



*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 you to attend the Odyssey of the Mind 2013 World Finals held at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan. We are confident that your team will leave with happy 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 MSU 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 attendees 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. You can also visit our Odyssey Angel booth and learn about our community service initiative. You can also see the winning Odyssey Angel group and find out how it creatively helped its community. Check the Odyssey World Finals web site for other fun activities, updates, and additional information at [www.odysseyofthemind.com/wf2013](http://www.odysseyofthemind.com/wf2013).

If you have never been to World Finals, I suggest you contact your Association Director to learn about pin trading. It is extremely popular and the kids love it. 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.

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 East Lansing. With regards, I am,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samuel W. Micklus". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Samuel W. Micklus  
Program Director