



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Caraga Region XIII
Butuan City



REGIONAL ADVISORY No. 89, s., 2018

To : Schools Division Superintendents
School Heads
This Region

From : *[Signature]*
BEATRIZ G. TORNO, Ph.D., CESO IV
Regional Director

Subject : **Endorsement to Hold the Eleventh leg of the Visayas and
Mindanao Debate Championship (VMDC)**

Date : July 5, 2018

Endorsing herewith the request of Surigao Youth Convergence and Father Saturnino Urios University to hold the eleventh leg of the Visayas and Mindanao Debate Championship (VMDC) in Butuan City.

All Schools Division Superintendents are encouraged to support the said activity by encouraging private and public secondary schools in their respective divisions to participate in this year's debate tournament in Butuan City provided the following DepEd Policies are not violated:

- a. NO SUSPENSION OF CLASSES POLICY
- b. NO COLLECTION POLICY

For more details, please refer to the attached request letter from Surigao Youth Convergence.

Your support to this endeavor is appreciated.

SURIGAO YOUTH CONVERGENCE

NETWORK OF YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS IN SURIGAO FOR DEVELOPMENT



July 2, 2018

BEATRIZ G. TORNO, Ph.D., CESO III
Regional Director
Department of Education - Caraga
Butuan City

Dear Director Torno:

Greetings of Peace!

The Surigao Youth Convergence together with the Father Saturnino Urios University will be hosting a debate tournament in Butuan City on its eleventh year. This Annual debate championship, dubbed as the Visayas-Mindanao Debate Championship, is open to High School and College students from public and private high schools and colleges in the islands of Mindanao and Visayas – thus includes Caraga Region.

For this year the elimination and final rounds for the High School and College Category will be held on August 23-26, 2018 at FSUU Campus. The Debate will be using the British Parliamentary Debate Format.

In view of this, may we request your good office for an ENDORSEMENT to hold the eleventh leg of the VISAYAS MINDANAO DEBATE CHAMPIONSHIP (VMDC) on the date indicated above to your institutional constituents to join the said competitions? Attached is a copy of the Program of Activities and the concept note for your perusal.

The undersigned would be much willing to discuss with you the possible partnership with regards to the subject above. You can contact us at +639 17 841 0973 or surigaoyouthconvergence@gmail.com. Also attached is our organizational background for your information.

Furthermore, we respectfully request your valuable presence during the event.

May this request for endorsement and your valuable presence merit your consideration.

Very truly yours,

RAXIBEY G. ADOLFO

Executive Director, Surigao Youth Convergence
Tournament Co-convener
Visayas – Mindanao Debate Championship (VMDC)

ESD - Dr. Manny

Ph. Beatriz / endorse



BP 7/2/18

11TH VISAYAS-MINDANAO DEBATE CHAMPIONSHIP
CONCEPT NOTE

August 23-26, 2018

Father Saturnino Urios University, Butuan City, Philippines

Tournament Details

The 11th edition of the annual Visayas-Mindanao Debate Championship (VMDC) is hosted by Surigao Youth Convergence in partnership with Father Saturnino Urios University. VMDC is a debate tournament open to secondary- and tertiary-level institutions in the Visayas and Mindanao circuits, and uses the British Parliamentary Debate format in rounds.

Eligibility of Participants

The following are eligible to compete in the 11th VMDC:

- Bona fide High School, Senior High School, and College students of institutions in the Visayas and Mindanao area;
- Adjudicators, which includes students competing as judges, independent adjudicators unaffiliated with any institution, and subsidized adjudicators; and
- Coaches, teachers, or trainers of the abovementioned students who may serve as adjudicators, or otherwise spectate.

Furthermore, the tournament shall cap at 80 teams and each institution shall only be allowed a maximum of six (6) teams.

Debate Rounds

The 11th VMDC will have five (5) elimination rounds followed by outrounds leading to the Finals. All registered teams are entitled to compete in all rounds of the elimination series, where they may potentially face teams from their own institution or teams from the other category.

