

# 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee



**MEDIA GUIDE**

## **INSIDE**

- ★ How to watch on TV
- ★ 2022 Speller Guide
- ★ Prize information
- ★ Bee history

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# MEDIA INFORMATION

Thank you for your interest in covering the 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee. In this guide you will find the daily schedule, statistics, fun facts, history and information on every speller in the competition. Information was excerpted from the 2022 Bee Keeper magazine, which will be available in print and online the week of May 30.

If you can't find what you're looking for, we encourage you to go to [spellingbee.com](http://spellingbee.com), where you can find the rules, information on the words used and the Scripps Cup and much more.

You can also reach out to Rebecca McCarter or Michael Perry, whose information is below. They will try to help connect you with spellers or the information you need.

Rebecca McCarter, [rebecca.mccarter@scripps.com](mailto:rebecca.mccarter@scripps.com), (513) 410-2425

Michael Perry, [michael.perry@scripps.com](mailto:michael.perry@scripps.com), (513) 259-4718

Questions and requests can also be sent to [media@spellingbee.com](mailto:media@spellingbee.com)



The Bee has only had two logos in its 97-year history, one featuring the U.S. Capitol and the current version with the iconic bee graphic.

## Media Availability

(all times Eastern Standard Time)

### Wednesday, May 18: 1 to 2 p.m.

Scripps National Spelling Bee teleconference

**Featuring:** Dr. J. Michael Durnil, executive director, SNSB; David Hudson, vice president, original programming, Scripps Networks

**RSVP:** [Media@spellingbee.com](mailto:Media@spellingbee.com) (details on how to call in will be provided to those who RSVP)

### Tuesday, May 31: 8 to 8:30 a.m.

Kickoff press conference

**Featuring:** Dr. J. Michael Durnil, executive director, Scripps National Spelling Bee; other Bee officials, including Dr. Jacques Bailly, pronouncer; Dr. Brian Sietsema, associate pronouncer; Mary Brooks, head judge (lineup subject to change based on availability)

**Where:** Chesapeake 7-8

### Wednesday, June 1: Conclusion of semifinals (Approximately 8 p.m.)

Semifinalists press conference

**Featuring:** All spellers (approximately 10-12) who advance to the finals on June 2

**Where:** Maryland Ballroom (onstage)

### Thursday, June 2: Approximately 10:15 p.m.

Champion press conference

**Featuring:** The winner of the 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee

**Where:** Maryland Ballroom (onstage)

## How to watch the 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee on TV

This year's Scripps National Spelling Bee semifinals (live to tape, Wednesday, June 1, at 8 p.m.) and finals (live, Thursday, June 2, at 8 p.m.) are being televised on ION and Bounce. They will also be simulcast on Laff and TrueReal. The finals will re-broadcast on June 3 and June 5 on Newsy.

To follow the competition:

- To watch the preliminaries, starting at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, May 31, and the quarterfinals, starting at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, June 1, go to free streaming platforms on the ION Plus and Bounce XL channels. These are available via free apps on Smart TVs (Samsung TV+ and Vizio Watchfree+) and other free apps (Roku Channel and Pluto TV) that can be accessed through Smart TVs and connected TV devices like Roku, Amazon Fire TV and Apple TV.
- The semifinals (beginning at approximately 4 p.m. on Wednesday, June 1) and finals (beginning at 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 2) also will be live-streamed on ION Plus and Bounce XL.

"The Road to the Bee," a one-hour special, will air May 26 on ION and Bounce at 8 p.m. with rebroadcasts planned for Newsy on May 29, June 3 and June 5.

Visit [spellingbee.com/watch](https://spellingbee.com/watch) for instructions on how to watch the Bee in a specific area.

## 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee prizes

### For all spellers

*From the Scripps National Spelling Bee*

- Prize package, including Bee souvenirs and an official certificate of participation

*From Merriam-Webster*

- One-year subscription to Merriam-Webster Unabridged Online

*From Jay Sugarman*

- 2022 U.S. Mint proof set, given in honor of his father Samuel Louis Sugarman, who revered academic achievement

*From Encyclopædia Britannica*

- One-year subscription to Britannica Online Premium

### For quarterfinalists\*

*From the Scripps National Spelling Bee*

- Commemorative pin
- \$100 gift card

### For semifinalists\*

*From the Scripps National Spelling Bee*

- Commemorative medal
- \$500 gift card

### For finalists\*

*From the Scripps National Spelling Bee*

- Commemorative medal, and:
  - Miss in first round of finals through to 7th place - \$2,000
  - 6th place - \$2,500
  - 5th place - \$5,000
  - 4th place - \$10,000
  - 3rd place - \$15,000
  - 2nd place - \$25,000

### For the champion\*

*From the Scripps National Spelling Bee*

- \$50,000 cash
- Commemorative medal
- The Scripps Cup, the official championship trophy of the Scripps National Spelling Bee

*From Merriam-Webster*

- \$2,500 cash and reference library

*From Encyclopædia Britannica*

- \$400 of reference works, including a 1768 Encyclopædia Britannica © Replica Set and a three-year membership to Britannica Online © Premium

### For the champion's school and sponsor

*From the Scripps National Spelling Bee*

- Engraved commemorative plaques

**Note:** Quarterfinalist, semifinalist, finalist and champion monetary awards are not cumulative; that is, a speller moving on to the semifinals will not receive both the quarterfinalist and semifinalist gift cards, but a quarterfinalist who does not qualify for the semifinals will receive everything listed at the quarterfinalist level.

\* Spellers who are eliminated from the competition in the same round are assigned the same rank (place).

Spellers competing in the Spell-off (if activated) will be ranked according to number of words spelled correctly; any spellers who spell the same number of words correctly will be assigned the same rank (place) except in the case of a tie for first. In that case, the winner will be the speller who achieved the highest percentage correct out of words attempted during the Spell-off. If there is still a tie, co-champions will be declared. Misspellings during the Spell-off do not result in immediate elimination.

If two or more spellers tie for first place, the cash prize for each will be \$50,000.

Cash prizes for spellers who are tied for 2nd through 6th place will be determined by the method used in the following example: If three spellers tied for 4th place, the cash prize for each would be the sum of the prize amounts for 4th, 5th and 6th place divided by three; therefore, each speller tied for 4th place would receive  $\$5,833.33$  ( $\$2,500 + \$5,000 + \$10,000$ ) / 3).

