

# STEAM – A BMM initiative

Empowering kids with the engine of intellect from the community

# Objective

- Providing a platform to kids at the community level to display their talent and ideas in the academic areas of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics
- Empower kids with community leadership who can guide them to take their ideas at the next level by mentoring and guiding them
- Bring the benefits of the community living and improve the cohesiveness within Mandal's and build regional level partnership



# Competition format and timelines

- All participating mandal's will announce the program at a convenient date going forward.
- Project kickoff date is planned to be **1<sup>st</sup> June 2018**, which coincides with kid's summer vacation.
- All participant mandal's will select there top three entries by **30<sup>th</sup> Sep 2018** end which will go to the regional level.
- Regional level competition will be held at the key city in that region announced later by **Nov 2018**.
- Top 3 winners from regional level competition will enter the national level competition.
- Final competition will be held at a convenient location and date planned to be sometime by **Dec 2018** timeframe.
- Panel of judges will be selected at regional and national level by BMM and announced in advance.
- BMM is working on sponsorship for the kids to be flown into the location where finals will be held.

# Regions to which Mandal's will be aligned

- Northeast & Canada
- Southeast
- Midwest
- South
- West coast

# Who can participate

- All Participants must be valid members of respective Marathi Mandal's.
- Kids from ages of 6 yr. to 14 yrs. can participate.
- Make a team of minimum 2 and maximum 7.

# What type of projects are eligible

- In general, the display of anything that could be hazardous to the public is PROHIBITED, including the following:
  - Anything that is ALIVE (animals, plants, molds, etc)
  - Sharp items (needles, knives, syringes)
  - Small, loose pieces sitting on the table that could be picked up by a child (choking hazard) or fall to the floor posing a tripping/slipping hazard to members of the public.
  - Photos of people without their (and if a minor, their parent's) written consent to be displayed.
  - All chemicals (laboratory/household), cleaners, poisons, toxic substances
  - Drugs or controlled substances; hazardous substances or devices (i.e. firearms)
  - Dry ice or other sublimating solids
  - Flames, fire, highly flammable materials
  - Any apparatus deemed unsafe including empty tanks that previously contained combustible liquids or gases.
  - Batteries with open top cells
  - Projects with moving parts that have unprotected belts and pulleys

# What do we expect!!

- Project should be innovative and creative which should depict the original concept or thought behind it.
- Demonstrated and created only for this program and never displayed earlier in the same format.
- Parents can support and guide on the concept but not on the execution of the project.

# Application Format -SAMPLE

- Number of participants in a team:
- Name/s:
- Team Lead:
- Team Players:
- Age:
- Grade:

\*See attached form which needs to be filled in by teams



# Guidelines for selection of Judges

- Mandal level competition
  - Judges will be selected by Mandal representatives. Ideally 3 judges should be nominated who can use the BMM provided score card to evaluate the candidates.
- Regional level competition
  - 3 Judges will be selected by BMM from the available pool of judges within the region or outside with the help of Mandal's or through BMM reach out. Judges may or may not be from the same pool which judged the local competition.
- National level competition
  - All three judges will be selected by BMM.
  - Any one having their direct relatives cannot judge the event. Failure to declare can lead to disqualification of candidate.

# Age Category

- 6 – 8 Years
- 9-11 Years
- 12 – 14 Years

Competition can be held in three different age group to keep it more simple to judge

- We can revisit if we receive any exceptions we need to handle
- We do not encourage kids from same family in the same team

# Further questions

- Contact Local Marathi mandal : [mmba@mmbayarea.org](mailto:mmba@mmbayarea.org) - Maharashtra Mandal Bay Area
- Sandeep Padhye : [spadhye@gmail.com](mailto:spadhye@gmail.com) – STEAM Program coordinator
- Avinash Padhye : [avinash.padhye@nemm.org](mailto:avinash.padhye@nemm.org) – BMM President

# FAQ

- Should we expect detail guidelines or this should be it? We have shared the guidelines to kickoff the program. If there is any clarification required we will release one more set.
- Are you going to provide Judging criteria for all rounds of the competition? Yes, I am working on the template for each level, will release the winning criteria's to be used by Mandal's soon
- As you have mentioned, judges will be selected by BMM (EC)??, what is the criteria to become a judge? Are you going to announce that too? : For Mandal level, we will suggest a guideline for judges for eg: someone who has credentials in the academic/science area and preferably an experience to judge such contest. We will not force Mandal's to choose one over the other as they have to send the best entry so they better choose good judges who can identify the winnable entry. For regional level , we can ask them to suggest names from each mandal and BMM will choose the three judges. If they fail to suggest then we can help them through our own regional connects. I want each region to own their piece and not become overhead to BMM. BMM will step in only when they need help.
- Are you going to announce only names of judges for the final round or we should expect to see their credentials as well? : For finals, BMM will choose the judges as its the most important step. We may or may not choose any judges who participated in earlier rounds.
- *Make a team of minimum 2 and maximum 7.* So two kids from same family can form a team, right? Good suggestion. We can tell that no two kids from same family can be part of one team. In that case, it will not serve our purpose of bringing kids of our community together. It will become a competition between the families, which in my opinion unhealthy.
- What about budget for the project? Suppose a team from Irvine will spend thousand dollars on a project and a team from Bakersfield will spend only \$50, it will not affect the idea but it will definitely make a difference in finishing and presentation. How judges will deal with this problem? In all the competitions, where participants are going to bring their product, either provide a list /description of material or provide approx. budget. So that people will not go overboard. For example: \$20 per participant (more the merrier, this will boost the team size) or \$150 total per project. I will not recommend any budget, its the vision that matters ,if parents are willing to support the idea and ready to spend as its worth it, let them do it.
- The application form requires a team lead, what is the criteria for the team leader? Each team can nominate their own. We should not control that.
- Are you going to allow an adult member as a team guide or a mentor for preliminary rounds? Teams can have their parents, community members as advisors in the earlier rounds.
- For regional and national level rounds, have you thought about travelling, lodging and food arrangement at discounted price? : We expect regional cities to lead and help keep the cost of parents to minimum. Since there will be only three teams per mandal going into regional, we expect mandal's to help accommodate. It will also bring the community together when they meet informally. As far as National's are concerned, we will see how it plays as it might involve cost and we can negotiate as we progress with different groups and provide discounts where possible.