

OMER'S WORLD NEWS



THURSDAY MAY 26, 2022

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND WORLD FINALS

2022 Opening Ceremonies

A Night of 'Hilton Magic'

More than 630 teams from across the U.S. and abroad overcame so much to get to the 2022 World Finals. Last night's Opening Ceremonies was a reflection of that as the joy of being together again filled Hilton Coliseum once more.

It started with a parade of attending associations led by William Micklus and Jason Wheeler of Maine. After they got the crowd excited Katarina Micklus took the stage to tell everyone about the fun upcoming events at World Finals. John Lawrence, Vice President of Extension and Outreach, then welcomed OMerS to ISU and Ames and spoke about Hilton Magic that takes place in the arena, "Magic happens on this basketball court and I think magic is going to happen at this competition. So let's share some Hilton magic and get ready to celebrate!" Then, along with OM Program Director Sammy Micklus, he presented the Creativity Award to Julie Kieffer, Director of Conference Planning and Management, and staff for all their work bringing OM and ISU together for many successful events, "Julie's leadership and dedication is an integral part of keeping us going," said Lawrence. Next, Sammy congratulated this year's Spirit Award recipient, Dr. Jim Mourey, and thanked him for all that he does for the program, "Volunteers are the heart of Odyssey of the Mind and the Spirit Award recipient exemplifies



that heart."

He continued by joking, "Jim volunteers almost like it's a bad habit."

As Jim thanked everyone and ended with a request, "I give of my time, the volunteers give of their time, your coaches give of their time so you can have the BEST time. So promise me you'll have the best week ever!"

OM Sponsor ARM & HAMMER™ was recognized and played a welcome message that featured Brand Manager Elizabeth Slenker, who was also a former OMer! In the video she explained how OM and ARM & HAMMER™ share a common goal, "This commitment to finding solutions to everyday problems is what drives ARM & HAMMER™ Baking Soda. That's why we are so proud to sponsor Odyssey of the Mind. The real power of ARM & HAMMER™ Baking Soda comes from the ingenuity of the people who use it."

OM Founder Dr. Sam took the stage to a standing ovation. As the arena applauded him, he asked the crowd a question, "How does it feel to be the best in the world?" And the arena continued its thunderous reaction as he told them, "I'm proud of every one of you."

William Micklus returned to the stage to lead the Odyssey Pledge and to say those magical words, "Let the games begin!"



Spirit Award recipient Jim Mourey (left) and Creativity Award recipient Julie Kieffer (right) take the stage at Opening Ceremonies.



Connect With Us!
@OdysseyHQ

All evening events will be live streamed then posted through these @OdysseyHQ social accounts.

Be sure to tell your family and friends watching from home!

#OMWF22

#WeLoveOM

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Odyssey World Finals Schedule

Thursday, May 26

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Team Registration, Memorial Union (at Odyssey Information Desk)

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Souvenir Sales, Memorial Union, Campanile Room

10 a.m. to 6 p.m.: World Finals Competition (check the app)

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.: Dr. Sam's Book Signing, Memorial Union, Campanile Room

***7 p.m.:** Float and Banner Parade, Hilton Coliseum. *Line-up in tunnel area at 6:30 p.m.

Correction: Furman Aquatic Center is not open Thursday.

Friday, May 27

8 a.m. to 6 p.m.: World Finals Competition (check the app)

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Creativity Festival, Lied Rec Center

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Souvenir Sales, Memorial Union, Campanile Room

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.: Dr. Sam's Book Signing, Scheman building souvenir sales site

***7 p.m.:** Graduation *Graduates line-up in tunnel area at 6:30 p.m.

***8 p.m.:** Coaches & Officials Competition (sign up begins 7:30pm)

OMWORLDFINALS.COM

Honoring Long-Time Volunteer and Educator Dr. Harold Kurtz

What makes a super OMER? Look no further than Dr. Harold Kurtz. Harold was involved at the beginning of Odyssey of the Mind and was one of the founders of Creative Opportunities Unlimited. He was an Association Director, a judge, a mentor and a true friend.

He spent more than 50 years dedicated to education and to the creativity emphasized by Odyssey of the Mind.

A smile, a kind word, and an open hand exemplified Harold's approach to life. His passions were creativity, intellectual curiosity, and love of people. The qualities exemplified by Dr. Kurtz were creativity, personal connection, fairness, intellectual curiosity and humor.

His family was a core of his being, where he not only included Joy – the Spontaneous International Problem Captain — his wife of 56 years, and children, but his extended Odyssey

family.

He enjoyed being at competitions and sharing his humor and good will. Harold died suddenly last year leaving us all with a little less joy, a little less laughter, a little less love.

Let's share his values and celebrate his life this year. To honor Harold's legacy, scholarships have been established in his name for OMERs attending post high school education.

Two \$555.00 scholarships will be awarded each year to OMERs who are seniors in high school or

have entered post high school education. One scholarship will be awarded to an OMER who has competed in Problem 5, and one scholarship will be awarded to an OMER who plans to pursue a degree in the education field.

Go to the COU website for additional details and how to apply:

www.creativeopportunities.org/



Harold wore many hats (and OM shirts!) during his many years volunteering for the program, from coach to association director and more, but one thing that remained the same was his kind smile he offered everyone he met.



