IN LOVING MEMORY OF J.U.C.

J.U.C. Media, Research and Writing Awards, and potential Scholarship

7 January 1997 – ∞

“Happiness is the universal force to be attained as the final objective of humanity.”

Organization: The Light Millennium, Inc.
A Charitable Global Human Advancement Organization
Status# 501-c-3 – New York, 2001

Meeting: On WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2020
VENUE: Sunlight Studio - Studio-G
ADDRESS: 321 W 44th St Suite #202 New York, NY 10036
Meeting Title: “IN LOVING MEMORY OF J.U.C.
J.U.C. MEDIA, RESEARCH AND WRITING AWARDS and potential SCHOLARSHIP Project

Author of the Concept: BIRCAN ÜNVER

Booklet and Flyer designed by: BIRCAN ÜNVER

This meeting is organized “In Memory of John Unver Culkin” with the purpose of publicly introducing the proposed J.U.C. MEDIA, RESEARCH AND WRITING AWARDS and potential SCHOLARSHIP Project at Sunlight Studio – Studio – G in Manhattan, New York on Wednesday, January 29, 2020.


This meeting is co-sponsored by:
• NAMIK ÜNVER, Uncle of J.U.C.
• FATOS EROL, mother-in-law of Barış, brother of J.U.C.
And:

PHOTOGRAPHER: JULIE MARDIN, Representative of The Light Millennium to the United Nations Department of Global Communications

LMTV: ASHRAF ALI, Videographer

All logistic support and coordination by: BARIŞ ÜNVER, Reality Quest New York

This Booklet is edited by: FİGEN BİNGÜL

CONTACT via emails: JUC-AWARDS@lightmillennium.org | EVENT@lightmillennium.org

Your generous tax-exempt donations payable to: The Light Millennium, Inc. with a note in the MEMO section: for the “J.U.C. M-R-W-A”.

Mailing address of The Light Millennium: 87-82 115TH Street, Richmond Hill, NY, 11418, USA.
Tel: 718-441-3816 (land-line) Skype #lightmillennium | Zoom #The Light Millennium

Social Media: @The Light Millennium | @TurkishLibraryMuseum (LikedIn)
@lightmillennium #lightmillennium (Twitter and Facebook)

Hashtags #JUCAwards | #JUCMRWA
• On WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2020 | Time: 6:30 –9:00pm
(6:30–7:15pm. – Refreshments will be available)

• OPENING PERFORMANCE by (7:15 – 7:30 PM)
Dr. Ayşegül DURAKOĞLU, Pianist, Professor in Music, Stevens Institute of Technology

• Welcoming & Hosted by: Ms. BİRCAN ÜNVER, Founder-President, TV Producer & Head Representative of The Light Millennium to the United Nations Department of Global Communications

• Part-1. "In Loving Memory of J.U.C."
(Presentations from J.U.C.’s short selected pieces or anecdotes about him.)
1. EFE HÜYÜK, “Mr. Virus”
2. İREM ÜNAL, “Watergates”
3. MİNE TAKIL, “Nothingness”
4. Dr. ASLIHAN ÇAKMAK (Kathy Culkin’s Tribute for J.U.C.)
5. GÜNAY MENEKŞE, “Artificial Intelligence” — Part-1
6. BARIŞ ÜNVER (brother, a few words)

• Part-2. Introduction of the “J.U.C. Media, Research & Writing Awards” (JUC M-R-W-A), and a potential “Scholarship” program Definition and Guideline

• Part-3. The connection between the above two items with The Light Millennium's Mission & Latest News

• INTERACTIVE SESSION

— CLOSING — 9:00PM
By JOHN UNVER CULKIN

In a darkened street not far from the sea,
I see a young pregnant mother with two toddlers,
    bloodied, starving.

Her clothes are tattered,
    her teeth yellow with breaks in between gaps.
I offer her a dollar but she turns it down.

She speaks very good English but she is ready to cry…
I just wished I could have helped more.
“What else can we do to help them?”

I wonder, guilty that I having such great conditions.


