

California Destination Imagination State Finals Special Awards 2019

Spirit of DI

Super Six EL Monster Effects
105-34666 TM: Michael Estrella
Goleta

Team came together to overcome a major structural problem successfully in the nick of time.

The team encountered a problem with their structure regarding their trigger and their single freestanding structure. In 15 minutes, they completely solved a problem together that was deemed un-solvable and came up with a very smart solution.

Da Vinci

Gotta Roll! EL Heads Up
105-54171 TM: Jin Hwang
Arcadia

This team demonstrated a high level of creativity from the start with a cleverly choreographed team cheer to the finish of the nonverbal Improv. They had a clear development of the story line through the tale into the flip. The genre flip was wonderful and convincing. It was a larger group than others and that takes focus, teamwork and extraordinary dedication. Even their sign showed many examples of rolling! Even though they could not talk, their sound effects lent another level of creativity. They were standouts in every way.

Renaissance

Rise UP ML Escape Artists
105-18722 TM: Lynn Harrison-Benavidez
Roseville

We like the unique approach the team chose by selling custom printed water bottles to raise funds. They used creative ways to design their costumes using game boards and used pizza boxes that were sold for fundraising.

Da Vinci

Discord ML On Target
105-58255 TM: William Hodson
South Pasadena

This team really "blew it." Literally! They created a truly unique vehicle which not only lifted their aircraft successfully, but also lifted the audience's spirits.

Details:

After trial and error, they came up with an aircraft of 4 balloons that was lifted by the air force from 4 fans attached to a rolling vehicle guided by guiding rope. They put a lot of thought into each component of their solution. The aircraft comprised of a body attached to 4 balloons and was weighted on the front end to ensure

forward motion throughout. The vehicle was powered by a timed motor and guided by a rope via a pulley system underneath the vehicle. There were 4 fans attached which created enough lift to carry the aircraft, but not too much to lose control. They were lined up perfectly with the balloons. Under the middle of the aircraft was a hole which allowed the payload to drop successfully. They also attached the control for the servo motor which dropped the payload as part of the vehicle. The vehicle was also aesthetically pleasing by using decorations to hide the wiring.

Not only did these components come together beautifully in their solution but they also came together to solve the challenge successfully. It was very obvious that they took time, effort, and ingenuity to solve this challenge.

Renaissance

Heavy Metal Fortune Tellers ML Monster Effects
105-12415 TM: Edward Vinson
Fresno

This team used a 3D printing to create a working violin that closely resembles a real violin. It took 3 attempts before creating a working violin. They also composed and played an original song.

Renaissance

DInamites EL Monster Effects
105-93104 TM: Aparajeeta Ghosh
Dublin

This team won our hearts and minds with a beautiful presentation and inspiring message. They demonstrated considerable effort and dedication with their detailed props, costumes, and set pieces.

All costumes were colorful, well thought out, and made use of upcycled materials, e.g. dress made of spoons, starfish made of bottle caps, monster costume made of blue rubber gloves. The attention to detail in their set and props blew us away! Their moral inspired us to love the ocean and protect it, as they do. Their effort and preparation deserve high praise and recognition.

Spirit of DI

PINK SL Medical Mystery
105-54277 TM: Karen Beaudin
Arroyo Grande

DI is getting tech savvy and humane with virtual team members and team members working to humane causes. They went well above what was asked for.

Details:

This team went over and above helping others in unique ways: using Facetime technology to include a fellow team member living in Virginia with an active role in "Real Time" during the presentation.

In addition, this team learned about others in need in Guatemala through their DI experience and donated supplies like blankets to Guatemala.

The team was invited to go to the medical clinic in Guatemala but did not go because it did not want to miss school, plus it would be very expensive. Great Spirit of DI??

Renaissance

Don't Breathe EL Medical Mystery
105-98402 TM: Brandy Lindstrom
Newcastle

Overall this team did a fantastic job over all aspects of the Challenge. It was a Blast From the Past!

- 1) Excellent attention to detail.
- 2) The performance (acting) was very good.
- 3) The flow of the whole act was very good
- 4) The background music was appropriate and good.
- 5) Combine the above for an unforgettable act.

Da Vinci

Kinetic Kids EL Medical Mystery
105-19142 TM: Dennis Wang
San Ramon

Using two connected balloons to act as an air pump, which represented heart beating, was quite innovative and unique. The team used a unique concept for the symptomatic:

- 1) They basically used a balloon enclosed in paper to represent a heart.
- 2) Further they connected that balloon to another balloon through a tube. Both the balloons were filled up with air.
- 3) Then, one of the team members stepped on the balloon and stepped off. That would blow in and blow out air from the heart balloon making it look like it was beating. Thus, the idea of using two connected balloons and stepping on it with flat feet to accomplish what they wanted is quite creative and unique.

Renaissance

Slices and D-Ices EL On Target
105-16888 TM: Jessica Arlett
South Pasadena

With an innovative, team-built drone and payloads, a honey brussels sprouts farm that transformed into fire and then into a lake and river, fish that moved tails, fins and eyes on servo motors and Arduinos, a funny and moving story line and great stage presence, this team thoroughly impressed each and every appraiser.

This team's story was presented with great ease and stage presence. Their aircraft, a completely self-built drone, did not work because of a small technical glitch, but its (and the payload's) design was very viable and unconventional. But the most spectacular parts were their choice elements. The farm transformed itself mechanically with simple levels. It grew honey brussels sprouts which dropped down when fire sprang up. When water extinguished the fire, a lake formed, then a waterfall and river sprang from the side. All this in one single easily moveable prop. In the aquatic scene the fish moved fins, tails and eyes, and the jellyfish quivered their tentacles, all powered with servo motors and programmed with Arduinos. Together with a story both funny and touching, this was a performance that impressed each and every appraiser.

Renaissance

FireBird SL Game On
105-36421 TM: Mia Dodson
San Ramon

What do you get when you cross pistachio shells with hand welded cutlery and metal teeth with political song and dance? You get a bird on fire!!

This team created two detailed sculptures representing the game and conspiracy theories. They created an elaborate container that transformed from a game box into a stage where they sang and danced their way into the Renaissance!

Renaissance

Highly Addictive ML Game On
105-45341 TM: Dan Smith
San Diego

Using a cross-discipline approach to storytelling that incorporated history, psychology, chemistry, electrical and mechanical engineering, this team displayed the addictive effects of gambling on the human brain. The giant "Face/Brain" model that was built by the team showed articulating facial expression and neurological effects in real time in concert with the actors in the performance.

Details:

This team chose to focus their performance on the game of slot machines. They went above and beyond by also linking the history of gambling psychology and gambling addiction to their performance. The giant "Face/Brain" model was instrumental to this process. The face got happy and mad with the protagonist using mechanical engineering. The brain lit up with neural pathways using electrical engineering. The brain also displayed dopamine pathways using chemical reactions. This multifaceted creation was as effective in storytelling as it was astounding to behold.

Da Vinci

Heart and Soul ML Game On
105-00331 TM: Christine Kessel
San Ramon

The team approached all facts of this challenge with an unparalleled level of creativity. In particular, they solved their lack of a male love interest actor by building their own. The mannequin "Antonio" had full articulation in his arm, mouth, eyes, and spinning surfboard. This team solved a casting problem through expert puppetry.

Details:

The mannequin Antonio was the love interest of the protagonist. His arm moved, mouth spoke, eyes rolled, and surfboard spun in order to convey a range of emotions. This mechanical engineering prowess was surpassed only by the team's creative approach.