

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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10 high school students head to US for Intel Science & Engineering Fair

Ten high school students who bagged top awards in the Intel Philippine Science Fair (IPSF) were selected to represent the country for the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF) to be held in Atlanta, Georgia in the US on May 11-14, 2008.

Organized by the Department of Education (DepEd), IPSF is an annual science competition that provides a venue for budding young Filipino scientists to demonstrate their talent and be recognized by their peers and the community.

On its 11th year, the IPSF considered 3,500 research project entries nationwide. Of this number, 113 projects made it to the finals and vied for the top prizes in Life Science and Physical Science categories.

IPSF team and individual winners as well as the representatives for Intel-ISEF were recognized recently during its culminating event in Tagaytay, Cavite. This year's theme was, "*Excellence in Science and Technology starts with me.*"

According to Education Secretary Jesli Lapus, this is an opportunity to harness the creativity and innovativeness of our students. "It develops well-rounded learners who are not only consumers of knowledge and information but also producers and innovators of knowledge and information," he said.

The winning individual entries are: Jed Sidney Oliva, Ballesteros National High School Cagayan (Region 2) for "MORH: Jodoque Process of increasing the compressive strength and lessening the water absorbency of hollow blocks"; Andrew Diamante, Visayas State University Laboratory High School (Region 8) for "Prediction of total soluble solids in ripe mangoes based on their electrical resistance"; Steven Tan, the Quantum Academy Inc., General Santos City (Region 12) for "Pharmaceutical compounds (antibacterial immunobooster) from Barringtonia Asiatica and Garcinia Mangostana"; and Louie Lugto, Don Alejandro Roces Sr. Science and Technology High School, Quezon City (NCR) for "Isolation and characterization of the most cytotoxic fraction of selected Philippine poisonous crabs".

Winning team-entries include Michelle Borbon, Rachel Bernadas and Mary Cris Corpuz, Gingoog City Comprehensive National High School (Region 10) for "A comparative study on mangrove species diversity at different locations in Pangasihon forest" and Marvin Ambrosio, Rachel Cahilig, and Adrian Patacsil, Philippine Science High School, Quezon City (NCR) for "Construction of a mechanical prototype of a micro tremor recorder."

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Jay Tulao, Education Manager of Intel said, “Looking at these different projects really showed us the promise the Filipino youth in math and science.”

He added, “Just give them the proper support and you will realize our students have creativity and ingenuity at par with first-world countries.”

Intel Corporate Affairs Manager Arlita Narag affirmed, “Just as Intel is continually innovating and evolving, through young geniuses like the IPSF participants, the Intel Philippine Science Fair continues to be a venue that keeps alive the spirit of unlimited possibilities and the excitement of the next scientific discovery.”

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