# COVERING THE COMPETITION

## Event app

We encourage you to download our event app – Scripps National Spelling Bee – for information to help you cover the competition and receive real-time notifications throughout, including competition updates, press conference alerts and any schedule changes.

## Bee Keeper magazine

You will receive one complimentary copy of this publication when you pick up your credentials. It includes features on spellers, officials and more. As noted on Page 2, material from the magazine was excerpted for this media guide.

## Contacting spellers

To contact specific spellers for interviews, please go to the Media Desk and make that request or email [media@spellingbee.com](mailto:media@spellingbee.com). We have contact information for parents and request that you please get permission from parents before contacting spellers directly.

## Wi-Fi

Information about Wi-Fi at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center will be available on site when you pick up your media credentials.

## Media workroom

A media work room is reserved for media on competition days. The room offers workspace, power strips and refreshments, including light food and drinks, throughout the open hours.

## Social media

You can also get the latest news by following along:

Twitter ([@Scrippsbee](https://twitter.com/Scrippsbee))

Twitter hashtag: [#spellingbee](https://twitter.com/hashtag/spellingbee)

Instagram ([Scripps National Spelling Bee](https://www.instagram.com/ScrippsNationalSpellingBee))

Instagram hashtag: [#scrippsbee](https://www.instagram.com/hashtag/scrippsbee)

Facebook ([Scripps National Spelling Bee](https://www.facebook.com/ScrippsNationalSpellingBee))

The 2022 broadcast platforms are: [@IONtv](https://www.facebook.com/IONtv) and [@Bouncetv](https://www.facebook.com/Bouncetv)



## Photos:

Photos for all 234 spellers, Bee officials and on-air talent are available for download [here](#).

Photos from Bee Week and all competition elements will be available on the Scripps National Spelling Bee's official [Flickr page](#). Media is free to use any of these with proper attribution.

## Interview spot

Near the Media Desk, there will be a step-and-repeat that provides a Bee-branded background for video interviews.

## Championship moment

After the competitor correctly spells the winning word, Adam Symson, president and CEO of The E.W. Scripps Company, will present the Scripps Cup to the champion. Once ION signs off from its broadcast coverage, we will quickly set up a news conference area onstage.

All credentialed media can come onstage and plug into a mult box to get a clean audio signal of the champion's comments. The champion will stand at the microphone to answer questions.

# 2022 BEE WEEK SCHEDULE

## MONDAY, MAY 30

### Welcome & Registration

*Hall of Champions – Maryland Foyer*  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### Opening Ceremony

*Maryland Ballroom*  
7:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Doors open at 7 p.m.

## TUESDAY, MAY 31

### Preliminaries (Rounds 1–3)

*Maryland Ballroom*  
9 a.m. to 7:15 p.m.  
Streamed live on ION Plus and Bounce XL.

Each speller will compete in up to three rounds in one turn during the preliminaries. See the *Contest Rules of the 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee* for detailed format information: [spellingbee.com/rules](https://spellingbee.com/rules).

#### Preliminaries by Speller Number:

Spellers 1 to 40  
9 to 10:40 a.m.

Spellers 41 to 80  
10:45 a.m. to 12:25 p.m.

Spellers 81 to 120  
12:30 to 2:10 p.m.

Spellers 121 to 160  
2:25 to 4:05 p.m.

Spellers 161 to 200  
4:10 to 5:50 p.m.

Spellers 201+  
5:55 to 7:15 p.m.

### Visits to Planet Word

*925 13th St. NW, Washington, D.C., 20005*

8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Spellers will travel by bus in groups assigned by speller number to visit this new immersive language museum.

### Merriam-Webster Presentation

Peter Sokolowski, Editor-at-Large

*Maryland Ballroom*

8 to 8:45 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

### Quarterfinals

*Maryland Ballroom*

8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Streamed live on ION Plus and Bounce XL.

### Semifinals

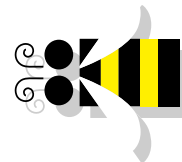
*Maryland Ballroom*

3:30 to 8 p.m.

Onstage remarks begin at 3:40 p.m.

Streamed live on ION Plus and Bounce XL.

The semifinals will air from 8 to 10 p.m. on ION and Bounce.





## THURSDAY, JUNE 2

### Camp Bee

*Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, various meeting spaces*

These are ticketed events.

### D.C. Area Tours

*Various regional locations*

These are ticketed events.

### Finals

*Maryland Ballroom*

8 to 10 p.m.

Onstage remarks begin at 7:40 p.m.

Broadcast live on ION and Bounce.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 3

### Camp Bee

*Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, various meeting spaces*

These are ticketed events.

### D.C. Area Tours

*Various regional locations*

These are ticketed events.

### Awards Banquet

*Maryland Ballroom*

6 to 8 p.m.

This is a ticketed event.

### Speller Farewell Party

*Cherry Blossom Ballroom*

8 to 11 p.m.



## Speller and Sponsor Desk hours

Providing information and assistance to spellers and sponsors

*Hall of Champions, Maryland Foyer*

### Monday, May 30

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 6 to 8:30 p.m.

### Tuesday, May 31

8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, June 1

7 a.m. to end of semifinals

### Thursday, June 2

8 a.m. to noon, 6 to 11 p.m.

### Friday, June 3

9 a.m. to noon

## Media Desk hours

Providing information and assistance to media members

*Inside main hallway of Gaylord conference space*

### Tuesday, May 31

7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, June 1

7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

### Thursday, June 2

9 a.m. to noon

6 to 11 p.m.

