Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS
DIVISION OF CITY SCHOOLS - TAGBILARAN CITY

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

November 12, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 971 s. 2026

JA SPARK THE DREAM PLUS: CAROLS OF DREAMS - A CHRISTMAS CAROLING SEARCH 2026

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief CID and SGOD
Public Elementary, Junior and Senior High School Principals
Public Elementary, Junior and Senior High School MAPEH Coordinators
All Others Concerned

1. This Office through the Curriculum Implementation Division hereby disseminates Regional Memorandum No. 1058, s.2026 Titled: JA SPARK THE DREAM Plus: Carols of Dreams A Christmas Caroling Search 2026, a competition that aims to showcase learner's musical talents, creativity, teamwork, and appreciation of the values promoted by the JA Spark the Dream Plus Program

2. For more details, please refer to the attached communication. As well as the competition guidelines and contest mechanics.

3. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum is desired.

For the SDS:

WILFREDA D. BONGALOS PhD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

JOHN ARIEL A. LAGURA PhD
Assistant Schools Division Superintendent

WDB/JAAL/CID/JTB/aal

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS

RECORDS SECTION REGIONAL OFFICE NO. VII
By: Date: 12 NOV 2026

Office of the Regional Director

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 1058 , s. 2026

12 NOV 2026

JA SPARKTHEDREAM PLUS: CAROLS OF DREAMS –
A CHRISTMAS CAROLING SEARCH 2026

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is a communication from Junior Achievement of the Philippines (JA Philippines), inviting elementary, junior high school, and senior high school learners to participate in the **JA SparkTheDream Plus: Carols of Dreams – A Christmas Caroling Search 2026**, a competition that aims to showcase learners' musical talents, creativity, teamwork, and appreciation of the values promoted by the JA SparkTheDream Plus Program.

2. Participation in this activity is voluntary and subject to existing DepEd policies. Interested schools may organize participating groups and submit a recorded performance of the official JA SparkTheDream Song following the competition guidelines, requirements, and mechanics prescribed by the organizers. Entries shall be submitted through the official online submission platform on or before November 16, 2026.

3. The complete competition guidelines are attached for reference and guidance of all concerned.

4. This Memorandum is issued for the information and dissemination of all interested participants and other concerned stakeholders

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DEPED TAGBILARAN CITY DIVISION
SDS OFFICE
DOWNLOADED
DATE: 11/12/2026

DR. ARTURO B. BAYOCOT, CESO III
Regional Director

For the Regional Director

MS. IDA F. CABANTAN, JD
Chief Administrative Officer
Administrative Service Division

ABB/FYA/CLMD/BCA

JA Philippines

JA PHILIPPINES LEARNING INSTITUTE

November 10, 2026

DR. ARTURO B. BAYOCOT, CESO III
Regional Director
Department of Education - Region VII (Central Visayas)

Greetings from Junior Achievement of the Philippines!

Junior Achievement of the Philippines, Inc. (JA Philippines), a member of JA Worldwide®, proudly serves as the implementing arm of Junior Achievement programs in the country. With JA Worldwide's unwavering commitment to empowering young people globally, it is with great pride that the organization has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for five consecutive years.

The **JA SparkTheDream Plus Program**, implemented by Junior Achievement of the Philippines in partnership with FWD Insurance, aims to empower young learners with essential financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and life skills that can help them build a stronger and more purposeful future.

As an extension of the program's onsite and online Financial Literacy Sessions, the **JA SparkTheDream Plus: Carols of Dreams – A Christmas Caroling Search 2026** provides an additional opportunity for learners to continue their engagement with the program and showcase their musical talents, creativity, and teamwork through the performance of the official JA SparkTheDream Song.

Through this initiative, we hope to further extend the reach and impact of JA SparkTheDream Plus by engaging the schools and learners who participated in our previous onsite and online sessions. We warmly encourage your schools to invite and mobilize their learners to form groups and submit entries to the caroling search. This is an opportunity for our previous program beneficiaries to take part in another meaningful experience, express themselves through music, and share the values of inclusivity, diversity, positivity, and aspiration while spreading joy, hope, and the spirit of Christmas within their schools and communities.

In this regard, we are pleased to share the official competition guidelines, requirements, and important dates. We look forward to your support in encouraging your participating schools and learners to join the competition and be part of this exciting Christmas celebration!

I. COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

The competition is open to learners from Elementary, Junior High School, and Senior High School. Each participating school may organize a group to represent its school in the competition.

Requirement	Details
Eligibility	Open to all learners from Elementary, Junior High School, and Senior High School.
Group Composition	Each entry must consist of a group of performers representing their school.
Song Selection	All participating groups must perform the official JA SparkTheDream Song.
Creativity and Presentation	Participants are encouraged to showcase creativity through their musical arrangements, choreography, formations, and overall presentation while maintaining the integrity of the official song.
Performance Quality	The performance must demonstrate preparation, confidence, teamwork, and clear vocal delivery.
Audition Video	Each group must submit a recorded performance of the JA SparkTheDream Song that clearly captures the performers and their singing.
Compliance with Guidelines	All entries must follow the official competition rules, submission requirements, and deadlines established by the organizers.

