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www.hksdpsc.com

Honorary Patron: The Chief Justice of Hong Kong, Mr Geoffrey Ma

10th February 2015

Attn: All Principals of the Association of English Medium Secondary Schools

Invitation to be a Guest of Honour at the World Individual Debating & Public Speaking Championships (WIDPSC), Hong Kong, April 5th - 11th, 2015

We are honoured to seek your presence at this event, which will bring together some of the world's finest public speaking and debating students as Hong Kong plays host to one of the most significant global events for secondary school students: the 28th World Youth Public Speaking Championships. It is the oldest of the international public speaking and debating events for senior school students. As an English medium secondary school, we would welcome your presence at an event which promotes excellence in English. It will also be a marvellous educational opportunity for members of your school.

WIDPSC was started by a group of schools from England, Canada, The USA and Cyprus, and grew to become a full World Championships. It has grown to the 16 countries who will participate this year: Australia, Botswana, Canada, China, Cyprus, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Lithuania, Morocco, South Korea, Pakistan, South Africa, UK, and USA.

The tournament runs 5th to 11th April, is being conducted by HKSDPSC and jointly hosted by four local schools: the Opening Ceremony and Finals will be held at St Paul's Co-educational College on the 5th and 10th of April respectively. The Opening Ceremony will be followed by an informal light dinner in St Paul's and the main competition rounds will be held at La Salle College from the 6th to the 9th April and be run in collaboration with Heep Yunn School. The tournament will reach its climax with the Grand Finals to be held at Diocesan Girls' School from 1pm to 4pm on the 11th April, followed that evening by a grand closing banquet in true Hong Kong Chinese tradition for all participants.



Our patron, the honourable Mr Geoffrey Ma, the Chief Justice of Hong Kong, will be the keynote speaker at the Grand Finals of the event on April 11th. He will be followed by the culmination of the weeks' competition where you will witness 12 of the finest young speakers in the world seeking rightful titles in several categories as World Champion.

Hong Kong will be strongly represented at the Championships by 18 extremely talented students drawn from a wide range of schools, blending both the local system and International schools including students from member schools of the EMI Association. The team was selected by open competition and is being trained by members of the HKSDPSC and alumni. Many other local students will be actively involved as each visiting country will be given chaperones to guide them and advise during their stay in our city. These chaperones have been selected from a very wide range of secondary schools across Hong Kong.

April 11 is the key date when we will crown several World Champions in the following categories of public speaking: Overall Champion, Best Debater, Best After Dinner Speaker, Best Persuasive Speaker, Best Impromptu Speaker, Best Interpretive Reader and Best English as Second Language Speaker.

We request your honourable presence as our guest on these two occasions:

Opening ceremony: April 5th 4-7pm at St Paul's Co-educational College, McDonnell Road Mid-Levels, Central

Grand Finals Event: April 11th 1-4pm at Diocesan Girls' School, Jordan Road, Kowloon

If you are unable to attend, we are more than happy to accommodate a suitable representative of your institution. If you wish to request more places, including those for students interested in this event, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Please accept our invitation, by sending an email to me at: <u>widpsc2015rego@gmail.com</u> or a return letter to me c/o South Island School, 50 Nam Fung Road, Shouson Hill, Hong Kong. We will promptly confirm your place as a guest of honour at this very compelling global event and look forward to welcoming you into our community.

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Michael Evershed Chairman & Event Convenor HKSD&PSC

