

Team Number: 750-84587
Affiliate: Texas
Organization: Independent
Team Challenge: Daring Escape - SL
Award Kind: Renaissance
Recipient: Team
For: outstanding artistic animation of individual hand-drawn images conveying an important story of value, even in a landfill

Text:
This team's message about the value of discarded items was personified by their main characters, who were portrayed in three different ways. We first saw the characters in an opening animation, where each frame was meticulously hand drawn and each sprite had unique and changing expressions. At the same time, the team gave a perfectly timed narration that seamlessly transitioned into our live-action view of the characters. Then they switched our view to the characters as the Daring Devices, which worked to escape their fate in the landfill, proving that even old items can retain exceptional value.

Team Number: 105-78572
Affiliate: California
Organization: South Pasadena
Team Challenge: Daring Escape - ML
Award Kind: DaVinci
Recipient: Team
For: using six unique technical methods to create emotional support robots successfully able to navigate a MAZE of Hazards.

Text:
This middle level team created two Daring Devices, each with three unique Technical Methods, making for a total of six specialized ways to overcome the team's difficult Hazards. This aMAZE-ing Daring Device successfully, and independently navigated, a maze-style Hazard of moving walls by touch and color sensing. The device also used magnets and more touch sensors to search for a hidden key in a spinning Hazard. Finally, this Daring Device used a magnet-activated automated extending cantilever to easily cross a large Hole Hazard. The team's other Daring Device, which used no electricity, employed magnets to search for the hidden key, an automatic bridge, and finally its horizontal wheels to traverse the walls of the Hole Hazard.

Team Number: 750-13966

Affiliate: Texas
Organization: Sweetwater ISD
Team Challenge: Tricky Tales - EL
Award Kind: Renaissance
Recipient: Team
For: their knockout Illusion and charming Presentation in which they showed that pigs really can fly!

Text:

Do pigs fly? With this team's illusion, they do! Their illusion was a knockout highlight in a charming performance. This team's Presentation was, in a word, charming. When pigs are invited to a barnyard's bacon festival, of course there are going to be problems! But the moment that really brought the Presentation home for the Appraisers was when the statement "when pigs fly" was followed by actually seeing it in person! The expertly performed and timed Illusion tricked even the Appraisers into thinking they were seeing a pig take off over the fence. By appearing to levitate with both feet far above the ground, we weren't sure how the pig was flying, but we knew it was. The Illusion also fit perfectly into the script at the peak of the battle between the barnyard creatures. Let's just settle on a veggie festival and let all the barnyard animals live in peace and harmony!

Team Number: 123-05622

Affiliate: Minnesota

Organization: Wayzata Schools

Team Challenge: For The Future - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: A multi-faceted technical device and humorous video game that together demonstrated solutions to school violence.

Text:

Complex technical design, real-life video games, a tendency to choke on twinkies – what do all of these elements have in common? They came together in this team's solution in a way that both managed to convey the seriousness of school shootings while also demonstrating possible solutions and integrating levity to the storytelling. This video game story was infused with humor through narration, characters, and non-player characters, with the characters stuck on a particular level where they keep dying and needing to reset -- be it from the school shooting or a twinkie mishap! This polished and funny presentation included extensive research and statistics about school shootings and plans for how to combat this serious issue. These plans included use of RFID tags on all weapons that would trigger school lockdowns and summon police based on proximity. A culminating moment in the Presentation featured a set with an Arduino device that was activated by an RFID tag and split to operate two different mechanical devices. These devices simultaneously and smoothly closed the school door in one set piece and set a police car in motion to respond to the situation on a pulley in another set piece. The technical design of this emergency response was complex and elegant, and paired with the video game presentation created a well-designed package.

Team Number: 750-54770
Affiliate: Texas
Organization: Fort Bend ISD
Team Challenge: For The Future - SL
Award Kind: Renaissance
Recipient: Team
For: A twisted turn on a Lewis Carroll classic story and a saline switch on a metal circuit.

Text:

We thought we knew Lewis Carroll's fictional world, until this team's Presentation started. Absurdity took on dark undertones as the callous change of pacemakers into spacemakers, the secrecy around the pursuit of power, and the fact that all this was presented so well filled us with dread. That one line "off with your heads" made our real world a warm and cheery place by comparison. This team not only won over the hearts of the Appraisers, but also the minds. This team's multifunctional backdrop sent Malice tumbling from the second-story of their set and then split apart like a broken heart to reveal an unlit map of Wonderland. Oftentimes on teams' props, electrical wires web the back of a set spinning motors and turning on lights. An AED has nothing on the shock Appraisers felt when they went to the back of this team's set and an empty tube connected a dozen LED lights. Instead of a metal wire, the circuit was completed with salt water running through the empty tube as a conductor. Thank you for reviving our hearts and minds with your innovative and heartwarming solution.

