

# Myanmar Music Festival 2018

## Fifth Anniversary Edition

### Report of activities

June 12-18, 2018



## Overview

Myanmar Music Festival is a unique and vibrant festival, which features international artists and faculty in collaboration with Myanmar's emerging and traditional artists for intensive training and performances. It aims to empower young talents to become world-class performers, to encourage businesses to engage with Myanmar's artistic and cultural life both in hopes that music keeps touching the hearts of a wider and more diverse audience every year.

This year, MMF celebrated its fifth anniversary. With this important milestone, we celebrated all the people that have joined us to make this meaningful adventure possible. Since our inception in 2014, we have performed for more than 10,000 people through live performances around the country, working with talented musicians of all ages, as well as forming precious friendships and valuable partnerships with civil society, international organizations, governments, and businesses. Musicians have visited from USA, Republic of China, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, and Switzerland. The prestigious musicians from the Ministry of Culture of Myanmar also joined us.

This festival has shown us what people can achieve when we work together beyond our differences and focus on what we have in common. It has also shown us the transformational power of music. Music that knows no boundary. Music that brings inspiration, healing, and hope to all of us. Music that speaks to our hearts and souls and inspires us to focus on our shared humanity.

For this year's program, we selected 18 young people from all around Myanmar together from Mon, Sagaing, Shan, Kachin, Nay Pyi Daw, Mandalay, and Yangon - a first attempt to create a national singing group, which we hope to keep growing - to a weeklong music camp where 33 Malaysian students from UCSI and Sunway University also joined.

Under the baton of MMF artist Yiling Chaing, who returned as the festival's voice director and rising Myanmar choir conductor Pyi Phyo Aung, the choir learned new pieces of music newly arranged, some familiar, some unknown and also sit lectures and workshops from Myanmar role models. The camp culminated into a concert at the National Theater on June 17, 2018 at 6pm. On the stage, the traditional musicians of the Ministry of Culture, as well as Kimball Gallagher, Kaiyin Huang, and Aung Moe Kyaw, returning this year as Assistant Artistic Director, also joined the performance. Other guest artists such as Rakhine singer Win Ko Khine and May Sweet also performed with the choir.

MMF's first music camp was a great opportunity for the choir members to learn and take back this experience and friendships to their own communities and hometowns at the end of the camp.

In addition to creating our first music camp, MMF also worked during the year to create "My Hidden City" starring Saw Nan Ei Shun a film promoting the remarkable heritage of the city of Mrauk U as it makes its bid for the UNESCO World Heritage status.

## PARTICIPATING PARTIES

1. **Performers:** In addition to the eleven musicians selected by the Myanmar government to participate in the performances, five foreign musicians have also traveled to Myanmar during the festival, and during the year some have participated in short-term assistance of Myanmar's local music education programs at the Khayay School. In addition, one young Myanmar pianist Aung Moe Kyaw also participated as a young artist of the festival.

Name	Instrument	Nationality
Kimball Gallagher	Artistic Director, Piano	USA
Kaiyin Huang	Executive Director, Piano	Taiwan
Yiling Chaing	Vocal Director, Mezzo-Soprano	Malaysia
Pyi Phyo Aung	Assistant Vocal Director	Myanmar
Aung Moe Kyaw	Assistant Artistic Director	Myanmar
Sa Nyi Nyi Tun*	Myanmar Flute/ Oboe	Myanmar
Sai Htet Aung*	Myanmar Drum Circle	Myanmar
Sein Kalar*	Myanmar Drum Circle	Myanmar
Ei Ei Lin*	Myanmar Voice	Myanmar
May Sweet	Guest singer	Myanmar
Win Ko Khine	Guest singer	Myanmar
Sandrah Man Daing	Rakhine Drums	Myanmar

Table 1. List of Performers

\*These are all artists from the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture.

2. **Partners:** In addition to the Government of Myanmar, this time in Myanmar, the main local partners include:

Partners	Description
 Ministry of Religious and Cultural Affairs	Myanmar Music Festival is in partnership and under the auspices of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture of Myanmar since 2015. The Ministry participates in the efforts to promote culture in Myanmar. Myanmar traditional musicians from the ministry join the festival.
 The Khayay School	An innovative school with a cutting edge multilingual, integrated and socio-emotional education for early childhood and elementary students. <a href="http://www.khayayschool.org">www.khayayschool.org</a>
 The Great Po Sein Entertainment	An events and concert production company led by Padamyar K Khine, the great granddaughter of the famous Myanmar traditional dance Po Sein.
 The United Nations	The United Nations have been endorsing the festival since 2015 for their 70th anniversary of their founding. It endorses the role of the arts in the peace building process and creating a space for all cultures and ethnicities to come together.



	<p>88 International</p>	<p>88 International is a non-profit organization based in New York, founded in 2015 by classical pianist Kimball Gallagher after a 30 country, 7 continent, 338 concert tour around the world. The mission of this global non-profit is to transform lives with music.</p> <p>Music is universal; it unites and brings people from different backgrounds together. 88 International creates and implements unique musical programs that inspire and empower each of us to become an active participant in delivering and appreciating music performance. We carry out our mission through artistic excellence and creativity, education, engagement and entrepreneurship.</p>
	<p>Kairos Art</p>	<p>Kairos art was established in 2015 in Taiwan. It includes Taiwan's best performers and combines visual, dance, music and sound and light effects to create the most outstanding performance in the world.</p>

Table 2. List of Partners

### 3. Sponsors:



## LIST OF ACTIVITIES

One of the festival's major activities this year was to create a Myanmar national choir. We launched a nationwide audition in the month of February 2018 with the help of Ooredoo and selected 18 members from 9 different states and regions.

### MMF Music Camp

#### ● Call for Audition Posters



Candidates were encouraged to post their audition video with a statement about why they wanted to join this music camp on a facebook group. Our vocal director Yiling Chaing and assistant vocal director Pyi Phyo Aung reviewed these videos.

