

U Got Talent

The Best Of Labour Movement's Talents Sing The Blues Away



Idol Trivia... Did you know that U Fame Awards 2009 winner Mohammad Indra was the winner of Anugerah back in 2001?



By
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There was a hint of Richard Marx, Zhang Hui Mei and M Nasir all in the house at Downtown East on 10 January 2009 when 13 finalists from the U Fame Awards 2009 Grand Final brought the house down with their powerful vocal chords.

Fuelled by their supporters' whistling and cheers, these union idols belted out one hit after another for two hours as they sang the economic blues away. This year's event saw a stronger field of contestants, according to one of the judges, Ann Hussein, herself a previous winner of English Talentime in 1980. The stronger talent pool gave the seven judges, all talented musicians in their own right, and the audience, a headache in picking a winner. The judges' scores made up 60 per cent of the overall score, while the audience votes' contributed to the remaining 40 per cent.



Die Hard Fans... DBSSU supporters throw their voices behind Lim Qin Yin.

In the end, Mohammad Indra Hamzah of the Singapore Teachers' Union melted everyone's hearts with his soulful rendition of Celine Dion's "I Surrender" and Alicia Keys' "No One", to be crowned winner of the U Fame Awards and becoming the Labour Movement's very own "Idol".

Mr Mohammad Indra said: "The support was overwhelming. I was a bundle of nerves on stage but the encouragement from the STU and Educare supporters helped to calm my nerves. I did not expect so many of them to be here cheering me on. Even some of the other unions' supporters complimented me and

voted for me. I'm so glad that my union was here to give me the moral support and that helped me to deliver as best a performance as I was able to."

STU President Mike Thiruman was full of praise for Mr Mohammad Indra as well.

"Indra's win was well deserved as he has the talent and worked hard. Indra's crowning as the 'LM Idol' is testament to his ability, perseverance and commitment. STU and Educare are indeed proud of both our finalists – Indra and Fara Abdul," said Mr Thiruman.

This is the second year that U Fame Awards was organised by NTUC Club. This year's event saw an initial 250 contestants from 34 unions battle it out to be the Labour Movement's top crooner.



It's All About Having Fun... Young and old, they all came to Downtown East to let their hair down and cheer on their union idols.