

Connecticut Odyssey of the Mind  
*An International Creative Problem Solving Program*

# 2024 State Tournament

March 16, 2024

Southern Connecticut State University • New Haven, CT



## Board of Directors

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Rachel Cunningham • Sam Heck • Mimi Owen • Dave Schaller  
Sonia Schott • Holly Wonneberger • Josh Young

# CTOM Marketplace

## Pins, pins, pins, and more...

Engleman Hall, Student Lounge 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

Pelz Gymnasium 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

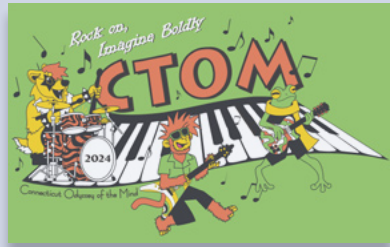


**2024 "The Band"  
6-Pin Set: \$16**

**2024  
Peacock  
Pin: \$5**



**2024 Tee Shirt: \$15**



**Tote Bag: \$3**

**Lanyard: \$3**

- ▶ Pins from the past at discounted prices while quantities last!
- ▶ See the newly-unveiled **CTOM Historic Pin Exhibit** (1990–today) displayed in the Marketplace at Engleman Hall.

Welcome to CTOM's 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual  
**State Finals Tournament!**

## Today's Events

**Long-Term Problem Competition Sites** See performance schedule

Pelz Gymnasium 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Engleman Hall 8:48 am – 2:24 pm

**Spontaneous Competition Site** No audiences

Engleman Hall, Second Floor 8:30 am – 1:31 pm

**CTOM Marketplace** Cash, check, Venmo, or credit card

Engleman Hall, Student Lounge 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

Pelz Gymnasium 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

**Magic Show** Pelz Gymnasium 3:45 pm – 4:30 pm

**Awards Ceremony** Pelz Gymnasium 4:30 pm

**Information Desk**

Engleman Hall, Main Lobby 7:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Food and Drink** SCSU Bagel Wagon (Coffee, drinks, bagels, and snacks)

Engleman Hall, Student Lounge 9:00 am – 1:30 pm

**Lost Child?** Call SCSU Police at 203-392-5375

**Lost and Found** At the CTOM Marketplace

**CTOM Pin Towel RAFFLE with pins from around the world...**

- ▶ **Coaches**, receive FREE team tickets at the spontaneous competition.
  - ▶ **Team members**, enter your tickets at CTOM Marketplace in Engleman Hall.
- The winner will be announced at the Awards Ceremony. *Good luck!*

# Long-Term Performance Schedule

## Problem 1: Drive-In Movie PELZ GYMNASIUM

| City          | Membership                    | Mbr#  | Div | Coach                  | Long     | Spon     |
|---------------|-------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|----------|----------|
| Redding       | REDDING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL     | 30720 | 1   | Christina Parrinello   | 9:00 am  | 10:49 am |
| Bethel        | RMT JOHNSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | 10017 | 1   | Ravi Kalluri           | 9:20 am  | 11:07 am |
| West Hartford | CHARTER OAK ACADEMY           | 23365 | 1   | Michele Hadlock        | 9:40 am  | 11:43 am |
| New Canaan    | NEW CANAAN SOUTH SCHOOL       | 16862 | 1   | Susan Morse            | 10:00 am | 11:25 am |
| Riverside     | NORTH MIANUS SCHOOL           | 50232 | 1   | Julie Cofone           | 10:40 am | 12:01 pm |
| Darien        | MENZIES LUXE RETREATS         | 50366 | 1   | Eleanor Davidson       | 11:00 am | 12:19 pm |
| Weston        | WESTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL A  | 42546 | 1   | Jill Zafar             | 11:20 am | 12:37 pm |
| Trumbull      | MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL         | 25035 | 2   | Henry Lang             | 12:20 pm | 9:30 am  |
| Newtown       | NEWTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL         | 38075 | 2   | Pavithraa Pattabiraman | 12:40 pm | 9:48 am  |
| New Canaan    | SAXE MIDDLE SCHOOL A          | 12320 | 2   | Katherine Lines        | 1:00 pm  | 10:06 am |