#### ● Focus areas of the festival this year:



A horizontal timeline for the Myanmar Music Festival 2018. The timeline is a thick orange line with six white circular markers. Above the line, the months and dates are listed: February, March, April 1~15, April 21, May, and June 11~17. The year 2018 is written in large orange text at the end of the timeline. Below the line, the events for each date are listed in black text, separated by vertical orange lines.

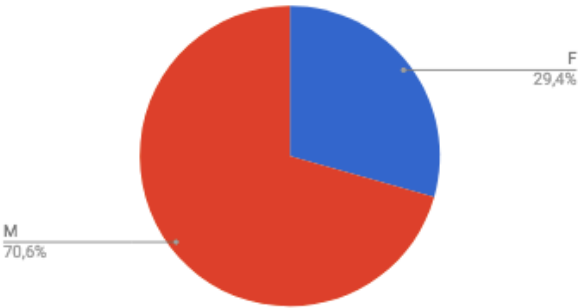
Date	Event
February	Nationwide Launch of Audition on Feb. 12! & Commission of New Pieces of Music
March	Singers audition from all 15 states and regions of Myanmar
April 1~15	Festival selects the 45 Myanmar singers
April 21	Public Announcement of audition results
May	Selection of soloists and Assignment of Repertoire
June 11~17	Choir Music Camp and Performance at the Celebration Concert with International and Myanmar Artists!

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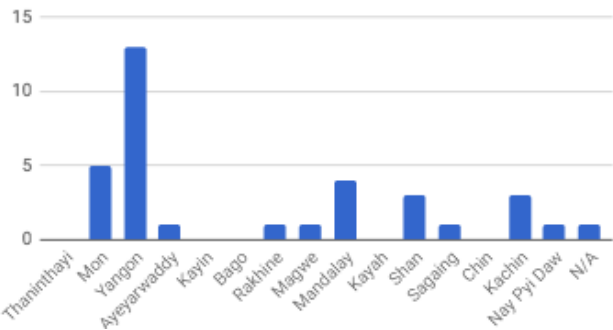
25 young women and men were selected originally but eventually 18 joined the camp.

● Gender and Origin of the Myanmar Choir Members

Gender Ratio



State and Divisions





## Press Conference

**Date and Time : 2018/ 6/ 7, 10 : 00 am**

**Venue : Excelsior Hotel**

We held our press conference at the Excelsior Hotel's Newsroom cafeteria in the presence of local and national media.



Dear distinguished guests and friends,  
We cordially invite you to our PRESS CONFERENCE  
in prevision of our  
**Myanmar Music Festival 2018**  
featuring international and Myanmar artists, accompanied by a Myanmar &  
Malaysian 60 people choir.

On Thursday, June 7, 2018  
10 - 11 am  
At Yangon Excelsior Hotel  
19/43 Bo Soon Pat Street, Padeban Township, Yangon

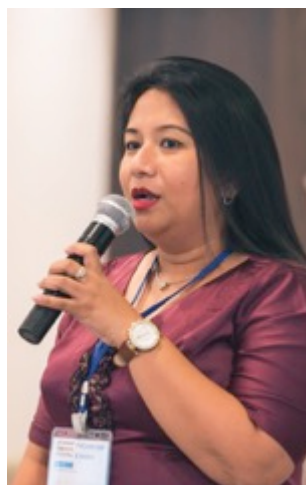


## Opening Ceremony

**Date and Time : 2018/ 6/ 12, 6 : 00 pm**

**Venue : Hotel Wyne**

On June 12, we held our opening ceremony and dinner at the Hotel Wyne to welcome the 18 choir members to Myanmar Music Festival. Our festival board member Mrs. Hitomi Iwasaki was also present and gave an opening speech followed by U Aung Naing Oo, owner of the Khayay School where the choir rehearsal were held. The directors all introduced themselves and explained the details of the camp structure based on the infopack below.



**MYANMAR  
MUSIC  
FESTIVAL**

Dear distinguished guests and friends,  
We cordially invite you to

**Myanmar Music Festival 2018  
Music Camp  
Opening Ceremony & Dinner**

On Tuesday, June 12, 2018  
5 pm: Opening Ceremony  
6 pm: Dinner  
At Hotel Wyne  
34 Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road, 8 Mile, Yangon



Congratulations and welcome to the Myanmar Music Festival Music Camp 2018!

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to the fifth edition of Myanmar Music Festival. This year, we are celebrating the fifth anniversary of the festival. During this important milestone, we celebrate all the people that have joined us to make this meaningful adventure possible.

Since our inception in 2014, we have performed for more than 10,000 people through live performances around the country, working with talented musicians of all ages, as well as forming precious friendships and valuable partnerships with civil society, international organizations, governments, and businesses. Musicians have visited from USA, Republic of China, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, and Switzerland. The prestigious musicians from the Ministry of Culture of Myanmar also joined us.

This festival has shown us what people can achieve when we work together beyond our differences and focus on what we have in common. It has also shown us the transformational power of music. Music that knows no color or boundary. Music that brings inspiration, healing, and hope to all of us. Music that speaks to our hearts and souls and inspire us to focus on our shared humanity.

For this year's program, we selected you all, 25 young people from all around Myanmar together from Mon, Sagaing, Shan, Kachin, Nay Pyi Daw, Mandalay, and Yangon - a first attempt to create a national singing group, which we hope to keep growing - to a weeklong music camp where 33 Malaysian students from UCSI and Sunway University will also join us on June 14. Under the baton of MMF artist Yiling Chaing, returning this year as the festival's voice director and rising Myanmar choir conductor Pyi Phyto Aung, you will learn new pieces of music newly written and arranged, some familiar, some unknown and also sit lectures and workshops from Myanmar role models. The camp will culminate into a concert at the National Theater on June 17, 2018 at 6pm. On the stage, the traditional musicians of the Ministry of Culture, as well as Kimball Gallagher, Kaiyin Huang, and Aung Moe Kyaw, returning this year as Assistant Artistic Director, will also join you. Other guest artists will be Win Ko Khine and May Sweet.

