

**Team Number:** 185-33506

**Affiliate:** China

**Organization:** Nanjing Zhiyuan Foreign Language Primary School

**School:**

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** an automated rubber band-powered clockwork mechanism that precisely delivered Stack Items to the Target Zones.

**Text:**

This team's automatic Assembly Equipment efficiently threaded beads onto a rail within a cart. The cart Stack Item used a rubber band-powered clockwork mechanism that was designed to carry the beads and itself to the highest-scoring Target Zone. The team-built geared mechanism was calibrated to precisely propel the cart and stop at a preset distance. The mechanism was impressively well designed and laser cut by the team, showcasing their attention to detail, and enabled the team to destroy their Stack with remarkable precision.

**Team Number:** 135-00876

**Affiliate:** Ohio

**Organization:** Oakwood City Schools

**School:** Harman Elem

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** A towering princess puppet that portrayed the perspective between the human and insect characters

**Text:**

The towering princess puppet was creatively designed to represent a human from the perspective of their insect characters. Constructed atop a PVC and duct tape frame and a rolling desk chair, the princess glided through the Presentation Area. The papier-mache head, giant fabric arms, and dress perfectly matched the appearance of the team member, who substituted into the story when shrunk to bug size!

**Team Number:** 141-75774

**Affiliate:** South Dakota

**Organization:** Rapid City Catholic Schools

**School:** St. Thomas More Middle School

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Seamless fusion of story and tech in an emotional, underwater journey powered by ingenious mechanics.

**Text:**

This team delivered a performance where every element—costume, story, staging, and sophisticated engineering—was fully integrated into a powerful narrative of transformation. From underwater-inspired visuals and fluid choreography to a symbolic “rock” character revealed to be a geode anchoring the emotional arc, their Presentation explored not just outward change but deep inner awakening. The scenery was stunning, the story moving, and the timing between theatrical beats and mechanical action was flawlessly aligned.

Their solution featured a complex assembly system that funneled 19 golf balls from a motorized lift gate through a hand-built conveyor and dual cardboard hoppers to form a stable pyramid. At the story’s turning point, a counterweight destruction device—using water reservoirs, vacuum pressure, and a mousetrap trigger—tipped the stack with elegant precision. The engineering was exceptional, but it was the team’s ability to integrate the assembly and disassembly into the journey that truly made this Presentation unforgettable.

**Team Number:** 185-02083

**Affiliate:** China

**Organization:** Shanghai Jianping Experimental Middle School

**School:**

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** a bold, tech-savvy show with a clever stack device and a lifelike bubble-blowing robot.

**Text:**

This team's Assembly Device showcased a fan-driven mechanism that spun disks into a stacked formation. This team's Stack cleverly represented a horn—the focal point of their dynamic Presentation. The Stack was dismantled, one disk at a time, through a pair of intricately designed devices that merged into a single unit, launching the disks. A team member could even adjust the force using a spring mechanism to account for floor friction—an ingenious detail that highlighted their understanding of physics and adaptability.

The Presentation itself was big, bold, and brimming with energy through vivid lighting and flamboyant details that made the performance visually and audibly stunning. The Appraisers loved their use of bright colors on black and white props and musical number, while their high-tech, hyper-realistic scorpion robot added a thrilling twist. Its lifelike movements were so convincing, it startled a few appraisers—and when it released bubbles in response to “fear,” it was both clever and charming.

**Team Number:** 135-99411

**Affiliate:** Ohio

**Organization:** Centerville City Schools

**School:** Centerville HS

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** cranes, car, and levers that combined ingenious tech and a lovely story into a standout Presentation.

