

INDONESIAN A.C.E. Newsletter



Southern Cross
EDUCATIONAL ENTERPRISES

Education is more than merely academic. Seek to educate the whole child.

Importance of hobbies

The younger a child finds what he likes, it will help him more as he grows up. When he is excited about what he likes to do, and gets better in them, he is likely to focus on them. With that, he can direct his mind, soul, strength, aspiration and dreams, thereby helping him to enjoy the things he likes. He will then be a happier child.

He will not be a waster of time, a soul lost in space, with no direction, no aim, no aspiration, and no goal. Having a hobby helps one to maximize his childhood, and seizes the opportunity to develop oneself to the fullest.

Every one has a need to discover what he enjoys, and what he is good at . . .



A.C.E. Student Convention will impact a child's life

The A.C.E. Student Convention is an annual residential event that provides a forum for students to attempt many different events. In that process, students will discover activities they enjoy, or never thought they were capable of doing, or never knew they were good. It is there many discover their gifts and talents or hobbies.

Convention offers the opportunities to discover a child's talents, develop those talents, with the aim that those talents will be dedicated to the Lord's service.

Forthcoming A.C.E. Events

A.C.E. Professional Training

17th to 21st Sept 2013

Venue: EFATA School
Batam

Indonesian Educators Conference

8th to 9th Nov 2013

Venue: Wesley Pelita Bangsa,
Pluit, North Jakarta

3Ds of Student Convention

“Student Convention has changed my children significantly. Now they know what they are good at, and it gives them a yearly goal to aim for.” (Eve Lesmana)

Discover God’s given talents

There are over 100 events at Student Convention. There is art, craft, music instrumental, music vocal, platform, academics, photography, athletics and other sports events. Each student can participate in up to 20 of these events. Students are encouraged to participate to discover where their gifts and talents lie, and not just to win.

Develop those talents

Convention provides the forum for a student to develop their talents. They can prepare twelve months ahead of time, seek training to be better, and contemplate how to do well.

Dedicate to the Lord’s Service

As students continue to discover new talents and develop them, they eventually will develop a repertoire of skills, and this leads to an increase in their confidence. They will be a happier student.

These students will then have many abilities to offer in the ministry they might be involved in as adults.

Educate the Whole Child

Seek to educate the whole child. Seek to not only build academics in the child, but also life skills. Seek to develop an all-rounder and a balanced child.

The thinking and practical skills behind the non-academic events develop planning, creativity and character as students prepare and persevere, then perform at Student Convention. Where else can a week last a lifetime. The experiences at Student Convention are not just fun, or educational, they are life changing.



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Discover those talents and Direct them

Some parents have the desire for their children to be highly skillful and provide extra lesson so that this can be achieved. At school, teachers teach the arts, crafts, music, sports etc., aim to expose students to new activities. However, the ultimate aim should be to discover the talents God has given them.

Children who do not have a hobby they are passionate in, and those who do have, will grow very differently. The latter will grow in excitement, skills and with an aspiration. They will grow to be happier with themselves, whereas the latter tend to wander with lack of direction in life and some fall into mischief due to this.

A child who, for example, enjoys singing will think of songs, keep a look out for songs he could sing, and look for opportunities to perform in Student Convention. He will have to think of the instruments that accompany his song, and how to source it. He will have to think of the music arrangement, how he is to stand and move while on the stage, the music variation, the clothes he is to wear, and so forth.

This thinking process is critical because similar questions will need to be asked in life whether it is working or attending to a project. Student Convention provides the forum whereby students are trained to ask themselves these questions again and again.

Platform Competition

Student Convention has 18 events in this category:

- Mime Solo
- Mime Duet
- One-Act Play
- Group Bible Speaking
- Dramatic Monologue
- Dramatic Dialogue
- Dramatic Narrative
- Radio Play
- Video Play
- Expressive Reading
- Oratory
- Illustrative Story Telling
- Poetry Recitation
- Ventriloquism
- Clown Act
- Famous Speech
- Preaching
- Puppets / Marionettes



Higher Order Thinking Skills

Bloom's Taxonomy

Bloom's Taxonomy explains that there are six levels of thinking skills, beginning from the lowest thinking skill: remember, understand, apply, analyze, evaluate and create. The highest of these thinking skills is creating. Creating skills involving creating, inventing, improvising, planning, proposing and synthesizing. (See Pg.6 for more information on Bloom's Taxonomy)



Rote Learning

The Indonesian National Curriculum is known by many for its high level of memory work and it falls far behind in terms of developing the critical thinking of students. Rote learning or memorizing work belongs to the lower thinking skills. It is easier to memorize and understand, than being able to analyze and synthesize.

