



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*

March 2, 1999

DECS MEMORANDUM  
No 92, s 1999

1999 NATIONAL LITERACY AWARDS

To Regional Directors  
Schools Superintendents  
Private Elementary and Secondary School Principals  
Divisional Leader School Principals  
Vocational High School Principals

1 The Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) through the Literacy Coordinating Council (LCC) and the Bureau of Nonformal Education (BNFE), in cooperation with UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines (UNACOM), private sectors/NGO partners - e.g. National Bookstore and the Foundation for Continuing Education (FORCE), will conduct the 1999 Literacy Awards

2 Outstanding regional literacy workers, literacy programs and local government units will be chosen from which national winners will be selected.

3 Experience from holding the awards in the past five years has enabled the DECS to refine the criteria and process of choosing the winners. This will require longer time for planning and preparation.

4 Nomination and selection of regional winners will be conducted from March to May 1999. The early selection of regional winners will enable the National Technical Screening Committee to conduct ocular visits to project sites and interviews with potential national winners.

5 The DECS regional directors and chiefs of nonformal education divisions who were designated in previous DECS Memorandum as regional awards secretariat are requested to perform the duties and responsibilities assigned to them as defined in the inclosure, apply revised criteria set, and follow the new schedule provided.

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

  
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Undersecretary  
Officer-In-Charge

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Incl

As stated

Reference

DECS Memorandum No 19, s 1997

Allotment. 1—(D O 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects

- ✓NONFORMAL EDUCATION
- ✓PRIZES or AWARDS
- ✓SEARCH

## ANNUAL NATIONAL LITERACY AWARDS

**T**oday some 2.8 million Filipinos are basically illiterate while 7.4 million are functionally illiterate (source FLEMMS 1994). They are barely able or worse totally unable to carry out simple everyday functions in life.

Many of these people belong to the marginalized sectors of our society like the cultural communities where access to education and other social services are extremely difficult or non-existent.

The Estrada Administration has prepared a ten-point action program which gears toward poverty alleviation. Among the components of this program is education under this literacy is recognized as one effective strategy to bring a better life to our *Masang Filipino*.

Together with the Bureau of Nonformal Education, non-government organizations, civic and religious groups have been conducting literacy classes nationwide. Conducting these classes are trained literacy workers, para-teachers and volunteers, many of whom come from the communities they are serving.

In spite of encountered difficulties such as very minimal compensation, hampered mobility due to geographical and peace and order constraints, lack of teaching materials, to name just a few, the commitment and dedication of these workers and institutions have not dimmed even slightly.

### AWARDS OBJECTIVES

- to contribute to the goal of eradicating illiteracy in the Philippines by creating public awareness and interest for programs or projects addressing this concern
- to sustain, expand and institutionalize literacy efforts by motivating and recognizing individuals, institutions and local government through awards and recognition
- to encourage the development and replication of innovative, creative and indigenous literacy programs and
- to honor and recognize outstanding individuals for their dedication, commitment and contribution to literacy education in their communities

### AWARDS CATEGORIES

**Most Outstanding Literacy Worker Award** shall be given to an individual who, through his/her vision and commitment over the years, has succeeded in transforming a significant number of learners from non-literates into productive and active members of the community.

**Most Outstanding Literacy Program Award** shall be given to a literacy program being implemented by a non-government or civic organization, academic institution, etc. which has a demonstrably positive impact on the learners and the community. The Program should have been

partly responsible for transforming learners into productive and more responsible community members

**Most Outstanding Local Government Umit Award** shall be given to the local government unit (municipal government) which has created a policy environment conducive to literacy programs and initiated or expanded literacy programs or projects that have been demonstrably positive impact on its barangays

#### **CRITERIA FOR SELECTION**

- **For Most Outstanding Literacy Worker**

**Personal Attributes (40%)**

The literacy worker should be the embodiment of uncommon dedication to work and of moral ascendancy by practicing positive virtues such as honesty, humility and compassion towards the marginalized sectors of the society. He/she should have a harmonious relationship with peers, superiors, subordinates and external partners of program he/she implements.

**Competence (60%)**

The literacy worker should possess exceptional leadership skills by being able to inspire and motivate his/her colleagues, community members and most especially the learners to achieve gains in their literacy project-related work. He/she should take the initiative in undertaking program activities and must be resourceful in generating program resources.

The literacy worker should aim for excellence to be a role model with co-workers, subordinates and community members.