## Media contacts

### Rebecca McCarter

rebecca.mccarter@scripps.com, (513) 410-2425

### Michael Perry

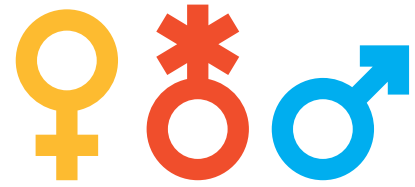
michael.perry@scripps.com, (513) 259-4718

Questions and requests can also be sent to [media@spellingbee.com](mailto:media@spellingbee.com)

# SPELLERS BY THE NUMBERS

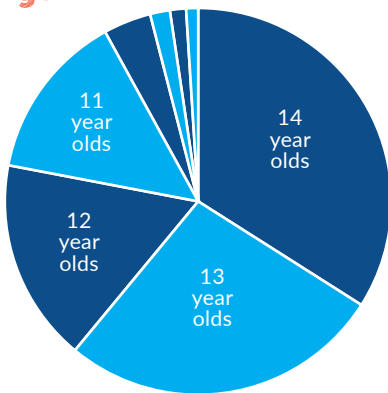
Here's a breakdown of the 234 spellers competing in the 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

## Gender



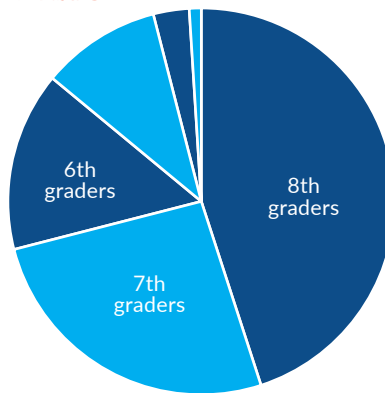
**105** Female spellers  
**128** Male spellers  
**1** Non-binary speller

## Age



**2** 7 year olds  
**3** 9 year olds  
**8** 10 year olds  
**34** 11 year olds  
**39** 12 year olds  
**81** 13 year olds  
**66** 14 year olds  
**1** 15 year old

## Grade



**1** 2nd grader  
**8** 4th graders  
**23** 5th graders  
**34** 6th graders  
**62** 7th graders  
**106** 8th graders



## Spelling in Their Blood

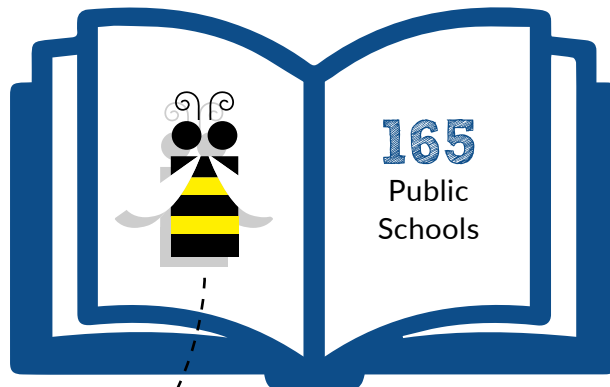
23 spellers have relatives who have participated in a combined 46 Scripps National Spelling Bees.



## Spell-peaters

Coming into this year, 45 spellers have previously competed in the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

## School Type





# CHAMPIONS AND THEIR WINNING WORDS

**1925**  
**gladiolus**

*Frank Neuhauser*  
Louisville Courier-Journal  
Louisville, Kentucky

**1926**  
**cerise**

*Pauline Bell*  
Louisville Courier-Journal  
Louisville, Kentucky

## first winner

Frank Neuhauser was 11 when he won the first Bee. His prizes? A stack of gold coins worth \$500 and a visit with President Calvin Coolidge.

**1927**  
**abrogate**

*Dean Lucas*  
Akron Beacon Journal  
Akron, Ohio

**1928**  
**knack**

*Betty Robinson*  
South Bend News-Times  
South Bend, Indiana

**1929**  
**luxuriance**

*Virginia Hogan*  
The Omaha World-Herald  
Omaha, Nebraska

**1930**  
**albumen**

*Helen Jensen*  
Des Moines Register & Tribune  
Des Moines, Iowa

**1931**  
**foulard**

*Ward Randall*  
White Hall Register-Republican  
White Hall, Illinois

**1932**  
**invulnerable**

*Dorothy Greenwalk*  
Des Moines Register & Tribune  
Des Moines, Iowa

**1933**  
**torsion**

*Alma Roach*  
Akron Beacon Journal  
Akron, Ohio

**1934**  
**brethren**

*Sarah Wilson*  
Portland Evening Press  
Portland, Maine

**1935**  
**intelligible**

*Clara Mohler*  
Akron Beacon Journal  
Akron, Ohio

**1936**  
**interning**

*Jean Trowbridge*  
Des Moines Register & Tribune  
Des Moines, Iowa

**1937**  
**promiscuous**

*Waneeta Beckley*  
Louisville Courier-Journal  
Louisville, Kentucky

**1938**  
**sanitarium**

*Marian Richardson*  
Louisville Times  
Louisville, Kentucky

**1939**  
**canonical**

*Elizabeth Ann Rice*  
Worcester Telegram & Gazette  
Worcester, Massachusetts

**1940**  
**therapy**

*Laurel Kuykendall*  
The Knoxville News Sentinel  
Knoxville, Tennessee

**1941**  
**initials**

*Louis Edward Sissman*  
Detroit News  
Detroit, Michigan

**1942**  
**sacrilegious**

*Richard Earnhart*  
El Paso Herald-Post  
El Paso, Texas

**1946**  
**semaphore**

*John McKinney*  
Des Moines Register & Tribune  
Des Moines, Iowa

**1947**  
**chlorophyll**

*Mattie Lou Pollard*  
Atlanta Journal  
Atlanta, Georgia

**1948**  
**psychiatry**

*Jean Chappellear*  
Akron Beacon Journal  
Akron, Ohio

**1949**  
**dulcimer**

*Kim Calvin*  
Canton Repository  
Canton, Ohio

**1950**  
**meticulosity**

*Colquitt Dean*  
Atlanta Journal  
Atlanta, Georgia  
AND

*Diana Reynard*  
Cleveland Press  
Cleveland, Ohio

**1951**  
**insouciant**

*Irving Belz*  
Memphis Press Scimitar  
Memphis, Tennessee

**1952**  
**vignette**

*Doris Ann Hall*  
Winston-Salem Journal  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

**1953**  
**soubrette**

*Elizabeth Hess*  
Arizona Republic  
Phoenix, Arizona

**1954**  
**transept**

*William Cashore*  
Norristown Times Herald  
Norristown, Pennsylvania

**1955**  
**crustaceology**

*Sandra Sloss*  
St. Louis Globe-Democrat  
St. Louis, Missouri

## long-time partner

Merriam-Webster has been the official dictionary partner of the Bee since 1957. The official source of all words in the 2022 Bee is Merriam-Webster Unabridged.

