

# cre8iowa Support Newsletter

## Training information & support for Iowa's Destination ImagiNation® participants

This is the the text-only version of the online newsletter found at: <http://www.cre8iowa.blogspot.com>. Additional support links, including the Instant Challenge Library, may be accessed from the online newsletter.

Vol. 1, Issue 3

October 2007

### Registration information for Team Manager & Coordinator training

#### In this issue:

- Training registration opens for... 1  
Team Managers & Coordinators
- Pin & Shirt DIsign contest ideas. . . . . 2  
needed NOW!
- DISC Scholarship for High School. . . . . 2  
Seniors & College Students
- What to do during the first team. . . . . 2  
meetings
- Highlights of next issue. . . . . 3

#### Training registration opens for Team Managers & Coordinators

Training registration is now open for Team Managers, Coordinators and any adult who would like a “snapshot” of the Destination ImagiNation program. Whether you are brand new to the program, looking for new ideas to incorporate in your group meetings, or are just curious, this workshop will provide you with hands-on activities, ideas and information that you can use. Training for Team Managers and Coordinators is not required, but it sure does help!

New this year are sessions for Coordinators, Rising Stars! Team Managers, and Managers of

high school teams. Once more, cre8iowa will offer brand-new sessions for returning Team Managers and Coordinators.

Both workshops will be held at Ames Middle School. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m., and the workshop runs 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Bring your own lunch and beverage, or you can pre-order 2 slices of pizza and a drink during check-in.

If you wish, you may participate in the optional “Lunch With Your Buddy” program. New participants will be matched with an experienced participant and get acquainted over lunch, and will have the opportunity to extend that relationship during the program year. All “Lunch With Your Buddy” participants will receive a free *Instant Challenge* kit including materials.

The cost for this workshop experience is \$20 per person, or a single \$20 fee for Co-Managers of the same team. To guarantee that workshop materials will be available when you arrive, pre-registration and a non-refundable pre-payment are required. The registration and pre-payment deadlines are Nov. 5 for the workshop held on Nov. 10, and Nov. 26 for the workshop held on Dec. 1.

To register, print and complete the registration information found [here](#), and send with your \$20 check or signed purchase order made out to: Students for a Creative Iowa, c/o Judy Nolan, 3825 92nd Drive, Urbandale, IA 50322-2187.

Questions? Contact Judy Nolan at [judyolan@aol.com](mailto:judyolan@aol.com), or call 515-270-4514.

### **Pin & Shirt DIsign contest ideas needed NOW!**

Did you miss our September 30th contest deadline for pin and shirt design ideas? Never fear--you still have 2 more weeks (Oct. 18th) to submit your pin and/or shirt design ideas. The contest is now being opened to any interested participants. The winning individual(s) or team members will receive a free pin and T-shirt. Last year's winner was 6th grader Robert Lyons from Denison.

Submissions will be posted here for you to view. Then, you can vote for your favorite design(s)!

Send your pin and/or shirt design ideas to: Judy Nolan, 3825 92nd Drive, Urbandale, IA 50322-2187, or e-mail your digital design to [judyolan@aol.com](mailto:judyolan@aol.com). Full details about the [contest](#) may be found on the state Web site.

### **DISC Scholarship for High School Seniors & College Students**

The Destination ImagiNation Support Committee (DISC) has announced that \$10,000 in DISC Scholarship awards will be awarded during the 2007-08 program year to eligible students. The scholarship materials have been released and are now available on the [DISC Scholarship Pages](#). This scholarship is open to all high school seniors and post-secondary students who have participated as either a team member or volunteer in at least one of the Destination ImagiNation creative problem-solving programs, or are current participants.

Students are evaluated for their creativity and their involvement, not their GPA. As part of their application, they may choose to submit an electronic presentation, an essay or Internet content.

The deadline for the application is January 15, 2008. If you have questions, you may contact Chris Groberg or Nancy Kornegay, the scholarship co-chairs, at [ScholarshipChairs@idodi.org](mailto:ScholarshipChairs@idodi.org).

### **What to do during the first team meetings**

A typical team meeting, especially at the beginning of the program year, should be structured in three parts. Begin with a fun ice breaker, a warm-up or team building activity. Include a snack sometime during the meeting. Younger students may benefit from an early snack, especially if the meeting takes place right after school! A discussion of the Challenges and/or *Rules of the Road* (general rules) should take place, with the Team Manager facilitating that discussion, but NOT providing ideas or suggestions for the solution of any Challenge. Chart or record everything that students say, especially younger students, using their exact words. (Older students can do their own recording.) Finally, every meeting should include at least one *Instant Challenge* practice.

A word about *Instant Challenges*--you cannot practice these enough! There are two types of *Instant Challenge*--task-based and performance-based, although one could say there is also a third type of *Instant Challenge* that is a combination of the two. It is critical that you provide positive feedback after the team practices this type of on-the-spot problem-solving. Assist team members in building self-assessment skills by asking them to discuss what they think they did well, what they might do differently, and how they might score themselves. Then you need to address specific areas of improvement. This is NOT Interference!

Better yet, have the team repeat all or part of the *Instant Challenge* so that the team will gain a measure of skill in dealing with this type of challenge. Over time, team members will build a library of experiences from practicing *Instant Challenge* that will assist them in mastering the three cornerstones of the Destination ImagiNation program: creativity, teamwork and problem-solving. The skills they build will transfer over to the *Team Challenge* solution.

Your program materials include a set of nine practice *Instant Challenges*. In addition, you can visit the [cre8iowa Instant Challenge Library](#) and download challenges that are added each month. Some of the [Affiliate sites](#) also provide free Instant Challenges. Finally, you can visit [ShopDI](#) and purchase *Instant Challenge* books, CDs and kits.

### **Highlights of next issue**

- Instant Challenger team workshop information
- Team building ideas
- The difference between program and process