



Posing with the first place trophy they won at the 2017 Odyssey of the Mind World Finals are (from left) Sophie Miller, Audrey Tjandra, Austin Liu, Colin Kawakami, Kiran Wong, Nicholas Meksavanh, and Cheryl Chung. All were fourth-graders at Rhodes Elementary School in Chino this school year.

Chino Valley Odyssey of the Mind team wins first place in World Finals of the creative challenge competition

A student team from Rhodes Elementary School in Chino took first place in its division at the 2017 Odyssey of the Mind World Finals held in late May at Michigan State University.

The team of fourth-graders competed against 43 third- through fifth-grade teams in the creative challenge to build a structure of balsa wood that could hold a

significant weight. The competing teams came from all over the United States, as well as Japan, China, Singapore, Indonesia, Russia, Germany, Poland, England, Canada, Mexico, Switzerland, Korea, Slovakia, and India.

In addition to competing, the team met other students from around the world and traded team pins.

Members of the Chino Valley Odyssey of the Mind team are Sophie Miller, Audrey Tjandra, Austin Liu, Colin Kawakami, Kiran Wong, Nicholas Meksavanh, and Cheryl Chung. Their coach is parent Jackie Meksavanh. Co-coaches include Evelyn Sunarko and Syanna Kawakami.

The team's first place win in the California Odyssey of the Mind State Finals in late March earned it a spot in the World Finals.