

ODYSSEY of the MIND



THE CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING PROGRAM IN NEW YORK

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
NYSOMA annually awards at least one \$500 scholarship to a present or former participant of Odyssey of the Mind in New York State who is a current college freshman or high school senior planning on a post-secondary education to be used by a recipient for college expenses.



NYSOMA Contacts

- ▶ **National Program**
 - odysseyofthemind.com
- ▶ **New York State Program**
 - nysoma.org
 - **Jackie Otte**, State Association Director
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Brochure by Lee Willbanks

Please send me additional information regarding **ODYSSEY of the MIND** in New York State:

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Please mail this request to: NYSOMA State Director

1016 Peter Road
Schenectady, NY 12303

- Area(s) of Interest:**
- Starting a new Odyssey program
 - Coaching an Odyssey team
 - Volunteering to be an Official
 - Contributing Money or Services



It's about KIDS



Solving problems



through divergent thinking



as part of a team

• skills valuable to success in school, the community and throughout their work lives

Overview of the Odyssey of the Mind Program

The Odyssey of the Mind School Program is administered in New York by the New York State Odyssey of the Mind Association, Inc. (NYSOMA), a not-for-profit corporation. Through its affiliation with Creative Competitions, Inc. it fosters creative thinking and problem-solving skills among participating students from kindergarten through college. Each year New York teams demonstrate these skills at numerous regional tournaments and a state competition.



Who Participates?

The Odyssey of the Mind program is open to all students. Over its more than 25 year history millions of students from around the world have participated in Odyssey of the Mind. Participants include teams from Australia, Benelux, British Columbia, Chile, China, Croatia, Georgia, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Malaysia, Moldova, Ontario, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Turkey, Uganda, the United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, and practically every state in the United States.

Each year tens of thousands of New York students from over 500 memberships in 17 regions take part in the Odyssey of the Mind program.

Teams compete by divisions according to grade in school:

- ◆ Div I - Grades K to 5
- ◆ Div II - Grades 6 to 8
- ◆ Div III - Grades 9 to 12



Types of Odyssey of the Mind Problems

► **Mechanical / Vehicle** – Teams design, build and operate vehicles of various size and with various power sources to solve certain tasks.

► **Technical** – Teams are challenged to design and build innovative contraptions and incorporate artistic elements into their solutions.

► **Classics** – Each year the creative challenge of this problem requires a solution that incorporates some element of the classical, taken from either literature, architecture or art.

► **Structure** – Teams design and build a structure, using only balsa wood and glue. They test it to determine how much weight it can support – sometimes more than a thousand pounds!

► **Performance** – In this problem, teams present performances that revolve around a specific theme and incorporate several required elements.



Opportunities for Your Involvement in the Odyssey of the Mind Program

- Starting a new Odyssey Program
- Coaching an Odyssey Team
- Volunteering to be an Official
- Contributing Money or Services