

**Team Number:** 185-73663

**Affiliate:** China

**Organization:** Yuyao Shinan Primary School

**School:**

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** meticulous mechanical bugs & garden creatures that wriggled forward, popped up, and unfurled to engage with the story

**Text:**

This team's Presentation included mechanical creatures that utilized multiple simple machines to represent different garden creatures, such as a caterpillar, wasp, snake, and snail. Their props included natural elements like a flower and web to create an outdoor environment for these creatures to crawl in. The snake used a worm gear to slither across the team's Pinball System in a way that help integrate the Pinball System into the story. The worm gear, which served as the snake's body, rotated and used centripetal force to unveil an egg. This egg was needed to break the witch's spell. In addition, there was a cat's paw that was represented with a ratchet system that was activated by the Pinball's weight, which worked flawlessly. Finally, there were dragon wings that interacted with the Pinball to flap and release more eggs from the witch's grasp. The Pinball traversed through their Pinball System in order to provide imitation eggs meant to confuse the story's antagonist. Their design not only showcased technical knowledge, but also effective team collaboration to have the props fit the theme and thwart the witch.

**Team Number:** 185-12223

**Affiliate:** China

**Organization:** Beijing No.57 High School

**School:**

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** a Rube Goldberg Pinball System that used recycled materials to flawlessly and magically lift the Pinball.

**Text:**

The team used recycled materials to build an elegant, simple, and automated Machine Module wherein the pressure of the Pinball caused a lever to release a set of faucets which poured water into a chamber and, when viewed from far away, caused the Pinball to be lifted up on a dais as if by magic. Everything about this was intricately engineered and risky, as this module was part of a larger Rube-Goldberg-style Pinball System which went off without a hitch. This flotation-based Machine Module was truly one-of-a-kind and mesmerizing to watch.

**Team Number:** 145-07759

**Affiliate:** Virginia

**Organization:** Harrisonburg

**School:**

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** a fully automated baseball-diamond-themed Pinball System which knocked it out of the park!

**Text:**

This team knocked it out of the park with a fully automated Pinball System that required no human interaction or correction. Not only did they achieve this impressive feat, but it was more than just a Pinball System—it was an integral part of their baseball narrative. The Pinball System was designed and painted to resemble a giant baseball diamond, complete with photoshopped pictures of the team in the stands, and was programmed to interact with their story.

Based on the movement of the Pinball, the Machine Modules announced whether the characters had hit a home run or an out. After reaching a specific number of home runs, the machine congratulated the winners and allowed the Presentation to proceed. Witnessing this fully immersive, meticulously planned, and well-executed Pinball System was truly awe-inspiring.

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**Team Number:** 750-04476

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Independent

**School:** Independent

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** a surprisingly tall and incredibly engineered Eiffel Tower, made with a myriad of precisely hand-cut balsa wood pieces.

**Text:**

The Appraisers were amazed by this team's replica of the Eiffel Tower. The team began with a 3D model, using it as a blueprint to meticulously hand-cut each piece and assemble them into an extraordinarily tall structure. The attention to detail on every truss, from top to bottom, showcased their thoughtful and creative craftsmanship.

**Team Number:** 105-11218

**Affiliate:** California

**Organization:** South Pasadena DI

**School:**

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** a fast-food extravaganza featuring a chicken nugget catapult, a spinning hamburger, and a slug with a dramatic entrance.

**Text:**

This team delighted us with their spectacular fast-food-themed Pinball System. The game began with a catapult shaped like a chicken-nugget box, which featured a precision release mechanism that launched the Pinball into a giant fish mouth. This fish mouth could open, close, tilt, and spin thanks to several motors and a cam design that controlled its movements. Next, the Pinball moved to a giant spinning hamburger, before descending onto a set of oscillating stairs and cascading down to an elevator. This fully automated elevator, powered by custom team-written code, lifted the Pinball. At the top, limit switches triggered a door to open, releasing the Pinball down a welded, curved ramp towards a house. There the ball activated a motion sensor, causing a slug to emerge. Overall - this team wowed the Appraisers by crafting an intricate and engaging machine, seamlessly orchestrated by multiple synchronized computer programs.

