

## Destination ImagiNation Fact Sheet

### What is Destination ImagiNation?

- DI is a community-based, non-profit, volunteer-driven educational organization which teaches young people from Kindergarten through University-level the important skills needed for success in the 21st Century.
- DI works with over 250,000 children and young adults in all 50 states and over 40 countries each year.
- DI teaches the *processes* of Creative Problem Solving and teamwork.

### How does Destination ImagiNation Work?

- Teams of up to 7 members of the same age group work together over a period of 8-12 weeks to develop a solution to one of six competitive DI *Team Challenges*, each with a different education focus:
  - Technical and Mechanical Engineering
  - Science and Presentation
  - Theater, Literature, and Fine Arts
  - Improvisation and Research
  - Structural and Architectural Design
  - Community Service
- Local, regional and state Tournaments are held each spring culminating in the annual Global Finals Competition which brings together about 20,000 participants and volunteers at the University of Tennessee each May.
- During the course of the Tournament year, over 35,000 adult volunteers support DI serving as Team Managers, Appraisers, trainers, Tournament Directors, and Affiliate and Regional Directors.

### What are the Goals of DI?

- Foster creative and critical thinking
- Learn and apply Creative Problem Solving methods and tools
- Develop teamwork, collaboration and leadership skills
- Develop mutual self-respect
- Promote the recognition, use and development of strengths and talents
- Encourage competence in, enthusiasm for and commitment to real-life problem solving
- Nurture research and inquiry skills involving both exploration and attention to detail

