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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

- Fire, Police, ambulance**
911 Emergency ONLY
- Greater Lansing Visitors Center**
(517) 487-6800
- MSU Campus Information**
(517) 355-1855
- MSU Physicians Office**
- Olin Health Center**
(517) 884-6546
- MSU Public Safety**
- Police Department / Parking**
(517) 355-2222
- Props/Storage Information at Logistics Central Receiving**
(517) 884-6082
- World Finals Registration**
(517) 884-7465
- World Finals Information Desk**
(517) 884-7469
or (517) 884-7470

ON THE WEB

- facebook.com/OdysseyHQ
- twitter.com/#OdysseyWF
- www.odysseyofthemind.com

COMMEMORATIVE OMER STAMP

Get Odyssey of the Mind World Finals cancellation stamps at the MSU USPS Postal Service Center, located on the main floor at the Welcome Center. The Odyssey of the Mind post office station will cancel any postcard or envelope with first class postage attached at the MSU Union location only. The post office has stamps and envelopes on site for purchase.

Post Office Hours are:
Monday - Friday: 8am - 5:30pm
Saturday: 8am - 12pm

EXCITEMENT, ELATION, PURE ENJOYMENT: HALLMARKS OF THE FLOAT & BANNER PARADE

BY LORI LANSPEARY

The tunnel leading into the Breslin Center was packed with kids, coaches, parents and siblings on Thursday night. They appeared eager yet patient, waiting for the start of the Float and Banner Parade. The energy was high, but there was not the nervous intensity that was apparent earlier on in the day when it was time for their team performances. This was playtime for the kids. Fern Brown has overseen this portion of the Odyssey Finals for 15 years since its inception, and she emphasized that the most important aspect of this part of Odyssey is for everyone to have a fun time with low pressure and a relaxed atmosphere.

How does each association best showcase what they represent? For California - with three teams attending the finals this year, it was taking the theme of Under the "C"alifornia and divvying up the state. Southern California portrayed Hollywood, Northern California portrayed the Golden Gate Bridge, Silicon Valley and the Gold Rush and the third team recreated various Disney roles. Even the school principal got in on the act dressing as Jack Sparrow.

Kentucky went under the sea as well "Diving into Creativity." Virginia was present with a theme revolving around Dr. Seuss. In paraded a multitude of Things 1's and Thing 2's as well as the Lorax with their banner reading, "Oh the Places You Will Odyssey!"

After the banners had made their rounds, it was time for the floats. The first to appear was from Delaware - a red biplane labeled Spirit of Omer closely followed by a dazzling colorful creation from India.

Looking around the Breslin Center was like a lesson in world geography. India, Hong Kong, Japan, China, Canada and Indonesia were

just some of the countries present. States like Missouri, North and South Carolina, Kentucky, Kansas and Arkansas were there, too. New Jersey sported Sesame Street characters and asked "Can you tell me how to get, how to get to Michigan State?"

What made this night so special? The fact that every single entry was cheered for and everyone was a winner. There were three obvious emotions apparent at the Float and Banner Parade: Excitement, elation and pure enjoyment.



Southern California's "Hollywood"



Delaware's "Spirit of Omer"



Indonesia showing Odyssey Spirit.

TEAM PHOTOGRAPHY

- Akers Hall**
Fri, May 26: 9am - 5pm
Sat, May 27: 9am - 5pm
- Breslin Center**
Fri, May 26: 6:30pm - 9pm
Sat, May 27: 6:30pm - 10pm
- Creativity Festival**
@ Jenison Field House
Fri, May 26: 9am - 5pm
Sat, May 27: 9am - 12Pm

Prices are \$10 for each 5x7 and \$18 for each 8x10. Also available are key chain packages for \$20.00 and photo travel mugs for \$20.00. Each team photographed will receive a free 5x7 photo for their school. There is only one free 5x7 per photo taken; if two teams are photographed together you only receive one 5x7. Appear in the 2017 Odyssey Yearbook. Come and have your picture taken at any of the above locations to make sure your team will appear in yearbook.

PARADE FINALISTS

Banner Finalists:	Float Finalists:
California	Delaware
Georgia	Florida
Kentucky	Maine
Maryland	Michigan
New Jersey	New York
British Columbia	Pennsylvania
China	Texas
Hong Kong	India
Indonesia	Japan
Japan	Mexico

CONGRATS, NEW JERSEY: MAX MANSFIELD AWARD FOR MEMBERSHIP GROWTH WINNER

BY AMANDA VASAS

Named for the selfless Odyssey of the Mind volunteer, the Max Mansfield Award honors the Odyssey association with the largest amount of membership growth each year. This year, New Jersey is being honored for its exceptional membership and participation growth in both the last year and decade.

