



**LIBERIA MEDIA FOR DEMOCRATIC INITIATIVES**

Tubman Boulevard YWCA Building Oldest Congo Town Monrovia, Liberia-West Africa Tel.: 0777513080, 0886513080

Emails: [john@lmdi.org](mailto:john@lmdi.org); [info@lmdi.org](mailto:info@lmdi.org); [info@lmdilib.org](mailto:info@lmdilib.org); [admin@lmdilib.org](mailto:admin@lmdilib.org)

*Dialoging for Peace, Democracy & Development in Liberia*

## LMDI POP QUIZZING PRESS RELEASE

LMDI/L-GM Event... LMDI ENDS ALL COUNTY AND REGIONAL QUALIFYING ROUNDS FOR YEAR TWO OF ITS ANNUAL NATIONAL GENERAL KNOWLEDGE POP QUIZZING AT TUBMANBURG, PLANS FOR THE SEMI AND GRAND FINALS FOR FRIDAY MARCH 9, 2018 ... KEEN TO HAVE PRESIDENT WEAH OR HIS WIFE ATTEND THE SEMI AND GRAND FINAL AND TO OPEN THE YEAR THREE QUALIFYING ROUNDS OF THE COMPETITION IN SEARCH OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND FULFILMENT OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT'S PRO-POOR AGENDA ...LMDI/THE DIALOGUE / DUCOR DEBATES-ZEE-MAANNEH---ZEE-MAANNEH (PEACE & ENJOYMENT)...PLEASE VISIT AND VIEW OUR NEW WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE AT [www.lmdilib.org](http://www.lmdilib.org) AND [www.facebook.com/lmdilib.org](http://www.facebook.com/lmdilib.org). PLEASE FOLLOW AND KNOW ALL ABOUT US AND LIBERIA AND ALL THAT WE DO TO SUSTAIN LIBERIA'S POST CONFLICT DEMOCRACY.

ZEE-MAANEH-----ZEE-MAANEH (PEACE AND ENJOYMENT)

Monrovia Liberia...Thursday March 1, 2018...The Liberia Media for Democratic Initiatives (LMDI), the organizer of Liberia's first ever first all year round Annual National Academic Challenge Competition (NACC) or General Knowledge Pop Quizzing announces the end of all qualifying rounds at the county and regional levels for YEAR TWO of the competition in readiness for the SEMI and GRAND FINALS.

The LMDI YEAR TWO quizzing exercise has now entered its SEMI and GRAND FINALS and subsequently, the YEAR THREE of the rather ambitious annual General Knowledge Pop Quizzing Competition with the completion of the qualifying rounds of REGION FOUR, or WESTERN LIBERIA, the last of the four organized regions under the LMDI National Academic Challenge Competition (NACC).

At the last regional sitting at Tubmanburg, in a rather fierce competition on Tuesday at Tubmanburg Bomi County for the region's only space to the National SEMI and GRAND FINALS, the Catholic SHIRLEY COLEMAN took the championship. First SHIRLEY COLEMAN comfortably broke its way through with a massive defeat of the ALEXANDER KETTOR HIGH SCHOOL from Bo-Waterside in Grand Cape Mount County and finally bulldozed its entry into the SEMI and GRAND FINALS now expected to take place in Monrovia on Friday March 9, 2018.

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With its bulldozing score at 220 over SIME DARBY PLANTATION HIGH SCHOOL at 170, SHIRLEY COLEMAN is now Montserrado's second representative to the SEMI FINAL and GRAND FINALS.

SHIRLEY COLEMAN or Montserrado TWO now joins the other regional finalists, OUR LADY OF FATIMAH of Region One or the South East, WILLIAM V.S. TUBMAN GRAY of Region Two or CENTRAL LIBERIA and RICKS INSTITUTE or Montserrado ONE of Urban Liberia Region for the SIMI and GRAND FINALS, now scheduled for Friday March 9, 2018.

With all four regional rounds now concluded and qualifiers are found, the National SEMI and GRAND FINALS, the battle for the GRAND FINAL and CHAMPIONSHIP has now set in. It will be a day of the National SEMI and GRAND FINALS ending YEAR TWO as the academic titans eye Friday March 9, 2018 and the subsequent entry into YEAR THREE.

