

# NEWS

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Odyssey of the Mind announces World Champions of Creativity**

**Ames, Ia. May 30---** Out of over 850 teams of seven, 19 have been declared winners of the 2009 Odyssey of the Mind World Finals. Teams from all over the world traveled to Iowa in order to compete for the title of World Champion in this creative problem-solving competition.

Odyssey of the Mind is founded on the idea of innovative thinking and recognizes exceptional creativity through this competition. Teams worked for months and were considered to be the best in their state or country. They have worked hard and traveled far to attend this three-day event. Along the way, they've made new friends, learned about different cultures, and stretched their creative abilities to new limits.

Although everyone who solves Odyssey of the Mind problems are considered winners, those students who developed exceptional solutions and took creative risks were awarded first through third place, along with Ranatra Fusca Award winners. The Ranatra Fusca Award is the most prestigious award given at Odyssey, and it is not always given to the team with the most points, but to the team who took risks and thought outside of the box.

"The end result isn't always as important as thinking of new, creative ideas, which should also be rewarded," said founder Dr. Sam Micklus.

**There are winners from across the U.S. and abroad – find teams from your area here:**

**[http://www.odysseyofthemind.com/wf2009/competitions\\_scores.php](http://www.odysseyofthemind.com/wf2009/competitions_scores.php)**