We hope that you will enjoy MMF's first music camp, learn as much as you can and take back this experience and friendships to your communities and hometowns at the end of the camp. Feel free to say hello to us when you see us and start a conversation with us! We look forward to meeting you all!

In order for you to know more about what we will do during the camp, here is a MMF Camp Info pack. In here, you may find all the information that you need to know to get ready for the week!

Looking forward to meeting you all,

Kaiyin Huang, Executive Director

Kimball Gallagher, Artistic Director

Erina Iwasaki, Associate Director

## ● Info Pack – 1

### About MMF

The Myanmar Music Festival is a unique and vibrant classical festival, which features international artists and faculty in collaboration with Myanmar's emerging artists for a weeklong intensive training and performances. It aims to empower and inspire young talents to become world-class performers while encouraging businesses to engage with Myanmar's artistic and cultural life, in hopes that music keeps touching the heart of a wider and more diverse audience every year. The Myanmar Music Festival is a project of 88 International, an US based non-profit.

Based on the essential values of universality, peace and social justice, the festival participates in global issues by taking actions on music education, music performances, and the attentiveness of vulnerable groups. It strives to enhance intercultural dialogue through an exchange of artistic knowledge and experience in Western Classical Music and Myanmar Music, build capacity and skills of young professionals, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds, and create long-term opportunities for their education and development. In addition to Yangon, musicians also go on an outreach tour to bring music outside of Yangon to places such as Mandalay and Naypyidaw.

In 2017, the fourth edition of Myanmar Music Festival traveled to different communities in Myanmar. This year, the festival will work to bring different voices of Myanmar together with voices of Malaysia for a final concert on June 17. The festival will also feature the Kimball Gallagher and Kaiyin Huang, respectively artistic and executive directors of the festival as well as returning students such as Aung Moe Kyaw as assistant artistic director and Pyi Phyto Aung as assistant vocal director.

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi has been a regular host of one of the private events since the beginning of the festival in 2014 and expressed that music could not only demonstrate the cultural uniqueness, but also bring peace to mind and thus bring social harmony to a society in divide. She therefore strongly praised for the establishment of the Myanmar Music Festival.

Visit [www.myanmarmusicfestival.com](http://www.myanmarmusicfestival.com)

### CORE BELIEFS

1. We believe music creates possibilities and opportunities.
2. We believe music raises the awareness of global citizenship.
3. We believe music nurtures emotional development and self-discovery.
4. We believe in excellence.

## ● Info Pack – 2



### Practice and Rehearsal Host

All the rehearsals of the festival will take place at the Khayay school. The Khayay School is where the associate director, Erina Iwasaki also works. The owner is U Aung Naing Oo, the director Toru Iwasaki and the principal, Hitomi Iwasaki who is also the board member of MMF.



The **Khayay International School** is a leading private institution in early childhood and primary education in Yangon, Myanmar. While being a school, it also focuses greatly on educational research, so that the faculty and staff can create the best educational environment and inspire innovative practices for next generations. Over the past 15 years, the school has developed and designed a unique multilingual curriculum to promote active global citizenship from the early years. At the Khayay International School, children from different backgrounds are encouraged to become active listeners and self-motivated learners as they engage in many hands-on activities. Music and the arts also have an important place in the school life. The school, like the Myanmar Music Festival, believes that the arts are positive and engaging ways to promote the child's self-expression and self-discovery. It also believes that music and the arts nurture the practice of compassion, awareness, mutual understanding and respect that all Khayay students will carry on in their life. This long-term partnership between the Khayay school and the festival has led to the creation of the Joseph Smith Music Center.

The **Joseph Smith Music Center** is the music department within the Khayay School by American pianist Kimball Gallagher, in honor of his lifelong mentor Joseph Smith. This music center aims to be the school's music department and provide music classes to Khayay students while also administering private lessons for talented and advanced students in Myanmar.

16 Inya Road, Kamayut T/S, Yangon, Myanmar.  
 TEL: 099772438802  
[www.khayayschool.org](http://www.khayayschool.org)



## ● Info Pack – 3

### Accommodation Host



Sedona Hotel Yangon is a 5 star luxury hotel located on Kabaraye Pagoda Road. The hotel has been a great supporter of Myanmar Music Festival since 2017 and is the main hotel partner for this year. The hotel has generously offered to host you all during the time of the camp. We are extremely grateful for Sedona Hotel Yangon for providing us this opportunity!

We hope that all of you will behave as proper guests and representatives of the festival and your hometown during your stay there.

Sedona Hotel Yangon  
 No. 1 Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Yangon, Myanmar  
 +95 1 860 5377 | [contact@keppellandhospitality.com](mailto:contact@keppellandhospitality.com)