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**Team Number:** 750-86557

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Fabens ISD

**School:** O'Donnell Intermediate School

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** their prop design, costumes, music, and humor that was polished and flowed to one cohesive Presentation.

**Text:**

This team painted the audience a picture we won't soon forget. From their prop design, costumes, music, and humor, every detail was polished and flowed to one cohesive Presentation. In addition to their well-constructed and beautifully decorated celebrity paintings, the two background pieces pulled apart, switched around, and reconfigured for dramatic effects throughout the skit. Eeny, Meeny, Miny, Mo, Mona Lisa stole this show!

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**Team Number:** 185-42583

**Affiliate:** China

**Organization:** The First Branch of Beijing National Day School

**School:**

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** The artistry of the backdrop that brought the Appraisers back in time to the ancient Dunhuang murals caves.

**Text:**

This team's props and set blew the Appraisers away with the team's attention to detail, including their multi-layered infinity mirror. Their artistry of the backdrop brought the Appraisers back in time to the ancient Dunhuang murals caves. The visuals of the demon side of their Puppet perfectly depicted its character. The final harmony between the humans and animals transformed the demon into a gorgeous fairy playing a string instrument through their double-sided Puppet.

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**Team Number:** 750-41910

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Brownsville ISD

**School:** Veterans Memorial ECHS

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** An amazing performance of a dinosaur mystery musical, complete with \*rockin'\* props and costumes.

**Text:**

This team composed an enchanting musical that guided the audience through a murder mystery while dinosaurs walked the Earth. Duets, team numbers, and solos parodied from hits we recognized struck a tune with the Appraisers. The team's Presentation was enhanced through the use of recycled-material costumes as DJ Dinos rocked the stage. Their puppet pterodactyl moved to the beat with a creative and impressive range of motion as it serenaded through to the Jurassic period!Â Each teammate was in theme from head to toe, as they made science a whimsical experience for us all.

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**Team Number:** 750-15986

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Independent

**School:**

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Incorporating extensive research and intricate details to bring Ancient Egypt back to life!

**Text:**

This team incorporated extensive research to masterfully transport the audience back to Ancient Egypt with a visually-stunning Presentation. As part of their creative process, team members taught themselves Egyptian words and learned details about ancient Egyptian culture that were woven into every aspect of their story. The piano player's hat was modeled after those worn by courtyard musicians and he taught himself to play piano in order to compose music in the style of ancient Egyptian tunes. Jewelry created from paper plates was adorned with gems that were color-coded by character and reflected traditional shapes representing gender and social status. The team crushed and burned almonds into powder in a historically-accurate way to create their own kohl eye makeup. Their genuine love of learning and extensive preparation led to a flawlessly-executed Presentation that took us on a time-traveling journey to a world where women can be pharaohs too!

**Team Number:** 147-83884

**Affiliate:** Washington

**Organization:** Samm DI Club

**School:** Independent

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Using innovative, but simple, Technical Methods to show how "kicking a foot" can help a team attain their goals!

**Text:**

The audience had a BALL watching this team's Kinetic Art - inspired by a fidget spinner - that brought an inflatable soccer player to life. A hex key sliding between perfectly spaced wooden slats adapted circular motion into linear motion. The team used a plastic lid and marbles as "ball bearings" to create a working turntable that rotated a waving-arm tube man made of simple garbage bags. A mechanical kicking foot completed the look, and all of these mechanics were so perfectly timed that the extra team member scored the winning goal and then gave a high five to his teammates. This team's passion for soccer shone through in big and small ways. Jerseys were intricately constructed with beads, designed to look like soccer balls, and included hand-stitched embroidered accents. They served a dual-purpose as they flipped inside out to represent two different teams. Music inspired by the 2022 FIFA World Cup theme song was sung in two different keys to convey the change in their Dramatic Character. The team complemented their Technical Innovation with a feel-good story based on actual events that emphasized the importance of teamwork in achieving your goals - whether it's soccer goals or goals in life.

**Team Number:** 119-00947  
**Affiliate:** Massachusetts  
**Organization:** Bedford MADI  
**School:** John Glenn Middle School  
**Award Kind:** renaissance  
**Recipient Type:** team  
**For:** Theater talent & attention to detail, which painted together a hilarious & court case between two famous ladies.

