



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION IV-A CALABARZON

July 08, 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 depedcalabarzon.ph)

FIFTH INSTABRIGHT NATIONAL LITERARY AWARDS

In reference to the communications from the Instabright International Guild of Researchers and Educators, Inc. dated June 18, 2026, this Office, through the Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD), informs the field about the conduct of the **Fifth Instabright National Literary Awards** in celebration of the Buwan ng Wika this August 2026.

The activity is a national competition that aims to 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.

The following are the categories of the said competition:

1. Inspirational Poems of the Year (English Category and Filipino Category)
2. Creative Short Stories of the Year (English Category and Filipino Category)

Sending of entries is from June 16, 2026 to August 3, 2026. The awarding ceremony will be held on August 29, 2026 at View Park Hotel, Tagaytay City.

In line with this, school heads are advised to take appropriate action, ensuring compliance with the following provisions:

- participation of teachers and learners is purely voluntary;
- participation of learners shall require written parental consent;
- strict compliance with DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005, which institutes measures to increase engaged time-on-task, shall be observed;
- proper coordination with the school head shall be made for necessary arrangements;
- strict observance of the DepEd "No Collection Policy" shall be ensured; and
- expenses relative to participation in the activity shall not be charged against DepEd funds unless otherwise authorized, subject to existing government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.



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Certificate No. PHP QMS
22 93 0085

Attached is the communication from Instabright International Guild of Researchers and Educators, Inc., including the details, mechanics, and criteria for judging.

For information of all concerned.

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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

Mr./Ms./Atty./Dr. CARLITO D. ROCAFORT

Regional Director | Office of the Regional Director

Department of Education | DepEd Region IV-A CALABARZON

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

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

Respectfully yours,

NIKKO C. PANOTES

Instabright Secretariat

Noted:

ALVIN B. FUNONGBAYAN, Ph.D

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



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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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