## ● Info Pack – 4

	DAY 1 6/12 (Tue) ARRIVAL DAY	DAY 2 6/13 (Wed) PRACTICE	DAY 3 6/14 (Thu) PRACTICE	DAY 4 6/15 (Fri) PRACTICE	DAY 5 6/16 (Sat) REHEARSAL DAY	DAY 6 6/17 (Sun) CONCERT DAY	DAY 7 6/18 (Mon) DEPARTURE DAY
07:45		BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST
08:45		Leave Sedona to Khayay	Leave Sedona to Khayay	Leave Sedona to Khayay	Leave Sedona to Khayay	Leave Sedona to National Theater	
09:00	ARRIVAL	INTRODUCTION TO THE CAMP (Goal and Rules) and Tour of the CAMP SITE		Sectional + Solo Work + Freetime	Sectional + Solo Work + Freetime	Rehearsal at National Theater/ Please bring your concert attire!	Check Out and Good-bye-I
10:00		Rehearsal (1:20min) Workshop (Vocal Sound Production) Yiling and PPA	Sectional + Solo Work + Freetime Arrival/ Greetings of Malaysian Choir Members	Sectional + Solo Work + Freetime	Sectional + Solo Work + Freetime		
11:00				Sectional + Solo Work + Freetime	Sectional + Solo Work + Freetime		
12:00	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH at National Theater	By noon
13:00		Guest Speaker: Mi Lwin	Guest Speaker: U Nay Oke	Guest Speaker: Win Min	Performance Etiquette and Schedule of June 17		
14:00	REGISTRATION and Check IN STARTS at Sedona Hotel	Sectional + Solo Work + Freetime	Sectional + Solo Work + Freetime	Combined rehearsal	Combined rehearsal	Rehearsal at National Theater	
15:00		Sectional + Solo Work + Freetime	Combined rehearsal	Combined rehearsal	Combined rehearsal		
16:00		Final Rehearsal (1:20min)	Combined rehearsal	Combined rehearsal	Final Rehearsal (1:20min)		
17:00	OPENING CEREMONY at Wyne Hotel	Announcements/Recital (?)	Final Rehearsal (1:20min)	Final Rehearsal (1:20min)	Final Rehearsal (1:20min)	DINNER at National Theater	
18:00	DINNER at Wyne Hotel	DINNER	DINNER	Concert at Khayay School	Dinner	CONCERT TIME!!!	
19:00		Ken Tun's Leadership Training	Ken Tun's Leadership Training	Birthday Dinner	Rehearsals		
20:00							
21:00	Leave for Sedona	Leave for Sedona	Leave for Sedona	Leave for Sedona	Leave for Sedona	Leave for Sedona	
22:00	Good-Night	Good-Night	Good-Night	Good-Night	Good-Night	Good-Night	

## ● Info Pack – 5

The schedule is subject to change.

Detailed daily schedule for practice, rehearsals including concert times will be provided once you arrive at orientation.

### ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Arrival date is June 12th at 1pm at the latest at Sedona Hotel, Yangon. Departure date is June 18<sup>th</sup> by noon. Please make your travel arrangements on your own and check out from the hotel by noon. Make sure to return all keys to the hotel and not forget anything when you leave the hotel!

### TRANSPORTATION

For those coming from other states and region than Yangon, we will refund your bus ticket fare to come and to go back to your hometown. We will only refund with a proper receipt and ticket at proof. We will have bus or taxis to go from Sedona to Khayay School and back which is provided by the festival.

### ACCOMMODATION

Sedona Hotel, a 5 stars hotel is sponsoring the rooms for all Myanmar choir members. Please note that you are in charge for the deposit of the room. Each of us is responsible to pay or refund any damages caused in the rooms as well as food and beverage at the hotel.

### WHAT TO BRING

- Clothes: Bring enough clothes for at least a week plus your stage wear. Bring also your ethnic costume too.
- Sleeping Clothes
- Footwear: sandals for daily purpose and shoes for performance
- Socks & Underwear
- Personal Toiletries: towels, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, insect repellent, sun block, and other personal hygiene products
- Personal Medicines and Medications, including prescriptions (bring enough for the whole duration of the festival)
- Sunglasses: and your extra glasses and contact lenses (if you need them)
- Water bottle
- Money: Check the money section
- Passport or NRC

### WEATHER

June is part of the rainy season; therefore, it is expected to rain quite a lot. The days will be warm and humid. Expect to be sweating a lot. The average temperature is 30C.

## ● Info Pack – 6

**LAWS AND RULES, AND LIFESTYLE**

It is extremely important for you to follow the rules and regulations of the camp once you signed our agreement form. The camp will also follow Myanmar's law so therefore we insist on a strict **NO DRUGS, NO ALCOHOL, NO SMOKING, NO SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, NO STEALING** policy. The directors have the right to terminate your stay at this camp should you fail to follow this rule. In order to make the best out of this experience, we also need your cooperation and understanding to make this camp an unforgettable and enriching experience. Please remember that at all times during the camp you are representing the festival, your hometown/state, and your country!

**NAME TAGS**

You will be given a name tag with your name affiliation. Please make sure to wear this name tag at all times!

**EXTERNAL VISITORS**

During the time of the camp, please refrain from bringing relatives, families, and friends to visit you. Because this is an intensive and a weeklong camp, we would like you to take advantage of most of your time during the camp and enjoy the learning and experience to the maximum. For emergency case, please talk to your camp counselors Pyi Phy Aung or Kevin or the associate director, Erina.

**SPECIAL DIETS REQUIREMENTS AND ALLERGIES**

Breakfast is provided by Sedona Hotel. Please go to D-Inya restaurant on the 1st floor of the Inya Wing. It is a buffet style breakfast where you can eat as much as you want. The times are from 6:30 am to 10:00 am. Make sure to have breakfast before we go to Khayay school for the practice and rehearsals. Lunch and dinner will be provided by the camp at Khayay school. If you have any special diet or health requirements (including allergies) please let us know as soon as possible and before you arrive. Food outside of these 3 meals will not be covered. Please use your own pocket money to purchase snacks or in-hotel food outside of these 3 meals.

**MONEY**

Use your money wisely. We recommend 150,000 – 200,000 kyats to bring to the camp. Because you will be constantly in workshops or practice, you will not need much money during the week.

**INTERNET/ PHONE**

We understand that you may need your phone to record or keep in touch with communication at camp. However, we hope that you will use the phone wisely and turn it off or put in silence mode during workshops or concerts during the camp.

**VALUABLES**

Please be aware that you will be responsible for valuables you bring with you, including telephones, tablets, portable computers, iPods, etc. as well as passports and other documentation. The festival is not responsible for any loss.

