

Philadelphia Model United Nations 2009



**Holiday Inn Historic District Hotel
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
26 February - 1 March 2009**



Join Us!

On behalf of the Institute for International & Domestic Affairs, I would like to invite you to attend Philadelphia Model United Nations 2009 at the Holiday Inn Historic District in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from 26 February – 1 March 2009. PhilMUN 2009 will afford students the opportunity to become delegates to the United Nations. During the four day simulation, they will debate from the standpoints of the countries that they represent. Given a complex global issue to solve, students will push themselves and each other for an innovative and viable solution. By developing their communication and thinking skills, they will grow as students, as global citizens, and as leaders. The learning environment we provide is professional, exciting, and dynamic and the students will be fully engaged in Model United Nations from the moment they arrive, leaving with the satisfaction that they tackled an issue bigger than themselves.

At PhilMUN 2009, participating delegates will explore the current trend of "Modernization" throughout Eastern Europe. After the Soviet Union collapsed, many of the states in the region rejected socialist regimes in favor of Western models of liberal democracy and free-market systems. Modernization promises new political freedoms and economic opportunities that had been previously unavailable. There is a widely held perception that implementing western ideals is a quick route to prosperity. However, rapid modernization has brought about new problems that plague Eastern Europe. At PhilMUN 2009, committee topics and discussion will reflect those pressing issues. In search for solutions, the students will become intimately familiar with the concept of "Modernization in Eastern Europe." They will also gain the skills and the insight needed to evaluate the Modernization trend in other regions.

Along with traditional committees, the advanced committees will deal with topics that are closely related to the theme and regional focus. The Council of the European Union will address EU Enlargement. Member states will evaluate candidate states according to the *acquis communautaire*, the total body of EU law. The students will examine an Eastern European state's progress towards membership of an international organization that embodies Western ideals. The Historic Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) committee will bring students back to the immediate fall of the Soviet Union. As delegates from different Eastern European states, the students will decide the framework of the disassembled Soviet Union through the formation of the CIS. The students will determine the political and economic relationship of a new Eastern Europe in an effort to understand what it has become today.

Registration for PhilMUN 2009 will begin on 1 June 2008 on the IDIA website. With smaller and more intimate committees than other conferences, Philadelphia Model United Nations offers the unique experience for students to work closely with each other and with staff. Therefore, because of the limited space and high demand, I strongly encourage you to register as early as possible. For more conference information regarding topics and committees, explore the PhilMUN website. I also recommend that you utilize our Conference Outreach program, an initiative that brings experienced staff members to your school to help students prepare for the conference. I eagerly await your presence at PhilMUN 2009 and wish you the best of luck in preparing!

Sincerely,

Audi Syarief
Secretary-General
Philadelphia Model United Nations 2009

Model United Nations Program

Located at the Holiday Inn Historic District in scenic Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Model United Nations is a realistic simulation of the United Nations, its affiliated specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations. Students from across the country and around the world will convene at a four-day conference to discuss and solve some of today's most pressing issues from the perspective of a United Nations representative. By representing the nation of their school's choosing, students are challenged to learn, understand, and discuss difficult issues, often from a non-Western point of view.

In each committee, students debate issues from the provisional agenda and represent the ideas and motives of nations from around the world. Through the art of international diplomacy and compromise, participants formulate multinational resolutions designed to ameliorate the issue at hand. Delegates work to amend and pass resolutions through their own committees. Resolutions passed at the conference will be published for later use by teachers in the classroom.

Delegates attending PhilMUN are expected to arrive at the conference prepared. Before the conference, students receive committee briefs tirelessly researched and written by conference staff. In addition to developing an in-depth understanding of the issues under discussion, students should also be able to formulate ideas and policy positions in the general interests of their nation. Students that attend Model United Nations conferences are usually those who are interested in international politics and diplomacy. More importantly, participants come to learn about the numerous global issues facing the world today.

In addition to intellectual gratification, delegates who excel in their committee sessions are recognized at the closing ceremony for their efforts. Awards are presented to students who take an active role in the activities of their committee, who show exemplary preparation for the conference, and who best facilitate the work of the committee. Philadelphia Model United Nations provides students with an educational opportunity to learn about the world in which they live, and more importantly, to meet peers with similar interests from varying cultures.

