

ROMUN News

BEGINNING OF CONFERENCE SEASON

SEMMUNA & GLIMUN COMING SOON

ROMUN is getting excited because the height of the 2018-2019 conference season is quickly approaching. Three of our biggest conferences all happen so quickly, so delegates are already beginning to prepare. SEMMUNA, another slightly beginner conference, is coming up quickly on November 10th, GLIMUN, a ROMUN favorite, is hosted in Kalamazoo at the end of November to the beginning of December, and the big National conference in Chicago is at the very beginning of February.

Delegations (the countries students will be representing) have already started to be assigned. The 11 students attending the Chicago conference already have their country of Palau assigned (all ROMUN delegates represent the same country at this conference) and topic, and are already planning meetings together, as well as some delegations for GLIMUN. Students are very excited, especially seniors, who are prepared to jump head first into their last conference season of high school, and are determined to make it the best yet.



NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME TO THE TEAM

Being almost two months into the school year, the club has already started receiving applications from new members, and having new people at the Monday meetings. The ROMUN officers, as well as experienced members, are glad to see new faces, as they know getting new members is vital to maintaining the legacy of ROMUN. Every meeting, at the end, there is something called “delegate development” where the

officers put together an activity to help build debate skills in preparation for conferences.

Through these delegate developments, the officers have already seen an increase in skills amongst the new members. The first big conference is coming up on November 10th, so it is important that the club supplies its new members with the resources necessary to succeed at this conference, and all others going forward. The club will continue to accept applications from these new members up until October 26th, so the deadline is drawing near. The club is excited to keep building skills, and spreading the joy of model UN to more and more students every year.

NEW ROMUN MERCH

TINYURL.COM/ROMUNMERCH18

ROMUN members are especially excited for this year's conferences, as they will be sporting the new ROMUN merchandise. After many long months of designing, pricing, and organizing, the club is finally ready to order some merchandise to wear to conferences. For all, there are items such as t-shirts, crewneck sweatshirts, windbreakers, and jackets, and for guys, we have a special model UN tie. As an incentive to attend the GLIMUN conference, the price of a ROMUN windbreaker is included in the price, so every delegate that attends GLIMUN will receive a windbreaker before heading off to Kalamazoo. The team is also excited about this because it will make us appear as more of a team, which is



always a good thing when showing up to a conference, especially for the large Chicago conference. So do not fear, ROMUN will be pulling out all stops to be looking great and unified at conferences this year!

SUPERMUN

THE ROMUN HOSTED BEGINNER CONFERENCE

On the morning of October 20th, Royal Oak High School was filled with around 100 beginning model UN delegates, with about 15 of them being middle schoolers. ROMUN hosted its second annual beginners' conference, now known as SuperMUN, where we had our experienced



ROMUN members, as well as a few of our alumni, lead multiple committees where the goal was to teach new delegates about the basics of a model UN conference. The high school committees debated the topic of Human Trafficking, while the middle

school committee debated Rights of Women in the Workplace. All committees produced resolutions by the end of the day, and all stated that their confidence increased significantly because of the conference.

That's the whole reason why ROMUN decided to host this conference; to introduce delegates who have never been to a conference before to the basics so they can go on to use the skills they learned at bigger and more populated conferences. There were multiple schools across the area who sent their students last year, and found it so helpful, that they brought even more this year. ROMUN is proud to say that they helped to build the foundational skills that delegates will need going forward.



ADVISOR COMMENT

WRITTEN BY MR. CHISNELL

In a time when we often feel a certain world-weariness around politics and our ability to effect change, our recent SuperMUN conference is a breath of optimism. Over 100 delegates from around Michigan came together to learn from and alongside ROMUN students. This small conference, a prequel to November's enormous SEMMUNA conference in Brighton, proves that a generation of students about to enter our democracy are well-suited for it.



I shouldn't be surprised. Saturday they learned from an agent from Homeland Security about slavery in the US. In previous years, our students have met world leaders and engaged them in dialogues on the rights of Syrian refugees in Europe, developmental politics in Tanzania, and GMOs in Central America. To see our current team organize a conference

and teach other schools what we do is only the opener for what looks like a powerful year for ROMUN.



Last week I was sent a follow-up study by Dr. Brett Levy of the University of Albany. He had conducted a year-long study on Royal Oak's team some years ago, one that created his dissertation and several journal articles. Dr. Levy concluded that not only does Model UN foster powerful and lasting social relationships, this networking of business and friendships directly fosters political self-efficacy. In other words, the more students do Model UN, the more powerful they feel in creating change and acting on those feelings.

While I've been teaching over 30 years, I find myself still invigorated by a team like ours. Watching these people grow powerful not only in their understanding of politics but in their excitement for it--well, it reminds me why I stay. Here's to a powerful season for ROMUN!

MEMBER PERSPECTIVE

With SuperMUN over, we have officially slid straight into conference season. The team's most popular conference, GLIMUN is five weeks away, with position papers being due only three weeks from now. Researching for the conference will be hitting some of us hard and fast as we recover from hosting SuperMUN. So far, over twenty of us have signed up for GLIMUN and are eagerly looking forward to it. The seniors of the club are repeatedly using the phrase "Last GLIMUN, best GLIMUN" as they prep for what will surely be for some their very last Model UN conference, but also hopefully their best one yet.

For myself, I truly believe that this will be my best GLIMUN yet. I have grown a lot since my first one in my sophomore year. I have found it easier to talk to others in committee and convey my thoughts. This conference will be my most challenging one yet, as I am representing Syria in the World Health Organization committee in the Economic and Social Council. In previous conferences, my nation has not always been as recognizable to the other delegates, but if I make an obvious policy mistake regarding the topics of expanding mental health resources and HIV/AIDS, it will surely be known. This has been my favorite conference to attend and I already know that my last one will be bringing many memories along with it.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

CLICK THE BUTTON TO CHECK IT OUT romun.org



Royal Oak Model UN

Royal Oak's International Debate Team

Since 1995, we have been Royal Oak's international debate team. Join the ROMUN team!



Did you see us at the Raven Rally?



Chicago Parent Potluck



SuperMUN 2018

Click the image above to download an application

Come to the MMR on September 11th from 7:00 - 8:30 for more info on the Chicago Trip

Our Beginner conference coming up on October 20th. Click the image for more info

OCTOBER 26TH

Application Deadline: Our new members have until this time to turn in their applications

NOVEMBER 2ND

New Parent Potluck: A gathering for all new ROMUN parents who want to learn about Model UN

NOVEMBER 10TH

SEMMUNA: Another beginners conference if delegates didn't have a chance to attend SuperMUN

NOVEMBER 28TH - DECEMBER 1ST

GLIMUN: Our biggest conference of the year that all are encouraged to attend



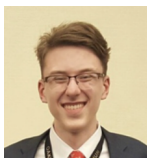
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While ROMUN welcomes the support of individual sponsors to assist our delegates as they work to attend conferences and other national or international events, building sustainable partnerships to grow our program is also our goal. If you have ideas to help ROMUN fulfill its mission to educate its students and the wider community, please contact us!



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