● **Info Pack – 2**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

At any moment during the camp, please feel free to contact us! Communication and information are key. Our doors and ears are always open to you! For emergency, please contact Erina Iwasaki.

Name		Telephone	Email
Erina Iwasaki	Associate Director	+95 9254073845	<a href="mailto:erina.iwasaki@gmail.com">erina.iwasaki@gmail.com</a>
Kaiyin Huang	Executive Director		<a href="mailto:piano.kaiyin@gmail.com">piano.kaiyin@gmail.com</a>
Kimball Gallagher	Artistic Director	+95 9963664278	<a href="mailto:kimball@kimballgallagher.com">kimball@kimballgallagher.com</a>
Yiling Chaing	Vocal Director		<a href="mailto:yilingsonnia@gmail.com">yilingsonnia@gmail.com</a>
Pyi Phy Aung	Assistant Vocal Director		<a href="mailto:Marioaung1994@gmail.com">Marioaung1994@gmail.com</a>
Kevin Yang	Assistant Artistic Director	09776074013	<a href="mailto:kevinyang.piano@gmail.com">kevinyang.piano@gmail.com</a>

**PROFILES****KAI-YIN HUANG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Valuing the power of music and its importance to transform lives, Kai-Yin founded Kairos Arts in 2015, of which she is the artistic director. Graduated from The Juilliard School and Yale School of Music, she received the Doctor of Music Arts at SUNY Stony Brook University. She has appeared on the stages around the world, in countries such as Italy, United States, England, Germany, Denmark, Egypt, Tunisia, Thailand, Malaysia, Japan and China. After returning to Taiwan in 2012 she co-founded Taiwan88, an education project that aims to bring interactive live performances to different parts of Taiwan, accessing to a public unused to western classical music. She has authored two books; the first book entitled *The Boiling Frog* (2012) is an exploration of current macro-economic phenomenon and corporate social responsibility, and *A Pianist's Musical Journey* (2013). In the past few years, Kai-Yin has supported various social projects across Southeast Asian and North African countries. Her effort led to the establishment of the Myanmar Music Festival, recognized by the United Nations and supported by Aung San Suu Kyi. In 2015 she was selected as one of The Ten Most Outstanding Young Persons of Taiwan.

**KIMBALL GALLAGHER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

Kimball Gallagher has risen to prominence as one of the most dynamic and multifaceted pianists on the stage today. Gallagher's sold-out 2008 debut at Carnegie Hall launched his international 88- Concert Tour blazing a trail across all seven continents appearing in 30 countries, while performing in distinguished venues and intimate gatherings all over the world, from the Kennedy Center to Kabul, Bombay to Boulder, Chicago to Shanghai, and Tuscany to Tunisia. The number 88 alludes to the 88 keys of the piano. Highlights of recent tour seasons have included Gallagher's debuts at the Cairo Opera House, the National Revital Hall in Taipei, the United Nations in New York, and the World Bank, as well as in private homes and more exotic venues throughout Egypt, Myanmar, Pakistan, United Arab Emirates, Mongolia, Thailand, Fiji, China, and India. The 88 Concert Tour concluded with another sold out recital by Gallagher at Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall on April 13, 2015, in New York City. With this culmination, he has launched 88 International an organization based in New York which initiates and supports international music projects around the world, including the Myanmar Music Festival. Mr. Gallagher resides in New York. He is a graduate of Rice University and The Juilliard School.

**ERINA IWASAKI, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR**

Erina Iwasaki, an educator and polyglot, is the curriculum director and developer at Khayay International School in Yangon, Myanmar. With a background in philosophy and the spirit of an entrepreneur, she empowers her students and colleagues to be empathetic and active global citizens. She is building and refining an innovative curriculum that weaves the study of multiple languages, peace education and ethics into traditional curricula of sciences, math, social studies and the arts. A firm believer in the role of the arts in emotional development, she is the Associate Director of the Myanmar Music Festival. In her three years in this role, she has mentored young Myanmar musicians, trained teachers, cultivated support from businesses, and forged links with musicians all over Myanmar. She reads avidly, has studied violin, and recently gave her piano performance debut in Sells, Japan. She is also a member of CIV Myanmar, a peace education organization, which builds global friendships. She is a graduate of the University of Paris – Sorbonne and Smith College and is currently a doctoral fellow in Comparative and International Education at Teachers College, Columbia University.

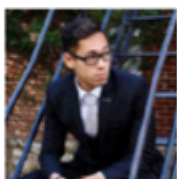
● **Info Pack – 8**





## YILING CHAING, VOCAL DIRECTOR

Yiling Chaing holds her bachelor degree from Birmingham Conservatoire (UK) as vocal and operatic performance singer and completed a Master's Degree at the Kodály Institute of Franz Liszt Academy of Music (Hungary) as Kodály expert. During her studies in England, Yiling won gold medals for the opera and lieder category, such as the Ella Ceshire Soprano Award and the Joseph Weingarten Prize. Yiling's international performance career brought her to many cities both in Europe and Asia, in prestigious venues as soloist/opera singer such as Birmingham Symphony Hall and Thailand Culture recital hall (with special guest H.R.H Princess Soamsawali of Thailand). Her signature repertoire includes Ravel's "Scheherazade", Elgar's "Sea Pictures", and Cherubino in Mozart's "Le Nozze di Figaro" among others. She has received excellent reviews for her unique rich and warm middle register. Yiling worked with International Christian Choral Conducting Society (ICCCS) as vocal and conducting lecturer. She is currently an adjunct lecturer at UCSI University and Sunway University, Malaysia.