Team Number: 106-37250
Affiliate: Colorado
Organization: Independent
Team Challenge: Roll With It - UL
Award Kind: Renaissance
Recipient: Team
For: their depiction of a galloping nuggle with a magical golden swan.

Text:

This team started in the Launch Area, riding what looked like a cardboard horse. The Appraisers soon found out that it was actually a "nuggle." The team was able to gallop this creature into the Presentation Area with realistic-looking actuating legs that were triggered by a complex system of wires, gears, and pulleys. Through a magical transformation, the nuggle was able to re-feather and animate a complex 3D golden swan that was created entirely out of cardboard.

Team Number: 105-94584

Affiliate: California
Organization: Breaking BEARriers
Team Challenge: Up Close - SL
Award Kind: Renaissance
Recipient: Team
For: building a fully working elevator using a pulley system that literally took their Presentation to another level.

Text:
In a move the Appraisers couldn't ant-ticipate, this team built an elegant and fully working elevator lift hidden inside their forest scenery. With an impeccable design that utilized the mechanical advantages of a double pulley system, they were able to easily lift a team member several feet off the ground. The team had prophesized that the ant would ascend, but we never expected to see it happen quite so literally.

Team Number: 750-31023

Affiliate: Texas

Organization: Harvest Christian Academy

Team Challenge: Up Close - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: a hilarious performance that teased the Appraisers and finally resolved Grandpa's reindeer-induced trauma.

Text:
This team's hilarious and creative Presentation brought the Appraisers to tears. You might say there's no such thing as humor, but as for the Appraisers, we believe! Their red and white blood cell costumes used materials creatively and their Visual Effect was a serious adrenaline rush. The team did not "duck" from making fun of the Appraisers and we enjoyed being the target of their comedy. Grandma may have gotten run over by a reindeer, but in the end the reindeer got run down by Grandpa.

Team Number: 134-97766

Affiliate: New York

Organization: Lynwood ES

Team Challenge: Tricky Tales - EL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: Their design, engineering, impeccable execution, and razor sharp understanding of the Instant Challenge.

Text:

This team wowed the appraisers with their impeccable execution, use of materials and razor-sharp understanding of the challenge. Their lightning-quick design proved to be extremely successful.

Team Number: 750-71045

Affiliate: Texas

Organization: Wylie ISD, Abilene

Team Challenge: For The Future - ML

Award Kind: torchbearer

Recipient: Team

For: founding a problem-solving program, raising over \$11,000, and bringing Destination Imagination to Rwandan children.

Text:

Many teams embody the tenets of Destination Imagination, creativity, kindness, and innovation, but few teams take an active role in promoting these skills and paying their DI experience forward. This team brought Destination Imagination to a potential new Affiliate as part of their Project. By partnering with Rwanda Children Christian School in Ntarama, Rwanda, this team helped implement a creative problem-solving program in the school through introducing Instant Challenges to the students. Their ongoing collaboration with the school set the groundwork for Destination Imagination's first teams from Rwanda. This summer, members of the team will be traveling to Rwanda to host a science, technology, engineering, art, and math camp for students and continue to learn about Rwandan culture, language, and dance. As if their educational programming was not enough, the team also raised over \$11,000 for this cause through Amazon smile, partnering with a local car dealership, and collecting donations from local businesses and community members.

Team Number: 750-78410

Affiliate: Texas

Organization: Lubbock ISD

Team Challenge: For The Future - EL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: A fast-paced and funny solution that juggled humor, technology and art while inspiring others to care for their elders.

Text:

This team kept a brisk pace with their Presentation, but executed OWL elements of the Challenge with clarity and precision. To top it off, they were a HOOT. They used every D.C. second of their time to their advantage. While air, water, and mechanical energy powered a device on one side of the stage, a colorless tree slowly transformed in the middle, and two elderly people regained their senses on the other side of the stage. Owls from outer space traveled from past to present and side to side, singing songs and solving problems, giving the elders their eyesight, hearing, and mobility back. The kindness from their deeds transformed the kindness tree and the alien owl helpers. As they did more good deeds, the owlettes changed from white to multicolored.

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Team Number: 145-34552

Affiliate: Virginia

Organization: none

Team Challenge: Roll With It - ML

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: their hamster wheel xylophone music box.

Text:

Through technical programming and coding, this team utilized a light sensor mechanism that could sense the presence of their hamster in order to trigger their Rotating Object. The code caused a cascade of events which involved their wheel spinning and playing a phenomenal xylophone tune. The thumb tacks strategically placed on the wheel triggered 3D levels in perfect harmony.Â

Team Number: 750-96884

Affiliate: Texas

Organization: Brownsville ISD

Team Challenge: Roll With It - EL

Award Kind: DaVinci

Recipient: Team

For: out of the ordinary uses of recycled materials to deliver a true old fashioned wild west town experience.