Important Reminder: Participants must perform the official JA SparkTheDream Song. Creative interpretations, choreography, and stage presentations may be incorporated, provided they remain appropriate for the audience and consistent with the song's message and the values of the JA SparkTheDream Plus Program.

II. PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES

All participating groups must ensure that their presentation reflects the values and objectives of the JA SparkTheDream Plus Program. The following guidelines should be observed:

Performance Consideration	What Teams Should Demonstrate
Song Accuracy	The performance must use the official JA SparkTheDream Song and preserve its original lyrics and core message.
Musicality	The group should demonstrate clear vocals, proper timing, rhythm, harmony, and coordination throughout the performance.
Creativity and Interpretation	Groups may incorporate creative arrangements, choreography, formations, and expressive movements that enhance the performance.
Teamwork and Participation	Members should demonstrate cooperation, synchronization, and active participation in the presentation.
Presentation Quality	The performance should be well-prepared, engaging, organized, and appropriate for the participants' grade level.
Program Alignment	The presentation should reflect the values of dreaming big, believing in oneself, working toward goals, and creating a brighter future.
Appropriateness and Safety	Costumes, props, movements, and visual elements must be suitable for a school audience and safe for all participants.

Important Reminders:

- Each participating group must submit a recorded performance of the official JA SparkTheDream Song.
- The video must clearly capture the performers and their presentation, with understandable audio and adequate visual quality.
- The use of choreography, costumes, props, and creative staging is encouraged, provided these elements support the song's message and do not compromise the integrity of the official song.

III. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All participating groups must submit the required information and audition materials for the Carols of Dreams: A Christmas Caroling Search. Submissions must be complete, properly organized, and accessible to the organizing team for validation and judging.

Required Submission	Format / Requirements
Team Information Sheet	Complete the required information, including school name, school level (Elementary, Junior High School, or Senior High School), team name, names of participants, and contact details of the authorized representative.
Audition Video	Submit a recorded performance of the official JA SparkTheDream Song. The video must clearly capture the group's singing and overall presentation.
Performance Documentation	Ensure that the video demonstrates the group's musicality, creativity, coordination, teamwork, and interpretation of the official song.
Google Drive Folder/Link	Upload and organize all required submission files in one Google Drive folder and provide the folder link through the official submission channel.

Submission File Naming Convention

Please follow the prescribed file naming convention for all audition video submissions:

JA SparkTheDream Plus Carols of Dreams 2026_Team Name_School Name_Level_Division

Example: Carols of Dreams 2026_Dream Singers_ABC School_Elementary

Important Submission Reminders:

1. Ensure that all required files are uploaded before submitting the Google Drive link.
2. Check that the audition video plays properly and has clear audio and visuals.
3. Set the Google Drive folder permission to **"Anyone with the link can view."**
4. Verify that the submitted link is correct and that the organizing team can access all files without requesting permission.
5. Incomplete submissions or inaccessible files may not be included in the judging process.

6. All entries must be submitted on or before the official deadline announced by the organizers.

IV. OFFICIAL SUBMISSION PROCESS

Teams must submit their competition requirements through the official submission form.

Competition Requirements and Submission Form:

The submission form will require each participating group to provide the necessary team information and the Google Drive link containing the required audition video and other supporting documents.

Before completing the form, teams must ensure that their Google Drive folder meets the following requirements:

Google Drive Requirement	What to Check Before Submission
Files Uploaded	Ensure that all required submission materials are uploaded to the designated Google Drive folder.
Correct Link	Provide the correct and working Google Drive folder link in the official submission form.
File Naming	Follow the prescribed file naming convention for easy identification of entries.
Access Permission	Ensure that the folder and files are set to "Anyone with the link can view."
File Accessibility	Verify that the organizing team can open and review all submitted files without requesting additional access.

Important: The organizing team must be able to access all submitted files to validate each entry. Submissions with restricted access, broken links, missing files, or files displaying "Request Access" may be considered incomplete and may not be included in the judging process.

Participants are encouraged to review their submissions carefully before completing the official form. Only entries submitted through the designated submission channel and within the prescribed deadline will be considered, subject to the official competition rules.

V. SUBMISSION EXPECTATIONS

All entries for the **Carols of Dreams: A Christmas Caroling Search** should reflect the participants' musical talents, creativity, teamwork, and understanding of the message of the official JA SparkTheDream Song.

Teachers, school coordinators, and advisers may provide guidance and support; however, the performance should genuinely represent the efforts and abilities of the participating learners.

All participating groups are expected to:

1. **Perform the Official Song.** Use the official JA SparkTheDream Song as the required musical piece for the competition.
2. **Demonstrate Creativity.** Incorporate appropriate choreography, formations, costumes, or visual elements that enhance the performance.
3. **Promote Teamwork.** Ensure active participation, coordination, and cooperation among group members.
4. **Maintain Originality.** Present an authentic performance while respecting the song's original lyrics, message, and applicable intellectual property rights.
5. **Observe Appropriateness and Safety.** Ensure that the performance, costumes, props, and movements are suitable for the participants' grade levels and a school or community audience.
6. **Submit Authentic Recordings.** Provide a genuine recording of the group's performance that accurately represents its singing and presentation.
7. **Follow Submission Guidelines.** Ensure that all required files are complete, accessible, properly named, and submitted within the official deadline.
8. **Uphold Program Values.** Reflect the values of inclusivity, diversity, positivity, and aspiration throughout the preparation and performance.