Source: https://www.lightmillennium.org/21st_22nd/juc_homeless_poem.html
“HOPE NEVER FADES…”

J.U.C. MEDIA, RESEARCH AND WRITING AWARDS, and potentially SCHOLARSHIP

INTRODUCTION

“Hope Never Fades…”

As a mother, I fully believed in my son’s untapped rich potential and intellect. I fully believed that he would eventually find a way to activate that potential and contribute to his and society’s wellbeing… He was a gifted student in “Aster” class since kindergarten. He gave so much importance to being intelligent at all times. Since he was 17, J.U.C. focused on these ‘self thought and designed’ IQ tests, which he shared with me from time to time with great excitement. Recently, I’ve located four of those, which are available online [ref. www.iqexams.net]. He even had made me to take his IQ test!

And now, upon his sudden departure and this tremendous loss and pain, I’ve been questioning, WHY am I facing this destiny? … WHY I am here but he is NOT anymore? It is and will be a harsh reality to accept as long as I am alive, and it is very difficult to live with this reality…

Unfortunately, J.U.C. (‘Canım’) is no longer with us in person and that is the harsh reality and fact.

With this in mind, my whole attempt is to transform my love for him along with my deep sorrow and pain into a constructive path as if he is still with us, and as if he will see this project named after him to inspire many children/youth. Consequently, I feel as if he will turn to me with a beautiful smile, and will be saying this:

“Mom, did you really create this project in my name? Thanks Mom.”

This is all I expect to hear in my imagination, in my mind, as if he is/will be with us for many years to come, so that its positive outcome will also help me hold on to life and make me happy because it will make him happy…
Even though my hopes for his physical existence, intellect, and potential faded out, I am holding on to the hope he gave me at the age of 7. I am still inspired by him, through his words, both written in paper and in my mind, that from this point on, I will NOT only focus on him, and/or on keeping my hope and love alive for my older son and grand-children, but also on expanding that hope and love from the borders of my immediate family to underprivileged children, kids and youth, to a global family.

It is now my hope to be able to carry out and touch those children's lives in positive, constructive, and inspirational ways through The Light Millennium, Inc. – A Charitable Global Human Advancement Organization.

*As the saying goes: While one hope dies, thousands may be reborn.*

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**Written by:** Bircan Ünver, *Mother of J.U.C.* — January 23-24, 2020  
**Edited by:** Figen Bingül

"Hope never fades... "  
by John Ünver Culkin  

[Lightmillennium.Org website banner-quote, 14th Issue.]
(Tentative) **TIMELINE of the J.U.C. M-R-W-A Project**

2. Issue a related News/Media Release, or summary of the event, post it to www.turkishlibrary, and share it extensively by the week of February 10, 2020;
3. Accept submissions via email in Word document for media project (12 font), via link or .mp4 file by June 30, 2020;
4. Post all submissions/make all submitted media/art projects available on the Web by September 7, 2020; (whether this process will be OPEN or NOT to the general public [within Board and/or potentially collaborated partners] to be determined).
5. Announce FINALISTS in October 2020.

**AWARDS CEREMONY** - The very first Awards Ceremony will be scheduled in NYC during the last week of January 2021.

**Related J.U.C. Book Project:**

1. Compilation of J.U.C.’s ideas, both published and unpublished, for a printed-book project that will set out the ground for the Awards project; all proceeds will go to the Awards project. J.U.C.’s writings and biography will be compiled in a book, printed min. 250 copies up to 1000 copies, to be presented to all the participants/award recipients and co-sponsors of the Awards Ceremony in January 2021.
2. The envisioned Book project will be in 3 chapters:
   a) His early posted works along with not posted works (till age 12/13),
   b) His later ideas including AI, IQ test, story, interview, etc.,
   c) Dedicated pieces/anecdotes/memories on/about him.

Any proceeds from the sale of his book will go directly to the Awards and/or Scholarship project, which will also set out a ground and model for following years, making submitted works, awarded and selected ideas available to be compiled and printed in a book project as well. Its online version might be available following the next Awards.

As long as The Light Millennium, Inc. secures the required sponsorship/funding, the compilation of submitted works within an ongoing book project/publication on an annual or bi-annual ground to be presented during each Awards Ceremony will be one of the main expected OUTCOMEs/ongoing products of this awards/scholarship project.

