



Odyssey of the Mind®

Newsletter

Volume 35

Winter 2013

Number 2

OotM HONORED FOR 35 YEARS OF CREATIVITY

On January 28th the New Jersey Senate and General Assembly recognized Odyssey of the Mind with an official resolution celebrating its 35th anniversary.

Program Director Sammy Micklus, along with his family, accepted the resolution during an assembly meeting.

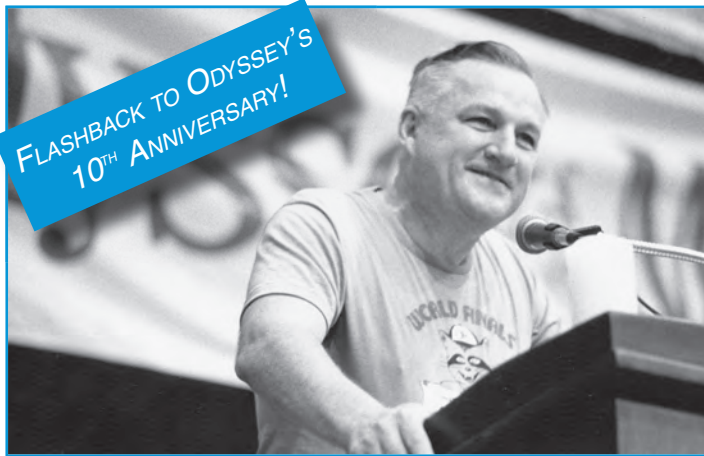
“We are especially proud to receive recognition from New Jersey since it is the state where Odyssey got its start. We’d also like to thank all of our associations and volunteers for helping to keep the program going strong over the years. We hope to bring creative-problem solving to students around the world for another 35 years and beyond,” he said.

The resolution, signed by Senator Madden, Assemblyman Moriarty, and Assemblywoman Mosquera describes the Odyssey of the Mind program and commends its dedication to students of all ages. In part, it read:

“...Odyssey of the Mind stands as a beacon of the heights to which education can aspire and is an exceptional example of the success possible through innovative programs which challenges students...”



Program Director Sammy Micklus accepting the New Jersey Resolution with his family, Katarina, William, and Cheryl Micklus. It was presented to them by Assemblywoman Gabriela Mosquera and Assemblyman Paul Moriarty (pictured right).



Top: Dr. Sam speaking in 1988 at World Finals during Odyssey’s tenth year. Bottom: A World Finals structure team at World Finals in 1993. Both events were held at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD.

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Problem Clarifications Reminder

Stay up-to-date and submit clarifications by visiting www.odysseyofthemind.com/clarifications

Remember: The problem clarification system is not intended to replace reading the problem and the program guide. Please reread both before submitting a clarification.

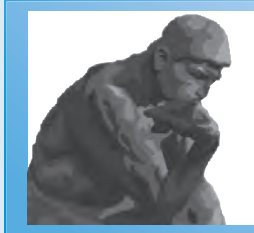
Do not submit a clarification that asks: (1) if an idea is creative or if one idea would receive more score than another. (No comment regarding subjective scoring will be provided); (2) where the judges or the audience will be during the performance (that is a question for your Tournament Director); (3) to confirm the wording of the problem; (4) if something may be different from an aspect that is specifically required (for example, if the problem requires 1/8" wood for a part, you are not allowed to use 1/16" wood for that required part).

2013 PROBLEM TEES: Show off your OotM problem as a team member, or your support as a parent or coach with the newly-designed 2012-13 problem t-shirts. Not only do they make great shirts to show your Odyssey pride, but they can also be worn during competition and are exempt from cost as written in the *2012-13 Program Guide*.

The shirts can be viewed in color and purchased online at www.odysseyofthemind.com/shop. They are available in all the long-term problems, including primary. The shirts feature the problem name and current year along with a fun graphic. They are a fun way to make a great team impression in your school and beyond!

