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## **Wild Wacky and Wonderful School Assemblies Kick off First Cleveland Area Invention Convention**

Area students have a special treat in store for them when “Captain Gadget” and “Dr. Claire” visit their school inspiring them to invent. For the past eleven years students in Central Ohio have looked forward to their visit. Now the entertainers and educators, Rodney Reese and Abby Fisher will share their talents with students in the Cleveland area. The two transform themselves into wild, wacky and wonderful characters intent on inspiring the “Edison’s” of the future through The Invention Convention School Assembly Program

The first assembly session is slated for Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at Greenbriar Middle School in Parma located at 11810 Huffman It marks the kickoff of the first annual Cleveland Regional Invention Convention program.

Offered free to schools in the area, The Invention Convention inspires students to create and problem solve while developing their inventions. It differs from science fairs in that the focus of the curriculum is to recognize simple to complex problems that individuals face everyday and follow them through the process of creating solutions to them.

The free assembly program is available to all of the school districts participating in The Invention Convention. “We felt we needed an element in the schools that would ignite and prepare the kids for creating a winning invention. The characters of Captain Gadget and Dr. Claire were created to introduce the program and inventing to the students in a fun and inspirational way,” says Cherylyn Rushton Bullock, Executive Director for The Invention Convention

For the past eleven years over 450,000 kids from central Ohio and The Miami Valley region have participated in The Invention Convention creating useful, sometimes crazy and always interesting inventions. Now, kids in Cuyahoga, Lorain and Medina counties will have a chance to do the same as the program follows through with their state wide expansion plans.

The Cleveland region was chosen as the 2nd phase of expansion because according to Rushton, “The region is ripe with invention as a part of its history and with The Invention Hall of Fame close by it makes this area the most appropriate launch of our next large market. It will be exciting to see the inventions these kids come up with”, says Rushton.

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The first Annual Cleveland Regional Invention Convention will showcase 150 of the best inventions from area students on February 17, 2007 at The Great Lakes Science Center. 57 prizes will be awarded including the Grand Prize, a \$2,500 college scholarship.

The expansion of the program is made possible through the contributions of The Invention Convention's Founding Partners: Battelle, Grange Insurance Companies, The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and Just Think Inc..

In addition to program Founders – the organization, a 501 c-3 is seeking local Presenting and Supporting Sponsors. Interested business and philanthropic organizations or individuals may find out more about the program by contacting:

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