## Problem 2: AI Tech-No-Art ENGLEMAN HALL ROOM B121A/B

| City       | Membership            | Mbr#  | Div | Coach        | Long    | Spon     |
|------------|-----------------------|-------|-----|--------------|---------|----------|
| Trumbull   | MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL | 25035 | 1   | Henry Lang   | 8:48 am | 10:06 am |
| Riverside  | NORTH MIANUS SCHOOL   | 50232 | 1   | Andrea Wragg | 9:06 am | 10:24 am |
| New Canaan | SAXE MIDDLE SCHOOL A  | 12320 | 2   | Rushui Guan  | 9:24 am | 11:07 am |

## Problem 3: Classics ... Opening Night Antics ENGLEMAN HALL ROOM B121A/B

| City        | Membership                     | Mbr#  | Div | Coach                  | Long     | Spon     |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|----------|----------|
| Weston      | WESTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL A   | 42546 | 1   | Jennifer Berger        | 11:00 am | 12:30 pm |
| Greenwich   | HAMILTON AVENUE SCHOOL         | 48904 | 1   | Cathy Byrne            | 11:18 am | 12:47 pm |
| Fairfield   | FAIRFIELD PTAC                 | 50259 | 2   | Jennifer Abbott-Walker | 12:16 pm | 9:30 am  |
| New Canaan  | SAXE MIDDLE SCHOOL B           | 22140 | 2   | Udita Chek             | 12:34 pm | 11:20 am |
| Stamford    | STRAWBERRY HILL EXT. OF ROGERS | 48910 | 2   | Amanda Clear           | 12:52 pm | 10:46 am |
| Weston      | WESTON MIDDLE SCHOOL           | 5459  | 2   | Annie Norman           | 1:30 pm  | 10:04 am |
| New Canaan  | SAXE MIDDLE SCHOOL A           | 12320 | 2   | Krista Colthup         | 1:48 pm  | 11:03 am |
| Trumbull    | MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL          | 25035 | 2   | April Lang             | 2:06 pm  | 11:37 am |
| New Milford | NEW MILFORD PARKS AND REC      | 50357 | 2   | Barbara Crandell       | 2:24 pm  | 9:47 am  |

## Problem 4: Deep Space Structure ENGLEMAN HALL ROOM D125

| City        | Membership                     | Mbr#  | Div | Coach                 | Long     | Spon     |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-------|-----|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Fairfield   | FAIRFIELD PTAC                 | 50259 | 1   | Elly Fatehi           | 9:00 am  | 11:25 am |
| Riverside   | NORTH MIANUS SCHOOL            | 50232 | 1   | Zachary Lederman      | 9:18 am  | 11:43 am |
| Stamford    | STRAWBERRY HILL EXT. OF ROGERS | 48910 | 2   | Susha Unni            | 9:56 am  | 12:01 pm |
| Fairfield   | FAIRFIELD PTAC                 | 50259 | 2   | Sonya Abdel-Razeq     | 10:14 am | 12:55 pm |
| Stamford    | DATAEXPANSED                   | 50386 | 2   | Subhalakshmi Pandalai | 10:32 am | 1:13 pm  |
| New Milford | NEW MILFORD PARKS AND REC      | 50357 | 2   | Barbara Crandell      | 11:28 am | 1:31 pm  |
| Stamford    | KING SCHOOL                    | 47572 | 3   | Alena Trepanier       | 11:10 am | 9:30 am  |

