

# Invention Convention

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The Invention Convention is the “main event” for this project. Whether or not your school is participating in the GA Tech InVenture Challenge, you will need to set up and plan an Invention Convention.

The Invention Convention needs to be planned at the beginning of this Unit of Study.

- Decide where the competition will be held. The competition is set up in a museum arrangement. Students will be presenting all at once as judges and guests walk around the room. Each group will need a table for their tri boards and prototypes. Teachers may choose to have the event at school or offsite.
- Judges – make a list of people who you may want to invite as judges. (Traditionally the ALP teacher(s) have not judged the projects)- ideas include administration, ALP Supervisor/Consultants, Board Members, Feeder High School Honor Society. Contact judges as soon as the date of your convention is approved.
- Certificates- Print participation certificates for each student. Microsoft Publisher has many templates that are easy to use. Teachers can mail merge student names and invention names to make printing easier. (picture in this document)
- Create nametags for teams –Microsoft Publisher has several templates and is easily mail merged. Name badges can be put into lanyards or pinned on.
- Teachers may create a program listing all students, projects, judges, etc. (example included in the Convention lesson plan)
- Prizes for 1,2 3 and people’s choice- [www.crownawards.com](http://www.crownawards.com) has inexpensive awards. We found medals that had 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place written on the ribbon and a 2” scholastic medal. There are a variety of options including “Academic Excellence” or “Science”.
- Ballots for judges – A copy of the ballot is listed in the Convention lesson plan folder. Judges may use the ballots in conjunction with the rubrics.
- People choice – This is an optional award. Teachers may opt to have teams present individually to the entire class (this is a GREAT filler while the Target teacher is tallying the judges votes to announce the winners) – at the end of the presentations students vote on their favorite invention.
- Table numbers – Give each team a number and display it prominently on the tri boards or tables. This will help judges (and you) tremendously when choosing the winning teams.
- Parent volunteers to set up and clean up – volunteer form is included in the Convention lesson plan.
- Teachers may wish to contact the media - Media form will need to be signed (included in the resource folder) if you wish to contact CobbEDtv or other media outlets, you may want to have this signed early in the semester.