"IN LOVING MEMORY OF J.U.C. — MEDIA, RESEARCH & WRITING AWARDS" — Introduction in NYC on 01/29/2020 | THE LIGHT MILLENNIUM, INC. A Global Human Advancement Organization — www.lightmillennium.org | www.turkishlibrary.us | Email: JUCAWARDS@lightmillennium.org
• SCHOLARSHIP:
  In reference to #2 in the “Sub-themes of the Meeting” section, the Organization’s recently “amended and broadened/expanded” MISSION/PURPOSES, effective on December 17, 2019, provides the Organization a new legal ground and capacity. It enables the Organization to undertake, in particular, educational/scholarship, and/or girl-children/students related projects, which was not the case with its MISSION of 2001.

This section needs to be defined further based upon availability and securing funds towards this very purpose.

At this earliest stage of the project, it may be planned as a one-time monetary award/scholar for the first-place winner of the project.

WHO CAN APPLY for the Scholarship?
Through families and/or schools, primarily girl-students who just graduated from the 4th grade in Turkey, who are orphans, or are from underprivileged families with many kids preventing them from being sent to Middle School.
— Along with the Application Form (the Organization has to develop an online Turkish Application Form for this purpose), the student’s recent report card, diploma and father/mother’s economic status/monthly income will be evaluated to select a student for scholarship. Orphans and underprivileged kids will be priority.

WHO CANNOT APPLY?
1. First, second, and third degree relatives of Bircan Ünver, the mother of J.U.C. and the founder of The Light Millennium;
2. Children or first, second and third degree relatives of the Board Members, Advisory Board Members and UN Reps. of the Organization;
3. Members of the related Committee (to be formed), their children and first, second and third degree relatives.

However, it is expected that the LM-Board, Advisory Board, UN Reps and Volunteers will support this project for its reach out, contacting potential schools and/or students for collaboration.
TYPE AND DEFINITION OF THE AWARDS:
All received pieces under categories of
a) MEDIA
b) RESEARCH
c) WRITING

1. In the announced themes for an annual or bi-annual basis will be posted and made publicly available (whether to post the received submissions before or after the Award Ceremony to be determined by the related Committee).
2. First year (January 2021), either in the form of the Award or independently, to provide min. 3 students an Award/Scholarship of the amount of $500.- each.
3. 1st place winner will be presented a Plaque or Trophy with the awardee’s name along with a printed book of J.U.C.
4. Videos/multi-media will be combined for a short/mini TV program to be scheduled to show on local channels.
5. Towards featuring the winners, video interviews will be conducted for local channels and online visibility purposes.
6. A certificate along with the book will be presented to the 2nd and 3rd place winners;
7. The winning students’ ideas & submitted works will be publicly visible to inspire other students and youth.
8. For the 2nd JUC M-R-W-A’s in 2022 or 2023, the Organization aims to provide monetary award (and/or scholarship) up to 10 students for that particular year.
9. Based upon the ability to secure long-term scholarship programs by the Organization, multi-year scholarships from 1 to 4 years may be given to selected/awarded students.

Suggested J.U.C. Awards THEMEs for 2021:

MEDIA (multi-media/digital arts)
1. Does Internet connect or disconnect us?
2. What are the harmful effects of Social Media and how to avoid from them? (up to 5 min. video or multi-media)
3. How can Internet/WWW contribute towards UNITY & Global Culture of Peace?
4. Which of the UN-Sustainable Development Goals is your favorite one? And how do you envision implementing it in your daily-life and/or surroundings?
RESEARCH
1. Ancient Civilizations.
2. Artificial Intelligence and imagination of a life in another planet (for example: Mars)
3. What are the validity and effectiveness of the IQ Tests in one’s life?
   What are the opinions on how to interweave non-verbal intellect with social-intellect?
4. STEM Cell.

WRITING:
1. What is your dream-job and/or how do you perceive purpose of life?
2. If you became the President of the World, what three things would you change first, and how would you design to make the world a better place that you imagine leaving to your children and grandchildren?
3. What does the life of a tree and/or clean water mean to you? Or what is your opinion on how to protect our eco-system/environment in connection with the UN-Sustainable Development Goal#15, LIFE ON EARTH?
4. Poetry (3 to 5 poems) or short stories or essays on: Peace, Love, Children, Non-Violence, Respect to others, Unity for Humanity, Love and Care for the Environment, the Future, Cultural Diversity, Connections on Ancient Cultures, Present times and looking forward to the future...

