

Fall 2022

TPED Newsletter

Written by: Matthew Fung



We're back... and better than ever!

After 2+ years of battling the pandemic, the masks are off and the screams return! As TPED welcomes in a bunch of new recruits, we continue to delight by sharing our common enthusiasm for all things theme parks, resuming our favorites from our annual park trip to our design competitions. That said, Zoom is very much still in action in our meetings to enable maximum engagement within our TPED community and continues to be the perfect platform for guest speakers. Words couldn't describe the excitement of us being in each other's company, perhaps most evident by the smiles and banter one would hear in any given biweekly gathering we have on campus.



New blood has also been flowing through the club as the academic year kicked off, and we're honored to have some of them take on pivotal roles within the club. Many have also become staples in our KNEX and SHOVE projects, sprouting unprecedented progress and milestones in both. It's been an incredible semester and we all can't wait to continue in the spring!

Pictured on the left: the SHOVE team with our 1:1 trash can replica of Disney's PUSH !!



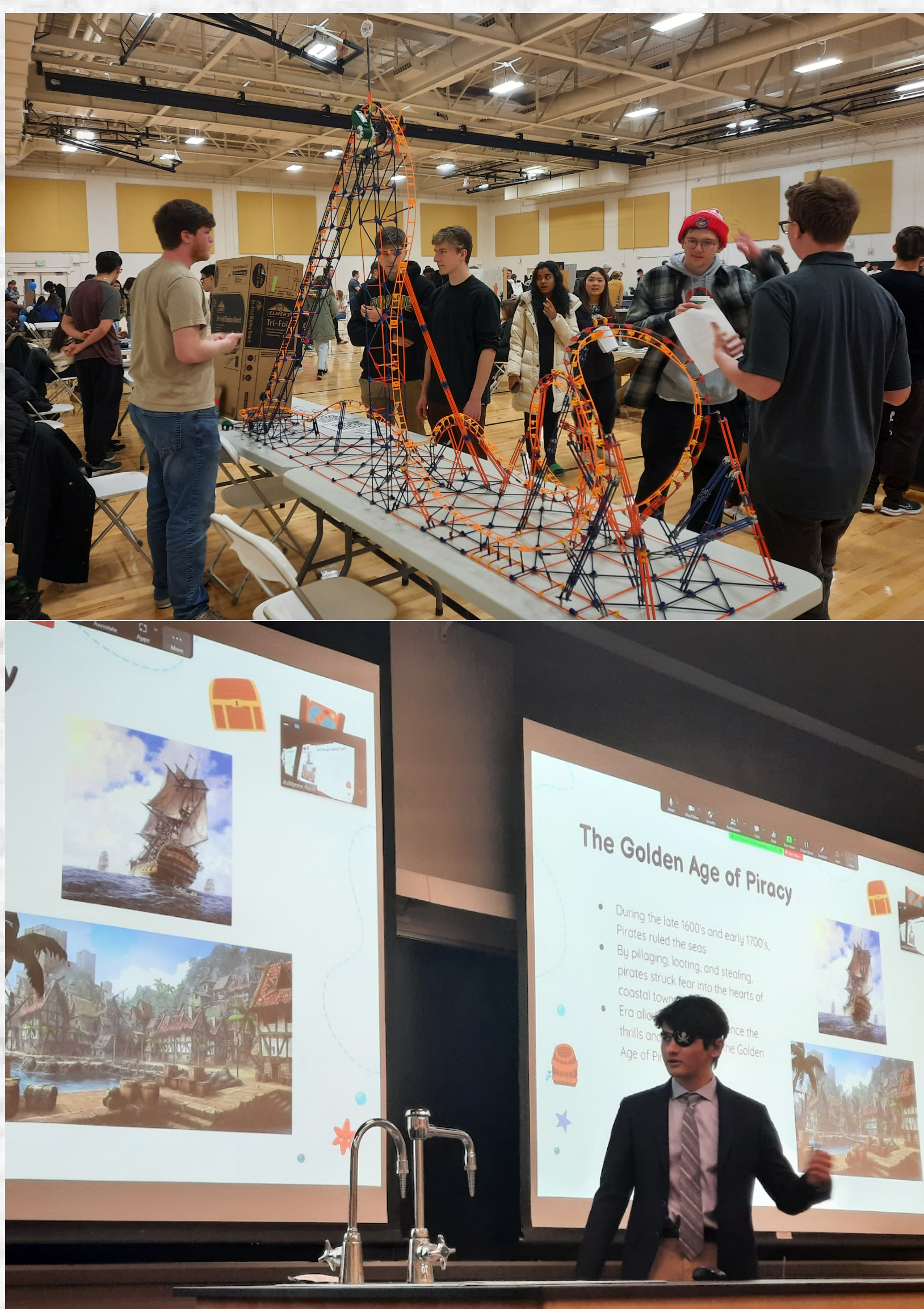
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Maximizing Our Exposure

For our annual park trip this year, TPED returned to Six Flags Great America for a spooktacular time, allowing for the golden opportunity to experience some marvellous rides in action, notably including Maxx Force, Goliath, and SUPERMAN: Ultimate Flight. While it was the busiest day of the year for the park, our members, over 40 strong, immensely enjoyed spending a breezy day off. For a detailed inside look of that day, check out the blog page on our website for a recap!

TPED was also honored to return to the IAAPA Expo located in Orlando, Florida in November. Not only is this the first time the trip was made official with the school, but as a first-of-its kind scholarship, TPED alum Scott Hodson offered to help a member of TPED interested in pursuing a job in themed entertainment attend IAAPA. The award was granted to Nick Mann, a freshman and rising star within the community. We would like to thank Scott for his generosity and enthusiasm in allowing aspiring students like Nick to connect with the themed entertainment industry at ease. For more of our highlights at IAAPA, check out our Youtube channel for a quick video put together by our videography chair, Grey Beudot!



Spreading the Enthusiasm

This year has continued to bolster the claim that the interest towards TPED remains at consistently high levels. Our presence at the Be-Involved Fair saw a record turnout (largely thanks to the Knex coaster built by one of our own, Ethan Gray, seen on the left here) where new and returning students were introduced to our opportunities to interact with industry professionals, as well as our social meetings and potential park trips. We're excited to share our passion to the Purdue community and are more than proud to have new prospectors jump on the bandwagon.

We also recently wrapped up one of our favorite events: the semiannual design competition! This semester, contestants were given a historical period to choose from and were asked to design sections of a theme park with the selected theming to educate and entertain audiences. We were impressed by all their efforts as well as the creative presentation tactics on this special night. We strongly believe the design competition to be a valuable opportunity for a sneak peek into the behind-the-scenes of the theme park industry, and look forward to continuing this tradition and spreading the word to appeal to prospective club members!

