All registered schools who have paid the $135 registration fee have access to the Tournament Resources and Regional Challenges via the TOM Portal.

It is vital that all TOM Coordinators check that they can login to the TOM Portal and access the Tournament Resources prior to the end of Term 2, to ensure they can access the Regional Challenges from Friday 11th July 2008.

If you cannot access the ‘Tournament Resources’ and think your school has paid, please call the TOM Office to check. If you haven’t yet paid, please do so by the end of term. Again, if you have any problems paying please contact the TOM Office.

The ‘Tournament Resources’ page contains all the documents you will need to participate in the program, including: the Victorian Schools’ Instruction Manual; the Facilitator’s Handbook; the team forms (cost form, presentation skills form, outside assistance form and challenge clarification form); sample Challenges; curriculum resources; and other helpful documents. All these documents were briefly outlined in the April newsletter.

The 2008 Regional Challenges PDF document you download will contain each of the four six-week challenges—Applied Technology, Language Literature, Maths Engineering and Social Sciences. The Challenges are the same for both Primary and Secondary teams. Each team is to choose one Challenge. Schools can enter as many teams as they like, and this can be more or less than the number of anticipated teams that schools indicated when registering.

Accompanying the Challenges will be information for TOM Coordinators on how to nominate your teams via the TOM Portal. Please read this document carefully before nominating your teams!
So far this year Tournaments of Minds has provided eight Professional Development workshops around the state with over 120 attendees.

The remaining workshops for this year are geared towards assisting facilitators and coordinators in dealing with teams once the Challenges are released.

The **Improving Team Performance** workshop (Geelong) will assist facilitators with strategies to improve their team’s performance, whilst the **Unpacking the Challenges** workshop (Kew) explores the nature of this year’s Regional Challenges and how to get the best out of your teams.

Our **Student Incursion Program** is available to all schools. We tailor a workshop to suit your needs: from a short intro to TOM session, to a series of thinking skill workshops.

Student Incursions do not run for registered TOM schools during term 3, but resume in term 4. Please consider booking a date now, as there are already limited dates available.

For further information on our Workshop program or to book a Student Incursion, please contact Geraldine Nicholas:
TOM (Vic) Inc.
Ground Floor, 123 Church Street
HAWTHORN VIC 3122
Tel: (03) 9818 8311
Fax (03) 9818 8344
Email: vic-director@tom.edu.au
Web: www.tom.edu.au

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**Workshop Registration & CD Order Form**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Workshop (Location)</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Cost (Incl. GST)</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 10  | Improving Team Performance (Geelong) *  
Tuesday 22 July  6.00pm-9.00pm, Sacred Heart College * Note Change of Date |     | $100.00          |       |
| 11  | Unpacking the Challenges (Kew)  
Wednesday 23 July  5.30pm-7.30pm, Carey Grammar |     | $80.00           |       |
| 12  | Advanced Thinking Skills (Mentone)  
Thu 6 & Thu 13 November  5.30pm-7.30pm, Kilbreda College TBC |     | $130.00          |       |
| **NEW!** | Workshop Resource CD  
Available to Country Regions only |     | **$55.00**       |       |
| **TOTAL** |                          |     |                  |       |

**Name(s):**  
**Email:**

**School:**

**Address:**  
**Phone:**

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Cheques to be made payable to Tournament of Minds (Vic) Inc. and forwarded to Ground floor, 123 Church Street, Hawthorn 3122. Forms can be faxed to (03) 9818 8344. Please retain a copy of this form to serve as your tax invoice/receipt.
**Important Reminders**

► **Regional Challenges via the TOM Portal**

The Challenges will be released to schools on Friday 11th July 2008 only via the TOM Portal at:

[www.tomvic.org.au](http://www.tomvic.org.au)

The Challenges will not be emailed to schools in 2008. The Challenges can be distributed to the teams from Saturday 12th July 2008, the first day of the 6 week Long-term Challenge period.

► **Scripts & Plans—1 only**

Scripts and plans must not be presented in presentation folders. Only one copy of the script or any other information requested in the Challenges will be required to be submitted in 2008.

► **No Display Panels**

Display panels will no longer be provided by Tournament venues for presentations. Teams are still allowed to make backdrops but are responsible for their own display arrangements.

► **Black Performance Clothes**

To conform with all other states, Victoria is now strongly encouraging all team members to wear black when presenting at the Regional Tournaments.

► **Applied Technology**

The AT Challenge for 2008 will again be Animation. Rules have been adjusted to allow teams additional time to set up and pack up any required audio-visual equipment, and for venue lighting to be adjusted. As last year, you will need to bring your own equipment and screen. Each team must hand to the Judges a CD/DVD of the animation section of the solution.

At the State Finals it is envisaged that AT teams will be required to re-present their Regional presentation to a new panel of Judges and will be required to solve a new Spontaneous Challenge.

