

# Event Guide for 2026

## Oregon Affiliate Finals Tournament

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### Oregon Affiliate Finals Tournament MARCH 14, 2026

**When:** approximate: 9:30 am to 4:00 pm

**Where:** Evergreen Middle School, 456 NE Evergreen Blvd, Hillsboro

*Image description: top picture shows Evergreen Blvd, West bound, with the entrance to Evergreen Middle School on left.*



*Picture below is the driveway entry to Evergreen Middle School, with the parking lot and main buildings*

Public transportation to this site is available via Tri-Met, Route 46, that stops directly across from the entrance to the school.

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## What is This Resource?

An event guide (sometimes called an access guide, building guide, accessibility guide, or visiting guide) is a resource that highlights details of an upcoming event through photos, descriptions, and other helpful information. This resource is intended to help you plan your tournament day! Tournament questions can be directed to the Affiliate Director, Brenda Crouser. Her email is [ad@oregondi.org](mailto:ad@oregondi.org).



## Team Challenges



*Image description: A black and white pictogram of a team in a huddle formation.*

Throughout the event, Destination Imagination (DI) teams will be presenting their work on a **Team Challenge**. The Team Challenge falls into one of seven categories: Technical, Scientific, Fine Arts, Improvisational, Engineering, Service Learning, or Early Learning. You can learn more about this year's Team Challenges [on the DI website](#). Each Team Challenge has its own Presentation Site, or rooms specific to the Challenge. The size, seating options, and acoustics will vary greatly by Presentation Site.

Each team has an assigned **Presentation** time for Team Challenge. The March schedule can be found on pages 5-10 of the document titled **2026 ORDI AFFILIATE FINALS PROGRAM FINAL** available after March 9, 2026.

Teams should have any props, costumes, set pieces, etc. unpacked in the designated prep area and arrive at the Presentation Site at least 20 minutes prior to the assigned time in order to begin the check in process in the Prep Area. Teams participating in the Engineering Challenge may require extra time to check in parts of their solutions. In the Prep Area, the team will work with the Prep Area Appraiser to check in all of the props, costumes, and anything else that will be used in the team's Presentation. Only the team members and the Team Manager (their adult mentor) are allowed in the Prep Area. The **Presentation** is when the team members present how they solved their Team Challenge in front of an audience and a team of Appraisers (scoring officials).

A team's Presentation lasts eight minutes or less. The content of team Presentations will vary greatly, but it is likely you will see stories, scenery, costumes, and technical elements created by the team members. It is common for a team's Presentation to include lights, possibly including strobe lights and/or flashing lights. Team

Presentations often include loud noises or music. However, most Presentation sites do NOT have sound systems, so it may be hard to hear the team. Audience members are welcome to laugh or applaud as they see fit.

## EXAMPLES OF PRESENTATION SITES



*Image description: example of a Presentation sites. The first is an elementary school gym with a student team and adults standing on the gym floor, and other adults sitting in the pull-down gym seating.*

*The second picture, shown on the next page, shows adult appraisers and students standing in an elementary school classroom.*



*This second picture shows adult appraisers and students standing in an elementary school classroom.*

When the team members are done with their Presentation, the Appraisers will ask them a few questions before they leave. Audience members can remain in the Presentation Site during these questions. After speaking with the Appraisers, the team will take its

Presentation materials out of the Presentation Site. At this time, parents and team supporters may help the team remove materials from the Presentation Site.

The site should be left as it was found, so if the team dropped prop debris, or confetti or other items, it must be cleaned up quickly so the schedule is not disrupted. Parents and team supporters may help with this clean up.

## Instant Challenges

*Image Description: The Instant Challenge logo for the 2025-26 season; in hand drawn art, a light blue minute timer or hour glass with wings*



An **Instant Challenge** (IC) is a smaller Challenge that is a surprise to the team on the day of the tournament. An Instant Challenge may involve a task, a performance, or a combination of both. Instant Challenges usually last ten minutes or less.

Teams are given a specific time to present their Instant Challenge. The team, the Team Manager, and the Appraisers are the only people allowed into the Instant Challenge areas.

