

About the Imagination Fair, 5-Minute Mentors, and 5-Minutes Talks

The Imagination Fair may be the most amazing event ever imagined! It's more than an art show! More than a science fair! More than a tech fest! It's a space for homeschooled children of all ages to **display**, **demonstrate** and **discuss** the products of their creativity. The Imagination Fair was created to accommodate those products of the imagination that fall outside conventional categories of the traditional science fairs, tech fests, and art shows. It's the perfect place for kids to showcase their "outside the box" originality!

Kids get to present ANYTHING — and the astounding marvels that the kids create each year always surprises, delights, and inspires — their passions, their hobbies, their interests, and their ideas get showcased in their exhibits! Board games, card games, dice games, trivia games, and video games. Animations, novels, short stories, comic books, and more! Contraptions, electronics, robots, rockets, and go-karts. Models, architecture, dioramas, cardboard creations, LEGO® masterpieces and MINDSTORMS® marvels. Clothing, costumes, crocheting, weaving, and quilts. Collections of hats, stamps, rocks, and more! Explorations of history, science, nature, or the modern world! Kids showcase their cats, their shoes, their toys, or whatever they love! You can find out more about the endless possibilities and discover all the past incredible exhibits at imaginationfair.org/exhibits.



And then on the day of the event, the thing that makes the Imagination Fair magnificently awesome the mentors — the "5 Minute Talks" — that's when we get to sit down with the kids and learn all about their big ideas — what they created, how they created it, why they created it, what they learned creating it, what they love about what they created, what they hate about it, what they're going to create next. These mind-blowing short talks always leave me gobsmacked by all the astonishingly inventive ingenuity and resourceful innovations of the exhibitors.

But there's more! After that wonderfully magnificent conversation, each "5 Minute Mentor" places a colorful and unique "button sticker" on the Exhibitor's participation certificate, creating a frame-worthy keepsake unique for each child. See some past examples at imaginationfair.org/certificates.

And that's not all! There's the *Exhibit Catalog*! Yet another keepsake to showcase all the incredible big ideas! There's a photo of each Exhibitor or of their project with a bio or a description of their project — or both! Plus there's a photo and bio of each of all the wonderful mentors so the kids can discover what inspires all the amazing people who sat down to learn all about what inspired them! Learn more at imaginationfair.org/catalog.

Lastly, because creating all the amazingness that goes into the Imagination Fair cost money, there are ads in that *Exhibit Catalog*. These are a great way for homeschool groups, homeschool teachers, homeschool tutors, homeschool destinations, and others in the community to connect with area homeschoolers. Discount pricing for Mentors starts at just \$5, and include website, [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#) exposure! Learn more at about supporting the Imagination Fair via an *Exhibit Catalog* advertisement at imaginationfair.org/advertise.

Most importantly, expect to have a great time! You get to talk to kids about what they love! You'll be inspired, excited, amazed and energized! It's an opportunity not to be missed!

The only requirement to volunteer as a "5-Minute Mentor" is that you be comfortable with talking to children about their big ideas. "5-Minute Mentors" are members of the community who sign up in advance to come and talk to Exhibitors about the products of their imaginations.

Sign up to be part of the fun as a "5-Minute Mentor" at imaginationfair.org/mentors.

Because designing, formatting, and printing those enchanting "button stickers" and the *Exhibit Catalog* takes time, I ask that our "5 Minute Mentor" **sign up at least 2 weeks in advance**, or by Saturday, March 21, 2020 — but I'll accept new mentors up until the *Exhibit Catalog* goes to the printers.

We are aware that Mentor is not quite the right word for this, but we couldn't come up with a better one.