## PYI PHYTO AUNG, ASSISTANT VOCAL DIRECTOR

Pyi Phyto Aung is a music teacher and vocal director at the International School Yangon. Graduated from Luther College with a B.A. in Music, Music Education, with a concentration in choral pedagogy, his teaching experience in international schools has given him ample experiences to teach classes in music theory, history, appreciation, and to manage a variety of rehearsal settings. Since returning from the United States in 2017, he has directed the Strand Singers, Orchestra for Myanmar, and the LGBT+ Choral in the Yangon community that bring collaborative and inclusive performances to the Yangon Gallery, People's Park, Parami Hospital, and the National Theatre of Yangon. A participant in Myanmar Music Festival since its first season in 2014, he plans to continue to support the music scene in Myanmar through education.



## AUNG MOE KYAW, ASSISTANT ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Aung Moe Kyaw started his studies in piano at the age of 12. He spent most of his high school years self-studying. After finishing his freshman year majoring in Mechatronic Engineering at Mandalay Technological University, he enrolled at Missouri Western State University in a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance, with a minor in French, making him the first Myanmar student on a full scholarship in piano performance. Among his mentors are Dr. Nathanael May, Kimball Gallagher, Kai-Yin Huang, Gloria Campaner and Maiko Kurihara. He has performed internationally as a soloist and chamber musician. He has participated in international music festivals such as the 'Maccagno Piano Days Festival' (Italy) and 'Stage & Concours: Chopin en Pleine Forêt' (Tunisia). He also performed chamber music at The National Theatre of Yangon, and in a private concert for Nobel Peace Prize Laureate H.E. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Additionally, during his freshman year, he won the first prize in the 2016 MWSU Concerto/Aria Competition and shared the stage with the MWSU Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Rico McNeela. Aung Moe Kyaw also enjoys making four-hand piano transcriptions of beautiful Myanmar melodies and folk songs.



## **Music Camp**

**Duration : 2018/ 6 /13 - 6/ 17**

**Venue : The Khayay International School**

On June 12, we welcomed the 18 selected Myanmar choir members and on June 13, they began the choir practice with Malaysian mezzo-soprano and choir conductor Ms. Yiling Chaing at the Khayay International School. On June 14, the guest choir members of Sunway University and UCSI arrived from Kuala Lumpur to join the Myanmar choir. The Han Chiang Alumni Choir also participated for one rehearsal session.



● **First Vocal Session**



● **Arrival of the Malaysian Singers**

## List of Malaysian Choir Members:

### Malaysian Mixed Choir Members

Jadryn Yong Shuet Yee, Soprano, UCSI  
Kimberly Tsen Ai Li, Soprano, UCSI  
Choy Yee Ling, Soprano, UCSI  
Lam Pou Yi (Jasmine), Soprano, UCSI  
Sophie Chin Shu Fei, Soprano, UCSI  
Phoebe Goh Jia Win, Soprano, UCSI  
Leong Yi En, Soprano, UCSI  
Hanny Lawer, Soprano, UCSI  
Sia Pei San\*, Soprano, UCSI  
Lin Yi Ying (Camilla), Alto, UCSI  
Stephani Kay, Alto, UCSI  
Lim Ee Wenn, Alto, UCSI  
Suzanne Kang Ai Zen, Alto, UCSI  
Lau Yin Huey, Alto, UCSI  
Tan You Jia, Alto, UCSI  
Tei Eu Jean, Alto, Sunway  
Yong Yoon May, Alto, Sunway  
Tong Su Ting, Alto, Sunway

Steward Chang Kah Lok, Tenor, UCSI  
Lai Ching Lun, Tenor, UCSI  
Chua Jia Hoong, Tenor, UCSI  
Lee Roxy, Tenor, UCSI  
Brandon Loh Kar Weng, Tenor, UCSI  
Chong Jiunn Yann, Tenor, UCSI  
Imran Zachary Marshall, Tenor, Sunway  
Brian Lasung, Bass, UCSI  
Samuel Lim Qi Rou, Bass, UCSI  
Tan Youhand, Bass, UCSI  
Wong Wai Ken, Bass, UCSI  
Luigi Gan\*, Bass, UCSI  
Teng Zhang Yu, Bass, Sunway  
Jeremiah Joel Cheah Wei Quan, Bass, Sunway  
Abdul Azeem Shah bin Akbar Shah, Bass, Sunway

### Han Chiang Alumni Choir Members

Lee Yi Chen  
Ku Gee Jie  
NG Rou Hui  
Jessandra Wong Lian Xin  
Vincent Ng Yao De  
Than Shu Zhen  
Loo Yoong Yang  
Chua Kai Tie  
Qayyum Bin Zainal  
Lee Chin Pin  
Law Poh Gim  
Wong Mooi Lin

Ng Miow Luang  
Kuak Yeow Heok  
Ong Be Bee  
Seow Bui Keow  
Ooi Gim Sim  
Hing Pek Hoo  
Ang Bee Lean  
Lim York Choo  
Tan Yoe Huang  
Oh Beng Wah  
Woo Kiling Chai  
Wong Chung Khuan

## **Leadership and Community Building Guest Speakers Series**

**Duration : 2018/ 6 /13 - 6/ 17**

**Venue : The Khayay International School**

We invited Myanmar leaders to come and give leadership training and share their experience to the 18 Myanmar choir members. The leadership trainer was U Pyi Wa Tun, CEO of Parami Energy and Young Leader of the World Economic Forum. The other guest speakers were: U Nay Oke, English professor and head of NLD education, Daw Mi Lwin, former KBZ bank executive, U Win Min of Responsible Business Myanmar.





The directors of Myanmar Music Festival, Erina Iwasaki, Associate Director, Kimball Gallagher, Artistic Director and Kaiyin Huang, Executive Director also gave a talk and presentation to the Malaysian university students choir on the brief history of Myanmar Music Festival and the role of the arts in society.

