

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND



creative...divergent thinking...out-of-the-box problem solving...mechanical...
artistic...technical...team work...challenging...fun...inventive... **Register TODAY!**

What is Odyssey of the Mind?

- ◆ International creative problem solving program and competition for grades K-College
- ◆ Located in over 35 states and 25 countries
- ◆ Aligned with STEAM, Common Core, & 21st Century Learner Skills.
- ◆ Founded on the premise: **CREATIVE THINKING CAN BE LEARNED**

What does an Odyssey Team do?

- ◆ 5-7 students work together to solve an open-ended problem.
- ◆ Problems focus on vehicle, technical, classical, building, or performance elements.
- ◆ Teams present their 8-minute solution at their Regional Tournament. First & 2nd place typically advance to State Finals, then World Finals.



What's in it for the students?

- ◆ Students learn divergent, beyond the box thinking.
- ◆ Process and competition focus on teamwork.
- ◆ Unique solutions & risk-taking are rewarded.
- ◆ **Develop the life-long skill of Creative Problem Solving!**

How does Odyssey work in my school?

- ◆ Schools can treat Odyssey as a school sponsored activity, a school sanctioned activity, or a school activity (or club.) Coaches and judges can be parents, teachers (Act 48 Credit is available,) neighbors, family members.



How does a team get started?

- ◆ Odyssey is open to all types of students in all learning environments. Once a group of parents or administrators secure a sponsoring school or organization a Membership is purchased which allows access to the full problems. Individual teams then register to compete at their Regional competition.
- ◆ WPA Odyssey offers several trainings and support avenues to help you get going!



Generally, each team needs:

- ◆ one or two coaches (to lead long term and spontaneous exercises.)
- ◆ two trained judges (who can be at judge training and work Regionals.)
- ◆ one volunteer (to work a shift at Regionals.)

Western PA Odyssey of the Mind

Co-Regional Directors

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Creative and mechanical set piece transforms from Mad Villain's lair to his tower!