**1956**  
**condominium**

*Melody Sachko*  
The Pittsburgh Press  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**1957**  
**schappe**

*Sandra Owen*  
Canton Repository  
Canton, Ohio  
AND

*Dana Bennett*  
Rocky Mountain News  
Denver, Colorado

**1958**  
**syllepsis**

*Jolitta Schlehner*  
Topeka Daily Capital  
Topeka, Kansas

**1959**  
**catamaran**

*Joel Montgomery*  
Rocky Mountain News  
Denver, Colorado

**1960**

**eudaemonic**  
*Henry Feldman*  
The Knoxville News Sentinel  
Knoxville, Tennessee

**1961**

**smaragdine**

*John Capeheart*

Tulsa Tribune  
Tulsa,  
Oklahoma

**1967**

**Chihuahua**

*Jennifer Reinke*

The Omaha World-  
Herald  
Omaha, Nebraska

**1973**

**vouchsafe**

*Barrie Trinkle*

Forth Worth Press  
Fort Worth, Texas

**1974**

**hydrophyte**

*Julie Anne Junkin*

Birmingham Post-  
Herald  
Birmingham, Alabama

**1975**

**incisor**

*Hugh Tosteson*

San Juan Star  
San Juan, Puerto Rico

**1976**

**narcolepsy**

*Tim Kneale*

Syracuse Herald  
Journal-American  
Syracuse, New York

**1977**

**cambist**

*John Paola*

The Pittsburgh Press  
Pittsburgh,  
Pennsylvania

**1978**

**deification**

*Peg McCarthy*

The Topeka Daily  
Capital  
Topeka, Kansas

**1979**

**maculature**

*Katie Kerwin*

Rocky Mountain  
News  
Denver, Colorado

**1962**

**esquamulose**

*Nettie Crawford*

El Paso Herald-Post  
El Paso, Texas  
AND

*Michael Day*

St. Louis Globe-  
Democrat  
St. Louis, Missouri

**1963**

**equipage**

*Glen Van Slyke III*

The Knoxville News  
Sentinel  
Knoxville, Tennessee

**1964**

**sycophant**

*William Kerek*

Akron Beacon  
Journal  
Akron, Ohio

**1965**

**eczema**

*Michael Kerpan, Jr.*

Tulsa Tribune  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

**1966**

**ratoon**

*Robert A. Wake*

Houston Chronicle  
Houston, Texas

**1968**

**abalone**

*Robert L. Walters*

The Topeka Daily  
Capital  
Topeka, Kansas

**1969**

**interlocutory**

*Susan Yoachum*

Dallas Morning News  
Dallas, Texas

**1970**

**croissant**

*Libby Childress*

Winston-Salem  
Journal & Sentinel  
Winston-Salem,  
North Carolina

**1971**

**shalloon**

*Jonathan Knisely*

Philadelphia Bulletin  
Philadelphia,  
Pennsylvania

**1972**

**macerate**

*Robin Kral*

Lubbock Avalanche-  
Journal  
Lubbock, Texas

# STATS

106

Total Champions

52 Girls 54 Boys

3 11 year olds

19 12 year olds

53 13 year olds

31 14 year olds

## Top 5 States

15 Texas

9 Ohio

8 Pennsylvania

7 Tennessee & Colorado

6 California

## Longest Word

**schere schnitte**

(2015)

## Shortest Word

**luge**

(1984)



**1980**

**elucubrate**

*Jacques Bailly*

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver, Colorado

**1981**

**sarcophagus**

*Paige Pipkin*

El Paso Herald-Post  
El Paso, Texas

**1982**

**psoriasis**

*Molly Dieveney*

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver, Colorado

**1983**

**Purim**

*Blake Giddens*

El Paso Herald-Post  
El Paso, Texas

**1984**

**luge**

*Daniel Greenblatt*

Loudoun Times-Mirror  
Leesburg, Virginia

**1985**

**milieu**

*Balu Natarajan*

Chicago Tribune  
Chicago, Illinois

**1986**

**odontalgia**

*Jon Pennington*

The Patriot News  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

**1987**

**staphylococci**

*Stephanie Petit*

The Pittsburgh Press  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**1988**

**elegiacal**

*Rageshree Ramachandran*

The Sacramento Bee  
Sacramento, California

**1989**

**spoliator**

*Scott Isaacs*

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver, Colorado

**1990**

**fibranne**

*Amy Marie Dimak*

The Seattle Times  
Seattle, Washington

**1991**

**antipyretic**

*Joanna Lagatta*

The Wisconsin State Journal  
Madison, Wisconsin

**1992**

**lyceum**

*Amanda Goad*

The Richmond News Leader  
Richmond, Virginia

**1995**

**xanthosis**

*Justin Tyler Carroll*

The Commercial Appeal  
Memphis, Tennessee

**1996**

**vivisepture**

*Wendy Guey*

The Palm Beach Post  
West Palm Beach, Florida

**1999**

**logorrhea**

*Nupur Lala*

The Tampa Tribune  
Tampa, Florida

**2000**

**demarche**

*George Abraham Thampy*

St. Louis Post-Dispatch  
St. Louis, Missouri

## historic

Jody-Anne Maxwell, from Jamaica, became the first Black winner of the Bee in 1998. Zaila Avant-garde became the first Black American winner in 2021.

