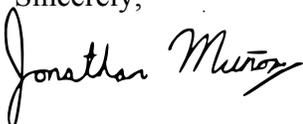Dear Advisors and Delegates,

It is my esteemed pleasure as Secretary-General to invite you all to the thirteenth annual Gator Model United Nations conference. To be held from January 29th to January 31st on the University of Florida campus, GatorMUN is one of the region's largest and most competitive high school Model United Nations conferences. During these three days it is the goal of our staffers and committee directors to challenge the delegates with difficult, controversial topics and watch them collaborate to produce unique, innovative solutions to many of the issues that plague our world today. In offering ten crisis committees, we also give delegates the opportunity to think on their feet and offer creative alternatives to historical events. GatorMUN strives to hone each delegate's public speaking, writing, diplomacy, and problem-solving skills while maintaining a central focus on education in international issues. While competition is indeed a part of GatorMUN, it is our utmost goal to ensure that each and every delegate learns something new and leaves GatorMUN with a deeper understanding of the world around us. Personally, my decision to begin doing Model United Nations as a scared high school freshmen representing Burkina Faso in the General Assembly Second Committee greatly influenced my interests and the person I am today.

The theme of this year's conference is "Growing People, Shrinking World." This stems from the idea that the world population is growing too quickly for the Earth to sustain and therefore has given rise to an array of issues from resource conflicts to global warming. Because each committee is meant to incorporate the larger theme of the conference, our skilled directors work vigorously on their committees over a ten-month period in order to foster informed debate and a true learning experience for all delegates. Alongside each director is a group of hard-working staff members who have willingly given up not only a weekend, but also countless hours of their days leading up to the conference to make sure they are well-versed in the subject of the committee and can provide the best possible experience for the delegates. With nearly 100 total staff members, GatorMUN prides itself on having an extensive pool of dedicated and knowledgeable staff to service the nearly 500 delegates that come to GatorMUN each year. Among the wide variety of committees offered this year at GatorMUN, I am excited to announce two very new committee concepts that we will be bringing to GatorMUN XIII this year. The first is the Press Corps committee. Modeled after the actual press corps of the United Nations, the Press Corps committee will allow delegates interested in international journalism to represent domestic publications, and therefore interests, as they report on the various committees at the conference in articles submitted to the Director of the Press Corps. The purpose of the Press Corps is to teach delegates the nuances of domestic interests in international journalism while also readily integrating or connecting all the other committees in the articles the Press Corps delegates publish. The second new concept will be incorporated into the United Nations Security Council committee. In keeping with the spirit that the Security Council is the committee for the most skilled and competitive delegates, this year's UNSC will have an intense mock-crisis scenario from 10:00 PM to 2:00 AM on Saturday night in the Holiday Inn conference room just across the street from the northeast corner of campus. More details on this committee will be outlined on the website.

I sincerely hope this letter has been able to convince you of the value GatorMUN, and I encourage you to visit our website gatormun.org for further information regarding this year's committee and registration dates. If you have any other questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my dedicated Secretariat and me at info@gatormun.org. Hope to see you in January!

Sincerely,

Jonathan Muñoz
Secretary-General
GatorMUN XIII