

ROTARY DISTRICT 9810 MODEL UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY

SATURDAY 2nd May and SUNDAY 3rd MAY 2020



INFORMATION FOR CLUBS

The Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) is part of Rotary District 9810's continuing commitment to youth development. We will be continuing with this exceptionally successful program by conducting our twenty-second MUNA on the weekend of Saturday 2nd May and Sunday 3rd May 2020 in the 'Isabella Fraser Room' (Entrance 5) of the State Library, La Trobe Street, Melbourne.

Most Rotary Clubs in District 9810 participate in this really worthwhile and educational forum by sponsoring one or more teams of two students from local secondary schools to attend MUNA. At the discretion of the MUNA Committee, clubs can sponsor more than one team. The students do not pay anything, but of course put in the time and effort.

What is MUNA?

MUNA simulates the workings of the United Nations (UN) by having teams of two Year 11 students represent UN member countries and engage in debate on matters of world political and social concern.

MUNA provides students with the opportunity to develop their public speaking and debating skills through informed and researched comment on international issues. It also helps to develop an awareness of the UN and its workings as well as assisting them to see topics from another country's perspective. It helps to foster friendship with students from other schools within the region. It is astonishing how quickly friendships are made.

The MUNA experience encourages young people to learn respect and tolerance for people of all races, religions and nationalities.

What is required of clubs?

Secondary Schools in your area should be invited to nominate a team of two students from **Year 11.** Students who have already participated in MUNA are not accepted for a second year. The best point of contact at a school is usually the Debating Coordinator or English Department Head.

Each team will represent a member nation of the UN and will debate topics of international significance. Countries are allocated to teams after the team members' names and details are registered with the District MUNA Committee. The team members are given the name of their allocated country and the resolutions that may be debated over the MUNA weekend.

Clubs can sponsor more than one team, but in order to provide this opportunity to as wide a range of schools as possible, participation is limited to a maximum of two teams from any one school. If our committee receives applications from a third team from the same school, these will be put on a waiting list and allocated countries only if MUNA is undersubscribed.

Your Club may select students for MUNA by interview or consultation with the local school. The aim is to select students most likely to benefit from a rewarding and enjoyable weekend.

Members of clubs, parents and teachers are welcome to attend and view MUNA and meet the students at morning or afternoon tea. This is a very rewarding experience.

What are the costs?

The cost in 2020 is **\$640** per team which covers the hire of the venue, MUNA administration costs for printing etc, all awards and morning, afternoon teas and lunch each day in the State Library Conference Centre for all participants. MUNA expenses are calculated to break even against income and your Club may also offer to pay up to \$60.00 per student to reimburse expenses for costume hire.

The sponsorship fees paid by a club enables MUNA to operate at Victoria's State Library and also allows the winning team to have a subsidised trip to Canberra to attend the National MUNA weekend in the Old Parliament House, which is normally held in August. While the District pays the cost of registration for the team at the national MUNA weekend, the cost of travel to and from Canberra is the responsibility of the sponsoring Club. Clubs must also ensure that the team is accompanied by a counsellor who may be a parent/guardian.

Registration and payment

Clubs are encouraged to submit team and student registration forms early. Participation is limited to **36 teams**. Early registration assists with early allocation of countries and also gives teams the time to research the resolutions, and research the country they are representing so they can make a more meaningful contribution to the debate.

For 2020 MUNA some participating clubs have already indicated their commitment to sponsor one or more teams. To ensure the District is not financially exposed, the participating clubs will be sent invoices based on the number of teams they have committed to sponsor. Payment will be due by **2**nd **March 2020.**

Team registrations should be emailed to the MUNA Co-Chairs (details below) and will be accepted in the order they are received. Payment must be made to Rotary District 9810 (BSB 633000, A/C 132503590) quoting the invoice number in the reference field. Clubs should send a copy of the remittance slip to the MUNA Co-Chairs to secure the participation of their teams.

On some rare occasions, a registered team is unable to participate in MUNA. If the MUNA Co-Chairs are advised of this early enough, it may be possible to substitute a team from a reserve list of teams. If this cannot be done the club will be responsible for any costs incurred for that team. A missing team reduces the atmosphere and the effectiveness of the event. It may also prevent another team from being given the opportunity to participate.

Closing date for team registrations is Friday 6 March 2020

NOTE: completed registration forms and parent consent forms need to be submitted to the MUNA Co-Chairs by the closing date. Teams cannot be allocated a country unless payment has been received.

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> > **District 9810 MUNA Co-Chairs**