Each room in the tournament will have four teams, Opening Government, Opening Opposition, Closing Government, and Closing Opposition; each consisting of two debaters who are allotted 7-minute speeches. Teams are allotted 15 minutes to prepare their speeches starting from the release of motions until the debate is called to order.

Qualification for the outrounds ("breaks") would be determined by each team's number of wins and cumulative speaker scores. Separate breaks for High School (inclusive of both Junior High School and Senior High School) and College teams will be observed. The number of breaking teams will be determined by the Visayas-Mindanao Parliamentary Debate Union with respect to tournament turnout.

Outrounds shall be conducted to determine which teams advance to the finals. There shall be separate outrounds and final rounds for the High School and College categories, wherein the respective categories' champions and Best Speakers would be recognized.

Motions

Topics to be debated ("motions") shall be formulated by the VMDC Adjudication Core previously elected by the Union. Motions will cover a wide range of subjects ranging from Economics to Social Movements related to current events and issues, at the discretion of the Adjudication Core.

Motions will only be released 15 minutes before the start of the debate to allow for preparation.

Adjudication

Each team must register one adjudicator to ensure a decent pool of judges. Teams that have missing judges shall be assessed a fine.

Judges shall be allocated to each round in the tournament. Adjudication shall be done either by a single judge or by panel as allocated by the Adjudication Core. Students, coaches, and career adjudicators may serve as judges for the 11th VMDC.

All competing adjudicators registered in the tournament shall undertake an adjudication test designed to measure each judge's competency and knowledge in debate & adjudication. The test shall affect judge allocations throughout the tournament. Failure to attend the adjudication test shall result in the absent judge becoming a trainee for the first round.

Results of debate rounds shall be determined by consensus. After each round, judges will convene to discuss the results of the round. Judges are responsible for ranking each team according to their performance in each round.

Adjudicators may not judge any team with debaters they have or had a significant relationship with. Grounds for a conflict of interest include a coach-trainee or teacher-student relationship, financial obligations to/from the debater, former or current romantic relationships, previously or currently sharing the same institution, and being within the third degree of consanguinity with the debater. Judges have the responsibility to declare any conflicts of interest before the rounds.

The decisions of adjudicators shall be final and irrevocable.

Registration Packages

A. STAY-IN PACKAGE	B. STAY-OUT PACKAGE
Individual Registration Fee: <u>P4,000</u>	Individual Registration Fee: <u>P2,800</u>
Team Registration Fee: <u>P11,400</u> (early bird) Good for two debaters + 1 adjudicator	Team Registration Fee: <u>P7,800</u> (early bird) Good for two debaters + 1 adjudicator
Inclusive of : • Accommodations for 4 nights • Meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner) • Admission to Socials Night • Debate kit and ID • Transportation within the city	Inclusive of : • Meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner) • Admission to Socials Night • Debate kit and ID • Transportation within the city

Registration phases are:

Phase 1 (June 1-30):

Preregistration. Teams must reg online at <https://goo.gl/forms/S9By9fm8TLLBMP5x1>.

Phase 2 (July 1-31):

Payment of 50% of registration fee. Teams may still register provided they pay half of the registration fee within Phase 2.

Phase 3 (August 1-20):

Payment of the remainder of the registration fee. At this point,, new participants shall be assessed a penalty for late registration.