**Text:**

This team had us laughing from start to finish. Their theatrical talent was evident in their reimagining of Da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" into a musical spectacle through their clever use of parody and thorough attention to detail.

Using professional-quality acting, singing, and choreography, their Presentation painted an enthralling court case between two renowned ladies solving the mystery of a stolen earring.

The parodies of "Money, Money, Money," "Beat it," and "Careless Whisper" all had lyrics that advanced the storyline with comedy galore. Additionally, all of the music that they played was derived by graphing the outline of the Mona Lisa's background landscape and transferring the points onto a musical staff. As it turns out, Ms. Lisa's bemused smile is a result of her guilt, as shown through the team's use of hydraulics to perform a technical feat straight out of the Renaissance period.

Every single second mattered to this team, as they impressed and entertained the Appraisers for the duration of their Presentation.

**Team Number:** 750-19116

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Brownsville ISD

**School:** Garcia Middle School

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** outstanding performance & storytelling as they portrayed the experiences of a World War II veteran from their hometown.

**Text:**

Using a non-verbal prologue, flashbacks, and a moving musical performance, this team conveyed the lifelong emotional impacts of a traumatic event with remarkable maturity and sensitivity. Their moving Presentation brought the audience and Appraisal Team to tears as they told a story of one man's experience in World War II. The team was able to portray an experience of a veteran by jumping between timelines to show the emotional journey that many veterans go through today.Â

**Team Number:** 106-15107

**Affiliate:** Colorado

**Organization:** Compass Montessori

**School:** Golden

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Embracing the madness of their selected Work of Visual Art and taking creative risks to create a memorable performance.

**Text:**

When everything falls apart in complete chaos, thatâ€™s usually a problem. But when the team's selected Work of Visual Art (Hieronymus Bosch's "The Garden of Earthly Delights") is madness, the team became mad by embracing the kind of creative risk taking that leads to unforgettable performances. This team's Presentation was already taking a creative risk by escalating through increasingly bloody sacrifice in order to appease the Owl God. However, when their props and costumes fell apart around them, the team integrated the self sacrifice seamlessly into their Presentation by taking a risk with impeccable improv that completely embraced the madness and had us rolling in the aisles.

**Team Number:** 169-63360

**Affiliate:** Turkiye

**Organization:** GELISIM COLLEGE

**School:** GELISIM ORTAOKULU

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Extensive use of various theatrical techniques along with a sense of humor, colorful costumes, and even a moral!

**Text:**

Not to monkey around, but actions spoke louder than words as this team displayed their extensive knowledge of various underused theatrical techniques in presenting their 2-Act Skit. Â They incorporated a sense of humor, colorful costume and characters, and even taught a moral. Â These techniques intensified the Improv Unknowns and came together in an unforgettable Presentation.Â

**Team Number:** 750-42199

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Allen ISD

**School:** Mary Evans Elementary

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Detailed costumes, horses with articulated legs, and an authentic trebuchet that brought an empire to life.

**Text:**

The medieval empire of Tevia was brought to life with an elaborate set including a castle and articulated legs on the horses. The team's attention to detail and unique use of ordinary materials gave the costumes an authentic appearance. The King and Queen were elaborately adorned, and the knights' costumes were replete with armor and swords. The Appraisal Team was captivated watching the quest to end hunger in the empire by recovering the golden chicken wing. This was accomplished using an authentic trebuchet for extremely accurate placement of the beanbag. The design allowed the beanbag to fly 180 degrees from the starting point and it functioned perfectly each time.

**Team Number:** 134-27068

**Affiliate:** New York

**Organization:** Lakeland CSD

**School:** Multi School

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** A whale of a good time that included a dazzling arcade, a clever claw machine, and hand-sewn prizes!

**Text:**

The team created every detail of a realistic arcade claw machine, including the individually sewn prizes. The story was unique and hilarious. The angry candy corn had the Appraisal Team laughing as the characters were sucked into the claw machine and then brought back to reality by being blown from the blow hole of a whale. The creativity of the story and the detailed and colorful set brought their imaginative and creative story to life. Energetic and engaging, the team wow'ed us with a stand out Presentation.



**Team Number:** 135-33516

**Affiliate:** Ohio

**Organization:** Barberton City Schools

**School:** Barberton Middle School

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** a Modular Device taco delivery system that delivers tacos into the mouths of their customers with exact precision.

