

The Creativity Chronicles



From the Director’s Desk:

What a month it’s been! The 2025 World Finals at Michigan State University brought together the best and brightest OMers from around the globe—and our Florida teams were right at the heart of it. With 51 teams representing FLOMA, the energy, enthusiasm, and talent we saw on display were nothing short of inspiring.

The results are in, and they’re phenomenal (ALL finished top 35 or higher!):

- 43 teams placed in the top 30
- 35 teams cracked the top 20
- 18 teams landed in the top 10

We are so proud of each and every team. Whether your team earned a medal, shared a pin, or just soaked in the experience, you were part of something truly special.

I had the chance to attend 23 performances—and every one showcased the heart and imagination that define Odyssey of the Mind. It’s no exaggeration to say that FLOMA teams brought their A-game to every problem, every performance, and every hallway dance party.

As we head into summer, many teams are already talking about next season. Coaches are organizing early brainstorming sessions, and we’ve heard whispers of theme songs, team shirts, and even glue gun strategies already in the works. Whether you’re diving right in or taking a well-earned break, we hope you’ll stay connected.

Speaking of staying connected, I’d love to hear your creative ideas for future FLOMA pins—we know how much those little works of art mean to so many of you. If inspiration strikes, send your ideas (sketches welcome!) to pins@floma.org.

And just a quick reminder: our committees aren’t just for board members. If you’re passionate about Odyssey and want to help shape what’s next for our community, we’d be thrilled to have you involved. Email me at associationdirector@floma.org.

Have a joyful, restful, and creative summer. We can’t wait to see where your ideas take you next!

Anna Long, FLOMA AD
associationdirector@floma.org

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June Events

*all events are in person unless otherwise noted

None

2025-2026 Pin Ideas Welcome!

Have an idea for next year’s pins? We want to hear your creative takes on FLOMA’s next pin!

Send your ideas to pins@floma.org. Sketches encouraged!



Alumni Advice



Thank you to everyone who attended the Alumni Mixer(s) at World Finals!

Weren't able to attend and interested in learning more, or have ideas for outreach/engagement? Reach out to alumni@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/)

Spontaneous Problem of the Month

Verbal: Create your own color and say when it would be used.

Join a FLOMA Committee

Interested in helping behind the scenes? Committee members play a key role in shaping the Odyssey experience. Email associationdirector@floma.org to get started!

FLOMA Rocked World Finals!



We’re incredibly proud to share that ALL of our FLOMA teams placed in the top 35 or higher at the World Finals! Your hard work and dedication truly shined on the global stage.

We are honored to be represented by such talented and driven individuals. Way to go, FLOMA!

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2025-2026 Problem Synopses



Primary: Clowning Around With Science. What kind of hair do oceans have? Wavy! In this problem, OM teams will create an original performance about a group of comedy performers that teach lessons about natural science. The lesions will include a visual effect, a sound effect, and jokes.



Problem 1 Vehicle: Off the Rails. All aboard! OMers become conductors and engineers as they design, build, and operate a train vehicle. As the train travels the course it will have a new car attached at each stop. Along the route it will encounter challenges they make the train travel in different ways. After all of its cargo is picked up, the items will be uploaded and assembled into a work of art. The performance will also include a humorous conductor character and a villain character that tries to prevent the train from getting to its destination. (Arm & Hammer partner)



Problem 2 Technical: Lost in OMERland.Getting lost often leads to unexpected opportunities! In this problem OM teams will design, build, and operate a Technical Trip Assistant only to find their voice activated-device has a few malfunctions that result in hilarity. While they set out to explore a new place, the device gives a humorous answer to a question, wrong directions that take them to an unexpected location, and a silly translation. All props and backdrops must fit inside two suitcases.



Problem 3 Classics: Classics... The Epic Quest. OMers, are you ready to get EPIC? Quests from history have been passed from generation to generation through many art forms, including poetry. OMers will create an epic poem that details a team-created quest that is acted out in the performance. During the quest, the characters encounter an original beast, will rescue someone, and will overcome an epic challenge The performance will use colors to help depict different settings.



Problem 4 Structure: Life's a Ball! Party Time! In this problem, teams will create a performance about throwing a party or a ball. The team will design and build a balsa wood structure that is tested by balancing and supporting as much weight as possible. At intervals various balls will be rolled to collide with the structure. The performance will include a creative "ball" character and a party guest that explains the impact of the collisions using team-created items.



Problem 5 Performance: Taller Tales of John Jivery. No one can tell a story like an OMer! In this problem, teas will create and present a humorous performance about an original tall tale the tale will include a team-created hero or heroine that performs an incredible feat, a unique explanation of how something began or came to be, and a surprise for the audience. Each event will be accompanied by a visual weather effect that represents an emotion.