11TH VISAYAS-MINDANAO DEBATE CHAMPIONSHIP
Schedule of Activities

Day 1 – August 23, 2018

12:00-2:00 pm	Arrival and Registration
2:00-6:00 pm	Opening Ceremony, Adjudication Exam and Seminar
6:00-9:00 pm	Opening Dinner

Day 2 – August 24, 2018

7:30-8:30 am	Breakfast
8:30-9:00 am	Discussion of Adjudication Exam results
9:00-11:00 am	Round 1
11:00-12:00 pm	Lunch
12:00-2:00 pm	Round 2
2:00-3:00 pm	Tabulation
3:00-5:00 pm	Round 3
6:00 pm	Dinner

Day 3 – August 25, 2018

8:00-9:00 am	Breakfast
9:00-11:00 am	Round 4
11:00-12:00 pm	Lunch
12:00-2:00 pm	Round 5
2:00-3:00 pm	Tabulation
3:00-6:00 pm	Free time & preparation for Break Night
6:00 pm	Break Night

Day 4 – August 26, 2018

8:00-9:00 am	Breakfast
9:00-11:00 am	Outrounds
11:00-12:00 pm	Lunch
12:00-4:00 pm	Outrounds
4:00-6:00 pm	Free time & preparation for Championship Dinner
7:00 pm	Championship Dinner & Closing Ceremony



SURIGAO YOUTH CONVERGENCE

2nd floor City Health Bldg., Paruccho St., Surigao City

surigaoyouthconvergence@gmail.com

ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

Surigao Youth Convergence is a nonprofit non-governmental organization founded, led, and composed by young people from Surigao del Norte, Philippines. Registered under Securities and Exchange Commission and is a partner to quite a number of organizations in the province and beyond. The organization seeks to incorporate these seven focused issues taken from the United Nations' sustainable development goals – health, education and youth participation, poverty alleviation, environment, employment, human rights, and peace and development – to the province of Surigao del Norte with young people as the crucial players in their integration. SYG organized a project for each of these goals to attain more efficiently its objectives. For the climate action, for instance, SYG has established the Cellophane and Plastic Free Surigao Campaign to free the city from the destructive effects of plastic usage. SYG penned down objectives to achieve in the realization of the project. The campaign's objectives include media engagements to promote the campaign, school-to-school caravan, research on the availability of the ordinance, and policy advocacy on the total ban of cellophane and plastic. The organization have organized 7 peace caravans throughout the province of Surigao del Norte bringing the idealism that peace should be understood of this generation so they can bring peace in the future. We also have organized a Debate competition that aims to develop young people's critical thinking skills and to also be able to knowledgeable of the societal issues nowadays. The organization also partnered with other local organizations to conduct programs and advocacies for young people's development.

SYG continues to strive to accomplish these objectives while working simultaneously but carefully on the other projects on the other focused issues. The financial incapacity of the organization is impeding the full progress of its projects, however, SYG partners with different organizations and donors that willingly back the financial facet of the projects. The organization also constantly looks for other ways to support its projects through tapping partnerships and exposing the organization to the local government and on social media through small-scale activities like tree planting activities, clean-up drives, and public speaking training sessions. SYG has succeeded in the attainment of its objectives due to untiring commitment of the people who compose the team. The donors and the partners of the organization have also been very generous in providing scaffold. Despite the setbacks caused primarily by financial incapacity, SYG eagerly strives to look for people and partners to move forward with. With everybody's commitment to volunteerism and community work, the SYG is optimistic about what the future has in store.

OUR TEAM

1. Raxiey Adolfo, Executive Director

Raxiey Adolfo is young advocate committed to bringing social change in his country. He is a graduate of Bachelor of Science in International Relations major in Diplomacy from Mindanao State University in the Philippines with eleven distinguished awards. He also graduated to a short course on Civic Ecology administered by Cornell University and the Embassy of United States of America in the Philippines. He is also the co-founder and commissioner on human rights of the International Youth United. He formerly worked as a researcher in the Ateneo de Manila University School of Government and as a Customer Service Executive at Barclays Bank UK based in the Philippines.



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2. Estela Marie Vallespin, Executive Secretary

Estela Marie Vallespin is a graduate from Cebu Normal University with an arts degree in English major in Language. She was one of the country's representatives in the Temasek Foundation – Specialists' Community Action and Leadership Exchange which was held for three weeks in Singapore in 2015. She is a fierce advocate of environmentalism and women's rights. She was the editor-in-chief of her secondary school's school newspaper during her senior. Currently, she is the president of Surigao Youth Center and works as a Content Writer in a private ESL company.