When a team has completed the Instant Challenge, the team members may be directed to a **Cool Down** room to discuss the experience with one another. Since many teams will utilize the same Instant Challenge at this event, teams **must not** discuss details of the Instant Challenge outside of the Cool Down room until after the Destination Imagination season has ended in May.



*Image Description: students solving instant challenges, sitting or standing around a table or workspace.*

## Spectators



*Image description: A black and white pictogram of people seated in an audience.*

Spectators, such as friends and family members, are welcome (and encouraged!) to attend this tournament. Spectators are welcome to attend any Team Challenge presentation. Please find the doors marked "Audience Entrance" at each Challenge Presentation Site.



**Please note:** At many Presentation Sites, doors will be closed whenever a team is presenting, so spectators may be asked to wait to enter the Presentation Site.

Spectators will **not** be allowed to attend any Instant Challenge presentations.

*Image description: classroom door with signage to spectators.*

## Instant Challenge Ta-Da!

At the Affiliate Finals Tournament, Teams will exit Instant Challenge and follow the arrows out into the Commons area of the school, where family and friends, as well as a



few volunteers assigned as photographers, will cheer and photograph each team. This is a place where Teams have fun and celebrate what they have accomplished.

*Image description. Six students, dressed in crazy photo props, posing in front of a banner with the words TA DA.*

## Awards Celebration



*Image description: A black and white pictogram of a medal with a star in its center.*

There is no awards ceremony at the end of the Affiliate Showcase as Teams receive feedback, but not comparative scores.

The Awards Celebration will take place at the end of the Affiliate Finals Tournament on March 14, 2026 about 3 pm in the Main Gym of Evergreen Middle School in Hillsboro, the site of the tournament. All teams and spectators are welcome (and encouraged!) to attend. Teams, Team Managers, spectators and Appraisers should sit in the bleachers pulled out for this purpose.

After some raffle prize drawings and introductions, the following special awards may be presented: DaVinci Awards, Renaissance Awards, Spirit of DI Awards. A description

of these awards will be found on **page 14 of the 2026 ORDI Affiliate Finals Program Final**. Place awards will be given for each Team Challenge, based on their Competition Level:

- Elementary Level (EL): Grades K-5
- Middle Level (ML): Grades 6-8
- Secondary Level (SL): Grades 9-12

***Please note:*** Early Learning/Rising Stars teams (PreK-2nd grade) are in a noncompetitive division and are not eligible for Challenge-based awards.

The Awards Celebration is usually a high-energy event with lots of crowds and noise. Audience members are welcome to clap and cheer, and use ear defenders or ear plugs if the noise gets too loud for them.





*Image description: previous Awards Celebrations that show spectators sitting in the bleachers, tables with medals, awards and balloons, adults standing to present awards (some in costume) and students with ribbons and certificates.*

## Other Tournament Events



During the tournament, teams and spectators are encouraged to watch and support other teams as they present their solution in a challenge. Other activities may include instant challenge games or cheering for Teams as they enter the TA DA area.

*Image description: a volunteer at a table with a grape crusher and supplies to build "protection" for a grape.*

At the Affiliate Finals Tournament, Oregon DI sells pins – current or recent year sets from Oregon DI, as well as grab bags of older pins, usually from affiliates around the

US and our International Teams. There are also auctions for paper plates that have sets from other affiliates. These are all optional activities, but Team Members and adults who participate enjoy these activities, and the sale of these pins is a great financial resource for Oregon DI.

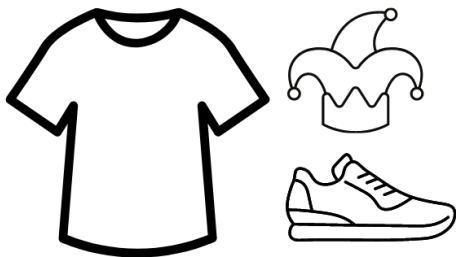
## Photos and Videos



*Image description: Three black and white pictograms of a camera, cell phone camera, and a video camera.*

Photos/videos of a team's Presentation may only be taken if the team has given permission. This information will be announced before the team begins its Presentation.

## What to Wear



*Image description: Three black and white pictograms of a t-shirt, a jester's hat, and a tennis shoe.*

All tournament participants and spectators are welcome to wear comfortable, weather appropriate clothing. Our volunteers often wear vibrant, colorful clothing and hats to celebrate the event. It is also highly likely that you will see team members in costume for their Presentations.

