



MARYLAND DESTINATION IMAGINATION

DI-nomite News from MCPSI

October 2009

www.MarylandDI.org

Mark Your Calendar

November 7, 2009

Team Manager Training
Carver Center for Arts & Tech
Baltimore Co.

November 21, 2009

Team Manager Training
Crofton MS, A. A. Co.

December 22, 2009

Regional Tournament
Registration On-time Deadline

January 15, 2010

Regional Tournament and
Appraiser Registration
Deadline

January 30, 2010

Appraiser Training
Kent Island High School
Milton Somers MS,
Charles Co.

February 6, 2010

Appraiser Training
Also snow date for
Jan 30th training
Towson University

February 13, 2010

Snow date for February 6th
Appraiser Training
Towson University

February 27 - March 20

Regional Tournaments
(see regional schedule)

April 10, 2010

State Tournament
University of Maryland
Baltimore County

May 26 – 29, 2010

Global Finals
University of Tennessee,
Knoxville

28 Years of Creativity and Teamwork!

Welcome to the 2009-2010 Destination ImagiNation season. And what a season it will be! Destination ImagiNation Inc. has set a goal of adding 3,000 new teams this year and Maryland hopes to help meet that goal by adding at least 40 new teams. We want to bring our wacky approach to personal development to more Maryland children. This will raise awareness of DI, making it more rewarding for our kids to represent their schools and communities. So, how can you help? Start a team today!

As part of the marketing effort, DI is holding a Reality Show Contest so that our teams can tell the world about what makes DI special. Interested teams can get details at www.shopdi.org.

The Maryland DI website has a brand new look and is chock full of great info. There is a forum for team managers, a challenge survey and an Affiliate Director's blog. Keep up with the latest news by visiting www.marylanddi.org.

The 2010 State DI Tournament is moving to University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). Towson University has grown so much recently, that its facilities are in high demand. We were unable to find a suitable date for this year's tournament and UMBC was able to meet our needs. We will miss Towson U and hope to keep that relationship going so that we may return in future years. Those of us who have been around for while will remember some great tournaments at UMBC. It's a great campus.

Team Purchase Info

The first step to forming a DI team is purchasing your team number. If your group or school plans to have just one team this year, it should purchase a 1-team pak. If there will be 2-5 teams participating, purchase a 5-pak. Rising Stars teams can purchase a \$35 Rising Stars team-pak or use one of the slots on their school's team pak.

Memberships can be purchased at www.shopdi.org using a credit card, check or purchase order. The costs are as follows:

START A TEAM ➔

1-pak - \$135 national fee + \$50 Maryland fee = \$185
5-pak- \$390 national fee + \$100 Maryland fee = \$490

Note that if your team is from a public school in one of the following counties, you may be eligible for a team number at a reduced cost. Please contact your Regional Director before purchasing a team number online.

Anne Arundel 😊 Charles 😊 Harford 😊 St. Mary's 😊 Washington 😊 Wicomico



MARYLAND REGIONAL INFORMATION

Regions and their tournaments are run by Regional Directors and Tournament Directors. Each Region has a different set of Tournament requirements and fees. Please be sure to check with your Region (determined by county) to find out what you must do to participate at the regional tournament. Most regions require each team to provide a tournament day volunteer in addition to the team's appraiser. Registration requirements will be posted on the regional pages at www.MarylandDI.org.

2010 Regional Tournament Schedule:

Region	Date	Tournament Location	Director	e-mail address
Central – Prince Georges	March 20, 2010	Charles H. Flowers High School Springdale, MD	Chris Price and Wendy Simmons	Central@marylanddi.org
East Central – Harford, Cecil	March 6, 2010	Bel Air Middle School Bel Air, MD	Wendy Schweiker and Marcia Cole	EastCentral@marylanddi.org
Eastern – Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, Worcester	February 27, 2010	Salisbury Middle School Salisbury, MD	Susan Bounds	Eastern@marylanddi.org
North Central – Baltimore City & Co, Howard	February 27, 2010	St. Pauls School for Girls Brooklandville, MD	Lara Kopf & Zakiya Williams	NorthCentral@marylanddi.org
South Central – Anne Arundel, St. Mary's, Calvert	March 13, 2010	South River High School Edgewater, MD	Debbie Lynch	Southcentral@marylanddi.org
Southern - Charles	March 6, 2010	LaPlata High School	Joyce Campbell	Southern@marylanddi.org
West Central - Montgomery	March 13, 2010	Clarksburg High School Clarksburg, MD	Sandi Harris	WestCentral@marylanddi.org
Western – Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, Washington	March 20, 2010	South Hagerstown High School & Emma K. Doub Magnet School	Dan Henderson	Western@marylanddi.org

