Student Diplomat Program / Jr. Model United Nations

Cultural Diplomacy Presentation for Participating Schools
• Culture has to do with values and beliefs as well as customs and traditions...

• Culture is learned and handed down from generation to generation...

• Culture influences and shapes our behaviors and attitude...
What is Culture?

- Culture is shared by a group of people...
- Culture is often unconscious, meaning that people are oftentimes not aware that their behaviors and attitudes are shaped by their culture...
- Everyone is a part of not just one, but many cultures...
Everyone Has a Culture — Everyone Is Different*

Students: Answer the following questions.

1. What language(s) do you speak?

2. What music do you listen to? What dances do you know?

3. What foods do you eat at home?

4. In your family, what is considered polite and what is considered rude? What manners have you been taught? (Think about such things as table manners, behavior toward guests in your home, what to say when answering the telephone, how to say thanks for a meal.)
5. What do you wear on special occasions?

6. How often do you see your extended family (for example, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins)? What role do they play in your life?

7. What holidays and ceremonies are important in your family?

8. Describe something very important to you. It could be a value, such as respect or honesty. It could be a person, such as a parent, brother, sister or friend. It could be a goal, such as going to college or designing a website. It could be a hobby.

9. Based on what you’ve written, how would you describe the characteristics of the culture you’re a part of?
• What were some of the questions that you and your neighbor answered the same?

• Which questions did you answer differently?

• How can you explain the difference?

• How many of you identified that you were a part of more than one culture?
What is Diplomacy?

- The work of maintaining good relations between the governments of countries...
- The ability to find common ground with others who may think or believe very differently than you...
- The ability to work together to advance a common cause...
What is a Diplomat?

• A person appointed by a national government to conduct official negotiations and maintain political, economic and social relations with another country or group of countries...

• A person who is skilled in managing delicate situations, handling people, etc.
The United Nations was founded in 1945 to:

– Promote world peace;
– Develop good relationships between countries;
– Promote cooperation in solving the world’s problems;
– Encourage respect for human rights.
What is a Model United Nations?

- Model United Nations is a *simulation* of the United Nations (U.N.) General Assembly and/or any other U.N. organ.
- It’s an academic competition!
- Students *represent countries* and *serve as delegates*.
- Delegates debate and discuss global issues to learn more about *diplomacy*, international relations, and the United Nations.
Visible Aspects of Culture

Dress  Food  Language  Literature  Music  Games  Rituals  Visual Art  Festivals

Beliefs  Communication Style  Ethics  Values  Handling Emotions  Notions of Time  Handling Physical Space  Notions of Modesty  Competition vs. Cooperation

Non-Visible Aspects of Culture
Research Your Assigned Country & Topic

Begin to familiarize yourself with your assigned country’s culture and history, as well as it’s relationship with the United Nations and assigned topic.

Read the briefing paper for your assigned topic and complete the “Questions to Consider.”

Briefing papers are now available online at https://wacphila.org/education/middle-school-programs
Write a Position Paper (Optional)

Using the research you have compiled on your assigned country and topic, each pair or group of students representing a particular country and topic write a one page position paper that introduces their country and its history as it relates to their assigned topic.

Due Date: Friday, April 5
Write a Resolution!

From the perspective of your assigned country, write a resolution addressing your topic, including three preambulatory clauses and three corresponding operative clauses.

Wednesday, April 24
Attend the Jr. Model United Nations Final Conference on

**Wednesday, May 1**

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