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By Merlina Hernando-Malipot

The Department of Education (DepEd) enjoins both public and private elementary and secondary schools to participate in this year's Science Film Festival to help promote science literacy among students.



Education Secretary Leonor Briones
(DepEd / MANILA BULLETIN)

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An advertisement for One Cafe Mocha. On the left, a man with a mustache is shown from the chest up, wearing a light-colored shirt and a dark apron. He is holding a brown paper coffee cup with a black lid and has a surprised or excited expression, with his mouth open. The text "ONE CAFE MOCHA" is written in white, stylized, hand-drawn letters over the image. Below it, the text "Sabit sa trabaho 'pag may singaw." is written in a smaller font. At the bottom left, the text "If symptoms persist, consult your doctor." is visible. On the right, there is a solid orange background with the text "MAG DAKTARIN PARA BALIK 100% PERFORMA" in white, bold, uppercase letters. At the bottom right, the text "If symptoms persist, consult your doctor." is visible.

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Education Secretary Leonor Briones, in DepEd Memorandum No. 152 series of 2019, urged school heads to allow learners both from public and private schools – particularly those from Regional Science High Schools (RSHSs), Science, Technology and Engineering (STE) implanting schools and Special Science Elementary Schools (SSES) – to watch films to be shown during this year's Science Film Festival.

“The festival aims to promote science literacy and enhance awareness of contemporary scientific, technological and environmental issues through film and television,” Briones said. This year’s Science Film Festival has the theme, “Humboldt and The Web of Life” and will be conducted starting Tuesday, November 5 to December 6, 2019.

Briones said that the Regional Science Education Program Supervisor shall coordinate the conduct of the 2019 Science Film Festival which will open on November 5 at the SM Megamall Cinema in Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City. The opening day will feature the screening of the film “Arnot’s Ark.” The opening of the festival will be attended by selected students from Schools Divisions of Pasig and Mandaluyong City.

Over 120 elementary and secondary schools implementing the Special Science Program in the Divisions of Mandaluyong and Pasig are expected to participate in the opening day of the 2019 Science Festival. Students and teachers will be from Neptali Gonzales High School and Ilaya Barangka Integrated School in Mandaluyong and Rizal HS and Pasig City Science HS in Pasig City.

For the screening of the Science films in the participating schools, teachers or the guides were advised to facilitate the viewing and activities. DepEd highly recommended that the teachers/guides “to watch the films in advance and prepare guide questions that may help stimulate students’ interest and understanding of the film.”

DepEd said that after the teacher/guide has introduced the Science Film Festival and briefly explained the film to be screened, the viewers should be able to watch “completely and without interruption.”

To reinforce the information from the film and to strengthen students’ understanding of concepts espoused by the film, the guide questions prepared before the screening will “help the processing of students’ understanding.”

The 2019 Science Film Festival, Briones said, is in support of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Gothe Institut-Philippinen and the DepEd.



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