



# PENNSYLVANIA ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

## THE ORIGINAL WORLDWIDE CREATIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING STEAM PROGRAM



**2,700 students on 424 teams** solved their problems at K-12 schools, colleges, and community organizations across Pennsylvania in 2019.



**5,800 students from 15 countries** competed in the 2019 World Finals tournament at Michigan State University.



## THINK BEYOND THE BOX

Through solving open-ended problems, students develop creative-thinking skills that can be applied to real-life situations. Each year, tens of thousands of students take part in Odyssey of the Mind, the original STEAM education program established in 1978.

Schools and organizations form teams of seven students in the fall. The students spend months developing a solution to their *long-term problem*, which varies from technical to theatrical. Each problem comes with specific guidelines including a cost limit, time limit, and scoring rubric. All aspects of the solution including costumes, props, scenery, and technical devices must be original creations of the students.

The students present their solutions at one of our six regional tournaments across Pennsylvania each March. Teams also receive a top-secret *spontaneous problem* the day of the competition, which emphasizes teamwork and quick-thinking.

The top teams compete at Pennsylvania State Finals in April. The teams crowned state champions advance to World Finals to meet up with hundreds of teams from across the US and around the world!

- ### WHAT SKILLS WILL YOUR STUDENTS DEVELOP?
- ✓ Budgeting
  - ✓ Critical Thinking
  - ✓ Engineering
  - ✓ History
  - ✓ Leadership
  - ✓ Music
  - ✓ Performing Arts
  - ✓ Project Management
  - ✓ Public Speaking
  - ✓ Risk Taking
  - ✓ Sportsmanship
  - ✓ Teamwork
  - ✓ Technical/Computer
  - ✓ Theatrical/Acting
  - ✓ Time Management
  - ✓ Visual Arts
  - ✓ Work Ethic
  - ✓ Writing

## IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Our program is run entirely by volunteers! PA Odyssey of the Mind is administered by the 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization Creativity Unlimited in PA. All of our tournaments are officiated by volunteer judges supplied by the competing teams.



**GRANTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR NEW MEMBERSHIPS!**

**START A TEAM AT [PAODYSSEY.COM](http://PAODYSSEY.COM)**

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