**Text:**

This team demonstrated exceptional engineering and creativity with their use of two motorized electromagnet cranes to precisely assemble Stack Items, and a dual-clamp mechanism to systematically deconstruct them. Their execution was flawless, successfully placing all Stack Items in the highest point value Target Zone. They also designed a fully functional vehicle featuring a vertically adjustable seat, which moved smoothly across the Presentation Area with impressive speed control via an accelerator and brake system. The clever use of lever and fulcrum mechanics—combined with counterweights—to lift a team member up and down added a dynamic element to the story, allowing them to “steal” art as part of the narrative. This sophisticated integration of technical elements and storytelling left a lasting impression on the Appraisers.

**Team Number:** 156-83037

**Affiliate:** Quebec

**Organization:** Destination Imagination Quebec

**School:** D'Arcy McGee High School

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Dramatically and expertly flipping their solution into the Target Zones with precise force.

**Text:**

This team showed a unique approach to leveraging vacuum-style engines to assemble Stack Items at the corner of the Assembly Zone before applying the perfect amount of force to flip the four-foot long Stack Items toward the right most corner of the Target Zone. The calculation of the right amount of force and the support needed to land the Stack Items was very precise. Mitigating the risk involved at the different stages, the team demonstrated a deep understanding of physics and executed their plan with the great confidence.

**Team Number:** 120-19970

**Affiliate:** Maryland

**Organization:** Calvert County Public Schools

**School:** Plum Point Elementary

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** a team-created spaceship set with a working drawbridge door and chemical reactor that refueled the ship for blast off.

**Text:**

This team invited the Appraisers and audience into their spaceship as they blasted off. The cleverly crafted elements worked with one another to create a cohesive set design. The door became a drawbridge that was damaged from glass rain. The Technobabble Depictor showed us each malfunction. Streamers representing a flaming antenna, a chemical reaction to refill the fuel tank, and more. Throughout the Presentation, all of the team's handmade technical elements wowed the Appraisers as we were taken on board their adventure and back home again.

**Team Number:** 750-79009

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Katy ISD

**School:** Pattison Elementary

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Bringing Rubik's Cubes to life with a flawless Presentation that included artistic, technical, & scientific elements.

**Text:**

This team wowed us with multiple different elements in their Presentation. Their Technobabble Depictor had multiple technical parts, but the Rubik's Cube solving machine stole the show. The use of live music throughout the Presentation had us on our toes, especially with their musical scientific phenomenon that taught us the age, heat, and colors of the planets. Their Moving Rubik's Cube Backdrops with 3-D printed elements were well-designed and transported us to their artistic and futuristic world. They also creatively communicated their story through the use of a news channel, which served as their Scientific Demonstration that kept surprising the audience with new information. Even with all of the moving parts within this solution, the Presentation was executed flawlessly and left us wanting more.



**Team Number:** 178-74312

**Affiliate:** Poland

**Organization:** DI Poland Affiliate

**School:** SP 22

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** A stunningly beautiful, team-created tree that only used intricately folded paper towels and local playground twigs.

**Text:**

It's not often that a team creates a prop so realistic and beautiful that it blurs the lines between a professional florist and a DI Team Choice Element, but this group used their creativity, astute precision, and design prowess to create a tree that could be found within a botanical garden. Over the course of many months, and using a meticulous process, the team utilized over 20 rolls of paper towels that were soaked in water, painted different shades of pink, orange, or white, and then painstakingly folded into ornate flowers. Over 100 of these were created, then tied and glued into an intricate system onto twigs from the team's local playground to form branches. An old Christmas tree stump and trunk were used to form the base of the tree, creating a prop that could rival many wedding flower arrangements! The Appraisers were truly in awe of the craftsmanship, attention to detail, and beauty of this tree and the team's incredible design!

**Team Number:** 750-26890

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Northwest ISD

**School:** Medlin Middle School

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** A brilliantly crafted musical parody with live violin & bassoon, blending humor, heart, and Broadway flair.

