



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
Region III  
**SCHOOLS DIVISION OF BULACAN**

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October 6, 2021

Division Advisory  
No. 043, s. 2021

To : Public and Private Secondary School Heads  
All Others Concerned

From : The Schools Division Superintendent

Subject : Girls Congress 2.0: *Girl, Make the First Move*

Attached is the letter from Dr. Jenny Lind Elmaco, PhD, Director, Girls Congress, on the above subject, for information and guidance.

  
**ZENIA G. MOSTOLES, EdD, CESO V**  
Schools Division Superintendent



Provincial Capitol Compound, Brgy. Guinhawa, City of Malolos, Bulacan  
website: <https://bulacandeped.com> email: [bulacan@deped.gov.ph](mailto:bulacan@deped.gov.ph)



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By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Time: \_\_\_\_\_ 8:15

**Girl** make the  
**FIRST MOVE**  

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**GIRLS CONGRESS 2.0**

September 29, 2021

**ZENIA G. MOSTOLES**  
**Schools Division Superintendent**  
**Bulacan**

Dear Prof. ZENIA G. MOSTOLES:

Greetings from **Girls Congress**, a leadership and mentoring program run in the Philippines, supported by the Embassy of the United States in the Philippines.

The first program of its kind in the country, Girls Congress is akin to an after-school program for the junior and senior high-school levels, in which young women are capacitated in important issues that affect them on a daily basis or that impact them on a global level.

First held in 2019 through face-to-face sessions in Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental, Philippines, **Girls Congress this year will be held virtually, with the theme, "Girl, Make the First Move". and will be launched on October 11, 2021 (Monday)**, which coincides with the International Day of the Girl.

It is organized in partnership with Wesleyan University-Philippines, a leading university in Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija.

We are writing to invite you to share this to the different high schools in your region to **nominate up to 5 junior high and 5 senior high school students of outstanding academic performance, moral character, and leadership ability** to this program. Nominees will be further screened by our partner institution, Wesleyan University Philippines, and will go through the six-month virtual congress comprised of:

- Virtual panels with female subject matter experts from different parts of the Philippines and the globe
- Virtual mini-workshops

- Journaling and self-paced work
- Virtual conference materials, including reference readings and videos

The virtual events will usually be held every two Saturdays from October 11, 2021 to March 8, 2021, while other readings, videos, and extra conference materials may be viewed and consumed asynchronously. Participants who complete the full program will receive a Certificate of Completion from the conference organizers.

**To submit your nominations, please fill out this online Nomination Form no later than October 2, 2021.** The final list of 40 delegates shall be announced via email and social media on or before October 5, 2021.

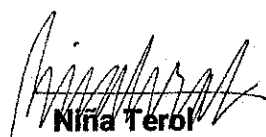
Thank you in advance for considering this invitation! Should you have any questions, please reach out to us at [girlscongressph@gmail.com](mailto:girlscongressph@gmail.com) or please contact Ms. Carissa De Luzuriaga-Balaria, Director of Student Affairs of Wesleyan University Philippines, at [carissabalaria@gmail.com](mailto:carissabalaria@gmail.com) or 0919-075-5314.

We wish you all the best in your mission of educating our next generation of young leaders amid these challenging times, and we look forward to hearing back from your good office soon.

Yours truly,



**Dr. Jenny Lind Elmaco, Ph.D.**  
Director  
Girls Congress



**Nina Terol**  
Co-Conference Director; Founder  
Girl, Make the First Move

Endorsed by:



**Judge Benjamin D. Turgano**  
President  
Wesleyan University Philippines

# **Girl** make the **FIRST MOVE**

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GIRLS CONGRESS 2.0

## **ANNEX: PROPOSED PROGRAM**

### **Congress Overview**

The theme of this year's Girls Congress is inspired by the advocacy of **Girl, Make the First Move**, an online platform and global advocacy to inspire and empower girls and women to make positive first moves in various areas of their lives. For this Congress, we will curate a six-month virtual program in which participants will be capacitated in the following areas:

- Making the First Moves in Self-Leadership and Upward Mobility
- Making the First Moves in Entrepreneurship & Breaking Glass Ceilings
- Making the First Moves Towards Self-Love & Healthy Relationships
- Making the First Moves in Positive Body Image and Health & Wellness
- Making the First Moves Against Violence and Abuse
- Making the First Moves in Civic Engagement and Global Citizenship

Each theme will be explored through the following:

- A virtual panel with female subject matter experts from different parts of the Philippines and the globe
- A virtual mini-workshop
- Journaling and self-paced work
- Virtual conference materials, including reference readings and videos

**The virtual events will usually be held every two Saturdays from October 11, 2021 to March 8, 2021, while other readings, videos, and extra conference materials may be viewed and consumed asynchronously. Following is the proposed sequence; please expect final details to be shared at a later date.**

- October 2021: Making the First Moves in Self-Leadership and Upward Mobility
- November 2021: Making the First Moves in Entrepreneurship & Breaking Glass Ceilings
- December 2021: Making the First Moves Towards Self-Love & Healthy Relationships
- January 2022: Making the First Moves in Positive Body Image and Health & Wellness
- February 2022: Making the First Moves Against Violence and Abuse
- March 2022: Making the First Moves in Civic Engagement and Global Citizenship

Participants who complete the full program will receive a Certificate of Completion from the conference organizers.

The Opening Program will be held on October 11, 2021, Monday, from 9:00 to 10:00AM Philippine time. Please see the next page for the proposed program flow.

**Opening Program: October 11, 2021***Speakers shall log in through Streamyard**Congress Participants shall log in through Zoom**Opening Program shall be livestreamed to the public via Facebook and YouTube*

TIME	SEGMENT	SPEAKER/s
8:00 - 9:00 AM	Backstage audio and video check for speakers	
9:00 - 9:05 AM	Program start and acknowledgment of Girls Congress Partners	Conference Directors: Dr. Jenny Lind Elmaco, Ph.D. Niña Terol
9:05 - 9:10 AM	Welcome remarks by Congress Partner: Embassy of the United States in the Philippines	
9:10 - 9:15 AM	Welcome remarks by Congress Partner: Wesleyan University Philippines	Honorable Benjamin D. Turgano President Wesleyan University Philippines
9:15 - 9:50 AM	<b>Opening plenary: Why Girls Need to Make the First Move</b>	Invited Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Janice Lao, ESG Director, Helen of Troy</u></li> <li>• Ambassador Delia Domingo Albert, former Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs</li> <li>• <u>Pauline Castro, Co-Founder, OLLA Bahrain and OLLA DXB</u></li> <li>• <u>Dr. Gia Sison, Head, Wellness Center, Makati Medical Center</u></li> <li>• Hidilyn Diaz, Olympic Gold Medalist</li> <li>• Marielle Montenegro, youngest recipient of the ANDUKHA Award (2019)</li> <li>• Sarah Hendriks, Director, UN Women</li> <li>• Bai Rohaniza Sumndad-Usman, Executive Director, Teach Peace Build Peace Movement and Ashoka Fellow</li> <li>• Doris Dumlao-Abadilla, Business Journalist, Philippine Daily Inquirer</li> </ul>

		Moderated by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Jenny Lind Elmaco, Ph.D.</li> <li>• Nífa Terol</li> </ul>
9:50 - 9:55 AM	Closing remarks	Pre-recorded video from the Honorable Kamala Harris, Vice-President of the United States of America (invited)
9:55 - 10:00 AM	Reminders for Congress Participants	Conference Directors: Dr. Jenny Lind Elmaco, Ph.D. Nífa Terol