

Model Daze Program Details for Participants

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Overview

Model Daze is a month long celebration of the hobby of scale model building. The events include an In-the-Case Contest in which participants can choose their level of competition. It also includes the infamous 6 Hour Build in which participants have 6 hours to build a model unknown to them before the contest starts. Participants can sit together and get acquainted at Open Builds. The rest of the community is invited to participate in the voting for the People's Choice Award. The events end with a Participants' Reception that includes announcement of the winners.

6 Hour Build Entry Fee \$5 Host provides the kit

The 6 Hour Build is not for every modeler. The program is based on a contest reported to be conducted in Japan. Participants were given a theme, supplies and a fixed time frame in which to work. The original intent of the Model Daze 6 Hour Build was to get participating modelers out of their comfort zone and encourage them to try something different. It is also reminiscent of younger days for most modelers when perfection and detailing were not the main focus. Slap it together and paint it!! It sometimes seems like we've lost something when it takes months to finish a kit! This program can bring back that thrill to those open to the experience.

Modelers bring their own equipment and supplies according to the rules below. Each will be provided with a kit unknown until contest time. The winner of the contest will be chosen by public vote.

Rules

- No Rattle cans or airbrushes
- Participants provide their own tools and other supplies
- Building time is 6 hours total

The ban on airbrushes and rattle cans levels the playing field for less experienced and/or less well financed modelers and saves the host the problems associated with solvent based aerosol paints. The contest is supposed to be all in fun so the winner is chosen by public vote along with the rest of the In-the-Case Contest.

In-the-Case Contest

The In-the-Case Contest is designed to allow each participant to select their level of competition. Having the models in the case for a whole month allows the host to have a fresh, interesting display as many times as Model Daze is run each year. The addition of Public Voting allows every person entering the store to participate in the program. Sponsors for special awards can be solicited to further turn up the interest level.

Judging Formats

Open Judging: each entry is judged on its own merits. Judges will look for the same demonstration of mastery as expected in other, more commonly used formats: basic construction, paint application, clear parts and decal application. If all the entries demonstrate a high level of mastery, they all get top awards. If little mastery is represented, few top awards will be presented. In an Open Judging scenario, all work gets properly recognized, not just the best three or four. Recognition levels are Gold, Silver, Bronze and Merit or Honorable Mention.

Open Judging insures that each model will be thoroughly examined by the judges. Since the models are not being judged against each other, categories become somewhat unnecessary.

Elimination or Closed Judging: This is the system employed by the International Plastic Modelers Society. In closed judging, kits are eliminated from competition when flaws in construction, paint, clear parts or decal application. The three or four models with the least number of errors become the winners in the category. Since the kits are judged against each other, assigning models to specific categories is usually necessary, providing that there are enough entries to make the divisions worthwhile.

Contest Divisions presented in increasing order of competition.

For Display Only (FDO): No Entry Fee. Some modelers just want people to see their work without the added stress from competition. Even

though these models will not be judged, they will be registered and tagged.

Junior: No Entry Fee. Open to modelers as young as the host is willing to accept up to 16 or 18 years of age. Open Judging is used in the Junior Division.

Recreational : No Entry Fee. Adult modelers of all ages and skill levels. This is not for intense competition modelers. It's for everyone else. Open Judging provides a somewhat lower level of competition and a chance for participants to see how their skills compare with those of the other contestants. Since Open Judging is used, categories are unnecessary.

Hard Core: \$5 entry fee per model. Closed/elimination judging. Cash awards. This division is for the most competitive modelers in the community. The elimination judging will usually involve the same degree of hair-splitting seen at IPMS contests. The small number of entries usually rules out categories.

Prizes and Awards

People's Choice: Public voting allows the non-modeling public to participate in the program. Each person can vote only once.

Judges Choice: The winner is the kit selected by the judges as their favorite.

Recreational and Junior Division: Ribbons for Gold, Silver, Bronze and Merit or Honorable Mention

Hard Core: Cash in. Cash out.

Sponsored Awards: Criteria and prizes chosen by the donor.

Open Builds

Bring your stuff and something to work on. Hang out and model with other local modelers. It's a great place to share your favorite aspect of the hobby and see what others like, too.

Make-N-Takes

The target audience is ideally kids under 16 who do not have modeling in their house already. Non-modeling friends of contestants with kids are excellent

candidates for the M&T. While the kids enjoy the free models, the adults can walk around the store. This is supposed to bring new people into the hobby. You can help!

Clubs Day

Similar to an Open Build, local clubs will have a representative for you to meet. Come see what they are all about. It's a good chance to bring new people into the hobby and support the local clubs.

Participants' Reception

If space and time allow, it is a nice idea to invite the participants in for some refreshments and the announcement of the winners of the various awards. This is a good PR opportunity for the store. The participants also get the chance to meet each other.