Why should I attend PhilMUN and not another conference?

Philadelphia Model United Nations is a unique Model UN conference. Instead of trying to address issues of concern throughout the world, the program focuses intensively on one specific geographic region, offering students the opportunity to learn about the political, cultural, social, and economic in an in-depth fashion.

The PhilMUN Difference

PhilMUN is not the typical Model United Nations experience. This program provides an environment in which students can learn about a specific region of the world. In doing so, they have the opportunity to examine the social, economic, and political implications of existing policies, and determine what effect that new solutions will have on today's problems.

Small Committee Size

The Model United Nations experience should not involve students being in a room with so many of their peers that they do not have the opportunity to actively participate. PhilMUN has been specifically designed to ensure that delegates do not become lost in their committees, and that each student, individually, is pushed to represent their state as realistically as possible. Committees are typically limited to 30 students to ensure that PhilMUN staff can work closely with individual delegates.

Conference Outreach Program

If you are unfamiliar with the workings of a Model UN or with Philadelphia Model United Nations, our staff is eager to visit your school through our Conference Outreach Program. This program sends PhilMUN staff to your high school to teach about the UN and to prepare the students for the conference. This is a good opportunity for both novice and experienced delegates as well as advisors to learn about our conference. We will provide explanations of PhilMUN Rules of Procedure, techniques of debate, and research methods. We are very eager to come to your high school and speak about the Model UN experience! For more information or to schedule an outreach, please call the PhilMUN hotline at (732) 249-4227 or email philmuninfo@idia.net.

IDIA Conference Portal

At PhilMUN, we believe that the educational aspect of the Model United Nations program is critical. To better provide for this educational process, students are encouraged to make full use of the IDIA Conference Portal at www.idia.net. Registered students are each assigned their own username and password to our website, and are granted access to a wealth of online content, including research anthologies from a variety of publications, including Foreign Affairs. In addition to the substantive resources students find in their conference portal, they will also have access to a variety of discussion boards and scheduled chat sessions designed to better facilitate conference preparation.

Position Papers

Position papers are short, delegate-written research papers discussing their assigned nation's view on the topics to be discussed in committee. The purpose of these papers is to familiarize the students not only with their country, but also with the topics that will be discussed during committee. These papers are to be submitted by 1 February 2009 so that the PhilMUN directorate may provide constructive feedback and return the papers at the conference's first session. All directors will be available via e-mail and the web forums to discuss position papers in the weeks preceding the conference. These arenas are opportunities for students to ask any questions that they have developed throughout their research.

Training Sessions

The opening day of PhilMUN 2009 will feature training sessions for both novice and advanced delegates. Chaired by seasoned directors, two separate sessions will acquaint novices with the rules of debate, and advanced debaters with diplomatic tactics and strategies. These sessions will ensure that all students are well prepared for the weekend, and will offer an opportunity for delegates with all levels of experience to ask questions of their directors, and to learn from their peers.

Committees and Topics

General Assembly Committees

Director

Disarmament and International Security

Meena Ramachandra

- Relationship Between Disarmament and Development
- Missile Defense

Economic and Financial

Chris Salloum

- Sustainability in Transition Economies
- Corruption

United Nations Human Rights Commission

Ruchi Gupta

- Freedom of Speech and the Press
- Reintegration of Refugees

United Nations Development Programme

Kelli Beard

- Reduction of Poverty
- Decentralization and Local Governance

United Nations Environment Programme

Jess Falk

- Pollution Control and Prevention
 - Conserving Biodiversity During Industrialization
-

Specialized Agencies

Director

Council of Europe

Ian Liberty

- Western Balkans
- Georgia

Commonwealth of Independent States

Matt Korostoff

- Dissolution of the Soviet Union

Non-Governmental Organizations Corps

John Lee

As Non-Governmental Organizations continue to grow in prevalence and importance, it is important to better understand their role in international affairs. Students in this body will represent actual NGOs and will advocate for their various causes. Guest speakers will address some of the difficulties faced by NGOs and will discuss ways in which such groups further their causes.

Who should attend a Model UN Conference?


The Model United Nations experience is not just for students interested in Politics, History, or Social Studies. Topics of discussion at Philadelphia Model United Nations have been specifically chosen to relate to students planning to study in a diverse group of fields - from sociology to international relations; from the sciences to Public Policy.