With 276 teams spread across 124 memberships, the association is no longer able to support the program between just two regions and is adding a third next year. Accepting the award at this year's World Finals is Nick Pankiewicz, association director for New Jersey, which is also the birthplace of Odyssey.

"Everyone - from our executive board to the problem captains and tournament staff - has been focused on putting on high-quality tournaments and trainings, giving our officials, coaches, teams and spectators the best experience possible. As our numbers have grown, they have adapted and risen to the challenge," said Nick.

In addition to the hard work from everyone on the ground, the association has made a concerted effort to bolster its social media



New Jersey Association Director Nick Pankiewicz

presence on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The executive board scours news, education and science websites, blogs and other social media to find content relevant to their target audience: those passionate about creative problem-solving. The association uses its social media platforms to promote buying memberships, coaches' trainings, team registration, OotM tips and special reminders. Nick says social media has also attracted alumni to judge and coach, and helps the many teams, coaches, officials and spectators stay connected. For a minimal cost, the association's social media followers are engaged - helping spread the word to make the

greatest impact.

"The ability to solve problems creatively, present in front of large groups, work within a team, and speak clearly and concisely will not only help prepare youngsters for life after school, it will enrich the lives of the people around them," said Nick. "We believe the more kids who have the opportunity to participate in this program, the better, and we'll continue to do everything we can to give that opportunity to as many kids as possible."

2017 ODYSSEY ANGELS HELP YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

BY AMANDA VASAS

Coming from more than 1,700 miles away, the Hope Heroes are here at World Finals spreading their message of hope and happiness. Hailing from Nuevo Leon, Mexico, Rafael Hasson (age 14), Leilani Hasson (age 13), Gabriel Hasson (age 11), Melanie Cottrell (age 14), and guest participant Elias Dieck (age 14) make up the 2017 Odyssey Angels. Led by coaches Miranda Sada and SanDee Cottrell, the Heroes are being honored for using innovative ways to help the young and young at heart.

"We were delighted and overjoyed to have been chosen as winners," said Miranda. "We plan on continuing our creative solution proposals to meet the needs of our community."

This year's project came about when the team was approached to help residents at a Mexican elderly home. With no living relatives to care for them and many with special physical needs, the residents were in dire need of some hope and happiness.

The team chose their favorite board games, adapted and redesigned them for the elderly, and also children and families with special needs. They held a bake sale and earned enough to make six game box sets, containing their own special redesigned games, and donated them to different care centers. The box sets include reimagined versions of Checkers, Loteria (Mexican Bingo), Tumbling Tower (similar to Jenga), Camino a Casa (Chutes and Ladders) and a memory



Hope Heroes L to R: SanDee Cottrell, Melanie Cottrell, Leilani Hasson, Gabriel Hasson, Miranda Sada and Rafael Hasson.

game. The games incorporate bigger pieces, brighter colors and shorter playing times to meet the community's unique needs.

After their long journey, the team was featured at this year's World Finals Creativity Festival to share their winning project at a special booth. After three years together, the team has logged 173 community service hours through this and past projects, including homemade pillowcases, donated shoes and handmade "I Spy" quilts for a Mexican home for abused children.

"As international winners, we continue to encourage the entire planet to look at the people next to you," said Miranda. "Extend a helping hand and be grateful that your creative thinking will make a difference to someone in need. Any kindness given makes a huge difference. Let's all help one another."

SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

The shuttles are running approximately every 10 minutes on the Green Odyssey Bus Route and it will take you all over campus. Look for the banner flags to help you locate the stops! The entire route will take approximately 45-50 minutes.

If you need to get across campus more quickly, please take the express route or walk. This express route will stop only at the following four locations: Akers Hall/Hubbard Hall, International Center/Wells Hall, Jenison Field House, Wilson Hall.

Please check the mobile app for updates! If in doubt ask the bus driver when you get on and allow plenty of time to get to your site. And for safety, please remember, no standing! Enjoy the ride.

Friday, May 26th

Odyssey Bus Route: begins at 6am and runs until 12:30am

Orange Route (Parking only): begins at 6am and runs until 12:30am

Saturday, May 27th

Odyssey Bus Route: begins at 6am and runs until 12:30am

Orange Route (Parking only): begins at 6am and runs until 12:30am

Sunday, May 28th

Orange Route (Parking only): begins at 5am and runs until 1pm

CREATIVITY FESTIVAL

The Creativity Festival is a great place to experience a wide range of challenges and put your creative skills to the test.

