



Come One, Come All!
37th Annual Connecticut Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Brookfield, Connecticut – February, 21, 2018

Please join us Saturday, March 17th for the ***37th Annual Connecticut Odyssey of the Mind (CTOM) State Tournament!*** CTOM's Directors, Problem Captains, and Judges invite everyone - friends, parents, grandparents, educators, and the public to experience the excitement as 175 teams present in a thrilling day of competition.

Odyssey of the Mind (OM) is the largest international creative problem-solving competition in the world. Millions of students from kindergarten through college have participated in OM since its inception in 1979. The program is **STEAM** focused employing concepts from science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics, in conjunction with critical thinking skills, creativity, and teamwork.

Teams of five to seven students meet weekly for more than six months developing their solution to one of five Long-Term Problems in categories such as constructing a vehicle, creating a new take on a classic, building a balsa wood structure, or solving a mechanical dilemma. Importantly, there's a strict rule that the team accepts *no outside assistance*, which means that they cannot ask for or receive help, even from their coaches, teachers, or parents. *The solution is 100% created by the students.* Additional background may be found at www.odysseyofthemind.com and www.ctom.org

Once again, the Tournament will be held at **Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU)** located at 501 Crescent Street in New Haven. Admission and parking are free of charge. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Our Closing Ceremonies, with special entertainment by Chinese acrobat Li Liu, will begin at 4:45 p.m. Medals will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams beginning at 5:30 p.m., with the 1st and 2nd place finishers advancing to the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals at Iowa State University May 23-26.

And NEW this year- SCSU is hosting STEM activities at our Tournament from 1-4 p.m. in its beautiful, new Academic Science and Laboratory Building. Join faculty and students for a STEM Festival with lots of cool, hands-on activities and demonstrations, including access to SCSU's remarkable **Werth Aquarium** and **Astronomy Control Room**, and discussion groups and case studies on "*Why Science Matters*".

Photos attached

Contact:

Dave Schaller, President, CTOM, Inc.

dschaller@ctom.org

570-500-2866