### **Rehearsals with Myanmar Traditional Musicians and Artists**

**Duration : 2018/ 6 /13 - 6/ 17**

**Venue : The Khayay International School**

In addition to the choir practice, we held rehearsals with Myanmar traditional musicians from the Ministry of Culture and other renowned artists such as May Sweet, a famous Myanmar ballad singer and Win Ko Khine, a Rakhine singer. Pieces were arranged for Myanmar traditional instruments such as the circle drum, the xylophone, and flute. Young flutists from Taiwan and Malaysia also joined for some of the pieces.



- **Myanmar Traditional Musicians rehearsing with young Taiwanese and Malaysian flutists.**



- **The choir sang a piece called *Maung* by May Sweet arranged for choir and piano by Assistant Artistic Director Aung Moe Kyaw and another piece *Rakhine Theya Bawa*, a piece by Rakhine singer Win Ko Khine, arranged by Artistic Director Kimball Gallagher.**

## Final Celebration Concert

**Date and Time : 2018/6/17 (Sun) 6 : 00 pm**

**Venue : National Theater of Yangon**

All musicians performed at the National Theater of Yangon on June 17, 2018 (Sunday), at 6pm. Rehearsals were held on Saturday, June 16.

We were honored by the presence of Daw Anna Sui Hluan, the Second Lady of Myanmar who gave the opening speech to our concert. Following her speech, U Naing Ngan Lin, Yangon Minister of Social Welfare and Education and Ms. Min Jeong Kim, the UNESCO representative in Myanmar also gave their remarks.



MYANMAR MUSIC FESTIVAL

Dear distinguished guests and friends,  
We cordially invite you to a Reception, followed by the  
**"CELEBRATION CONCERT"**  
featuring international and Myanmar artists, accompanied by a Myanmar & Malaysian 60 people choir.

On Sunday, June 17, 2018  
5:30pm: Reception  
6:30 pm: Concert  
At the National Theater of Yangon  
Please enter from the side VIP entrance.



- Daw Anna Shwe Hluan, Second Lady of Myanmar and U Naing Ngan Lin, Yangon Minister of Social Welfare and Education

### **Daw Anna Shwe Hlwan, Second Lady of Myanmar's Opening Speech:**

It is my great pleasure and honour to be with all of you on the 5th Edition of the Myanmar Music Festival. I am excited to have learn that a choir consisting of 25 young people from Myanmar in collaborating with 33 Malaysian students is performing tonight under the leadership of MMF artist YiLing Chaing, international pianists such as Kimball Gallagher and Kaiyin Huang, also joined by the Myanmar traditional musicians of the Ministry of Culture as well as our Myanmar artists. Thank you all for the invitation! Thank you for doing what you are doing by bringing people from all walks of life into this room.



That is one of the reasons why I love music. Music has no boundaries. Music brings people from all walks of life into one place regardless of age, gender, status, religion, and countries. I personally love music. My family loves music. Every celebration events of our family, music takes the central role. Another reason I love music is due to the power of music that expresses what human words alone cannot. This is what we are witnessing today, the multitude of voices that represent Myanmar with the world to express something that human words alone cannot do.

The power of music is undeniable fact. Music sets a mood, invoke a certain emotion, and thought process. Music can bring instant change in the atmosphere of a room, whether romantic, happy, or sad. Science has confirmed that humans are hard-wired to respond to music. Music affects us externally as well as internally. Studies have suggested that someday music may even help patients heal from various diseases. Music affects us all! Today it is my prayer that when the music is played tonight, may you be inspire, heal, and find comfort in all that you are dealing with life's challenges. May this collaborated effort of Myanmar and artists from various countries in music concert such as this inspire us to join hands together in bringing healing to Myanmar and beyond. Thank you!



- **Ms. Min Jeong Kim, UNESCO Representative in Myanmar**



Ms. Min Yeong Kim's remarks followed the airing of *My Hidden City*, with the music performed live on the stage: Kimball Gallagher at the piano, Win Kho Khine at the Rakhine traditional flute and Rakhine drums. (See booklet) She

- **Concert photos**





- Photos of MMF directors, assistant directors with MMF Board Members and VIPs at the pre-reception.



MYANMAR  
MUSIC  
FESTIVAL

**5<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Celebration Concert**

Yangon National Theater

2018/6/17 18:00

YiLing Chaing / Principal Conductor

**Mrauk U, My Hidden City**

**Kimball Gallagher**

*Win Kho Khine / Flute, Kimball Gallagher / Piano, Rakhine Drums*

**Adiemus**

**Karl Jenkins / Lyrics & Music**

*Myanmar Music Festival Choir, UCSI Mixed Choir and Sunway University Singers Malaysia.*

*Lead Singers: Stephanie Kay, Christine Dabang, Roi Seng Sumlut,*

*Ting-Yu Yeh / Flute, Lim Ee Wenn / Chinese Flute, Aung Moe Kyaw / Piano, Rakhine Drums,*

**JinghPaw**

**Ah Moon / Lyrics Music,  
Kaiyin Huang / Arrang.**

*Myanmar Music Festival Choir, Ei Ei Lin / Lead Singer, Ting-Yu Yeh / Flute, Kaiyin Huang / Piano, Sa*

*Nyi Nyi Tun / Myanmar Flute, Sein Kalar / Circle Drums, Win Nadar Lwin / Xylophone*

**Rakhine Bawa Tay Than**

**Win Ko Khine / Lyrics & Music  
Kimball Gallagher / Arrang.**

*Myanmar Music Festival Choir, UCSI Mixed Choir & Sunway University Singers Malaysia*

*Win Ko Khine / Vocal & Guitar, Kimball Gallagher / Piano, Rakhine Drums*

**Lan Yu**

**Kaiyin Huang / Arrang.**

*UCSI Mixed Choir & Sunway University Singers Malaysia, Ting Yu Yeh / Flute, Kaiyin Huang / Piano,*

