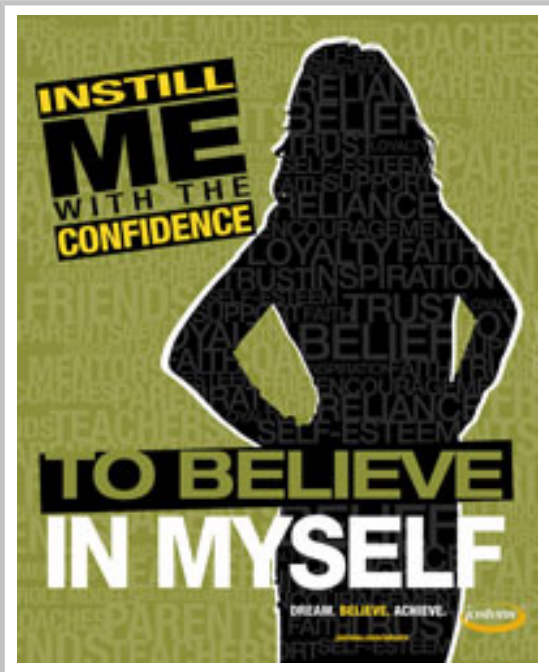


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Jostens Renaissance
Review



Jostens Renaissance Review #8 December 12, 2006

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Jostens Renaissance National Conference Update - Anything's Possible

Jostens Renaissance is proud to announce that the site for the 2007 Jostens Renaissance National Conference is the luxurious Buena Vista Palace Hotel and Spa in wonderful Orlando, Florida! The dates for the Jostens Renaissance National Conference are July 13-15, 2007.

Jostens has secured the following room rates:

\$149/night – single or double occupancy

\$169/night – triple occupancy

\$189/night – quad occupancy

(Each room will also be charged 12.5% tax/night, in addition to the above rate)

The 2007 Jostens Renaissance National Conference will be the 16th annual national conference and we are thrilled to be hosting this conference in a city where truly Anything's Possible. The Buena Vista Palace Hotel & Spa in the WALT DISNEY WORLD® Resort puts the magic of Central Florida's favorite theme parks and water parks - Sea World and MGM and Universal Studios - all within easy reach. Stroll across the street, and spend some time at exciting Pleasure

Island, which features colorful international shops, tantalizing restaurants, and a vibrant nightlife. Be awed by spectacular nightly fireworks from your seat at the Top of the Palace Lounge, atop our Downtown Disney World resort. Or schedule preferred tee times at one of the area's five Disney championship golf courses - just one of our many Lake Buena Vista lodging perks. For more information on the Buena Vista Palace Hotel and Spa, click here <http://buenavistapalace.com>

This issue's winning JRR Idea

Girls Only! Belhaven Middle School Linwood, NJ

Our school, Belhaven Middle School, emphasizes the power of all students to realize their potential as leaders through the Jostens-Renaissance process. We noticed that many of our girls, upon reaching 7th grade, began to step back from their roles as leaders. Many middle school girls experience a drop in self-esteem, greater difficulty with schoolwork and problems with relationships. We wanted to find a way to connect the girls back to Renaissance and, more importantly, back to themselves.

The "Girls Only!" series addresses these issues and many more. The three components of Girls Only! are weekly meetings, bimonthly workshops and a final sleepover at the end of the year. Weekly meetings take place in the guidance office with a small group of identified girls. Issues of relational aggression (bullying) and self-esteem are addressed over lunch while girls work on group projects like planning a school dance or creating scrapbooks.

Bimonthly workshops combine serious topics with fun, "girly" activities that allow girls to connect with their classmates. Topics include, "How to Survive 7th Grade," "Friendship and a Manicure" and "Miss Manners." All seventh grade girls are invited. These workshops are a great opportunity for girls to interact on a level playing field. They are often surprised by how much they have in common with girls they hadn't really spoken with before.

The culminating activity is a sleepover in June in the school library. The weekend is filled with workshops, team-building activities and lots of fun. A local makeup artist visits to give the girls tips on "natural beauty," emphasizing the importance of positive self-esteem. A martial arts expert teaches the girls self-defense moves and allows them to break boards with their hands. On the boards are written barriers they need to break through to be healthy and happy: poor body image, family alcoholism, low self-esteem, etc. The girls also enjoy being served dinner by the staff chaperones – the cafeteria is candlelit and tables are set with real china and linens. Every moment of the weekend is packed with activities all designed to foster positive self-esteem and to reinforce the principles of Renaissance. We even had a "Role Models Reception" the week after the sleepover to share a slide show and conversation with the girls' mothers or guardians.

Since last year's sleepover, the girls are achieving more A's and fewer C's, hold leadership

positions in school clubs, and enthusiastically participate in Renaissance activities. More noticeable are the intangibles: girls that hold their heads high walking down the hallway, or say hello to kids they never would have spoken to. One of the girls said it best, "Even though we may be in different cliques we are a lot alike on the inside." We're proud of our girls for believing in themselves enough to break down walls and lead through positive example. Girls Only! has strengthened our school community as well as our Renaissance process.

For more information contact Christine Brown at ChrisBrown@linwoodschools.org
For submitting this issue's winning idea Chris will receive a Jostens Renaissance hooded sweatshirt and now becomes eligible for the 2007 JRR Idea of the Year grand prize.

