

# About Destination Imagination:

**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, Structural, 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.

\*there is not a Regional Tournament in 2021 – all teams invited to compete at the Affiliate (State) Tournament.

## 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.

# DI FACT SHEET

## WHAT AGES CAN DO DI?

DI is for grades 3-12. Grade 3 and below students can do the non-competitive “Rising Stars” program. Rising Stars teams would be allowed to perform at the State Tournament if they were willing to travel there. **There will not be a Regional tournament this year.** Grade 3 students can also be included on a competitive team, but that team would compete as a grade 4 and 5 team.

## How do you get on a team?

Teams usually form on their own. OPDI Boosters will try to help connect kids with teams that are already formed and that have space available (maximum 7).

*This activity is supported financially for registration costs and competitions through the State level by our district, but is not run by the school district. Parents are the team managers and have the support of the OPDI Boosters!*

## How often do teams meet?

Meetings are up to each team and team manager. 1-2 times a week is normal, until closer to tournament time when most teams need a few extra meetings to practice their performance. The teams make their own schedules.

## What about tournaments?

**The Regional tournament is canceled for this year.** All teams will compete at the **State Tournament at SUNY Broome April 2nd, 2022.** First and second place teams from each challenge and level advance to **Global Finals in Kansas City, Missouri May 21st-24th .** *\*\*\*Check to make sure you have no conflicts with the tournament dates before committing to the program.\*\*\**

## Is DI a big commitment?

Yes it IS a commitment, but no more so than any other commitment kids make for sports or music. Most DI kids are multi-taskers and are involved in a lot of different activities. ***Once on a team, it is very important that kids stick to the commitment they made to the team.***

## How much does it cost?

- **REGISTRATION (Approx. \$475 per team) IS PAID BY THE DISTRICT Thank you!**
- Each challenge has a budget of \$150-\$200 which the team covers out of pocket.
- The State tournament in Binghamton if you choose, may require an overnight stay in a hotel. This is a choice. It is very doable to drive there, compete and drive back in a day.
- Global Finals cost is per team. Lodging and transportation costs will be paid by the team.
- The Boosters will support teams with fundraising to help defray the State and Global costs.
- Teams can choose to make their own team t-shirts and with approval do their own independent fundraising outside of the Boosters.

Check out these websites: [www.nydi.org](http://www.nydi.org), [www.destinationimagination.org](http://www.destinationimagination.org)  
EMAIL: [opdiboosters@gmail.com](mailto:opdiboosters@gmail.com)

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK: GROUP NAME “OPDI BOOSTERS”**

# OP Destination Imagination 2021-22

## INTEREST FORM

State Tournament – April 2, 2022

Global Finals – May 21-24, 2022

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please fill in all the information carefully and clearly.)*

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in participating in DI but I don't have a team

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to be on \_\_\_\_\_ team (already formed)

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a team manager and need more team members for my team

\_\_\_\_\_ My parent/guardian/adult would be willing to manage a team

I understand that DI is a commitment and my child will make the time and effort to contribute positively to the team. I have read the Fact Sheet and understand the requirements for doing DI in Orchard Park.

Signature of parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Destination Imagination is an extracurricular program offered by the Orchard Park School District. It focuses on problem solving, creativity, and teamwork. For more information, please visit [www.nydi.org](http://www.nydi.org) or [www.destinationimagination.org](http://www.destinationimagination.org)

REACH US VIA EMAIL: [opdiboosters@gmail.com](mailto:opdiboosters@gmail.com)

**Please return to the office by November 30th.**