



September 2023

NCOME Newsletter

Creativity in the Eastern Region since 1982

Welcome!

It's a brand new season and we can't wait to see the incredible things you will do! The Eastern Region is here to support you, starting with an exciting new event we've planned to help prepare your teams for Spontaneous. Look inside to see what else we have planned for YOU!

NCOME.ORG



Spontaneous Tournament

October 14, 2023

8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Thales Academy - Rolesville

1201 Granite Falls Boulevard Rolesville, NC 27571



NEW

We are proud to present a **brand new** event which will give your team Spontaneous practice in a tournament setting. It is a great way to introduce the program to curious parents and kids. We encourage you to form a team with **anyone** who is interested, you don't need an Odyssey of the Mind Membership to participate. Everyone can benefit from more spontaneous practice and what a great way to kick off the season!

Cost: \$7 per participant

Team size: 3-7 members

Tournament format: Each team will compete in all 3 spontaneous types - Verbal, Verbal/Hands-On, and Hands-On

Register at [NCOME.org](https://www.ncome.org) - closes on 10/1/23!

Coaches Training

October 21, 2023

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Virtual Workshop



**Calling all new
and returning coaches!**

Coaches training is for everyone who coaches an Odyssey of the Mind team, from the newbie to the seasoned pro. Join us for a virtual meeting and choose from several sessions offered from highly experienced OotM instructors.

Only \$15 per person!

- Solving Long-Term Problems- Where Does the Team Begin?
- Style
- Spontaneous
- Balsa Wood Basics
- Problem 1 - Drive-In Movie
- Problem 2 - AI Tech-NO-Art
- Problem 3 - Classics... Opening Night Antics
- Problem 4 - Deep Space Structure
- Problem 5 - Rocking World Detour
- Primary Problem - The Night Life

[Register at NCOME.org](https://www.ncome.org)

Long-Term Problems

Odyssey of the Mind™ 2023-2024 Long-Term Problem Synopses

PROBLEM 1: DRIVE-IN MOVIE



OM teams get the best seat in the house as they visit a drive-in and even become part of the movie being played! In this problem, teams will design, build, and run a vehicle with a team-created rider that travels to a drive-in theater. In the performance, the movie takes place all around the vehicle when suddenly a team-created special-effect occurs on the vehicle that makes it seem to become part of the action! It will include a lead actor character along with all the fun that comes with this nostalgic outdoor movie experience.

PROBLEM 2: AI TECH-NO-ART



They say beauty is in the eye of the beholder, but what if the beholder is—a robot!? In this problem OM teams will design, build, and operate an Artificial Intelligence Tech-NO-Art device that determines if a work of art is beautiful or not. It will dismantle a work of art that it decides is not beautiful to create a new work of art it believes is beautiful. The humorous performance will also include an artist character that stands up for their work of art, sound effects, and team-created artwork.

PROBLEM 3: CLASSICS... OPENING NIGHT ANTICS



There is a saying in the theatre that no matter what happens during a performance, the show must go on. The same is true in OM! For this problem, teams will portray the Opening Night of a play based on a classic story. The Opening Night performance will not go as planned and will include a set malfunction, unexpected sound effects, and a theater critic. Despite the Opening Night Antics, the show is a success!

PROBLEM 4: DEEP SPACE STRUCTURE



The universe is full of mysteries we hope to discover and some we may not want to discover! In this problem, teams unravel an original mystery by portraying a balsa wood structure discovered in deep space. The structure will be examined, tested, interviewed, and observed. The performance will include an actual balsa wood and glue structure that is tested to balance and support weight, a character portraying the discovered deep space structure, and the scientists studying it.

PROBLEM 5: ROCKING WORLD DETOUR



Are you ready to rock? Here is your opportunity! In this problem, OM teams will create a performance about a rock band on tour. Things get derailed in a very Odyssey way — while playing a song, the band is transported to an unexpected location. The band members must figure out how to use music to get them back on their tour. The performance will also include band merchandise and original hairstyles.



PRIMARY: THE NIGHT LIFE



When most people are sleeping, there is a whole new world that comes to life in the night. In this problem teams will create and present a performance about an explorer character that searches for things in nature that “wake up” at nighttime. It will also include a team-created original discovery, something that lights up, and a team member in costume that represents a nocturnal animal.

Problems 1-5 are open to all age divisions. Primary is open to grades K-2.
For more information, visit www.odysseyofthemind.com

Purchase your Membership

To view the full Long-Term problems and receive your membership materials, join/renew your Odyssey of the Mind membership today!



Standard Membership
\$290

Individual Schools/ Multiple schools sharing a principal
(use school district name)
Homeschools Community Groups College/Accredited Technical School/Military



Additional Membership
\$190

More than one team wants to compete in the same problem and division- add an additional membership at a discounted rate.
(Can purchase any time!)



District Membership Gold
\$240

6 -10 individual schools
(Join at the same time -price will update in cart.)



District Membership Platinum
\$190

11 or more schools *(Join at the same time -price will update in cart.)*

To purchase your membership, go to
[Odyssey of the Mind](#)

T-Shirt Design Contest

Attention OMers!

We need your help designing our next NCOM State T-Shirt. Your design could be worn by OMers across North Carolina and at the World Finals!

Here's how to get started

- Scan the QR code to see available shirt styles and colors
- Designs will need to be ONE color only and MUST say NCOM somewhere on your design
- Submit your designs by November 1, 2023 to nicoleadamsncom@gmail.com



Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for these great events!

- Skills Fair: Saturday, November 11th (location TBD)
- Spontaneous Fair: Saturday, January 20th (location TBD)
- Judges Training: Saturday, February 17th (Virtual)
- NCOME Regional Tournament: Saturday, March 2nd (location TBD)
- NCOM State Tournament: Saturday, March 23rd (location TBD)
- World Finals: May 22-25th, Iowa State University



NCOME Board Members

Tournament Directors

Regional Director: Randy Burton
ncomePC1@gmail.com

Tournament Director: Lexie Groner
ncomeTD@gmail.com

Assistant Director: Anna Ladd

Score Room Captain: Steven Downhower
Assistant Score Room Captain: Vineet

Spontaneous Problem Captain: Ann Ross
Assistant Problem Captain: Zoe Hansen-Burnet

Problem 1 Captain: Randy Burton
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Assistant Problem Captain:

Problem 2 Captain: Barry Groner
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Assistant Problem Captain: Alison Blake

Problem 3 Captain: Marj Moe
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Assistant Problem Captain: Diana Lisle White

Problem 4 Captain: Marc Blake
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Assistant Problem Captain:

Problem 5 Captain: Tom Bojanski
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Assistant Problem Captain: Sean Stickel

Primary Captain: Shauna Newman
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Your 2022-2023 Board!

Regional Director: Randy Burton

Vice Regional Director: Zoe Hansen-Burnet

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Michael Bojanski

Coaches Training Coordinator:
Bob Pecaut

Skills Fair Coordinator:
Gail Hemedinger

Spontaneous Fair Coordinator:
Marj Moe

Judges Training Coordinator:
Lexie Groner

