

The Creativity Chronicles



From the Director’s Desk:

As we turn the page to May, we’re still riding the wave of excitement from the 2025 Florida State Odyssey of the Mind Tournament held at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando. What an unforgettable day—filled with creativity, collaboration, and a true celebration of what it means to be an OMer.

A huge congratulations to all of the teams who competed. The hard work, innovation, and enthusiasm you brought to the event were nothing short of inspiring. Whether you advanced or wrapped up your season in Orlando, you should be incredibly proud of everything you’ve accomplished.

We’re especially proud to celebrate the 50 Florida teams who earned a spot at this year’s World Finals—an incredible achievement! We’ll be cheering you on as you prepare to take the global stage later this month at Michigan State University. We also want to recognize the seven teams who received the prestigious Ranatra Fusca Award at the State Tournament for their exceptional creativity. This honor reflects the very best of what Odyssey is all about.

Another highlight of the day was the debut of Phil the Flamingo, our FLOMA mascot! Phil made quite the splash, showing up in photos, dancing through the halls, and bringing smiles to everyone he met. We loved seeing the joy and excitement he added to the event—he’s definitely here to stay, so expect to see a lot more of him in the seasons to come!

Congratulations as well to our OMER Award winners, recognized for their outstanding sportsmanship, teamwork, and spirit. These special recognitions remind us that Odyssey is about much more than just solving problems—it’s about building character, community, and lifelong friendships.

Looking ahead, we’re continuing to support both new and returning teams as we plan for the future. FLOMA will be hosting a Zoom Information Session for all Division 2 and Division 3 teams and coaches on June 17. Topics will include how to start a new team at these levels, tips for keeping team members motivated, and resources available to coaches. The session will be recorded for those who can’t attend live. If you’re interested in serving as a resource, please email me. RSVP to the session by emailing infosession@floma.org.

To all of our coaches, parents, volunteers, and supporters—thank you. Your time, energy, and belief in these students continue to make Odyssey of the Mind a powerful experience across Florida. We are deeply grateful for everything you do.

Best of luck to all the teams heading to World Finals—we can’t wait to see your creativity shine on the world stage!

Anna Long, FLOMA AD
associationdirector@floma.org

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May Events

*all events are in person unless otherwise noted

MAY 21-24
- World Finals

Phil's Debut

Phil the Flamingo had a great time meeting all his fans at the State Tournament! See your photos with Phil at: <https://www.floridaodysseyofthemind.com/photos>



World Finalists FB Group

Congrats to all World-bound teams! Be sure to join the FLOMA World Facebook group, "World Finals 2025": <https://www.facebook.com/groups/4024405251181324>

Alumni Advice



Congrats to scholarship winners Emily Simmons and Madeline Anderson!
For those of you joining us at World, there will be two Alumni meet-ups: 9pm Wednesday after opening ceremonies at the Kellogg Center, Lincoln Room & 9pm Friday at STEM Building Room 1130. Can't wait to see you there!

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



<https://www.odysseyalumni.org/>

Spontaneous Problem of the Month

Verbal/hands-on: With cardboard & pasta, create an artistic work and then describe what it represents.

D2 & D3 Information Session

FLOMA will be hosting a Zoom information session for all D2 & D3 teams and coaches on June 17th. Topics will include starting a new team at D2 & D3 levels, keeping team members motivated, coach support, and more! RSVP to: infosession@floma.org

State Tournament Results

Congrats to all participants! Scores can be viewed here: <https://www.floridaodysseyofthemind.com/tournamentresults>

Another congrats to all Ranatra Fusca winners:

- The OM-Mazing Race Div II Howard Middle School 78146086
- Mech-Animal Sidekick Div II North Bay Haven Charter Academy 78005632
- Mech-Animal Sidekick Div III Rotary Club of Lake Mary 77770569
- Cooking with Books Div II Gotha Middle School 77417397
- Cooking with Books Div III Academy at the Lakes 77624387
- Save Me Structure Div II P.K. Yonge, DRS 76766733
- AstronOMical Odyssey! Div I Taylor Ranch Elementary School 78185652

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Omer Awards

We're happy to shout out this year's Omer Award recipients:

- Patricia Porzig from Plato Academy
- Melissa McDonald from Winter Springs High School
- Strawberry Crest High School Save Me Structure, Division III Team
- Wendell Krinn Technical HS AstronOMical Odyssey!, Division III Team
- Coco Hankey from Academy at the Lakes

Regional Scholarship Winners

Congrats to the following regional scholarship winners:

- Buccaneer Bay:** Indi Harbig
- Emerald Coast:** Sara Beasley Flowers
- Gulf Coast:** Isabella Barranco, Benjamin Harrison, Dakota Gibson, Alaina Hedgspeth, Henry Levy, Lilly Marcel, Eryn McLeod, Riley McGoldrick, Brianna Mercado, Haylee Smith
- Magic Center:** Emma Camacho, Ashley Katz, Emma Wadley
- Palms:** Addison Moore
- Sun:** Grace Condit

FLOMA Merch

Missed Sales at the State Tournament? Want to represent Florida at World? Our remaining FLOMA merchandise is available online:

<https://my-site-102979-105683.square.site/>



Pantone® COLOR LEGEND

Red 185	Orange 150
White	Yellow 1205
Orange 135	Gold tone plate
Green 360	Gradient Sand
Blue 3005	
Purple 2725	
Black Glitter	
Warm Gray 4	

Iron stamped soft enamel with epoxy 2" size

FLOMA Shorts

\$30.00

Adult Women XXS to 2X
Adult Men S to 2X

Adult XXS is comparable to Youth Medium in the Waist

Check out our website and Facebook page for more updates this tournament season!