The Email Must Go Through Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size: Limitless	
Amount Per Serving	
Calories 0	
	% Daily Value
Total Creativity	100%
Performance	100%
Technical	100%
Messages	100%
SPAM Filter	100%
SPONTANEOUS	100%

May also contain: Imagination, Team Spirit, Resourcefulness, Creativity, Originality, Persistence, Risk, Integrity, Personality, Resilience, and anything else that makes the difference.



Great Minds

Leonard Bernstein: Beyond the Musical

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) was a celebrated musician, composer, author, and conductor that brought a new credibility to American classical music. He was also an educator that believed that music and the arts were essential subjects in the education system. He dedicated much of his life inspiring others with his love of music through his lectures, books, and highly acclaimed TV series.

A son of immigrant parents, Bernstein was encouraged to seek out a more stable profession than music. However, Bernstein's childhood interest in the piano could not be diverted. He discovered the piano at ten, and was determined to learn all he could. Since his father refused to pay for piano lessons, Bernstein worked and saved money for his own lessons. His determination and natural ability impressed his instructor, and eventually his father as well. He went on, with his parents' support, to continue his music studies at Harvard University and at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia.

He got his first big break by accident. While working at the New York Philharmonic, a guest conductor cancelled at the last minute, so Bernstein had to fill in. His energy and skill used in conducting a difficult piece with such little time for preparation impressed the audience — and the media.

Leonard's musical life continued to grow, taking him on several international tours during the 1950s. He also began composing. Of his many popular efforts, *On the Waterfront* (1954), *Candide* (1956), and *West Side Story* (1957) are the best known. He also found a love for teaching.

Aside from his music ambitions, Bernstein lectured at Harvard and other Universities. He also wanted to introduce classical music to people who may not be able to attend Harvard or go to symphonies. He created accessible performances for the average American family by developing a television series that would go on to instill a love for classical music in children and adults. His award-winning television series "Omnibus" and "Young People's Concerts" allowed him to inspire a whole new audience of music lovers.

He received many awards from around the world throughout his career — from musical, to education, to humanitarian. He received 16 Grammys, numerous honorary degrees, Tony awards and more. He received a lifetime achievement award from the Japan Arts Association and used the winnings from this award to start a foundation to continue his legacy of inspiring future musicians and to keep music and the arts in schools. He spoke in an interview about what he hoped it would achieve, "...besides the obvious attempts to get music and kids together, there will be the overriding goal of teaching teachers to discover their own love of learning."

Unfortunately, *The Academy for the Love of Learning* was not completed until after his death, however, it continues to promote Bernstein's dream of integrated arts and music in education.

Bernstein was a prolific musician and he urged others to do the same by incorporating music into learning and education.

Odyssey Angels Progress Reports

There has been an enormous response to the 2nd year of the Odyssey Angels program. We have received so many inspiring ideas during the Odyssey Angel enrollment period and are proud that so many people are willing to help their communities and give aid to those who may otherwise be overlooked.

There are groups helping storm-affected families, neighbors with disabilities, fellow students, foster kids, homeless shelters, and more. We consider everyone a hero that chose to enroll. Unfortunately, only one group can be selected to attend World Finals. Here are the next steps to completing the Odyssey Angel program for this year.

If you have enrolled in the program by completing the online enrollment form, you will be sent a follow-up email that contains the “Progress Report” form for your group.

A representative can fill it out and return it any time before the April 1st deadline. You must return it by this time in order to be eligible to attend World Finals and present your project at the Creativity Festival.

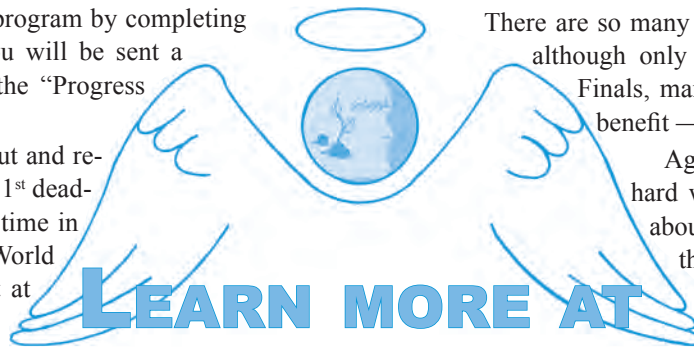
The form simply asks what you have done so far for your project and requires a reference from the community member(s) you are helping. Keep in mind that your project can be ongoing. You don’t have to stop because of the deadline.

