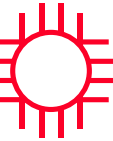


Creative Programs of

New Mexico, Inc.



Introducing Our New Affiliate Directors

Steve & Kris Shearer became involved in Creative Problem Solving (CPS) when their son was in Junior High in San Bernardino, CA, in 1986. They enjoyed CPS so much they continued to volunteer their time to the then current prOgraM, first as judges (appraisers) and continuing to Challenge Masters and Affiliate Directors in California. One or both of them has been Affiliate Director of California for the past 15 years. Kris has also served on the Destination Imagination Board of Trustees for approximately 4 years.

A sudden change in the economy a little over a year ago made Steve & Kris decide to move back to New Mexico. Both Steve and Kris graduated High School in New Mexico as well as graduating from the University of New Mexico. Kris also graduated from New Mexico Tech. (Steve taught at New Mexico Tech while Kris pursued her second degree there.) They both have many members of their family residing in our wonderful "Land of Enchantment!"

They have, in their past, lived in Alamogordo, Tularosa, Roswell, Truth or Consequences, Socorro, and Albuquerque; and as a result feel that they truly understand our wonderful state in all its aspects. They are currently adding to that list their wonderful community of Capitan, where they have purchased a wonderful adobe home on 8 acres!

They hope to bring a love and understanding of Destination Imagination to our memberships in New Mexico, and invite anyone interested in the program to get in touch with us. Steve's e-mail address is (stevecr8z@zianet.com) and Kris' e-mail address is (kris_s@zianet.com).

Call for Volunteers

We need your help! We badly need a state treasurer. Without one, the state board cannot continue to function. Additionally, we need volunteers to serve as appraisers at the tournament. If you can help, please contact James Gruetzner (jgruetzner3@comcat.net) if you're in the Albuquerque area, otherwise contact Steve Shearer (stevecr8z@zianet.com).

Tournament Registration

All teams **must** register by **March 24, 2004** to be eligible for the state tournament.

We are still using the national DI registration process for our own tournament registration. The national Passport and state membership are combined. Visit www.dionline.org to register.

The fees for registration are:

Single team: \$190
5-pak: \$265

To register a team, first purchase a single team registration or 5-pak on www.dionline.org. After that, enter your individual teams and **send in your tournament registration** (located on page 4 of this newsletter).

Teams may pay with credit card, check or purchase order. Organizations who add teams may upgrade from single team registration to five-pack by paying the \$75 difference.

On tournament day, each team must pay an addition \$15 entrance fee. We will accept check, cash or purchase order.

If you have any questions about registration, please contact:

North Central Region *Southwest*

James Gruetzner
jgruetzner3@comcat.net
(505) 237-2966

Grace La Torra
grace@nmsu.edu
(505) 522-5121

South Central

Monica Cook
monsicas@hotmail.com
(505) 681-8745

Who We Are

Creative Programs of New Mexico, Inc. sponsors the premier creative problem-solving program for students from kindergarten through college in New Mexico. Working in teams, students learn to think "out of the box," by creating and demonstrating unique solutions to interesting and motivating problems. This year we are affiliated with Destination ImagiNation. Destination ImagiNation was formed by dedicated volunteers to continue to provide a quality creative problem-solving program at an international level. CPNMI is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

ImagiNM

Training

Since the last newsletter, we had several well-attended training workshops. Starting with a basic structure workshop last fall, then an advanced structure workshop, a drama workshop and an instant challenge workshop. If you did not get a chance to participate in any of these, please keep an eye on the website for opportunities next year!

This Year's Pins

Below is the winning design from our state logo contest! Pins and t-shirts will be available at the state tournament.



Mark Your Calendars

For the most up to date schedule information, see the CPNMI web site at www.imaginm.org

State Tournament

Saturday, April 3
Sandia High School
Albuquerque

Global Finals

May 26-30, 2004
University of Tennessee – Knoxville, TN

Magellan Award

ImagiNM encourages team members to try new and different ideas, to explore different skills, to think outside of the box--or to convert the box into something else entirely! Destination ImagiNation offers five different types of Challenges, which provide opportunities to explore a variety of skills and scenarios.

In order to encourage kids to dare to explore, ImagiNM has established the "Magellan Ad Astra" award, to recognize those kids who, over the years, have completed solutions to Challenges in each of the five categories. Named after Ferdinand Magellan, the first person to circumnavigate the globe, it reflects the continued striving to reach to the stars--and even beyond to the galaxies of the Magellanic Clouds. We would like to recognize

these stellar kids at the awards ceremony at the state tournament.

We are calling on Team Managers and Coordinators to nominate any team members who qualify.

The different types of Challenges are:

- Theatrical (Cartoon Dimensions, Theater SmARTS, On Holiday, Shakespeare, etc.)
- Structure (GuessDImate, ConnecDId, Dual Dilemma, It's Not Impastable, RatiOMetric Structure, etc.)
- Improv (UpBeat Improv, Once Upon an Improv, etc.)
- Technical (DestiNations in Time, Change in Direction, It's Your Move, Fruit Roller Coaster, etc.)
- Combination -- Theatrical/Technical (The Plot and the Pendulum, ViDiO Adventure, StranDId, If Music be the Food of Life...Play On, etc.)