**1993**

**kamikaze**

*Geoff Hooper*

The Commercial Appeal  
Memphis, Tennessee

**1994**

**antediluvian**

*Ned G. Andrews*

The Knoxville News Sentinel  
Knoxville, Tennessee

**1997**

**euonym**

*Rebecca Sealfon*

Daily News  
New York, New York

**1998**

**chiaroscuroist**

*Jody-Anne Maxwell*

Phillips & Phillips Stationery Suppliers  
Kingston, Jamaica

**2001**

**succedaneum**

*Sean Conley*

Aitkin Independent Age  
Aitkin, Minnesota

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

**1925-1931**

Dean George B. Wood, *American University*

**1939**

Douglas D. Cornette, *The Courier-Journal (Louisville, KY)*

**1940-1948**

Max B. Cook, *Promotion Editor, Scripps-Howard Newspapers*

**1949-1957**

Charles Schneider, *Scripps-Howard Newspapers*

**1958-1959**

Richard D. Peters, *Scripps-Howard Newspapers*

**1960-1984**

James H. Wagner, *Scripps-Howard Newspapers*

**1985-1986**

Mary L. Mangold

**1985-1989**

Mary Curtin-Brooks

**1987**

Susan Miller

**1988-1991**

Sondra J. Austin

**1990-1997**

Reta Rose

**1996-2020**

Paige P. Kimble

**2021-present**

Dr. J. Michael Durnil

**2002**

**prospicience**  
*Pratyush Buddiga*  
Rocky Mountain News  
Denver, Colorado

**2003**

**pococurante**  
*Sai R. Gunturi*  
The Dallas Morning News  
Dallas, Texas

**2004**

**autochthonous**  
*David Scott Pilarski Tidmarsh*  
South Bend Tribune  
South Bend, Indiana

**2005**

**appoggiatura**  
*Anurag Kashyap*  
San Diego Union-Tribune  
San Diego, California

**2006**

**Ursprache**  
*Katharine Close*  
Asbury Park Press/  
Home News Tribune  
Asbury Park,  
New Jersey

**2007**

**serrefine**  
*Evan M. O'Dorney*  
Contra Costa Times  
Walnut Creek,  
California

**2008**

**guerdon**  
*Sameer Mishra*  
Journal and Courier  
Lafayette, Indiana

**2009**

**Laodicean**  
*Kavya Shivashankar*  
The Olathe News  
Olathe, Kansas

**2010**

**stromuhr**  
*Anamika Veeramani*  
The Plain Dealer  
Cleveland, Ohio

**2011**

**cymotrichous**  
*Sukanya Roy*  
Times Leader  
Wilkes-Barre,  
Pennsylvania

**2012**

**guetapens**  
*Snigdha Nandipati*  
U-T San Diego  
San Diego, California

**2013**

**knaidel**  
*Arvind Mahankali*  
Daily News  
New York, New York

**times 8**

In 2019, eight co-winners were dubbed the “Octochamps” and hold the Guinness World Record for “Most winners of the Scripps National Spelling Bee (single competition).”

**2014**

**stichomythia**  
*Sriram Hathwar*  
Corning Rotary Club  
Corning, New York

AND

**feuilleton**  
*Ansun Sujoe*  
Texas Christian University  
Fort Worth, Texas

**2015**

**nunatak**  
*Gokul Venkatachalam*  
St. Louis Post-Dispatch  
St. Louis, Missouri

AND

**scherenschnitte**  
*Vanya Shivashankar*  
The Olathe News  
Olathe, Kansas

**2016**

**Feldenkrais**  
*Jairam Hathwar*  
Corning Rotary Club  
Corning, New York

AND

**gesellschaft**  
*Nihar Janga*  
Houston Public Media  
Houston, Texas

**2017**

**marocain**  
*Ananya Vinay*  
The Fresno Bee  
Fresno, California

**2018**

**koinonia**  
*Karthik Nemmani*  
Scoggins Middle School  
McKinney, Texas

**2019**

**erysipelas**  
*Erin Howard*  
Adventure Travel  
Birmingham, Alabama

AND

**auslaut**  
*Rishik Gandhasri*  
Bay Area Regional Spelling Bee  
San Francisco, California

AND

**palama**  
*Abhijay Kodali*

Dallas Sports Commission  
Dallas, Texas

AND

**pendeloque**  
*Sohum Sukhatankar*

Dallas Sports Commission  
Dallas, Texas

AND

**odylic**

*Rohan Raja*  
Dallas Sports Commission  
Dallas, Texas

AND

**cernuous**

*Christopher Serrao*

Discover Lehigh Valley  
Allentown,  
Pennsylvania

AND

**bougainvillea**

*Saketh Sundar*  
Howard County Library  
Columbia, Maryland

AND

**aiguillette**

*Shruthika Padhy*  
Rosa International Middle School  
Cherry Hill, New Jersey

**2021**

**Murraya**  
*Zaila Avant-garde*  
New Orleans Chapter of The Links  
New Orleans,  
Louisiana



**PRONOUNCERS**

**1925-1927**

Dr. George S. Wills,  
Western Maryland College

**1929-1936**

Dr. Charles E. Hill,  
George Washington University

**1937-1940**

Harold F. Harding,  
George Washington University

**1938-1939**

George F. Hussey, Jr.,  
Special Contributing Editor to Webster's New International Dictionary

**1941-1942;  
1946-1947**

Dr. W. Hayes Yeager, Professor of Public Speaking,  
George Washington University

**1948-1960**

Benson S. Alleman,  
Department of Communication,  
American University

**1961-1980**

Dr. Richard R. Baker, Professor of Philosophy,  
University of Dayton

**1981-2002**

Dr. Alex J. Cameron,  
Associate Professor of English,  
University of Dayton

**2003-present**

Dr. Jacques Bailly, Associate Professor of Classics,  
University of Vermont

**2019-present**

Dr. Brian Sietsema,  
Clergyman,  
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

# TAKE NOTE

Here's a look at some of the competitors in the 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

## Returning Finalists

Four 2021 finalists won their regional competitions to advance to the 2022 national qualifying rounds: **Dhroov Bharatia** (speller 102), tied for fourth; **Vivinsha Veduru** (speller 152), tied for fourth; **Vihaan Sibal** (speller 205), tied for seventh; and **Roy Seligman** (speller 222), tied for fourth.

## Coming from Afar

**Ana Guadalupe Villagomez** (speller 57) from Hagåtña, Guam, is traveling the farthest for this week's competition (7,900+ miles). Other spellers are coming from Canada, the Bahamas, Germany, Ghana and Puerto Rico.

## The Youngest

**Matthew Yi** (speller 30) from New Orleans is 7 years old and the youngest competitor. The fourth grader's birthday is Sept. 21, 2014, less than a month after **Nam Nguyen** (speller 107), a second grader from Vermillion, South Dakota, who was born on Aug. 26, 2014.

## The Oldest

**Charlie Palmore** (speller 4) from Washington, D.C., is the only 15-year-old competing this week. He is an eighth grader from St. Albans School.



## The Twins

**Achyut Ethiraj** (speller 11) from Fort Wayne, Indiana, **Isaac Morowitz** (speller 40) from Chicago, Illinois, and **Akhil Giddaluri** (speller 128) from Chattanooga, Tennessee, have identical twins. Overall, 14 spellers have twins. Fraternal twins **Deetya Vuppala** (speller 221) and **Saharsh Vuppala** (speller 206) are both competing this week. They attend different schools and both advanced through the same regional program.



## Speaking of Siblings...

There are other siblings competing this week. **Shijay Sivakumar** (speller 234), an eighth grader, and sister **Shreeya Sivakumar** (speller 204), a fifth grader, are from Odessa, Texas. They attend different schools and each advanced from different regional programs with different sponsors. Also, **Rishi Jayakumar** (speller 192), a seventh grader, and sister **Harini Jayakumar** (speller 165), a fourth grader, are from Mooresville, North Carolina. They attend different schools and advanced through the Carolina Panthers regional.

