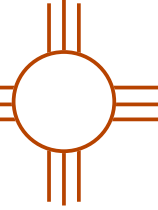


Creative Programs of New Mexico



From the Affiliate Director

Welcome to the 2006-2007 Destination Imagination™ Program. The Challenges look exciting, New Mexico DI volunteers are already at work, and hopefully you and your team are ready to get started. This is my first year being Affiliate Director, although I have been involved in creative problem solving since the 1980's. As a teacher, Team Manager and Appraiser, I've seen the growth that comes from kids being involved in Creative Problem Solving (CPS). In this day of school standards and conformity, I believe that hands-on, experiential, creative learning is more important than ever. Many of the jobs that today's school children will be doing when they graduate haven't even been identified yet! Our future depends on citizens who can think on their feet, who can work with others to find solutions to complex problems, who are trained to think outside of the box. It is my hope that together we can offer as many New Mexico children as possible the chance to become involved in CPS and the Destination Imagination program. I truly do believe it is, The Most Important Course in Education.

Midge Nichelason nichelason_m@aps.edu
NM Acting Affiliate Director

Affiliate Director Needed

After over 20 years with the program, Midge Nichelason is retiring from her roll as New Mexico acting affiliate director. Therefore, we need a new affiliate director for the state of New Mexico. The director is in charge of serving as a point of contact for communications between the state organization and the national organization and, together with the state board of directors, organizing the state tournament. Please contact James Gruetzner (jgruetzner3@comcat.net) if you would be willing to take on this very important task.

Get Started

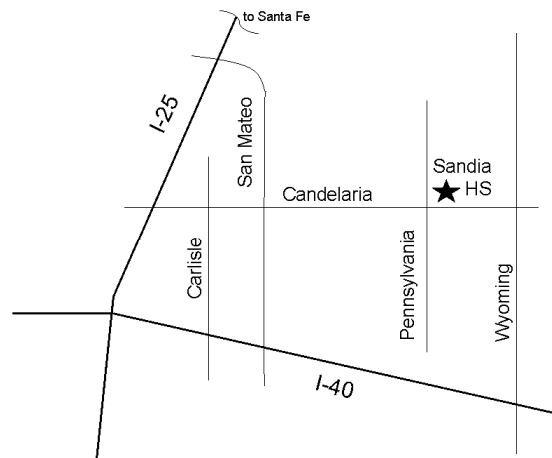
If you're just starting out, go to www.idodi.org to find out more about Destination Imagination. There's a short video clip, questions and answers about the program, Challenge Summaries, and information about how to register for the Most Important Course in Education! You can either send in your registration form or go to www.shopDI.org and join immediately using a credit card. They'll send you Program Materials and a team registration form which you will need to fill out and send to CPNMI _____.

Next stop would be the www.cpnmi.org web site. This will tell you lots about what's going on in New Mexico. Watch for training opportunities for you and/or your team.

Tournament Information

This year's State Destination Imagination Celebration of Creativity will be on Saturday, March 17. It will be held at Sandia High School throughout the day. Let your parents, team members, and other interested people know as soon as possible to keep that date open!

Sandia is located at 7801 Candelaria Rd NE – on the corner of Pennsylvania and Candelaria in Albuquerque.



Get Involved

It definitely takes a village (or group of village idiots) to run Destination Imagination in New Mexico. We need your help! Here's some possibilities, or create your own!

Appraisers (those important people who evaluate team performances) Do you know someone who is great with kids who can do this job? Training will be provided.

Publicity – Do you know someone in the media? Destination Imagination is about creative kids doing positive things and people need to know about it. If you have any contacts, please send them to us. Or better yet, would you be willing to be part of our Advisory Board and take on this vital task?

Fundraising and Sponsorships – There's money out there that would make everyone's lives easier. Sign up to be part of the Treasure Hunt. Or if you know a group that might be interested in knowing more about DI, let us know!

Tournament helper – registration, concessions, runners, score people, we need you all. Whether you have an hour or five, please let us know if you can help on March 16 (site set up from 4-9 PM) or Saturday, March 17.

Regional Directors

Please contact your regional director with any questions.

North Central

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

South Central

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

Southwest

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

Southeast

Kris and Steve Shearer
kris_s@zianet.com
stevecr8z@zianet.com

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.

DI's DInamic Duo

Congratulations to Melissa Asher and Lizzy Schares, the two man (actually woman) *Back at You* team that won a Da Vinci Award out at Global Finals. They impressed the Appraisers by their creative approach to sending and retrieving balls shot into a hole. Both juniors who compete for Sandia High School Melissa has been involved in DI since first grade, Lizzy since third. Here's what the Appraisers had to say:

This two person team presented a solution to the challenge showing an extreme example of creative problem solving. For the performance they created and USED a new language. This language included an alphabet, vocabulary, grammar and a pronunciation guide that differed significantly from any known language. Their technical solution was entirely unique utilizing a VCR, bungee straps, dryer venting, water sluices and two small, team built air boats. (pronounced phonetically) Ta Reed I Na Coy Ott.



Recruiting

Where have all the teams gone? In 2001, 76 teams competed in New Mexico. This year only 27 teams came to competition. We need your help getting the word out that Destination Imagination is an opportunity every child should have. If you want to help recruit, DI has a new initiate. You can sign-up to be a Recruiter. For every new team you get to sign-up, you get rewards from ShopDI. They'll provide you with information about DI to give to potential teams. Let Midge know if you're interested and she'll get you more information. nichelason_m@aps.edu.

Training

It's our goal this year to offer as many different kinds of training opportunities as possible. You'll see some listed on the www.imaginm.org web site. If you have any ideas for kid training (stage make-up, acting, making cool things out of paper, etc. please let us know. If you have such a talent that you're willing to share with kids, please let us know.

Magellan Ad Astra 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 for our state tournament.

We are calling on Team Managers to nominate any team members who qualify. The different types of Challenges are:

- Theatrical (How'd That Happen?, RaDio DI, Cartoon DIMensions, Theater SmARTS, On Holiday, Shakespeare, etc.)

- Structure (Inside Dimension , DIsigning Bridges, GuessDIimate, ConneCDId, Dual DIllemma, Pasta, etc.)
- Improv (On Safari, IMPROVing Along, UpBeat Improv, Once Upon an Improv, etc.)
- Technical (Back at You!, Dizzy Derby, DestiNations in Time, Change in Direction, etc.)
- Combination -- Theatrical/ Technical (Kidz Rulz, Sudden SerenDIpity, The Plot and the Pendulum, ViDIo Adventure, 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 to,
Grace La Torra grace@nmsu.edu

ImagiNM



Important Information for Tournament Registration

1. Problems have been reported using the computer registration at www.dionline.org or www.destinationimagination.org. There are reports that data has been lost or misrouted to the wrong state. These *may* have been fixed by now, but we are not sure.
2. Please *register your teams* on www.dionline.org as soon as possible. If you are unsure of a team, please register it anyway: it is *much* easier to plan for an extra team than to fit one in at the last moment.
3. When you are done, whether there are problems or not, **email** the following information to jgruetzner3@comcast.net:

School Name	Challenge Selected
Membership Number	Level (e.g., Elementary)
Team Name	Scheduling Requests

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