

Team Number: 106-02699
Affiliate: Colorado
Organization: Slavens K-8 School
Team Challenge: Inside Impact - ML
Award Kind: Renaissance
Recipient: Team
For: This team used dozens of team-crafted gears both in their heart-warming robot & throughout their well-oiled performance

Text:
Gears were at the heart of this team's intricate and technically-compelling Presentation. The team's multi-purpose robot underwent numerous transformations -- from an unhappy robot, to a car, to a happy robot -- with team-carved gears driving the change. Not only was the robot's craftsmanship immaculate, but the robot's integration into the Presentation made it seem like another member of the team. They even named him Marvin! Gears also featured in an entirely automated counter and in a pneumatic cylinder, both showing us the impact of the team's Project (collecting clothes for students). The use of gears created a well-oiled Presentation, leaving the audience and Marvin smiling.

Team Number: 114-15616
Affiliate: Illinois
Organization: South Park - Deerfield District 109
Team Challenge: Drop Zone - EL
Award Kind: DaVinci
Recipient: Team
For: This team created an inflatable portal to another world!

Text:
The Appraisal Team was transported to another dimension through the team's inflatable portal.

The team sewed individual tarp pieces together to create a 10-foot tall entry into the underworld. Sturdy enough to stand on, every seam was perfect, ensuring the stability of the prop. Once pressurized, it created a spooky and creepy entrance where the pet master was revealed. The costume of the pet master was detailed and unique, combining a cockroach with a dog and other animals. The Appraisal Team was truly afraid of the pet master's lair!

Team Number: 129-33352
Affiliate: Nebraska
Organization: Independent
Team Challenge: Drop Zone - ML
Award Kind: DaVinci
Recipient: Team
For: Toys overcome their faults and save the living tree with amazing technology and attention to details.

Text:
This team's creative use of entirely recycled materials and impressive utilization of a deconstructed microwave led to a Presentation that the Appraisers will not soon forget. These team members creatively utilized thematically-appropriate recycled materials to create a fairytale scene. A thundering collapse of a tree was triggered by light and utilized repurposed elements of a microwave. The Appraisers were stunned by this polished Presentation, causing the team to stand out in DI's highest competition.

Team Number: 148-91193
Affiliate: Wisconsin
Organization: North Shore DI
Team Challenge: Inside Impact - ML
Award Kind: Renaissance
Recipient: Team
For: This team created a "well-rounded," technically complex, show-stopping reveal of a flower that bloomed out of the Earth.

Text:
This team's solution was exceptionally well-rounded. With the Earth as a backdrop, the team told their story about a dying flower teaching litterbugs to clean up their homes, so she could once again bloom. Their gigantic, spherical Cache Storage Device was a blank slate to start. During a show-stopping finale, the globe blossomed to reveal a striking pink flower with petals stretching to all corners of the stage. What appeared to be a simple sphere was actually a complex mechanical device. The team carefully used curved wood and a mechanized lever system to create the dramatic reveal as the revived flower became the stage's centerpiece, tying together the grand impact of their solution to pollution.

Team Number: 105-65860

Affiliate: California
Organization: Independent
Team Challenge: Treasure! - UL
Award Kind: Renaissance
Recipient: Team
For: The team showed the emotional significance of food, family & culture through stage presence & outstanding improv ability

Text:
Although this team is composed of only two members, they used their stage presence and outstanding improv abilities to convey the emotional significance of "connectedness" through their only prop, a bed sheet. They used the sheet to seamlessly portray an abuela's hood and her swaddled grandchild. The team also used the bedsheet as a metaphor, representing a tangible connection between generations by tying the sheet around one another in an incredibly intricate and skillful way. The team also emphasized the great impact that food can have on the identity of an entire culture. From beginning to end, the Appraisers were moved to tears from either sadness or laughter.

Team Number: 750-63816
Affiliate: Texas
Organization: Noel A. Smith Elementary
Team Challenge: Unlikely Attraction - EL
Award Kind: Renaissance
Recipient: Team
For: This team taught us to play with our food! They created a multi-level set complete with drawers, slides, & doors.

Text:
This team brought the Unlikely Location of a refrigerator to life with incredible elements and set design. Two giant doors opened to reveal a new world with crisper drawers that food characters used to make their entrances, a shelf that held the weight of the entire team, and three slides to freedom. Using their set and creative food personalities, the team showed the Appraisers what life is like for the food in our fridges!

