

# VISTA MAGNET

MIDDLE SCHOOLNEWS

151 Escondido, Vista, CA 92084 • (760) 726-5766

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

May 18, 2009

**PRESS CONTACT:**

José Manuel Villarreal  
(760) 726-5766

**VMMS student team WINS at the Sally Ride TOYchallenge Nationals  
this past Saturday, May 16, 2009 at the US Patent &  
Trademark Office in Alexandria, Virginia**

VISTA, Calif. – A team of six students from Vista Magnet Middle School (VMMS) competed this past Saturday at the 2009 Sally Ride Toychallenge National Competition. The team submitted a toy, Team *Black and White Ninjas* competed with 15 other teams in the category Games for Families and won their category. The organization released more information on their website <http://www.sallyridescience.com/toychallenge/results/2009>

*As the team stated, “The board game title is Ninja Mountain: Race to Become a Master. Our toy demonstrates a fun and educational experience through either two or four players. You simply climb up on the mountain with a potential fall through a push of a button if you miss answering any series of first to sixth grade core subject questions. By answering each question correctly, your objective is to become a master.”*

TOYchallenge is a national toy design challenge for 5th-8th graders. The competition was created based on the belief that toys are a great way to learn about science, engineering, and the design process. While participating in the challenge and creating a toy or game, students are experiencing engineering as a fun, creative, collaborative process, relevant to everyday life.

VMMS has just learned that there were 200 team entries from across the country from grades 5-8. Seventy of these 200 teams were chosen to participate in the National competition at US Patent & Trademark Office in Alexandria, Virginia on Saturday, May 16, 2009.

Sally Ride TOYchallenge is sponsored by Northrop Grumman, Southwest Airlines and The United States Patent and Trademark Office through the Department of Commerce.

The VMMS team includes Donald L., Daniel E., Dominik P., Eileen J., Victoria S., and Jessie M. and coached by Team Mom Kathryn Jones. The VMMS community rallied around the team to provide financial support through various fundraisers which made it possible for the team to travel and ultimately win.

For more information or to visit the school site, [vistamagnet.com](http://vistamagnet.com), please call José Manuel Villarreal, principal of Vista Magnet Middle School, at (760) 726-5766.

# # #