



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS
Meralco Avenue, Pasig City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

May 13, 1997

DECS MEMORANDUM
No. 179, s. 1997

1997 NATIONAL ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION ON MIGRATION

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

1. The Commission on Filipino Overseas (CFO), in coordination with the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS), will conduct the 1997 National Essay Writing Competition on Migration.

2. The competition, with the theme "Understanding Migration in a Changing World" aims to: a) provide an opportunity for the Filipino youth to articulate their thoughts and ideas on migration; b) enhance awareness among the youth on migration related issues and concerns; c) motivate the youth to understand development abroad and what they mean to Filipinos; and d) harness and develop the literary and writing skills of the youth. Further, it hopes to bring about a clearer picture of the youth's perception of migration and other related concerns.

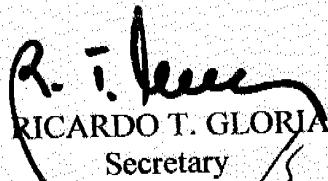
3. The contest is open to all bonafide elementary and high school students in both public and private schools. Inclosed are the mechanics of the competition for reference and guidance of all concerned.

4. Deadline for submission of entries is on October 31, 1997. Mailed entries should be postmarked not later than the deadline set. Entries must be sent to this Office; Attn: Office of the Technical Service, DECS, UL Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City.

5. For further information, inquiries may be sent to:

The Secretariat
1997 National Essay Writing Competition
Commission on Filipino Overseas
1-7/F Citigold Center, 1345 Quirino Avenue
cor. South Superhighway, Manila
Tel. Nos. 562-3852/53 and 561-8328

6. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum to all concerned is desired.


RICARDO T. GLORIA
Secretary

*WGA
12.13.97*

Reference:
None

Allotment: 1-2-4--(M.O. 1-87)

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

CONTESTS
STUDENTS

(Inclousure to DECS Memorandum No. 179, s 1997)

1997 NATIONAL ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

RAIIIONAI E

Since 1988 the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) has been conducting information campaigns on migration in various provinces in the country particularly in areas where the greater number of Filipino migrants come from. These campaigns are intended to raise awareness among the public on migration related concerns with the end view of helping them come up with well informed decisions relative to migration. These campaigns are also part of the government's strategy to prepare future migrants and their families to deal with inherent difficulties in migration.

In its effort to enhance the information campaigns the CFO is launching the 1997 National Essay Writing Competition on migration to gather insights from students across the country on this global reality and at the same time determine the levels of their understanding of the issues evolving from the migration of Filipinos to other nations. The competition which will revolve on the theme, *Understanding Migration in a Changing World* hopes to bring about a clearer picture of the youth's perception of this phenomenon given the diversity of their regional backgrounds. It is also expected to generate significant inputs to the initiative of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Education, Culture and Sports and the Department of Labor and Employment to include a module on migration in certain subjects in the elementary and high school curricula.

OBJECTIVFS

The essay writing competition seeks to

- Provide an opportunity for the youth to articulate their thoughts and ideas on migration
- Enhance awareness among the youth on migration related issues and concerns
- Motivate the youth to understand developments abroad and what they mean to Filipinos and
- Harness and develop the literary and writing skills of the youth

STRATEGIFS OF IMPI EMENTATION

A Target Participants

All bonafide elementary, high school and college students in the country.

B Division

There will be three divisions: elementary, high school and college divisions. Participants may write in either English or Filipino. Only one entry per student will be allowed.

The essay should focus on the perceptions of the younger generation of Filipinos on international migration and their response to this global phenomenon. In the elementary and high school divisions, students should write an informal type of essay on migration based on personal opinion or experiences. In the college division, students should write

a formal type of essay that includes researched information, facts or data on migration and the meaning of this global phenomenon to Filipinos. Both types of essay must be written along the theme, *Understanding Migration in a Changing World*.

C. Promotional Strategies

To ensure a strong public support in the full implementation of this project, the CFO proposes the following strategies:

1. Coordinate with the Department of Education, Culture & Sports (DECS), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and associations of private schools for the issuance of memorandum circulars to encourage the active participation of all educational institutions in the country;
2. Intensively promote the program during the conduct of the inter-agency information campaign in the provinces; and
3. Tap the assistance of the Philippine Information Agency to mobilize media in the information dissemination for the project.

D. Conduct of the Competition

The contest will start at the beginning of school year 1997-1998. Through the DECS, CHED, and associations of private schools, the CFO will invite public and private schools to encourage their students to participate in the contest. Deadline for submission of entries will be on 31 October 1997. Mailed entries should be postmarked not later than 31 October 1997.

E. Judging of Entries

Winners will be chosen by a panel of judges according to the following criteria:

- | | | |
|--|---|-----|
| a. Content and relevance to the theme | - | 50% |
| b. Organization (clarity of message and coherence) | - | 30% |
| c. Creative presentation and over-all impact | - | 20% |

The panel of judges, one for the elementary and high school divisions and another for the college division, will choose the top three (3) essays for every division in each of the four geographic areas-- Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao, and Metro Manila. The entries and ratings of the finalists (12 in the elementary, 12 in the high school, and 12 in the college divisions) will be further reviewed and evaluated by the judges. The entry which garners the highest percentage score from among the finalists per division will be declared as the national winners. In addition, second and third prize winners from each division will also be chosen. Please refer to Annex A for Rules and Guidelines of the Essay Writing Competition.

All winners will be notified through mail. Awarding ceremonies will be held in Manila in December 1997 to coincide with the commemoration of the *Month of Overseas Filipinos*.

