



Odyssey of the Mind

## ODYSSEY ANGELS

### *Be a hero in your community!*

The worldwide community often proves its ability to work together to help those suffering from a major disaster. Whether it's an elderly woman needing help carrying her groceries, or a family struggling to pay their bills, someone needs help right in our backyards.

The Odyssey Angels program wants to challenge you to use your unique creative problem-solving abilities to help some aspect of your community that would otherwise be overlooked. In return, one team will be selected to attend Regional Competition to present how it helped its community and will be awarded.

### **How it Works**

#### Who can participate?

Anyone can participate! *The only limitation is that atleast 2-3 persons in the Odyssey Angel group should be on an Odyssey of the Mind team in the current session.* The group can be of any size and made up of any individuals with no age limitations. It can be a family, a class, a team, a group of friends – anyone who wants to help their community. In Odyssey Angels “Outside Assistance” is a good thing!

#### Who does Odyssey Angels benefit?

The focus of an Odyssey Angel group can be anything within the neighbourhood they live in. This is the chance for students to utilize their strengths and help others. Aside from communities around the world that will benefit, participants that form an Odyssey Angels team will also learn important lessons in teamwork, creative problem-solving, compassion, and more.

#### How is it a competition?

Each group will register with the program. Odyssey Angel teams will explain their charity project and results. Then organisation will choose one that it considers to be not only creative, but beneficial to the community. Up to five representatives of that group will be invited to Regionals as special guests and be able to present its experiences.

#### How much does it cost?

There is no charge to become an Odyssey Angel. The only responsibility is to find creative ways to help solve a problem within your local community and attempt to do it.

#### What are the deadlines to participate?

You can work on your project whenever you wish, however, you must report on your results by **January 10<sup>th</sup> of the current year.**

And much like judging in Odyssey of the Mind, those projects that utilize creative thinking will be given more weight than simply the best final outcome. We hope that teams will continue their projects after the deadline to help those in need.

### **Become an Odyssey Angel**

Now is your chance to become someone's hero and use your creativity at the same time! In order to become an Odyssey Angel you must:

- Think of some aspect of your community that can use the help of creative problem-solving.
- Enroll in the program by the deadline.
- Complete your project and submit your report with the results by January 10th of the current year.

### **Brainstorming**

- Every community has different needs and situations, so **YOU** are the expert for what needs help within your community. You are uniquely equipped to think of an outside-of-the-box solution to those in need. Here are a few areas that you can take note of in order to start brainstorming.
- **ELDERLY:** Is there a way you can assist seniors in your community? Can you think of a way to help with chores, make someone laugh or keep someone company?
- **ENVIRONMENTAL:** Is there a park or playground that needs renovation? Does your area have a community garden or a place to plant vegetables? Can you think of a new way to recycle a previously thrown-out item, or a way to make something that appears useless into something useful?
- **SCHOOLMATES:** Is there someone in need that could use your creative abilities? Don't just concentrate on mechanical skills, perhaps younger students are missing out on taking part in more theatrical activities such as dancing, singing, or acting. Remember use your particular Odyssey of the Mind creative problem-solving skills to help!
- **NEIGHBOURS:** Are there other groups or families that could use assistance in some way? Can you build something for them? Entertain? Help in other ways by solving a problem?
- **ANIMALS:** Is there an animal shelter in need? How can you use your creativity to help stray animals or shelters better care for animals? Perhaps they need supplies like blankets, or dog walkers?



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## Community Service Project Form

To qualify for approval, a project must meet the following criteria:

- Contribute to the completion of tasks which will benefit the community, individuals in need and/or groups within the community.
- Not be for a political party.
- Provide students with an educational learning experience.
- Not involve direct solicitation of funds for non-profit agencies nor generate profits for a private company. Students may not handle monetary transactions or collect money.
- Not place students in any situation that would be inappropriate for their age, background, level of maturity or put students at risk in any way.

Activity (Name of event):

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Participants Names & Contact No.:

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Email Id:

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School Name:

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Dates of Service and Hours volunteered:

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DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:

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SIGNATURE OF ADULT IN CHARGE \_\_\_\_\_

(POSITION, IF APPLICABLE) \_\_\_\_\_