

Fact Sheet

Broadcast

Design Squad Nation is a weekly series premiering 10 half-hour episodes on PBS KIDS GO! and pbskidsgo.org/designsquadnation beginning Wednesday, January 26, 2011 (check local listings).

Series Description

Design Squad Nation is a spin-off of *Design Squad* for 'tweens, teens, and family-viewing. Over 10 episodes, engineer co-hosts Judy Lee and Adam Vollmer travel across the country and around the world, working side by side with kids to turn their dreams into reality. *Design Squad Nation* shows that engineering isn't about hiding away in some lab; it's about being active in the world, taking risks, collaborating with interesting people, and using science, math, and technology to solve real problems.

Design Squad Nation takes a kid's passion and combines it with engineering to create an array of engineering feats—a cake that is part delicious, part electronic, part mad scientist for the cast party of *Young Frankenstein: The Musical*; a pedal-powered bike organ; a human-powered flying machine, and more. *Design Squad Nation* shows kids that if they can dream it, they can build it.

Season Hosts

Design Squad Nation is hosted by Judy Lee and Adam Vollmer, two innovative engineers who work with kids across the country and the globe to turn their dreams into reality.

Website

The *Design Squad Nation* website is a destination for creative 'tweens and teens, promoting the message: You are creative and can solve problems. You can make things that help people. We want you to join the *Design Squad Nation*. Let's dream big. Let's build something together.

On the site, kids can work alongside co-hosts Judy Lee and Adam Vollmer, posting real-life solutions to real-life problems and responding to challenges from the show by sketching and building their own prototypes. The *Design Squad Nation* Blog features inspiring engineering and DIY content from across the Web. The blog will engage with the *Design Squad Nation* community directly by including calls to action, DIY challenges, aspirational examples of kid-made content on the site, and first-person video and messages from Judy and Adam—sharing both the fun and the failures that are a part of the design process.

Already, more than 12,000 kids are engaged, actively creating and sharing content in our online community.

Design Squad Nation invites the next generation of great thinkers to get involved at pbskidsgo.org/designsquadnation. Viewers can also follow *Design Squad Nation* on Facebook at facebook.com/DesignSquadNation, on Twitter at twitter.com/designsquad, and on YouTube at youtube.com/user/DesignSquadNation.

Difference between *Design Squad* and *Design Squad Nation*

Design Squad Nation takes the engineering and building fun of the original series and brings it directly to kids around the country and the globe. From conception to finished product, *Design Squad Nation* combines engineering know-how with kids' passions to create amazing things that improve people's lives.

Major funding



Series funding



NORTHROP GRUMMAN
Foundation

the Lemelson foundation
improving lives through invention

Additional funding

NOYCE
FOUNDATION



motorola
foundation

IEEE
Celebrating 125 Years
of Engineering the Future

Producers

Design Squad Nation is produced by WGBH Boston. Senior executive producer is Kate Taylor; executive producer is Marisa Wolsky; senior producer is Dorothy Dickie. Content director is Dr. Donald Pratt, Professor of Engineering, Messiah College.

Funders

Design Squad Nation is produced by WGBH Boston. Major funding for *Design Squad Nation* is provided by the National Science Foundation. Series funding is provided by the National Aeronautics Space Administration (NASA), Northrop Grumman Foundation, and The Lemelson Foundation. Additional funding is provided by Noyce Foundation, United Engineering Foundation (ASCE, ASME, AIChE, IEEE, AIME), Motorola Foundation, and IEEE.

Mission

Design Squad Nation builds on *Design Squad's* mission to increase student's knowledge of engineering and to improve the public image of engineering, especially among girls and minorities.

Outreach Campaign

To date, *Design Squad* and its partners have conducted 135 trainings for 5,387 engineers and educators, and engaged 153,548 kids and families with hands-on engineering activities through 413 events and workshops across the country. 85 engineering and education organizations have become formal partners, and 17,913 programs have used *Design Squad's* educational materials, which include six educators' guides (containing step-by-step directions and leaders' notes for 40 activities) targeted to engineers, afterschool program leaders, and teachers.

Engineering Organizations

American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES)
 American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
 American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE)
 American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)
 Boston Society of Civil Engineers
 Central Texas Engineers Week
 CH2M HILL
 Continuum
 Fluor Corporation
 GrayTech Software, Inc.
 Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (The IEEE)

Intel Corporation
 Junior Engineering Technical Society (JETS)
 National Academy of Engineering (NAE)
 National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)
 National Engineers Week Foundation (EWeek)
 National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)
 National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE)
 Northrop Grumman
 Rockwell Collins
 Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME)
 Society of Women Engineers (SWE)
 Tyco Electronics

Educational Organizations

4-H
 Agawam High School
 American Association of University Women (AAUW)
 American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) - Engineering, Go For It!
 Boys & Girls Clubs of America
 California Polytechnic State University
 Carnegie Science Center
 Central Piedmont Community College
 Children's Discovery Museum
 Coalition for Science After School
 Cogito.org (Johns Hopkins U. Center for Talented Youth)
 Creative Discovery Museum
 Dell-Winston School Solar Car Challenge
 Elon University, Dual Degree Engineering Program

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology)
 Georgia Institute of Technology, Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics, and Computing (CEISMC)
 Girl Scouts of the USA
 Girls Inc.
 Girls, Math & Science Partnership
 Indiana Department of Education
 Intel Computer Clubhouse Network
 International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA)
 Inventors Without Borders
 Iowa State University
 Lehigh University

Educational Organizations (cont.)

Louisiana Children's Museum
Louisiana State University, College of Engineering
MAKE Magazine
Maui Economic Development Board
Metropolitan Cleveland Consortium for STEM
Museum of Discovery and Science
Museum of Science, Boston
NASA
National Afterschool Association
National Girls Collaborative Project
North Carolina A&T State University-College of Engineering
North Carolina State University
Ohio Technology Education Association
Oklahoma State University WEAT (Women in Engineering, Architecture and Technology)
Olathe Northwest High School
Purdue University
Resource Area for Teaching (RAFT)
Rutgers University School of Engineering
South Mountain Community College
STEMout
Stevens Institute of Technology

Texas Tech University T-STEM Center
Thanksgiving Point Museum of Ancient Life
The Lemelson-MIT Program
The Works: Ohio Center for History, Art & Technology
Tufts University
University of Akron, College of Engineering
University of Florida - College of Engineering
University of IL at Chicago, Women in Science and Engineering
University of IL at Urbana-Champaign, Women in Engineering
University of Virginia, Dept. of Systems & Information Engineering
University of Wisconsin - La Crosse
University Transportation Center (UTC) at Cleveland State University
Utah Valley University, College of Technology and Computing
Westlake City Schools
Wichita State University, College of Engineering
Wisconsin Institute for Robotics in Education
YMCA of the USA

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