



**Order your  
*Rules of the Red Rubber Ball***

Written by Jostens Renaissance National  
Conference speaker

**Kevin Carroll**

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**Jostens Renaissance Review #20  
October 2, 2008**

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## Conference Information

### **Plan for the 2009 Conference - Room Rates Announced**

It's never too early to begin thinking about the 2009 Jostens Renaissance National Conference! We hope that you'll consider joining us in beautiful Orlando, Florida, July 17 -19, 2009. Save the date and mark your calendar!

The accommodations for the 2009 Jostens Renaissance National Conference will be spectacular as the Caribe Royale serves as the host hotel as well as the site for the conference. The Caribe Royale is an all suites hotel and will provide the luxurious accommodations that the Jostens Renaissance National Conference is famous for. Rooms at the Caribe Royale are \$149 per night plus tax.

Located on over 45 acres the Caribe Royale is a blend of lush landscaping, waterfalls and superior hospitality. To view the hotel and convention center, visit the following link: <http://www.cariberoyale.com/>

## Your Ideas

### **This Issues Winning JRR Idea - Take Flight**

Ms. Melanie Lindsey  
Foothill Technology High School  
Ventura, CA

Take FLIGHT, Helping your non-Renaissance Students Achieve Academic Success  
At Foothill Technology High School, there has been growing concern to include all students in our Renaissance system. It seems semester after semester the same kids don't "make Renaissance" and are feeling alienated on our campus. We decided we wanted to have something for everyone and came up with the concept of FLIGHT. FLIGHT includes all students on our campus that are currently not included on the Renaissance list and provides an opportunity for them to feel a sense of academic achievement.

"FLIGHT" is a new subsection of the Renaissance program that is in place at FTHS. "FLIGHT" is geared to reach the bottom 30% of our student population; those not on Renaissance - yet. Many of these students have never felt academic pride, have never been celebrated for "academics." It is our goal to provide specific scaffolding and rewards to those students in this bottom 30% who might otherwise never experience what academic achievement feels like. In addition, we strive to

create meaningful relationships with these students and staff members so these students know we are behind them 100% and believe they can do it.

FLIGHT incentives include:

- A card with 12 slots on it which teachers sign when students earn an A, a B or make an improvement. Once the card is filled it is submitted for a drawing or prize. Students can fill multiple cards in a quarter.
- Relationship Building with staff members
  - Assistant Principals hold one on one meetings on a bi-weekly basis with ALL students who have dropped a full grade point.
  - Counselors hold one on one meetings monthly with their 25 students who are closest to making Renaissance to give them that extra little push they may need.
  - Class advisors meet with and provide incentives for the 25 students whose GPAs are the lowest in the class.
- All 9th graders receive a FLIGHT card 1st semester so that they are immediately part of the academic culture.
- The first four students to fill their FLIGHT card this semester will receive two tickets to Disneyland.
- FLIGHT co-coordinator sends out FLIGHT plans biweekly to all staff involved with the reward for the week.
  - Week one was kudos for attendance with stickers reading "I will try my best to show what it means to persevere and what it means to be strong".
  - Week three was smencils (a pencil made from recycled paper that has a smell to it - bubblegum, grape, etc.) for all students with two or more signatures on their FLIGHT cards

So far we have seen an amazing response from students with the implementation of FLIGHT. One of our teachers overheard a FLIGHT student as she returned to class after meeting with her Assistant Principal and said, "I'm so excited, Mrs. Duston is my academic cheerleader!" For more information about FLIGHT! contact Melanie Lindsey at [Melanie.Lindsey@venturausd.org](mailto:Melanie.Lindsey@venturausd.org)

*For submitting this idea, Melanie will receive a Jostens Renaissance hoodie and is now eligible to receive an all expense paid trip for two to the 2009 Jostens Renaissance National Conference.*

## Hot Stories



### ***Rules of the Red Rubber Ball***

Described by Newsweek as "An adult's version of Dr. Seuss's *Oh The Places You'll Go!* - a pocket-size guide to finding your way in life."

Kevin Carroll was the closing speaker at the 2008 Jostens Renaissance National Conference. No words adequately describe the impact that he had upon the audience. Regrettably all of Kevin's books sold out in a very short period of time. We have purchased another supply of books and are making *Rules of the Red Rubber Ball* available to you at the discounted rate of \$12.50 plus \$2.50 per book for shipping and handling.

If you were unable to purchase a book at the conclusion of the conference or want to purchase another copy as a gift, here's your chance. Send an email to [norma.christenson@jostens.com](mailto:norma.christenson@jostens.com) and specify the quantity of books you'd like and the shipping address and we'll get them in the mail immediately with an invoice included in the shipment.

### **This issue's iPod drawing winner**

Congratulations to **Jennifer Duston**, our second iPod drawing winner for this school year. You could be our next winner! All that you need to do is to make a contribution to the Jostens Educator Services Discussion Board between **today and October 15th** and you're eligible. One name will be randomly drawn from those who have contributed to the Discussion Board during the previous two week period and that lucky individual will win an iPod Shuffle. Go to the Jostens Educator Services Website and contribute to the Discussion Board and you may be our next winner! <http://www.jostens.com/edserv/default.asp>

*Editors Note: Last issue we accidentally used the word "candidate" instead of "winner" in reference to our winner **Brenda Azevedo**, our first i-Pod drawing candidate for this school year.*

# Program Enrichment

## Following Freshman Blog: Read about Scotty and DJ

Follow the trials and tribulations of Scotty and DJ as they make their transition from high school to college. Each blog brings a unique perspective to the freshman college experience. Each student has his/her own challenges in making the adjustment to being in college and all of the demands that the college experience brings. Discover what the college experience is really like through the eyes of a real college freshman!