**Text:**

This team delivered a cohesive and brilliantly executed Presentation that was an imaginative musical extravaganza! With flawless artistry, they transformed beloved Disney classics by weaving in their own original, witty lyrics, bringing a fresh and hilarious twist to timeless melodies. Accompanied live by the rich harmonies of violin and bassoon, their seamless transitions from one song to the next evoked the captivating flow of a Broadway production, creating an immersive and dynamic experience that held the audience spellbound. Their impeccable choreography and synchronization between music and acting brought to life an emotional narrative about longing, belonging, and even, a quest for world domination. This team's Presentation was nothing short of a musical tour de force, delighting the Appraisers with its creativity, emotion, and sheer theatrical brilliance.

**Team Number:** 147-71373

**Affiliate:** Washington

**Organization:** Independent

**School:**

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** maximizing the concept of minimalism by morphing between many scenes using few shapes.

**Text:**

This team amazed us by theatrically, technically, and seemingly magically creating five unique minimalistic sceneries by using just a few shapes to morph between them, one after another. Using magnets, this team was able to make simple geometries float on top of a flat surface and manipulated them from behind with a clever mirrored solution. Furthermore, this team maximally exemplified Minimalism through their creative use of recycled materials in costumes that showed an outstanding degree of skill and craftsmanship. The team-created distraction and costumes not only added to the overall aesthetic, but were integral in the Emotional Moment. By the end, we were wowed by their immense ingenuity.

**Team Number:** 164-34169

**Affiliate:** Mexico

**Organization:** San Patricio International School

**School:** San Patricio International School

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** This team's frenzied energy and storytelling skills that brought the Appraisers into the hive.

**Text:**

BZZZZ! BZZZZ! The frenzied energy of bees loudly buzzing around a hexagonal hive to a well-choreographed soundtrack filled with music and sound effects focused the audience on how very critical bees are to the food we eat, as well as our continued existence.

With just a small bee sting, madness strikes the Focal Character. Through the magic of creative story telling, all team members eventually became bees, demonstrating emotion through sound effects and lighting, frenetic movement, color, creative dance, and gymnastics, as bees whirled and flew around the hive. The Presentation ended with hundreds of bees spilling out of a mechanical beehive onto the stage as the bees kept buzzing.

**Team Number:** 750-15786

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Conroe ISD

**School:** McCullough Jr. High

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** tackling social shame while including minimalism with several modes of engineering.

**Text:**

This team had a rich Presentation that had the Appraisal Team in stitches from the very beginning. This team tackled the theme of not being able to fit in with grace and creativity through the their story about students enrolled in the School of Misfits. From the Misfit becoming Miss Fit to seamlessly connecting the technical element of their spinning Minimalist Set using mechanical and electrical engineering so that it could perfectly correlate with the Focal Character's Emotional Moment of spinning out of control, along with the artistic liberties taken to identify each character through their costume and set design, the team's solution to this Challenge was big, bold, and so well done!

**Team Number:** 134-45789

**Affiliate:** New York

**Organization:** Somers CSD

**School:** Somers MS

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** a Minimalist seesaw that mirrored a power balance through the Presentation.

**Text:**

Minimalism, in its true essence, is making use of something simple, such as a seesaw, in multiple ways. This team's only set item was a homemade seesaw that mirrored the balance of power as it shifted between Professor Not So Smart and President Georgie Washie throughout the team's Presentation. The theatrical movement used seamless blocking to show the seesaw moving clockwise with the team members moving counterclockwise. One team member was cantilevered around the site and the turntable of the seesaw became a tambourine in an original team song. This seesaw also served as a bench, a platform, a stage, and a lever to spill open delicious, nutritious, IQ enhancing cat food. There is no question that the design, engineering, and execution by this team has earned them this Renaissance Award.

**Team Number:** 750-98219

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Dallas Independent School District

**School:** New Tech High School Dallas ISD

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** an outstanding performance that turned separation anxiety into comedy gold in a seamless, fast-paced Presentation.