3. Oliver Ong Salino, Director for Communications

Oliver Ong Salino works as a Regional Training Specialist under the Capacity Building Unit of DSWD Field Office Caraga. He is currently the Caraga Regional Convener of the 11th Parliament of Youth Leaders. He is a former College Instructor at St. Paul University Surigao. He graduated from Mindanao State University with an arts degree in Communication.

4. Ace Justin Resare, Director for External Relations

Ace Justin Resare is a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education major in Biological Science from Surigao State College of Technology with leadership awards. He is a licensed Professional Teacher with the registration number 1433940. He is an advocate of Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health, a staunch environmentalist, and an active volunteer of youth and social development programs. He is currently the president of the Rotaract Club of Metro Surigao and is a Board of Director of Surigao Youth Center. At present, he works as a Guest Lecturer in Biology at Surigao State College of Technology.

5. Jean Daryl Ampong, Director for Programs and Advocacy

Jean Daryl is a young woman leader committed to inspiring all young people to serve, learn and make a difference. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education major in English from Surigao State College of Technology and currently taking her Master of Arts in Education major in English. She is committed to inspiring all young people to serve, learn and make a difference. She is an advocate of adolescent sexual and reproductive health rights and of women's rights. During her college years, she became the president of Surigao Youth Center and became part of the Mindanao Commission on Women as the youth coordinator of Surigao del Norte core group. At present, she is the director for programs and advocacy of Surigao Youth Convergence, the organization she co-founded and one of the board directors of Surigao Youth Center. She is also the Alternate National Youth Representative of Family Planning Organization of the Philippines. Currently, she works as a guest lecturer in one of the state colleges in her city teaching English and Literature subjects.

6. Krystel Grace Calderon, Director for Membership

Krystel is a young professional dedicated in advocacies such as youth empowerment, climate change awareness, women empowerment and helping the less fortunate children and families. She is a graduate of AB Communication Studies major in Development Communication at Mindanao State University. She is currently a sophomore law student at San Sebastian College Recoletos-San Sebastian Institute of Law, Surigao City. She is a Public Senior High School Teacher at



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Surigao del Norte National High School teaching Humanities and English Core Subjects. She has been a very active member of the Youth For Christ, a religious youth organization. This became her foundation in having a heart in championing the poor. She was an active student leader in her college years as she was the Department President of Communication Studies in 2012-2013. She was also an active member of various NGOs in Marawi City dedicated in helping the underdeveloped cities and municipalities. Aside from her professional work, she is also spending her vacant time in her own personal campaign, the Kalipay Campaign, which gives bundles of joy and organizes feeding programs to the Indigenous People in the community of Surigao

7. Remuel Coles, Director for Training and Development

Remuel is a graduate of Bachelor of Secondary Education with specialization in English at Surigao State College of Technology, Main Campus, Surigao City. He finished his degree with honors and leadership awards. He obtained his Master's Degree in Education and is currently connected as College Instructor at his tertiary Alma Mater. With his passion to service and leadership, he has been an advocate of inclusive education and youth empowerment deemed quintessential toward progressive communities and effective national and local government landscapes. As to his leadership experience and social responsibility, he was once elected as President of various academic and socio-civic organizations such as Federated Supreme Student Government, Caraga Federation of Student Leaders, and Rotaract Club of Metro Surigao.

8. Efren Lili, Director for Finance

He is a graduate of Accountancy from Saint Paul University Surigao and has the passion in serving and helping the community in the grassroots by providing them sustainable livelihood and financial literacy. Efren is a debater and an outstanding student leader duly awarded by the Rotary of Butuan City as the Most Outstanding Students in Caraga year 2015.