

2017-18 ALUMNI AMBASSADOR COUNCIL

In addition to the Alumni Ambassador Program, we have formed the Alumni Ambassador Council (AAC), which brings together a group of dedicated alumni with the purpose of helping Destination Imagination (DI) headquarters. The AAC works with our staff by providing the unique alumni perspective and offering feedback on a number of different projects and initiatives, supporting DI in the creation of new partnerships and collaborations, and strengthening and growing DI around the world.



KAITLIN KEDDY / COUNCIL CHAIR

Kaitlin Keddy was a DI participant for 10 years. After graduating from the program, she began volunteering for DI Massachusetts as an Affiliate Challenge Master and is now an International Challenge Master for the Improv Challenge. She is also the Alumni Coordinator for Massachusetts. In “real life,” she is a protective social worker for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Kaitlin lives just outside of Boston with her husband and her two crazy cats. She’s thrilled to be a part of the Alumni Ambassador Council and looks forward to helping DI grow.

DAWN DICICCO / COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR

Dawn DiCicco has been involved with DI for more than 15 years. She spent nine years as a DI Massachusetts participant and after becoming an alumna of the program, she began serving in a variety of volunteer positions including Team Manager, School Coordinator, Appraiser, and Challenge Master in Massachusetts and New York. Dawn received a B.A. in Studio Television Production from Emerson College, and uses the skills she learned through DI as a member of the directing team for ABC’s, “The View.”



CHANDLER SEBEK / COUNCIL SECRETARY

Chandler Sebek was a DI participant for 12 years before hanging up his duct tape belt buckle and cardboard cowboy boots. After becoming an alumnus of the program, he started to volunteer in a variety of positions. From Head Appraiser to Affiliate Challenge Master to Alumni Ambassador Council Member, he is always searching for new ways to give back to the organization that gave him so much. Chandler is a junior at Texas A&M University, working towards a B.S. in Construction Science and an M.S. in Finance.

MEGHAN KOLF / COUNCIL TREASURER

Meghan Kolf was a DI participant for eight years. After graduating, she began volunteering for DI and has served in a variety of roles, including Team Manager, State Board Member, Regional Director and Appraiser. Megan graduated with a Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Wyoming School of Pharmacy in 2016 and is currently a resident at Children’s Hospital Colorado. She uses her DI training every day as she prepares for her future career and says the only difference is that her toolbox includes prescriptions and drug knowledge instead of pipe cleaners and duct tape.





ERICA BEGUN-VEENSTRA

Erica Begun-Veenstra began her journey with Destination Imagination as a participant in 1995. Since becoming an alumna, she has volunteered for DI in a variety of roles, including Appraiser (her favorite!), Challenge Writer, Regional Challenge Master and Affiliate Challenge Master, and served for two years on the Michigan Board of Directors as Alumni Director. Erica is a Visiting Assistant Professor at Grand Valley State University, where she teaches courses in anthropology.

JENNA CAPUTO

Jenna Caputo is an alumna from Londonderry, New Hampshire. She began participating in DI when she was in the third grade and continued through her senior year of high school. As a college student, she began volunteering as a Team Manager and later became a Regional Challenge Master. In her "real life," Jenna works as an Area Coordinator for Residential Life at her alma mater, Mount Holyoke College. She says the lessons she learned in DI impact her life every day, and despite the physical distance between her and her team members they remain her family.



BLAIRE CHENNAULT

Blaire Chennault first got involved with Michigan DI as a team member in the 10th grade. After becoming an alumna of the program, she began volunteering with DI and has served in a variety of volunteer roles, including Appraiser and Affiliate Challenge Master for DI Georgia tournaments. She has also served as a Global Finals Appraiser. Blaire recently graduated from Emory University and now resides in California, where she works at Google.

KATE NYLANDER

Kate Nylander began participating in DI in the first grade, wanting nothing more than to join the cool club her older brother was in. She was a participant for 12 years. After becoming an alumna, she began volunteering in a variety of roles, including Team Manager, Affiliate Board Member, Appraiser and Regional Challenge Master. Outside of DI, she works in HR strategy for a management consulting firm and volunteers with the online emotional support site, 7 Cups of Tea. Kate credits much of her success to lessons learned through DI.



AUSTIN UEBELHOR

Austin Uebelhor is an alumnus who hails from Southern Indiana. He spent four years as a Destination Imagination participant. Austin currently works at the Regenstrief Institute in the Indiana University Center for Aging Research in Indianapolis. In his free time, he likes to pursue his favorite pastimes of theater, reading and music. Austin believes that DI gives its participants something unique that is often left out of the traditional school environment: lessons in creativity and problem solving that will benefit students for years to come.



MARTY VANWESTEN

Marty VanWesten has been active with Destination Imagination since 1998, starting out as a participant and then becoming a volunteer. He has served in many DI roles, including Appraiser, Challenge Master, Regional Director, Affiliate Board Vice President, and most recently, as a coordinator for his school district. In the “real world,” Marty is a teacher of gifted and talented 5th through 12th grade students at Sheldon Community Schools in Sheldon, Iowa, as well as an assistant coach for the high school speech team. In his free time, Marty loves playing and singing music with others, traveling, and performing in improv and theatrical shows.

ANGELA WRIGHT

Angela Wright is an alumna from Lansing, Michigan and currently resides in Nashville, Tennessee. She participated in DI as a team member from 6th through 12th grade. After her time as a team member, she began volunteering for DI in a variety of roles, including Appraiser, Regional Challenge Master, Social Media and Communications, and fairy princess. Angela works in advertising as a Digital Media Specialist for Parthenon Publishing where the team works to solve client problems and tell client stories. In her free time, she volunteers with the Nashville Michigan State Alumni group and hangs out with her puppy Garth and her cat Chloe.



MISSION

To serve as a liaison between the global alumni network and Destination Imagination, Inc. by recruiting new alumni membership, engaging alumni worldwide and increasing volunteer involvement in Destination Imagination.

VISION

To connect, inspire and empower alumni of the Destination Imagination program.

LEARN MORE

Are you a Destination Imagination alum and are looking for ways to give back to DI locally, nationally and internationally? Join our Alumni Ambassador Program! The Alumni Ambassador Program (AAP) was created to help DI in its mission to inspire the next generation of innovative thinkers, creators and leaders. To join the AAP, apply online at www.DestinationImagination.org/alumni.