Location is Everything!

The schedule for Philadelphia Model United Nations has been designed to give delegates and advisors the chance to explore the city, and to experience first-hand the many historic and cultural attractions found here. Known as the birthplace of American Democracy, Philadelphia is home to some of the nation's most treasured history. From Independence Hall to the Liberty Bell and famous South Street to the Franklin Institute, the city of Philadelphia offers visitors the chance to be immersed in how the American political system developed, and how it has evolved since those important first days.

PhilMUN 2008 provides the perfect opportunity to turn the Model United Nations experience into something even more rewarding. More importantly, the Holiday Inn Historic District is located in the heart of Center City, just a short walk from Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell. Consider adding on a few days either before or after the conference to explore the city and its surrounding areas. IDIA has negotiated significantly discounted hotel rates to schools arriving before, or departing after the conference.

Places to see in Philadelphia!



Historical Sites	Famous Sites	Cultural Attractions
Independence Hall	South Street	Philadelphia Art Museum
Liberty Bell	Reading Terminal Market	Franklin Institute
National Constitution Center	Italian Market	Mutter Museum
Betsy Ross House	Gino's and Pat's Cheesesteaks	Rodin Museum

Getting to and from Philadelphia

One of the best parts about Philadelphia is its location. Situated along the Delaware River, the city is located on Amtrak's Northeast Corridor line, connecting the city to Boston, New York, Baltimore and Washington, D.C. The city can also easily be reached from the Philadelphia International Airport and I-95. Philadelphia's location makes it the perfect spot for an educational field trip!

Registration Information

All participating schools must first pay a Pre-Registration fee of \$75.00 per delegation for the General Assembly Committees, provided that online registration is received before 1 September 2008. After 1 September, the Pre-Registration Fee will be \$125.00 per delegation. Every country is represented in each of the General Assembly and Specialized Agency Committees. Schools may also Pre-Register for one or more of PhilMUN's Advanced Committees at no additional charge. **Pre-Registration fees are not refundable under any circumstances.**

Philadelphia Model United Nations charges an \$85.00 admission fee per student. If students commute to PhilMUN, this is the only charge for which they are responsible. The admission fee covers admission to all conference events, speakers, administrative costs, and a complimentary PhilMUN t-shirt. For schools requiring accommodations at PhilMUN, there is an additional \$150.00 per student hotel fee that covers three nights lodging (quad occupancy). Therefore, students sleeping at PhilMUN will be charged \$235.00 for admission to the conference. This fee does not include student transportation to and from the conference or any food over the course of the four-day event.

There is no admission fee for Advisors and Chaperones at PhilMUN. There is, however, a hotel fee of \$400.00 per hotel room for Advisors and Chaperones sleeping at the conference. Up to 4 Advisors or Chaperones can share a single room at no additional charge. IDIA requires a 15 to 1 student to faculty ratio at all of our conferences, so please plan accordingly.

Final Registration Fees are due 1 February 2009. Full payments not received by the 1 February 2009 deadline will be assessed a 2% per month late fee. **No refunds will be given after 1 February 2009.**

IDIA strongly believes that no student or school should be prevented from attending our programs because of financial limitations. For information on financial assistance, please contact us at info@idia.net.

Conference Fee Structure

(All costs in U.S. Dollars.)

Priority Registration Fee (per delegation) - before 9/1/08	\$75.00
Registration Fee (per delegation) - after 9/1/08	\$125.00
PhilMUN Conference Fee (per student)	\$85.00
PhilMUN Hotel Fee (per student)	\$150.00
PhilMUN Faculty Hotel (per room)	\$400.00

How do hotel arrangements work for PhilMUN?

We recognize that you are busy as a teacher, and we have tried to make the registration process for PhilMUN as easy as possible. Instead of asking you to find a hotel and to negotiate prices, we have leveraged our longstanding relationship with the conference hotel for the cheapest possible room rates, and we have passed them along to you. Instead of calling local hotels, simply complete your rooming lists on the IDIA website, and we will take it from there. When you arrive at the conference, all of the particulars will already be settled. Just check-in, and enjoy the conference!

