

GABFEST BETS MISS MAJOR SPOTS IN QATAR TALKS 2023

By Keizha Nunez & Jef Gregorio



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Although unable to secure major spots in the Qatar Talks Speech Contests held at Savitribai Phule Pune University (MIE-SPPU), Philippine School Doha’s students, Jun Ocbian, Kai Alagos, Kirsten Garces, and Aujan Beltran still gained relevant learning experiences last October 15 for the Inspirational Speech category and October 21 for the Humorous Speech category.

In an interview, Humorous Speech contestants, **Kirsten Garces** and **Aujan Beltran**, shared that throughout the competition, they recounted personal experiences and emotions. Regardless of the results, Beltran expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to compete.

On the other hand, Garces stated that she was initially quite anxious; yet, she persevered until the very end without any unfortunate moments.

“Overall, I was very grateful for the opportunity to perform in a new environment, in front of a completely different crowd and even the type of speech, and regardless of the result, it was worth everything I put into it. Be it time, effort, and money,” she stated.

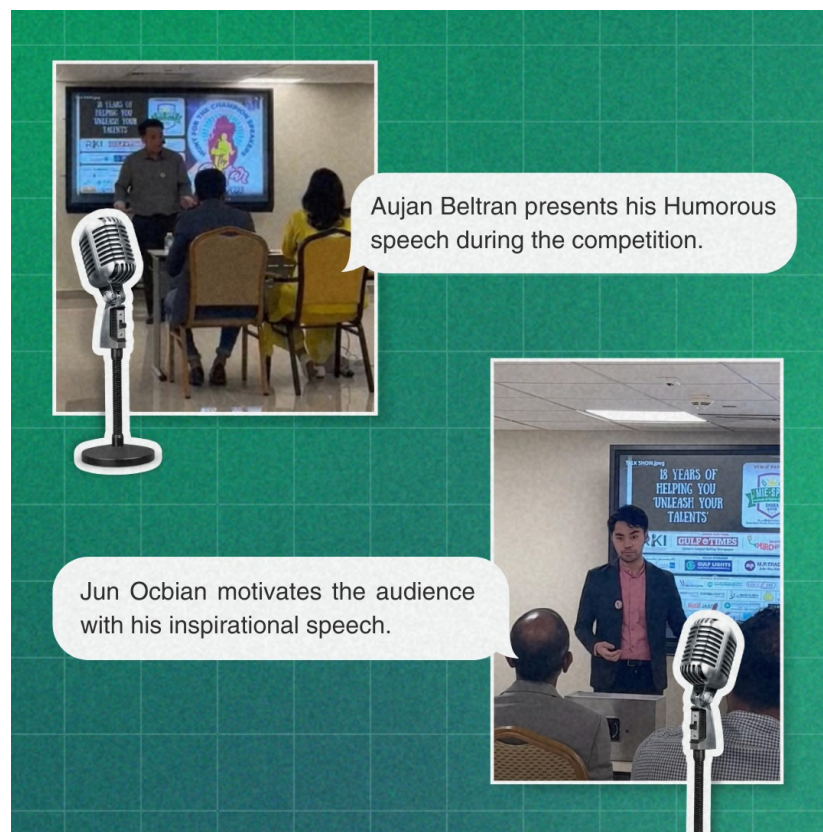
Meanwhile, the Inspirational Speech participants, **Kai Alagos** and **Jun Ocbian**, also shared their experiences and emotions from the time they competed. **Alagos** described the experience as nerve-wracking in the beginning; but by the end, he was able to become more confident in his speech.

Ocbian then noted that preparation was a must for Qatar Talks and that one must be unique to stand out. Through the experience, Ocbian shared that:

“Having the honor of representing my school, Philippine School Doha, is an achievement I would be proudly holding in my entire dear life. It raises my confidence to keep on achieving more as I walk through more journeys in my road in life.

Moreover, Senior High School teachers **Ms. Monette Cayatoc** and **Mr. Lochlan Villacorte** trained the 4 participants in their respective categories by providing suggestions and tips on how to improve their delivery and overall speeches.

Established in 2004, the Qatar Talks sought to provide opportunities for public speaking.





With their families, Jun Ocbian and Kai Alagos proudly flaunt their certificates.



(From left to right) Kai Alagos, Jun Ocbian, Kirsten Garces, and Aujan Beltran pose for a picture while holding their certificates.

