

VISTA MAGNET

MIDDLE SCHOOLNEWS

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One 7th grade team advances to the Sally Ride TOYchallenge Nationals, 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) has been selected to compete in the 2009 Toychallenge National Competition. However, we had six submissions of toys, Team *Black and White Ninjas* is on there way to the east coast. Each team followed strict rules and guidelines in while drawings and proposing an idea for a toy in the 2009 Sally Ride TOYchallenge (www.toychallenge.com).

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. They were all guided through the process by our teacher science leader Michelle Anderson.

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

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