Why should you **submit your idea? Because you want MORE, More, MORE and even MORE Rock Star Treatment!**

Once again, the Jostens Renaissance Review will select a winning idea from those published. And once again, the winning idea will receive an all expense paid trip to the 2007 Jostens Renaissance National Conference. This year's grand prize will be bigger and better than ever. Last issue's addition unveiled the first new addition to the prize – **limousine transportation from the airport to the National Conference host hotel.** You will travel like a rock star as a limousine will be waiting for you! The limo will pick you up at the airport and take you to the hotel. On the Thursday evening before the conference begins, you'll be "limo'd" to and from the restaurant to join other Jostens Renaissance National Conference dignitaries at one of the finest restaurants that our host city has to offer. It will provide the backdrop for a spectacular evening. And there's more limousine transportation waiting for you at the conclusion of the conference when a limo will be waiting outside the host hotel to take you back to the airport.

Upgraded hotel accommodations. Standard rooms are never good enough for a Rock Star, so a standard room certainly won't be good enough for you! If you submit the winning idea to the Jostens Renaissance Review, Jostens will upgrade your accommodations and you'll call one of the finest rooms that our host hotel has to offer home for three nights.

The "red carpet treatment!" Like any rock star, waiting in line is just not OK! If your idea is selected as the winner of the Jostens Renaissance Idea of the Year contest, we'll roll out the red carpet for you! You won't have to wait in line for any of our four general sessions. We'll have reserved seats in the front row for you! We'll usher you in through a side entrance and seat you before the doors open. You'll be up front for the opening and closing sessions as well as at the rally and you'll have your own table for the banquet!

And the latest addition to your Rock Star Treatment – An official Jostens Renaissance Tour letterman's jacket. Every Rock Star worth his weight has a letterman's jacket dedicated to his tour. The winner of the JRR Idea of the Year contest will be the proud owner of a Jostens Renaissance letterman's jacket. When the weather turns cold, you'll be the envy of everyone at school as you are handsomely attired in your new Jostens Renaissance jacket.

Look for more information in upcoming issues about the JRR Idea of the Year contest as there are

more additions to come! You can't receive rock star treatment if you don't submit an idea!

How to submit your idea

Do you have an idea from your Jostens Renaissance program that has improved your school's environment? Submit your ideas to charley.nelson@jostens.com. The individual submitting the published idea will receive a Jostens Renaissance Review sweatshirt and be eligible for the 2007 Idea of the Year Contest, which includes trips to the National Conference.

Happy Holidays

With the holiday season rapidly approaching, many Jostens Renaissance programs are looking for a way to thank their faculty and staff for their ongoing commitment to students. Here's a letter that Donna Lamaina and the Gateway High School Renaissance team from Woodbury Heights, New Jersey will be placing in every staff member's P.O. box as a way to recognize and thank their staff.

*To the Dedicated Faculty and Staff
Of Gateway High School:*

*At this special time of year,
we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your hard work and commitment.*

*Every day, in every way,
you are making a difference in the lives of our students.
You may never know the value of
a caring gesture,
a compassionate word,
or a warm, friendly smile.
You are an inspiration.
You give hope.
You create dreams.
You are a friend, a confidant, a leader,
a hero...a teacher.*

You are appreciated.

We thank you and wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season!

*Sincerely,
The Gateway Renaissance Committee*

At Jostens Renaissance, we would like to thank all of you for your unending commitment to youth. You truly Make It Happen!

Thanks for everything that you do and we wish you all the joy that the holiday season brings.

Who's in the news!

Submit your story

If your Jostens Renaissance program has made the local newspaper or any other type of published media in your area, send us a link and we will include it in the next issue of the Jostens Renaissance Review. Please e-mail the article link to: charley.nelson@jostens.com. By sending us your story, you'll be able to share it with thousands of JRR readers.

Jostens Renaissance Review statistic of the issue

According to a recent AP-AOL poll, adults and teens are separated by an 'IM gap'

- Three-fourths of adults who use instant messaging still communicate with e-mail more often
- Over 50% of teens who use instant messaging send more than 25 a day, and 20% send more than 100 a day
- Teen users (30%) are almost twice as likely as adults (17%) to say that they can't imagine life without instant messaging
- Almost 20% of teens have used IM to ask for, or accept a date and 16% have used it to break up with someone

Reminders

Countdown to the Conference

We don't want you to miss any of the event, so we've posted a countdown on our website. Check it out at <http://www.jostens.com/edserv>. The countdown is located just above the Jostens Renaissance banner on the right side of the page.

Educator Services Website

Provides information about Jostens Renaissance. Register and get full access to all the program information. www.jostens.com/edserv

Platinum Program Coupon Booklets

The 06-07 coupon booklets are distributed on a first come, first serve basis and they are going FAST, so order yours today!! http://www.jostens.com/edserv/renaissance/ren_500.asp

Renaissance Review Archive

Provided to you on our new website: http://www.jostens.com/edserv/renaissance/ren_400_20.asp

2006 fall edition of New Heights - The Official Magazine of Jostens Renaissance

Visit the Educator Services home page and the link for New Heights is on the right of the page, just under the Jostens Renaissance banner. <http://www.jostens.com/edserv/default.asp>

2007 Jostens Renaissance National Conference Theme Unveiled

Visit <http://www.jostens.com/edserv/renaissance/images/2007conftheme.pdf> to see the 2007 National Conference theme!

Jostens Renaissance National Conference Update

The Jostens Event Management team is busy searching for the perfect site to host the 2007 Jostens Renaissance National Conference. As soon as we have secured a location and signed the contract, we'll announce the site in the JRR as well as posting the site on the Jostens Educator Services web site. Look for an announcement to come sometime in November.

[Download the issue as a PDF](#)