Plan to visit the Jenison Fieldhouse for the Creativity Festival:

Friday - 9am to 5pm
Saturday - 9am to noon

COMPUTER ACCESS

There are two computer labs on campus available for Odyssey use. The login is "computerlabs\visitor" and password is "visitor". There is no print access. Computer labs are available to Odyssey of the Mind guests Tuesday, May 23 through Saturday, May 27 from 7am-10pm at the following locations:

Akers - 141 • Brody - 143

Wireless is available to Odyssey participants and guests; however, access will vary based on where you are on campus. Please visit <https://tech.msu.edu/visitors/> for all instructions on how to connect to the campus guest network. Wi-Fi is available when you see the MSUnet Guest ID showing as a wireless option in your area.

WEATHER FORECAST



Friday: High of 71
20% Chance of Rain



Saturday: High of 77
10% Chance of Rain



Sunday: High of 74
Thunderstorms Likely

BE A PART OF THE NEW ODYSSEY DOCUMENTARY

BY AMANDA VASAS

Are you ready for your close-up? One lucky team will have a chance to extend their "8-minutes of fame" presenting their solution at World Finals by being featured in a new Odyssey of the Mind documentary project, revealed at this year's Opening Ceremonies.

"We're planning to follow a team throughout the 2017-2018 season," said Garrett Stiger, documentary director and former participant. "We'll show everything from the brainstorming process to making sets and costumes, rehearsal and competition."

The team footage will be intercut with interviews from others within the Odyssey organization, including alumni. Garrett says the idea for the documentary is a result of the problem he and fellow Odyssey

veteran and documentary producer, Alyssa Chamberlin, have had explaining the OotM phenomenon to outsiders.

Both Garrett and Alyssa have been a part of Odyssey since childhood. They met in high school, when they were trying to put a team together in north central Pennsylvania. They went on to start a Division IV team at Ithaca College in upstate New York. Since graduating, they have been volunteering as officials in California.

This exciting documentary project will be made possible through Kickstarter, a website that allows creators to fund their projects. Backers make contributions in exchange for rewards, which include pins made especially for the documentary campaign.

"We'll have 30 days to raise our budget," said Garrett. "If we make more than our

budget, great! We can keep that extra money and put it toward an additional camera person, graphic design or even following a second team. But if we don't make our budget, we don't get to keep any of the pledged money. Backers are charged only when the campaign closes and if the budget has been met."

If the project gets funded, filming will take place from September or October 2017 until May of 2018. It is projected to be released in early 2019. Garrett and Alyssa are also exploring distribution options, either digitally (through Netflix Streaming, for example) or a theatrical release.

For more information or to have your team considered to be featured in the documentary, visit:

www.odysseyofthemind.com/p/documentary/

CREATIVITY FESTIVAL MADE THE GRADE WITH ENTHUSIASTIC PIN TRADES

BY AMANDA VASAS

There were cow caps, Statue of Liberty visors, pom-pom sombreros and even flying pig hats on the pin trading floor - their excited wearers displaying colorful pins large and small on blankets and flags galore! Creativity Festival's "main event" was, without a doubt, pin trading, which gives kids from all nations a chance to meet, and share a little piece of home and Odyssey competitions past and present.

With a DJ spinning upbeat music in the background, Jenison Fieldhouse was abuzz with kids like almost-10-year-old Abby Hugenberg of Kentucky showcasing her impressive pin collection on towels to eager traders.

"I just wait to see what people offer," said Abby, who made it to World Finals two years ago, and joined her brother and his



Kaden Krumrei, 10, and Lauren Gullo, 10, make a high-stakes pin trade.

team competing this year.

Not far away, team representatives from the Buccaneer Bay Region of Florida took a slightly different approach.

"I personally think it's better to have your preview pins on the towel and have your pin supply in a bag to pull out to trade," said Aryanna Trainor, 11.

Fellow Buccaneers Carl Hayes, 11, and Nathan Foulkrob, 11, agreed with this strategy, but say you could also carry your wares from person-to-person - a tact that

served Illinois team members Kaden Krumrei, 10, and Lauren Gullo, 10, well. After a high-stakes negotiation, Kaden agreed to trade a red OMER problem pin to Lauren for two of her problem pins. Fellow teammate Eli Stein, 10, was proudest of his trade of a sparkly Wisconsin waterbug for a coveted purple and green Medusa head.