Also, remember that you do not have to fill out the form as soon as you receive it. You should submit it when you feel it is the best time to be judged on your work, as long as it is before the deadline.

After April 1st the Odyssey Angels panel will have the difficult task of selecting just one group to attend World Finals. This group will be notified by Odyssey Angels Director Cheryl Micklus and the results will be posted to the Odyssey Angels web site.

There are so many generous and creative entries that although only one group can present at World Finals, many communities around the world benefit — they are the true winners!

Again, we thank the groups for their hard work and look forward to reading about all the good that has been done in those progress reports!



LEARN MORE AT

www.odysseyangels.org



Brainstorm for next year! If you have not enrolled in the program but want to participate, you can start working on projects for the next program year.

Becoming an Odyssey Angel is simple. Start looking for neighbors in need. Use your creative problem-solving skills to help — then tell us how you did it.

Enrollment for 2013-14 begins July 1, 2013



The Pinetree Secondary School was selected to attend World Finals in 2012. (Left) The Pinetree Odyssey Angels display their creative design for a shopping cart that traveled across Canada. This group helped Joe Roberts of the *Push for Change Campaign* raise funds and awareness for homeless youth. (Right) The group was presented a plaque at the 2012 World Finals Opening Ceremonies at Iowa State University. Joe Roberts even traveled to Iowa to surprise the group and to speak about the project.

Official OotM Souvenirs



Hoodie Sweatshirt: comes in forest green and has “I Cre8” with *Odyssey of the Mind* imprinted in white and gray. Adult sizes S, M, L, XL, **XXL. \$35

Girls Tee: a heather and fuchsia tee with a fun OotM design surrounded by hearts and stars imprinted in white. Youth sizes S, M, L, XL. \$15

Odyssey of the Mind Tee: is metro blue with “Creative Festival” and *Odyssey of the Mind* creating the shape of a guitar. \$15

Lanyard: has Odyssey of the Mind imprinted on both sides with a trendy design and includes a standard key ring at the end. \$5

Drawstring Bag: comes in yellow or green, with Odyssey of the Mind imprinted on the front. \$8

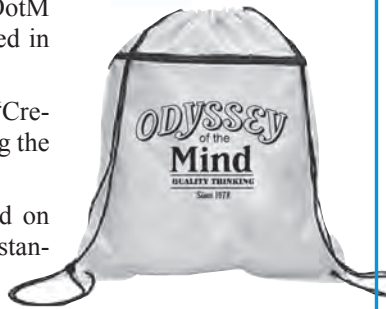
Flat Brim Hat: has Odyssey of the Mind ‘78 stitched on the front. The hat is structured with an adjustable snap back. One size fits most. \$15

Owl Parent Pin: has a parent owl standing behind and cheering for their child. \$3

Coach: comes in a chalkboard design displaying a few of the great aspects of coaching. \$3

DJ Bobble OMER Pin: OMER is playing DJ in this pin. His head bobbles back and forth to the beat. It is a 1 1/4” enamel pin. \$5

Problem Pins: each individual problem pin is a leaf, put them all together and make a tree. The Spontaneous Pin is the trunk and branches. \$3 per pin/\$15 per set



ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

Find the entire line of souvenirs and support items at:
www.odysseyofthemind.com/shop