*Sa Nyi Nyi Tun / Myanmar Flute, Sein Kalar / Circle Drums, Sai Htet Aung / Xylophone*

**Luk Luk Lumbu**

**Banyuwangi Folksong**

*UCSI Mixed Choir & Sunway University Singers Malaysia, Luigi Gan & Sia Pei San / instructors*

**Antarctica Set**

1. CHILE: Preludio II (Sergio Pérez Bontes)
2. CHINA: Jasmin Flower (Chinese Folksong)
3. URUGUAY: Habenera (Philippe Courras)
4. RUSSIA: Still Life (Ivaschenko & Vasilyev)

**MYANMAR  
MUSIC  
FESTIVAL**

**Love Duet**

**Hwaen Chuqi**

*Kimball Gallagher / Piano*

**Jaunpuri**

**Michael Harrison**

*Kaiyin Huang / Piano*

**Taipei**

**Hiro G / Lyrics & Music**

**Makito Shibuya / Arrang.**

*Steward Chang Kah Lok / Vocal Soloist, UCSI Mixed Choir & Sunway University Singers Malaysia,*

*Kaiyin Huang / Piano*

**Flower Riddles**

*Woo Soo Min & Kuak Yeow Heok / Voice Solo, Malaysia Han Chiang Alumni Choir*

*Conductor: Prof. Ian Lim Kean Seng, Lee Yi Chen/ piano*

**Girls of Eighteen Years Old**

*Pyi Phyo Aung /Voice Solo, Malaysia Han Chiang Alumni Choir, Lee Yi Chen / piano*

*Conductor: Prof. Ian Lim Kean Seng,*

**Look at the World**

**John Rutter / Lyrics & Music**

*Myanmar and Malaysian Choir, YiLing Chaing / Piano, Pyi Phyo Aung / Conductor*

**Ma Ma Moe**

**Aung Moe Kyaw / Arrang.**

*Myanmar Music Festival Choir, UCSI Mixed Choir & Sunway University Singers Malaysia,*

*Ting Yu Yeh / Flute, Aung Moe Kyaw / Piano, Pyi Phyo Aung / Conductor*

**Maung**

**Aung Moe Kyaw / Arrang.**

*May Sweet / Voice, Myanmar Music Festival Choir,*

*UCSI Mixed Choir & Sunway University Singers Malaysia, Ting Yu Yeh / Flute, Aung Moe Kyaw / Piano*

**Moon Represents My Heart**

**Makito Shibuya &**

**Kaiyin Huang / Arrang.**

*Ei Ei Lin / Myanmar Vocalist, Malaysian combined choir, Han Chiang Alumni Choir*

*Ting Yu Yeh / Flute, Kaiyin Huang / Piano, Sa Nyi Nyi Tun / Myanmar Flute*

## **Media Coverage**

- Popular Journal:  
[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=1063358460482724&id=100004257403624](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1063358460482724&id=100004257403624)
- Popular Journal: <https://www.facebook.com/popularjournal/posts/1788491791231221>
- MRTV: <https://www.mrtvmyanmar.com/mm/news-14927>
- Channel K: <https://www.facebook.com/channelkmyanmar/videos/244305526328085/>
- Sound Cloud: [https://soundcloud.com/loom-aron/20180616-mmfm-loom?utm\\_source=soundcloud&utm\\_campaign=share&utm\\_medium=facebook](https://soundcloud.com/loom-aron/20180616-mmfm-loom?utm_source=soundcloud&utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=facebook)
- Art Sky Show: <https://www.facebook.com/artskyshow/posts/886259358249969>
- Mingalarbar Morning:  
<https://mingalarbarmorning.com/news/myanmar/SBDoNq4VikkWUWuuqQOuK.html>
- The Irrawaddy lifestyle:  
<https://www.facebook.com/theirrawaddylifestyle/videos/1441038549374753/>
- PyonePlay:  
[http://www.pyoneplay.com/show/1fbdb6562e904ce9a3e73effcadeb47e/video/lpdTJqZjE6ewYNLYaE3BDOH20LB\\_Q\\_Oy/?fbrefresh=20180611170311](http://www.pyoneplay.com/show/1fbdb6562e904ce9a3e73effcadeb47e/video/lpdTJqZjE6ewYNLYaE3BDOH20LB_Q_Oy/?fbrefresh=20180611170311)
- Channel 9 made 3 episodes of 30 minutes each on MMF, which aired during the month of June.

## **Advertisement**

Please see the job completion report from Ganad attached to this document. The promotional video that was aired can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XTyrRY7HGoA>

## **Conclusion**

This year, the festival focused on bringing different people together and setting up Myanmar Music Festival's national choir. So far we have 9 states and regions represented and we would like eventually to have all states and regions part of this choir. Next year, we will call for auditions again and hopefully be able to recruit more singers from all states and regions.

The positive outcomes from this year:

- 1) Myanmar singers who participated would like to join again next year either as a choir singer or as a festival staff.
- 2) Some Myanmar singers started their own musical projects in their community.

- 3) Some Malaysian participants, especially those trained in sound engineering have shared how they would like to be interns of the festival next year and support the sound engineering system set up, which is currently quite weak in Myanmar.

Elements we would like to keep developing:

- 1) Following up on the leadership training, we would like the Myanmar choir participants to develop their own musical projects in their communities. We would thus like to further our training into event planning and organization as well as project management. We would like to raise seed funds for projects combining music and social impact so that we can support their initial steps in creating their event.
- 2) Possibilities of mentorship and provision of small funds for these young people.
- 3) Commission of more new works.
- 4) Raise the profile and visibility of our festival more and more.
- 5) Foster and strengthen the relationship with the government in particular, the Ministry of culture, tourism and education in the next 5 years.
- 6) Attract and work with inspiring artists.
- 7) Achieve a sustainable financial model for the festival.