**Text:**

When mom's away, the kids will play..or maybe they'll spiral into a hilarious session of "What If?" Did mom run for president? Join a pirate crew? Report on the Duck Mafia? Start a band? This team's convincing Presentation as squabbling siblings with overactive imaginations escalated to a fantastic, live emo-band performance before the exasperated mom came home after being gone for just a few minutes. Their fast-paced dialogue and seamless scene changes created real-time pacing rarely seen outside professional theatre. The "Special Fellas" turned separation anxiety into comedy gold that had everyone rock and rolling with laughter.

**Team Number:** 175-82382

**Affiliate:** Ukraine

**Organization:** National Center "Junior Academy of Sciences of Ukraine"

**School:**

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** their outstanding presentation of a minimal hero's maximal journey.

**Text:**

Triumphant transformations and sweeping symbolism barely capture how well this team wove music, dance, design, and dialogue into an enchanted and ethereal parable. Through purposeful Minimalism, the team transformed the stage into a versatile canvas fully utilizing its height, width, and depth as they told the tale of a Little Hero who goes on a quest to find stones to save his city. The audience was transported to a world of magical unicorns made of tissue paper, a Big Wise Fish made of cardboard with denim scales, and a beautiful shimmering "city" that transformed into a magnificent dove symbolizing the triumph of peace. The hero ultimately sacrificed himself in a duel demonstrating the importance of devotion, courage, and integrity. This team truly took us on a memorable, dynamic, and inspiring journey.



**Team Number:** 750-54221

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Midlothian ISD

**School:** LaRue Miller

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** a story full of repurposed sports gear, multi-functional goal-oriented props, and slam-dunk creativity.

**Text:**

This team's Presentation showcased an extraordinary blend of creativity, craftsmanship, and purpose through the innovative reuse of sports equipment. Their suite of props was not only visually stunning, but also highly functional with each piece ingeniously designed to support and elevate their storytelling. Every element served multiple roles, demonstrating both technical sophistication and artistic vision.

A subtle, yet memorable feature, was the transformation of a soccer goal, which incorporated repurposed shoeboxes. These were opened during the Presentation to reveal glowing, backlit words that illustrated the character traits revealed in the narrative. This seamless integration of form and function exemplified the team's storytelling through design.

The team's Rube-Goldberg-inspired Binary Device was another highlight. Constructed primarily from reused sports gear, it activated a dynamic scoreboard, visually symbolizing how the team exceeded their original goals. Furthermore, their delivery truck prop was layered with information about their Project journey and choices. With multiple interactive elements, the truck served as a mobile narrative tool, immersing the audience into the team's story and adding to the dramatic effect of their Complication.

Even the costumes were engineered with care and intention. One standout was the character "Phil" (as in "philanthropy"), represented by a massive, heart-shaped costume with oversized, expressive hands. On one hand, the costume displayed key details of the team's Project; on the other, it revealed the team's Critical Choice, brought to life with dramatic flair. Continuing their commitment to repurposing materials, the character "Foster" wore a costume with a basketball-turned-jersey-number detail—a small but powerful example of how thoroughly the team infused their concept into every visual element. This team didn't just tell a story—they built and engineered it through every thoughtful prop, costume, and action. Their exceptional use of materials and creativity in design make them a standout candidate for the Renaissance



**Team Number:** 122-35605

**Affiliate:** Michigan

**Organization:** Port Huron Area School District

**School:** Thomas Edison Elementary

**Award Kind:** torchbearer

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** using their craniums to save students' grey matter by educating them about "brain buckets."

