



Mount Evans 2015 OMer Recipients

Twin Peaks Charter Academy Team 2 – Wacky Weather - Primary

Nomination by Long Term Judges

Outstanding teamwork! Came together as a team and were able to problem solve and work together fixing a team member's ice cream cone costume. Congratulations on your teamwork and overcoming obstacles to perform!

Graland Country Day School – Runaway Train – Div I

Nomination by Coach Shannon Bell

The 'Thinking Caps' have been so enthusiastic about OotM. Each week they showed up smiling and eager to try new things. They have the best attitude and have completely embraced the spirit of OotM. Earlier this week, after holding out hope to the bitter end, the team voted and decided not to come to the tournament. The tears were so sad and the disappointment crushing. Later, the team rallied and decided to compete in Spontaneous at tournament, despite feeling disappointed and upset, in order to get feedback for next time and share what they did create. The team has persevered despite everything. It is so impressive to see how excited they are to be here and to cheer on others despite not being able to compete after months of work.

Jynette Thompson – Runaway Train & Lose Your Marbles – Div I

Nomination by Team Parents (Imagine Firestone)

Jynette has served as our Building Coordinator, the head coach of Lose Your Marbles and was an assistant coach to the Runaway Train team. Jynette then stepped up to head coach of Runaway Train when the head coach had major medical issues. Jynette has been an amazing mentor for all of the other coaches and both of her teams while still coordinating fundraising efforts. Jynette is an amazing asset to Team Imagine!! We couldn't be here without her efforts.

Niwot Elementary Team A – Pandora’s Box – Div I

Nomination by Colorado Odyssey Official

I had a bit of an epiphany Tuesday. Our team is so NOT ready for Saturday’s tournament, but it was sunny and the kids played hard in the sunshine. There was so much laughter and genuine happiness that I realized that even if they aren’t ready on Saturday, this year has been a tremendous success. I get it about OM being about the journey.

One of the team members became frustrated and behaved and said some things he probably wishes he hadn’t said. He then stopped coming to meetings and wanted to quit. It would have been natural for the team to say OK to him and get focused again. I asked the team if they wanted to ‘accept’ his resignation or fight it. They agreed not to let him leave without a fight and they immediately sent him a video (a cute movie trailer) expressing how important he was to the team and for him to please stay on. When he showed up to the next meeting, they RAN to him and CHEERED!! He in turn brought a cake topped with Lego figurines of the characters in their performance that he had made. It has been one big happy family ever since. There is a chance they made a lifelong impression on this child and I could not be prouder of the team.

Several of the boys do not have sisters and they are enjoying being so close to this ‘family’ – especially the girls. They all want a sleepover and continued playdates. These are 7 children who probably would not be close if it weren’t for Odyssey of the Mind. I think they have made lifelong memories. So happy for them and their wonderful journey (and mine too – I have gone from worrying about the team to not being ready, to full acceptance of whatever happens is fine).

Ethan Beiriger – Rocky Mountain Academy of Evergreen, Pandora’s Box Div II

Nomination by Coaches Aaron Hansen and Coach Susan Adcock

Sometime around Thanksgiving, Ethan had an accident and fractured his skull and sustained a severe concussion. It was unclear whether he would survive and/or recover. Brain damage seemed likely, at the very least. We assumed that he would not be returning to Odyssey of the Mind and hoped for Ethan and his family that he would recover. Ethan miraculously recovered and within two weeks returned to our team practices! We were all astonished at his quick recovery and his enthusiasm to rejoin his team, despite these injuries. We struggled to attain focus from him at times. Despite having to be hard on him at times, he has stuck through it! He’s proven himself to be a valuable part of the team!

Problem 5 Judging Team – Silent Movie

Nomination by the Problem 5 Problem Captain and Head Judge

The Problem 5 Judging Team was superbly spectacular; the “on-the-edge-of-your-chair” attention and smiles were present from the first team through the ninth. The laughter and joy were infectious and highly appreciated. Stories about, “When I...,” were abounding. BRAVO ZULU, job well done!