Creating, inventing & planning

The activities in Student Convention require students to identify what they want to submit. If it is art, the student will need to plan ahead, identify what they want to create, invent and propose. This exercise develops student's higher order thinking skills. They are required to engage their minds.



Result: A well developed Student

If a student participates in 20 events each year for 5 years, their thinking skills, planning skills, confidence, and level of exposure to projects and competition, will be developed to a significant level. Such is the potential that Student Convention can bring to these students. It is a truly remarkable program.



Education is a Process

In this generation more so than before, we live in a world where we tend to expect things to happen more immediately. We eat 'instant noodles', we have microwaves where food can be warmed up in seconds or cooked in a matter of minutes, we write 'instant mail' called email rather than sending letters, and we fly more than before rather than going by train or by boat. Likewise, we tend to expect our children or students to be able to learn 'instantly'.

Education is a process. Learning is a process. Rote learning, where one has to memorize facts or formulae, is more easily undertaken than trying to understand the concept behind them, and synthesizing them into the overall lesson that is being learnt. This takes time. It is a process.

There is no short cut to learning.

Education is more than academics. It is also about discovering the gifts and talents, and the training to develop them. This training is a process of learning to ask the right questions and persevere with the outcomes.

When students participate in Student Convention, they are going through a process whereby they are learning to ask questions. For example, what craft

do I want to participate in. If it is metal work, what do I want to make? What kind of design? How do I make it unique? What materials to use? What color? How to make it stand out? How to differentiate it from other similar projects? What final touches I have to do to bring to a standard of excellence?

This is **a process of asking the right questions**. It is a process of attending to these questions, a process of seeking the right answers, a process of gathering the materials, cutting, shaping and putting them together, and a process of formulating the colors, and finally, completing the final touches.

This is a process and a very important one. Students who participate in Convention every year will actually learn this process again and again, and learn quite intensely for a good few years in their secondary life. After these few years, they will develop the confidence to tackle projects they have never done before. They will have more confidence to ask questions, seek answers and complete their project.

Therefore, the role Student Convention plays in the education of our students is critical in the learning process of our students.

A.C.E. is just not PACEs

A.C.E. is more than PACEs. PACEs teach the academic component and the principles of the 60 character traits. The A.C.E. program puts into practice the principles of these character traits. It is the learning activities which lead to Student Convention that can develop the life skills of the students, that provides a sense of competition, that increases students' confidence, offers opportunities to work in teams, and provides the practical challenges in education.

A.C.E is not just PACEs. The A.C.E. program comprises PACEs plus Student Convention. In adopting both, schools would then educate the whole child.

Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning Domain

Bloom's Taxonomy was written in 1956 under the leadership of educational psychologist Dr. Benjamin Bloom in order to promote higher forms of thinking in education, such as analyzing and evaluating, rather than just remembering facts (rote learning). (Source: Bloom, B. S., Engelhart, M. D., Furst, E. J., Hill, W. H., & Krathwohl, D. R.)

Bloom's Revised Taxonomy Sub Categories

There are a number of key verbs associated with each category or taxonomic element.

Lower Order Thinking Skills (LOTS)

- **Remembering** - *Recognising, listing, describing, identifying, retrieving, naming, locating, finding*
- **Understanding** - *Interpreting, Summarising, inferring, paraphrasing, classifying, comparing, explaining, exemplifying*
- **Applying** - *Implementing, carrying out, using, executing*
- **Analysing** - *Comparing, organising, deconstructing, outlining, finding, structuring, integrating*
- **Evaluating** - *Checking, hypothesising, critiquing, Experimenting, testing, Detecting, Monitoring*
- **Creating** - *designing, constructing, planning, producing, inventing, devising, making*

Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS)



Bloom's Taxonomy was primarily created for academic education, however it is relevant to all types of learning. Bloom believed that education should focus on 'mastery' of subjects and the promotion of higher forms of thinking, rather than a utilitarian approach to simply transferring facts. Bloom demonstrated that most teaching tended to be focused on fact-transfer and information recall - the lowest level of training - rather than true meaningful personal development, and this remains a central challenge for educators and trainers in modern times. (Source: Alan Chapman, UK)