- **For Most Outstanding Literacy Program**

**Development Orientation (25%)**

The program's development content should be comprehensive (depth and breadth of scope of the literacy skills learned by project beneficiaries), relevant to the socio-cultural needs and aspirations, as well as being sensitive to indigenous knowledge/practices (culture-sensitive).

**Management and Implementation (40%)**

The program should be self-sustaining and effective as can be reflected in the commitment and efficiency of its planners, implementors and learners.

The program's delivery should be innovative and creative using indigenous strategies/approaches, resources and adequate learning materials, as well as encouraging community participation.

### **Community Impact/Effects on Learners (35%)**

The program should have made considerable improvements in the community's literacy rate and socio-economic potential by generating viable livelihood schemes through community involvement

#### **▪ For Most Outstanding Local Government Unit (LGU)**

##### **Planning and Development (40%)**

The local government unit should advocate a development orientation towards literacy related programs and projects through the passage of ordinances or resolutions on literacy and the involvement of a greater number of local government officials

##### **Management of Literacy/Continuing Education Programs (60%)**

The local government unit should give support to community literacy projects which have made demonstrable positive impact on the community through allocation of resources in its financial plan, proactiveness in initiating activities to support literacy/continuing education programs installation of systems to sustain and institutionalize programs etc

The local government units should have encouraged other local officials and various sectors to give logistical or financial support and mobilized community participation to these literacy/continuing education projects

### **PROCEDURES**

#### **▪ Distribution of nomination forms**

The National Literacy Awards Steering Committee through its National Secretariat will distribute the application forms to the DECS regional offices nationwide and selected NGOs. These forms will be made available to all individuals and institutions GOs and NGOs who would like to nominate candidates

#### **▪ Information Awareness Campaign**

The DECS Secretary shall issue an appropriate order requiring all divisions and district supervisors to disseminate information regarding the awards

Non-government organizations (such as FORCE, ANTEP, ROTARY etc) will be requested to inform its members nationwide of the contest

A nationwide in-media campaign will be launched to create greater public awareness and participation

#### ▪ **Convening of the Regional Selection Committee**

The DECS Regional Director in cooperation with the Rotary Club or any active local NGO will convene the Regional Selection Committee composed of the following

Chair	DECS Regional Director
Co-Chair	Rotary Club president or any NGO representative
Members	NGO representative President of any local institution Civic club representative (other than Rotary)
Coordinator	DECS Regional Chief Nonformal Education

The Committee will plan the pertinent administrative matters such as schedules of meetings venues etc.

#### ▪ **National Selection/Judging Process**

Three sets of National Board of Judges one per category will be convened in the national level The selection and judging process for the national winners in all three categories are

- Shortlisting* Individual review of nomination (regional winners) based on documents submitted Five (5) regional winners per category will be selected for presentation to the Technical Working Group (TWG)
- Project Site Visit* Upon acceptance of the candidates from the shortlisting committees, the TWG will undertake an in-depth interview with proponents and beneficiaries to validate the documents submitted
- Individual Ranking* The TWG does further deliberation and rank the candidates for presentation to the National Board of Judges (NBOJ)
- Final Judging* Final deliberation and evaluation on the national candidates are done by the NBOJ during presentation by the TWG The NBOJ will choose three (3) winners per category and their decision is final

#### ▪ **Awarding of Prizes**

National winners for the three categories will be announced by the Chair of the Board of Judges for each category during Literacy Week Celebration on September 8 1999

#### **SPONSORS (as of 1998)**

The National Literacy Awards is an annual project of the Literacy Coordinating Council (LCC) in cooperation with

- Bureau of Nonformal Education DECS
- UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines
- National Book Store
- Foundation for Continuing Education inc (FORCE)
- SEAMEO-INNOTECH
- AY Foundation Inc

## 1999 NATIONAL LITERACY AWARDS

### SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

05 March 1999	1999 NLA Media Launching
March to April 1999	Information campaign Identification of nominees
April to May 1999	Selection of regional winners
01 June 1999	Submission of regional winners
08-30 June 1999	Shortlisting/ Selection of finalist top three regional winners per category
01-31 July 1999	Ocular visits and interviews by screening committee/technical working group
02-17 August 1999	National screening evaluation and final selection
September 1999	Awarding

#### **National Secretariat**

Further inquiries may be addressed to any of the following individuals/officers

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