



## STUDENT RULE SHEET

Astounding Inventions® is an invention fair highlighting handmade inventions by students from the Irvine and Tustin Unified School Districts in kindergarten through eighth grade. This event is hosted by Irvine Valley College and was established to promote student interest and learning in math and science. Student inventors have a chance to win a monetary prize.

1. **Each entry must come from one individual student or from a group of 2 students.** Students in a group should be within the same grade division (K-3, 4-5, 6-8). Student inventors competing in a group project will each get an award ribbon but will have to split the prize money should their invention be awarded.
2. **ENTRY DEADLINE FOR SCHOOL SITES MAY VARY. AI SITE REPS DEADLINE IS: FRIDAY, December 21, 2018.** All students that are participating in Astounding Inventions® must have their site representative submit their information by this date to the STEM department.
3. Your invention should be original. Student inventors should research their idea to make sure it doesn't already exist by searching for patents on Google. Students may improve on an existing invention. Student inventions should relate to an improvement on an area or aspect of their home or community. Some possible topics to consider an invention are: Energy conservation, climate change, time saving, improving safety, pollution, or alternative fuel.
4. Each student must submit an Invention Visual (display board or pitch video), a model/prototype, and an Inventor's Notebook detailing their ideas, research, tests and results during the development of the invention.
  - **Inventor's Notebook**– You can use the notebook provided by your teacher or develop your own using ours as a guide. The Notebook should include drawings, photos, and/or diagrams of their invention. Teachers or parents may assist grade K-3 students with writing, but the content and illustrations must be done by the student. The written explanation should include the following:
    - Inventor's Notebook Key Points**
      - Your name and school
      - Name of the invention
      - What need or problem does the invention attempt to solve?
      - How does the invention work and how is the invention made?
      - What materials were used in its construction?
      - What research the student did to make sure their idea was new?
      - Who helped you with this invention?
  - **Model/prototype** - Include a model/prototype of your invention. Your model does not need to actually work; however, it must clearly represent your proposed invention.
  - **Invention Visual: Option 1: The Pitch Video** – Student inventors may create a video in lieu of a display board. This video will answer the same questions listed above in the **Inventor's Notebook Key Points**. The inventor may show the materials used, the prototype, how it works and who helped you with the invention. The inventor's face does not need to appear in the video. Upload the video to Google Drive and share with the teacher or site coordinator or email directly to the STEM Department ([TracyEdstrom@iud.org](mailto:TracyEdstrom@iud.org)). Videos must not exceed 3 minutes.

### **Helpful Tips!**

- Be creative and get the viewer excited about your invention.
- Speak clearly, loudly and slowly.
- Draft an outline of what you want to say before you record your video.
- Below is a basic sample script for an imaginary invention:
  - “Hi, my name is Jane Smith. I go to Springbrook Elementary in Irvine Unified School District. I noticed how many cars are out on the road adding to our air pollution. I wanted to create something that will decrease air pollution. After researching many types of green transportation and aerodynamics I came up with *The Soaring Car*. It works by attaching wings to a car that helps it fly. I made it using PVC pipe, rope, and a light white canvas.”

- **Invention Visual: Option 2: The Display Board** - The display board is a visual presentation of the information in your notebook. Make sure that your project is free-standing (e.g. fold or tape panels of poster board together). The dimensions of the display board and the model must have outside measurements no greater than **3 feet wide by 1-1/2 feet deep and 3 feet high, with a maximum weight of 30 pounds**. The poster board should include the points listed above in the **Inventor’s Notebook Key Points**.

5. Each student will be interviewed. Inventions will be judged on originality, usefulness, written description, research performed, and the demonstration of the invention.
6. Each school will select a specific number of inventions to enter the district's Astounding Inventions® Contest, which will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2019, at Irvine Valley College.
7. A letter will be given to students selected to enter the contest with specific directions regarding setting up your entry for the contest. The set-up date is Friday, January 25, 2019, from 3:00 PM-6:30 PM, at Irvine Valley College. There is NO late registration.
8. **All contestants will meet with the judges for a required oral interview at Irvine Valley College on Saturday, January 26, 2019, between 9:00 AM-11:00 AM.** There are no assigned interview times! Decisions made by the judges for awards are final. Award winners will be announced on Saturday, January 26, 2019, at Irvine Valley College:
  - The Awards Ceremony will begin at 12:00pm.
9. Don’t forget to let your teacher know if you plan to participate!

## **Astounding Inventions® Important Dates**

**Entry Deadline:** All students participating in the Irvine Valley College contest must have their site representative submit their information by this date to the STEM dept.

**Date:** Friday, December 21, 2018

### **Student Check-in:**

**Date:** Friday, January 25, 2019

**Time:** 3:00PM – 6:30PM

**Location:** Irvine Valley College Gym

### **Main Event:**

**Date:** Saturday, January 26, 2019

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Location:** Irvine Valley College Gym

### **QUESTIONS:**

Call (949) 936-5057 or email [tracyedstrom@iusd.org](mailto:tracyedstrom@iusd.org)

*Last Updated 08/27/2018*