

March 2016

Both Regional Showcases are already behind us. We had a great team meeting and watching teams as they presented their solutions. Each year I am amazed by the creativity and enthusiasm the teams bring to their challenges. Now we need to turn our attention to the state celebration on Saturday April 9, 2016 and beyond.

This newsletter will tell you about new changes this year and provide an overview of the day. If you have questions after reading this, please let me know. I will be collecting questions and sharing answers with everyone in the next newsletter.

New This Year

The Collins Center will be official hub of the celebration. Although this technically happened last year, it is official this year. At the Collins Center you will find:

- Check-in;
- Opening ceremony;
- Some central challenges;
- The activity zone;
- Pins, shirts and other good stuff for sale;
- Team manager challenge; and
- Closing ceremony.

The Activity Zone - If your team has down time during the day we recommend watching other challenges. However, if your team has extra energy to burn off, you should bring them to the activity zone in the Collins Center. There will be some fun "instant challenge" like and team building activities. We will also have the photo booth set up with props so teams can stop by and take their own pictures

The Team Manager Challenge – Do you want to be able to do what your team does? Here is your chance. Preregistration is necessary, but Team Managers have a chance to show off their skills and possibly win a digital copy of the newest Instant Challenge book from Destination Imagination. The Challenge will happen in the Activity Zone after the last central challenge and before closing ceremonies.

Closing Ceremony Senior Recognition - We would like to invite all DI graduating seniors to be recognized and present the awards to our Rising Stars. If you have a senior on your team, please e-mail Chad at affiliateddirector@createme.org

Closing Ceremony Trophy Presentation – We would like Team Managers to join their team on stage if they are awarded a trophy. Once the trophy is presented the team will be directed to an area for a quick team picture before returning to their seats.

Miscellaneous:

Maps and Schedules will be posted on www.createme.org site no later than March 28th.

For those of you spending a night in the Bangor/Orono area, many hotels offer a DI discount. Make sure you ask if one is available when booking your room.

Pins and t-shirts will be available for purchase all day. There are specific pins for each challenge. In addition, there are special Maine pins every year. This year's Maine pins feature superhero moose. This year's t-shirt features the DI Maniacs Moose. Check out pictures of the shirt and pins at <http://www.createme.org/index.php/maine-di-pins/>

If you know of someone who is thinking about DI or if you have any personal contacts at other schools or organizations that could help us spread the word about DI, please let either Chad or Tim know. We want to help make it possible for everyone to experience Maine DI and become a DIMAINIAC!

In addition to the pins and shirts, there will be other great merchandise for sale. This includes hats of all types, noise makers, light ups, and games.

State Celebration Day

Arrival and Check-in

Team Managers should check-in at the check-in table in the Collins Center upon their arrival. Team Volunteers and Appraisers will also check in at the Collins Center. Please make sure your volunteer and appraiser check in prior to going to their assignment so we know they are here. At check in you will be given the official schedule. There should not be any changes, but check it carefully.

Holding Room

You will be given your holding room assignment at check-in. A holding room is a place to store your props if you would like. You do not have to use it. For example, in the past our team has kept our props in a vehicle and unloaded them at the building we are performing when it is time. We make every attempt to have the holding room as close as possible to the presentation area, but it is not always possible to have it in the same building. The holding rooms should be open at 7:00 a.m.

Opening Ceremony

Opening Ceremony will start at approximately 8:00 am in the Collins Center. Watch the website for the exact time. Teams will be asked to come on stage and will be announced. We encourage teams to make a flag to bring with them to show their creativity to the rest of the teams.

Team Manager Meeting

There will be a short team manager meeting directly after the opening ceremony. The meeting will be held on the stage in the Collins Center. Team Managers need to attend.

Visit our Website at www.createme.org
Or visit us on Facebook for the latest news.

Central Challenge

With the exception of Musical Mashup, teams should be at their performance site and report to their prep site 20 minutes prior to their scheduled performance time to check in with appraisers. Musical Mashup will be notified later with their check-in time. Make sure your team has all of the necessary paperwork at the check-in.

Instant Challenge

All Instant Challenges will be held in Little Hall. Teams should be there 20 minutes prior to their scheduled performance time to check in with appraisers. Make sure your team has a copy of the Declaration of Independence at the check-in.

Getting Scores

One Team Manager and one team member need to pick up their central challenge scores prior to closing ceremonies. These should be picked up at your performance site and are normally available about an hour after your performance. There will be a notice posted on the door of the presentation area when your team's scores are available. Please see the head appraiser to obtain the scores. Instant Challenge scores are **not** available during the day. Those scores will be posted online following the celebration.

Closing Ceremony

The closing ceremony takes place in the Collins Center after all teams have competed and received their central challenge scores. Rising Star teams and all teams placing 1st through 3rd in each category and level will be invited to the stage to receive their trophies. This is a loud, exciting event. We strongly recommend that you and your team do not miss it. Participation Certificates will be available at <http://www.createme.org/> for you to print out and give to your team members after the state celebration.

Questions: contact Chad at affiliatedirector@createme.org or any of the CreateME team at <http://www.createme.org/index.php/get-involved/contact-us/>

1st Place Teams

Immediately following the closing ceremony there will be a short meeting for all Team Manager's whose teams placed 1st, to discuss global finals. If you have a team that knows you will not be attending global finals, even if they finish first, please let us know either before or during the day so we can be prepared to invite the 2nd place team.

Global Finals

For many teams the State Celebration is the culmination of the season. For those teams going to Global Finals it is the beginning of an exciting experience. Even if your team is not going, don't let the excitement fade away. The opening and closing ceremonies are streamed live online. Have a DI party and share in the excitement and get your team fired up for next year.

We are all excited to see you and your teams in Orono. If you have any questions along the way, please let us know. We want to make this experience as exciting for you as it is for your teams.

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