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Lafayette eighth graders look to repeat success at OM World Championships

Submitted by Manju Lind



Left to right: Shriya Lind, Lauren Brekke, David Siu, Sanika Khamkar, Madhav Sahasranaman
Photo provided

Stanley team's second time attending the World championships in person, this is their third time representing Lafayette on the global stage.

For this year's long-term problem, the Stanley team created a "play that goes wrong," where required set and character malfunctions cause antics and chaos on opening night in front of distinguished guests. During their Northern California state competition, the team's performance through both planned and unplanned set malfunctions earned them first place for their Long Term problem as well as the prestigious OMER's Award. The OMER's Award "recognizes those individuals. who, during a tournament, serve as exemplary examples or role models through their actions and words."

In describing the team's challenge in overcoming an unplanned, complete set collapse, a judge wrote, "The team. put on an amazing performance, improvising as they went. They even had some judges convinced it was supposed to happen! They embodied the spirit of the problem and overcame `antics' in their performance."

The team also earned first place for their elaborate set and costume construction made nearly entirely out of recycled and upcycled materials.

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