

Republika ng Pilipinas  
(Republic of the Philippines)  
MINISTRI NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS  
(MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS)  
Maynila

September 30, 1985

MECS M E M O R A N D U M  
No. 148, s. 1985

POETRY REVIVAL

To: Bureau Directors  
Regional Directors  
Schools Superintendents  
Presidents, State Colleges and Universities  
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

1. Conformably with Presidential Proclamation No. 2439 dated August 15, 1985, National Poetry Week shall be observed on November 18-24 this year and every year thereafter.
2. The annual National Poetry Week, a fitting celebration in recognition of the creative soul and poetic spirit of the Filipino, is intended to:  
(a) honor the Filipino poets and (b) promote their literary works which embody the dreams, ideals and aspirations of the Filipino people.
3. Following are suggested activities that may be undertaken throughout the month of November, culminating in a school-wide program on November 18-24 with the participation of parents and the community:
  - a. Focusing language lessons in English and Filipino on the study of poetry to develop love of and appreciation for the subject.
  - b. Encouraging students to read and write poetry, organizing speech choirs, poetry clubs, etc., according to age groups.
  - c. Writing poetry; all poems written by the pupils to be read in class and collected in a scrapbook.
  - d. Collecting well-loved poems in a scrapbook arranged according to subject, e.g., science, nature, love of country, people, animals, health, culture, etc.
  - e. Interpreting poems in collaboration with the Art and Music classes.
  - f. Involving the radio and T.V. in mounting poetry-focused programs.
  - g. Encouraging Balagtasan and its regional equivalent among the older groups of students/persons.
  - h. Conducting poetry contests in the school and possibly between schools, school divisions in a region.







- i. Listening to local poets read their poetry or talk about writing poetry.
- j. Singing and collecting poems set to music, e.g. "Trees" by Joyce Kilmer.
- k. Reading about the lives of great poets here and abroad with emphasis on the former.
- l. Studying and memorizing portions of poems that essay thoughts that enrich and inspire people.

4. All schools both public and private in all curriculum levels are enjoined to participate in the observance of the Week. The schools should encourage school children and their families to participate in the celebration to provide a means of developing further the creativity and the poetic spirit of the Filipino.

5. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memo is desired.

(SGD.) JAIME C. LAYA  
Minister

Reference:

BFS Memorandum No. 122, s. 1987

Allotment: 1-2-3-4--(D.O. 1-76)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS  
COMMUNICATION ARTS  
CONTEST  
SCHOOLS





