



DepEd ICT Unit

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF VALENZUELA CITY



**Office of the Schools Division
Superintendent**

January 30, 2026

Dr. JONATHAN O. LAGDAMEN
Principal IV
Dalandanan National High School

Dear Dr. Lagdamen:

This is in reference to the attached letter from SOY MNL Production, dated January 28, 2026, with the subject: "TERESA film showing for the grade 9 to 11 learners of your school, promoting gender equality, youth, and kids' rights, scheduled for February 28, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. onwards.

In this regard, interested secondary high school learners are encouraged to participate voluntarily in the said activity. Schools and Philmarts production concerned are hereby advised to ensure strict compliance with the following guidelines:

1. Compliance with DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005, "No Disruption of Classes Policy";
2. Strict observance of the Data Privacy Act of 2012 to ensure the confidentiality and protection of learners' personal information;
3. Compliance with DepEd Order No. 19, s. 2008, "No Collection Policy in Public Schools";
4. Securing written parental consent for the voluntary participation of learners in the activity;
5. For your reference and prior coordination, the attached school directory may be used.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

NOEL D. BAGANO
Schools Division Superintendent

Division Letter No. 037, s. 2026

SGOD-SM&N/ECP



Address: Pío Valenzuela St., Marulas, Valenzuela City
Telephone Nos.: (02) 8293-4507, 8277-4648, 8291-0873, 8277-3439
Email Address: sdovalenzuela@deped.gov.ph
Official Website: <https://www.sdovalenzuelacity.deped.gov.ph>





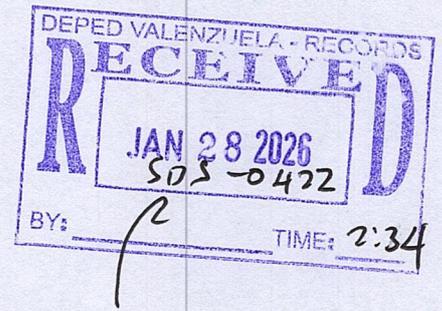
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Dalandanan National High School	
Contact Person:	
School Head	Dr. Jonathan O. Lagdamen
Head Teacher IV	Roderick Alo
Contact number	28373-0905
Email Address/ School FB page account	dalandanan.nhs@deped.gov.ph and https://www.facebook.com/dalandanan.nhs.official.page

SOY MNL PRODUCTIONS

Manila, Philippines

January 28, 2026



To:

Mr. Roderick Alo

Head teacher, Filipino Department
Dalandanan National High School

Dr. Jonathan O. Lagdamen

Principal IV
Dalandanan National High School

Mr. Noel D. Bagano

School Division Superintendent, SDO Valenzuela

To Whom it may concern,

Warm greetings from **SOY MNL Productions**, storytelling is our mission with purpose at its core. We are a production company committed to creating impactful content that amplifies awareness, sparks dialogue, and drives action toward achieving United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. SOY MNL Productions is fully supported by the worldwide non-profit organization, State of Youth and KidsRights, which is based in The Netherlands.

We are pleased to present to your institution the opportunity to host a special film screening of our first short film, **TERESA**. This short film is an official theme fund grantee of State of Youth and KidsRights for its focus on Gender Equality.

LOGLINE

In a world where engineering is seen as a man's domain, a determined high school girl defies societal expectations, school bias, and personal hardships to pursue her dream of becoming an engineer, proving that talent knows no gender.

SYNOPSIS

Teresa, a bright and determined Grade 10 student from a struggling household, dreams of becoming an engineer, a career dismissed by her teacher, male classmates, and even her own mother as "only for boys" or "for the wealthy." At school, she faces subtle and overt discrimination: being sidelined in group work, discouraged from attending STEM events, and witnessing opportunities labeled "boys preferred." At home, she shoulders the burden of caring for her sick mother while studying, determined to break the cycle of poverty.

Her resolve is reignited when she meets Ms. Joan Alvarez, a renowned young female engineer, whose story mirrors her struggles and affirms that engineering is for everyone. Inspired, Teresa pushes forward applying for scholarships, honing her skills, and holding her ground against prejudice.

