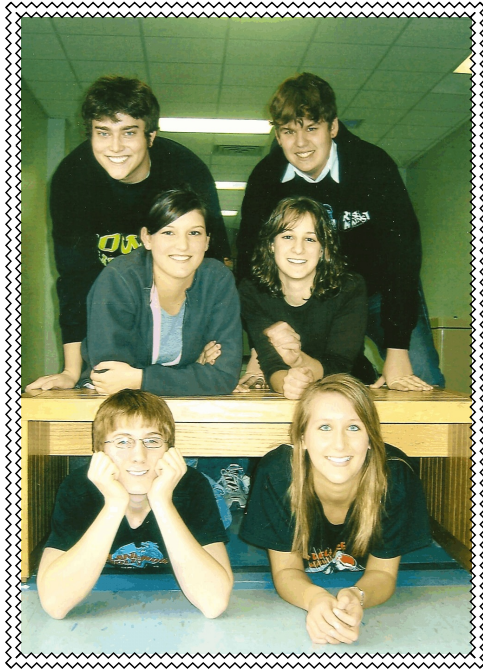


## Reasons to Be a Destination ImagiNation® Team Member: Iowa Participants Discuss What DI Means to Them



“Destination ImagiNation has been with me for so long that it is going to be strange not competing next year at Iowa State. Twelve years is a pattern that is difficult to end, but I’m so glad I participated while I could. My team(s) had their ups and downs through the years, but I won’t forget our fun memories and the creative and teamwork skills I’ve learned along the way. I wish more schools would see the potential in this activity, as it has done wonders in my life.”—Tessa Brow, Abraham Lincoln High School

“I’ve learned a lot from my experiences in Destination ImagiNation. I learned to come up with many different and unique approaches to solving problems. Destination ImagiNation taught me to not only think outside the box, but to come up with solutions that are so far out of the box I cannot even see the box anymore. Destination Imagination also helped me to think quick on my feet and work well with others to combine all our ideas to make a successful end product. Destination ImagiNation improves quick thinking, creativity, leadership, problem solving skills, teamwork and sportsmanship.”—Kristyn Leinen, Denison Community High School

“Though my teams didn’t win much, I learned a lot about time management (accomplishing what needed to be accomplished in available practice and presentation time), money management (buying props and materials), basic set design (how to make a refrigerator box stand up by itself) and, of course, creative problem solving. I think that winning wouldn’t have taught me these skills; through trial and error of different methods, I found solutions that worked for me.”—Hannah Kane, Davenport West High School





“I think one of the most significant things I learned is the importance of welcoming input from a variety of people. I like the fact that Destination ImagiNation welcomes all students and doesn’t limit participation by grade point or any other artificial sorting mechanism. My team members brought different experiences, viewpoints, talents and ideas to the table while solving the challenges. The mix of diverse skills and ideas were what made

our teams successful. This willingness to be open to others’ ideas and take all information under consideration will definitely be important my entire life.”—Ethan Marolf, West Delaware High School

“The greatest thing I have learned from DI is an appreciation for creativity and how things work. I now have a great respect for engineers because I know how much planning and hard work go into even the smallest of things. I know how easy it is to get an idea and see it clearly in your head, and I know how much harder it is to actually do it. However, anything is possible if you take that extra step and work for it. I have learned the importance of planning and organizing. DI has also taught me basic skills such as sewing and tool handling. Working with others has taught me teamwork. I know how to write and perform plays as well as make them up on the spot. I see ordinary things in a whole new way and I know how to apply all these skills to make things work and solve problems creatively.”—Erin Peeler, Indianola High School

