



North East Independent School District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

- What:** International School of the Americas (ISA) students will host the 15th Annual Model United Nations of San Antonio (MUNSA) Simulation/Conference. MUNSA XV is the largest high school Model United Nations conference held in the western United States. This is a student-organized conference where participants will assume roles as diplomats representing the United Nations and debate current real-world issues in an attempt to solve problems.
- Who:** Keynote speaker Trinity University President Dennis A. Ahlburg, Ph.D.; more than 1,000 students from the United States, Mexico and 11 students from ISA's partner school in Jiamusi, China.
- When:** December 6, 2010, 7:15-8:15 p.m.: Opening Ceremonies and keynote address at 7 p.m.;
8:30-10 p.m.: first session begins
December 7, 2010, 10-11:30 a.m., and 1-5:30 p.m.: sessions
December 8, 2010, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., and 3-4:15 p.m.: sessions
Closing Ceremonies and Awards will be from 4:30-5:30 p.m. on Dec. 8.
- Where:** Municipal Auditorium, 100 Auditorium Circle. **Media should ask for Greg Johnston at the check-in table or call him at 210-385-1540.**
- Why:** High school students are aware of many critical issues the world currently faces. Through this simulation, students will attempt to find solutions that will make a positive, global impact. Students suggested all of the issues for debate, which will range from The Security of International Social Media and Networking Sites, to The Accessibility of Pharmaceuticals Due to Intellectual Property Rights. This year, MUNSA has assumed the theme of energy responsibility and is implementing this theme into every committee room that will be hosted at the conference. This year's conference title, Catalyst is emblematic of this theme, and of how delegates will be expected to act as catalysts for change and international cooperation without compromising authenticity of the country's position.
- Visuals:** More than 1,000 students from Texas, surrounding states, China and Mexico will be dressed in business attire while formally debating during eight available sessions. Debates will resemble Model United Nations actions, and parliamentary procedures will follow Robert's Rules of Order. During the Closing Ceremonies and Awards, some student delegates will be given awards based on their debate skills, character performance and participation.
- More:** The ISA students are part of Model United Nations, a global organization that students created more than 50 years ago to simulate the United Nations General Assembly. Today, more than 400 conferences take place in 35 countries with more than 200,000 high school and college/university students participating each year. Since Model UN began, more than one million people have participated in conferences around the world. Many of today's leaders in law, government, business and the arts participated in Model UN during their academic careers – from U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer to actor Samuel L. Jackson and former first daughter Chelsea Clinton.

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About NEISD:

North East ISD has more than 70 schools and magnet programs with an expected fall 2010 enrollment of more than 66,000 students. NEISD employs more than 9,000 people. It is the second largest public school district in the San Antonio area and the eighth largest in the state. Under the Texas accountability system, 87 percent of NEISD schools are rated Exemplary or Recognized. The district earned Recognized for the third year in a row. More information about NEISD can be found at www.neisd.net.