

International Ambassadors

DOMESTIC TEAMS WANTED FOR INTERNATIONAL AMBASSADORS!

Destination ImagiNation, Inc. offers Global Finals' teams from the United States and Canada the opportunity to serve as on-campus International Ambassadors to International Teams participating in Global Finals. It is our wish to provide a warm welcome to these teams as they travel to the USA, many for the first time. We would like the International Ambassadors to welcome their International Teams upon arrival at the University of Tennessee, escort them around campus, to meals and special events, and perhaps even schedule some group activities.

The International Ambassadors Application Form (page G-8 in the Forms and Flyers section of this Guide) has several questions that will be used to assist us in the matching process. There are no "preferred" answers. It's OK if no one traveling with your team speaks any other language: most often some members of an International Team speak English. The most important factor is your willingness to share your experiences and your friendship with another team who has selected the same Challenges as you!

When filling out the application, please print all information as clearly as possible using black ink (these forms are often faxed from the national office to the International Ambassador Coordinator and can easily become fuzzy in transmission). If you have special concerns, feel free to attach a note to the application.

You will be notified as soon as possible if a team has been selected as your partner; however, we often do not have information on our international teams until the week of the Global Finals event! Since this is more often the case, we ask all International Ambassador applicants to be prepared for both possibilities: to be an International Ambassador, and to not be an International Ambassador. Teams who have been ambassadors in the past have given us some tips that they found to be helpful. We've attached those tips for your preparation, but ask that you not expend so much energy or money on these that you will be upset should circumstances prevent a one-on-one International Ambassador experience this year.

We hope to have assignments made in early May, and all teams notified of their status by the second week of May.

Thank you for considering sharing your excitement, skill, and wonder with our International guests and for opening your world to theirs.

Sincerely,
International Ambassadors Coordinator

Comments To International Ambassador Applicants from Past Years' Ambassadors

Advice for future International Ambassadors from the respondents:

1. Bring plenty of "goody bags" from home with mementos from this country...items from the State Capitol, your school, your town hall, local businesses. Often items are given free with advance request.
2. Bring extra pins.
3. Learn each other's schedules in advance.
4. Meet on Wednesday.
5. Have a profile of the team prior to the event (names, e-mail, schedule of performance).

Disadvantages to being International Ambassadors:

1. Feeling tied down to two schedules rather than just one; one more thing for the Team Manager to schedule.
2. There can be some personality conflicts.
3. All members of our "international" team were from the U.S. (attending school in another country), a disappointment to the kids.

Advantages to being an International Ambassador:

1. Gives kids a team to cheer for and compare results to see that "not winning" didn't mean "bad job."
2. Fantastic cultural exchange; some members of our team had never left our state. The highlight of our trip; global feeling on a personal level.
3. Knowing, learning, and sharing the ropes.

Global Finals International Ambassador Application

DOMESTIC TEAMS ONLY

Please fill out with black ink.

Member Name: _____

Membership #: _____

Challenge: _____

Level: _____

State/Province: _____

Team Manager to contact for Ambassador details:

Team Manager Mailing Address/City/State/Zip:

Team Manager E-mail: _____

Team Manager Telephone Numbers

Day: _____ Evening: _____

Please complete the following team information. Please print using black ink. Please list names, age, and gender for all team members, and names for all Team Managers and supporters (parents, chaperones, etc). In the "Participant Type" column, please specify team member, Team Manager, or supporter.

Team Information:

Participant	Age	Gender	Participant Type
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Have any of the Team Managers been to a Global Finals event before?

Yes No If yes, how many times, and in what role (Team Manager, parent, participant, guest...)?

Will you be able to arrive at Global Finals before lunch on Wednesday (the day of the Opening Ceremonies)?

Yes No Please list estimated arrival day and time:

Are you planning on having your own ground transportation at Global Finals?

Yes No If yes, please list mode of transportation (i.e., car, bus, van, etc.):

Do any of the people planning on traveling with your team speak a language other than English?

Yes No If yes, please specify the language(s):

We will attempt to match International Ambassadors with other teams from the same Challenge and Level. Please discuss this with your team in advance of sending in your International Ambassador application.

Destination ImagiNation, Inc. has member organizations across the globe; however, not all countries participating in Destination ImagiNation are able to send teams to Global Finals. Many times, travel plans and visas are issued at the last minute. We ask all teams who consider being an International Ambassador to understand the following:

1. We will notify you by e-mail that we have received your application to be an International Ambassador.
2. We will notify you by e-mail if you have been assigned a preliminary International Ambassador.
3. We will notify you by e-mail if you are on a waiting list for assignment. You will then be asked to confirm if you want to remain on the waiting list, or if you would like to remove your name.
4. We will send you all information we have regarding your International team as soon as we have it. However, it often happens that we have little information prior to arriving at the Global Finals site.
5. We ask all teams who have been notified with an assignment or who are on the waiting list to review the "International Ambassador tips" from previous teams and be understanding of the short notice possibilities. An international team may arrive or cancel its attendance with little forewarning.

Please return this form to:
Destination ImagiNation, Inc.
Attn: International Ambassadors
P.O. Box 547
Glassboro, NJ 08028
Fax: 856-881-3596