

JOSE AVELINO: AN OBRERO SA SENADO **A Siday Writing Competition**

RATIONALE:

The *siday* is a surviving literary genre in poetry form. It is rhymed and measured verse arranged in stanzas of four lines or quatrains. It basically uses highly metaphorical language (Alcina, 1668). The *siday* is a poem of praise recited in celebratory occasions such as weddings, baptisms, retirement from office, graduation, ascension into office, swearing in or oath taking (Alunan, et al., 2005). In Eastern Visayas, Samar Island particularly, *siday* is a popular form of poetry. Most of the festivities or shows go with a *siday* performance—the highlight of any gathering.

Siday being a form of literature can be an avenue of writing competitions. It can be tapped to showcase the hidden talent of both young and seasoned writers. Having *siday* contests is a way to uphold and promote the literary culture and talents of Samaritans. It certainly is an expression of culture as it conveys the human knowledge, beliefs, and behaviors.

Under one title: “**JOSE AVELINO: AN OBRERO SA SENADO,**” this competition envisions to remind Samaritans on the life and legacy of Jose Dira Avelino – his humble beginnings, advocacies, family life and his rise to the Senate Presidency.

OBJECTIVE:

For purpose of preserving and promoting the art of *siday* writing and encourage talents to continue writing in such form, winning entries and selected non-winning entries submitted to this competition, shall be published in a book.///

I. GUIDELINES

Title: This Siday Writing Competition shall follow one common title, hence shall be written about:

JOSE AVELINO: AN OBRERO SA SENADO

Language: The *siday* entry should be written in the vernacular, meaning *Waray* or *Binisaya*. Since this is a Samar Island-wide competition, the entries may be written in Kinalbayog, Kinatbaloganon, Samarnon, Nortehanon/Ninorte-Samarnon (N. Samar), and Estehanon (Eastern Samar) dialects.

Qualification: All contestants must: 1) submit only **one *siday* entry**; 2) turn in a completely filled-out **notarized official entry form**, and 3) present **other pertinent documents** (after qualifying as a semi-finalist). Any Samarnon, regardless of his present residency/address, falling within the identified age bracket as qualified in the categories, can join this writing competition. In the above context, Samarnon means born or raised in any of the three provinces of Samar. “Raised” further means migrated to any of the three Samar Provinces and stayed for at least 10 years and fluent in any of the various dialects.

NB: All semi-finalists (meaning top 6 contestants per category) will be required to present: 1) a government issued ID; and 2) an original copy of PSA Live Birth or Passport for identity and residency verification purposes. Other pertinent requirements might be required in case of identity or residency uncertainty.

Original Entries: Entries submitted to this competition should be ORIGINAL. It should never have been published or submitted to any contest/competition or presentation of any scope – be it local, regional or national. The entry shall neither be a translation to the vernacular from any other composition written in any other languages.///

Categories: The contest will have two categories, namely:

1. **Amateur Category** which will dwell on **contemporary style** of writing. It should observe the following guidelines:
 - (a) It must be **free verse**, which means an open form of poetry (no consistent meter patterns, rhyme or rhythm).
 - (b) It must contain 10 to 12 stanzas where one stanza may contain one line or 2 to 4 lines.
 - (c) Its external structure or design is the contestant's prerogative.
 - (d) Its participants must be within the age of 15 to 20 years old.

2. **Professional Category** will observe the discipline of the **traditional style** of *siday* writing. It should observe the following guidelines:
 - (a) It must be written in quatrains (four lines per stanza), perfect rhyme (with a chosen consistent rhyme pattern), and meter (either in 12, 14, 16 or 18 syllables),
 - (b) The entry shall not be less than 12 stanzas nor more than 18 stanzas.
 - (c) Participants in this category shall be at least 21 years old at the time when the entry shall be submitted.

Format: All entries must be encoded in **MS Word format** using **Times New Roman** (font type), 12 pts (font size). Spacing between lines and stanzas is the discretion of the writer for aesthetic purposes.

Modes:

1. **Major Competition: *Siday Writing*** (amateur and professional categories)

2. **Supplemental Contest: *Siday Performance*** (amateur and professional categories) from the *Siday Writing Contest*. The top six written *siday* from the above two categories will be performed by *siday* performers of the writer's choice (meaning no contestant will perform his own *siday*). No age limit for the performers will be imposed in any of the two categories.///

Submission of Entries:

1. Written (Siday)

a) Where:

- a.1. Online: jdavelino.sidaywritingcontest@gmail.com;
- a.2. Courier: An entry sent thru the post or any private courier shall be addressed to:

Josephine M. Mendoza
Room #6, 2nd Floor, UCPB Building
Gomez St., Calbayog City

NB: A softcopy of the entry will still be required to be submitted for possible publication purposes.

b) Deadline of Submission: October 15, 2022

c) Requirements:

- c.1. Written Siday with a Pen Name of the writer: e.g.