Take a look at a recent posting to get an idea of the honest and invaluable information that is at your fingertips on the Following Freshmen Blog:

This weekend a good number of people are heading home or to the city, and the same goes for the week after next, which is Yom Kippur/October break. A lot of people aren't as far away from home as I am, and I'm going to have to get used to being alone for good periods of time. It's not all bad though, plenty of people should still be around and there is always something to do. It's just that seeing that people are within a day's drive from the comforts of home really kind of sucks when I'm 25 hours away from home. My friend, who was supposed to stay around for the semester left this morning for good. So much for that. Whatever, I'm having a good time.

Postings are scheduled to be made three times. To follow the freshmen journey of Scotty and DJ, just go to the Jostens Educator Services home page and click on the Following Freshmen link.

[www.jostens.com/edserv](http://www.jostens.com/edserv)



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# Events & Reminders

## Events

### Upcoming Jostens Renaissance Events

**October 6, 2008** - CARE Conference, Southern California - Conference will be held at Auto Club Speedway, Fontana, CA. The conference runs from 9:00 - 2:00. Cost is \$35 per attendee. For more information contact Richard Parkhouse at [richard.parkhouse@jostens.com](mailto:richard.parkhouse@jostens.com)

**October 8, 2008** - CARE Conference, Northern California - Conference will be held at Deer Valley High School, Antioch, CA. The conference runs from 9:00 - 2:00. Cost is \$35 per attendee. For more information contact Richard Parkhouse at [richard.parkhouse@jostens.com](mailto:richard.parkhouse@jostens.com)

**October, 24, 2008** - Heartland Renaissance Conference - Conference will be held at Rockwood Summit High School in Fenton, MO. The conference runs from 9:30 - 2:30. Cost is \$12 per attendee. For more information contact Mitch Lefkowitz at [lefkowitzmitch@rockwood.k12.mo.us](mailto:lefkowitzmitch@rockwood.k12.mo.us) or Terrie Brueckmann at [brueckmannterrie@rockwood.k12.mo.us](mailto:brueckmannterrie@rockwood.k12.mo.us)

**November 17, 2008** - Northwest Jostens Renaissance Coalition Conference - Conference will be held at Tumwater High School, Tumwater, WA. For more information contact Rick Morton at [rick.morton@jostens.com](mailto:rick.morton@jostens.com)

**November 21, 2008** - Southeast Renaissance Coalition Conference - Conference will be held at The Academy for the Arts, Myrtle Beach, SC. For more information contact Gene Holdway at [gene.holdway@jostens.com](mailto:gene.holdway@jostens.com) or Larry Biddle at [lbiddle@aol.com](mailto:lbiddle@aol.com)

**December 5, 2008** - Jostens Renaissance Training Workshop - Training workshop will be held at Highland Regional High School, Blackwood, NJ. For more information contact Pete Sabatino at [peter.sabatino@jostens.com](mailto:peter.sabatino@jostens.com) or Frank Palatucci at [fpalatucci@bhprsd.org](mailto:fpalatucci@bhprsd.org)

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## Reminders

### Educator Services Website

Provides information about Jostens Renaissance. Register and get full access to all the program information. [www.jostens.com/edserv](http://www.jostens.com/edserv)

## Renaissance Review Archive

Provided to you on our new website: [http://www.jostens.com/edserv/renaissance/ren\\_400\\_20.asp](http://www.jostens.com/edserv/renaissance/ren_400_20.asp)

### Post Cards - Personalize Recognition for Students

We've made post cards out of the three student related motivational posters. The cards are 5" x 7" and are packed individually. Cost is \$.10 per card. To order, email [norma.christenson@jostens.com](mailto:norma.christenson@jostens.com) and list the number of cards you'd like and the address to ship them to. We'll put an invoice with the shipment.



### Black History Commemorative Poster

To order, please e-mail [norma.christenson@jostens.com](mailto:norma.christenson@jostens.com). Include # of posters, your name, school name, address. \$1.00 per poster plus postage. An invoice will be included with your order.

### Starfish Story Link

Send a powerful message to the faculty and staff of the important role they play each day. Every member of the faculty and staff can make a difference in every life that they touch. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1wuSaNCIde4> If you'd like to purchase a copy of the Star Fish DVD, email Norma Christenson at [norma.christenson@jostens.com](mailto:norma.christenson@jostens.com). Cost is \$12.

### Platinum Program Coupon Books

The 2008 - 09 version of the Jostens Renaissance Platinum Program Coupon booklet looks to be bigger and better than ever! You can order yours now by clicking on this link - [http://www.jostens.com/edserv/renaissance/ren\\_500.asp](http://www.jostens.com/edserv/renaissance/ren_500.asp)

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