Exhibit Catalog & “Button Sticker” Info Request



- All Mentors receive a quarter-page listing in the *Exhibit Catalog* for a photo and brief bio about themselves.
 - A quarter page is 5-inches wide by 1¾-inches high.
 - To allow time for formatting, proofing and printing, your *Exhibit Catalog* information should be submitted by **Saturday, March 21, 2020** (two weeks prior to the Imagination Fair). *Late entries, however, will be accepted up until the date I go to the printers.*
 - “*Exhibit Catalog* information can be submitted **online** at imaginationfair.org/mentor-create (the preferred method) or via **email** to imagine@hsadventures.org
 - To use the online form, first register for a website account at HomeschoolRecess (if you don't have one yet). homeschoolrecess.com/register
 - You'll be able to come back and add to or edit your entry — up until the *Exhibit Catalog* goes to the printers.
1. Your **name**.
 2. A brief **bio**.
 - No longer than 300 characters (which is about 60 words or about 3 sentences).
 - If you just need to add a couple more words, it's probably okay. If you need to add ten more words, it just won't fit but feel free to ask the Volunteer Event Organizers for help with editing.
 - Please write in the first person. (That is, say “*I* do this” instead of “*Jamie* does that” or “*S/he* does that”)
 3. Your **title**, *if applicable*.
 - This can be anything that is important to you. Maybe that's *your job* — you're the artistic director of a local theater or an instructor at a martial arts studio or a tutor for a reading program. Maybe that's *your hobby* — you're a rocketeer or a photographer or a seamstress. Maybe it's *your passion* — you're a philosopher or a homeschool parent or a field trip organizer. It doesn't matter what title you choose, as long as it's something that matters to you!
 4. Your **organization's** name, *if desired*. If you want to give a shout out to your business, organization, club, etc., this is your chance to do that.
 5. Your organization's **contact** information, *if desired*.
 - Contact information can include website, phone number, email address, mailing and/or physical address.
 6. A print-quality digital **photo** of you!
 - To ensure print quality, please send a larger image file rather than a smaller one.
 - Images will be printed in grayscale at about 1¾-inches high.
 - Wider images will reduce the amount of space available for text.
 - The *Exhibit Catalog* will be **printed in grayscale**, but you may upload a full color image to be used online at imaginationfair.org/mentors-2020
 7. Your **phone number**, *if you haven't sent it previously* — unlikely we'll use it, but just in case we need to get ahold of you and email isn't working as expected. This won't be included in the *Exhibit Catalog* or otherwise shared. It's just so we can reach you if email fails.
 8. Your **mailing address**, *if you haven't sent it previously* — so we can send you a thank you card! Again, this won't be included in the *Exhibit Catalog* or otherwise shared.
 9. A photo release — you can complete this **online** at imaginationfair.org/photo-release or use the printed form at the end of this packet.

If something above doesn't apply to you, *just skip it*.

- The only thing that is required is your **name** and contact information, although your **bio** and **photo** are greatly appreciated!

The intent is to give the kids a sense of who their Mentors are, so that when they look at their Participation Certificates and *Exhibit Catalogs*, both now and years later, they won't wonder, “Who on earth is Nic Rosenau?” Instead, they'll say, “Oh, I remember Nic Rosenau, she was that mom who organized all those field trips.”

Entries may be **edited** for space considerations, as well as for spelling, grammar, and point-of-view. *Email any corrections or changes* to imagine@hsadventures.org.

Example of a 2015 Exhibit Catalog Mentor entry:



Dana Kernik
Center Director
Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes

I am passionate about helping people reach their potential, working directly with children and their families. During the summer of 2014, I managed Seasonal Learning Clinics in Singapore and Tokyo. Currently, I oversee operations, instruction, and outreach at Twin Cities Learning Center.

3300 Edinborough Way, Suite 206, Edina, MN 55435
 lindamoodbell.com/location/twin-cities-mn-learning-center

Mentor Button Stickers

Exhibitors receive a “button sticker” on their participation certificates from every mentor who talks to them.

The Imagination Fair will provide you with a sheet of 24 “button stickers”.

The “standard” Imagination Fair “button sticker” design includes:

1. Your **name**.
2. Your **title**, if applicable.
3. Your **organization’s** name, if applicable.
4. Your organization’s **logo**, if applicable.
5. The phrase “I talked with ... about my ideas!”



Our goal is to make the button stickers more interesting visually while giving the kids a sense of who their Mentors are.