Team Number: 106-49738
Affiliate: Colorado

Organization: Pagosa Springs Middle School

Team Challenge: Drop Zone - ML

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: Team engineering made an olfactory surprise with a massive dragon and minty fart machine triggered by crashing weights.

Text:

This two-person team wowed the Appraisers with their engineering skill in creating a massive metal dragon whose minty "farts" were an embarrassment to his community. The team created a minty "fart machine" that released a burst of peppermint into the air each time it sensed the vibration caused by dropping a weight on the Structure. These minty bursts were also accompanied by a roaring fart sound set off by the same impressive engineering. Each fart was accompanied by a tail whip from the massive dragon, further amplifying the humiliating plight of the story's hero. As if this mechanical feat were not enough, the Presentation was set apart by a clever limerick describing the dragon's dilemma.

Team Number: 750-28665

Affiliate: Texas

Organization: Eanes ISD

Team Challenge: Change of Tune - ML

Award Kind: Spirit of Discovery & Imagination

Recipient: Team

For: This team showed resilience and determination to recreate their Challenge solution in 24 hours.

Text:

What says "DI" more than recreating a full, Globals-worthy Central Challenge solution in 24 hours? After this team's props could not be located, they found and purchased replacement materials and reconstructed every element of their Presentation in a parking garage. Along the way, they reassessed their solution, uncovering new and better ways to execute certain elements. They successfully delivered their Presentation with a positive attitude and resilience, epitomizing the can-do attitude of a DI team. If the Appraisers had not heard the team's story, we would not have known that the solution had been recreated. In the end, the team shared that although it was difficult, it enhanced their team bond and they "had a complete blast."

Team Number: 130-17797

Affiliate: New Hampshire

Organization: Sunapee Middle High School

Team Challenge: Change of Tune - ML

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: This team created an amazing, transforming medieval castle set and a life-like dragon marionette that blew us away!

Text:

Amazing props and set pieces depicting medieval times were on full royal display. This team's Presentation featured a castle with an operating drawbridge, rotating turrets, stained glass windows, crocheted knights' armor, and a flying dragon. From a castle with parts that transformed multiple times to sound effects that helped bring their elaborate and beautifully constructed marionette dragon to life, quality workmanship was evident in all components of the team's solution. The dragon floated effortlessly across the stage with independent, articulated movement of the head, tail, wings, and body. Unexpected elements like a dual-character portrayal (on a rotating chair) and a gallant steed constructed to fit cleverly over a knight's costume completed this tale of bravery.

Team Number: 135-84713

Affiliate: Ohio

Organization: Mariemont High School

Team Challenge: Change of Tune - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: This team created a performance that questioned whether it is better to live in a false reality or one of truth.

Text:

From a medieval hamlet to its dystopian mirror image, the audience was invited to join a young hero's journey to discover whether it was better to live in a false paradise or in a macabre reality.

Through an exceptional musical score played by eleven instruments, the team musically transported us from a time of love to one of darkness and desperation.

The team's set of backdrops made from decades of National Geographic magazines and wooden Flip-A-Blocks decorated to match the different scenes showed the two worlds in which our hero lived.

Every moment was choreographed and designed to deliver a seamless Presentation from start to finish leaving the audience to wonder - what is reality?

Team Number: 147-10893

Affiliate: Washington

Organization: Kirkland Independent DI

Team Challenge: Drop Zone - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: This team created a moving engine, waves, and monster organs using only wood and cardboard mechanics! #ReleaseTheKraken!

Text:

Using only cardboard and wood, this team created an engine, waves, and the internal and external organs of a monster, all with intricately detailed moving parts, using only mechanical systems (non-electronic). The systems involved multiple gears, spiral techniques, and the intricate use of strings to display visual marvels. The team was extremely precise and detailed not only in their mechanics, but also in their artistic portrayal of a ship, which included a fabulous portrait, a moving sheep, and realistic-looking props which were detailed right down to the painted rust.

Team Number: 151-92763

Affiliate: Australia

Organization: Emmaus Catholic College

Team Challenge: Drop Zone - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: Fender & Gibson would be jealous. The team created amazing, professional-looking, working electric guitars from scratch.

