

# The Orchid School Wins First Prize in the Worldwide NASA Ames Space Settlement Contest 2019

The Orchid School students were declared winner in the Class 9 large group category by NASA Ames Space Settlement contest. The results were declared in the third week of March 2019.

## National Space Society Space Settlement Contest 2019 Results

This page contains the results of the 2019 NSS Space Settlement Contest. This year we received 2,691 entries involving 12,899 students. For the previous 25 years this contest was administered by NASA Ames Research Center and was an entirely paper operation. This year the National Space Society took over administration at NASA's invitation and simultaneously made the contest a cloud based digital system using the Award Force contest software.

### Winners

#### Grand Prize

The Grand Prize for the 2019 NSS Space Settlement Contest went to a team of 11 students from Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, USA: Josiah DeLuz, Josiah Richards, Maya Caliao, Hana Husek, Raychelle Lorenzo, Jayde Whiting, Madeleine Wolcott, Austin Pham, Nolan Pries, Christian Williams, and Logan Russell, for creating *ASM Corporation* under the direction of Frederick Herrmann from the Makua Lani Christian Academy. *ASM Corporation* is particularly noteworthy for the excellent and relevant physical experiments they undertook.

#### First Prize

##### Grade 12 First Prize

- *OPUS*, Koti Reddi, Rgukt Nuzvid, Nuzvid, Andhrapradesh, India, Individual.
- *DEIMOS*, Tudor Vianu National High School of Computer Science, Bucharest, Romania, Small Group.
- *Heracles*, Korean Minjok Leadership Academy, Hoengseong, Gangwon, South Korea, Large Group.

##### Grade 11 First Prize

- *GENESIS-369*, Katerina Samatovna Bakhtigaliyeva, High School of Mathematics, Dr. Petar Beron, Observatory of Naval Academy, N. Vaptsarov, Varna, Bulgaria, Individual.
- *ASCLEPIUS*, Andrei Saguna National College, Brasov, Romania, Small Group.
- *City of Space Collider*, High School of Mathematics, Dr. Petar Beron, Varna, Bulgaria, Large Group (tie).
- *CHRYSALIS*, Andrei Saguna National College, Large Group (tie).

##### Grade 10 First Prize

- *Space Mission*, T. Shashank, Narayana Etechno School Gb Palya, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, Individual.
- *ATLAS*, Door No 104, Maruthi Towers, Kurmannagalem, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India, Small Group.
- *Sovereignty Project*, Saint Sava National College, Bucharest, Romania, Large Group (tie).
- *ECOS*, Liceul Teoretic Traian, Constanta, Romania, Large Group (tie).

##### Grade 9 First Prize

- *Dune*, Melissa Aydogan, Bucharest, Romania, Individual.
- *Zimrida Arka*, The Koc School, Istanbul, Turkey, Small Group.
- *ARES Ardra: A Dream Come True*, The Orchid School, Pune, Maharashtra, India, Large Group.

##### Grade 8 First Prize

- *SPIDER*, Munteanu Elvira, Andrei Saguna National College, Brasov, Romania, Individual.
- *ARUNIM*, Narayana Herb School, EKDM Branch, Urathaswaram, Andhra Pradesh, India, Small Group.

This research project, designed by a team of 6 students from class IX, was about a self-sufficient space settlement revolving around the orbit of Mars. They worked on it for 8 months balancing their syllabus demands and regular classes.

Now the team is a global winner!

Interestingly, last year too, our school students were declared winner in the class IX large group category.

**Our winning team has provided a synopsis of their project – “ARES Ardra: A Dream Come True “below :**

Aryaman Sen, Aryan Bhirud, Gautam Patwardhan and Mandar Shukla of Class IX and Dhruv Jadhav, Paras Kasmalkar and Sandeep Nallamilli of Class VIII have won the first prize in the 9th standard large group category in the NSS Space Settlement Contest. It is an amazing achievement for us because the competition had received 2,691 entries and there were 4

groups from our school itself. Finally, we were the only group to receive a prize in the contest from our school and were also the only group from Maharashtra to win a first prize.

The project was about designing a space settlement for different purposes such as mining, reducing population density on earth etc. The name of our project is **ARES Ardra: A Dream Come True**. We worked on the project for 7 to 8 months. We used to discuss about the project in school and then go home and document all the things that we had discussed in school. The main aim of our project was to create a completely self-sufficient space settlement revolving around the orbit of Mars.

Our project is unique in the following ways –

- The Mars Base is a colony for scientists to stay on Mars and discover many new metals and conduct experiments. The Mars Base would also help in increasing revenue for the settlement with the help of tourism. The people from Earth would come to stay in the Base for seeing landforms like Mariner Valley, Olympus Mons etc. The Mars Base would also ensure water for the settlement which would be procured from the Northern icecap on Mars. This water would also be used to get Oxygen for the settlement with the help of electrolysis.
- The settlement has a completely Earth – like atmosphere which means that it is equipped with all the aspects which are necessary for human survival like agriculture, carbon dioxide capturing, animal husbandry etc.
- It is also equipped with schools, colleges and hospitals to provide all the amenities to the people available in Earth. It also has a government to run the settlement in a peaceful manner.