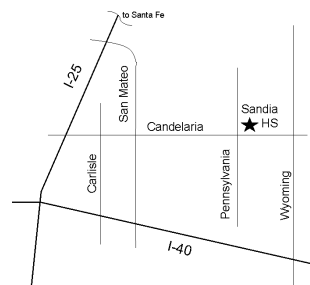
Team Managers and Coordinators are asked to nominate any team members who meet the award criteria. Please submit the following:

- Team Member Name:
- Challenge and Problems in the order of competition (include all, not just the basic five)
- For each Challenge/problem, the team membership (or school)

Please submit all nominations by noon, Friday 26 March, to Grace La Torra (grace@nmsu.edu)

Tournament: April 3, 2003

Sandia High School has graciously agreed to host our tournament again this year! Sandia is located at:
7801 Candelaria Rd
NE Albuquerque, NM
87110



CPNMI - P.O. Box 36881 - Albuquerque, NM - 87176-6881
www.imaginm.org

ImagiNM

Congratulations Atterbury!

Atterbury won third place in improv at 2003 Global Finals making them the only New Mexico team to bring home a trophy from Globals. Below is an article written by the team describing the experience.

It was one of those moments you never forget: at the New Mexico State DI Tournament this spring, they introduced our team before its challenge, “And now, from Atterbury High School...”

Atterbury High School? It had a great ring to it and filled me with pride but... there was no such place. Our team, Starlight, was an independent team and though managed by me, we hadn’t gotten around to building a school yet!

Independent DI teams remain uncommon and so cause a little confusion along the way. Most teams are sponsored by schools or local organizations. When applying for our passport, I left that “sponsor” part blank. Consequently, to our advantage, nobody told us which “gifted” students to have on our team.

Two years ago, my daughter and her good friend asked if I would form a team with them. Each had done DI or OM (Odyssey of the Mind) in years previous, but I had not managed a team before. They decided to select teammates who were not necessarily friends-- kids different from themselves but at least compatible. Different and compatible were the key. One creative acquaintance was passed over for being too disruptive.

Selection was not easy; in fact, it was sometimes tearful. Good friends were passed over. One person’s choice was not always agreed to. Boy/girl ratio discussions ensued. These then eight graders decided that having an even number of boys and girls would be a mistake by encouraging pairing off. They decided on 4 to 5 girls (giving girls a large majority?) and 2 boys even before knowing exactly who they would be.

They turned out to be all St. Michael’s High School students and so that first year affiliated with St. Mikes. They came in second place in the State Tournament their first year. Last year, however, St. Mikes put up a major road block. Citing new concerns over liability, the school insisted the team always meet in the school itself. This would be impossible—ours sets and costumes their first year had taken over my home. More than that, we had practiced nights and weekends, the only times I was free.

On the verge of disbanding, the team found new commitment and decided to become “independent,” naming themselves Starlight. At first, the kids had felt rejected. They were not going to get school credit for this extracurricular activity. Then, in true DI fashion, they turned a negative into a positive: as

an independent team they could be stronger and even more creative.

Their first year, they selected StranDId—and came up with the concept of being caught in a nursing home. They expressed their various talents making the set, the skit, the costumes. Last year, they selected to do improvisation—Once Improv a Time. They had an entirely different challenge—they were not particularly good at theater and some were quite shy. Here, doing improvisation, their ability to work as a team—which in many ways stemmed back to the original team selection—really paid off. In some ways, the improvisation challenge is like a prolonged Instant Challenge—not knowing what you are going to get and working together on your feet for the solution.

They won the New Mexico State Tournament with a story of how Rumpelstiltskin had enslaved King Midas, forcing him to turn straw into gold. We then learned to our dismay that the Global Finals in Knoxville were to take place during St. Mikes’ final exams. Now being an independent team might really work against us. Would the School permit the students to reschedule their exams for a nonschool activity? The answer “yes, for a fee” came after several impassioned appeals referring to this “once in a lifetime experience.”

It happened once again, this time sitting half way up in a giant indoor stadium in Knoxville: “Winning third place is team Starlight from Atterbury High, Santa Fe New Mexico”! This time I really could not keep from smiling.

**NEW MEXICO STATE COMPETITION
REGISTRATION FORM (CORRECTED)**

All teams complete this form and return by 24 March 04

TEAMS ATTENDING NEW MEXICO SPONSORED DESTINATION IMAGINATION STATE
COMPETITION ON 03 APRIL 2004 AT SANDIA HIGH SCHOOL.

Membership

Name: _____ Passport # _____

Membership

Address: _____

Membership Contact

Person: _____

Telephone:

Work: _____ Home: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Competition level:

PRIMARY ELEMENTARY MIDDLE SECONDARY (Circle one)

Challenge

Title: _____

Team Manager(s)

Name(s): _____

Team Member's Names:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Scheduling Requests: (We make no promises, but we will consider all requests.)

Please e-mail this form in similar format to jgruetzner3@comcast.net, or mail this form to:
CPNMI, PO Box 36881, Albuquerque, NM 87176-6881, by 24 Mar 04. This is important
information! We need to know how many teams we have in each division in each problem
so we can train enough judges and plan the competition schedule. Thanks!