Aside from making lucrative trades, Creativity Festival visitors could grab snacks, shop unique WF souvenirs and score out-of-this-world calendars from lead sponsor, NASA. In addition to NASA's classroom presentations, representatives Mike Taylor and Dr. Trena Ferrell facilitated cool activities at their festival booth, and handed out protective glasses with downloadable app instructions for how to safely view August's total eclipse of the sun. And no Creativity Festival would be complete

without tokens for awesome games created by associations worldwide. From Pom-Pom Popper and Kerplunk to Twisted Twister and basketball, kids took a break from the competition for some serious Odyssey fun.



Creativity Festival featured more than 30 booths with displays, games and giveaways.



Carl Hayes, 11; Nathan Foulkrob, 11; Joshua Block, 10; and Aryanna Trainor, 11, of Buccaneer Bay Region, FL.

PROP RETURN SHIPPING

UPS/FedEx shipments require a prepaid return shipment label affixed to each package. Your shipment will not be picked-up without the completed return shipping label affixed to the package.

Shipments returning via common carrier must be shipped "collect." Affix two copies of the bill of lading to the prop.

All cartons must be properly labeled and secured.

Place all return shipments in the prop staging area of your problem site 30

minutes after the end of your event on Saturday, May 27 for pick-up. Freight carriers can pick up return shipments from Logistics on Tuesday, May 30 during business hours (7:30am - 11:30am and 12:30pm - 3:30pm). Pick-up address is 166 Service Road, East Lansing, MI 48824.

MSU and Logistics are not responsible for shipment costs, labeling or crate/parcel securement.

Questions? Please contact 517-884-6082.

MSU ATTRACTIONS

BEAUMONT TOWER

375 W. Circle Dr., Phone 517-432-4066

Beaumont Tower, a gift from John Beaumont, sits where Old College Hall (the first building erected for study of scientific agriculture) was built. The MSU carillon, which is housed within the John W. Beaumont Memorial Tower, contains 49 bells capable of playing the full range of literature composed for the instrument. One of approximately 180 working carillons in North America, it is activated by a computer to sound Westminster Chimes every quarter hour.

DEMME SHOOTING SPORTS EDUCATION & TRAINING CENTER

4830 East Jolly Rd., Phone 517-884-0550

This training site for Michigan State University archery, rifle and pistol club teams is open to the public and promotes the safe use of firearms.

Fri 4:30pm-9pm, Sat 1pm-8pm

MSU BIKE RENTAL

434 Farm Lane Bessey Hall

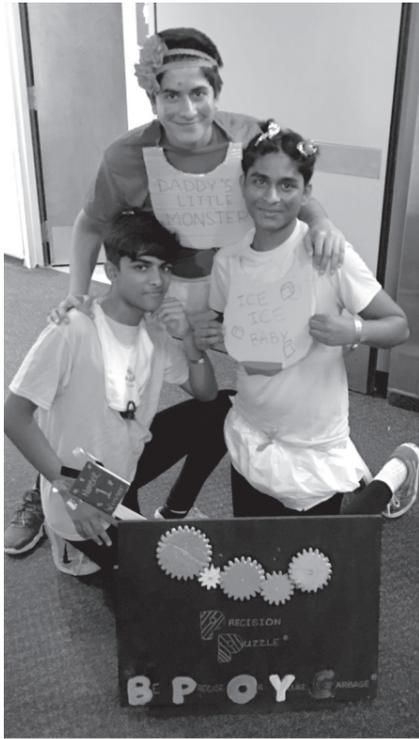
Phone 517-432-3400

Offers year-round bicycle rentals, sales (new and refurbished used bikes) and repair services to the campus community and visitors. A free 24-hour air station and DIY bike repair station is also available outside the Center. Hours: Mon-Fri 10am-5pm \$20 day rental and \$40 for the week. \$350 security deposit and it is refunded when the bike is returned.

ODYSSEY SPIRIT REMAINS HIGH IN TEAM PERFORMANCES

BY LORI LANSPEARY

It was the first year to reach finals for the teammates of Forsythe County Library from Cumming, Georgia. A combination of middle and high school students, they were competing on Problem 4 - Ready, Set, Balsa, Build! This team's performance included a kidnapping, a ransom and a twist in the plot of a complex missing persons mystery. A veteran of three years on this Odyssey team, Sydney Edgar appeared confident and dramatic in her role dressed in an outfit fashioned of recycled trash bags while her counterpart Bridget Van Velsor dressed as a stereotypical sleuth. Anmgad Singh and Aaditya Anugu completed the performance group by working the large structure they had constructed which reconfigured into multiple scenarios by the way they turned it, inverted it and presented it. Three members of the team were dressed as baby geniuses and were quickly and quietly stacking weights on the team's balsa structure. The balsa shattered at 570 pounds of weight. Murmurs were heard that last week the structure had managed to withstand 852 pounds of pressure. Was it the humidity? Questions swirled, but the



Forsythe County Library Baby Geniuses

team stated that they were thrilled to have made it this far and were proud of what they had accomplished and their spirit was still intact.

