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Education

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## News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## The Ohio State University Office of Continuing Education (CEd) Hosts 2008 State Science Olympiad

*Middle and High School Students Compete to Represent Ohio at National Tournament*

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 25 — On April 12, 2008, The Ohio State University Office of Continuing Education (CEd) will host Ohio's 23<sup>rd</sup> annual **Science Olympiad** that brings over 1,300 sixth-12<sup>th</sup>-grade students, teachers, and parents representing 80 middle and high schools from 47 counties to various locations across the Columbus campus of The Ohio State University.

Months of preparation culminate when over 40 middle and 40 high school teams of 15 students each plus alternates compete in events, such as Disease Detective, Mystery Architecture, Sounds of Music, and Robot Ramble, for the opportunity to represent the state at the National Science Olympiad. In order to earn the right to advance to the state-level competition, these teams competed with over 265 other school teams in eight regional tournaments.

The tournament is a rigorous academic interscholastic competition that consists of a series of 26 individual and team events for which students prepare throughout the school year. Requiring knowledge of science facts, concepts, processes, skills, and application, these challenging and motivational events are well-balanced among the various STEM disciplines of biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, computers, and technology.

Sponsored by The Ohio State University and a grant from the Science Education Council of Ohio, the **Ohio Science Olympiad** program is credited with sending many of the top math and science students in the country to the national tournament where Ohio teams consistently place in the top 10 award winners. In fact, state participation ranks in the top six out of the 46 states currently involved in the program.

The Ohio State University's involvement in the state tournament also includes judges and financial support from the colleges of Engineering; Biological Sciences; Math and Physical Sciences; Education and Human Ecology; Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences; and the Department of Naval Military Science.

The National Research Council recognizes Science Olympiad as a model program in the National Science Standards by the National Research Council. The Science Olympiad is a national nonprofit organization devoted to improving the quality of science education, creating a passion for the learning of science, and providing recognition for outstanding achievement in science education by both students and teachers.

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This year's National Science Olympiad tournament will be held May 30–31 at George Washington University. Students from more than 108 teams of champions from across the United States will participate in more than three dozen events, such as bridge-building, genetics, chemistry, and astronomy.

For more information regarding the **Ohio Science Olympiad**, visit [ced.osu.edu/scioly](http://ced.osu.edu/scioly) or call (614) 292-8571.

The Department of Conference Management in The Ohio State University Office of Continuing Education (CEd) specializes in providing meeting and conference management services — from pre-conference concept to post-conference follow-up — on a cost-effective basis to the university community as well as to private and public businesses and associations. For more information on CEd's Conference Management services, visit [ced.osu.edu](http://ced.osu.edu) and click on "Conference Management," or contact Sarah Sieling in the Office of Continuing Education at (614) 292-8571.

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**Editor's Note:** *The day of the event the headquarters for the state tournament will be located at Ramseyer Hall, 29 W. Woodruff Ave. Admission to the events is free, but due to space restrictions, only some of the events are open to the public. The events at the French Field House, 460 Woody Hayes Drive, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. are open and include: Wright Stuff, Trajectory, Robot Cross, and Egg-O-Naut.*

*Interviews regarding the **Ohio Science Olympiad** are available by contacting Latina A. D. Rockhold, CEd public relations/communications coordinator, at (614) 688-3310 or [rockhold.14@osu.edu](mailto:rockhold.14@osu.edu).*