**Text:**

This team's Modular Device made the Appraisers hungry while watching the team deliver tacos into the mouths of their customers with exact precision while utilizing an underhand and overhand configuration. Exquisite metal fabrication and a calibrated tension spring system gave this team the ability to hone in their landing spot, narrowly avoiding hitting their customers right in the face every time.

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**Team Number:** 750-21051

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Katy ISD

**School:** Beckendorff Junior High

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** an immersive prehistoric dinosaur journey with a giant T-Rex, a waterfall, and a futuristic spacecraft.

**Text:**

This teams brought everyone in the room along on an authentic prehistoric journey to find the cure for short T-Rex arms, with everything you would expect to see and more. It all started with a fully articulating, shoulder-mounted T-Rex costume that really shocked and awed by incorporating a realistic movable jaw--teeth and all. The journey continued through a fully immersive world of life-like dinosaur creatures that truly complimented the impressive watery waterfall and fully decked out futuristic spacecraft.

**Team Number:** 185-54716

**Affiliate:** China

**Organization:** Beijing No.57 High School

**School:**

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Cycling through history with mesmerizing costumes, props, and a Modular Device that were all derived from bicycle parts.

**Text:**

This team built not just one Modular Device, but also created a second catapult that launched a fascinating projectile which also turned out to be an active device. Bicycle parts were used in multiple ways to solve mechanical problems in ways that were derived from actual historical devices. In addition, the team's costumes were lush and fully developed. Costumes, props and devices all combined to form a seamless whole, telling a unique and interesting story.Â

**Team Number:** 750-58921

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Independent

**School:** RRHS

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** A heart-warming tale of the triumph of original thought told through a dynamic transformation from grey to vibrant color

**Text:**

This team presented a skit about original thought overcoming societal pressure, set in the "garden of the mind." Stark, black-and-white sets and costumes slowly gave way to brilliant color, bold patterns, and free thought as their "thought projector" transformed from negativity to a source of individuality, creativity, and freedom. Flowers bloomed mechanically, petals were launched, and every piece had decoration that symbolized the personality of a character at that particular moment in the story: Paper chains represented shackles, eggshells symbolized fragility, and eventually, wings symbolized freedom. Well done, team!!

**Team Number:** 114-26877

**Affiliate:** Illinois

**Organization:** Deerfield Public Schools Walden

**School:** Walden School

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** taking us along on a service quest through snow, rain, and winds with a multi-sensory experience.

**Text:**

The Obnoxiously Corny Ducks team paved out a Service Learning adventure for all of us to experience with bold steps, their imagination, and an abundance of creativity from start to finish. The audience was tantalized with visual and auditory representations that took us through each weather pattern their quest entailed. A fantasy map, weather machine, and projected background were all riddled with various technical elements that mimicked the experience of the characters as they braved the elements of snow, rain, and tornado winds. On the course towards helping mental health of others, the team took adventurous risks and were able to meticulously choreograph their movements to ensure we were immersed into their world and a part of the destination of support and care.

**Team Number:** 750-18683

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Eanes ISD

**School:** Forest Trail Elementary School

**Award Kind:** spirit

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** displaying great resilience by enthusiastically performing as scheduled after the team's props vanished overnight.

**Text:**

This team had an amazing upbeat attitude and showed no trace of fear when faced with adversity. Right before presenting as the first team of the day, they had found all of their props had completely disappeared. Despite this, they were able to recover some of their props and completely reconstruct others within minutes. They used quick thinking, problem solving, and teamwork to continue with their amazing Presentation, showing us what the spirit of DI is really all about. This team's positive attitude and perseverance impressed every member of the Appraisal Team and reminded us to stay calm and keep moving forward even when times are tough.

**Team Number:** 750-47941

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Midlothian ISD

**School:** Larue Miller Elementary

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Their impressive degree of integration of Project information into their highly detailed Presentation.

**Text:**

Puzzle pieces, cards, a virus monster, and a heart-shaped map were all pieced together to create a well-designed Presentation. Characters were varied, well-developed, and elaborately costumed with materials related to team's Project--socializing with residents of senior home. Every detail of the team's Presentation was connected to the team's Project. Their Fantasy story was supported by subtle actions performed in the background. All elements of the Presentation were connected in brilliant and surprising ways, and every tiny detail contributed to the effect of their Fantasy story and Danger Zone. Appraisers were given a wealth of details to score, no matter which part of the Presentation they focused on.

