

Music awards

FACULTY members from America's Berklee College of Music were in Kuala Lumpur recently to conduct auditions and clinics as part of the Berklee World Scholarship Tour.

The annual event draws music students vying for scholarships from the region and this year's auditions saw over 70 individuals from Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, India, Hong Kong and China.

ICOM is presently the only college

in Southeast Asia and Australia to have secured an agreement with Berklee. Its students spend about two years at its Kuala Lumpur campus and another two in the United States to complete their Bachelor of Music Degree.

Every year, faculty members visit more than 40 cities throughout the United States, Europe, Asia and Latin America in search of talented instrumentalists and vocalists, an effort that is supported by US\$20mil

(RM73mil) in scholarship funds.

The auditions are designed to gauge the applicant's musical strengths while the interview process helps the college assess the individual's aptitude and ability to succeed in her/his chosen programme.

The clinics on performance, composition and arranging were conducted by Berklee's faculty members and musicians Christine Fawson and Bob Pilkington.