Register for Regional Tournaments On-Line at www.marylanddi.org

All regions will register teams for their tournaments via the Maryland DI website at www.marylanddi.org. The system will be accepting registrations by October 31st. Teams registering by December 22nd will pay a reduced fee. Those registering between Dec 22nd and January 15th will pay a late fee. No registrations will be accepted after January 15th.

All regions will also require a signed media release for all team members. There may be other regional paperwork requirements that will be communicated by the Regional Directors.

Every Team Needs an Appraiser

Each DI team must supply a trained appraiser to represent it at the Regional Tournament. If the team advances to the State Tournament, it must also supply a trained appraiser for that tournament.

It is critical that your team's appraiser realizes he is committing to attending a day of training and two tournament days - your regional tournament and the State Tournament. If he cannot make all three dates, find someone else to do the job. Also, please notify your appraiser that he will not be able to watch your team perform at the tournament.

It is imperative that your team have a trained appraiser at each tournament. If you do not supply an appraiser, your team will not be able to advance to the next level of competition, even if it places at the top of its challenge. This rule is necessary in order for MD DI to provide fair appraising for all teams. Please respect this rule and do not ask your Regional Directors to make an exception for your team.

Note that high school seniors that have done DI can now serve as appraisers. Many seniors love DI but just don't have the time to be on a team. They would jump at the chance to be appraisers. Just ask!

Support Maryland Creative Problem Solvers, Inc.

Donors of \$25 - \$49

will receive a state DI pin

Donors of \$50-99

will receive a pin & state T-shirt

Donors of \$100 or more

will receive a pin, shirt & prominent listing in tournament program

Maryland Creative Problem Solvers, Inc. (MCPSI) is a non-profit Affiliate of Destination ImagiNation, Inc. Last year over 440 teams from across Maryland participated in tournaments. That's over 3,000 kids! And each year we get bigger and better.

MCPSI is run by a volunteer board of directors, led by volunteer Affiliate and Regional Directors. Every appraiser, tournament director, team manager trainer, souvenir sales person, and anyone else you see helping to run the tournaments is a volunteer. MCPSI gets no operational support from the state of Maryland or any school system.

It takes thousands of dollars each year to provide the DI experience to Maryland students. MCPSI provides all trainings and the state tournament, as well as a website and newsletters. It also assists the Global teams in preparing for their big trip. Consider this – the State tournament alone will cost almost \$30,000 this year. That includes space rental, photocopying, feeding the appraisers, printing the program, awards, and more. These costs are paid by team registration fees, souvenir sales, generous donations from our program advertisers and corporate sponsors.

MCPSI wishes to make the regional and state DI experience more fun and rewarding each year, in spite of rising costs. It can only do that with your help. How can you help?

- Offer the services of your business - photocopying, sign production, advertising, food and bottled water for appraisers, snacks for the kids.....
- Make a connection with an employer that may be interested in being a corporate sponsor.
- Make a tax deductible personal financial donation to MCPSI.
- Write in Maryland Creative Problem Solvers, Inc. on your United Way registration form.

Go to
www.marylanddi.org
for info on sponsorship opportunities.

Thanks to the 2008-2009 major donors to Maryland Creative Problem Solvers and to those who gave any amount of money or time to support DI in Maryland:

\$100 - \$249

Andrew Ellis
Claudia & Chris Morrell
Luette Semmes
Roland & Pat Swanson
Victor & Irina Yakovenko

\$250 - 499

Eric & Sue Ann Dahl
Richard Harder
W.L. Gore

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous
Carl & Sally Gold
Alan & Patricia Griesert
Verizon Foundation

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Self-Storage Plus, Timonium
Towson University

Or
donate online at
www.marylanddi.org

Please use the form below to make your contribution or tell us another way you can help.