You are encouraged to submit your own original design!

- Designs must fit on a 1½-inch round label.
- If you use a background color, make the background a bit larger to be sure there’s no white edge.
- You may use (just about) any image file format that works for you (bpg, gif, jpg, pdf, png, psd, svg, tif, etc.).

You may also submit just a logo or other image, or if you don't have an image of your own, suggest an image that expresses you or your interests!

Please try to get me your logos and design requests at least 1 week before the imagination fair, or by **Saturday, March 28, 2020**. If you are creating your own design, I would still appreciate receiving it as soon as possible!

Check out current and past “button sticker” designs at:

imaginationfair.org/buttons-2020 imaginationfair.org/buttons-2019 imaginationfair.org/buttons-2018
imaginationfair.org/buttons-2017 imaginationfair.org/buttons-2016 imaginationfair.org/buttons-2015 imaginationfair.org/buttons-2014

Our goal is to sign up at least half as many Mentors as there are exhibitors. More is better. Please encourage your friends, family members, neighbors and colleagues to volunteer as well.

Name Badges

Your lanyard name badge will include the following information from your *Exhibit Catalog* entry:

1. Your Name
2. Your Title, if applicable
3. Your Organization, if applicable

and ...

4. A smaller version of your “button sticker”

Your may keep your name badge! They make great scrapbook additions. If you prefer, you may return the lanyard and sleeve portion to the Badge Re-Use Box after the Fair ends.



Schedule for Saturday, April 4, 2020

| | | |
|---------|-----------|--|
| 9:00am | – 9:30am | Set Up Period for Volunteer Event Organizers |
| 9:30am | – 10:00am | Set Up Period for Exhibitors |
| 9:45am | – 10:00am | Mentor Check-In Period* |
| 9:55am | – 10:00am | Mentor Quick Tips Talk |
| 10:00am | – 12:30pm | IMAGINATION FAIR — Display! Demonstrate! Discuss! |
| 12:15pm | – 12:30pm | Exhibitor End-of-Fair Announcements |
| 12:30pm | – 1:00pm | Clean Up Period for both Exhibitors and Volunteer Event Organizers |

- *To allow all Exhibitors time and focus to set their Exhibits up on time, we ask that Mentors wait until 10am before they begin interacting with the Exhibitors.*

See the schedule at imaginationfair.org/schedule

Exhibit Catalog Advertisement Mentor Discount



Mentors receive a substantial discount on Exhibit Catalog Advertisements.

Connect with homeschool families! Support the Imagination Fair!

You can help keep participation fees low for exhibitors at the Imagination Fair while promoting your organization to homeschoolers and their friends and families with an *Exhibit Catalog* advertisement!

We expect to have 40 to 50 exhibitors signed up for Imagination Fair 2020 and to have 150 to 200 people attend. The Exhibit Catalog is designed to be a quality keepsake item

All advertisements will also be posted at imaginationfair.org/advertisers-2020, shared via [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), and will remain online for at least one year (until at least April 4, 2021).

More information about *Exhibit Catalog* Advertisements can be found at imaginationfair.org/advertise.

About Exhibits

Exhibits can be anything! The Imagination Fair is a place for you to show off your creativity! The Imagination Fair was created to accommodate those creations that fall outside conventional categories of the traditional science fairs, tech fests, and art shows, including ideas that either don't fit into the traditional art show categories or must be distorted to qualify as a traditional science fair project. Board games and video games, animations, novels, short stories and comic books, contraptions, electronics, robots, rockets and go-karts, models, architecture, dioramas and cardboard creations, clothing and costumes, LEGO® masterpieces and MINDSTORMS® marvels, and other products of the imagination. The Imagination Fair is the perfect place to showcase your “outside the box” creativity! Of course, the Imagination Fair also welcomes traditional artistic endeavors and scientific explorations!



On the Day of the Fair

Mentor Check-In starts at 9:45 AM



The Volunteer Event Organizers recommend that you **plan to arrive at 9:45 AM** so that you have time to address any unexpected difficulties and are ready to start talking to Exhibitors at 10 AM.

