



CreateME February 2019 Newsletter

Regionals are Around the Corner

Did you know that the Northern Regional Showcase is less than a month away and the Southern Regional Showcase is right after. Although the showcases are non-competitive, they provide a great opportunity for your team to practice in front of appraisers and an audience. Even if your team's solution is not quite finished, the experience participating is invaluable and will help them when they go to the State Celebration. Below are a few tips to help your team prepare.

- We will create a schedule as soon as possible. However, we ask for your patience as we put the details together. The schedule will be posted on our website once it is complete.
- Upon arriving, there will be a person for the Team Manager to check-in with. They will be able to direct your team to the holding area.
- Parents, family, and friends are welcome to watch the central challenge, but not the instant challenge. They are also welcome to watch other central challenge solutions.
- All of the tournament paperwork needs to be completed and the correct number of copies provided.
- We will try to make the showcase mirror what will happen at the state celebration. This means that your team will present their Central Challenge and participate in an Instant Challenge. The only difference is that teams will receive sticky notes, but not scores.
- Sticky notes are notes the appraisers provide to teams with positive comments about things they really liked in the team's solution. You can check with the head appraiser for your challenge about half an hour after your team's performance to pick them up.
- CreateMe feels it is very important to give every team a chance to perform in front of appraisers and an audience prior to coming to the state competition. The teams put in a great amount of effort and this gives them a chance to try out their ideas without the pressure of a competition. For example, one team learned that their background would not fit through the door. They were able to fix that prior to the state celebration. In addition, the showcase gives us a chance to provide on the job training for our

appraisers. This gives them an understanding of what is expected so they are better prepared for the state celebration.

- Each of the schools hosting the showcases has the opportunity to use this as a fundraiser for their DI programs. This is a fantastic opportunity for these programs and your support is appreciated. Stay tuned for more information regarding the fundraising that will be happening at each site.
- Ask questions. This is a learning opportunity for your team and you. Make the most of it.

Appraisers

Each team is responsible for providing an appraiser who must attend one regional showcase and the State Celebration. Please make sure:

- You have gone to www.registeryourteam.org and sent the registration information to your appraiser;
- You have contacted your appraiser to make sure they are registered;
- You have contacted your appraiser to remind them of the regional and state celebrations;
- If your appraiser has not been contacted yet, have them reach out to Reggie Deroocher at trainingdirector@createme.org.

Instant Challenge Workshop

10 teams were represented at the Instant Challenge Workshop on Saturday January 19th. Teams had fun practicing technical, acting, and combined instant challenges throughout the morning. In addition, teams were paired up, so they could get to know each other and learn from each other. Thank you to all the teams that participated.

If you could not make it to the workshop, please remember that practicing instant challenges is an important part of the team process. Check out our Instant Challenge Library at <http://www.createme.org/index.php/instant-challenge-practice-sets-2/> There are hundreds of pages of challenges and you are certain to find something that is just right.

How can I get my team moving?

There comes a time in every season when teams seem to hit a roadblock. They either can't seem to get moving or they can't solve a problem that is holding everything else up.

Don't worry, this is a normal problem. Your job as a team manager is to help the team move past it. Here are some tips:

- Work on a different part of the challenge. Sometimes walking away and looking at the problem later with fresh eyes is the best medicine.
- Ask open-ended questions that allow the team to think about the problem.

- Brainstorm – accept every idea. Sometimes the crazy ideas lead to the most reasonable solutions.
- Make the problem an instant challenge.
- If this doesn't work, ask the team if they need to move in a different direction.

Remember, they don't need to finish with the same idea they started with. DI is a journey and learning to be flexible is an important lesson that will serve your team well in the future.

State Celebration

This year the State Celebration will be held on March 23, 2019 at Bangor High School. We heard lots of great feedback about the space last year and are working on making an unforgettable celebration experience. If you have thoughts or suggestions, please let us know.

Global Finals

Global Finals is moving to Kansas City Missouri! The move is expected to have many benefits, including having all the challenges under one roof and the ability to customize accommodations. Global Finals will be held May 22-25, 2019.

Calendar

3/2/19 – Northern Regional Showcase (Hampden Academy)

3/9/19 – Southern Regional Showcase (Gray New Gloucester)

3/23/19 – State Celebration (Bangor High School)

5/22/19 – Global Finals (Kansas City)

You can find additional details and contact information about these activities and more on our calendar, <http://www.createme.org/index.php/events/>

If you are interested in holding an event, please let us know. We would be happy to help.

Have a question or comment? Contact us at help@createme.org.