Schedule of Events

Thursday, 26 February 2009

9:00am	Philadelphia Day
3:00pm	Check-In Begins
5:00pm - 6:00pm	Novice & Advanced Training Sessions
6:00pm - 8:00pm	Opening Ceremony & Keynote Address
8:00pm - 11:00pm	Committee Session I
12:00am	Delegate Curfew

Friday, 27 February 2009

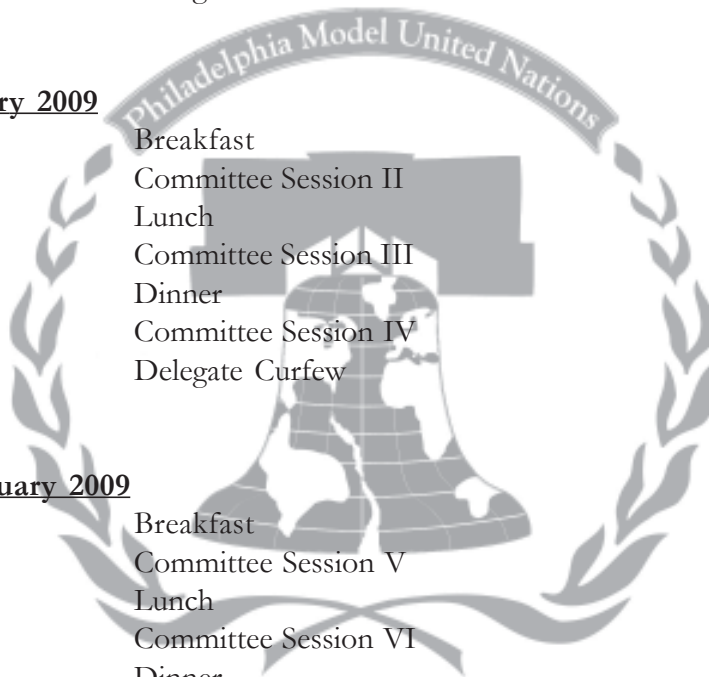
7:30am - 9:00am	Breakfast
9:00am - 12:00pm	Committee Session II
12:00pm - 2:00pm	Lunch
2:00pm - 6:00pm	Committee Session III
6:00pm - 8:00 pm	Dinner
8:00pm - 11:00pm	Committee Session IV
12:00am	Delegate Curfew

Saturday, 28 February 2009

7:30am - 9:00am	Breakfast
9:00am - 12:00pm	Committee Session V
12:00pm - 2:00pm	Lunch
2:00pm - 6:00pm	Committee Session VI
6:00pm - 8:00pm	Dinner
8:00pm - 12:00am	Delegate Social Events
12:15am	Delegate Curfew

Sunday, 1 March 2009

7:30am - 9:00am	Breakfast
9:00am - 10:30am	Committee Debriefing Sessions
10:30am-12:00pm	Interactive Workshops
1:00pm - 2:30pm	Closing and Awards Ceremonies



What are Sunday's Interactive Workshops all about?

As a culminating activity, Sunday's Interactive Workshops will provide a more enriching and stimulating experience than the standard Plenary sessions at Model United Nations conferences. This dynamic and stimulating experience will broaden delegates' practical understanding of the conference theme, reinforcing the importance of the weekend's work.

Important Dates & Deadlines

1 June 2008

Priority Registration Opens

- Available on IDIA Website (www.idia.net)
- Delegation fees discounted to \$75.00
- First choice of delegation assignments

1 September 2008

General Registration Opens

- Available on IDIA Website (www.idia.net)
- Delegation fees \$125.00

1 December 2008

The following materials will be made available to registered schools:

- Delegate Guide
- Committee Briefs
- Payment Forms
- Rooming Lists
- Permission Slips

15 December 2008

Initial Registration Begins

- Delegation Preferences
- Estimated Student Attendance
- Registration Payment

1 February 2009

Final Registration Deadline

Submission of:

- Full Payment
- Payment Forms
- Rooming Lists
- Committee Assignments

Balances due as of this date will be subject to a 2% per month finance charge.

1 February 2009

Online Submission of Position Papers
Permission Slips and Faculty Agreements Due

**No refunds of any kind will be issued after
1 February 2009.**

26 Feb -1 March 2009

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