



Dear Teachers & Principals:

Welcome to The Invention Convention – a privately funded, non-profit project offered to the schools that aims to put GOOD NEWS about your students on the front page.

The Invention Convention showcases your students and classrooms – recognizing the boundless creativity and optimism of our young people – grades K-8. Any child in a participating district can participate. All that is needed is a problem and a brain. There is no cost to school, teacher, parent or student. We provide all materials, free of charge - and offer operational support to all participants. Most importantly we honor achievement through scholarships – over \$300,000 in scholarship prizes have been awarded since 1996.

The 2007 program is underway – with materials developed and our website fully operational, as a means of additional support; visit [www.JUST-THINK-INC.com](http://www.JUST-THINK-INC.com) for ‘where we have been’ & ‘where we are going.’

The Invention Convention can be as large or as small a part of your curriculum as you like. Your district has been assigned a COORDINATOR by your Superintendent who can order your materials and even schedule your school for an Invention Convention Inspirational Assembly. To learn who your district’s Coordinator is – contact Steve Dietrich, Territory Coordinator at [Steve@just-think-inc.com](mailto:Steve@just-think-inc.com) – (614) 425-9337 or Cherylyn Rushton, Invention Convention Executive Director, at [cherylyn@just-think-inc.com](mailto:cherylyn@just-think-inc.com); (740)548-8182. Each district’s project liaison is responsible for all registration and selection of your district’s finalists – and is the only person authorized to submit your finalist’s Official Registration Forms.

Many fact sheets, information request forms and program timelines have been made available for download at [www.JUST-THINK-INC.com](http://www.JUST-THINK-INC.com) including full Invention Convention Rules. The ‘Teacher of Excellence’ Nomination forms/rules are also available here. If one of your students nominates you – you could win a \$1,500 computer shopping spree for your classroom and a trip to The Great Lakes Science Center for your class (see Teacher of Excellence).

On February 17, 2007 we held The 1st Annual Cleveland Regional Invention Convention at The Great Lakes Science Center. Justin Bacon, Amy Butterfield and Brittany Hertelendy, from Greenbriar Middle School in Parma won the \$2,500 Grand Prize Scholarship for their invention – “Pick-a-Stick of Paste.” Six \$500 first place awards, and over 50 savings bonds were awarded to students from public schools in Cuyahoga, Medina, and Lorain Counties who participated in the program. Top winners also had the opportunity to meet with Patent Attorneys from the law firm of Pearne and Gordon, LLC. Polly Bowman, from Parma City Schools, won the Teacher of Excellence award – a \$1,500 Shopping spree at Microcenter for her classroom, a class field trip to The Great Lakes Science Center, and a Donato’s Pizza Party.

We hope you and your students will find value in participating in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cleveland Invention Convention . We believe the stories of creativity and accomplishment that you nurture in your classroom everyday are worthy of being told. We also believe they are worthy of support, respect and recognition and strive to do just that.

On behalf of the Invention Convention, The Board of JUST THINK, Inc., and our Founders: Battelle, Grange Insurance, The Scotts Company, ThisWeek Community Newspapers & The Columbus Dispatch - welcome to the Invention Convention. We hope you find it a valuable addition to your school year.

With great respect for the work you do every day,

Steven Dietrich  
Territory Coordinator  
[Steve@just-think-inc.com](mailto:Steve@just-think-inc.com)

Cherylyn Rushton Bullock ,  
Executive Director  
[cherylyn@just-think-inc.com](mailto:cherylyn@just-think-inc.com)

[www.just-think-inc.com](http://www.just-think-inc.com)