



NIAGARA FRONTIER
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW ASSOCIATION

WNY INVENTION CONVENTION 2009

www.WNYKIDSINVENT.ORG

Dear Families,

Your school is invited to participate in Western New York's 7th Annual Invention Convention which will take place at the Buffalo Museum of Science on Saturday, March 28th, 2009. Your school's staff will inform you of the process they will use to select entries for this event. Twenty-five students will be selected to display their work at the New York State Invention Convention in Binghamton on June 13th, 2009, and from the pool of Western New York talent, the Niagara Frontier Intellectual Property Law Association will also select a Young Inventor of the Year, to be recognized at their annual Inventor of the Year program.

Invention Convention Goal

The goal of the Invention Convention is to promote creative thinking and encourage scientific problem solving in K-8th grade students. The rewards of such a process are multilevel: the emotional satisfaction of creatively solving a problem, the benefits of parents and students working together, and the development of problem solving skills that can be used for years to come.

Who Will Participate?

Students in grades K-8. Students may work alone or with one partner. Parents may help their child, but the more a child actually does, the more a child actually learns.

How Will The Invention Be Judged?

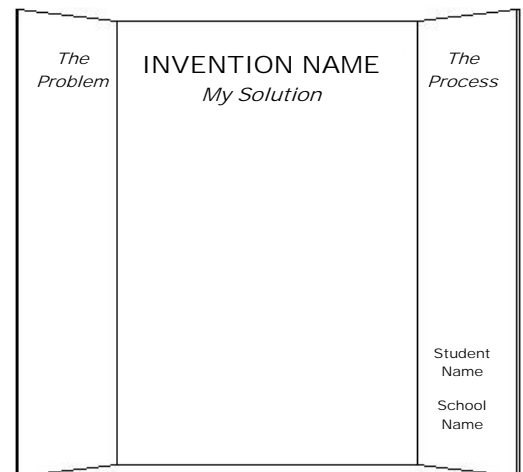
Initial judging will take place within each individual school and the school will then select up to 9 finalists to send to the regional event. The 9 finalists may be chosen from any grade configurations the school chooses. Schools have been supplied a scoring rubric to aid in reviewing the many types of creative solutions students can be expected to produce.

All submissions should meet the following criteria:

- The idea meets a need or solves a problem
- The idea displays originality and creativity
- The model reflects the idea
- The Disclosure Form clearly explains and supports the idea

What Should Be Submitted?

- Submissions must be modeled but the model does not have to be a working model.
- The concept must be within the realm of reason: Space ships & homework machines will not meet the criteria.
- A free-standing, tri-fold cardboard backdrop is required as a uniform backdrop to present the details of the invention. The tri-fold & model should be no more than 30" when set-up.
- The Problem, the Process for solving the Problem, and the Solution should be clearly stated.
- Student's full name and school visible on front, lower right corner of panel. *No addresses please!*
- The Invention Disclosure form must be filled out completely & attached to *the back* of the tri-fold.



We hope that you and your student choose to participate in this program and can experience first-hand the opportunity that it represents for our young people!