# Long-Term Performance Schedule

## Problem 5: Rocking World Detour ENGLEMAN HALL ROOM C112

| City          | Membership                         | Mbr#  | Div | Coach                  | Long     | Spon     |
|---------------|------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|----------|----------|
| New Canaan    | SAXE MIDDLE SCHOOL A               | 12320 | 1   | Michael Canoro         | 9:00 am  | 12:10 pm |
| Fairfield     | RIVERFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL       | 21187 | 1   | Shelly Frederick       | 9:18 am  | 11:28 am |
| Southport     | MILL HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL        | 9362  | 1   | Polixene Petrakopoulos | 9:36 am  | 12:44 pm |
| Fairfield     | NORTH STRATFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | 21766 | 1   | Courtney Carroll       | 9:54 am  | 11:11 am |
| Redding       | REDDING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL          | 30720 | 1   | Donna MacLetchie       | 10:32 am | 12:27 pm |
| West Hartford | CHARTER OAK ACADEMY                | 23365 | 1   | Michele Hadlock        | 10:50 am | 8:30 am  |
| Ridgefield    | RIDGEFIELD LIBRARY                 | 43216 | 1   | Stacey Gifford         | 11:08 am | 8:47 am  |
| Weston        | WESTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL A       | 42546 | 1   | Noah Brier             | 11:26 am | 10:20 am |
| Fairfield     | HOLLAND HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL     | 20793 | 1   | Pamela Pascarella      | 12:24 pm | 10:37 am |
| Hamden        | SPRING GLEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL      | 48626 | 1   | Sara Smiley Smith      | 12:42 pm | 10:54 am |
| Bethel        | BETHEL MIDDLE SCHOOL               | 37287 | 2   | Shivakanth Gutta       | 1:20 pm  | 9:04 am  |
| Ridgefield    | RIDGEFIELD LIBRARY                 | 43216 | 2   | Abhilasha Kelkar       | 1:38 pm  | 9:21 am  |
| Hamden        | SPRING GLEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL      | 48626 | 2   | Sara Smiley Smith      | 1:56 pm  | 9:38 am  |

## Primary: The Night Life ENGLEMAN HALL ROOM D125 (LONG), ROOM A115 (SPON)

| City      | Membership                     | Mbr#  | Div | Coach             | Long     | Spon     |
|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|-----|-------------------|----------|----------|
| Southport | MILL HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL    | 9362  | P   | Keely McMullin    | 12:30 pm | 9:30 am  |
| Fairfield | HOLLAND HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | 20793 | P   | Ali Sheppard      | 12:48 pm | 9:48 am  |
| Fairfield | RIVERFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL   | 21187 | P   | Shelly Frederick  | 1:06 pm  | 10:06 am |
| Bethel    | AH ROCKWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  | 36740 | P   | Ann Tucci         | 1:24 pm  | 10:24 am |
| Greenwich | HAMILTON AVENUE SCHOOL         | 48904 | P   | Ruth Camoes       | 1:42 pm  | 10:42 am |
| Stamford  | DATAEXPANSED                   | 50386 | P   | Nethrah Ayyaswami | 2:00 pm  | 11:00 am |

## Problem Captains

We are grateful for our dedicated problem captains.

| Problem     | Problem Captain   | Asst. Problem Captain |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1           | Josh Young        | Andrea Maestas        |
| 2           | Ian Wojcik        | Carley Heck           |
| 3           | Rachel Cunningham | Katie Pelkey          |
| 4           | Amy Zinser        | Sherri Martin         |
| 5           | Holly Wonneberger | Katerina Micklus      |
| Primary     | John Ehlinger     | Debi Crotty           |
| Spontaneous | Dave Schaller     | Sam Heck, Ben VanRoy  |



**Drive-In Movie - Problem 1**  
Audience Entrance  
*Pelz Gymnasium*

**Drive-In Movie - Problem 1**  
Prop Drop/Pick Up  
*Pelz Gymnasium*

**Fitch Street Garage**

**Lot 1**

**Pelz**

SOFTBALL FIELD

**AI Tech-No-Art - Problem 2**  
**Classics...Opening Night Antics - Problem 3**  
Prop Drop/Pick Up  
*Engleman Hall*

**Main Lot**

**Deep Space Structure - Problem 4**  
**Rocking World Detour - Problem 5**  
**The Night Life - Primary Problem P**  
Prop Drop/Pick Up  
*Engleman Hall*