**Text:**

When the friend of a team member was involved in a significant bicycle accident—but was saved from serious injury because of protective gear—this team was inspired to act. Although that was a huge achievement, it wasn't enough that they raised sufficient money to provide a bike helmet to every fourth grader at their school. They also planned and implemented a school assembly to educate their fellow students about the importance of actually wearing a helmet each and every time they got on a bike. According to the team's survey data, the number of students who committed themselves to wearing a bike helmet increased from 35% to 85% after attending the assembly. And the team didn't stop there—these safety superstars took their message to the airwaves, the press, and even the school board. They reached the broader community through TV, newspaper, and radio coverage and by way of a presentation to the local school board. Their creative brains may have saved a lot of other brains, with a ripple effect that could protect kids for years to come. While it is impossible to accurately predict, the impact of this Project will be felt anytime one of these young bicyclists feels the impact of an accident. This team's future-oriented Project could prevent an untold number of traumatic brain injuries and save lives. They used their heads and their hearts to make a difference not only today, but years and even decades into the future.

**Team Number:** 164-66206

**Affiliate:** Mexico

**Organization:** COLEGIO NEXUS

**School:** Colegio nexus

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Giving us a unique tale of two trees via self-sacrifice and redemption.

**Text:**

This team's story from start to finish told a story of self-sacrifice and redemption, with an uplifting message. Their incorporation of information about forestry conservation was evident throughout. Just when you thought you'd "leafed" through every creative method of tree building, this team created a tree truly rooted in life — grown straight from the team members. This team really "branched out" for this final arboreal edition, showing how a beautiful story can sprout from even the ugliest of decisions. It was a "tree-mendous" effort, budding with heart and the foliage of redemption!

**Team Number:** 147-04236

**Affiliate:** Washington

**Organization:** Kennewick School District

**School:** Chinook/HHH Middle Schools

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Showing us a fairy tale through backdrop construction that shined with planning, purpose, and behind-the-scenes wonder.

**Text:**

Though the princesses' magic wands only waved for eight short minutes, we were enchanted by something more in this team's Presentation—specifically, the team's backdrop that was a marvel of construction and sparkled with planning, preparation, and a sprinkle of foresight. This backdrop was no ordinary set piece; it was just as lovely from behind as from the front, carefully labeled so it could seamlessly dissolve and reform. Every detail whispered of quests completed, lessons learned, and the magic that happens long before the curtain rises.

**Team Number:** 750-12818

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Independent

**School:** Round rock high school

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** a visually stunning, daring, and flawlessly-executed Presentation that was as smooth as the finest brie!

**Text:**

This team delivered a truly theatrical production that was visually dazzling from start to finish. Their Critical Choice and its impact were not merely mentioned once but woven creatively and repeatedly throughout the Presentation, demonstrating deep integration and thoughtful storytelling. In a bold and ambitious move, the team committed to a single, continuous audio track for the entire Presentation. This track, which included songs performed live with original lyrics, left no room for error. At times serving as atmospheric background and at others as a musical narrative, the audio featured character-specific leitmotifs that enriched the storytelling. This innovative choice required team members to remain in near-constant motion, portraying their characters and completing various tasks with precise timing. The result was a seamless performance that felt like a beautifully choreographed dance or a flowing symphony--smooth as the finest brie!

The Presentation was a visual feast, thanks to the team's meticulous attention to detail. Their costumes, as described in the Team Choice Elements, were nothing short of spectacular. One standout was a layered cheese costume: bold and bright, it lifted using dowels to reveal 54 fabric panels in three tiers, forming a stunning diamond-shaped pattern. Another highlight was the character Milk's costume--a handmade corset adorned with tissue paper swirls representing calcium, and a flowing skirt crafted from pieces of milk carton and over 50 eggshells arranged in the shape of milk's chemical structure. Beyond their creative artistry, the team impressed with their technical skill. They not only presented a successful Binary Device, but also incorporated an eye-catching additional element: a brain prop that pulsed with multicolored liquid. This striking effect was achieved through a clever application of stoichiometry using cabbage juice, baking soda, and vinegar--a brilliant blend of science and spectacle. This team demonstrated exceptional creativity, technical acumen, and artistic vision with the undercurrent of an extraordinary risk--embodying the spirit of the DaVinci Award in every way!