This year's performance problem, Life is a Circus, was dedicated to Harold so be sure to check out some of the solutions! There will also be a special dedication during

graduation Friday evening to celebrate the many years he organized this special part of WF.

Pin Trading Hot Spots!

Everyone loves to trade pins! It's a great way to meet new friends. Here are the best places to trade pins on campus:

- At the Creativity Festival
- On the Scheman Building's south "overhang"
- Outside the Memorial Union (north lawn and west terrace)

But please, no trading in hallways and corridors!



Team Photos

Plan to get your team photo taken during World Finals! Bring your entire team to the booth to be photographed immediately after your competition. No appointments are necessary, but come as early as you can to avoid long lines. Costumes and props are strongly encouraged. Each team gets a free team picture courtesy of CCI. Photos will be taken at the following times and locations:

Creativity Festival (Lied Rec Center)

- Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m. to noon

Hilton Coliseum (Main Concourse)

- Wednesday: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Thursday: 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Saturday: 9:30 a.m. to noon

Team picture prices:

- 5x7 — \$10
- 8x10 — \$20
- Key Chain special — \$20
- Light up photo badge Lanyard — \$20
- Odyssey Yearbook — \$25
- Thank you cards — \$10 + S&H



Don't Miss the Float and Banner Parade!

Be sure to visit this celebration of the many different associations that make up Odyssey of the Mind, both in the U.S. and abroad. Participating state and country associations have designed and built creative floats or banners that represent their location. As they parade around the arena, a description will be read that also includes fun facts about the location. You will learn something new and see a parade! The top float and banner finalist selected by officials will win a plaque.

Odyssey of the Mind World Finals Float and Banner Parade

Thursday, May 26

Hilton Coliseum, 7 p.m.

(line up at 6:30 p.m. for association representatives taking part in the parade)

Be Sure to Grab Your 2022 WF Souvenirs!

Hope you left room in your suitcase! There are a limited number of 2022 World Finals souvenirs, so be sure to get yours early before they sell out! See the schedule on page two or check the OM web app for OM Souvenir Sales times and locations.



Share your OMerSelfies!
Share your videos and selfies
with the hashtag
#WeLoveOM
or send them to:
ootm.social@gmail.com

Need Supplies? Here are local options.

Hardware and rental stores

Appliance & Furniture Rental,
203 Kellogg Ave.
Rent-A-Center, 222 Lincoln
Way
Ace Hardware, 615 24th St.
Theisen's, 1315 S. Dayton Rd.
Lowe's, 120 Airport Rd.
Menards, 700 SE 16th St.
Habitat For Humanity Restore,
3504 Grand Ave.

Copy Centers

Alpha Copies, 3615 Lincoln
Way
CopyWorks, 105 Welch Ave.
Heuss Printing, 903 N. Second
St.
Staples, 1333 Buckeye Ave
Union Drive Community
Center, ISU campus (207 Beyer
Ct.)
Union Copy Center, room 0344
Memorial Union (2229 Lincoln
Way)

Supplies

Hobby Lobby, 620 Lincoln Way
CVS, 2420 Lincoln Way
Wal-Mart, 534 S. Duff Ave and
3105 Grand Ave.
Target, 320 S. Duff Ave.
ISU Book Store, Memorial
Union (2229 Lincoln Way)
Sam's Club, 305 Airport Road



It's Not Too Late to Join In the Fun! *2022 Coaches Competition still open.*

Odysey of the Mind coaches and volunteers work hard to facilitate creative thinking – but that's not the hardest part. All year they have to keep their creative ideas to themselves while the teams have all the fun! This competition is their chance to express themselves, solve a problem, and have fun doing so. And the best part – teams and parents can participate with the coach as well. If you want to participate simply arrive at Hilton Coliseum with your solution and cheering squad by 7:30 pm and sign in. Please be mindful of the graduation ceremony taking place. We look forward to seeing you!

A. The Problem

After being separated for so long some things feel different and some feel the same. But one thing is for sure – it feels great to be back! Your problem is to surprise the audience with a costume that looks completely different from the front and the back.

B. Limitations

1. Coaches can work individually or with team members/parents as a single entrant.
2. The costume:
 - a. can be about anything.
 - b. will look one way when walking towards the audience and then will look different when walking away from the audience.
 - c. must be safe in its design. If it is judged to pose potential harm to anyone or the competition site, it will be prohibited. See the 2021-22 Program Guide.
 - d. must fit through a standard doorway.
 - e. will be scored for how different and unexpected the back and front of the costume are from each other.

C. The Competition

1. You will be assigned a number when you register at the competition site.
2. When a judge calls your number, you will move from behind the taped Start Line and

walk towards the audience to another taped line. Here you will turn and walk away from the audience to show the back of your costume.

3. Each entrant will demonstrate its solution one at a time. When all entrants have completed their demonstration, there will be a parade around the course of all of the costumes in the order they performed and the winner's will be determined by applause and the judges' determination.



Important! OM Web App for WF 2022

Stay organized and be the first to know any updates or announcements by using the OM web app **Odyssey Tournaments**.



You can find the World Finals Competition Schedule, Schedule of Events, shuttle routes, ARM & HAMMER™ activity times, problem sites, local information, OMER's News digital editions, and more.

Simply follow the Odyssey Tournaments weblink and you will be prompted to save the web app to your phone. There are also step-by-step directions on the screen. It's as easy as saving a link to your phone!

<https://www.odysseyofthemind.com/includes/app/>