If you are a person who prefers using protective equipment such as ear defenders, ear plugs, etc., it will be helpful for you to bring them with you to the event.



*Image description: several adults in costume standing in a semi-circle in a gym. In this case, these are appraisers, adults who evaluate team performances, having fun at a tournament.*

*Image description: four students in street wear around props made by the team to help solve the selected challenge.*



### **Scent Free Policy**



*Image description: A black and white pictogram of a perfume bottle that has been crossed out.*

Out of respect to those with sensitivity to scent, please avoid wearing perfumes or colognes.

### **Inclement Weather**



*Image description: A black and white pictogram of storm clouds with lightning, rain, and wind.*

If inclement weather will have any impact on the tournament schedule, teams will be notified via email or text message to Team Managers.

RAIN in Oregon is always possible and Teams need to be prepared to move their props, costumes and other materials from a parking lot to a protected area inside the Tournament building. Preparing ahead of time (umbrellas, a tarp or plastic painters drop cloth, etc.) is always a good idea, *just in case*.

## Emergency Procedures



*Image description: black and white pictograms of an alarm light, first aid kit, and an alert sign with an exclamation point.*

The fire alarms in the building have flashing lights and loud repetitive sirens. If the need for an evacuation arises, please follow posted exit signage to safety.

At the **Affiliate Finals Tournament at Evergreen Middle School** there are fire extinguishers located throughout the school, in central hallways.

At the **Affiliate Finals Tournament**, small **first aid kits** are available at the Appraiser Table at each performance site including Instant Challenge, as well as the Information Table at Registration. (outside the Main Office)

If a medical emergency should occur, we will immediately call 911. Please notify the nearest tournament volunteer for assistance.

## Accessibility

Destination Imagination is committed to being as inclusive and accessible as possible. If there are questions that extend beyond the information provided in this guide, please

contact Brenda Crouser at [ad@oregonDI.org](mailto:ad@oregonDI.org) or by phone 503.784.6997. We are eager to meet your needs!

If accessibility needs arise on site, the point of contact is Brenda Crouser by phone 503.784.6997.

## Accommodation Requests

If one or more of your team members needs accommodation during their Team Challenge or Instant Challenge, [please fill out this form](#) as soon as possible. Destination Imagination is committed to providing accommodations for all participants. Our Educational Experience Team at DI HQ in New Jersey will review your request and provide a response within 3-5 business days and share the information submitted with Oregon DI volunteers.

## [Tournament Accommodation Request Form](#)

### Language



*Image description: A black and white pictogram of two figures having a conversation. A speech bubble above them reads "...".*

The Awards Celebration at the Affiliate Finals Tournament will be presented in English. Most Team Presentations will be shared in English. Signage throughout the event will be available in English.

If a team or team member wants/needs to present in a different language or would otherwise benefit from having a language interpreter present, please contact Brenda Crouser at [ad@oregonDI.org](mailto:ad@oregonDI.org) or by phone 503.784.6997 as soon as possible.

If a team member or spectator needs a sign language interpreter or another type of assistive communication technology (including but not limited to: amplification

devices, picture/letter boards, audio description), please contact Brenda Crouser at ad@oregondi.org or by phone 503.784.6997 as soon as possible.

## Immunity Precautions



*Image description: A black and white pictogram of a protective face covering.*

Our event will adhere to local health and safety restrictions. At this time, masking and vaccinations are optional.

***To be respectful of those with compromised immune systems, please do not attend this event if you are experiencing an airborne or contagious illness.***

## Mobility Information

At the **Affiliate Finals Tournament at Evergreen Middle School in Hillsboro**, there are a number of accessible parking spaces available in the main parking lot in front of the school. These spaces are located nearest the Main Entry. From the accessible parking area, the entire school is on **one level with no stairs**. From the accessible parking, the main entrance is approximately 50 feet from the parking area.



*Image description: front of main entrance of Evergreen Middle School in Hillsboro, OR. Picture taken from accessible parking spaces. White double doors enter nearest registration table.*

*Image below is the main lobby inside the main double white doors.*



Presentation Sites are located throughout this VERY SPACIOUS venue. If needed, we recommend bringing your mobility device with you to help manage the distances between sites.



