

Press Release

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Maybank hosts “magical” Christmas for special children

- ‘Grant-A-Wish’ initiative for 100 special children at festive event

Peals of laughter and shouts of joy by special children - who were mesmerised by magic shows, musical performances, and even a surprise visit from Santa - filled the lobby of Menara Maybank during the Maybank Group annual Christmas celebration held in Kuala Lumpur.

The 100 children from Stepping Stones Living Centre, House of Joy, Rumah Charis and House of Victory were filled with delight as they received presents on their wish list after Maybank introduced its ‘Grant-A-Wish’ initiative. This initiative enabled Maybank employees to fulfil a gift request from the special children who indicated what they wanted prior to the event.

The celebration was further enlivened with colourful Christmas decorations and a beautifully lit up ten-foot tall Christmas tree together with special performances of Christmas carols by the Maybank Christian Fellowship as well as the children from Stepping Stones Living Centre and House of Victory. A magic show also captivated the children with its many incredible acts that drew gasps of wonder and awe.

The event was hosted by the Chairman of Maybank, Datuk Mohaiyani Shamsudin; Group President & CEO, Datuk Abdul Farid Alias, members of the Board of Directors and Group EXCO who took time to distribute gifts to the children.

Maybank Group Chief Human Capital Officer, Nora Manaf said, “This celebration is our way of bringing people together regardless of race, background or religion, to appreciate the diversity we enjoy in Malaysia. Each year, Maybank celebrates Malaysia’s major festivals by organising activities for our employees and special guests to appreciate the rich heritage of the respective communities where the bank operates.”

“By celebrating each other, we believe we are helping to build greater unity and understanding amongst our communities, which is very much in line with our mission of humanising financial services.”

Nora added that some of the children may have had difficult experiences in the past and, “so we wanted them to look forward with hope to the future, and share in the joy of the season with their friends in Maybank.”

One of the children at the event, Daniel Davis, 14, from Stepping Stones Living Centre thanked Maybank and said that he always looked forward to attending Maybank's Christmas celebration. Daniel added that this year was extra special as his wish of getting a perfume set was realised through Maybank's 'Grant-A-Wish' initiative.

Meanwhile, Megan Kristie, 8, from House of Victory said, "I was so excited to watch the magic show as I hope to also be a magician someday. Besides, I have always wanted a pair of shoes of my favourite superhero and my wish finally came through this year. I also enjoyed the different kinds of food especially the popcorn!"

Santa Claus also made a special appearance adding to the merriment among the children and employees. Attendees were given the opportunity to commemorate this joyous occasion at a photo booth while Maybank employees distributed apples and pears to the special guests as well as other visitors.

A Christmas bazaar was also held at Menara Maybank in conjunction with the event, further adding to the Christmas cheer.