

SCHOOLS

Odyssey of Mind teams advance to world finals

Once again, New Canaan was well represented at this year's Connecticut state finals for Odyssey of the Mind held on Saturday, March 29, in Bristol. Of the many teams that participated, New Canaan has four teams advancing to the Odyssey World Finals, which is being held May 28-June 1 at Iowa State University.

Odyssey of the Mind is a creative problem-solving program for students in kindergarten-12th grade and college. It provides them the opportunity to learn teamwork, brainstorming, self-reliance and respect for individual strengths. Once teams select a long-term problem from a choice of five, they spend five months developing a solution that involves an eight-minute skit. A coach is available to provide guidance, but cannot provide any assistance which might impact the solution. There are also spontaneous problems, where the students develop brainstorming skills to solve problems given at the competition.

The four teams are spending the next couple of weeks practicing their spontaneous problem-solving and fine-tuning their solution to be presented in Iowa.

The participating New Canaan teams attending World Finals are as follows:

Saxe Middle School: "Drivers Test," Division II — Daniel Lu, Bradley Hennessy, Davis Shattan, Gray Farley, Tara Chugh, and Amanda Yep.

New Canaan High School: "Driver's Test," Division III — Jason Campe, Bella Carpi, Aidan O'Halloran, Dana Lurie, D.J. Morse, Brad Newton, and Brian Sandor.

Saxe Middle School: "It's How We Rule," Division I — William Haddad, Lily Plum, Norah Shattan, Sydney Sheffield, Nicholas Woods, Claudia Zhu, and Andrew Zuo.



New Canaan High School Odyssey of the Mind students Jason Campe, Bella Carpi, Aidan O'Halloran, Dana Lurie, D.J. Morse, Brad Newton, and Brian Sandor; 'Driver's Test,' Division III.



Saxe Middle School Odyssey of the Mind students William Haddad, Lily Plum, Norah Shattan, Sydney Sheffield, Nicholas Woods, Claudia Zhu, and Andrew Zuo; 'It's How We Rule,' Division I.