PINE ROCK AVENUE

NORTH CAMPUS PATHWAY

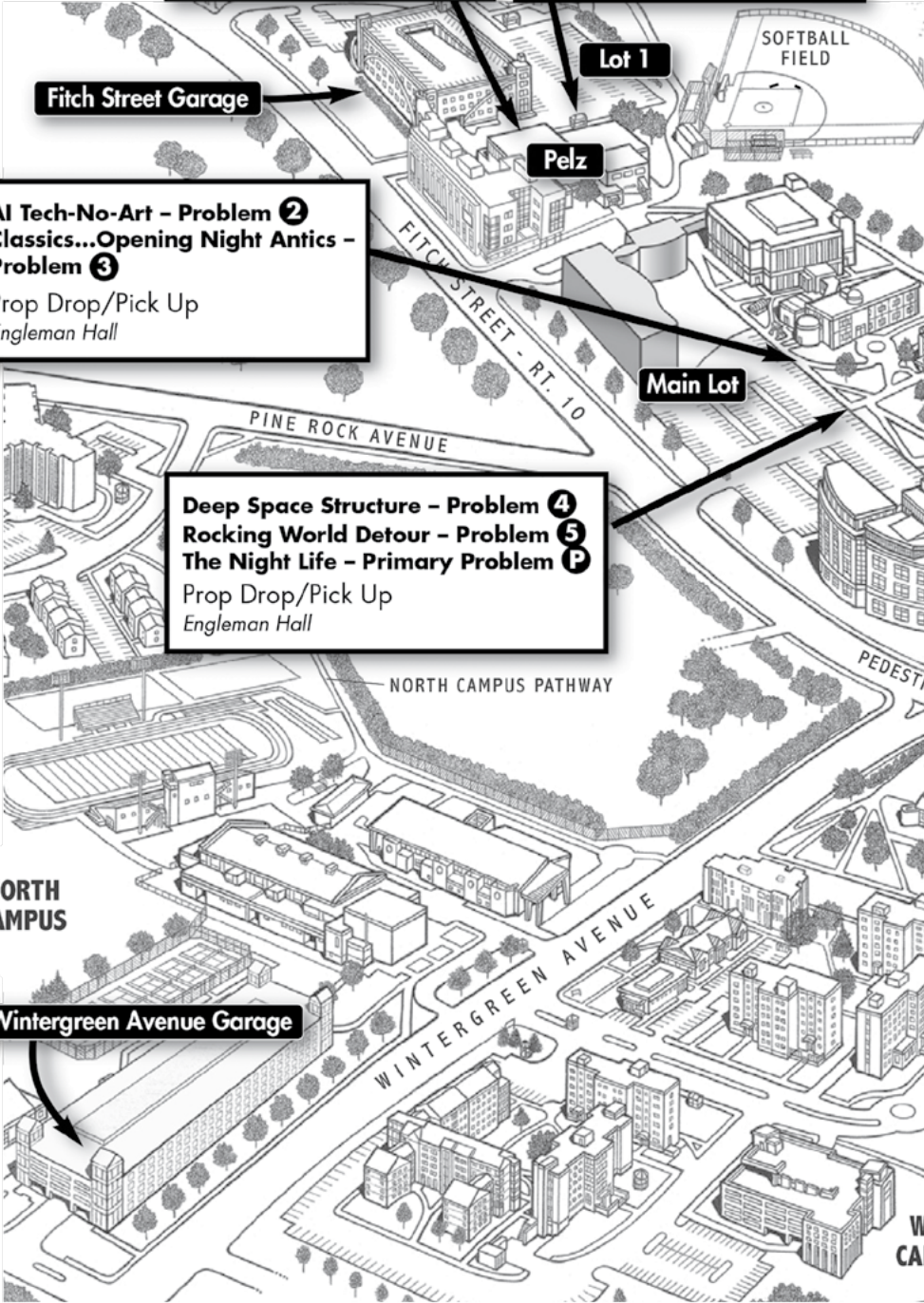
PEDESTRIAN

**NORTH CAMPUS**

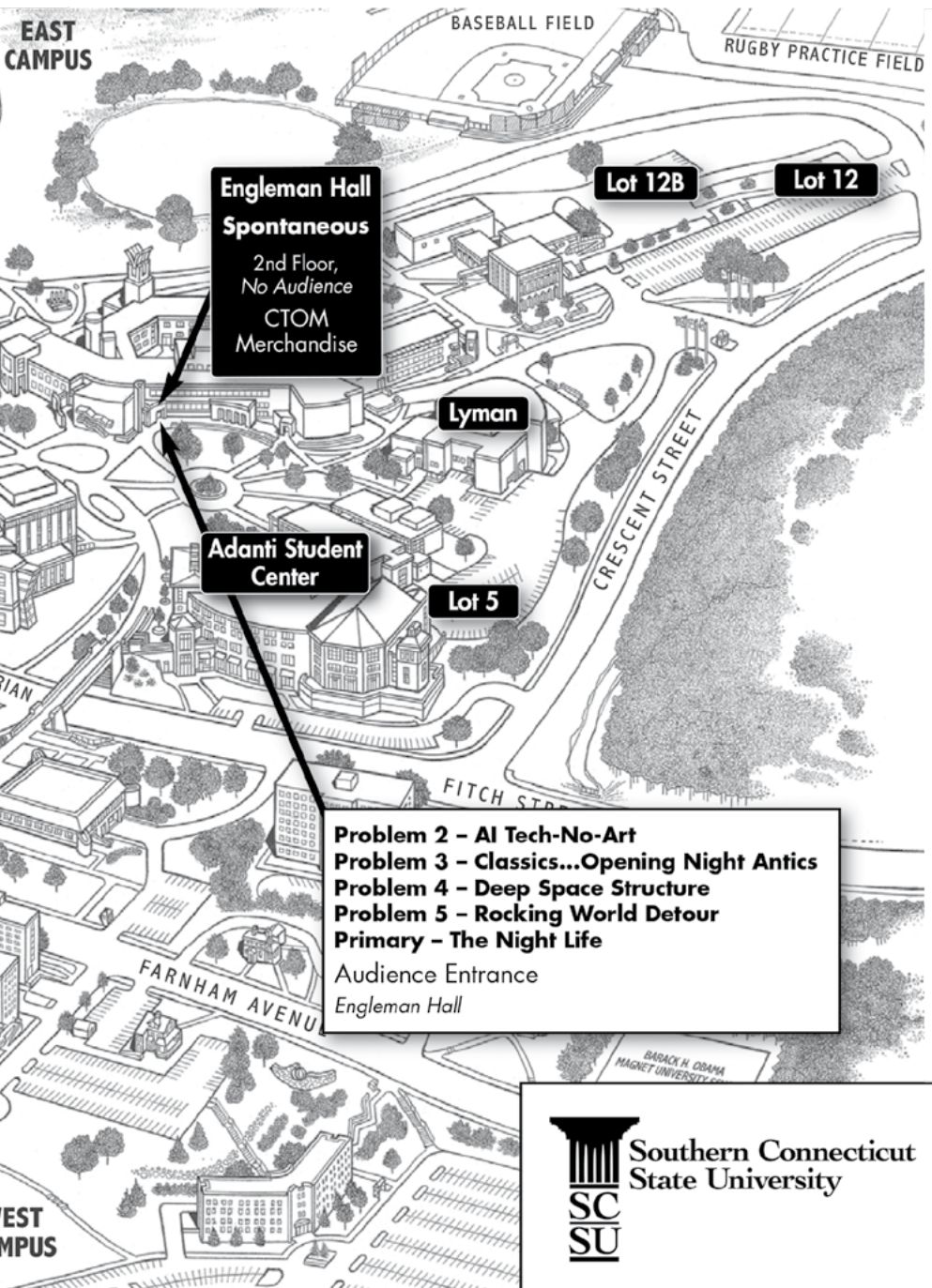
**Wintergreen Avenue Garage**

WINTERGREEN AVENUE

W  
CA



# Performance Sites



**Engleman Hall**  
**Spontaneous**  
2nd Floor,  
No Audience  
CTOM  
Merchandise

**Adanti Student Center**

**Problem 2 - AI Tech-No-Art**  
**Problem 3 - Classics...Opening Night Antics**  
**Problem 4 - Deep Space Structure**  
**Problem 5 - Rocking World Detour**  
**Primary - The Night Life**  
Audience Entrance  
Engleman Hall