*Note that this information is different to what has been previously advised.*

► **Team Nicknames**

This year teams can give themselves a “nickname”. A team number will be automatically generated for each team as in the past, eg. “St Mary’s College Team 1”. But this year, when you nominate your teams you can also add a team nickname, eg. “St Mary’s College Team 1—The Brain Busters”.

Students should create their own short team nickname. There will be a limit to the name length of 24 characters. The team should consider the “Spirit of the Tournament” guidelines when making up their name (see page 25 of the Victorian Schools’ Instruction Manual 2008). In other words - be creative and clever, not beastly and bawdy!

► **Nominate a Judge**

Each school should nominate at least one person—a parent or teacher—to take on a session of judging at your Regional Tournament. There are usually two or three judges on each panel, and new judges will be placed with experienced judges. It is a very rewarding and interesting experience.

► **Language Literature**

The Author List for this year’s Language Literature Challenge is now available for download from the home page of the national website: [www.tom.edu.au](http://www.tom.edu.au).

► **Regional Tournaments**

TOM will provide participating schools with directions and a map to their Tournament venue plus an information sheet for parents. This will be available from the TOM Portal early next term.
2008 Regional Tournaments

We run our Regional Finals at seven venues around Victoria. When you are nominating your teams online, please check carefully that our portal database has your teams presenting at the venue you are expecting to be at!

Also be aware that only our Metro Northern and Metro Central Regions run on both days of the weekend.

Central Victoria Region
Venue: La Trobe University, Bendigo
Day: Sat 23rd Aug only
Director: John Jones

Geelong Region
Venue: Deakin University, Waurn Ponds
Day: Sun 24th Aug only
Director: Peter Lamb

Gippsland Region
Venue: Monash University, Churchill
Day: Sat 23rd Aug only
Director: Michelle Moore

Goulburn Valley Region
Venue: Goulburn Valley Grammar School, Shepparton
Day: Sat 23rd Aug only
Director: Carole Brewster

Lilydale Region
Venue: Swinburne University of Technology, Lilydale
Day: Sat 23rd Aug only
Director: Lauren Ho

Metro Central Region
Venue: Swinburne University of Technology, Hawthorn.
Days: Sat 23rd & Sun 24th August
Director: Stephanie Rose

Metro Northern Region
Venue: La Trobe University, Bundoora
Days: Sat 23rd & Sun 24th August
Director: Geoff Whyte

All directors can be contacted via our email address:

vic-director@tom.edu.au

School Bands, School Choirs, School Entertainers Needed

TOM (Vic) is hosting the Australasian Pacific Final over 24-26th October 2008. We are looking for one or two bands, choirs or similar that can perform one or two creative or polished items at the Opening Ceremony at Melbourne Town Hall from 10.30-11.30am on Friday 24th October 2008. Please contact Robert Nash at the TOM Office if you may be able to assist in any way on 9818 8311.

Neeff Assists Needy Schools

The National Education and Employment Foundation (NEEF) Australia have sponsored two Australian schools to participate in this year’s Tournament of Minds program, being St Anthony’s Coptic Orthodox College (Frankston North) and Wallace Rockhole School, an indigenous school 120km west of Alice Springs, NT. The sponsorship will cover their school registration and team fees, plus includes enough to assist with support resources.

News Updates
Schools will receive a brief weekly news update through the 6-week Challenge Period. It will be emailed to Coordinators on Monday each week.
TOM Stories & TOM Stars!

As part of our 21st birthday celebrations Tournament of Minds (Vic) Inc. is putting together a collection of interesting stories from and about people who have participated in our program over the years. It is anticipated the collection of stories will be presented at the Australasian Pacific Final in Melbourne, in October 2008.

We are particularly keen in hearing of your successes, of your TOM experiences and about what you’re doing now.

If you have an interesting TOM story, or know someone else who does, please email us or fill out the form overleaf and return it to the address below.

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

Tournament of Minds (Vic) Inc.
Ground floor, 123 Church Street
Hawthorn VIC 3122

Phone: (03) 9818 8311
Fax: (03) 9818 8344

Email: vic-director@tom.edu.au
Web site: www.tom.edu.au
TOM Stories and TOM Stars
Submission Form

Contact Details
Your Name: ____________________________
Email: ________________________________
Telephone: ____________________________ Mobile: ____________________________
Address: ______________________________ Postcode: ____________________________
Suburb: ________________________________
School: ________________________________
Year(s): ______________________________

TOM Memories/Anecdotes:
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What You’re Doing Now:
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________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Your Successes:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Privacy Statement:
By submitting this information using this form, you acknowledge that Tournament of Minds (Vic) Inc. may reproduce photographs, anecdotes and profiles of people in its publications, promotional and marketing material and on its website in order to promote Tournament of Minds to the public. Tournament of Minds would like to be able to use and reproduce a photograph and/or profile of you for this purpose and is seeking your consent to do so. You agree to Tournament of Minds (Vic) Inc. and other Tournament of Minds organisations within Australia and overseas using, reproducing and disclosing the information you have provided in this form in the manner explained above.

Signature: ____________________________

We thank you for your assistance.