Text:

Fender & Gibson would be jealous. The team created two guitars from scratch. One was made from a laser cutter and recycled guitar parts to create the shape of the Australian continent. The other was a bass guitar that was made using a cricket bat. The guitars were so well crafted, the Appraisers thought they were professionally made. This was astonishing since the team did not originally have them as part of their scoring elements, and decided last minute to add them along with a song they performed.

Team Number: 120-92795

Affiliate: Maryland

Organization: Bel Air Middle/High
Team Challenge: Drop Zone - SL
Award Kind: Spirit of Discovery & Imagination
Recipient: Team
For: Drop Zone turns into Improv! A stuck lid becomes the Appraisers' funniest moment of Globals!
#guysthisreallywontopen

Text:
A stubborn jar lid became an unplanned improv element for this well-rehearsed and coordinated team. Despite the jar's contents being needed for an essential scoring element, the team stayed cool under pressure. Without missing a beat, each team member unsuccessfully attempted to open the jar, combining their frustrated actions with humorously ad-libbed dialogue that had the audience rolling in the aisles. This unflappable team never allowed the stubborn lid to get the better of them and they completed their Presentation with dignity and finesse.

Team Number: 114-87041
Affiliate: Illinois
Organization: Shepard - Deerfield District 109
Team Challenge: Change of Tune - ML
Award Kind: Renaissance
Recipient: Team
For: This team creatively depicted a natural disaster through innovative sets and props.

Text:
It was a whirlwind of sets and props that "blew us away!" The team's story was brought to life by three life-size puppets living a perfect life, in a perfect town, until their harmony was destroyed by a storm. This team staged the total destruction caused by a simulated tornado, using simple but effective technical methods. The tornado had been built on a motorized lazy susan so that it seemed to hover over the set. They created the effect of a house being destroyed through the use of a popsicle-stick bomb that was rigged to simulate the roof blowing off, simple pulleys and levers that made siding pop off, and pneumatics that caused columns to crumble. As part of their research, the team observed a puppet master to learn methods of movement, then created their own patterns to construct the hand-in-rod puppets that mirrored team members' appearances. At the end of the show, the puppets learned that life is better if you "be yourself" and they were transformed into human beings through shadow play and a final set transformation.

Team Number: 103-43076

Affiliate: Arkansas
Organization: Greenbrier Schools
Team Challenge: Unlikely Attraction - EL
Award Kind: DaVinci
Recipient: Team
For: Their edgy portrayal of a French Revolution guillotine had heads rolling as a historically accurate Attraction.

Text:
This team took a bold risk by portraying a guillotine, complete with a bloody blade, as their Attraction. This unique "Attraction" was historically accurate, modeled after those that had been used during the French Revolution. The skit's "Off with their heads" execution wowed the Appraisers with this innovative, daring, and humorously tasteful tale of Marie Antoinette's demise.

Team Number: 127-73879

Affiliate: North Carolina

Organization: FES

Team Challenge: Inside Impact - EL

Award Kind: torchbearer

Recipient: Team

For: This dedicated DI team and an adorable service dog lobbied in DC to help take action for a Vietnam veteran with PTSD.

Text:
This team's project started by honoring a single individual, and has evolved to assist an upcoming non-profit as they lobby in Washington, DC. Their empathy and compassion for a Vietnam veteran has expanded to bring greater awareness to vets with PTSD nationwide.

Team Number: 105-42988

Affiliate: California

Organization: WTMAA

Team Challenge: Inside Impact - UL

Award Kind: Spirit of Discovery & Imagination

Recipient: Team

For: This "MOM-AGER" team of 2 DI alumni who decided to go back to college & teach their sons about power of empathy.

Text:

This team was comprised of two former DI alumni and team "momagers." Their Project was exactly what the Spirit of DI is all about. They centered their Project around teaching their sons and their sons' classmates the importance of empathy. When asked why they focused on this, they responded with "DI is about kids changing the future; how can they change the future if they don't know what needs to be changed?" The two moms created care packages to give to people who are homeless, donated items to a local women's shelter, and taught students at their sons' school about hand hygiene. They are a two-person team doing a four-person job. They are what DI is about!

Team Number: 164-91601

Affiliate: Mexico

Organization: Colegio Americano Anahuac de Monterrey

Team Challenge: Inside Impact - SL

Award Kind: DaVinci

Recipient: Team

For: This team created positive reading habits for students and expressed their creativity through comedy, innovation, & wit.

