



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS

DECS Complex, Meralco Avenue
Pasig City, Philippines



*Sama-Sama
sa DECS*

*Tanggapan ng Kalihim
Office of the Secretary*

URGENT

January 27, 1998

DECS MEMORANDUM
No. 31, s. 1998

WORLD EXHIBITION OF CHILDREN'S POETRY

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Superintendents

1. In line with the celebration of its 21st Founding Anniversary, the World Poetry Childhood Day, a Section of the International Honor of Poetry, Brussels, Belgium, is sponsoring a World Exhibition of Children's Poetry and a Poetry competition on the subject "The Voice of the World's Children" and "A Smile for the World," respectively.
2. The contest aims to:
 - a. stimulate the imagination of children and foster poetic creativeness;
 - b. create world solidarity among as large a number of children as possible; and
 - c. offer children a poetic activities campaign.
3. The contest is open to children under thirteen (13) years of age. For detailed information on contest rules and mechanics, please refer to the attached contest guidelines.
4. Compositions should be submitted at the Office of the Undersecretary for Programs (Attention: Dr. Imelda Colmenar-Stuckle) on or before March 1, 1998.
5. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum to all concerned is desired.


RICARDO T. GLORIA
Secretary

Incl.:

As stated

Reference:

None

Allotment: 1--(D.O. 50-97)

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

CONTESTS

PUPILS

TEACHERS

PROPOSITION OF PARTICIPATION

We suggest that in each country :

- in favour of the World Poetry-Childhood Day, on 21 March 1998, children will be asked to participate in a poetry-contest with the theme :

"A smile for the world"

- teachers and animators will induce a reflexion on the theme.

- laureates will receive an award enabling them to experience an exceptional moment.

- a choice will be made between the winning poems of the country and that all the individual texts or collective works made on the above mentioned theme will be sent to us.

We would like to receive if possible at least 50 illustrated poems per country (minimum format : 40 X 60 cm). This selection should reach us before 1 March 1998 at the following address :

**WORLD POETRY-CHILDHOOD DAY
150 Chaussée de Wavre
1050 Brussels - Belgium**

A choice will be made between these texts so that some of them figure in the exhibition which will take place in Brussels, in March 1998 during the Forum of the World Poetry-Childhood Day.

We hope that the competent authorities of each country will be informed of the foregoing and that they will follow it up.

In order to be able to establish contact between World Poetry-Childhood Day with each country, we wish to have a direct contact with someone or a public or private institution who will become the **official delegate of our project.**

We would be happy if a World Poetry-Childhood Day committee could be **created in each country.**

1997-1998 THEME

A smile for the world

The Earth our planet is very beautiful
but its inhabitants are worried.

Why ?

Because every day
brings them news
more dramatic from one another.
They are real.

But people's life
is also made of joy, happiness and love.

Starting from today you are in charge of a mission :
Go hunting for good news,
news which make us smile
news which will warm our hearts.

Open wide your eyes.
Open wide your ears.

Listen to what is being told around you,
in your family,
at school,
in your suburb.

Listen to the radio,
read newspapers,
watch television.

With your words and your colours,

make the world smile,
make its heart beat :

Write a poem to tell us
the news which made you most happy.

PEDAGOGICAL APPROACHES

PROPOSED FOR TEACHERS

For teachers, educators, and people in charge of animations willing to participate with the World Poetry-Childhood Day, we propose to choose between the following activities :

a) Speak about the five continents with children :

1. Show the five continents on a map.
2. Make the children discover the name of the other countries in your continent and their capital and language.
3. If there is a child of another country in the class, make him talk about his country.

b) The smile...

Unfortunately, the people living on earth are worried...
We ask children to make the world smile.

1. Ask the children what they think about smile.
2. Ask them if they like to be smiled at, and why.
3. Propose to elect the most smiling pupil.
4. Explain that a smile offered is a present which can neither be sold nor purchased, having no price.
5. Thanks to this action, detect the sense of humor in a child of the class.