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MIXED PALETTES: (Above) Competitors putting make-up on their models for the Cosmoprof Makeup Artist Awards. (Inset & right) Miss Lubna Ashiblie and Miss Kristine Lee won the Body Art/Special Effects category with their make-up which was inspired by the Day of the Dead in Mexico.

If looks could thrill

Annual competition showcases make-up artists

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She received the loudest applause and cheers, much to her surprise as it was only her second time on the runway.

Miss Fiona Tan, 29, winner of Ms Top of the World Plus Size 2016, was a model in the Bridal category at the Cosmoprof Makeup Artist Awards 2016.

The annual Cosmoprof Academy event took place last Saturday at the basement of PoMo Mall, the stage set up right outside the school.

Miss Tan told The New Paper last Saturday: "I wanted to show that even though some people are plus-sized, they can be beautiful, too. This is me supporting the plus-size community as well."

Make-up artist Suzanne Lin, 27, initially wanted to use a smaller-sized model, but changed her mind as she felt people "shouldn't judge others by their looks".

"That was why I asked Fiona to be my model," she said.

Students and ex-students of Cosmoprof took part in three categories: Bridal, Fashion and Body Art/Special Effects/Fantasy.

The contestants were given three hours to apply the make-up, style the models' hair and dress them up for the runway.

The competition also marks the 30th anniversary of Cosmoprof Academy.

Ms Angie Soon, 49, CEO of Cosmoprof Academy, said: "Cosmoprof Academy was founded by my father, Mr Peter Sng, in 1986, and we are dedicating today's event to him."

"Since this is a special day for us, the competition is bigger than the previous years. We have a bigger pool of contestants and the looks are

also more creative."

One of the eight judges for the event was The New Paper New Face 2016 winner Kim Min Pei Lam.

She told TNP: "It was tough to decide as there were many categories and the contestants all did very well."

"And since I am a model, I think from a model's perspective when I judge, such as whether the contestants take good care of the models and if the models can carry off the looks.

"I also feel that personality is a big thing, rather than judging based on purely just skills."

When asked if she preferred judging than modelling, she said: "Both are equally nice."

"But now, I understand better what a judge looks out for, so if I happen to model, I'll know what to do."

INTERESTING

Ms June Goh, 37, head of hair and make-up at Universal Studios Singapore, was also on the judging panel.

She said: "This is interesting as I've never seen such competitions before."

"The fact that these students managed to pull off different techniques of applying make-up was very impressive."

Miss Lubna Ashiblie, 23, and Miss Kristine Lee, 32, graduates of Diploma in Professional Makeup Artistry this year, were the winners of the Body Art/Special Effects/Fantasy category.

Miss Ashiblie said: "The look was inspired by the Day of the Dead in Mexico, and we wanted it to be just like La Catrina, a Mexican female who represents death, with elaborate details such as her jewelled mouth and her transformation from human to skeleton."

The winner of the Fashion category, Mrs Wui Siew Kin, 28, spent many



BEAUTIFUL: (Left) Miss Fiona Tan, a model in the Bridal category. (Above) Mrs Wui Siew Kin applying make-up on her model. PHOTOS: ARIFFIN JAMAR, COSMOPROF ACADEMY

nights creating the look.

The Diploma in Professional Makeup Artistry graduate said: "I'm intrigued by galaxies and the avant-garde look, that's why the make-up was blue and purple."

"During the one month of preparation, it was difficult as I had to practise on so many model dummies while imagining my model's face on it, hoping that it would suit her."

"Well, it finally paid off."

Mrs Amelia Azwar, 37, a student pursuing the same diploma as Mrs Wui, was the winner of the Bridal

category.

According to Ms Soon, bridal make-up is a tough category.

"Bridal make-up is the bread and butter of every make-up artist. The looks may be simple, but a lot goes into it," she said.

Mrs Azwar, a make-up artist of four years for events and birthday parties, said about her win: "I want the look to be soft and simple, but also incorporating the look of all the races into it."

"I went with my heart and tried not to stress out too much."