Word limitations for Research and Writing Categories:
1. Elementary School Students (300 words with space).
2. Middle School Students (500 words with space).
3. High School Students (1000 to 1200 words with space).
4. College and/or University students (age 18 and over does not require school and/or family confirmation-- 2000 to 2500 words with space).

GUIDELINE:
1. The J.U.C. Media, Research, and Writing Awards project is primarily designed for Elementary, Middle and High School Students. It also extends to college/university students.
2. Based upon securing the related required funding, the Scholarship portion solely aims for the Middle and High School students--mainly girls, but boys will be considered as well. Mainly, targeted for, but not limited to, Turkey.
3. Tentatively, re. the Scholarship portion to be distributed in January 2021, the first-place winners in each category may be awarded with **$500.- each**.

4. Any submitter under 18 should provide a written permission, either from their teacher and/or principle, or their family, or legal guardian.

5. Each submitter should “agree on” and print the confirmation, sign it and email a scan of it, or the submitter and/or their Guardian MUST clearly indicate that the Organization’s Publishing Policy [http://www.lightmillennium.org/lm_publishing_policy.html](http://www.lightmillennium.org/lm_publishing_policy.html) has been read and agreed on for their submission for the Awards Project.

6. Submission or Application for this Award will be **FREE of charge**.

7. Submitter and/or their School and/or Parents/legal Guardian should accept the Organization’s Publishing Policy that all the submitted pieces might be posted to the organization’s website (the existing one or a new one for this project) and CANNOT be REMOVED at any time in the future.

8. The Organization may not be able to cover the travel costs of the Winner(s) from other states and/or countries. Regardless, if no fund or sponsorship is available, then participation to the Award Ceremony via available online Video (Skype, Zoom) will be sought.

9. All submitted WORKS MUST be ORIGINALLY written and/or designed and submitted for this particular project. It must NOT be posted online and/or printed previously and the submitter MUST be the AUTHOR of it.

10. The Organization **DOES NOT PUBLISH ANY ADVERTISEMENT/COMMERCIALS**. However, it may seek collaborator/sponsors/funders/donors for this particular project. Only those names and/or organizations/private or public entities will be reflected under the related sections of all related in print and/or online outreach materials.

11. All submissions must be made via online by **June 30, 2020** to **JUC-Awards@lightmillennium.Org** (please also cc it to: Lightmillennium@yahoo.com)

12. Please include in your submission your full-name, age, portrait/head shot, and a 150-200 words of short-bio; current school name/class, city/country, along with the obtained permission, written statement, or e-signed version of the Publishing Policy [http://www.lightmillennium.org/lm_publishing_policy.html](http://www.lightmillennium.org/lm_publishing_policy.html).

13. Submitters of age 18 and over are first degree responsible for their submissions and do not require school and/or family confirmation.

14. Submissions are requested in full, not as abstracts.
ABOUT

The Light Millennium, Inc. – A Charitable Global Human Advancement Organization: Has sustained a good standing as an associated NGO with the United Nations Department of Global Communications (formerly, UN-DPI since 2005). The Organization publishes online issues, organizes public events, produces-and-presents television programs on the local channels (LMTV) and develops/presents various concepts in multi-platforms. It was introduced on the Web in 1999, and officially founded with a #501-c-3 tax-exempt status in New York in 2001 by Bircan Ünver.

The LM mainly has been focused on public awareness via multi-media platforms, has encouraged active participations from the all walks of life and promotes the following matters within its capacity as a ‘rights based’ organization, based on its initial 2001 Certificate of Incorporation: Human Advancement, Democracy-Equality-Justice, Fostering World Peace, Freedom of Expression, Encouraging Intellectual Productivity, Girls-Women Rights, Cultural Diversity, Advancing Culture of Peace, and Global Connectivity...

The Organization is a non-religious, non-political, not-for-profit (501-c-3), non-governmental (NGO), and independent secular organization. Officially formed in 2001, located in Queens, New York, online presence since August 1999.

NEWS – A NEW ERA FOR THE LIGHT MILLENNIUM:

The Light Millennium Organization recently “received the approval” of the "Amended–and–Broadened" Certificate of Incorporation, and gained a new capacity towards becoming a 'service' and 'rights' based organization, effective as of December 17, 2019.

