



PEOPLE TO PEOPLE
STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAMS

Student Ambassador Acceptance News Release

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

To: Catherine Hess, Editor, Martinez News-Gazette

Re: BOOMERANG—Australia, Summer 2007

Today's Date: *IMMEDIATELY*

Contact: Delegation Leader Kimberly Ambrosino, Oakley, CA (925-354-7850)

MARTINEZ Students Selected for People to People Program

Joseph Ledesma (Freshman), Stephanie White (Sophomore), and Jessica Patterson (Junior), all students at Alhambra High School in Martinez, have been accepted into the People to People Student Ambassador Program, an educational travel program founded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Joseph, Stephanie & Jessica will explore Australia for 18 days this summer as a member of the Contra Costa County delegation. By participating in the Boomerang itinerary, these students can earn academic credit (both High School and College credit through the University of Washington) while getting to know the people, culture and history of the places visited. They will take part in a variety of activities—a community service project, snorkeling at the Great Barrier Reef, climbing the Sydney Harbour Bridge, exploring Ayers Rock and enjoying a ceremonial feast with local Anangu Aboriginal people and learning about their culture. They will also have a few days to 'home-stay' with a local host family.

Acceptance into the Student Ambassador Program is an honor. After being invited to enroll, Joseph, Stephanie and Jessica submitted letters of recommendation and successfully completed an interview process. Before departing they will attend several orientation meetings with program leaders and fellow delegates to learn about the destination and prepare for the journey. These three students will travel under the leadership of Kim Ambrosino, a teacher-leader from Vintage Parkway Elementary in Oakley, CA. The delegation also is led by Penny Butler, who teaches at Ironhouse School in Oakley and John Pizzo is with the Solano County Office of Education in Fairfield. The group will be met upon arrival by a local delegation manager who coordinates the cultural and recreational excursions and is familiar with local customs. President Eisenhower founded People to People during his presidency in 1956 with citizen leaders including entertainer Bob Hope, Olympic champion Jesse Owens, amusement entrepreneur Walt Disney and Hallmark Cards founder Joyce Hall. Having served as a military commander, Eisenhower believed that ordinary citizens of different nations could make a difference where governments could not. People to People Student Ambassador Programs is based in Spokane, Washington, and has been coordinating educational travel for over 50 years. Visit the website at www.ptpi.org or www.studentambassadors.org.