**Team Number:** 750-42026

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Northside ISD

**School:** Briscoe Middle School

**Award Kind:** torchbearer

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** A heartfelt and widespread impact through a heart-healthy education video that reached more than 155,000 students.

**Text:**

Building on the momentum of an incredible Project last year, this energetic group was invited by the American Heart Association to serve as national spokespeople—an honor that speaks volumes about their passion, creativity, and impact.

Harnessing their boundless imagination and teamwork, the team storyboarded, designed, filmed, and edited a compelling promotional video for the Kids' Heart Challenge—a nationwide initiative to promote cardiac health among students. Their video wasn't just a Project; it inspired kids in classrooms across the country to get active and take charge of their heart health.

The results were truly impressive. Their work has already reached over 155,651 students in 17,541 schools—and counting! Their powerful Presentation didn't just impress the Appraisers—it captured their HEARTS.

**Team Number:** 185-59387

**Affiliate:** China

**Organization:** Shanghai Changning Yuyuan Road No.1 ES

**School:**

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Exceeding the Challenge limits with a counterweight and rolled paper horn that perfectly balanced on the wire's edge.

**Text:**

This team shocked the Appraisers with a tightrope tower that reached far beyond the limits of the Challenge. Utilizing an expertly created counterweight and a meticulously rolled paper horn that perfectly balanced on the wire's edge, this solution needed no adjustments and worked as soon as it was placed on the wire.



**Team Number:** 750-54440

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Brownsville ISD

**School:** Veterans ECHS

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** their energetic theatrical entrance, romantic storyline with a twist ending, and impressive lift stunt.

**Text:**

This team entered with a well-choreographed, Broadway-style stunt that set the high energy tone of their entire Instant Challenge. During their solution to the Instant Challenge, they managed to convey a beautiful romance with a twist ending using no words. They used vocals of commonly known songs, as well as wordless babble to depict their story. To spotlight their wedding scene, they used snowflake lights which had a unique and emotional special effect. Their grace and style was evident throughout their time with us, and their Dirty Dancing-esque lift stunned us.

**Team Number:** 106-50175

**Affiliate:** Colorado

**Organization:** University

**School:** Colorado State University, Metropolitan State University

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Outstanding nonverbal communication demonstrating innovative and adaptive teamwork.

**Text:**

This highly tuned two-person team wowed us with their ability to work together effectively and efficiently to bring unique twists and enhancements to a simple, but effective, nonverbal communication system. During the nonverbal part of the challenge, they checked themselves, corrected errors, and developed additional enhancements to their system on the fly, demonstrating an intuitive understanding of the needs of their teammate on the other side of the curtain. Their efforts in our Instant Challenge room were a phenomenal demonstration of the degree to which excellent teamwork, mutual respect and a high caliber of creative thought can be fostered and honed over years of commitment to Destination Imagination. This team was inspirational to watch in action and we are glad to know they are working hard to pass their creative flame to the teams they interact with here at Globals and back home.

**Team Number:** 750-65860

**Affiliate:** Texas

**Organization:** Conroe ISD

**School:** McCullough Jr. High

**Award Kind:** spirit

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** dedicating significant time and effort to be an example team for training IC Appraisers for many years to come.

**Text:**

To prepare new training content for future Instant Challenge Appraisers, we needed to find a team who was willing to be an example. "Quote the Goats" were able to rearrange their evening schedule and spend almost 2 hours patiently waiting and performing in take after take. Without a complaint as the shoot fell behind schedule, they happily repeated several scenes so that the Appraisers in the video could get their parts just right. They have probably taken the Instant Challenge promise more than any team this year! When "solving" the Instant Challenge on-camera, the team seamlessly integrated specific questions, prepared misconceptions, and pre-planned solutions in a natural way that convincingly simulated a team who was seeing the Instant Challenge for the first time ever. They may have a future in Hollywood!