## The Veterans

**Akash Vukoti** (speller 226) from San Angelo, Texas, is competing in the national competition for the fifth year. **Maya Jean Jadhav** (speller 208) from Madison, Wisconsin, and **Harini Logan** (speller 231) from San Antonio, Texas, are in their fourth years at the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

## The Veterans, Part II

Competing for the third year are **Arnav Kolluru** (speller 53), **Vikram Raju** (speller 76), **Wolfgang Schaff** (speller 98), **Sophia Lopez** (speller 103), **Vihaan Sibal** (speller 205), **Roy Seligman** (speller 222) and **Shijay Sivakumar** (speller 234). Thirty-five spellers are competing for the second year.

## Full House

**Luke LaValley** (speller 86) from Lapeer, Michigan, has seven siblings – four brothers and three sisters. The family also has seven cats, and Luke spends his time helping out on a small farm, tending cattle, chickens, rabbits and horses.

# MEET THE OFFICIALS



**Dr. Jacques Bailly**  
Pronouncer



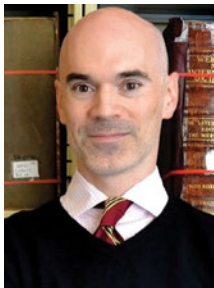
**Dr. Brian Sietsema**  
Associate Pronouncer



**Dr. Kevin Moch**  
Associate Pronouncer



**Mary Brooks**  
Head Judge



**Peter Sokolowski**  
Judge



**Barrie Trinkle**  
Judge



**Kristin Hawkins**  
Judge



**Sameer Mishra**  
Judge



**George Thampy**  
Judge



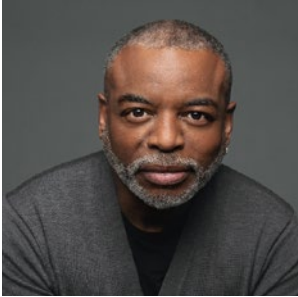
**Ben Zimmer**  
Judge



**Frank Cahill**  
Record Keeper



# MEET THE TALENT



## LeVar Burton

Host | @levarburton

Burton is an acclaimed actor, director, educator and lifelong children's literacy advocate who has entertained generations as former host and executive producer of PBS's "Reading Rainbow" (1983–2006); starring as Kunta Kinte in the acclaimed television miniseries "Roots" (1977); and as Lt. Commander Geordi La Forge in "Star Trek: The Next Generation" television series (1987–1994).



## Paul Loeffler

Analyst | @P356Loeffler

Loeffler is a sportscaster year-round who has announced every Bee championship since 2006. He was a competitive speller himself, tying for 13th at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in 1990. He announces Fresno State football, basketball and baseball games and interviews veterans for a syndicated radio show. He will be part of the broadcast team.



## Julie Grant

Analyst | @JulieCourtTV

Grant is an award-winning journalist who serves as a legal expert on Court TV. She is a licensed attorney, former prosecutor and trial expert. Additionally, she was a participant in the 1995 Scripps National Spelling Bee. She will be part of the broadcast team.



## Vanya Shivashankar

Bee Week emcee

The 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee co-champion is an undergraduate student at Yale College, majoring in cognitive science. She has been on the broadcast team for previous Bees and this year is expected to host the Opening Ceremony, Awards Banquet and other events.



# ABOUT THE MOVE TO ION

The Scripps National Spelling Bee was televised on ESPN for 27 years. In October, The E.W. Scripps Company, long-time steward of the Bee, announced that it was moving the Bee from ESPN to ION, the No. 5 most-watched entertainment network in primetime, and Bounce, America's first and No. 2 most-watched African American-focused over-the-air network. They are both owned by Scripps and each is available free in nearly 120 million households nationwide.

## Why did Scripps make this move?

Scripps' purchase of ION in January 2021 gave it a chance to reach a broader audience who could watch the Scripps National Spelling Bee for free. It is also a chance for Scripps to own the content.

ION and Bounce are available over the air, meaning viewers only need an antenna to get access to the Bee; they no longer need a cable subscription to watch it. The networks are also widely distributed on cable and satellite platforms. The Bee will be accessible to nearly every home in the country over the air as well as on pay TV – a much wider reach than ever before.

## What does it mean for the broadcast?

Airing the competition on its own networks means:

- Scripps is producing a 60-minute "Road to the Bee" special to air May 26 on ION with rebroadcast planned for Newsy on May 29, June 3 and June 5.
- Scripps also will control streaming opportunities.

## Who owns the rights now?

Scripps will own the rights to footage of the Bee now and in the future. That has not been the case with ESPN. Any outside news outlet or organization wishing to use content from the Bee broadcast has had to negotiate with ESPN. Going forward, Scripps will own the content and can make decisions about who can use it and at what cost.



# Meet the Spellers





**FUN  
FACT**

Sahasrad can solve a Rubik's Cube in less than two minutes.

**#1 SAHASRAD SATHISH**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Lake Forest Country Day School ★ Lake County Regional Office of Education (Grayslake, Illinois)



**FUN  
FACT**

Quinten enjoys all types of music and is learning how to play the guitar.

**#2 QUINTEN S. ATUTIS**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

River Ridge Middle School ★ Carroll/JoDaviess/Stephenson Regional Office of Education (Freeport, Illinois)



**FUN  
FACT**

Wes started playing catcher in baseball when he was 9 because no one else volunteered — he ended up loving it!

**#3 WESLEY COOPER**

10 years old ★ 4th grade

Crichfield Elementary School ★ Kankakee Valley REMC (Wanatah, Indiana)



**FUN  
FACT**

Charlie plays baseball, ultimate Frisbee and tennis.

**#4 CHARLIE PALMORE**

15 years old ★ 8th grade

St. Albans School ★ The Washington Informer (Washington, D.C.)



**FUN  
FACT**

Ishan has a 3-year-old dog named Coco who is a Cavachon.

**#5 ISHAN RAMRAKHIANI**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Canterbury School ★ SNSB Indiana Regional Bee (Roanoke, Indiana)



**FUN  
FACT**

Joshua is a fan of the Beatles and started learning to play guitar and bass because of their songs.

**#6 JOSHUA LINO DIOCARES**

12 years old ★ 6th grade

Ridge Park Charter Academy ★ Kent Intermediate School District (Grand Rapids, Michigan)



**FUN FACT**

Edith has a passion for birding, and she has seen several rare species, including the Common Redpoll and Snow Bunting.