# Long-Term Problem Synopses

All problems have an 8-minute time limit.

## Problem 1: Drive-In Movie

*Divisions I, II, III & IV — Problem Captain: Josh Young, Assistant Problem Captain: Andrea Maestas*

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

*Divisions I, II, III & IV — Problem Captain: Ian Wojcik, Assistant Problem Captain: Carley Heck*

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

*Divisions I, II, III & IV — Problem Captain: Rachel Cunningham, Assistant Problem Captain: Katie Pelkey*

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

*Divisions I, II, III & IV — Problem Captain: Amy Zinser, Assistant Problem Captain: Sherri Martin*

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

*Divisions I, II, III & IV — Problem Captain: Holly Wonneberger, Assistant Problem Captain: Katerina Micklus*

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. Sponsored by ARM & HAMMER™

## Primary: The Night Life

*Grades K-2 — Problem Captain: John Ehlinger, Assistant Problem Captain: Debi Crotty*

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.



# Could I Be a Coach?

**Yes, you can!** Volunteer coaches are the foundation of our program. They are often parents, teachers, grandparents, or community members. Coaching is rewarding and fun, and best of all, it gives more kids the opportunity to be involved in all of the wonderful, productive creativity on display today. Coaches generally meet weekly with teams of up to seven students to supervise them and stimulate, rather than influence, their thinking. No "outside assistance" is allowed as the team works together to solve its chosen problem.

**You won't be alone!** CTOM offers coach training in the fall and early winter. We also offer Odyssey Day, a skills-training day for kids and coaches with topics such as balsa-wood building, improvising, script writing, making things work, acting, and turning junk into treasure.

**Find out more** at [www.ctom.org](http://www.ctom.org) and [www.odysseyofthemind.com](http://www.odysseyofthemind.com) or contact [AssnDir@ctom.org](mailto:AssnDir@ctom.org). *We can't wait for you to join us in the amazing adventure that is Odyssey of the Mind!*

- Business Cards
- Stationery
- Flyers & Brochures
- Calendars
- Labels & Stickers
- Menus
- Table Tents
- Plaques & Awards
- Binders & Tabs
- Tickets
- Custom Stamps
- Door Hangers
- Rack Cards
- Forms & Checks
- Posters & Banners
- Promotional Material



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# CTOM Heroes

## Supporters

Thank you for your donations and in-kind contributions.

3M Company Bank of America Charities Aid Foundation  
Southern Connecticut State University WTNH and Sarah Cody

## CTOM Network

We thank our "CTOM Network" members for generously sharing their time and talents by helping with the many tasks involved in running our program: coach training, merchandise committee service, Odyssey Day workshops, spontaneous scrimmages, tournament preparation work, and volunteer work at events. To learn more or join the network, email [AssnDir@ctom.org](mailto:AssnDir@ctom.org). We'd love to include you!

Susan Borst  
Paula Daskam  
Tara Figueroa

April Lang  
John Owen  
Sara Smiley Smith

Noah Ventola  
Elliott Williams  
Willa Zalaznick

## Judging Teams

We could not run a high-quality, fair competition without our dedicated judges.

