



*Creative Competitions, Inc.'s*  
***Odyssey of the Mind***<sup>®</sup>

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Dear Odyssey of the Mind Coach,

It is with great pleasure that we invite your team to participate in the Odyssey of the Mind 2011 World Finals held at the University of Maryland in College Park. We are confident that your team will leave with memories that will last a lifetime.

We at Creative Competitions, Inc. appreciate your efforts to provide an outlet for children to express their creativity. It is impossible to put into words the thanks that every coach deserves. The value in the long hours and hard work you have dedicated to your team is evident in each team member's enthusiasm. While at World Finals you will represent the tens of thousands of dedicated people who coached this year so students could have this wonderful experience.

More than 400 volunteers and officials and numerous UMD staff members will be on campus to provide your team the best possible experience. Make sure your team members know that our officials will be wearing red shirts with the World Finals logo on the front and the word "OFFICIAL" printed on the back. The University staff will be posted throughout campus to help you find your way around.

Be sure to visit the Creativity Festival where you can get a complimentary professional team photo. It's also a place for people of all ages to have fun and forget about competition for a while. There will be many interesting interactive booths including one supplied by NASA. Check the Odyssey World Finals web site for other fun activities, updates, and additional information at [www.odysseyofthemind.com/wf2011](http://www.odysseyofthemind.com/wf2011).

Be sure to read the tips on pin trading enclosed in this packet. When trading pins or just hanging out, your team will have a lot of opportunities to make friends from all over the world. Because a large competition can be intimidating, please remind your team to relax, do their best, and to have fun.

While you dedicate your valuable time organizing paperwork, raising funds, and pulling out some hair, remember that you are providing your team with memories, friendships, and skills that will last a lifetime. The only way to really comprehend Odyssey of the Mind World Finals is to experience it firsthand. I look forward to seeing you in Maryland. With regards, I am,

Sincerely,

Samuel W. Micklus  
Program Director