

7th August 2021

Serena Corporate

**Serena hosts Musical Grand Finale of Sarangi Season 5**

A star-studded grand finale event was held on Friday evening at Serena Hotels to conclude the Season 5 of Serena Hotel’s Sarangi countrywide music talent hunt competition.

The event, held with full COVID-19 SOPs including social distancing and vaccination card checks, was attended by prominent members of the diplomatic corps, business community and Islamabad society gathered to listen to the musical performances and the announcement of the winner.

First Lady Samina Alvi along with jury members Shehzad Roy and Sarmad Ghafoor as well as CEO Serena Hotels Aziz Boolani jointly announced the results. The judges declared the contest a tie between Ali Baloch from Islamabad and Ghayas Haider from Lahore.

A call for submissions had been given earlier this year through Serena Hotel’s social media platforms as a result of which 5 talented contestants, hailing from diverse backgrounds and different parts of the country, were shortlisted for the grand finale. The contestants also included Ayesha Afzal from Pakpattan, Adden Sohail from Faisalabad and Fida Mughal from Neelum Valley, Kashmir.

This year’s Sarangi jury panel once again consisted of renowned figures of music industry including singers Shezad Roy andZoe Viccajiand music producer Sarmad Ghafoor.

Sarangi is a cultural diplomacy initiative of Serena Hotelsand aims to promote the arts and culture of Pakistan. Since its inception in 2017, the Sarangi initiative has given a large pool of promising musical talent from around the country a platform to be discovered, polished and become the nation’s rising star. Ayesha Rasheed from Lahore, who was the winner of Sarangi Season 4, also performed a powerful rendition of “Lambi Judai” on the occasion. Shehzad Roy said, “I am blown away by the talent that is to be found all over Pakistan.