

Destination Imagination Tournament Event Guide

Mid-Cities Creativity 2025

Throughout this document, information to be added by the Affiliate/Region is in brackets and highlighted in yellow. Remove the brackets and yellow highlight once you have filled in that section.

About the Event

Mid-Cities Creativity Regional Tournament 2025

When: Saturday, February 8, 2025

Where: Richland High School, 5201 Holiday Lane, North Richland Hills, TX 76180



The exterior of a two-story brick school showing a smooth sidewalk with a ramp leading to the front entry.

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What is This Resource?

An event guide (sometimes called an access guide, building guide, accessibility guide, or visiting guide) is a resource that highlights details of an upcoming event through photos, descriptions, and other helpful information. This resource is intended to help you plan your tournament day! Tournament questions can be directed to Peyton Murrell at pmurrell@att.net.



Image description: A black and white pictogram of a team in a huddle formation.

Throughout the event, Destination Imagination (DI) teams will be presenting their work on a **Team Challenge**. The Team Challenge falls in one of seven categories: Technical, Scientific, Fine Arts, Improvisational, Engineering, Service Learning, or Early Learning. You can learn more about this year's Team Challenges [on the DI website](#). Each Team Challenge has its own Presentation Site, or rooms specific to the

Challenge. The size, seating options, and acoustics will vary greatly by Presentation Site.

Each team has an assigned **Presentation** time for Team Challenge. The tournament schedule can be found on our website: <https://www.midcitiesdi.org/tournament-2025/>. Teams should arrive at the Presentation Site at least 20 minutes prior to the assigned time in order to begin the check in process in the Prep Area. Teams participating in the Engineering Challenge may require extra time to check in parts of their solutions. In the Prep Area, the team will work with the Prep Area Appraiser to check in all of the props, costumes, and anything else that will be used in the team's Presentation. Only the team members and the Team Manager (their adult mentor) are allowed in the Prep Area. The **Presentation** is when the team members present how they solved their Team Challenge in front of an audience and a team of Appraisers (scoring officials).

A team's Presentation lasts eight minutes or less. The content of team Presentations will vary greatly, but it is likely you will see stories, scenery, costumes, and technical elements created by the team members. It is common for a team's Presentation to include lights, possibly including strobe lights and/or flashing lights. Team Presentations do often include loud noises or music. However, most Presentation sites do NOT have sound systems, so it may be hard to hear the team. Audience members are welcome to laugh or applaud as they see fit.

When the team members are done with their Presentation, the Appraisers will ask them a few questions before they leave. Audience members can remain in the Presentation Site during these questions. After speaking with the Appraisers, the team will take its Presentation materials out of the Presentation Site. At this time, parents and team supporters may help the team remove materials from the Presentation Site.



Examples of possible Presentation Sites.

Instant Challenges



Image Description: The Instant Challenge logo for the 2024-25 season; in hand drawn art, a light blue unicorn drives a go-cart on a sunny day.

An **Instant Challenge** (IC) is a smaller Challenge that is a surprise to the team on the day of the tournament. An Instant Challenge may involve a task, a performance, or a combination of both. Instant Challenges usually last ten minutes or less.

Teams are given a specific time to present their Instant Challenge. The team, the Team Manager, and the Appraisers are the only people allowed into the Instant Challenge areas.

When a team has completed the Instant Challenge, the team members may be directed to a **Cool Down** room to discuss the experience with one another. Since many teams will utilize the same Instant Challenge at this event, teams **must not** discuss details of the Instant Challenge outside of the Cool Down room until after the Destination Imagination season has ended in May.



Example of an IC space.

Spectators



Image description: A black and white pictogram of people seated in an audience.

Spectators, such as friends and family members, are welcome to attend this tournament. Spectators are welcome to attend any Team Challenge presentation. Please find the doors marked “Audience Entrance” at each Challenge Presentation Site.

Please note: At many Presentation Sites, doors will be closed whenever a team is presenting, so spectators may be asked to wait to enter the Presentation Site.

Spectators will **not** be allowed to attend any Instant Challenge presentations

Awards Celebration



Image description: A black and white pictogram of a medal with a star in its center.

The Awards Celebration will take place Saturday, February 8, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the main gym at North Richland Middle School, located at 4801 Redondo Street, North Richland Hills, TX 76180. All teams and spectators are welcome to attend. Teams and Team Managers should sit on the floor of the gym and spectators should sit in the stands. Doors open at 6:30 PM.