Name _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I am enclosing a donation in the following amount: _____

If my donation exceeds \$49, I am entitled to a state t-shirt. (circle desired size) YL S M L XL XXL

E-mail sally@marylanddi.org if any of the following apply:

- I would like to donate goods or services. Please contact me.
- My employer or my own company may be interested in corporate sponsorship. Please contact me.
- I intend to write in MCPSI on my United Way registration card this fall.

Mail this form and your check (if applicable) to:

United Way donors use this address

Maryland Creative Problem Solvers, Inc.
P. O. Box 9852
Baltimore, MD 21284

TEAM MANAGER TRAINING

November 7, 2009

**Carver Center for Arts & Tech
938 York Road
Towson, MD 21204
Registration deadline October 30th**

November 21, 2009

**Crofton Middle School
2301 Davidsonville Rd.
Crofton, MD 21114
Registration deadline November 14th**

Training from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Check-in begins at 9:00 a.m.

\$20 registration fee payable via credit card, Pay Pal or check.

Register online at www.marylanddi.org

Rising Star! Team Manager Training

The focus of this session is on giving Rising Stars! Team Managers an overview of the Rising Stars! Program and available materials. The focus of the Rising Stars! Program is on the needs of early childhood development skills.

1st year Team Manager Training

The focus of this session is on giving new team managers a roadmap, skills and information needed to guide their team to a successful year. There will be a general session in the morning, followed by breakout sessions on Instant Challenge and other great topics. Also, 1st year team managers may opt to attend both the Nov. 7th training for 1st year managers, and the November 21st training for veterans.

Veteran Team Manager Training

Veteran team managers will select 4 sessions based on their needs and interests.

Sessions are to include (among others) the following:

- ❖ **Theater Skills** – Teach your kids how to stand out on stage. Led by our own theater expert, Dan Henderson.
- ❖ **Real Teams** – Get the real scoop on how to handle and motivate your team.
- ❖ **Creative Problem Solving Tools** – DI has lots of tools to help your team generate ideas and focus on solutions. This session will highlight some great ones.
- ❖ **Instant Challenge**- The IC gurus will help you help the kids with IC skills.
- ❖ **Interference “Sin”arios** – Answers to the recurring question – “Is this interference?”
- ❖ **Side Trips** – What they are and how to come up with them.
- ❖ **Pit Stops** – Explore the Pit Stops and other Charting Your Course activities.

Lunch available at training

Team managers may order lunch for the training when they register in advance. The lunch will include 2 slices of pizza, an apple, a cookie, and a drink at a price of \$5.

Questions? Email Patti Bailey at tmtraining@marylanddi.org.

Can't get to a training? Ask your Regional Director to assign you a veteran team manager mentor.

Pre-Tournament Training and Instant Challenge Days

Regions will be hosting Pre-tournament Team Manager Trainings in January or February. These trainings will give team managers vital tips for tournament preparation and the opportunity meet the Challenge Masters responsible for running challenge sites at the tournaments.

Regions will also be hosting Instant Challenge Days for teams. These events will provide great practice in Instant Challenge skills and the opportunity to connect with other teams from the region.

More information on these events will be sent by Regional Directors to team managers of registered teams.



2009-2010 Challenge Previews

Challenge A: Direct Deposit

Focus: Engineering, Cost/Benefit Analysis, Innovation and Design Process, Technical Design and Construction, Experimentation, Mathematics, Communication, Theater Arts, and Teamwork

Teams will present a team-created Story about making a decision. They will design and build Delivery Equipment that delivers Objects to a Target. Teams will analyze ways to increase the value of Objects and consider risk versus reward through strategic delivery to Targets. Standards addressed in this Challenge are Mathematics, Science, Technology, Economics, Research, Theater, Innovation and Design, Performance Skills, Working with Others.