Mentor Folder



Pick up your Mentor Folder as soon as you arrive at the Imagination Fair.

Folders will be filed *alphabetically by last name* in a file box at the entrance to the Event Space and there will also be a Volunteer Event Organizer or two at the door to help you find your folder and to review the contents with you.



Inside the folder, you'll find your Name Badge and lanyard and your "Assigned First Exhibit" number, along with a map of the Exhibit Hall so you can find your first Exhibit space, an *Exhibit Catalog* for you to keep, and an Exhibit Bingo card for your own use.

Give the exhibitors time to finish set-up



To ensure that Exhibitors have the Exhibits fully set up for Mentors on time and with as little interruption as possible, Mentors are asked to resist the urge to engage Exhibitors until 10 AM!

In the meantime, you can relax comfortably in the gaming area or café area of Fantasy Flight Games Center.

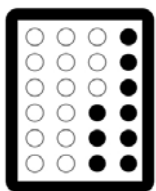
Quick Tips Talk



There will a very brief "Quick Tips" talk at 9:55 AM to ensure that all Mentors have the information they need to succeed!

If you are also the parent of an Exhibitor, you are encouraged to join the other Mentors at 9:55 AM. An announcement will be made in the Exhibit Hall right before it begins.

Button Sticker Stash



You'll be given more button stickers than you can use! Specifically, you'll receive a sheet of 24 "button stickers," and you'll most likely have time to talk to about 20 Exhibitors. The Volunteer Event Organizer would prefer you have a few extra buttons at the end of the Imagination Fair than to find yourself short a couple of button or two!

In the unlikely event you do run out of "button stickers," find Nic Rosenau for a solution! She'll have a plan.

You may keep your extra "button stickers" and have some fun with them after the Fair!

Start here! — Your Assigned First Exhibit



Each Mentor will be assigned a starting Exhibit. This is to help prevent clumping and jams by spreading the Mentors out evenly around the room at the start of the Imagination Fair.

Your Assigned First Exhibit will be clearly marked on your Mentor Folder and on the Exhibit Hall map inside your Folder. If you can't find your first Exhibit, ask a Volunteer Event Organizers for help — or just choose a likely place to start.

5 Minute Talks



Most Mentors spend about 5 minutes with each Exhibitor they meet. You do not need to time your talks! Having a general sense of the time you are spending with each Exhibitor is enough.

Mentors are asked to visit as many exhibits as time allows. Based on past Imagination Fairs, most mentors can expect to visit about 20 exhibits.

Mentors are asked to be aware of which Exhibitors are in need of more visits so that no Exhibitor feels ignored.

The focus of the Imagination Fair is on the process of creation rather than the products, but you may connect with Exhibitors in any way that feels right for that particular conversation

Missing Exhibitors



While Exhibitors are asked to stay at their Exhibits so that they are available to talk to Mentors, sometimes an Exhibitor needs to take a short break. If you arrive at an Exhibit without an Exhibitor, *simply move to the next Exhibit*. You can trust that the next available Mentor will talk to the missing Exhibitor as soon as he or she returns to the Exhibit. You may even find that you circle back around to that Exhibit!

Busy Exhibitors



In the same vein, if you find that the next Exhibitor is already engaged in a conversation with a Mentor, *simply move to the next Exhibit*. You can trust that the next Mentor in line will pick up that Exhibitor when the current Mentor finishes. This keeps the Mentors moving and prevents pile ups. Again, you may find that you circle back around to that Exhibit.

Exhibit Bingo

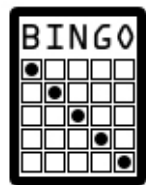


Exhibit Bingo is an original participant idea to help younger kids get involved — but we also use it to help Mentors keep track of which Exhibits they've visited! Exhibitors you visit will stamp in the space for their Exhibit number.

You can even show your Bingo card at the Prize table and receive a small prize for every five Exhibits you visit!

Bingo Prize Donations



If you have any **small** prizes to donate for Exhibit Bingo use, let the Volunteer Event Organizers know via an email to imagine@hsadventures.org. You may arrange to drop them off in advance or just bring them along with you to the Imagination Fair.

