



# Filipino students win Grand Awards at Science and Engineering Fair

Filipino delegates won three Grand Awards and a top organizational award at the week-long 55th Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), which had more than 1,200 participants from 38 countries.

Manila Science High School's Team Project, entitled "Development of a Chemically Modified Carbon Paste Electrode from Green Mussels for the Analysis of Lead (II) through Voltammetry," won the Third Grand Award in the field of Chemistry. The entry of Quezon City Science High School, entitled, "Lumos: A Simple, Rapid and Inexpensive Dissolved Oxygen Determination of Wastewater Samples Using the Tube Bioluminescence Extinction Method of *Vibrio fischeri* USTCMS 1063," won the fourth Grand Award in Environmental Science.

Joy Anne Lim Aquino, a student of E. Rodriguez High School in Quezon City, garnered the Fourth Grand Award in Medicine and Health and a top organizational award given by the American Veterinary Medicine Association for her individual project, "Biologically-Guided Isolation of the Antimicrobial Component on the Sea Snake *Laticauda colubrine* Schneider Venom."

The 55th Intel ISEF was held in Portland, Oregon on May 9-15, 2004. The



These winning high school students and their impressive projects, such as the one above, made the country proud at the 55th Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.

Intel ISEF is the the world's largest pre-college science competition. It brings together not only students, but also teachers, corporate executives, and government officials from around the world. Students compete for over \$3 million in scholarships, tuition grants, scientific equipment, and scientific trips.

Each year, between 3 and 5 million students complete science research projects, and roughly 1,200 of those students earn the right to compete at the Intel ISEF. There are 15 categories, namely: Behavioral and Social Sciences, Biochemistry, Botany, Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth & Space Sciences, Engineering, Environmental Science, Gerontology, Mathematics, Medicine &

Health, Microbiology, Physics, Team Projects, and Zoology.

In the Philippines, science project entries to Intel ISEF are chosen at the multi-level Intel Philippine Science Fair (an Intel ISEF Affiliated Science Fair) administered by the Science Education Institute of the Department of Science and Technology (SEI-DOST). The Philippine Science Fair, sponsored by Intel, brings together science enthusiasts in a friendly, intellectual competition that challenges their knowledge and attitude about science as a field of study. This strategy is adopted to increase students' interest in science and technology and to encourage them to consider science careers in the future.

—Ruby Cristobal, S&T Media Service

## LOOKING FOR A SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP?

### Visit [www.science-scholarships.ph](http://www.science-scholarships.ph)



The Science Education Institute of the Department of Science and Technology envisions a critical mass of Filipinos who are highly trained in science and technology. It administers scholarships, awards and grants in science and technology, as well as undertaking projects and formulating plans for the promotion, development and improvement of science and technology education and training.

Their website, [www.science-scholarships.ph](http://www.science-scholarships.ph), provides students and teachers with a wealth of resources, including a comprehensive list of Philippine science and technology scholarship programs offered by DOST, other government institutions and private firms and foundations. The website is designed to promote Philippine S&T courses and to serve as a bridge between students in search of scholarships and granting institutions.

# Join the 5th Annual Teacher-Librarian Workshop sponsored by The Children's Library

Due to increased demand, The Children's Library is now opening its annual Teacher-Librarian Workshop to 200 participants! The group is set to welcome 100 district supervisors/principals and 100 public school teachers/librarians to this year's one-day gathering, which will carry the theme "New Trends in School Libraries." Topics include: the importance of building and maintaining a school library; getting students to visit the library; storytelling; and basic book binding.

Call now to register; the workshop is FREE OF CHARGE.

Date: July 21, 2005, 9am to 6pm  
 Venue: Holiday Inn Galleria- Manila (tentative venue)  
 Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.  
 Call (02)3952112 or 6337631 local 166 or email ethel\_childrenslib@yahoo.com.



Photos from the 4th Children's Library Workshop for Teacher-Librarians.



A session on card cataloging.



DepEd Undersecretary Mike Luz delivers his message to last year's participants.

## WORRYING ABOUT MATH JUST MAKES IT WORSE

People who worry about their ability to do Mathematics are hampering their chances of doing well, because anxiety uses vital psychological resources that have an impact on an individual's ability to solve arithmetic problems.

These are the findings of Dr. Sheila Ford and her team of psychologists at Staffordshire University in the United Kingdom.

Dr. Ford and her colleagues asked 52 participants to complete 180 problems displayed on a computer screen. These problems were a combination of mathematical tasks, letter recall tasks and tasks that required participants to recall letters and do Math simultaneously. Before completing the problems, each participant was assessed on how anxious they felt about completing mathematical tasks.

Participants with high levels of Math anxiety were less accurate and made larger errors on the mathematical tasks. These highly anxious participants were also poorer at remembering the serial order of letters, but only when they were performing a concurrent Math task.

Dr. Ford said: "It appears that Math anxiety affects performance on arithmetical problems because anxious intrusive thoughts compete for limited memory resources and this may disrupt the calculation processes involved in arithmetic problem solving." —*The British Psychological Society Press Office*

## About Us

**SA AKLAT SISIKAT FOUNDATION INC.** aims to build a nation of readers. We believe that to read is every child's right. We seek to deepen the Filipino child's love and habit of reading. We advocate that through the Sa Aklat Sisikat Reading Program, we can nurture the Filipino child's intellectual, ethical and social development. Sa Aklat Sisikat has partnerships with the following groups: Petron Foundation, Jollibee, Coca Cola Foundation, Citigroup, Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC), The Children's Hour, the Provincial Government of Bulacan, EON, Convergys, The Asia Foundation and Summit Media.



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