Challenge B: DI-BOT

Focus: Robotic Technology, Technical Design and Construction, Science, Theater Arts, and Teamwork

Teams will learn about Robotic Technology and the changes it causes. They will create an original Story which envisions and shows how at least one character's life is changed by Robotic Technology. They will design, create, and integrate a device called DI-BOT, which completes a motion task, into the Story. Teams will create a Method to change at least one prop or set piece, or part(s) of the prop or set piece, into DI-BOT or part of DI-BOT. Teams will create a scene change that enhances the Presentation by providing an effective transitional link from one scene to another. Standards addressed in this Challenge are Research, Science, Mathematics, Theater, and Working with Others.

Challenge C: You're Gonna Flip!

Focus: Storytelling, Puppet Design and Construction, Puppetry, Theater Arts, Visual Arts, and Teamwork

Teams will present an Original Story dramatizing how a Character experiences a Flip (a change of point of view) about someone or something. Teams will design, construct, and feature at least one Puppet as a character in the Story. They will create a piece of Live Visual Art that is to be completely produced LIVE during the Presentation. Standards addressed in this Challenge are Visual Arts, Theater, Writing, Speaking, and Working with Others.

Challenge D: Do or DI

Focus: Improvisational Acting, Story Development, Teamwork, and Research Skills

Teams will create a five-minute Improvisational Skit about a Threatened Thing in danger of extinction. They will present the skit using a Stock Character. Teams will incorporate props and/or scenery to enhance the performance. They will integrate a randomly selected Unimpressive Superpower. Standards addressed in the Challenge are Theater Arts, Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking, Research, and Working with Others.

Challenge E: Breaking DI News

Focus: Structural Engineering, Materials Science, International Relations, Research, Innovation and Design Process, Mathematics, Theater Arts, Teamwork.

Teams will design, build and test a Structure made only of newsprint and glue. Teams will Reduce the props and scenery used in the Presentation to fit inside a 30in X 24in X 48in container. They will Reuse a story about a Newsworthy Event in a nation other than their own. They will Recycle newsprint by using it creatively in a costume or prop. Standards addressed in this Challenge are Mathematics, Science, Behavioral Studies, Technology, Theater Arts, and Working with Others.

Rising Stars!: Weighty News

For students in kindergarten through 2nd grade

Focus: Architecture and Structure, News Reporting, Research, Mathematics, Theater Arts and Working with Others

Rising Stars! Teams will design, build, and test a Structure made of newspaper and tape. They will create a TV Newscast to tell about the Structure. Standards addressed in this Challenge are Mathematics, Science, Listening and Speaking, Thinking and Reasoning, Theater, and Working with Others.

projectOUTREACH: Band Together For students in middle and high school only

Focus: Service Learning, Civic Responsibility, Social Science, Research, Youth Empowerment, Marketing, Communication, Partnerships, Project Management, Progress Monitoring, Evaluation, Fundraising, Listening and Speaking, and Working with Others

Teams will design and implement Projects to address community needs of their choosing. They will creatively use music to effect positive change.

PROJECT OUTREACH

Scholarship Information for the Class of 2010

College bound Seniors in the Class of 2010 are encouraged to apply for MCPSI scholarships. Specific requirements and application form will be posted on the Maryland website by December 1, 2009. Applications must be received no later than February 10, 2010. Scholarship winners will be announced at the State Tournament on April 10, 2010.

projectOutreach, the new DI challenge with a community service focus, will be offered at all of our regional tournaments this year. It is just for our middle and secondary teams and is a great way for kids to fulfill their community requirements. The challenge was written in partnership with MAE, a rock band with a conscience, and requires the teams to actually implement their projects in the community.

This challenge is a great way to keep high school students involved in DI. Check it out.

Calling All Alumni

Alumni are the future of the DI program and a walking marketing resource. Maryland DI is looking for DI alumni to serve as appraisers, team managers & helpers, and tournament volunteers.

Team managers and coordinators, please spread the word to your former team members that we want to know where they are, what they are doing and how to contact them. They should e-mail our Alumni Representative, Nicholas Cowling at alumni@marylanddi.org with the following information:

Name
e-mail address
mailing address
phone number

Birthdate
College & grad year
What they are doing now
How they'd like to help DI

Maryland Creative Problem Solvers



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