**Thank you** for attending training and serving as announcers, as timers, or as problem, scoring, style, staging, spontaneous, or head judges. *See you next year!*

Sara Almeida\*  
Jordan Almeida  
Karen Anahory  
Darlene Angotto\*  
Catie Angotto  
Aili Arisco  
Gauri Bahadur\*  
Kelli Bedner\*\*  
Susan Borst\*  
Ryan Boulanger  
Stacey Brazier  
Sarah Carey\*\*  
Rudy Chiti\*  
Thomas Clear  
Cooper Colthup  
Paula Daskam\*\*  
Santhosh Devasani  
Amy D'Orio  
Wayne D'Orio  
Megan Doyon\*\*  
Leon Doyon\*\*  
Keith Duggar\*  
Rachel Efthymiou

Carrie Ehorn  
Lisa Fancher\*  
Brianna Farrand\*\*  
Amanda Fitzpatrick\*  
Claudia Fortunato  
Eddie Fortunato  
Jennifer Freeda  
Julie Gottlieb\*\*  
Suzanne Graceffa  
Andrew Graceffa  
EJ Haskell  
Keri Hrcs  
Matt Hryniewicz  
Sharon Huynh\*  
Anuradha  
Kothandaraman\*  
Nicholas LaMorte  
Jacqueline Larson  
Em Lebow\*  
Brittany Levine  
Victoria Li  
Shu-fei Lin  
Sarah Lippman

Isabel Marturano  
Katie Miller  
Jonathan Moffly  
Domenica Monaghan  
Jeff Moscowitz\*\*  
Ashley Mrdelja  
Barbara Musto  
Laura Nemic  
Angela Njo  
Eileen O'Brien  
Terence O'Connell  
Maureen O'Farrell\*\*  
Shelley Omodunbi  
John Owen  
Vijayan Pandalai  
Maya Petterson  
Ganesh Petterson\*  
Margie Pinto-Leite\*\*  
Frank Posca  
John Preysner\*  
Catherine Preysner\*  
Bhargavi Ramamurthy  
Riley Rapoport

Jason Revzon\*  
Tracey Rinaldi  
Heather Ruddock  
Lorrie Schaller  
Lawrence Schwartz  
Ryenne Shemanskis  
Haya Shilleh  
Sarah Siciliano  
Walt Sizemore\*  
Marge Skinger\*  
Sara Smiley Smith  
Kevin Smith  
Julia Stiker  
Sridar Subramanian  
Monica Teredesai  
Andrea Tersigni  
Alla Tsipenyuk  
Renu Umashenker  
Sara Willstatter  
Vincent Wojcik  
Laura Wonneberger\*\*  
Robert Zinser\*\*

\*5+ years of judging \*\*10+ years of judging

## Stay Involved

### CTOM Board of Directors Openings

Do you have teaching skills, legal or accounting expertise, fundraising or publicity experience, or just love what Odyssey provides for children? We are looking for individuals willing to work actively and collaboratively to build our program.



**Consider applying to become a member** of the CTOM, Inc. Board of Directors. Email our president, Jake Williams, at [jwilliams@ctom.org](mailto:jwilliams@ctom.org) for more information or to nominate yourself.

### OMers—Stay in Touch!

Join the national Odyssey alumni network ([www.odysseyalumni.org](http://www.odysseyalumni.org)) to stay in touch, network, and volunteer! Be sure to join CTOM on Facebook!

*New this year!*

### Odyssey Alumni Meet-Up

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm, Pelz Gymnasium Lobby

Please join us at the alumni table for sweet treats and great conversation. Reminisce about being an OMer and celebrate how our program continues to inspire the youth of today. We'd love to get reacquainted with you!

Hello!

Hey!

Hi ya!



### World Finals Coaches Meeting

Tuesday, March 19 at 7:00 pm

Virtual (via Microsoft Teams)

*Save the Date!*

# 2024 BIOSCIENCE CAREERS FORUM CONNECTICUT:

## Forging New Frontiers in the Life Sciences Industry



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2024**

**10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

101 College Street, New Haven, Conn.

As a top destination for the Life Sciences industry, Connecticut is home to a thriving life sciences community that is anchored by a robust ecosystem of cutting-edge research, highly educated workforce, and innovative companies.

Mark your calendar. More information to follow!

