

## **IDOT Engineering Academies Statewide Competition**

As a culmination of the IDOT Engineering Academies for the 2009-2010 school year students were invited to participate in the 1<sup>st</sup> **IDOT Engineering Academies Statewide Competition** held during Engineering Week, February 20, 2010.

IDOT, the Summer Transportation Institute program at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and Destination ImagiNation partnered to make this event a success.

Students sharpened their teamwork and creative problem solving skills by tackling 7-10 minute Instant Challenges sponsored by the Motorola Foundation. Students then spent 65 minutes creating a way to move balls around detours and obstacles as they faced The Long Way Home Challenge!

Present at the tournament-style event were over 70 students in teams from Upward Bound-East St. Louis, Springfield School District 186, Peoria Manual High School, Chicago Public Schools, Chicago NSBE Jr. Chapter and students from the college bound program YMCA Black and Latino Achievers.

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Springfield School District 186 and Upward Bound East St. Louis

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – King College Prep-Chicago and Chicago NSBE Jr Chapter

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Harlan Academy-Chicago and Springfield School District 186

**“Most Spirited”** Award went to the 3<sup>rd</sup> place combined team of Harlan Academy-Chicago and Springfield School District 186.

**“Fastest Thinkin’ in the Land of Lincoln”** Award went to Peoria Manual High School.

The competition allowed students to combine the technical skills they gained in the IDOT Engineering Academies with teamwork and creative problem solving skills required in all career fields.

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