



From the Director's Desk

As October winds down, I hope your OM season is beginning to take shape—whether your team is already deep in brainstorming sessions or still coming together. This early part of the journey can feel unpredictable, but it's also full of creativity, excitement, and possibility.

You may notice this newsletter arriving a little later than usual, and that's for a great reason—we wanted to take a moment to officially welcome Sandra Reddecliff, our new Magic Center Regional Director! We're thrilled to have Sandra join the FLOMA family and know her enthusiasm and leadership will be a wonderful addition to the region and to our statewide community.

We also want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Charlene Norato for her many years of dedication and service to the Magic Center

region. Charlene's leadership, kindness, and tireless support have helped countless teams and coaches over the years, and we're deeply grateful for all she has contributed to the OM community. While Charlene has decided to step down as the region's regional director, she will continue to be actively involved with the region assisting the regional board throughout the program year.

Across Florida, the FLOMA Board and our regional boards have been hard at work behind the scenes and out in the community, spreading the word about Odyssey of the Mind. You may have seen us at local events, education conferences, or school activities, introducing new families and educators to the program. If you happen to spot us at an event, please stop by and say hello—we love connecting with members of the OM community (and we always appreciate your help spreading the word!).

Team registration is continuing, and we're excited to welcome both new and returning schools. If you know someone who might be interested in starting a team, now is a great time to encourage them—our volunteers are here to help every step of the way.

Regionally, many areas are holding workshops, spontaneous trainings, and other events, so be sure to check in with your Regional Director to see what's coming up near you. And don't forget, if your membership is active, you can download this year's long-term problems from the HQ website and start planning! (The Clarification system is also up and running for those tricky questions.)

Thank you, as always, for the time, energy, and heart you pour into OM. From recruiting team members to building sets in the garage, this program wouldn't exist without you—and we're so grateful for everything you do.

Anna Long, FLOMA AD
associationdirector@floma.org

October Events

*All events are in person unless otherwise noted.

Date	Event	Region
OCT 7	Coaches Meeting (virtual)	Buc Bay
OCT 17	Palms @ Teacher STEM Open House, West Palm Beach	Palms

OCT 24 & 25	FLOMA @ FAST Conference, Orlando	All
OCT 31	FLOMA @ FLAG Conference (virtual)	All



Meet Sandra Reddecliff: New Magic Center Regional Director



As we launch another exciting season of Odyssey of the Mind, we want to thank Charlene Norato for her three years of dedicated leadership as Magic Region Director. She'll continue supporting the region through Sales, Concessions, and Team Trainings.

We're excited to welcome Sandra Reddecliff as our new Region Director! Sandra brings over 17 years of experience in Odyssey as a coach, head judge, problem captain, and World Finals judge. She's also a part-time nurse practitioner, mentor with the Take Stock in Children program, and leads her church's quilting-for-charity group.

Odyssey is a true family tradition for the Reddecliffs—this past year, Sandra, her husband Curtis

(a PI judge), and their kids all judged together for the first time.

Sandra is passionate about Odyssey's impact:
"Creative thinking, problem solving, and teamwork build lasting skills in kids—and adults too. That's why I love this program."

Let's make this another amazing Odyssey year!

Clarifications System Now Live

Great news from HQ: the new Clarification system is now up and running in the Membership Portal! Active members can log in at <https://portal.odysseyofthemind.com/login>, click on "Clarifications," and submit their questions directly through the updated web-based system.

Please note: teams will not receive email replies this year. Instead, they'll need to log back into the system to view answers, check the status of submissions, and later download their clarifications to bring to every tournament.

A step-by-step guide is available here: [How to Submit a Team Clarification](#).

Auction Reminder!

Don't forget that FLOMA's 3rd annual online auction is ready for donations! Last year we had incredible items and experiences such as NASA merch, Rosen Plaza hotel stay, Brevard Zoo tickets, and more.

This year we hope to have even more up for bid! If you'd like to showcase your business while supporting FLOMA, email sponsorships@floma.org to donate now!



3RD ANNUAL ONLINE AUCTION



**BIDDERS
STAY
TUNED**

**ACCEPTING
DONATIONS
NOW**

**SHOWCASE YOUR
BUSINESS. SUPPORT A
MISSION.**
Donate to our auction and get
seen by passionate supporters
who want to shop with heart.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL SPONSORSHIPS@FLOMA.ORG

Alumni Advice



The 2026 Florida Odyssey of the Mind Scholarships are coming soon! Keep an eye on the Florida Odyssey of the Mind Facebook page and our website for the official release.

Mayor Jerry Demings Scholarship:

Awarded to graduating seniors who exemplify the creativity and spirit of Odyssey as they join our alumni community.

Phil's Legacy Volunteer Alumni Scholarship:

Recognizing Florida Odyssey alumni who give back by volunteering at tournaments and continuing to inspire creative problem-solving.

Each scholarship awards \$500 or more to recipients who embody the Odyssey spirit.

Questions? Email scholarships@floma.org.

**Are you an Odyssey Alum?
Scan the QR code to join the
national alumni database!!!**



[HTTPS://WWW.ODYSSEYALUMNI.ORG/](https://www.odysseyalumni.org/)

FLOMer of the Month

Amy Spurr, Palms Region

Amy Spurr has been named this month's FLOMer for her multi-faceted and long-standing contributions to the Odyssey of the Mind program.

"Amy is a multi-talented individual who started out as a parent and then helped coach teams—her kids are now grown, but she's still heavily involved!" Her current roles include Palms Spontaneous Problem Captain, State Spontaneous Assistant, school coordinator, and "all-around regional volunteer."

The nomination highlights that "Amy coordinates with her school so our region can use it for workshops and coach training," and adds that she "worked hard to help prep and write the spontaneous book the state folks have put together the last two years for regions to sell to teams and coaches to help them prep for spontaneous."

In addition to that, she "has made her own videos to share with coaches to help them prep," and has "continued supporting Palms teams going to World Finals by meeting with them weekly through May."

"She is an amazing human being that Palms is grateful to have in our region!"

Know a team member, coach, volunteer, or parent who shows the true spirit of Odyssey of the Mind? We'd love to feature them in next month's newsletter!

Email your nomination to outreach@floma.org.

Regional Director Contacts

Don't know what region you're in? Check out our Region map here:

<https://www.floridaodysseyofthemind.com/contacts>

Buccaneer Bay	Amanda Pope	BucBayRD@FLOMA.org
Emerald Coast	Doug & Martha Smith	EmeraldCoastRD@FLOMA.org
Gulf Coast	Freda Abercrombie	GulfCoastRD@FLOMA.org
Magic Center	Sandra Reddecliff	MagicCenterRD@FLOMA.org
Manatee	Lindsey Waggoner	ManateeRD@FLOMA.org
Nature Coast	Dawn Pharr	NatureCoastRD@FLOMA.org
Palms	Judi Ackerman	PalmsRD@FLOMA.org
Space Coast	Melinda Gerding	SpaceCoastRD@FLOMA.org
Sun	Marlana Rodriguez	SunRD@FLOMA.org



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