary permits or declarations are obtained. SIDF shall not be responsible for any items detained, confiscated, or prohibited by customs authorities.

13. Photography and Video Recording

All photography and video recording in the Dance Concert not authorized by SIDF committee are prohibited.

Participants will only be allowed to video-record their own performances during the Dance Concert with the organizer's permission.

Participating groups will receive a photo and video link of their **dance concert performance** to use for non-profit promotional purposes in 30 days after the festival.

Please note that SIDF committee will provide **dance concert** performance photos and videos only. For outdoor performances, participants are free to record their own videos.

14. Rules to be followed by participant groups

14.1 Follow the scheduled event program and **communicate the arrangements of SIDF properly to your group.**

14.2 Attend all related activities arranged by SIDF 2026.

14.3 Cooperate with all the arrangements and instructions given by the staff members.

14.4 Be punctual for all activities. Late arrival or early departure is not allowed.

14.5 SIDF reserves the rights to broadcast the festival performances, partly or entirely.

14.6 SIDF reserves the rights to use any performance pictures or videos for the festival’s purposes.

14.7 No open flame is allowed in any of buildings at any time, including all theatres and dressing rooms.

14.8 Smoking is **prohibited** in all buildings. Please inform any smokers of this in advance of your arrival to avoid any misunderstandings.

14.9 Please take care of your personal valuables to the festival, we have limited capability to provide secure storage for personal property, and we are not responsible should your personal property be lost or stolen. Please contact the counter of the hotel to arrange for safekeeping of personal belongings and any company equipment.

14.10 Only authorized personnel will be allowed to enter backstage or onstage. Due to limited space, for your safety and ours, friends or family members are prohibited from entering the backstage or onstage.

14.11 All company equipment and belongings must be removed from the performance space right after your performance. You may not leave items to be picked up following your departure.

14.12 Be respectful to everyone and cooperate with the organizer to achieve successful Sibu International Dance Festival 2027 event.

15. For any inquiries, please contact:

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