



Model United Nations Assembly

Rotary International—District 9640



**For all enquiries contact:
District 9640 MUNA Chair
Brian Meldrum**

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**District Governor:
Karen Thomas**

Secretary,
Rotary Club

Dear Secretary,

MUNA 2023

Once again it is that time of the year to start planning to involve secondary school students in our Rotary District **Model United Nations Assembly** giving them a hands-on experience of a UN style debate. **MUNA 2023 will be conducted at the Tweed Heads Civic Centre on Saturday, 1st April 2023 from 9.00am (NSW time), with Registration from 8.00 am.**

The **Model United Nations Assembly** is a Rotary International project. Teams of 3 students generally nominated from years 11 and/or 12, meet under the auspices of District 9640, giving the students the opportunity to select a country, research its history, politics, economics, people, international alignment and make real life stances on world affairs. Having chosen a country, they then debate selected resolutions from that country's point of view.

- MUNA also gives students a great opportunity to experience a free style of debating as used at sessions of the United Nations.
- Students do not incur any costs. A fee is paid by the nominating Rotary Club or the school for each team of \$375, as well as meeting the costs of all other arrangements. An accompanying adult, preferably a teacher, or a Rotarian or parent, is also invited to attend and support their team at no personal cost.
- Students and teams are judged by a panel of judges. There is an overall individual winner and winner of the best country decorations. A team of 3 students are selected to attend the National MUNA in Canberra in August 2023 to represent Rotary District 9640.
- All documentation relating to MUNA 2023 will be available by accessing the website [https://www.rotary9640.org/page/model-United-nations-assembly-\(muna\)](https://www.rotary9640.org/page/model-United-nations-assembly-(muna)). A proposed agenda for MUNA 2023 will be on this site.
- An Expression of Interest form can be found on the above website to allow your school to indicate interest in this programme. The form can be submitted directly to me by selecting the link "*MUNA 2023 Expression of Interest Form*".
- Registration forms will be emailed to the School Contact Person to allow for the details to be sent by mail to me. However, the Form will also be available from the District website for completion and sent directly to me by email. Teams and the preferred country will be accepted on the basis of "first come, first served". To assist the MUNA Committee in its commitment to provide Duty of Care, the Registration Form will include additional Emergency Contact details and any dietary requirements.
- A maximum of 28 teams will be accepted to allow all team members the opportunity to participate in the debates. Each school can nominate up to three teams but the third team will be classified as a "reserve" team. This gives all schools an opportunity to have a team in MUNA 2023.

- Each team will comprise 3 members only. No reserves are permissible unless there are extenuating circumstances and only with the prior approval of the District Chairman.
- Each team will be asked to nominate 3 countries of choice and the allocation of preference will be made on a “first come, first served” basis. A list of countries will be available from the website early next year.
- The Resolutions to be considered will also be available on the website.
- Please contact your nearest Rotary Club for sponsorship of the fee. Payment of the registration fee of \$375.00 per team would be required at the time of Registration, **but no later than the closing date of 28th February, 2023**. A receipt will be issued separately. The confirmation of allocated country will be made by email. The general rules and conditions, starting times etc will be available on the District website.

Students are also encouraged to dress in the national costume of the country they represent and decorate their table with items which reflect the culture of their country. Awards are presented based on thought and originality. Each student will receive a Certificate recognising their Participation. Other categories to receive awards are; Encouragement Award and Chairman’s Encouragement Award. The debate is run as close as possible to that of the United Nations and is organised by Rotarians of District 9640 as a service to the youth of our district.

Teacher, parents, friends and Rotarians are welcome to accompany their teams on the day. There will be a charge for catering for those intending to join the students at morning and/or afternoon tea, and lunch, payable on the day. However, this charge will be waived for one accompanying adult for each team. MUNA is a wonderful experience enjoyed by participating students in particular and by the adults in attendance as well.

This letter is to allow you time to schedule MUNA into your 2023 Rotary calendar and programme. Could you please forward the attached Expression of Interest form (also on our website [https://www.rotary9640.org/page/model-united-nations-assembly-\(muna\)](https://www.rotary9640.org/page/model-united-nations-assembly-(muna))) your local schools, to be submitted **before the closing date of 15th February, 2023**.

PLEASE REMEMBER: MUNA 2023 at the Tweed Heads Civic Centre on Saturday 1st April, 2023 from 8.00am to 5.30pm (NSW Time)

If you have any queries, would like additional details or some preliminary Rotary contacts in your area, or if there is any way you think I might be able to help, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or e-mail. Rotary District 9640 looks forward to your School’s participation in Model United Nations Assembly in 2023 and I look forward to receiving your Expression of Interest at your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully,

Brian Meldrum
District Chair
MUNA