In a powerful turn, Teresa is summoned to the principal's office and learns she has been awarded a full academic scholarship from the Philippine Union of Engineers, covering her entire college education. With renewed determination in her eyes, she realizes this is only the beginning of her fight not just for her dreams, but for every girl told she "can't."

Official Trailer:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L6SovN6VSB3Lpbz5xHT8hX9KbJpD0cyS/view?usp=drivesdk>

Official Poster:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fqh9QCfnpDuRLhcXbpacMQ1wcckTm6n/view?usp=drivesdk>

You may check the Official Facebook Page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/16KAR3Qwzy/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Here's our iMDB page: <https://m.imdb.com/title/tt37789055/>

The short film features outstanding performances by **Elia Ilano**, a **two-time Best Child Performer awardee** of PMPC Star Awards for Movies 2023 (The Housemaid) and FAMAS 2024 (Pinoy Ghost Tales). She is joined by the veteran actor, **Mr. Bodjie Pascua**. This film also stars actress, host, and singer, **Ataska**, an upcoming rising teen, **Symon de Leña**. This short film also includes Malou Canzana, Richard Ubalde, Vinz Aceremo, Romulo Gonzaga Jr., Lyka Pepito and Cath Daymoto.

Directed and written by Paulo Xavier, a Top 5 finalist of an Australian-based international film festival, Focus on Ability Short Film Festival last 2021 for the film, "The Box", and bagged Viewer's Choice Award from Reel Vista Video Making Contest last 2017 for the same short film.

TERESA offers not only entertainment, but also a deeply moving and educational experience for students specifically targetting Grade 9, 10 and 11. This short film is an official selection of the following local and international film festivals namely Tampok Short Film Festival 2025 where it won Audience Choice Award, Best Trailer, Best Movie Poster and 3rd Best Picture, Seven Colors Australian Film Festival, Campinas (Brazil) Film Festival 2025 where it won Best Director, Best Actress and Best International Live Action Short Film (Honorable Mention) and Amader International Short Film Festival.

We believe this short film can play a vital role in fostering empathy, resilience, inclusion and gender equality among students. Its themes of educational perseverance, family values, and social understanding are powerful tools for shaping the next generation of socially aware and emotionally intelligent individuals. It can be related to Filipino subject lessons for the said students such as:

- **Literary Analysis** (*Pag-unawa sa akdang pampanitikan, pagsusuri ng mga tauhan at motibasyon*),
- **Critical thinking** by analyzing and discussing social issues (*Pagsusuri ng mga isyung panlipunan*)
- **Essay writing** on themes (*Paggawa ng mga sanaysay tungkol sa mga tema ng pelikula*).

There is no viewing fee associated with this however we expect your school to facilitate the film showing by gathering students and administering the venue within your school premises as to where it should be shown.

Date & Place: February 28, 2026 (Saturday) at School Lobby,

Dalandanan National High school

Time: 1:00PM

We would be honored to partner with your institution in this endeavor and are open to working closely with your team to finalize details, including scheduling and setup.

Thank you for your continued dedication to academic and character formation. We look forward to the opportunity to inspire and move your students through this meaningful film experience.

Warm regards,

SOY MNL PRODUCTIONS

0917-3128414

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S
PEACE PRIZE
THEME FUND GRANTEE
FOR GENDER EQUALITY

A FILM BY PAULO XAVIER

TERESA

SOY MNL PRODUCTIONS IN COOPERATION WITH STATE OF YOUTH AND KIDSRIGHTS PRESENT TERESA STARRING ELIA ILANO BODJIE PASCUA ATASKA SYMON DE
LENA MALOU CANZANA AND RICHARD UBALDE SCORE BY JERECHO SANCHEZ NISPEROS EDITOR DAVE RAMIREZ ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AND PRODUCTION
DESIGNER SHERRYL ILANO EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS STATE OF YOUTH WVVK KIDSRIGHTS AND ELIA ILANO WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY PAULO XAVIER

