

BRING 2 JUDGING FORMS PER INVENTION ALL AGE GROUPS



Shenendehowa Inventors

Participation Sign Up: Due January 27th *

Poster Registration: Friday Feb. 10th 5-7 pm at

Clifton Park Center Mall

(Saturday registration from 9-9:30 only.)

Display Date: Saturday Feb. 11th at Clifton Park Mall (K-5) and

Clifton Park Halfmoon library (6-8)

The Shenendehowa Inventors program is an extra-curricular enrichment program that is focused on the inventing process. By participating in this program, Shen Inventors express creativity and ingenuity by utilizing their scientific, technological, mathematical, language arts and artistic skills. During the project development process, the Shen Inventor will be brainstorming, identifying problems and solutions, designing the invention, conducting research to find new ideas or improvements, and preparing a poster displaying the invention. The goal is to stimulate the development of creativity, imagination and entrepreneurship in students grades K-8.

To the Parents:

Your support and encouragement is very important to your child's success at school, and we ask you to support your children in joining this special program. Encourage your children to participate in this extra-curricular enrichment program by having your child be a problem-solver in your home! Please provide positive reinforcement by encouraging ideas, even those that may seem unfamiliar or unusual, especially in the early stages of the program.

Your involvement is strongly encouraged; however, it is important that the invention ideas, illustrations and descriptions are the student's own.

INVENTOR RULES

- You can invent and submit any kind of invention.
- A group of students up to 2 can work on one invention (middle school up to 4)
- Computer generated or hand written diagrams and descriptions are acceptable.
- You can improve on a previously publicized and/or patented invention.
- Originality, creativity, **research, usefulness and display** are emphasized.
- Your poster must be **freestanding**
- **A model is not required** but be sure your invention diagram is well prepared and labelled

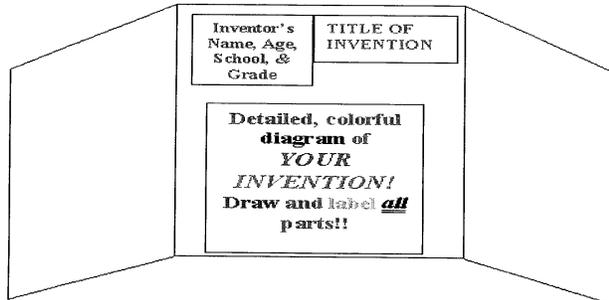
INVENTOR GUIDANCE

- **Identify an idea.** The better you are at defining your idea, the more likely you will be able to describe it on your poster as an effective improvement, idea or new product. Identify a problem to be solved or something you think people will need or like to use. How does it improve something or an environment of some sort? Do you want your invention to do it's "job" all on its own or along with something else? Will it be a process, product or both?
- If you're to come up with something that could be improved or a way things are done now then **brainstorm:** Can you substitute, make it different, combine ideas, make it better, make it smaller, add to it?
- **Do your research.** Find out what makes your invention useful or different or find ways to make it different. Include market research in your research. Use the internet or feedback from others to form an opinion of whether it could work, whether people will like it, or buy it, whether it is necessary (a must have for all participants!)
- **Draw your idea.** Draw it by hand or using your computer. Think about what it might look like and how you might use it. What kind of materials is it made of? Does it have a name? Do you need to provide instructions? How does it work? What are the parts and pieces? Label the parts clearly.
- **Prepare your poster.** Hand write or print out items required for your poster.

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DISPLAY POSTER

Each invention must have a display poster and it must stand up on its own. You can buy two boards, cut one in half to make the two sides and connect them to the middle part. Any projects that do not have a board and/or cannot stand upright will not be judged. An example is shown below.



What's new for 2017?

- All posters will need 2 judging forms filled out PRIOR to registration.
- Research is being introduced in k-2 at a very low level so that they may get exposure to the process.
- The judging sheet and process has been updated. Each poster is judged against itself and the criteria presented. A perfect score is earning a check for a Quality/Blue project on each judging sheet totaling 10 Blue scores. A project with 8 out of 10 Blue scores receives a Blue. A project with 5-7 out of 10 Good (blues) scores receives a red. All other projects receive a white. We will continue locating projects of same grades near each other in any event (subject to a first come first served basis). Special category awards may be given without being restricted to certain grade ranges.
Positive comments are emphasized from judges.