The following special awards may be presented: DaVinci Awards, Renaissance Awards, Spirit of DI Awards.

Place awards will be given for each Team Challenge, based on their Competition Level:

- Elementary Level (EL): Grades -5
- Middle Level (ML): Grades 6-8
- Secondary Level (SL): Grades 9-12
- University Level (UL): College/University Students

Please note: Early Learning/Rising Stars teams (PreK-2nd grade) are in a noncompetitive division, and are not eligible for Challenge-based awards but are welcome to attend and be recognized.

The Awards Celebration is usually a high-energy event with lots of crowds and noise. Audience members are welcome to clap and cheer, and use ear defenders or ear plugs if the noise gets too loud for them.

This year our theme is "Tacky Tourist." Please wear your Hawaiian shirts, cameras, socks with sandals, and anything else you think will make you a Tacky Tourist.



Example of tacky tourists.



A photo of the crowd from a previous Awards Celebration.

Other Tournament Events

During the tournament, teams and spectators may also participate in the scavenger hunt, play bingo, bid on auction items at the Dime Store, watch other performances, take pictures, and write on our “Why I Do DI” wall. Follow us on social media.



Photos and Videos



Image description: Three black and white pictograms of a camera, cell phone camera, and a video camera.

Photos/videos of a team’s Presentation may only be taken if the team has given permission. This information will be announced before the team begins its

Presentation.

What to Wear

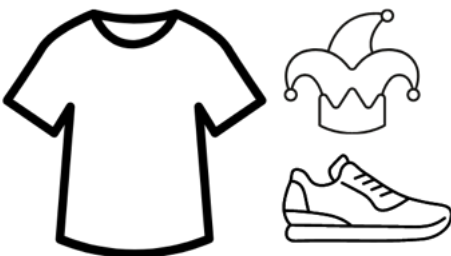


Image description: Three black and white pictograms of a t-shirt, a jester’s hat, and a tennis shoe.

All tournament participants and spectators are welcome to wear comfortable, weather appropriate clothing. Our volunteers often wear vibrant, colorful clothing and hats to celebrate the event. It is also highly likely that you will see team members in costume for their Presentations.

If you are a person who prefers using protective equipment such as ear defenders, ear plugs, etc., it will be helpful for you to bring them with you to the event.



A team wearing silly hats.



Volunteers in silly hats and costumes for a Hawaiian theme.



Team members in costume.

Scent Free Policy



Image description: A black and white pictogram of a perfume bottle that has been crossed out.

Out of respect to those with sensitivity to scent, please avoid wearing perfumes or colognes.

Inclement Weather



Image description: A black and white pictogram of storm clouds with lightning, rain, and wind.

If inclement weather will have any impact on the tournament schedule, teams will be notified via Remind. The forecast is clear, low 46 high 81. Dress accordingly.

If necessary, tornado shelters can be found in the following locations: Interior rooms, away from any glass, restrooms located under the stairs next to the H Hall, the auditorium, the gymnasiums.

Emergency Procedures



Image description: black and white pictograms of an alarm light, first aid kit, and an alert sign with an exclamation point.

The fire alarms in the building have flashing lights and loud repetitive sirens. If the need for an evacuation arises, please follow posted exit signage to safety.

Fire extinguishers are located in the following locations: In all hallways

First aid kits are available in the nurse's office in the main hallway.

If a medical emergency should occur, we will immediately call 911. Please notify the nearest tournament volunteer for assistance.

Accessibility Information

Destination Imagination is committed to being as inclusive and accessible as possible. If there are questions that extend beyond the information provided in this guide, please contact Keri Murrell at keri.murrell@birdvilleschools.net. We are eager to meet your needs!

If accessibility needs arise on site, the day-of point of contact is Keri Murrell, Alyssa Kunkel, Margaret Wirick, Peyton Murrell, Katie Pierce, Stella Greer, or any volunteer in a purple polo.

Accommodation Requests

If one or more of your team members needs accommodation during their Team Challenge or Instant Challenge, [please fill out this form](#) as soon as possible. Destination Imagination is committed to providing accommodations for all participants. Our Educational Experience Team will review your request and provide a response within 3-5 business days.

