

YEAR 3 ISSUE 11

## **ASTRO**

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## The Partner School Science Program Newsletter

**7557 NEWS:** Joskary Diaz, Right Stuff Award Winner in 2005, Wins Contest for Space Camp Turkey E-Pal Week Internship

Joskary Diaz, who won the "Right Stuff" Award during E-Pal Week at Space Camp Turkey in 2005, is returning as an Intern with this year's



US group. She was a student at IS 90 in NYC and was in Mr. Victor Sta. Ana's class.

All 6 of the students who went that year, were eligible for the chance to go back to Turkey one more time for the Global

Friendship experience. The students were asked to write an essay about their experiences. Mary Tuncer, Marilyn Anderson, and her teachers Dr Hunter and Mr Sta Ana unanimously chose Joskary as the winner. Joskary is now finishing her junior year at Pace High School in lower Manhattan and says her experiences in Turkey affected her life and helped to set her on her path.

Congratulations Joskary!



Joskary Diaz, April 2009

When I look at the picture of me in the Turkish newspaper, I realize how much I have appreciated the Space Camp Turkey experience. I saw my potential in becoming anything I wanted to be and that the "impossible is possible". I see the changes of my perspective of life and how Turkey has affected my life in a positive way.

It has been four years since I went as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader, and I can still imagine the wonderful beautiful imagery of Turkey.
This experience wasn't only just fun and

games; it was very educational and made me into a well rounded student who knows about geography and the field of astronomy and space.

The "Right Stuff" is an award that is presented by the Space Camp Turkey staff for the camper who has displayed the characteristics of a future space explorer. This award was chosen from a group of 86 campers from the United States, Israel, Lebanon, France, Turkey and American children of military personnel residing in Turkey and I was the lucky one to receive it.

The meaning of "global friendship" wasn't clear to me until I had to experience that wonderful, thrilling adventure with meeting people who have a different culture. It really made me interested in learning about the different lifestyles of other cultures.

When I came back from that program I realized that I really wanted to pursue my life with anything that was science related. My interest in that country (Turkey) really impacted me, their food and their beliefs are part of me. On my keychain I carry "the evil eye" and I believe it is powerful.

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." (Martin Luther King, Jr.) I know getting accepted (as an intern) is a challenge. I would love to prove to Global Friendship that I'm a great candidate to go and represent the United States in Turkey. I will be honored to be the one who wins.

These chances only come once in a life time. My biggest wish is to go back to Turkey.

## Meet and Greet Videoconference between SANKO College and Browne Academy



Students from Browne Academy and SANKO College exchanged experiment results and cultural activities with each other during their videoconference on April 14, 2009. Turkish student sang two songs in Turkish with kanun (Turkish instrument) <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kanun\_(instrument)">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kanun\_(instrument)</a>) and drum. American students shared their experiments with their Turkish partners.

Every other week when you check your mailbox, you will find a link to reach cool pictures, fun, facts, space news, and more in the **Astro** Newsletter.

Being part of the Partner School Science Program and getting the chance to talk to other kids from all over the world can be really fun!

Do you have something you would like to see in **Astro?** If so, ask your teacher to send an e-mail to <a href="mailto:tyildirim@gftse.org">tyildirim@gftse.org</a> with the photo, story, or link. You might just see it in the next **Astro!** 

Teachers can submit pictures and stories of their class to be included in the partner school highlights section!

## **COME BACK IN TWO WEEKS FOR MORE!**

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