Important Reminder: The organizing team reserves the right to validate submissions and determine whether entries comply with the competition guidelines. Incomplete submissions, inaccessible files, or performances that fail to meet the stated requirements may be disqualified from the judging process.

VI. JUDGING CRITERIA

The entries for the Carols of Dreams: A Christmas Caroling Search will be evaluated based on the participants' vocal performance, musicality, creativity, teamwork, and overall presentation of the official JA SparkTheDream Song.

The following criteria will be used in evaluating all eligible entries:

Criteria	Description	Weight
Vocal Quality and Musicality	Evaluates vocal clarity, pitch, tone, rhythm, harmony, diction, and overall musical execution.	25%
Group Harmony and Coordination	Assesses synchronization, blending of voices, timing, balance, and cooperation among group members.	25%
Interpretation and Expression	Measures the group's ability to convey the message of the JA SparkTheDream Song through emotion, expression, and musical interpretation.	20%
Creativity and Presentation	Evaluates choreography, formations, costumes, stage presence, and creative elements that enhance the performance.	15%
Overall Impact and Program Alignment	Assesses the performance's overall appeal and its reflection of the values of inclusivity, diversity, positivity, and aspiration.	15%
TOTAL		**100%**

Important Reminder: All participating groups will be evaluated using the same criteria to ensure fairness and consistency. The judges' decisions will be considered final, subject to the competition rules established by the organizers.

VII. COMPETITION JOURNEY

The Carols of Dreams: A Christmas Caroling Search will guide participating groups through a series of stages, from registration and audition preparation to finalist selection and the Christmas performance opportunity.

Stage	What Teams Need to Do	Required Output
Registration	Register the participating group and provide the required school and team information.	Completed Registration
Preparation and Rehearsal	Prepare and rehearse the official JA SparkTheDream Song, incorporating appropriate choreography and creative presentation.	Prepared Group Performance
Video Recording	Record the group's performance, ensuring clear audio, adequate video quality, and visible participation of the performers.	Audition Video
Submission	Complete the required documents, upload the audition video to Google Drive, and submit the folder link through the official submission form.	Complete Submission
Validation and Judging	The organizing team validates the entries, and the judges evaluate eligible submissions based on the official judging criteria.	Evaluated Entries
Top 3 Announcement	The organizers announce the three selected groups based on the judging results.	Top 3 Finalists
Mentoring and Coaching	The selected groups participate in mentoring and coaching to enhance their performance in preparation for the next stage.	Refined Performance
Christmas Performance Opportunity	The Top 3 groups participate in the Christmas performance opportunity arranged by the organizers.	Featured Christmas Performance

Important Reminder: All participating groups must complete each applicable stage and comply with the official competition guidelines and deadlines. Details regarding the mentoring sessions, performance schedule, venue, and other arrangements will be communicated by the organizers.

VIII. IMPORTANT DATES

Please take note of the following competition dates and activities:

Date	Activity / Milestone
October 29, 2026	Start of Team Registration
November 16, 2026	Deadline of Online Audition
November 20, 2026	Announcement of Top 3 Teams

Further announcements regarding the mentoring and coaching sessions, as well as the Christmas performance arrangements, will be shared with the selected finalists.

IX. PRIZES AND RECOGNITION

The Carols of Dreams: A Christmas Caroling Search aims to recognize the musical talents, creativity, teamwork, and dedication of participating learners. The selected groups will receive opportunities to further develop their musical abilities and showcase their talents through the JA SparkTheDream Plus Program.

The following recognitions and opportunities will be provided:

Award / Recognition	Prize or Opportunity
Top 3 Finalists	Mentoring and coaching sessions to enhance their musical performance and presentation.
Top 3 Finalists	Opportunity to perform during the Christmas event or showcase organized by JA Philippines, subject to the official arrangements.
Top 3 Finalists	Recognition for their outstanding participation in the Carols of Dreams: A Christmas Caroling Search.
All Top Teams	Certificates of Recognition
All Top Teams	Plaque

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The official announcement of prizes, certificates, trophies, cash incentives, or other awards will be communicated by the organizers, if applicable. Details regarding the mentoring sessions and Christmas performance opportunity, including the schedule and venue, will likewise be provided to the selected groups.

We encourage all participating schools and learners to carefully review the competition requirements and guidelines before submitting their entries.

Through the Carols of Dreams, we look forward to seeing our young learners share their musical talents, express their creativity, and spread the joy and hope of Christmas in their respective school communities.

Should you have any questions, require further clarification, or wish to discuss how your community can best participate in the program, please do not hesitate to reach out to **Ms. Andrea Robles** at **andrea@japionline.org**.

Thank you very much for your time and continued support.

Sincerely,

PAULA PATRICE DELA CRUZ
Director of Operations
Junior Achievement of the Philippines