The March 9, 2018 SEMI and GRAND FINALS are the result of an all year round of academic clashes amongst 250 high schools in academic 2016/2017. YEAR TWO is looking for one high school for the GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP which Margibi's Episcopalian ST. AUGUSTINE HIGH SCHOOL took for Academic 2015/ 2016

President GEORGE WEAH or his wife CLAR is expected to attend the SEMI and GRAND FINALS as they are being invited to grace the occasion. Frantic efforts are underway to have the first family attend in furtherance of President Weah's plan for education and his general pro-poor agenda.

#### **BACKGROUND TO THE LMDI NATIONAL ACADEMIC CHALLENGE (QUIZZING) COMPETITION (NACC)**

On May 12, 2015, the Liberia Media for Democratic Initiatives, LMDI and partners, the Liberia Ghana Missions (L-GM) and the Liberia Bank for Development and Investment (LBDI), launched the first ever all inclusive National General Knowledge Pop quizzing exercise with the aim to ignite the spirit of academic competition and by extension, excellence in the education sector for Liberian Children.

We rolled out YEAR ONE in 2015 for the first time in Liberia touring all 15 counties of Liberia, conducting the county level qualifiers. We the LMDI also completed the regional and National qualifications that led to the first GRAND FINAL on June 18, 2016 that saw MARGIBI COUNTY as the GRAND WINNER of YEAR ONE. We launched YEAR TWO of our rather ambitious annual activity on Wednesday October 19, 2016 at KAKATA CITY. Margibi County.

#### **WHAT IS THE NATIONAL ACADEMIC CHALLENGE COMPETITION (NACC)**

Named and styled the NATIONAL ACADEMIC CHALLENGE COMPETITION (NACC), we conduct weekly knowledge QUIZZING and SPELLING games for Liberian Primary and High schools under our Child and Youth Sensitive media and community outreach flagship platform,

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‘TOMORROW’S PEOPLE’. The games are uniquely broadcast weekly on our partner network of 45 National and Rural Community Radios across the nation.

The National Academic Challenge Competition is attempting to revitalize and reawaken the spirit of academic competition and excellence in our various schools through nationwide competitions with the participation of each county represented by a county team in the various activities ranging from, Quizzing to Essay Writing. The program aims to boost the academic morale and enthusiasm of students, as well as help improve their performances in public examinations and other academic works.

### **Overall Goal**

The overall goal of the program is to promote greater respect for knowledge, better learning standards and promote academic excellence through inter-school academic competition and increase academic performance in Liberia’s annual calendars and beyond. This is an all year round annual event.

### **Specific objectives:**

- a. Test Students’ accumulation and retention of knowledge in a real life situation.
- b. Encourage independent study and academic excellence
- c. Recognize and appreciate non-traditional venues for the competition
- d. Build self-esteem and school pride
- e. Empower students with a new understanding of what has been, what is now, and what can be
- f. Provide opportunities for faculty, students, parents and the community to work together.

Meanwhile, the LMDI continues its appeal for financial and material support to enable it continue the national quizzing competition to ignite the lost competitive academic spirit among Liberian high School students for academic excellence.

LMDI Director John Kollie says his organization is grateful to the Liberia Bank for Development and Investment, LBDI for its initial partnership of partial funding in 2015 and Liberia Ghana Missions for its continuous provision of financial aids for good performing students in the competition. John Kollie however notes that the only direct financial support from the LBDI stopped in 2015 and the organization is finding it difficult to roll out the annual academic competition.