Text:

This team was the physical embodiment of teamwork. Their service Project focused on creating positive reading habits for students. They then used superheroes in their Presentation to embody that positivity. They had an infectious energy that really 'suped' up the entire room. They were absolutely hilarious: from their outrageous fight scenes, their 'beautiful sun', and witty puns. Their set was well put together, as was the team!

Team Number: 117-17063

Affiliate: Kentucky

Organization: Huther DI

Team Challenge: Change of Tune - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: This team created a perfectly blended performance about the emotional effects of war that left the

audience in tears.

Text:

Through the use of interpretive dance, video montage, and dramatic acting, this team caught the emotional consequences of war and tugged at the Appraisers' hearts.

The team members' personal experience and research was used to bring the conflicting emotions of war to life. The actor's heart-wrenching performance blended perfectly with the dancer's eloquent movement and the video montage of scenes of war and war protest. In the end, the audience was left speechless and in tears by this compelling Presentation.

Team Number: 178-65807

Affiliate: Poland

Organization: The Civic Educational Association Primery School

Team Challenge: Inside Impact - SL

Award Kind: torchbearer

Recipient: Team

For: This team addressed a need in Poland by working with often overlooked students with special needs at a local school.

Text:

This team addressed an issue that is taboo in their home country by working with children with special needs at a local school. This is something they have been doing for years and joined the Service Learning Challenge with DI to increase exposure and dialogue on this topic.

As part of their Project, the team created a calendar and held an auction to raise money and provide the school with new sports safety equipment. They also worked on a beautiful play written by the team and performed by both the team and the students with special needs.

Additionally, their Presentation was incredible and unique, even after having to downsize and rebuild their props and set due to international travel.

Team Number: 750-68860

Affiliate: Texas

Organization: NORTHWEST CROSSING ES

Team Challenge: Inside Impact - EL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: This team created charming Presentation involving a strong man, a super hero, and a ventriloquist dummy.

Text: What do a circus strong man, a superhero and a ventriloquist dummy have in common? They were all part of this team's outstanding Presentation. To lift the mood at a nursing home, team members sang, danced, joked, and generally charmed their way into the hearts of the residents. But they didn't stop there - through their delightful Presentation, the team went on to enchant the Appraisers and audience alike in Elementary Service Learning: Inside Impact!

Team Number: 117-67697

Affiliate: Kentucky

Organization: Villa Madonna Academy

Team Challenge: Change of Tune - EL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: This team's research integration, sophisticated set design, and amazing script writing made a seamless period musical.

Text: This team left our minds spinning like a Ferris wheel! They took us on a rhyming musical journey to the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago. They seamlessly integrated extensive research to tell the story of George Ferris, execute historically accurate period costumes, create an astounding, working Ferris wheel, and roll out an amazing peanut cart. This team truly embraced the musical spirit - we felt like we were on Broadway!

Team Number: 114-24268

Affiliate: Illinois

Organization: Caruso - Deerfield District 109

Team Challenge: Unlikely Attraction - ML

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: Rolling waves, a Viking ship, an exploding stone chair, a DJ's booth, & a seagull ticket stand really stood out!

Text:

The Appraisers were impressed and amazed by the team's detailed props. From a mechanical rolling ocean and a rocking Viking ship with a hidden horn, to a stone chair that could explode and a full DJ's booth for Odin, this team transformed the stage. In addition, they had a seagull perched on a rock that dispensed Valhalla tickets, their actual scored Attraction (three panels of skill and chance), a storm cloud that hovered above, and detailed runes which covered all of the props!

Team Number: 147-13359

Affiliate: Washington

Organization: Kirkland Independent DI

Team Challenge: Unlikely Attraction - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: This team constructed an origami backdrop, toddler-sized, fully articulating creatures, & realistic, flickering fire.

Text:

Everything the team brought on to stage was breathtaking. The origami backdrop consisted of four precise tetrahedrons that folded to reveal multiple Edvard Munch-inspired scenes. Not only was it a novel idea, the crisp execution is what really hooked us. In addition, they constructed 3 toddler-sized, fully articulating insects that could creep across the stage. Each individual creature was hand molded and realistically rendered and had all the Appraisers itching for more. We were also thrilled by the realistic flickering fire created live on stage through the creative use of dry ice, mirrors, and lights.

