

## IF YOUR CHILD IS CREATIVE...

is crazy about puzzles, loves to paint and draw, can build anything out of cardboard boxes, writes amazing stories, thinks up whimsical new worlds, has a flair for drama and acting, is totally into science, or has rewired your toaster into a working time machine (or wants to), then you may have a Destination Imagination child.



### WHAT IS DESTINATION IMAGINATION?

Destination Imagination (DI) is an international, educational program that gives kids an amazing outlet for their creativity, while teaching them leadership, teamwork, positive thinking, project management and so much more. Teams of 2 to 7 kids from 3rd grade through university level solve one of six open-ended Challenges (Scientific, Engineering, Fine Arts, Service Learning, Improvisation, or Technical) in their own unique ways, and present their solutions at Regional Tournaments in late February or early March. Teams also solve an on-the-spot Instant Challenge at the tournaments, where they must think quickly on their feet and work together to solve a problem in around five minutes. There's even a noncompetitive Rising Stars! category with a special Challenge for K-2nd grade. Winners advance to the Affiliate (state/country) Tournament, and winners at the Affiliate Tournament move on to Global Finals to compete against more than 1,400 teams from around the world.

### WHY SHOULD MY CHILD BE INVOLVED IN DESTINATION IMAGINATION?

Teams involved in DI learn higher order thinking and learn to excel in creative and critical thinking, collaborative problem solving, and project management. Students who have participated in Destination Imagination say they believe participation helped them improve their grades and do better in school, improved their self-confidence, helped them become better communicators, enhanced their respect for others, and improved their creativity and problem solving skills.



### **WHO PARTICIPATES IN DESTINATION IMAGINATION?**

Each year, 150,000 students worldwide participate in Destination Imagination. Founded in 1982, Destination Imagination has impacted more than 1.5 million alumni in 48 U.S. states and 50 countries. Many of those same DI participants are now making the world a better place through various STEM and fine arts career fields. Famous alumni include actor Zac Efron (High School Musical), author and actor Chris Colfer (Glee), Olympic gold medalist Maelle Ricker, and engineer Simon Dodd. Haven't heard of him? Simon Dodd is an M.I.T. graduate who holds 26 patents and volunteers as Team Manager for his son's DI team!

### **HOW MUCH WILL IT COST AND WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?**

The cost of starting a team is low—only \$125 for one team. Rising Stars! teams are only \$75. To save 15% on your Team Numbers, go green and purchase the digital files. Some schools and PTOs may cover this cost. Teams meet at their own convenience with an adult volunteer (parent/faculty) Team Manager, making it easy to work around other activities. (Team Managers are given a Roadmap resource to guide them as they lead the team and have great support from other Team Managers and local DI officials.) Teams usually meet through the winter months for about an hour and a half each week, with time commitment increasing for extra practice and preparation time as they draw closer to tournament, much like other competitive teams.