In the next building, Division I was competing on the same problem. Pulaski County Elementary School in Hawkinsville, Georgia had sent four third-graders and three fifth-graders. These students assembled a military base complete with fighter planes, a runway, a complex gunner apparatus and military personnel. It wasn't until they completed their performance that they moved on to the weight portion. Unfortunately, time ran out with just 185 pounds on and the balsa still holding. That would have to be their final weight. The judges allowed them to unofficially see how much more weight they could add and it held for a total of 300 pounds. When asked how they felt about this experience, eight-year-old Owen Collier piped up, "We had practiced a lot, but we got nervous. But it's okay to be nervous." They vowed to compete again next year.

SOUVENIR STATIONS

Don't miss out on the 2017 World Finals Souvenirs for sale throughout the event. A few items that are sure to be a hit in 2017 are the official 2017 Pins, Pin Towels, Hats, Light-Up Bracelets and new for this year - hand spinners or sports bottles. But the big hit this year should be our brand new pin collection tote for those devoted pin collectors. Take something home with you to remember your experience as a participant!

Souvenir sales will be open at the following times and locations:

International Center Library

Fri: 9am - 5pm

Sat: 9am - 5pm

Jenison Fieldhouse

Fri: 9am - 5pm

Sat: 9am - 4pm

Creativity Festival

9am - 12pm

International Festival

11am - 4pm

**Dr. Sam will be on site to sign autographs on Friday at the Jenison Field House from 1pm to 2:30pm.

DINING UPDATE

Please make sure that as participants you are using your white conference card for entrance into your designated dining hall. You must have it with you! It is your responsibility to clean up after yourselves. Please make sure you are picking up and returning the trays with your trash to the tray/dish return area. Remember there is only one entry per person, per meal. Once you leave you may not re-enter.

GET SOCIAL WITH WORLD FINALS!

World Finals App - Download our FREE app for World Finals!

<http://tinyurl.com/m66g724>

Get all the information you need: maps, a list of events, the competition schedule, and more. Create a customized schedule, connect with new friends, and be the first to receive any updates during the event. Search for the OMER's World in Google Play or iTunes.

You can also stay connected and updated by following us on social media, then join the conversation by using #OdysseyWF and #odysselfie on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Are you on SnapChat? Check out the Odyssey of The Mind Geo-Filter that can be found at the Breslin Center (evening events), Creativity Festival and the International Center (registration and near Spontaneous).

WF PROGRAM UPDATE

Please refer to the shuttle and problem site information located directly above the map in your WF programs. The back page was printed in error. Sorry for any confusion! Please email pressroom@odysseyofthemind.com with any questions. Get updates throughout the event with the World Finals app Omer's World!

EVENT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

11:30am - 7pm... World Finals Competition

9am - 5pm... Creativity Festival
Jenison Fieldhouse

1:30pm - 2:30pm... Dr. Sam autographs
Jenison Fieldhouse

7pm - 9pm... Graduation/Coaches Comp
Breslin Center

SATURDAY

7am - 5pm... World Finals Competition

9am - noon... Creativity Festival
Jenison Fieldhouse

11am - 4pm... International Festival
Jenison Fieldhouse

7pm - 9:30pm... Awards Ceremony
Breslin Center (doors open at 6pm)

9:30pm - 12:30am... Preteen Party
Munn Field - white

9:30pm - 12:30am... Teen Party
Munn Field - green

9:30pm - 1am... Coaches Recovery Party
Kellogg Center

DINING HALL HOURS

Friday through Saturday

Breakfast: 6:30am - 9am

Lunch: 11am - 2pm

Dinner: 4:30pm - 7pm

Sunday

To-Go Breakfast: 5am - 7am

Dine-In Breakfast: 7am - 9am

HEALTH SERVICES

The University Physicians Office

Located on the third floor or the Olin Memorial Health Center on East Circle Drive on the north edge of campus

Phone: (517) 884-6546

Hours: Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm

E.W. Sparrow Hospital

Medical care is also available through the emergency department of Sparrow Hospital located at

1215 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

Phone: (517) 364-1000

Sparrow Urgent Care Center

Okemos Center

2248 Mt. Hope, Suite 106

(at Okemos Rd.)

Phone: (517) 381-4001

Hours: Everyday, 10am - 10pm

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