



# Odyssey of the Mind™

## Newsletter


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## The Odyssey of the Mind is **E N E R G I Z E D !**

*Energized* is the word to describe the Odyssey of the Mind Associations. The Directors are the most enthusiastic group ever -- including in the beginning in 1978! Their excitement at the tournaments spills over to the teams, coaches and spectators. The positive energy is overwhelming.

It was a decade ago that President George Bush declared the Odyssey of the Mind volunteers one of his Thousand Points of Light. That light is shining brighter than ever. 

## WE'RE GROWING ALL OVER — IN LEAPS AND BOUNDS!

Odyssey of the Mind teams are all around the world. In the 1999-2000 program year, we had teams in Africa, Australia, Bahamas, Belgium, Bermuda, Canada, China, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, United Kingdom, throughout the United States, Uzbekistan, and elsewhere. This growth can be attributed, in part, to the European and Pacific associations, which help make participation possible for children of all cultures. We thank them for their efforts.

A special thanks goes to Mabry King, international liaison, who helps out by communicating with international teams and going the extra mile to welcome them into our program. The efforts of these individuals truly make the Odyssey of the Mind an international extravaganza.

## NEW FOR 2000-2001

As we continue our efforts to improve service to our members and increase communications, we are working on the following upgrades for next year.


- **Electronic Problem Clarifications.** You will be able to submit general clarifications, that is, those that do not reveal your solution, via the official Odyssey of the Mind Web site.
- **On-Line Registration.** Before the summer is here, you will be able to register for membership in the Odyssey of the Mind via our Web site. We also plan to have on-line registration for all tournaments.
- **Verification of Membership Requests.** When we receive an application for membership in the 2000-2001 Odyssey of the Mind program before September 1, we will mail a postcard letting you know that we received your order.
- **Improved Web Site.** We will provide more information on-line in a time-efficient manner.



OMER says, "Check out our Web site!"  
[www.odysseyofthemind.com](http://www.odysseyofthemind.com)

## Jake Zimmer Wins Titan I™ Grand Prize

Colorado resident Jake Zimmer is the latest Titan I contest winner. Jake's balsa wood structure held 1,112.5 pounds, earning him the Grand Prize of \$1,000. Over the years, Jake has participated on numerous Odyssey of the Mind structure teams. Way to go, Jake!

The Titan I problem has different specifications than the Odyssey of the Mind structure problem. Last year's winner was Jennifer Whitehead of Florida. 

## Odyssey of the Mind 2000-2001 Problem Synopses



Flood

### TECHno-PETS

This problem requires teams to build two "pet" vehicles. The pets will perform a total of eight tasks, two of which will be determined by the team. Tasks include one pet chasing another, sleeping, retrieving something, and entering a team-created home.

**Cost limit:** \$90 for the vehicles and \$35 for all other materials in the solution. **Divisions:** II, III & IV

### Ody-SEE-ing SOUNDS

For this problem, teams will present a humorous performance that includes different "live" sound effects. Several of the sound effects will be produced by two team-created devices; others will be created in any manner that the team wishes.

**Cost limit:** \$110. **Divisions:** I, II, III & IV



P.C.

### Classics . . . Wild.Winged.Wonders.



Rose

The team will identify three birds: one of a living species, one that is team-created and one that is classical, that is, it is found in a documented work of art or literature. The team will discuss the merits of the birds, select one of the birds for special recognition, and present the rationale for choosing one over the others. The performance will include three original works of art depicting each bird and a commemorative memento designed by the team in honor of the occasion. One of the birds will fly, or appear to fly.

**Cost limit:** \$125 **Divisions:** I, II, III & IV

### ACHILLES' HEEL

Teams will design and build a structure of balsa wood that will hold as much weight as possible while withstanding impacts from a vehicle designed and built by the team. After placing certain weight increments onto the structure, the team will roll its vehicle down a ramp so it crashes into part of the structure – its Achilles' heel! All the while, the team will continue to add as much weight to the structure as it can hold.

**Cost limit:** \$85 **Divisions:** I, II, III & IV



Chipper

### IDIOM INSPIRATION



OMER

Let the cat out of the bag does not mean to literally open a bag to release a cat. It's an idiomatic phrase that means to inadvertently reveal a secret. In this problem, teams will present a humorous performance that includes four idioms. One idiom will be created by the team, along with a skit showing the team's version of how it originated. The other idioms will be selected from a list. Two will be demonstrated – literally and figuratively – by the team, and another will be incorporated into an original poem.

**Cost limit:** \$100. **Divisions:** I & II

### GAME SHOW

Game shows have been broadcast on tv since way back when. In this non-competitive problem, teams will create a game show with contestants. Something good will happen to one contestant – winning a million dollars maybe?

**Cost limit:** \$60. **Primary:** grades K-2



Cookie & Milkweed

**NOTE:** These problems are tentative as of May 2000. While some aspects may change, the nature of the problems will remain the same. All problems have an 8-minute time limit. Cost limits are in U.S. dollars.

# 2000-2001 ODYSSEY OF THE MIND MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

For new memberships or renewals, complete this form and return it with a check, purchase order, or credit card number (see below).

**Check one:**

**Divisions I, II and III:**

- Individual school:** Must register in the school name. May enter one team per problem per division in competition.
- Two or more schools:** Must share the same principal. Use school district name on application. May enter one team per problem per division in competition.
- Home-schooled students:** All students on the team must be home-schooled. May enter one team per problem.
- Community Group:** Must be an established organization within the community. May enter one team per problem in competition. Please submit by-laws if this is a new membership.