Team Number: 120-27816

Affiliate: Maryland

Organization: AACPS

Team Challenge: Maze Craze - ML

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: The team blew the Appraisers away with precisely constructed tracks that accurately and rapidly moved the Maze Traveler.

Text:

Using precisely constructed wooden tracks made with custom spacers and gates, this team really "blew" us away when they used a hair dryer to rapidly move a modified ping pong ball with perfect accuracy through the maze. Careful preparation was evident in their universal design that was created to use the

smallest number of track segments from which all 16 different mazes could be assembled, like a puzzle, with no additional or extra pieces.

Team Number: 185-67842

Affiliate: China

Organization: Yuyao Shinan ES

Team Challenge: Drop Zone - EL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: This team turned our world upside down and backwards by using various Technical Methods to bring their props to life!

Text:

Using hydraulics, the team brought a clock, temple, tree, and foliage to life. The clock, which narrated the story, opened her eyes in surprise with a timer that operated using mechanical weights. The clock timed the Presentation perfectly for the team. The temple, which had turned upside-down, was righted by the Event Depicter, which was a thunderstorm with lightening and rain. The team used electro-mechanics, including a screw drive, motor, pneumatics, and hydraulics to control their set. As the rain melted the ice caps, the contaminated water was cleaned with a chemical reaction using iodine. A tree and plants came to life at the whistle of a king, again using hydraulics. The tree, after spinning, appeared with an animated face and it grew, doubling its height, surrounded by growing grass. The Appraisal Team was wow’ed!

Team Number: 185-22334

Affiliate: China

Organization: Shanghai Shanghong Middle School

Team Challenge: Maze Craze - ML

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: A vibrant, motion-filled undersea world was created electronically using costumes, motors, and lights.

Text:

This team astonished the Appraisers with their bright colors and attention to detail. The team created a 3-dimensional background with multiple motorized layers, which created the illusion of the ebbs and flows of an underwater world. To this they added free-roving sea creatures which moved electronically and were coordinated with the Maze Traveler's journey through the maze. Finally, gold-scaled, illuminated costumes with matching marine animal head pieces added to the life-like marine

environment. Together, these components allowed the team to create a vibrant undersea world.

Team Number: 171-49978

Affiliate: KASI - South Korea

Organization: KASI-South Korea

Team Challenge: Maze Craze - EL

Award Kind: DaVinci

Recipient: Team

For: The team's Presentation balanced artistic & technical elements to encourage everyone to combat global warming.

Text: This team portrayed the healing of the earth after global warming. Their Presentation was a dynamic and creative approach that was full of energy and power. Their use of recycled materials transformed costumes and technical elements into a cohesive story about the effects of lithium batteries on the environment. The set design included a large, multi-sided background that depicted the Earth from the beginning of time until now. Their Prop Transformation had a glacier that melted over the course of the Presentation time to enhanced their story. The positive energy during their entire Presentation made it seem as if there were double the number of team members on stage. The entire Presentation was a non-stop explosion of creativity that left the Appraisers amazed!

Team Number: 178-55797

Affiliate: Poland

Organization: High School no. 16

Team Challenge: Unlikely Attraction - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: With 6753 pgs, 894 crayons, 1000 lines of code, a 3D printed robotic arm, & a face of scrolls, Appraisers were amazed!

Text: 6,753 pages, 894 crayons, and 1000 lines of code were just the tip of the iceberg for the level of detail and artistry this team presented. A 3-D printed robot arm, meticulously designed and crafted to paint with team-made electrically conductive ink, was such an unlikely solution, the Appraisers couldn't get enough. The robotic hand even wiped away excess ink before painting a house that closed the circuit causing the backdrop to light up, depicting another house.

Add to that the wall of thousands of pages rolled into scrolls and then arranged in the shape of a face, and an hourglass that seamlessly reflected the theme of the Presentation, there's almost too much to be excited about. The wall then transformed into a family tree made of hundreds of crayon pieces, painted with more melted crayons, and covered with hidden photos of the team and their families.

This team kept unveiling surprise after surprise - even ending their Presentation by elevating their set pieces to send the team's message home. These are just a few of the award-worthy elements. We were blown away!