

**"Cosmic Cultures II” Interdistrict Grant Program**

ctscience4kids.org and www.CosmicCulturesII-WMS.weebly.com

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are pleased and excited to inform you that sixth graders from Wolcott, Meriden, Ansonia, Waterbury, and Hartford are being invited to participate in an inter-district grant entitled “Cosmic Cultures II”. In this program, students will be brought together for six (6) sessions to promote academic and social enrichment. Learning experiences will focus on the cultural and scientific links of both ancient and present day civilizations using astronomy as a unifying theme. The program is set to include Friday afternoon and Saturday trips to programs at other schools, as well as local attractions such as the Bushy Hill Nature Center, the Peabody Museum, and Eli Whitney Museum.

Cosmic Cultures II is designed to provide meaningful and engaging opportunities for your child that will enhance and enrich his/her school day learning. Further, it provides numerous occasions for students from different communities and backgrounds to meet, become friends, and establish meaningful, positive relationships. Team building and task-oriented activities will allow students to develop inter-personal, communication, and problem solving skills in a fun, relaxed and engaging atmosphere.

 Enrollment in the program is based on a lottery of applicants received by Wednesday, October 10th. Students participating in the program will also be given priority in enrolling in our Cosmic Cultures II summer camp to be tentatively held at the end of June, as well as the program for 7th and 8th graders, CAPTivating Kids III.

Cosmic Cultures is staffed by teachers from the participating districts, is sponsored by the Connecticut State Department of Education, and is provided at NO COST to you or your child. Transportation is provided to and from Washington Middle School. **You will be responsible for dropping off your child on time (unless the event is directly after school) and promptly picking them up at WMS**.

![C:\Documents and Settings\melissa.vollono\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\SKZ3NXBM\MC900241087[1].wmf]()If you would like to enroll your child, please complete the attached registration form and return them to Ms. Vollono in 8D by **Wednesday, October 10th**. Space is very limited and the spots will be filled quickly. Also**, please understand that we must have a firm commitment from you and your child to attend all sessions of the program in order to follow grant requirements**. Attendance will be strictly monitored and **students with two absences will be dismissed from the program**. If you already know you will not be able to attend one or more of the sessions, please consider that this program is not for you. Additionally, parents who are **habitually tardy in picking up their child risk their child being dismissed from the program**.

Sincerely,

Ms. Melissa Vollono

Washington Middle School

Steve Pelosi and Jay Brennan,

Interdistrict Grant Coordinators, Eli Whitney Museum