



Press Release
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***82 Teams Show off Innovation Skills at Destination ImagiNation Illinois State-Wide
Tournament for bid to Global Finals***

April 10, 2010, Glen Ellyn IL--Break out the duct tape and stock up on the straws and paper clips, the 82 Regional Champion Destination ImagiNation (DI®) teams vie to become Illinois State Champions and the chance to compete at the DI Global Finals in May. At Hadley Junior High School, 240 Hawthorne Boulevard in Glen Ellyn, grade school through high school teams will showcase their solutions from 8 am to 4:30 pm.

Participating teams include:

Adler Park School, Libertyville
Bartlett High School, Bartlett
Beach Park Middle School, Beach Park
Ben Franklin, Glen Ellyn
Butler, Oak Brook
Butterfield, Libertyville
Caruso Middle School, Deerfield
Freelance, Gurnee
Georgetown Ridge Farm HS, Georgetown-Ridge Farm
Goodrich School, Woodridge
Gurnee DI 56, Gurnee
Hadley Junior High, Glen Ellyn
Hawthorn, Vernon Hills
Highland Park HS, Highland Park
Immaculate Conception, Elmhurst
Jackson Middle School, Villa Park
Jefferson Middle School, Villa Park
Jefferson Middle School, Waukegan
Kellar Primary School, Peoria
King College Prep High School, Chicago
LeRoy Elementary School, LeRoy
Little Fort, Waukegan

Manning Elementary, Westmont
Neal Math and Science Academy, North Chicago
O'Neill /Herrick Middle Schools, Downers Grove
Phillips High School, Chicago
Proviso Math & Science Academy, Forest Park
Quest Academy, Palatine
ROWVA, Oneida
School District 89, Melrose Park
St. Paul Lutheran – Norwood Park, Chicago
Thornton Twp. HS, Harvey
Unity High School, Mendon
Visitation School, Elmhurst
Washington Intermediate School, Pekin
Waukegan High School, Waukegan
Waukegan School District 60, Waukegan
Westmont Jr High, Westmont
Westmore School, Lombard
Whittier School, Downers Grove
Whittier Elementary, Wheaton
Wilson Intermediate School, Pekin
Winkelman School, Glenview
Wright Elementary School, DeKalb

“The Destination ImagiNation tournament season brings out the best in the teams. They get to be recognized for their months of preparation. Every year I’m amazed at how these young people work together to present truly original, innovative and creative solutions to seemingly impossible Challenges,” said Diana Baldi, Far North Illinois Regional Director.

Challenge categories range from mechanical engineering, structural engineering, robotics, fine arts and puppetry, improvisation, and service learning. Each Challenge was developed to connect to educational standards and pushes student teams to look at the ordinary in extraordinary ways.

“At School District 45, we firmly believe that DI has provided our students with opportunities to expand their creativity and increase their problem solving skills. In addition, it has helped us prepare our students for the future by offering them additional leadership opportunities and the chance to work collaboratively in teams outside of their school day, said Dr. Janice Rosales, Superintendent. “Through the students’ participation in the Destination ImagiNation program, their knowledge in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) as well as creative-problem-solving development is enhanced.”

Teams are tested to think on their feet, work together, and devise original solutions that satisfy the requirements of the Challenges. Participants gain more than just basic knowledge and skills—they learn to unleash their imaginations and take unique approaches to problem solving.

The top two teams in each Challenge and level of competition from the Illinois Affiliate Tournament will qualify for Global Finals, where more than 16,000 attendees from all states and more than 30 countries compete in Knoxville, TN May 26-29th.

About Destination ImagiNation, Inc.

Destination ImagiNation, Inc. is an extraordinary non-profit organization that provides two educational programs for students to learn and experience creativity, teamwork and problem solving. Every year, we reach 100,000 students across the U.S. and in more than 30 countries. Destination ImagiNation, our core program, is an exhilarating after-school activity in which students work in teams to solve mind-bending Challenges and present their solutions at Tournaments. In our Destination ImagiNation 4-Life program, we design and implement cause-based programming for client organizations to reach target audiences in a powerful way. Destination ImagiNation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with more than 1.3 million alumni and a global network of 35,000 volunteers. Visit <http://www.IDODI.org> for more information.