JOSE AVELINO: An Obrero sa Senado
by Pedro Macawile (Pen Name)

- c.2. Official Entry Form (to be provided online) containing the real name of the writer and other personal circumstances needs to be completely filled out.
- c.3. Signed and Notarized Statement of the Writer as the original writer/author of the literary piece authorizing Calbayog Journal as the first to publish the *siday* (entry) both online and printed media with authorship retained to the writer. Honesty among contestants must be observed. Violators will be dealt with accordingly.///

Timetable:

September 1, 2022

-Launch/Start of the Siday Writing

October 15, 2022

-Deadline of Submission of Entries

October 31, 2022

-Posting of Top Six Entries in each category

November 1, 2022

-Sending of Notices to the Top Six best written Siday, for them to prepare for the performance contest.

November 1-20, 2022

-Acceptance and Consideration of Protests that may be filed against entries submitted to this contest.

December 10, 2022

-Performance Contest & Proclamation of Winners.

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II.MECHANICS:

Panel of Judges:

1. **Written Siday:** There will be a core panel of judges composed of five (5) members. In consideration of the six best written *siday*, the core panel of judges will be well represented across the island of Samar. Aside from the three panel of judges from Samar Province, two other members will come from: 1) from Eastern Samar and 2) Northern Samar, respectively.
2. **Siday Performance:** During the performance competition, three (3) of the core panel of judges will comprise the seven board of judges during the *siday* showdown. The other four board of judges will come from the Provincial Tourism Offices of (1) Northern Samar, (2) Eastern Samar, (3) Samar Province, and (4) a representative from the Local Government of Calbayog City. A total of seven board of judges will take part in the adjudication of the face-to-face *siday* showdown.

The members of the Panel of Judges shall adhere to the Internal Rules signed by them before the adjudicating process.

Judging of Entries:

1. **Written Siday** – The top six best written *siday* will be chosen and declared as finalists. These entries will qualify to the **Performance Contest** (Showdown). The Board of Judges will also adjudicate for the top three winners before the Siday Performance Contest (Showdown).
2. **Siday Performance Contest (Showdown)**– Only the top six best written *siday* will be performed during the *Siday Performance Contest* (Showdown) with the writer/author given the liberty to choose a performer. The venue of *siday* performance will be in Calbayog City, Samar.

III.CRITERIA:

1. Written Siday – The Judges will adhere to the following criteria in judging of the written Siday.

1.a. Amateur (Contemporary) Category:

- Novelty
- Poetic Execution
- Strategic Line Cutting
- Overall Impact

1.b. Professional (Traditional) Category:

- Novelty
- Poetic Execution
- Metrical Stability
- Rhyme Consistency
- Overall Appeal

2. Performance (Showdown) Contest:

- Persuasive and Accurate Delivery (40%)
- Creative Interpretation (15%)
- Voice Quality (15%)
- Stage Presence (15%)
- Overall Performance (15%)

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IV. PRIZES:

1. Writing Contest

a) Amateur Category:

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|--------------|---|-----|-----------|
| First Prize | : | Php | 30,000.00 |
| Second Prize | : | | 15,000.00 |
| Third Prize | : | | 10,000.00 |

b) Professional:

| | | | |
|--------------|---|-----|-----------|
| First Prize | : | Php | 50,000.00 |
| Second Prize | : | | 30,000.00 |
| Third Prize | : | | 20,000.00 |

2. Performance Contest:

a) Amateur Category:

| | | | |
|--------------|---|-----|-----------|
| First Prize | : | PhP | 20,000.00 |
| Second Prize | : | | 15,000.00 |
| Third Prize | : | | 10,000.00 |

b) Professional Category:

| | | | |
|--------------|---|-----|-----------|
| First Prize | : | PhP | 20,000.00 |
| Second Prize | : | | 15,000.00 |
| Third Prize | : | | 10,000.00 |

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V.QUALIFICATION/DISQUALIFICATION OF ENTRIES:

Professional (Traditional) Category

- a) The judges will decide on the disqualification of entries submitted less than 12 or more than 18 stanzas in the Professional (Traditional) Category. Only entries that fall within the specified number of syllables and stanzas will be qualified for judging.
- b) Plagiarized or “commissioned poetry” entry will likewise be a ground for disqualification.
- c) Violators of the above safety nets will be perpetually disqualified from joining any other competitions that will be conducted under the Jose D. Avelino Siday Writing Competition in the future.///

VI. JUDGING, ACCEPTANCE and CONSIDERATION OF PROTESTS:

Judging: The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.

Filing of Protests: Protests against entries published and declared finalists will be accepted within twenty (20) days from the date of declaration of finalists and posting/publication in the social media page, youtube channel and at the website of Calbayog Journal.

Protests shall be made and accepted only in the form of writing. No posting of protests in the social media will be considered. Written protests should be sent by mail to:

Josephine M. Mendoza
Room #6, 2nd Floor, UCPB Building,
Gomez Street, Calbayog City, Samar

or through email:

jdavelino.sidaywritingcontest@gmail.com.

The Contest Secretariat will only receive protests; only the Board of Judges could disqualify a contestant.

Proof of Protests: The protest/s shall be accompanied with valid proof.

- a) In the case of **plagiarism**, the protester shall submit a copy of the original piece of writing, containing therein the name of the writer.
- b) For entries protested of previous posting or submission to other contests before this, the protest shall bear copy with the date and venue where the entry was first submitted, posted or published.
- c) The Board of Judges reserves the right to investigate protests, rule on the alleged protest, and uphold its decision pertaining to the protest. Its decision is final.