Tournament Accommodation Request Form

Language



Image description: A black and white pictogram of two figures having a conversation. A speech bubble above them reads "...".

The Awards Celebration will be presented in English. Most Team Presentations will be shared in English. Signage throughout the event will be available in English and Spanish.

If a team or team member wants/needs to present in a different language or would otherwise benefit from having a language interpreter present, please contact Alyssa Kunkel at alykunk@gmail.com as soon as possible.

If a team member or spectator needs a sign language interpreter or another type of assistive communication technology (including but not limited to: amplification devices, picture/letter boards, audio description), please contact Margaret Wirick @ mars.wirick10@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Immunity Precautions



Image description: A black and white pictogram of a protective face covering.

Our event will adhere to local health and safety restrictions. At this time, masking and vaccinations are optional.

To be respectful of those with compromised immune systems, please do not attend this event if you are experiencing an airborne or contagious illness.

Mobility Information

There are 18 accessible parking spaces around the campus available at this event. They are located at the front of the school, the side of the school, and the back of the school. From the accessible parking, the best entrance is any entrance available, which is approximately 50 feet from the parking area.

Elevators are available in the following locations: at the entrance of H Hall, ST Hall, and outside the cafeteria.

The following event spaces are on the upper floors: Instant Challenge (teams and team managers only) and the Extreme Challenge (teams and team managers only).

The following event spaces have alternate access for visitors utilizing wheelchairs, walkers, or other mobility aids: All spaces of the tournament are wheelchair, walker, and other mobility aids friendly.

Presentation Sites are located throughout the venue. We recommend bringing your mobility device with you to help manage the distances between sites.



A photo of the path from the accessible parking spots to the entrance at the front of the school.

When You Arrive



Image description: A black and white pictogram of a figure walking through an open door.

Entrances to the tournament can be found on the site map on our website's [tournament page](#).

Teams arriving with props should use any of the entrances marked on the map. Teams must not block any parking spaces or points of entry while loading, unloading, or moving their props. Follow the signs and volunteers helping with parking and unloading.

Restroom Information



Image description: A black and white pictogram of a toilet with a grab bar. Above it, the symbol for accessibility is displayed on the wall.

Restrooms divided by gender can be found in the following locations: throughout the site in all hallways and junctures.

All bathrooms have accessible stalls, meaning they can accommodate people who use mobility aids and have grab bars.

Restrooms with changing tables are available in all locations.

Menstrual products are available in all ladies' rooms.

Food/Drink



Image description: Black and white pictograms of food and drink such as an apple, water bottle, and milk carton.

Food and drinks will be available during the tournament at the concession stand located outside the main gym. The cost of most items ranges from \$1.00- \$.3.00 [Link](#) to the menu.

Teams and spectators are welcome to bring their own food and drinks. We ask that you enjoy your food and drinks in Cafeteria.



Picture of a sample dining area.

Quiet Room/Regulation Room



Image description: A black and white pictogram showing a face in profile. One finger is raised toward the lips to make the “Shhh” gesture.

A Quiet Room/Regulation Room is available upon request. This space is reserved for attendees who may need a quiet space for tasks like taking medication, prayer, addressing sensory needs, or just a moment away from the busy tournament! Find a volunteer in purple polos to help you.

While using the Quiet Room/Regulation Room, please use a quiet voice and silence all devices, except Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) devices. Attendees under the age of 18 should be accompanied by an adult.

Lactation Room



Image description: A black and white pictogram of a parent holding an infant alongside a bottle.

A private space exclusively for nursing parents can be arranged if needed.

Please find a volunteer in a purple polo to help you.



Volunteer showing an example of a “MOM” room.

Thank You!

Thank you for attending our tournament! We are looking forward to an event fueled by creativity, collaboration, and camaraderie. Throughout your experience, if you need to ask questions, offer feedback, or request accommodations, you are welcome to contact us at keri.murrell@birdvilleschools.net.



Photo op at the tournament.

Disclaimer: We offer this resource as an accommodation to help people know what to expect and to prepare for this tournament. The organizers of this event are not the stewards of the building, meaning we cannot guarantee nor are we responsible for meeting [Select the standards that apply to your country: ADA standards and Section 504. Even so, we do our best to advocate, accommodate, and choose sites that are as accessible as possible!