Food



Fantasy Flight Games Center has a lovely café offering a variety of appetizers, soups, salads, sandwiches, sweets, espresso drinks, and more, so **NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR BEVERAGES ARE PERMITTED**.

Please support Fantasy Flight Games Center and show appreciation for their generosity in providing us with this space by purchasing any meals, snacks, or beverages from the café.

Everyone welcome!



The Imagination Fair is serious about inclusivity!

The Imagination Fair does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, gender, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability or handicap, veteran status, economic status, religion, or homeschooling philosophy or style.

The Imagination Fair is an all-volunteer zero-profit inclusive secular homeschool event.

Location

Fantasy Flight Games Center is located 1½ blocks west of Rosedale Center, between Fairview Ave and Cleveland Ave on County Rd B2 W.

The address is 1975 County Road B2 W, Roseville, MN 55113.

There is a medium-sized parking lot on site. Please read and respect all signage when parking your vehicle. Weekend overflow parking is generously offered by the Salvation Army Northern Division offices, just on the other side of County Rd B2 W from Fantasy Flight Games Center.

The Imagination Fair is being held in the Event Space, which is located past the café and retail store, behind the gaming room.

More information at imaginationfair.org/location



Spread the word



Invite via the Facebook Event
facebook.com/ImaginationFair



Download and print the flyer
imaginationfair.org/flyer



Twitter
twitter.com/ImaginationMN



Download and share
imaginationfair.org/social



Website
imaginationfair.org



About the Photography Release Form



On the last page of this packet is a Photography Release Form. You are asked to either grant or withhold permission to take and use photographs of you during Imagination Fair 2020 either using the form or when you submit your mentor bio and photo [online](http://imaginationfair.org/mentor-create) at imaginationfair.org/mentor-create.

Please don't leave us hanging! If you do not want the Imagination Fair to use your name and/or images of you, please take a moment to let the Volunteer Event Organizers know.

How the Imagination Fair May Use Your Photos and Names

Image and name usage may include but not be limited to ...

- The Imagination Fair's website. imaginationfair.org
- Sections of HomeschoolRecess's website about the Imagination Fair. homeschoolrecess.com/imagine
- Sections of HSAdventures's website about the Imagination Fair. hsadventures.org/imagine
- The Imagination Fair's photo-sharing accounts including flickr.com/photos/imaginationfair/
- The Imagination Fair's Facebook page. facebook.com/ImaginationFair
- The Imagination Fair's Twitter account. twitter.com/ImaginationMN
- Printed material such as catalogs, brochures, flyers, invitations and information packets like this one.
- PDF versions of printed materials, such as catalogs, brochures, flyers, invitations and information packets like this one.

If You Want to Customize the Photo Release

Please feel free to write in the ways that you are willing to allow (or not allow) the Imagination Fair to use the your image and name.

- If you do customize the form, a Volunteer Event Organizer may contact you for clarification about your modifications.

No photos?



If you request that no photos be taken of you, then a “no camera” symbol will be added to your name badge to help Volunteer Event Organizers identify who to avoid while photographing at the Imagination Fair.

If you request that the Imagination Fair not use images of you, please understand that you may still appear in the background of other images but we will attempt to identify you so that we can blur out your face.

Disclaimer

The photo release only addresses how the Imagination Fair will use images and names. Volunteer Event Organizers cannot control the actions of others!

What is Homeschool Adventures’ relationship to the Imagination Fair?

Homeschool Adventures does not organize, host or sponsor events. Instead, it provides the structure to assist individuals in doing so. The Volunteer Event Organizers are members of Homeschool Adventures and rely heavily on that support structure and community to ensure a successful event. The Imagination Fair’s current lead volunteer, Nic Rosenau, is also the current lead volunteer for Homeschool Adventures. (Fun Fact: Vanessa Stephan founded Homeschool Adventures in 2004.)



What is HomeschoolRecess’s relationship to the Imagination Fair?