Do I need a model of my invention? No, the model is not mandatory. The best inventions are made with whatever materials and parts you have. You do not have to purchase special materials for you to be a Shenendehowa Inventor!

Can inventors work in groups? Yes, inventors can work in groups of up to 2 for grades K-5 and up to 4 for grades 6-8. Inventors that may be in different grades and/or different schools. The project age group should be determined by the inventors based on the primary inventor/contributor to the project if multiple age groups. All inventors will receive the t-shirt (if timely registered), ribbon and special awards (subject to availability).

What are some examples of inventions? You can do a web search for kid inventions and find many ideas. There are various sources at the library and on the internet. You could start with searches on Google.com, Uspto.gov, Howstuffworks.com, Bkfk.com There are several interesting inventions on television shows and online associated with QVC and other home shopping and "As Seen On TV" products.

What should I bring to the mall on the Display Date? Your project and 2 copies of the judging form filled out with your name(s), invention name, school and grade. Please fill out each Judging form with this information **PRIOR** to drop off time. **Do not tape these forms to your project.** Use paperclips if necessary but no tape.

Do I get anything for participating? Each inventor receives a Shen Inventor T-shirt if they register by the deadline date of January 27th, 2016. All inventors will receive a blue, red or white award ribbon based on their judging score. Special category awards may be issued if available.

Posters may be picked up Saturday after 3pm. Specific times will be posted.

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2017 SHEN INVENTORS JUDGING FORM: Project # _____

Names of Student(s): _____ Grade(s): _____ School: _____

1. ORIGINALITY and CREATIVITY

- _____ Quality (Blue): Project clearly and thoughtfully shows originality and creativity with problem that will be solved or need to be addressed
- _____ Good (Red): Project shows some creativity and originality
- _____ Acceptable (White/Yellow): Project creativity and originality is good but could use more work.

2. USEFULNESS

- _____ Quality (Blue): Student clearly and thoughtfully identifies a problem and provides a solution that satisfies the problem or a need, explains the usefulness of the invention in relation to the problem or need, and shows potential marketability.
- _____ Good (Red): Project explains most criteria, showing understanding.
- _____ Acceptable (White/Yellow): Project explains some criteria but not clearly answered.

3. DESCRIPTION and ILLUSTRATION

- _____ Quality (Blue): Project clearly and completely shows how the invention works, illustrated in a clear manner and drawing properly labeled.
- _____ Good (Red): Project shows how invention works and provides drawing with some labeling.
- _____ Acceptable (White): Project has some steps on the Project towards these goals.

4. RESEARCH PERFORMED

Note: Research for K-2 can be questions to family or friends, found in books or magazines. We are encouraging K-2 to begin to understand the concept of research. K-2 should receive a Quality or Good score here unless there is no evidence of steps toward "research".

- _____ Quality (Blue): Is the research thorough? Is the research adequate to prove that the invention is or is likely to be original?
- _____ Good (Red): Project performed some research related to the invention.
- _____ Acceptable (White): Project did not provide sufficient explanations of research performed.

5. DISPLAY WELL-ORGANIZED AND VISUALLY APPEALING

- _____ Quality (blue): Project shows data in tables, charts, or pictures with headings, diagrams, clear and comprehensive, well-organized and visually attractive
- _____ Good (red): Project is neat and attractive; limited tables, charts, pictures and limited on organization
- _____ Acceptable (white): Project has limited information.

6. One positive comments:

7. One positive suggestion: _____

Total Blue Points: _____ Total Red Points: _____ Judge initials _____ Ribbon assigned: _____

Single Judge Criteria (if two judges judge an invention add points and double the requirement
Blue ribbon: At least 4 blue points
Red ribbon: Combination of 4 blues or reds
White ribbon: all others