

DIaLOGue

July 16, 2005 - Director's Message
Hot Destination ImagiNation News from your Affiliate Director

Hi again NY-DIers!

I hope you are all having a wonderful summer and are eagerly awaiting news of our new 2005 DI Season! Your NY-DI organization has some wonderful and exciting news to share as you enjoy these lazy summer days.

Please help me in wishing Seth Davis, the new Regional Director for the Eastern Region the very best as he takes on this new role. The NY-DI Board and I have complete confidence that Seth will be a fantastic RD and will continue to improve our program offerings in the region and the State. We look forward to working with Seth and offer him all the resources of our organization to realize his goal of bringing DI to every student who dreams....

We also want to congratulate and wish Noel Allen the very best of luck as the new duly elected NY-DI Board member from the Eastern Region.

Please feel free to contact any of the NY-DI Board members, RDs or myself with any suggestions, ideas, comments or concerns. You can find contact information for each NY-DI Board member on our website. Simply go to our homepage at <http://nydi.org> and click "NY DI Governing Board" on the website menu. You can find complete contact information about your Regional Directors, and the latest news from each of the Regions at our website on the "Regional, Contacts, Dates and Information" page.

I would be remiss if I did not also thank Sheryl Goldberg for her assistance in polling of the Eastern Regional passport memberships regarding election of a new Board member and nomination of your new Regional Director. This task would have been much more difficult without her help.

CHALLENGE RELEASE:

The International Destination ImagiNation, Inc. Board of Trustees has made some changes in the way that the Challenges will be released. Here is the information we have from DI, Inc. headquarters:

- * The 2004-2005 Challenges will be released only to our Passport holders starting 9/1/04. They will *not* be available in their entirety freely as has been done in the past.
- * An extended version of a Challenge Synopsis has been issued and published on our NY-DI website for those who would be interested in program participation. Simply go to our website home page and click on "2004-2005 Challenge Previews" on the website menu.
- * Access to Challenges and all programmatic information will be granted only after payment, in the form of purchase order, check or credit card to the DI, Inc., headquarters office in New Jersey. You can find the combined New York/International Passport Application on our NY-DI website by going to our homepage and clicking "2004-2005 Passport Registration Form now Available" in the Latest News section of the homepage.
- * Individuals, schools, community groups and/or other organizations will have the option of buying our program materials on line – using DIONline - at a designated cost. (i.e. each Challenge, \$25,

relating programmatic materials the same cost) Should any of the above later decide to join, monies paid will be credited towards membership in the program.

* A letter will be issued from DI, Inc. to all schools/community groups, etc. that have traditionally used our materials without joining encouraging them to join and likewise informing them of continued use as a copyright violation.

* Once again we will be offering registration using DIONline for those who wish to register electronically.

WEBSITE UPDATE:

Many of you have already noticed that our website at <http://nydi.org> is looking a lot cleaner and easier to navigate. In the coming months you will be seeing a wealth of information appear on our website about our program. The website is generally updated at least once a week during the DI season so it's a great idea to spend some time getting familiar with its contents. I suggest that once you have started your DI Season you check our website weekly for new information.

Do you think you missed something? No need to worry! You can always find archived information in our Newsletter Archive (just click on our Website menu). But now you can also make sure you get all of our e-mailed updates! Go to our homepage and click on "Click here and send to be included in all NY-DI Mailings".

2005 TOURNAMENTS UPDATE:

The dates for both the Eastern and Western Regional Tournaments for 2005 have been posted to our website. Just go to the IMPORTANT DATES section of the homepage just below the website menu or check out the Regional Information page! The Eastern Regional Tournament will be held on Saturday, March 5th and the Western Regional Tournament will be held on Saturday, March 12th 2005. The tentative date for our 2005 NY State Tournament is April 9th 2005 (we are awaiting final approval from our host site but otherwise this date is firm).

NY-DI NEEDS YOU! :

It's not too early to start thinking about the ways in which you might be able to help us provide an even better experience for all of our great NY-DI Kids! We need your help to start looking for great Appraisers for ALL of our tournaments! You can find the 2005 Appraiser application form on our website at <http://nydi.org/2005AppraiserForm.pdf> or simply go to our homepage and click on "2005 Appraiser Application now available" in the Latest News section of the homepage. Please copy this form and the Challenge Summaries to anyone you feel would make a great Appraiser! There are a few requirements for Appraisers – they must be 18 years of age and out of High School, and they must have a genuine intellectual curiosity, belief in kids, sense of humor and excitement for creativity!

Your Regional Director can also use your help if you would like to volunteer some time at your Regional tournament in a non-Appraisal position. We are always on the lookout for folks willing to help out for an hour, a morning, or the whole day! Please contact your Regional Director to find out ways in which you can become more involved in making your DI tournament a success for every team!

THE 2005 JOURNEY STARTS HERE :

On behalf of the NY-DI Board, and the International Destination ImagiNation program, I want to thank you for your dedication to the kids of NY State and to teaching them the art and skill of creative problem solving. Your choice of the Destination ImagiNation program is one that we are sure will meet the needs of your students. We are dedicated to providing you with the most responsive and membership driven program available in the world today. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions we want to hear from you! Please contact me, or your RD, or any NY-DI Board member with your ideas. The skills we teach through participation in the DI process can truly change the world.... one child at a time. As we anticipate the wonderful season ahead let us each rededicate ourselves to working together to facilitate that positive change.

Cre8ively Yours,
Dee Urban, Affiliate Director
Destination ImagiNation of New York
e-mail: deeurban@adelphia.net
telephone: 716-675-7566