**Division IV:** May enter one team per problem. Proceeds directly to World Finals for competition.

Membership name \_\_\_\_\_ Membership number (if renewal) \_\_\_\_\_

Grades covered by membership \_\_\_\_\_ School district \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person (may be a coach) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address (for newsletter delivery and correspondence) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Each individual membership costs \$135, but you'll receive discounts if you purchase more than one membership.  
\*You will also receive **ONE FREE BOOK** per membership ordered. Please indicate selection(s) below.*

- Individual 2000-2001 Odyssey of the Mind Membership @ \$135 .....
- Additional membership(s) for the same school or community group @ \$100 .....
- 6-10 memberships for the same school district (registered at the same time) @ \$120 .....
- 11 or more memberships from the same school district (registered at the same time) @ \$100.....

### ODYSSEY OF THE MIND SUPPORT MATERIALS

- \*copies of *Creativity + Teamwork = Solutions!* @ \$18 Includes tips on building effective teams. ....
  - \*copies of *Odyssey Update* @ \$17.50 The best problems from three earlier Odyssey of the Mind books.....
  - \*copies of *Competition Stimulates Creativity* @ \$16 Discusses the benefits of competition .....
  - \*copies of *Odysseymania!* @ \$17 Includes a chapter on humor and creativity .....
  - \*copies of *Make Learning Fun* @ \$17 Provides a history of the program .....
- All of the above books are a collection of long-term and spontaneous problems from past competition years.  
If ordering additional books, add \$3 shipping & handling for the first book, \$1 for each additional book.*
- copies of *Odyssey of the Mind Program Guide* @ \$5 .....
  - subscriptions to *Odyssey of the Mind Newsletter* @ \$10 .....
  - Titan I Kits @ \$24.95 (includes shipping & handling) .....
  - packs of Balsa Wood (premium grade AAA 36" x 1/8" x 1/8") @ \$20 per 100 pieces (includes S & H).....

*Contact CCI with any questions*

phone: 856/456-7776 ● email: cci@jersey.net ● fax: 856/456-7008  
www.odysseyofthemind.com

Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_  
Shipping & Handling \_\_\_\_\_  
Total \_\_\_\_\_

**To submit payment:**

- Complete this form and mail it to CCI, 1325 Rte 130 S, Suite F, Gloucester City, NJ 08030, along with a check, money order or p.o., payable to CCI, or with your credit card information.
- If paying by p.o., you may FAX your order to 856/456-7008.
- If paying by credit card, you may FAX your order, order by phone by calling 856/456-7776 or e-mail cci@jersey.net.

VISA  MasterCard  American Express  Discover

Acct. no. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of cardholder \_\_\_\_\_

### SHIPPING ADDRESS (For UPS Delivery)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_



# Odyssey of the Mind

c/o Creative Competitions, Inc.

1325 Rte 130 S ● Suite F ● Gloucester City, NJ 08030

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## 2001: A CREATIVE ODYSSEY Come Join Us!

*Look inside for next  
year's problem synopses.*

The *Odyssey of the Mind Newsletter* is published by Creative Competitions, Inc. Editor: Carol Ann DeSimine.

### TIPS: THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR ODYSSEY OF THE MIND MEMBERSHIP

**Applying for membership:** You may apply or renew at any time. The sooner the better, and here's why: The first batch of packets are shipped in late August, since CCI spends the summer refining and publishing the membership materials. Applications are processed in the order we receive them. If you order before September 1, we will send confirmation of receipt and as soon as the packets are ready, yours will be one of the first to be shipped. If you order after September 1, we will ship your packet at once, without sending a confirmation. Generally, it takes us 2-3 days to process your order and 2-5 days for UPS delivery, depending on where you live.

**Books:** We will send your free book, and any other items ordered with your application, when we ship your packet unless you request otherwise.

**Ordering with a purchase order:** If you apply using a purchase order (p.o.) we will mail your packet WITHOUT the membership card. We will mail the membership card once we receive payment. Remember: a p.o. is a promise of payment, but not an actual payment.

**Membership cards:** If you purchase your membership with a check or credit card, we will send your membership card with your packet. If you order with a p.o. and do not have your membership card within 30 days of your first competition, check with your business office to see if they sent us a check. If so, call our office to make sure we received it.

**Association fees and information:** Any questions regarding your regional or association competition, local cut-off dates or

procedures should be directed to the Association Director of your state. A list of directors is included in your membership packet. Some associations charge state competition fees, which must be remitted to your association, not CCI. Only the basic membership fee is paid to CCI, a portion of which goes to your association.

**Membership cut-off dates:** Our cut-off date for membership application is April 1; however, each association has its own cut-off date. To join after your association's cut-off date, you must get permission from your Association Director before you can participate in competition.

**Clarifications:** To ensure confidentiality, we will accept and return clarifications via U.S. mail. General clarifications may be submitted electronically. Please keep in mind that we require a seven-day turnaround from the date of receipt and that no clarifications will be answered if they are postmarked after March 1.

**Odyssey of the Mind Program Guide:** This guide is probably your most valuable resource for program information. It covers practically all aspects of participation, from defining *Style* categories to explaining outside assistance. Please refer to it when you are unsure of a particular area and to find forms necessary for competition.

**Odyssey of the Mind Newsletter:** This is a valuable tool for communicating program updates, so it is important that we mail it to your correct address. On your application, please provide us with an address where you are sure to receive your mail.



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