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Call for entries

Prizes, acclaim await 2009 winner of Young Inventor Challenge

The [Chicago Toy & Game Fair](#), to be held Nov. 21 and 22 at Chicago's Navy Pier, will host its third annual Young Inventor Challenge (YIC), an original toy or game competition for students 18 or under. The grand prize will be awarded by popular vote at the fair and the winning inventor will receive a prize package that includes:

- Dinner for the winner and his/her parents with Mike Hirtle, head of Global Product Acquisition and Inventor Relations at Hasbro following the Nov. 21 award ceremony;
- A feature in Inventors Digest Magazine and a one-year magazine subscription;
- VIP Tour by Bruce Lund of Lund and Company Invention, LLC of the company's workshop and offices
- Tickets to the Feb. 13 Toy of the Year Awards in New York, a two-night hotel stay in New York City and a New York Toy Fair pre-show tour;
- Opportunity to co-present an award at Toy of the Year ceremonies;
- VIP behind-the-scenes tour and general admission for four to the Strong National Museum of Play in Rochester, NY. Strong is home to the National Toy Hall of Fame and the world's largest collection of toys, dolls, games and other items that celebrate play.

Entries are free and must be submitted by mail and postmarked on or before Oct. 31, 2009. For the entry packet and helpful tips, visit www.chitag.com. Projects must be completed by Nov. 21, 2009 so that they can be exhibited at the fair.

"The Young Inventor Challenge helps kids develop so many skills that can serve them well through life such creativity, critical thinking and perseverance," says Mary Couzin, Executive Director of the Chicago Toy & Game Fair. "They'll learn how inventors work – from concept to development of a prototype to testing and research."

Young inventors, who are advised by toy and game industry representatives, will display their nominated toys and games at the fair and will be available to answer questions. Attendees can vote during the two days of the fair on the inventions based on originality, creativity, appeal and presentation of the marketing message.

Chicago Toy & Game Fair hours are 10 am to 6 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 5 pm on Sunday. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Children under three are admitted free; Scouts in uniform, teachers and librarians are also admitted free of charge.

2009 Young Inventor Challenge sponsors include [Hasbro](#), [Lund and Company Invention](#) LLC, [ideasplash](#), [Inventors Digest Magazine](#), [Strong National Museum of Play](#) and the [Toy Industry Association](#).

For more information, please visit www.chitag.com.

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