The time this team dedicated to the filming was a huge service to the Destination Imagination organization and Instant Challenge in particular. Their generosity will multiply across thousands of Instant Challenge Appraisers who complete the new Appraiser training. And beyond being a service to those Appraisers, this training will help ensure that teams solving Instant Challenges in the future will have well-trained Appraisers who understand how to make sure teams have as much opportunity to earn points as possible. The impact this team made will benefit the Instant Challenge Educational Experiences for many years to come. "Quote the Goats" will definitely be quoted in Appraiser trainings for a long time. Thank you!

**Team Number:** 105-33130

**Affiliate:** California

**Organization:** San Ramon

**School:** Windemer Ranch MS

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** A unique, unusual, and highly successful approach while using NO CONNECTORS to suspend weights from a bridge!

**Text:**

This team used a unique and unusual way to build a bridge both across and between the broken ladder rungs while using NO CONNECTORS! Through their innovative and unconventional use of materials this team was able to suspend the two heaviest and largest weights from their bridge using pencils as a controller to create tension to hold the weights in place!

**Team Number:** 123-57271

**Affiliate:** Minnesota

**Organization:** Highland Catholic School

**School:**

**Award Kind:** renaissance

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** expertly crafting a shingle-style layering of alternating cardboard tubes and paper cups to create a water slide.

**Text:**

The Cardboard Conductors from Highland Catholic School impressed the Appraisal Team with their outstanding engineering. The team expertly crafted a shingle-style layering of alternating cardboard tubes and carefully shaped paper cups to ensure that no water escaped their water slide. They finished their build with two well-configured paper plates that directed water directly into the scoring container from a longer distance than usual. Additionally, they chose not use the bulkier materials, making for a riskier solution. Their attention to detail was evident throughout the entire Challenge. The Appraisers are proud to award an Instant Challenge Renaissance Award to this team for their skillful engineering.

**Team Number:** 141-68159

**Affiliate:** South Dakota

**Organization:** Huron Destination Imagination

**School:**

**Award Kind:** davinci

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** creating an unusual solution to transport water under a ramp and into the scoring container.

**Text:**

In an Instant Challenge that askee teams to create a water slide on top of a ramp, this team decided to do things differently. The team created a unique combination of rolled paper, cups, and cardboard tubes hanging from under a metal ramp with only paperclips. Although the water slide did not work at first, the team persevered, adding and adjusting materials until water was eventually transported into the container for scoring. Still not satisfied, the team shifted the materials to create an even better waterproof seal, finally directing the water for maximum score. Incredible risk-taking and overall creative application of the materials earned an Instant Challenge DaVinci Award for the Tool Sargeants from Huron Destination Imagination.

**Team Number:** 164-35282

**Affiliate:** Mexico

**Organization:** San Roberto International School

**School:** San Agustin

**Award Kind:** spirit

**Recipient Type:** team

**For:** Enthusiastic support of their fellow team members and their joyful embodiment of the purpose of DI.

**Text:**

This team truly captured the joy of Discovery and Imagination through their teamwork and attitudes in the Instant Challenge room. Their teamwork stood out while they worked though the Challenge presented to them, and they expressed so much joy as they solved it. Despite some difficulties with their solution, the team spent their time laughing, joking, and encouraging each other. They were having a wonderful time trying to solve the Instant Challenge; it was obvious to us that they genuinely just wanted to be here working together and were less worried about a perfect solution than they were about the experience.

This team came in as a smaller team with fewer hands and a language barrier. Assigning one of their three members to glove launching while the other two ran about celebrating all attempts--the misses and the wins--encouraging the tosser, and fetching the gloves. The Appraisers appreciated the preparatory sigh before a big throw and the way they celebrated the discovery of one last glove right before time ended. They were a pure joy to appraise, and made our day. This team reminded the Appraisers of why we do this, and left us talking about their embodiment of the purpose of Instant Challenge for days afterwards.