**Team Number:** 750-38807

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Northwest ISD

**School:** Lakeview Elementary

**Award Kind:** torchbearer

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Fundraising enough to plant 500 new trees to combat the effects of deforestation of the Amazon.

**Text:**

After researching potential Projects, the members of "Bacon on Deck" learned that the Amazon rainforest was in need of their help. They learned how deforestation impacts people, animals, and plants not only in the Amazon, but in the rest of the world as well. Their goal was not only to raise awareness of the issue, but also to raise money to help replant trees. They connected themselves with the charity One Tree Planted that is able to plant one tree for each dollar donated. Bacon on Deck's goal was to raise 250 dollars in order to plant 250 trees. After an enthusiastic social media campaign, as well as using posters around their town, not only did Bacon on Deck meet their goal, but they doubled it! Thanks to Bacon on Deck, 500 trees will be planted in the Amazon. These new trees will make a significant impact in the restoration of the Amazon.



**Team Number:** 164-38452

**Affiliate:** Mexico

**Organization:** Euroamericano Valle

**School:** Euroamericano Valle

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** flooring us with a memorable levitation effect as well as the effort and welding skills learned to produce that effect

**Text:**

We were warned "the team said they had a levitating character" and team's exceptional reveal surprised us anyway. We watched the master character dispensing enlightening advice for his disciple from a lofty perch. This levitating effect was the remarkable product of many weekends spent learning to weld in a blacksmith shop. The iterative process used in creating this welded masterpiece resulted in a jaw-dropping entertainment effect, and we were amazed at the newfound welding trade skills.

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**Team Number:** 750-74921

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Midlothian ISD

**School:** LME/DMS

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** layers and layers of genius mechanical engineering and magnetism that took us to unprecedented heights.

**Text:**

Fairies with wings don't need elevators, but Appraisers do, so this team provided us with a vertical map sporting tiny mechanized scenes to depict their Project. They conducted a clinic with their magnetic wand while showing us that the power of flight comes from lifting others up. The combination of mechanical pieces and use of magnetism left Appraisers breathless " maybe it was the sheer altitude.

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**Team Number:** 750-42299

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Independent

**School:** Independent

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** using technology to make flowers bloom, a worm and spider attack, and a triptych backdrop rotate to change settings

**Text:**

This team made their Danger Zone come to life! The team designed a flower that wilted and bloomed using mechanical means. They had a remote-controlled worm and a spider that crept around the corners of the backdrop. Using potentiators and servos, the team made their billboard-style backdrop rotate. All of these effects together created a feeling of suspense and heightened danger. The team coded their own remote controls to make this happen and they used music to enhance all of these effects. During all these other effects, a huge net swooped in to capture the main characters. All of this together created an entertaining and well-orchestrated effect.

**Team Number:** 750-12533

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Leander ISD

**School:** Cedar Park High School

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** changing the script based on rolling a die to determine the hero's dance, a troll attack, and even the hero's survival.

**Text:**

This team changed their script and story based on the roll of a team-created giant die. A low roll meant a bad result, a high roll meant a good one. This created a unique and creative story format, which in turn led to many possibilities. Neither the team nor the Appraisers knew what was about to happen next, which kept us on the edge of our seats. We were wowed by the unique concept that integrated board game theme so beautifully.

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**Team Number:** 106-57105

**Affiliate:** Colorado

**Organization:** Independent

**School:** Mines, CSU, CCD, Warren Tech

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** an amazing speech-responsive coyote and self-drawing map that kept the Appraisers on the edges of our seats.

**Text:**

This team had many impressive mechanical and engineering props, especially their coyote costume, in which the headgear had a mechanism that had a servo connected to an arduino connected to a microphone. Using this technology, when the role-player spoke into the microphone, the mouth moved accordingly. Their self-drawing map was mounted to a white board and was driven with stepper motors and 3 separate servos for articulation with 3D printed arms. Their Presentation was saturated with technology and kept the Appraisers waiting for what would happen next.

