



Destination Imagination, Inc., the world's largest creativity and problem solving organization, inspires participants in all of its programs to learn the process, art, and skill associated with problem solving. The program is in its **23rd** year at **Orchard Park School District**.

You've heard of spelling bees, quiz bowls, robotics competitions and science fairs. In fact, there is probably a special event for every subject taught at school. Well, Destination Imagination is none of those things – and all of those things! Destination Imagination is a place where kids take what they know and what they are good at and learn to apply it to solve challenges, working together and cooperatively with a team and pushing the limits of imagination to best not their competition, but themselves.

Destination Imagination is a community-based, school-friendly program that builds participants' creativity, problem solving, and teamwork in enjoyable and meaningful ways. Teams of between two and seven members work together to apply creativity, critical thinking and their particular talents to solve both a Team Challenge and an Instant Challenge.

The Destination Imagination Team Challenge is a Challenge that is solved over a period of many weeks. There are five competitive Team Challenges from which teams may choose, each with its own educational focus. Each Team Challenge is designed to be open-ended and solvable in many ways and on many levels.

The Instant Challenge is a Challenge teams are asked to solve in a very short period of time at their Tournament, without knowing ahead of time what the Challenge will be. Teams go into a room and are given a Challenge and the materials with which to solve it. They use their thinking-on-their-feet skills to produce a solution, usually in a period of five to eight minutes!

With the guidance – but not help – of a Team Manager (who serves as facilitator, not coach), the team creates an action plan and works together to create everything needed for their Presentation. The program has strict rules about parental interference, and requires that all parts of the solution be student generated. This forces students to learn skills including teamwork, creativity, problem solving, and time management. These are the skills which are necessary both in the program, and in everyday life.

The program culminates in a regional competition which will be held, tentatively, on **March 2nd** at **an area school**. The date and time of the regional competition have not been finalized. If the team advances to the state competition, this will be held on a Saturday, **March 23rd**. The state competition will be held at SUNY Broome in Binghamton, NY.

The team also has the opportunity to advance to a Global Finals competition, which takes place May 22 - 25 in Kansas City, MO. With this in mind, participants may need to fundraise in order to offset the costs of the trip.

Questions? Please email [opdiboosters@gmail.com](mailto:opdiboosters@gmail.com).

# DI FACT SHEET

## What is DI?

Destination Imagination (DI) is an extracurricular program offered by the Orchard Park School District. It focuses on problem solving, creativity, and teamwork. ***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.***

## What ages can do DI?

DI is for grades 4-12. Grade 3 students can do the non-competitive "Rising Stars" program. Rising Stars perform only at the Regional Tournament. 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. Competitive teams can have between 2 and 7 members. OPDI Boosters will try to help connect a child without a team with teams that are already formed and that have space available. If your child is looking for a team to join or you have a team that needs more members, complete and submit the Interest Form. There is no maximum number of members for Rising Stars teams.

***PLEASE NOTE: A parent of a team member will be needed to be the team manager. A team can have one or two team managers. Team managers have the support of the OPDI Boosters for guidance.***

## How often do teams meet?

That's up to each team and team manager; 1-2 times a week normally, until tournament time when most teams need a few extra meetings. The teams make their own schedules.

## What about tournaments?

The Regional tournament is tentatively scheduled for **March 2, 2024**. The State Tournament is scheduled at SUNY Broome in Binghamton, NY on **March 23, 2024**. First and second place teams from each challenge and level advance to Global Finals in Kansas City, Missouri on **May 22nd-25th**.

***\*\*\*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 with the OPDI Boosters is \$50 per family.
- **TEAM REGISTRATION (Approx. \$500 per team) IS PAID BY THE DISTRICT.**
- Each challenge has a budget of \$150-\$200 which the team covers out of pocket.
- The State tournament in Binghamton may require an overnight stay in a hotel. Lodging and transportation costs will be paid by the team. It is very doable, however, to drive there, compete and drive back in a day if you so choose.
- Global Finals registration fee, lodging and transportation costs will be paid by the team.
- Any fundraising by the OPDI Boosters will be used to support OPDI teams and 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 OPDI Boosters.



# 2023-24 Registration Form

## OP DI BOOSTERS

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

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

TEAM MANAGER/TEAM \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Best Contact Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

(Email is the primary method used to contact you throughout the season)

**ADULTS/PARENTS – Please be aware of the following:**

**TOURNAMENTS:** Regional – March 2nd, States – March 23rd, Globals – May 22–25, 2024. Make sure your team manager knows your child's availability for all tournaments.

Make sure your child is aware that DI is a commitment. Please help your child's team manager in any way you can.

Every team will be expected to participate in OPDI Boosters fundraisers.

Every team is required to provide two volunteers over age 18 for the OPDI IC Fiesta AND for the regional tournament (training provided)

Please return this form to your Team Manager with the \$50 fee (TM kids and Rising Stars are exempt from the fee). Team managers should mail the forms and fees to Joe Zizzi, 28 Greenmeadow Drive, Orchard Park, NY 14127. If you are unable to pay the \$50 fee, please contact [opdiboosters@gmail.com](mailto:opdiboosters@gmail.com).

**TEE SHIRTS FOR TEAM MEMBERS ARE INCLUDED IN THE \$50 FEE FOR PARTICIPATING KIDS.**

I UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN DI:

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**T-SHIRT SIZES NEEDED– Include size needed for this student. You may also add on more shirts, if needed, for \$8 each.**

NAME	CHILD M	CHILD L	ADULT SM	ADULT MED	ADULT L	ADULT XL	ADULT XXL	PRICE (if extra)
<b>TOTAL ADDED FOR T-SHIRTS</b>								

# OP Destination Imagination 2023-24 INTEREST FORM

Regional Tournament - March 2, 2024 (tentative)

State Tournament – March 23, 2024

Global Finals – May 22-25, 2024

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

(name of Team Manager)

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 DI 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)

**Please e-mail by November 30th to: [opdiboosters@gmail.com](mailto:opdiboosters@gmail.com)**

**\*\* The sooner your team is formed, the sooner your team can begin! \*\***