

Chiang Mai 2016

« Car le vrai rôle d'un festival est d'aider les artistes à oser, à entreprendre des projets... »
Bernard Faivre d'Arcier

Atelier for Young Festival Managers

1 - 7 December 2016

Welcome Speech by

Mrs. Supawan Teerarat

Vice President of Thailand Convention & Exhibition Bureau

Opening Ceremony of the Atelier for Young Festival Managers Chiang Mai 2016

01 December 2016, Chiangmai, Thailand

Dear Governor of Chiangmai City , Mr. Prawin Chamniprasart, European Festival Academy 's honorable mentors, honorable speakers, the Atelier's participants, distinguished guest, ladies & gentlemen

Good evening to you all.

First of all, I wish to extend my warmest welcome to all of you who travel from afar and those who live nearby to be here in Thailand and in the beautiful city of Chiangmai, the rose of the north city.

And before I go further to my welcome note, I would like to take this opportunity to tell you a bit more about the situation of Thailand regarding the late king Bhumipol. He passed away on October 13th and today is the last day of official 50 days mourning period. It has been very painful and is a difficult time for all Thai people.

Every day of his 70 years, reigned as a king, he lived his life to be useful, a life of giving, and of serving, every single day. Not to earn praise, not to get something in return, we call him "Father", a father of unifying Thai people. How fortunate the Thai People were to have his Majesty as a king.

As we mourn for the late king passed away, May I request everyone to rise and observe a moment of silence to pay respect in remembrance of the late king Bhumipol for 30 seconds.

This time of the Atelier for Young Festival Managers program, is the most memorable period for Thai people and you can witness it, because it is the time to let go the late king and government will announce the new kindg officially tonight, after 8 p.m.

As the Government agency, under Prime Minister's office, my organization "TCEB – Thailand Convention & Exhibition Bureau" as the host of this event, we never hesitated to propose the city of Chiangmai to EFA, when bidding for this workshop to be in Thailand. Chiangmai is the best perfect fitting that integrate ART , CULTURE, PERFORMANCES, natural wonderland and a good example of THE WAY OF LIVING, and what I love the most myself about the city and people is " THE HIDDEN POWER OF CREATIVITY PEOPLE, THE MAGIC OF THE CITY. Just open your mind and I believe you all will feel the same as me that Chiangmai is an extremely artistically and visually rich city to explore.

Regarding the great collaboration from the city, I still remember last year, coming with the team to Chiangmai to talk to the artists' community, Faculty of Fine arts, Chiangmai University, and many unconventional venues, in order to prepare the best for this event.

At this occasion, I would like to thank you my Team, our advisors, all supporting partners who are dedicated to this event and I can see that we all try our utmost to prepare the best activities during your stay so that these experiences will be your memorable moment for life.

Last but not least, I cannot miss to sincerely thank you EFA and everyone of you who make the Atelier program a great gathering here this time and I wish you all an effective and productive workshop throughout this 7 days event.

Thank you for your kind attention.