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**Team Number:** 164-49601

**Affiliate:** Mexico

**Organization:** Euroamericano Valle

**School:** Euroamericano Valle

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** creating a unique origami boat design as an innovative base for a rotating tower.

**Text:**

This team created an oragami "boat" that was a steady and solid base for their tower. Because of the novel shape, the boat had a void at the underside in the center for them to place a bottle cap with a marble to help it rotate. This was an extremely unique and innovative design for a rotating device with the maximum risk taken. The Appraisal Team was left amazed!

**Team Number:** 120-12463

**Affiliate:** Maryland

**Organization:** Glenelg Country School

**School:** Middle School

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** perfectly integrating a tower base with pencil devices to effortlessly place the tower onto the water.

**Text:**

Team "Incorporated" from Maryland graced our room with their dazzling positivity and innovative creativity. This team immediately knew what to do and worked methodically through their Instant Challenge elements. Their respectful and cheerful use of the creative process to arrive at their idea of integrating the tower with the device in an essential and creative way was enjoyable to watch. The team carefully molded the foil around their pencil devices until it was perfectly shaped. Watching as the team removed their pencils as separate devices from the tower base was a spectacular moment for the Appraisers. However, in Part Two, the pencils did not work at first. The Appraisers were very impressed to see this team's perseverance in using other materials to ultimately fit the pencils into the foil base. The combination of incredible creativity and risk-taking makes team "Incorporated" truly worthy of a DaVinci Award.

**Team Number:** 750-70066

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** St. Monica Catholic School-Dallas

**School:** St. Monica Catholic School

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** exceptional engineering in the team's tower-moving device and super-efficient teamwork throughout the creative process.

**Text:**

This team was the total package in Instant Challenge! They had a razor-sharp understanding of the Challenge, which helped them separate into two multitasking groups: one working on the tower, and one working on the device. Both groups continued to collaborate throughout the Instant Challenge, passing ideas to each other. Their fluid use of the creative process, moving back and forth between the assess and imagine/re-imagine stages, led to a spectacularly creative and effective device that utilized straws in a figure-8 configuration and supported two pencils while maintaining a full range of motion. The pencils were controlled by reciprocal clothespins, making the device equally innovative both in construction and use. Hats off to the Subatomic Seven from St. Monica Catholic School from Texas.Â



**Team Number:** 106-40605

**Affiliate:** Colorado

**Organization:** Cottonwood Creek

**School:** Cottonwood Creek

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** using techniques beyond their years to solve this Challenge with a tripod base of tightly rolled paper

**Text:**

This team astounded Appraisers by constructing a perfectly balanced tower unlike any other seen during tournament. Using construction techniques beyond their years, they embraced an additional challenge by moving beyond the easier and more obvious solution and opting for a riskier one. Utilizing a pencil tripod base, tightly rolled paper, and straws, this elementary team reached Through the Window and to new heights with this solution.

**Team Number:** 148-63646

**Affiliate:** Wisconsin

**Organization:** Tosa DI

**School:** Longfellow Middle School

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Turning an ordinary retrieval device into an extraordinary catapult to successfully remove animals from a swamp.

**Text:**

When the team realized their first device would not effectively remove animals from the swamp without a team member crossing the line, the team relied on their previous engineering skills to solve the Instant Challenge. They continued to attempt success with a second device, while their first ordinary device transformed into an unordinary catapult - flipping animals successfully across the line without the risk of the team crossing the line. What fantastic thinking!

**Team Number:** 106-26452

**Affiliate:** Colorado

**Organization:** Skyview Academy

**School:**

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Their amazing folding of a paper crane and their human obstacle course during their silent performance IC.

**Text:**

This team took art to new heights and created a large, colorful origami crane with spot on accuracy in 2 minutes. Their silent performance was energetic as their team worked in perfect sync to create a human obstacle course to display their artistic masterpiece.

**Team Number:** 135-07803

**Affiliate:** Ohio

**Organization:** Barberton City Schools

**School:**

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** uniquely using the materials to catch and stick falling pigs instead of cushioning and enclosing them.

**Text:**

This team was the only team to use tape loops on top of a paper plate to catch and hold a bag of pigs. No other team used sticky material to keep the pigs from bouncing out of the target area. The Appraisers were so impressed with the uniqueness of this team's solution!