Article#3: To promote girls-women’s and children’s rights by advocating for gender equality, quality education for all and access to schools, libraries, museums and any other educational or learning center.
**Article#4:** To form, operate and provide secular educational opportunities for underprivileged children and youth, by enabling access to, including, but not limited to, schools, libraries, museums and any other public or private spaces throughout the world including any location where there is agreement and cooperation from the relevant governmental authorities to achieve such objectives.  
— (2019) **Full PURPOSES are available via the following link under section #SIXTH:**


**2019—By-Laws:**


**2001—Mission:** http://www.lightmillennium.org/lm_mission.html  

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**SPECIAL THANKS — I**

Bircan Ünver, The Founder-President of The Light Millennium & Board of Directors would like to THANK very much to the Pro-Bono-Law Firm for the tedious work, expertise and provided services to achieving the aimed “Amendment & Broadened” PURPOSES along with “Updated and Strengthening” its 2001 By-Laws. Along with, the Organization extends its THANK to the Volunteers Lawyers of Arts in New York, whereas initially via “pro-bono law service” was obtained.

Further, Bircan would like to thank each and every Board Member for their support throughout the entire process since the initial case was picked up by the Pro-bono law firm in December 2014.
For Our Sunshine

Our sunshine,
gone too early
from this World
to light years afar
joined the Sun
reached Mars,
and joined the Cosmos...

Yet, J.U.C. is, and, will be
in our hearts and minds
until our last breath
on this planet...

SPECIAL THANKS — II for the received flowers on Dec. 30, 2019:

- BOB & KATHY CULKIN;
- CLIFFORD JACOBS, QUEENS PUBLIC TELEVISION & FRIENDS AT QPTV
- GOKHAN OZALP, ATAA & The BOARD of Assembly of Turkish American Associations
- THE ADAMIAK FAMILY: DIANE, JOHN, ALLISON, DANIELLE & JILLIAN
- JOHN & LELL BLANEY
- KAY & JOE CARPENTER.

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INITIALS DONATIONS RECEIVED TOWARDS IN THE INTRODUCTION & IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT AS OF JANUARY 28, 2019

SPECIALS THANKS TO—III:

1. NAMIK ÜNVER (from Istanbul via Bircan’s personnel account — for rental cost of the Jan. 29th meeting) ⇒ $500.-
2. FATOS EROL (towards refreshments/Jan. 29, 2020) ⇒ $300.-

Towards Implementation of the project:

3. JULIE MARDIN ⇒ $500.-
4. FİGEN BİNGUL ⇒ $200.-
5. ARVIND VORA & ILA VORA ⇒ $101.-
6. AYSEL TOPRAKLI ⇒ $100.-
7. CHRISTOPHER B. WITTING ⇒ $100.
8. DONNA SAVINO LEONE & DAN LEONE, QPTV ⇒ $100.-
9. FATMA AYDAC & TURGAY AYDAC ⇒ $100.-
10. GÜL CEVIKOGLU & MASSIMO E CARRARA ⇒ $100.-
11. IREM UNAL & THE UNAL FAMILY ⇒ $100.-
12. MAZLUM KOSMA ⇒ $100.-
13. HUDAI HAVALAR & MIRAT YAVALAR ⇒ $100.-
14. SEVGIN OKTAY & BETTY OKTAY ⇒ $100.-
15. NEW YORK TURK MUSIKI CEMIYETI, INC. ⇒ $100.-
16. JIM & MEHTAP GULSEN . ⇒ $100.-
17. AYŞEGÜL DURAKOĞLU ⇒ $50.-
18. BARBARA GÜNSÜ ÖCAL ⇒ $50.-
19. BILL CORSA & MARIANNE CORSA ⇒ $50.-
20. MUGAN SONMEZ HEDGES ⇒ $50.-
21. ASISZO LLC ⇒ $50.-
22. ABEYNESH ASRAT ⇒ $50.-
23. İRFAN TAKIL & MINE TAKIL ⇒ $40.-
24. ÜMRAN ÜNLÜ ⇒ $20.-

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT.

(Donation page is updated.)
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Websites: www.lightmillennium.org | www.turkishlibrary.us | www.unngoga.org

Social Media: @The Light Millennium | @TurkishLibraryMuseum (LinkedIn)
@lightmillennium #lightmillennium (Twitter and Facebook)

#JUCAwards #JUCMRWA

(J.U.C.’s last design as of 12/17/2019.)