

THIS year marks Toyota Classics' quarter-century celebration of the project with "Music that Moves Lives" — a concert that blends classical orchestra music with the glamour of the silver screen.

The corporate social responsibility project has amassed more than RM7mil and contributed to 56 non-profit and charitable organisations in Malaysia over the years.

This year's event saw renowned Covent Garden Soloists Orchestra featuring founder Vasko Vassilev and the prolific Pamela Tan-Nicholson.

The event was held at Dewan Filharmonik Petronas and proceeds from ticket sales will go to the Lung Foundation of Malaysia (LFM), National Kidney Foundation of Malaysia (NKF), Pertubuhan Kebajikan, Perlindungan Nur Qaseh Malaysia and Yayasan Islam Darul Ehsan (YIDE).

Established in November 2005, the LFM is a non-profit foundation that contributes towards improving care and treatment standards for patients with lung diseases.

"The LFM seeks to achieve a paradigm shift by increasing public awareness and knowledge on lung diseases.

"We hope UMW Toyota Motor, will help us purchase respiratory support equipment.

"This is to support our less fortunate patients who cannot afford to buy this equipment," said Lung Foundation of Malaysia board member Datuk Dr Aziah Ahmad

Orchestra touching lives far beyond stage

Proceeds from classical music fundraiser to be channelled to five NGOs

Mahayiddin.

NKF chief executive officer Chua Chong Hee said the foundation was attempting to be a one-stop national resource centre for the prevention and treatment of kidney diseases.

"With the proceeds from the Toyota Classics, we hope to ensure the continued good health and well-being of patients by acquiring a van so we can carry out mobile health screenings for early detection," he said.

Pertubuhan Kebajikan dan Perlindungan Nur Qaseh Malaysia houses 120 orphans below the age of 13 from the Klang Valley.

"We aim to ensure that individuals, especially children who live in the shelters, can experience life and procure an education that is parallel to the nation's inspiration and aspirations," said Norshahida Khalid, who is assistant to the founder of Pertubuhan Kebajikan Dan Perlindungan Nur Qaseh Malaysia.

"With the proceeds from the gala night, we hope to acquire a vehicle so that we will be able to provide transport for the children.

"This mobility would mean the world to us," Norshahida said.

YIDE is a relatively young foundation established in 2012 to provide medical care and treatment and to offer educational assistance to the poor.

YIDE manages five dialysis centres that benefit 220 kidney patients with 47 dialysis machines available and provides transportation to the patients from their homes to the dialysis centre and back.

The Toyota Classics is among the longest-running classical music fundraisers in Malaysia.

"With this 25th anniversary of the Toyota Classics, UMW Toyota Motor hopes to expand the frontiers of classical orchestra with a musical extravaganza that will truly touch lives, far beyond the stage," said UMW Toyota Motor president Datuk Ismet Suki.



On cue: Conductor Miguel Angel Navarro participated in this year's Toyota Classics orchestra.