**#7 EDITH L. DAWSON**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Mount Vernon Middle School ★ The Dispatch Argus (Davenport, Iowa)



**FUN FACT**

Juan has played tennis since he was 7 years old and currently plays on his school's tennis team.

**#8 JUAN CRISTOBAL RONDEAU**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Westminster Christian School ★ The Miami Herald (Miami, Florida)



**FUN FACT**

Naresh is a huge fan of soccer star Lionel Messi.

**#9 NARESH RAM**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Oakridge Middle School ★ Collier County Public Schools (Naples, Florida)



**FUN FACT**

Billy is a red-blue belt in tang soo do at Kaizen Karate Academy in Camden, Delaware.

**#10 WILLIAM LEE SCIALLA**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Fred Fifer III Middle School ★ Delaware Spelling Bee (Wilmington, Delaware)



**FUN FACT**

Achyut loves playing chess and placed fourth in an Indiana state chess tournament this year.

**#11 ACHYUT ETHIRAJ**

12 years old ★ 6th grade

Maple Creek Middle School ★ SNSB Indiana Regional Bee (Fort Wayne, Indiana)



**FUN FACT**

Vikrant is learning to improve his flying skills on Microsoft Flight Simulator and hopes to get a pilot's license.

**#12 VIKRANT CHINTANABOINA**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Discovery Charter School Falcon Campus ★ SNSB Regional Bee (Region Two) (San Jose, California)



**FUN FACT**

Emma sails in the same bay as the USS Arizona, the sunken battleship from the attack on Pearl Harbor.

**#13 EMMA K. MALDARELLI**

12 years old ★ 7th grade

La Pietra - Hawai'i School for Girls ★ Hawaii State Spelling Bee (Honolulu, Hawaii)



**FUN FACT**

Sydney has been playing the violin for four years and sight-reads music.

**#14 SYDNEY GRAHAM**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

University Academy ★ Envision Credit Union (Tallahassee, Florida)



**FUN FACT**

Lara loves to bake her favorite desserts: orange marmalade almond cake and tarte tatin.

**#15 LARA K. RANDHAWA**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Auburndale Intermediate School ★ Riverside County Office of Education (Riverside, California)



**FUN FACT**

Petra taught herself to play the recorder.

**#16 PETRA ABENA ABRAFI SARPONG**

12 years old ★ 6th grade

Sarpong Home School ★ Young Educators Foundation (Accra, Ghana)



**FUN FACT**

Tejas loves to tinker with computers, and his favorite operating system is Linux.

**#17 TEJAS RAMAN**

12 years old ★ 6th grade

Boulder Country Day School ★ Boulder Valley School District (Boulder, Colorado)



**FUN FACT**

Jia Xin loves drawing and has taken sketch classes for more than a year.

**#18 JIA XIN SOPHIA LU**

11 years old ★ 6th grade

Riverside Elementary School ★ Boise State University (Boise, Idaho)



**FUN FACT**

Mihir likes visiting U.S. National Parks, and he has collected around 15 Junior Ranger badges so far.

**#19 MIHIR S. KONKAPAKA**

11 years old ★ 6th grade  
Connect Academy ★ The San Diego Union-Tribune (San Diego, California)

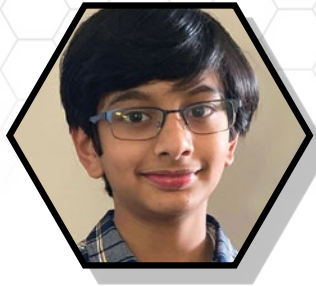


**FUN FACT**

Braydon likes to play video games and enjoys indulging in fictitious stories.

**#20 BRAYDON JAMES SYX**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
West Blocton Middle School ★ Alabama Kiwanis Foundation (Birmingham, Alabama)



**FUN FACT**

Rehan loves to write poems.

**#21 REHAN MATHEW KOSHY**

12 years old ★ 7th grade  
Edison Regional Gifted Center ★ SNSB Regional Bee for Illinois and Texas (Chicago, Illinois)



**FUN FACT**

Amelia is a member of a competitive jump rope demonstration team and has performed throughout Maine.

**#22 AMELIA MAE RICE**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
South Bristol School ★ Portland Press Herald/ Maine Sunday Telegram (Portland, Maine)



**FUN FACT**

For Halloween, Noemie dressed as a 1970s Monica Rambeau from "Wanda Vision"; the actress, Teyonah Parris, retweeted her photo.

**#23 NOEMIE EVA JACKSON-WEAVER**

12 years old ★ 6th grade  
New Hope Academy ★ The Washington Informer (Washington, D.C.)



**FUN FACT**

John loves music and plays the piano, violin and drums.

**#24 JOHN EOH**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Fruitvale Junior High School ★ KERO 23 ABC (Bakersfield, California)



**FUN FACT**

Christian has traveled to 12 countries and enjoyed experiencing different cultures.

**#25 CHRISTIAN CHERIAN**

11 years old ★ 5th grade  
Ilchester Elementary School ★ Howard County Library (Columbia, Maryland)

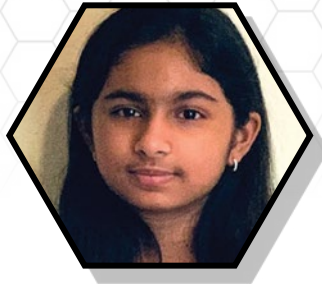


**FUN FACT**

Brody qualified for both all-state band and all-county band as a percussionist.

**#26 BRODY BENJAMIN SANTOS**

12 years old ★ 7th grade  
Saint Mark's Episcopal School ★ The Miami Herald (Miami, Florida)



**FUN FACT**

Shradha loves math and participates in math competitions.

**#27 SHRADHA ANJANA RACHAMREDDY**

12 years old ★ 6th grade  
The Quarry Lane School ★ SNSB Regional Bee (Region Two) (Dublin, California)



**FUN FACT**

At the age of 6, Wyatt learned how to play the ukulele.

**#28 WYATT JALOCHA**

12 years old ★ 6th grade  
O.J. DeJonge Middle School ★ Ludington Daily News (Ludington, Michigan)



**FUN FACT**

Abram has over 30 Lego sets on display in his room.

**#29 ABRAM M. POLLEY**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
John R. Wooden Middle School ★ Indiana University (Bloomington, Indiana)



**FUN FACT**

Matthew loves origami and knows how to fold a number of different airplanes.