Text: This team took us back to the Old West, with a story of two outlaw sisters that knew how to deceive. The Appraisers couldn't believe how the team transformed plastic bottles, coffee filters, cardboard, and other recycled materials into artfully crafted costumes, props, and set pieces that brought the Wild West to life! Â The creative work of design was out of this world!Â

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Team Number: 106-38160

Affiliate: Colorado

Organization: Heritage High School

Team Challenge: Roll With It - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: reeling in the Appraisers with a whopper of a fish story!

Text: The Appraisers were hooked by a legendary fishing tale told by grandpa to his two grandsons while out fishing in a canoe.Â With each story repeat, the canoe physically grew, the number of holes increased, and the story turned into a real legend! As weights were added to the Structure, the weight of the fish grew to correlate to the weight held, masterfully intergrating the Structure Testing into the story. Specific words triggered sound effects throughtout the story, resulting in a wonderful Presenation that really reeled in the Apprasiers!Â

Team Number: 750-43715

Affiliate: Texas

Organization: Conroe ISD

Team Challenge: Daring Escape - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: A Broadway-esque Presentation whose overall theatrical effects moved the Appraisal Team through time and to tears.

Text: This team's Presentation was utterly magnificent. Start with the team-written music and lyrics to a full

8-minute musical, then throw in fantastic performances from the cast, who were both performing and telling the story of their team's DI journey over the years, supported by their Timekeeper character. Their rotating backdrops not only were beautifully made but they advanced the story with each scene change. The Appraisal Team was literally in tears by the time this memorable Presentation ended.

Team Number: 148-11919

Affiliate: Wisconsin

Organization: Sevastopol

Team Challenge: Roll With It - ML

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: slithering through a booby-trapped temple.

Text:

From the moment this team walked on stage the Appraisers knew that this Presentation would be a true gem. The team crafted remarkable scenery using recycled can tabs and bottle corks in order to create an elaborate ancient temple that hid functional booby traps that the team encountered on their journey. The teams' props exhibited legendary technical design as the explorers encountered a swinging blade, a dangerous pit of fire, and a booby-trapped coffin meant to dissuade the characters from the true treasure of the Presentation--a perpetual motion machine. The teams' Rotating Object demonstrated a remarkable understanding of magnetism and electricity through their photo optic eye.

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Team Number: 750-95506

Affiliate: Texas

Organization: Northwest ISD

Team Challenge: Roll With It - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: an elemental throne that brought disasters to life.

Text:

What a disaster! Ice! Fire! Snowstorms! Tornados! This team had it all! The team artfully designed an ice and fire throne that brought their disasters to life. This whirlwind Presentation left the Appraisers dizzy as the team-created tornado costume whizzed by while lava spewed into the air, propelled by air cannons from within the throne! The elements of this Presentation made it truly legendary!

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Team Number: 750-22702

Affiliate: Texas

Organization: Northside ISD

Team Challenge: Tricky Tales - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: an astounding attention to detail in the creation of an 8ft puppet and infinity mirror.

Text: From their 8ft puppet deity to their infinity mirror, this team captivated us with astounding attention to detail.Â The team redefined quality and workmanship with over 200 hours worth of hand-combed yarn fur, a 3d printed dragon head, fully articulated claws, and an Illusion that stood out for itâ€™s originality and execution.Â Every aspect of their Presentation was masterfully designed and crafted, incorporating live voice modification, twirling interactive set pieces, and fantastic sound effects.Â Their Costume Transformation was truly unique, incorporating a Jacobâ€™s ladder and advanced theater tech to instantly change between two colors.Â

Team Number: 147-61870

Affiliate: Washington

Organization: Mercer Island Schools

Team Challenge: Tricky Tales - SL

Award Kind: Renaissance

Recipient: Team

For: singing their way into our hearts with a musical extravaganza that left the audience begging for an encore.

Text: This team sang and danced their way into our hearts from the very moment time began. Through the power of song, this team walked us through the tale of a mailman, wrongfully accused of dessert-based murder he did not commit. With a poisoned cookie used as a tool for revenge, this fast-paced, humorous Presentation featured detectives, cowboys, and poets singing their side of the story in a non-stop journey through thoughtfully crafted musical styles. A trail of cookie crumbs revealed that the detective committed the murder, acquitting the innocent mailman. Â It was a true musical extravaganza that left the audience begging for an encore.

Team Number: 105-10268

Affiliate: California

Organization: Light Bulbs

Team Challenge: Tricky Tales - ML

Award Kind: DaVinci

Recipient: Team

For: a creative Presentation involving mathematics, an operation room, and technical elements.

Text:

This team added an operation room + mathematics + a toilet flapper with dumbbells and it equals a daVinci award! The Trickster, identified as Zero, turned ordinary arithmetic into advanced algebraic operations. This team's hilarious and perfectly choreographed Presentation took us through exponents, factorials, and the dangers of dividing by zero. The team's curtains opened and closed by a continuously rotating servo and 3D belt printer, and the soundtrack used a Shepard tone that sounds like the pitch keeps going higher and higher but really is going down at the end of each cycle. Their calculations were right on point, we loved they way they operate!

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