Odyssey of the Mind Product Order Form

Support Materials

- ___ packs of **Balsa Wood** (premium grade AAA 36" x 1/8" x 1/8") @ \$20 per 50 pieces
- ___ **Lots of Problems... and Tips to Make you More Creative** @ \$17 *tips on problem-solving*
- ___ **The Spirit of Creativity** @ \$15 *Anecdotes about Odyssey of the Mind, written by Dr. Sam*
- ___ **A Creative Experience DVD** @ \$9.95 *Odyssey of the Mind promotional DVD*
- ___ **Creative Interaction!** @ \$17 *Includes tips on building effective teams*
- ___ **Applying Your Creativity** @ \$15 *Discusses different types of human creativity*
- ___ **Spontaneous Combustion** @ \$7.50 *Booklet of problems and tips*
- ___ **Odyssey of the Mind Program Guide** @ \$7.50 (one is included with a membership)
- ___ **Coaches Training DVD** @ \$20 *Tips and Techniques for coaches*

Souvenirs & Pins

- ___ *Hoodie Sweatshirt @ \$35 ___ S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL**
- ___ Girls Tee @ \$15 ___ S ___ M ___ L
- ___ *Odyssey of the Mind Tee @ \$15 ___ S ___ M ___ L ___ XXL**
- ___ Lanyard @ \$5
- ___ OotM Flatbrim Hat @ \$15
- ___ 2013 Drawstring Bag @ \$8 ___ Green ___ Yellow
- ___ DJ Bobble OMER Pin
- ___ Sets of Problem Pins @ \$15
- ___ Any of the following pins @ \$3 (Specify number of each):
- ___ Problem 1 ___ Problem 2 ___ Problem 3 ___ Problem 4 ___ Problem 5
- ___ Primary ___ Spontaneous ___ Parent ___ Coach

Subtotal _____

S&H _____

Total _____

Spend \$40 or more and get free Shipping & Handling!

Orders under \$40 add \$7.50 for S&H. There is no S&H charge for pins.

* Add \$2 for each XXL.

Payment Methods *(Sorry we do not accept phone orders.)*

- **U.S. Mail:** Send this completed form along with a check or Purchase Order, payable to CCI, or with your credit card info to:
CCI: 406 Ganttown Road Sewell, NJ 08080
- **FAX:** Send this form along with a copy of your Purchase Order or credit card information and fax to (256) 256.2798.
- **Online:** Pay by credit card at www.odysseyofthemind.com.

___ VISA ___ MasterCard ___ American Express ___ Discover

Card # _____

Exp. _____ CSV _____

Signature _____

Shipping Address (For UPS Delivery)

Is this a residence? _____ yes _____ no

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Prov _____

Zip _____ Country _____

Phone # _____



Odyssey of the Mind

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www.odysseyofthemind.com

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Hey Teams,
Always remember the importance of
working together!

Your friend,
OMER

The *Odyssey of the Mind Newsletter* is published by Creative Competitions, Inc.

EuroFest 2013

This year EuroFest will be held in Germany from April 26- May 1 – and it's expected to be the largest gathering yet! The event will bring creative minds together from across the globe. This will be the 21st festival held and Germany will be hosting it for the seventh time – a record amount. Germany is also where the first EuroFest was held.

Here, teams will showcase their Odyssey of the Mind solutions over three days. It will be a chance to celebrate creativity, learn about new cultures, and make new friends from around the world. Additionally, some teams from different countries will be mixed together to solve a special EuroFest problem that will be presented on the final day of the event.

Some expected countries are Hungary, Belarus, Russia, Poland, Slovakia, Moldova, Romania, China, the U.S. and India. France is also expected to make its EuroFest debut.

Last year, several teams from the U.S. traveled to EuroFest in Russia and had a blast representing the country at the event. **To learn more about EuroFest registration visit: www.odysseyofthemind.eu**

Odyssey Anniversaries

Many thanks to Associations celebrating an Odyssey Anniversary this year! Those associations have helped many students express their creativity, make new friends, and much more. They have also helped newer associations get started by being a model and often lending a friendly hand. As always, every association has the important job of helping to mold future engineers, scientists, actors, and more. There are three states celebrating 30th anniversaries:

- **GEORGIA**
- **COLORADO**
- **WISCONSIN**

We are proud to have these veteran associations still going strong. Congratulations to all and thanks again for your hard work!

