From the Coordinator’s Desk

Another year is drawing to a close and it’s hard to believe that the fall semester is ending. Our tours this year had the biggest turn-outs I’ve ever seen, and this reflects well on our school’s excellent reputation.

That reputation was exemplified last Friday by two events.

The first event was held by the Southern California Special Olympic organization. Four of our Humanities senior girls, Déjà Clark, LaDonna Dugas, Valeria Nevarez, and Breese Maldonado escorted a team of special needs students from Walgrove Elementary School to a soccer tournament in South Gate.

The second event was the annual JPL Invention Challenge, sponsored by Mr. Campos, the Humanities math teacher. The winning team this year was made up of Humanities students; Lea Bartlett, Tessa Singer, Kalen Kocker, Damani Rahotep, Rachel Slayton, Sarah Slayton, Shideh Ghandeharizadeh, Theo Dunsky, and Isabel Siordia. Our team competed against a number of Southern California high schools as well as a number of teams made up of JPL scientists.

College Informational Workshops, Humanities Events & News and teacher contacts can be found on the web at hamiltonhighschool.net-

NOTE

All absences and early leaves must be cleared in the Music Academy Office by 10 am.

Contact a Teacher—To contact a teacher, go to the Hamilton web site and log on to School Loop Plus.

UPCOMING DATES

12/16 7th Period Final-2-4:20pm
12/17 1st and 6th Per. Finals-12:22 Dismissal
12/17 Parent/SDM Meeting 7pm Library
12/18 3rd and 5th Per. Finals-12:22 Dismissal
12/19 2nd and 4th Per. Finals-12:22 Dismissal
12/20 3:03 Dismissal
12/23-1/13 Break
There were chuckles when our team introduced themselves as coming from the Humanities Magnet, but smiles were all ours at the end of the competition when we took first place. Other students who participated on the other two teams were:

Team Two:
Madeline Paul, Adam Yankelevits, Janine Moses, Amanuel Demisse, Fateem Mukarram, Josh Papernik, Antonia Lorenzo and Oscar Salazar.

Team Three:
Alexander Fiore, Erica Koopman-Glass, Cheyanne Bell, Caleb Glickman, Tomo Buchberg, Damian Rosiak and Ellis Thompson.

Both of these events represent the best of the Humanities Magnet. One displays our strong community service commitment and our desire to help others. The other exemplifies the power of our organizational and intellectual skills combined to compete with the best. I am so proud of all of our Humanities students!

I wish the whole Humanities family a wonderful winter break.
Taking the prize this year was Alexander Hamilton High School, located in Los Angeles. They shot a hole-in-one in just 0.6 seconds. Paul MacNeal of JPL created and produced the first Invention Challenge 16 years ago and has been running it ever since. "All students should be exposed to the fun of engineering in this thought-provoking event," said MacNeal. "Students learn skills that are valuable, like brainstorming, teamwork, scheduling, fabrication, failure analysis and competitive design. When they see real engineers having fun, they can believe that engineering might make for a good career goal."

And while the Invention Challenge is really for the kids, JPL employees are always encouraged to participate. This year, 11 additional teams made up of engineers and scientists from JPL competed for pure bragging rights. The JPL winning team, consisting of Alan DeVault and Scott Nolte, earned a time of 0.62 seconds, a hair slower than the winning student team.

If you're interested in getting the specs on next year's challenge, start checking the Invention Challenge Web site in mid-August 2014 for details, at: http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/events/inventionchallenge/.

The California Institute of Technology in Pasadena manages JPL for NASA.

Students from 19 high school teams across Southern California, as well as NASA professionals, took part in a "Hole-in-One" contest in this year's Invention Challenge on Friday, Dec. 6 at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif.

The objective of the 16th annual challenge was to create a device that could propel or move a golf ball into a pyramid-shaped target located about 5 feet (1.5 meters) away from the device. Only one attempt was allowed, and the team that completed the task in the fastest time was crowned this year's winner.

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