HomeschoolRecess also does not organize, host or sponsor events. Instead, it is a free registration system for homeschool group field trips. The Imagination Fair’s Volunteer Event Organizers use the HomeschoolRecess website to collect registrations and to share information. (Ellen Crain created HomeschoolRecess in 2009 and handed it off to Nic Rosenau in 2014.)



About this packet

Creating an information packet for Exhibitors was suggested by a 2015 Exhibitor. The Volunteer Event Organizers decided it was such a good idea, they made this one for “Mentors,” too! Please email imagine@hsadventures.org if you spot any errors! Please also share any suggestions for changes to this packet going forward. Major revisions will be announced via email. Revised PDFs will be posted to imaginationfair.org/mentor-info

Giving credit where credit is due!

The photograph of Mentor Jeremy Wilker talking to an Exhibitor about 3D Printers at Imagination Fair 2015 was taken by Molly Lahr. No Photos icon from Leo Reynolds at flickr.com/photos/lwr/ The Imagination Fair IF logo was designed by Nic Rosenau. The Imagination Fair flyer, invitation and social media images were designed by Nic Rosenau. The Imagination Fair “tool” logo was designed by Séamus Blake. The Homeschool Adventures logo was designed by Chris Stephan. Social media icons created by Nicholas Roach at elegantthemes.com. Map from Google Maps. All other icons are from The Noun Project at thenounproject.com including Alarm Clock by Rémy Médard, Folder by Simple Icons, Meeting by Marie Van den Broeck, Folding Chair by James Keuning, No Signal by Pumpkin Juice, Plug-In by Gergely Korinek, Splatter by Magicon, Speaker by Mete Eraydin, Siblings by Marie Van den Broeck, Megaphone by Nithin Davis Nanthikkara, Cleaning by parkjisun, Cash Register by hunotika, Water Bottle by Creative Stall, Orange by Creative Stall, Diner by Isabel Martínez Isabel, Group by Arthur Skripnik, Volunteer by Nick Bluth, Big Family by Marie Van den Broeck, Share by Margot Nado, Internet by Gregor Črešnar, and Photographer by Eric Milet. All other images by Nic Rosenau.

Revised 2020-02-02

Photography Release Form

I hereby authorize the Imagination Fair to publish **photographs** taken of **me** and/or **my minor child or children** on Saturday, April 4, 2020 at the Imagination Fair and its related events for use on the Imagination Fair's print, online and video-based marketing materials, as well as other Imagination Fair publications.

Name Usage Options

First Name Usage: I hereby authorize the Imagination Fair to publish the **first names** of me and/or my minor child or children for use on the Imagination Fair's print, online and video-based marketing materials, as well as other Imagination Fair publications.

Last Name Usage: I hereby authorize the Imagination Fair to publish the **last names** of me and/or my minor child or children for use on the Imagination Fair's print, online and video-based marketing materials, as well as other Imagination Fair publications.

I hereby release and hold harmless the Imagination Fair and its representatives from any reasonable expectation of privacy or confidentiality for myself and for the minor child and children listed below associated with the images specified above.

Further, I attest that I am the parent or legal guardian of the child or children listed below and that I have full authority to consent and authorize the Imagination Fair to use their likenesses and names.

I further acknowledge that participation is voluntary and that neither I, the minor child, or minor children will receive financial compensation of any type associated with the taking or publication of these photographs or participation in company marketing materials or other Company publications. I acknowledge and agree that publication of said photos confers no rights of ownership or royalties whatsoever.

I hereby release Imagination Fair, its volunteers, its contractors, and any third parties involved in the creation or publication of Imagination Fair publications, from liability for any claims by me or any third party in connection with my participation or the participation of the minor child or children listed below.

Printed Name of Parent or Legal Guardian Signature Date

Name of Minor Child Age of Minor

Name of Minor Child Age of Minor

Name of Minor Child Age of Minor

Name of Minor Child Age of Minor

Name of Minor Child Age of Minor

Email completed and signed form to imagine@hsadventures.org.
Or mail to Nic Rosenau, 1918 Benjamin St NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418