



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION IV-A CALABARZON
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF BATANGAS

Advisory No. **126**, s. 2026

July 13, 2026

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013
this advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,
but only for the information of DepEd officials,
personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public.
(Visit www.deped.gov.ph)

FIFTH INSTABRIGHT NATIONAL LITERARY AWARDS

This advisory is issued to provide guidance to all public schools and personnel regarding engagements with the INSTABRIGHT International Guild of Researchers and Educators, Inc. a interdenominational, non-profit, non-stock organization, partners with different learning institutions.

In line with existing Department of Education policies, all concerned are hereby reminded of the following:

1. Participation in or accommodation of activities initiated by private organizations, including INSTABRIGHT International Guild of Researchers and Educators, Inc., shall not be interpreted as official endorsement by the Department.
2. Consistent with DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012 (Child Protection Policy), any participation of learners must be Strictly voluntary; With written parental/guardian consent; and Free from coercion or undue influence.
3. Activities organized by external groups shall not disrupt regular classes or diminish instructional time in line with DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005 (Time-on-Task Policy)
4. Further, in line with DepEd Order No. 009, s. 2026, otherwise known as the Guidelines on the Implementation of the Three-Term School Calendar in Basic Education, teachers shall not be interrupted during actual class hours to ensure the continuity of teaching and learning.
5. All field offices and schools are advised to exercise due diligence and ensure that any engagement with INSTABRIGHT International Guild of Researchers and Educators, Inc., or similar organizations strictly complies with DepEd policies and prioritizes the best interest of learners.

For strict compliance.

EMD/ FIFTH INSTABRIGHT NATIONAL LITERARY AWARDS/ S2-114713



INSTABRIGHT INTERNATIONAL GUILD OF RESEARCHERS AND EDUCATORS, INC.

Philippines: P1,B4,L20, RCD Royale Homes, Brgy. Sabang, Tuy, Batangas, 4214

Extension: Unit A5, SAB Building, Rizal St. Poblacion, Tuy, Batangas, 4214

United States: 1178 Broadway, 3rd Floor, #3506, New York, NY 10001

June 18, 2026

Jal
JUN 23 2026
52-114713

Mr./Ms./Atty./Dr. MARITES A. IBAÑEZ

Schools Division Superintendent

Department of Education | Division of Batangas

Sir/Madam:

Greetings of Peace!

Every year, the Philippines celebrates “Buwan ng Wika” or Filipino Language Month. This is the time that we show how we pay respect and honor our national language.

In celebration of the “**Buwan ng Wika**” this August 2026, the Instabright International Guild of Researchers and Educators, Inc. will be conducting the **FIFTH INSTABRIGHT NATIONAL LITERARY AWARDS**.

This is a national competition that will showcase the talents of the teachers and students in writing literary articles especially poems and short stories.

Categories:

Inspirational Poems of the Year (English and Filipino Category)

Creative Short Stories of the Year (English and Filipino Category)

In lieu with this, we humbly request from your good office to help us disseminate this information to teachers, students, and writers within your supervisory control in the most convenient way for you.

Rest assured that proper health protocols and social distancing will be highly observed and implemented on the event.

Attached herewith are the details, mechanics and the criteria for judging.

Thank you very much!



info@instabright.online



www.instabright.org



(043)-921-3382



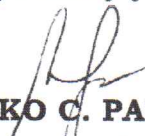
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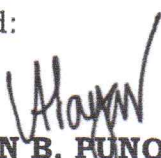
United States: 1178 Broadway, 3rd Floor, #3506, New York, NY 10001

Respectfully yours,


NIKKO C. PANOTES

Instabright Secretariat

Noted:


ALVIN B. PUNONGBAYAN, Ph.D

Chairman & Founder – Instabright International Guild of Researchers & Educators, Inc.



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This is a national competition that will showcase the talents of teachers, students, researchers, and writers in producing literary works, particularly poems and short stories that reflect Filipino values, culture, and aspirations.

Categories:

Inspirational Poems of the Year
(English and Filipino Category)

Creative Short Stories of the Year
(English and Filipino Category)

Details

1. All literary entries that meet the set standards will be recognized during the awarding ceremony. Authors will receive a **Certificate of Recognition** and an **Instabright Medallion**.
2. All qualified entries will be published in the **Instabright e-Gazette** free of charge.
3. The judging committee will select the **Top Three (3) Best Entries** in each category. Authors of the winning entries will receive a **Certificate of Recognition** and a **Medal**.
4. Sending of entries is from **June 16, 2026 to August 3, 2026**.
5. The **Awarding Ceremony** will be held on **August 29, 2026** at View Park Hotel, Tagaytay City.

Mechanics for Poem

1. The poem must consist of **4–8 stanzas**.
2. It may be written in **English or Filipino**.



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3. Theme: **"Boses ng Bayan, Wika ng Pag-asa: Pagtataguyod ng Hustisya at Pagkakaisa"**
4. The poem must be **originally composed** by the author.
5. Submit entries through: <https://tinyurl.com/IBLITPOEM26>

Mechanics for Short Story

1. The story must be **original**.
2. The story shall present the rich culture, traditions, values, or contemporary realities of the Philippines.
3. There is **no restriction on length**.
4. It may be written in **English or Filipino**.
5. Stories with explicit sexual themes shall not be accepted.
6. Submit entries through: <https://tinyurl.com/IBLITSTORY26>

Criteria for Judging (Poem)

CRITERIA	POINTS
Relevance to the Theme	35
Creativity and Originality	25
Coherence of Form and Structure	15
Clarity of Imagery and Language	15
Overall Impact	10
TOTAL	100

Criteria for Judging (Short Story)

CRITERIA	POINTS
Originality	25
Relevance to the Topic	15
Characterization	15
Plot Structure	20
Quality of Writing	10
Use of Language and Literary Devices	15
TOTAL	100

For inquiries and updates regarding the competition, participants may coordinate with the Instabright International Guild of Researchers and Educators, Inc.

Celebrate the power of words, honor Filipino identity, and inspire change through literature. Join the Fifth Instabright National Literary Awards and let your voice be heard!



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