*Image description: Central hallway from front entry (registration desk on the right) to the Commons area on the left.*

*Image description: Media Center at Evergreen Middle School. This room is the Presentation site for the Improvisation challenge as well as the Early Learning Challenge.*



*Image below is the main gym at Evergreen Middle School. This is the Performance site for the Technical Challenge and the awards celebration at the end of the Tournament.*





Upon arrival, Team Managers should check in at the Registration Table adjacent to the main office (purple star on the map.) Teams arriving with props should use the main entrance to the building nearest to their presentation site. There will be a designated space for Teams to store their props if they arrive early. Teams must not block any parking spaces or points of entry while loading, unloading, or moving their props.

## Restroom Information



*Image description: A black and white pictogram of a toilet with a grab bar. Above it, the symbol for accessibility is displayed on the wall.*

### **AFFILIATE TOURNAMENT AT EVERGREEN MIDDLE SCHOOL:**

Restrooms can be found in the central hallways throughout the school. All-gender restrooms can be found near the Main Office by the Registration Table.

All bathrooms have accessible stalls, meaning they can accommodate people who use mobility aids and may have grab bars. Restrooms with changing tables are available next to the Main office near the Registration Table. Menstrual products are available in the following locations: near the Main Office.

## Food/Drink



*Image description: Black and white pictograms of food and drink such as an apple, water bottle, and milk carton.*

**No food and drinks will be available or provided during the Affiliate tournament.** The exception is that Oregon DI will provide food for appraisers and other tournament-assigned volunteers. If a participant who is NOT an appraiser has a health crisis (example, low blood sugar)

please come to the room marked APPRAISER LOUNGE on each event map and we will try to help you.

**Teams and spectators are welcome to bring their own food and drinks. (HINT: The Team Managers are working with the kids! This is a great task for team parents or supporters.)** We ask that you enjoy your food and drinks in the Commons at the Affiliate Finals Tournament in Hillsboro. Anyone seeking an allergen-free space may utilize a separate area. Please check with the Affiliate Director at the Registration Desk at each event.



*Image Description: picture shows Commons at Evergreen Middle School. This area is where teams relax during the day. Please keep food and beverages in this area.*

*OPTIONAL: Some teams or team families decorate one or two tables for their team.*

**NOTE** that the seats are **HARD with no backs**; teams are welcome to bring in folding canvas chairs that might be more comfortable. Pin sales and pin trading also take place in this area.

## Quiet Room/Regulation Room



*Image description: A black and white pictogram showing a face in profile. One finger is raised toward the lips to make the "Shhh" gesture.*

A Quiet Room/Regulation Room will be available on the day of the tournament or showcase. We will have the space identified on the day of the tournament or showcase and post it at the Registration Desk. This space is

reserved for attendees who may need a quiet space for tasks like taking medication, prayer, addressing sensory needs, or just a moment away from the busy tournament!

While using the Quiet Room/Regulation Room, please use a quiet voice and silence all devices, except Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) devices.

Attendees under the age of 18 should be accompanied by an adult.

## Lactation Room



*Image description: A black and white pictogram of a parent holding an infant alongside a bottle.*

A private space exclusively for nursing parents will be available on the day of the Showcase or Tournament if requested in advance.

Check with the Affiliate Director at the Registration Desk for

location. (Brenda Crouser at [ad@oregondi.org](mailto:ad@oregondi.org) or by phone 503.784.6997.)

## Thank You!

Thank you for attending our tournament! We are looking forward to an event fueled by creativity, collaboration, and camaraderie. Throughout your experience, if you need to ask questions, offer feedback, or request accommodations, you are welcome to contact us at Brenda Crouser at [ad@oregondi.org](mailto:ad@oregondi.org) or by phone 503.784.6997.

*Disclaimer: We offer this resource as an accommodation to help people know what to expect and to prepare for this showcase or tournament. The organizers of this event are not the stewards of the building, meaning we cannot guarantee nor are we responsible for meeting ADA standards. Even so, we do our best to advocate, accommodate, and choose sites that are as accessible as possible!*