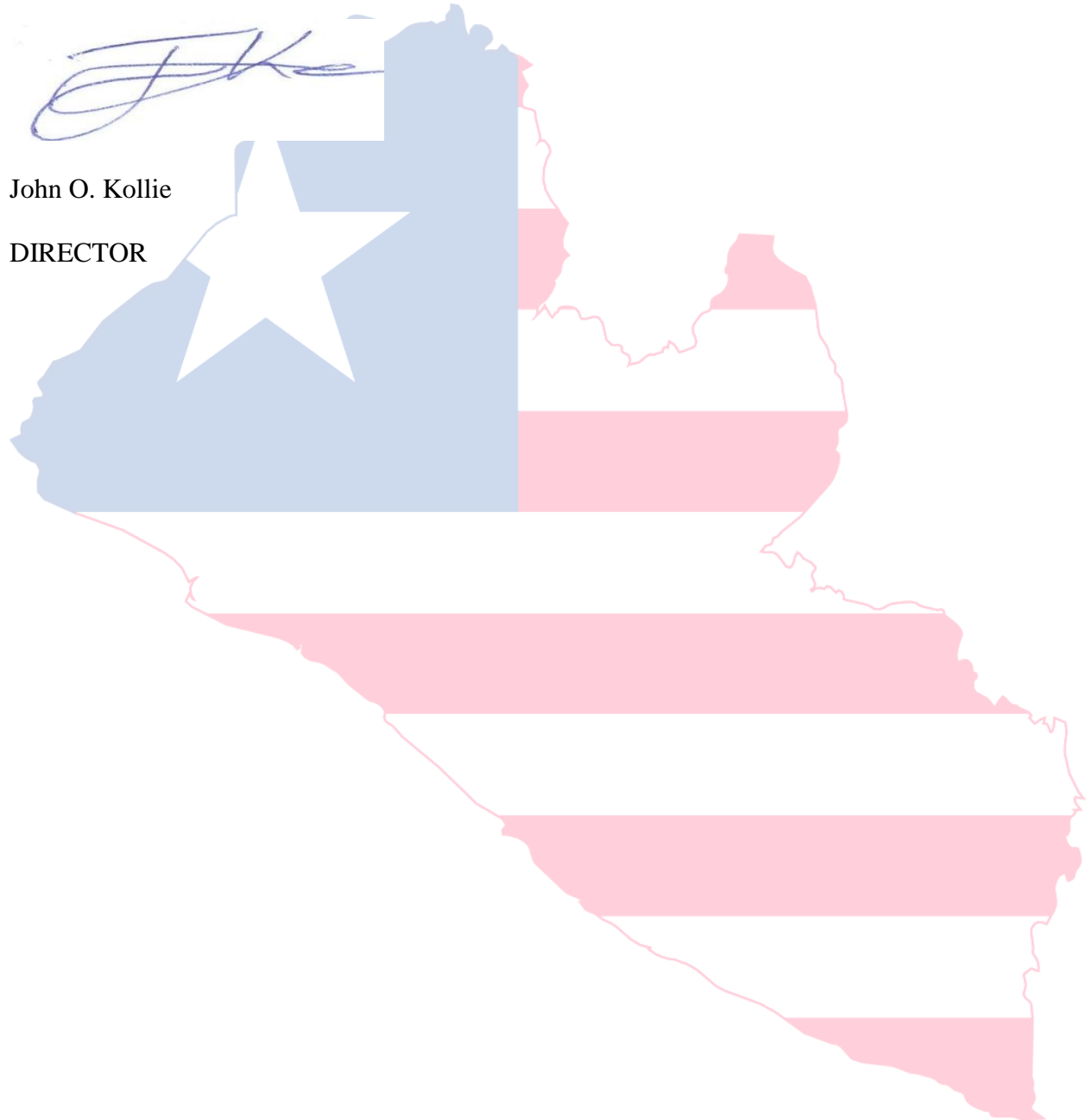
John Kollie says the LMDI needs of thousands of U.S. dollars annually to roll out the competition involving all 15 counties of Liberia and the LMDI would be further gratified to get generous donor support for this work aimed at improving the education sector.

Meanwhile, the broadcast of the games continues weekly on the LMDI partner network of radio and TV stations across Liberia and on our website at [www.lmdilr.org](http://www.lmdilr.org) and our face book page at

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Liberia Media for Democratic initiatives (LMDI)2. You can send comments to [info@lmdilr.org](mailto:info@lmdilr.org), [thedialogue.lmdi@lmdilr.org](mailto:thedialogue.lmdi@lmdilr.org) and [john@lmdilr.org](mailto:john@lmdilr.org) and [john@lmdi.org](mailto:john@lmdi.org)

Signed:



John O. Kollie

DIRECTOR