



GULF COAST ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

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ABOUT ODYSSEY OF THE MIND.

Odyssey of the Mind (OM™) teaches students how to develop and use their natural creativity to become problem-solvers. Imagine facing a problem that requires an original solution. It can be frightening. Now imagine not being afraid to solve that problem – that is what OM members learn. This skill and self-confidence will carry over to all areas of their lives. OM brings the classroom to life as students apply what they learn and combine it with their interests and passions to solve our unique open-ended problems. OM also emphasizes teamwork, budgeting, time management, public speaking, and so much more. This international program is designed to help students at all learning levels grow as individual learners, grow as team members, and to reach their full potential.

Learn more about Odyssey of the Mind:

gcodyyssey.com • floridaodysseyofthemind.com • odysseyofthemind.com

KEY FACTS

- **2026 Tournament Date:** February 28, 2026.
- **Location:** Thomas E Weightman Middle School, 30649 Wells Rd, Wesley Chapel.
- Each tournament averages **75-100 teams, hosting 750-1000 people**, including team members, coaches, family supporters, judges, workers and other officials.
- Teams complete in one of **six STEAM related problems**, investing many hours each year, developing a solution to solve the problem and presenting that solution through a skit that lasts 8 minutes or less, doing all the work on their own with no outside assistance.

FUNDRAISING GOALS

- Establish funding for consistent coverage of the many expenses to put on the regional tournament that are not fully covered by the portion of the registration fee allocated to that purpose, so we don't have to raise tournament fees for our teams and our board members don't need to shoulder these additional costs.
- Develop funding for grants for Title 1 schools who don't have the funds available to pay the membership and registration fees set by the state and national level, opening this opportunity to all teams regardless of financial ability.
- Establish funds to increase scholarship offerings to our senior program alumni.
- Raise funds to help offset the high cost of participation for those teams that earn a chance to compete at the World level. Each World team incurs costs averaging \$10,000 and our region sends several teams each year to World competition, many that struggle to afford this opportunity.

Thank You For Your Support!

Gulf Coast Odyssey of the Mind is a region of Florida Odyssey of the Mind 501(c)3

The GCOM Regional Board will need to approve all potential sponsors.

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