F. Panel of Judges

The following are the proposed members of the panel of judges:

Elementary & High School Levels

- Chairperson - Representative, Department of Education, Culture & Sports
- Member - Representative, Department of Foreign Affairs
- Member - Representative, Non-Governmental Organizations
- Member - Representative, Academe
- Member - Representative, Commission on Filipinos Overseas

College Level

- Chairperson - Representative, Department of Foreign Affairs
- Member - Representative, Commission on Higher Education
- Member - Representative, Carlos Palanca Foundation
- Member - Representative, National Commission on Culture & Arts
- Member - Representative, Commission on Filipinos Overseas

G. Prizing Scheme

There will be three (3) national winners, one each from the elementary, high school, and college divisions. Second and third place winners will also be chosen in each of the divisions. The finalists will be given certificates of appreciation. The schools from which the national winners come from will also receive prizes in the form of educational materials. The following is the prizing scheme:

National Winners

1. *Elementary Division:* P7,000 Cash
Free trip for two (2) to Manila
Plaque of Recognition

For the School: P3,000 worth of educational materials
2. *High School Division:* P10,000 Cash
Free trip for two (2) to Manila
Plaque of Recognition

For the School: P5,000 worth of educational materials
3. *College Division:* P15,000 Cash
Free trip for two (2) to Manila
Plaque of Recognition

For the School: P10,000 worth of educational materials

	<u>2nd Place Winners</u>	<u>3rd Place Winners</u>
1. <i>Elementary Division:</i>	P5,000 Cash Plaque of Recognition	P3,000 Cash Plaque of Recognition
2. <i>High School Division:</i>	P7,000 Cash Plaque of Recognition	P5,000 Cash Plaque of Recognition
3. <i>College Division:</i>	P12,000 Cash Plaque of Recognition	P10,000 Cash Plaque of Recognition

Note: The prize of roundtrip ticket to Manila covers only travel expenses of the national winners and one (1) member of his/her family. This will be given only if the winner comes from outside the Metro Manila area. Said prize, which is equivalent to the actual airline ticket (economy) and/or airconditioned bus fare, is also non-transferable and non-convertible into cash. This will be used by the winner and one (1) member of his/her family during the trip from his/her residence to Manila for the awarding ceremony in December 1997.

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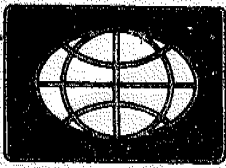
Commission on Filipinos Overseas
1997 NATIONAL ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. The contest is open to all bonafide elementary, high school and college students in public or private schools.
2. Entries must be written either in English or Filipino, typewritten (double space) on 8.5" x 11" bond paper. Entries in the elementary division must contain not less than 250 words; for the high school division, at least 500 words; and for the college division, at least 1,000 words but not more than 1,500 words. Only one entry per student will be allowed.
3. In the elementary and high school divisions, contestants should write an informal type of essay on migration based on personal opinion or experiences. In the college division, contestants should write a formal type of essay includes researched information, facts or data on migration, and the meaning of this global phenomenon to Filipinos. Both types of essay must be written along the theme, *Understanding Migration in a Changing World*.
4. The contestant should not write his/her name on the entry. The entry must be submitted together with a one-page personal data sheet, indicating the following: (a) complete name, (b) age, (c) school, (d) grade or year level, (e) residence address, (f) telephone number of the contestant or the school, and (g) certification/endorsement from the school that the contestant is currently enrolled.
5. Entries will be judged according to the following criteria: content and relevance to the theme (50%), clarity of message and coherence (30%), and creative presentation and over-all impact (20%).
6. Entries will be judged by a Panel of Judges composed of representatives from the government agencies, non-government organizations, and the private sector.
7. Deadline for submission of entries is on 31 October 1997. Mailed entries should be postmarked not later than 31 October 1997. All entries, together with the contestant's personal data sheet, must be sent to:

*The Secretariat
1997 National Essay Writing Competition
Commission on Filipinos Overseas
1-7/F Citigold Center, 1345 Quirino Avenue, corner
South Superhighway, Manila*

8. The decision of the Panel of Judges shall be final and binding.
9. All winning entries will become the property of the Commission on Filipinos Overseas.



Department of Foreign Affairs
COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS

05 March 1997

Dear Secretary Gloria:

The Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) will be conducting the 1997 National Essay Writing Competition on Migration to provide an opportunity for the Filipino youth to articulate their thoughts and ideas on migration. Bearing the theme, *Understanding Migration in a Changing World*, the contest hopes to bring about a clearer picture of the youth's perception of migration, and what this phenomenon means to them given their diverse regional background. The essay contest is also expected to generate significant inputs to the initiative of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS), and the Department of Labor and Employment to include a module on migration in certain subjects in the elementary and high school curricula.

To ensure the success of this undertaking, the CFO would like to request the support of the DECS by encouraging students in the elementary and secondary educational institutions in the country to actively participate in the contest. Attached, for your reference, is a copy of the concept paper of the National Essay Writing Competition on Migration.

May we also invite a representative from the DECS to sit as Chairman of the Panel of Judges for the Elementary/High School Division of the said competition. It will be greatly appreciated if the name of the DECS representative can be sent to the CFO on or before 18 March 1997.

Mr. Joemare Rano Dema-ala of the CFO will be coordinating with your office regarding this request. He can be reached through telephone numbers 562-3852/53 and 561-8328 or through facsimile number 561-8332.

We look forward to your support and cooperation in this effort to better understand the thinking of the youth on migration.

Thank you and best regards.

Very truly yours,


JOSE Z. MOLANO, JR.
Executive Director

HON. RICARDO GLORIA

Secretary

Department of Education, Culture, and Sports
University of Life Complex, Pasig City

Attention : Dr. Ma. Lourdes V. Macatangay
Director
Technical Service, DECS