



Creative Competitions, Inc.'s

Odyssey of the Mind®

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Dear Odyssey of the Mind Coach,

Congratulations to you and your team on an outstanding accomplishment. It is our honor to host you at the Odyssey of the Mind 2018 World Finals held at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. Participating at World Finals will leave you and your team with great memories that will last a lifetime.

We at Creative Competitions, Inc. appreciate your efforts to provide an outlet for children to express their creativity in a positive learning environment. It is impossible to put into words the thanks that every coach deserves for making the experience possible. 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 teams from all around the world this year. Be sure to enjoy the experience.

In addition to the thousands of coaches at World Finals more than 400 volunteer officials and hundreds of ISU 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 answer questions and 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 attendees of all ages to have fun and take a break from competing for a while. There will be many interesting interactive booths from associations across the U.S as well as a special booth created by NASA. While there, visit the Odyssey Angels booth and learn about our community service initiative. You can also see the winning Odyssey Angels group and find out how it creatively helped its community. Visit the 2018 World Finals website for other fun activities, updates, FAQs, and additional information at: www.odysseyofthemind.com/wf2018.

If you have never been to World Finals, I suggest you contact your Association Director to learn about pin trading. It's extremely popular. 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 its best, and to have fun.

Your hard work has provided 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 Iowa. With regards, I am,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samuel W. Micklus".

Samuel W. Micklus
Program Director