**#30 MATTHEW G. YI**

7 years old ★ 4th grade  
My Brother's Home School ★ New Orleans Chapter of The Links (New Orleans, Louisiana)



**FUN FACT**

Eli has recently tried his hand at pottery and finds it relaxing.

**#31 ELI HOADLEY COKELET**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Liberty Memorial Central Middle School ★  
Kansas Press Association (Topeka, Kansas)



**FUN FACT**

Tejas can solve a 3x3 Rubik's Cube in 57 seconds.

**#32 TEJAS J. KATIRA**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Larsen Middle School ★ Kane County  
Regional Office of Education (Geneva, Illinois)



**FUN FACT**

Julia collected personal care items to fill over 250 bags for homeless shelters over the past year and a half.

**#33 JULIA BROOKE SETTEVENEMIE**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Mabelle B. Avery Middle School ★ Noah  
Webster House & West Hartford Historical  
Society (West Hartford, Connecticut)



**FUN FACT**

Varshitha loves to bake, especially pastries and bread, and her sourdough starter's name is Weirdough.

**#34 VARSHITHA CHOWDARY BOJANAPATI**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Jupiter Middle School ★ SNSB Regional Bee  
(Region One) (Jupiter, Florida)



**FUN FACT**

Angelina loves to watch Marvel movies, and her favorite superheroes are Thor and Spider-Man.

**#35 ANGELINA C. GAMPALA**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Canton Charter Academy ★ WXYZ Channel 7  
(Detroit, Michigan)



**FUN FACT**

Ananya's favorite show is "Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood," and "Nana" is a close second.

**#36 ANANYA AUGUSTINE**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Eagle's Landing Middle School ★ Georgia  
Association of Educators (Tucker, Georgia)





**FUN  
FACT**

Last summer, Miles rode in a classic Oldsmobile 442 once owned by baseball great Bobby Bonilla.

**#37 MILES K. HUBBERT**

10 years old ★ 4th grade  
The Kent School ★ Maryland Sports (Baltimore, Maryland)



**FUN  
FACT**

Bruhat played handbells and chimes in the Hillsborough County Fine Arts Festival.

**#38 BRUHAT SOMA**

10 years old ★ 5th grade  
Turner Bartels K-8 School ★ SNSB Regional Bee (Region One) (Tampa, Florida)



**FUN  
FACT**

When the weather is nice, Aydin likes to ride his bike and shoot some hoops.

**#39 AYDIN M. JONES**

12 years old ★ 6th grade  
John Hanson Middle School ★ Charles County Public Schools (La Plata, Maryland)



**FUN  
FACT**

Isaac has an exceptional spelling coach who happens to be his identical twin brother, David.

**#40 ISAAC A. MOROWITZ**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Skinner North Classical School ★ Chicago Public Schools (Chicago, Illinois)



**FUN  
FACT**

Noemi has won a few soccer tournaments.

**#41 NOEMI ESTRELLA GALAN**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
St. Michael Catholic School ★ Ball State University - WIPB-TV (Muncie, Indiana)



**FUN  
FACT**

N'Adom plays the piano and enjoys dancing.

**#42 N'ADOM DARKO-ASARE**

11 years old ★ 5th grade  
DPS International Ghana ★ Young Educators Foundation (Accra, Ghana)



**FUN  
FACT**

Sam loves to travel and especially enjoyed his trips to Iceland, Italy and Costa Rica.

**#43 SAMUEL EVANS**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Evans Family Homeschool ★ WJXT  
(Jacksonville, Florida)



**FUN  
FACT**

Emmie is currently learning two languages, Spanish and Italian.

**#44 EMERSON QUINN  
RAKES**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Lakes Middle School ★ Idaho Character  
Foundation (Coeur d'Alene, Idaho)



**FUN  
FACT**

Justin is learning to play the violin and enjoys exploring new songs on the piano.

**#45 JUSTIN TRAN**

12 years old ★ 7th grade  
Chaparral Middle School ★ Los Angeles  
Spelling Bee Collaborative (Studio City,  
California)



**FUN  
FACT**

Aiden has been an altar server at his local church for the past two years.

**#46 AIDEN B.N. PHAM**

12 years old ★ 6th grade  
Scott Middle School ★ Kiwanis Club of  
Lafayette (Lafayette, Louisiana)



**FUN  
FACT**

Dominic enjoys reading books about American History, especially Joy Hakim's "A History of Us."

**#47 DOMINIC A.  
MARROQUIN**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Santa Fe Trail Middle School ★ Olathe Public  
Schools (Olathe, Kansas)



**FUN  
FACT**

Sahil likes to solve different Rubik's Cubes and puzzles, and he taught himself origami at age 7.

**#48 SAHIL SACHIN THORAT**

12 years old ★ 7th grade  
Caddo Middle Magnet School ★ Louisiana  
State University Shreveport (Shreveport,  
Louisiana)



**FUN  
FACT**

Joey was a member of his school's football and basketball teams this year, and he ran track this spring.

**#49 JOSEPH SHANE  
FINNERTY**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
East Tipp Middle School ★ Adult Learners, Inc.  
(Lafayette, Indiana)



**FUN  
FACT**

Nesika has lived in three different states: Iowa, Oregon and Minnesota.

**#50 NESIKA DAWN  
BELLVILLE**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Pine River-Backus High School ★ Sourcewell  
(Staples, Minnesota)



**FUN  
FACT**

Merit has won school Ping-Pong tournaments and plays community pickleball.

**#51 MERIT HOPE  
NAMASTE-ROSE**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
David L. Rahn Junior High School ★ Regional  
Office of Education #47 (Sterling, Illinois)

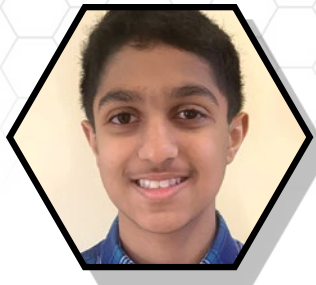


**FUN  
FACT**

Tristan loves singing and playing the guitar and the ukulele.

**#52 TRISTAN JULIAN  
SCHNEICHEL**

11 years old ★ 6th grade  
Revo Academy ★ SAGE Publishing (Thousand  
Oaks, California)



**FUN  
FACT**

Arnav was the 2020 U.S. History Bee national champion in the 6th grade division.

**#53 ARNAV KOLLURU**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Maroa-Forsyth Middle School ★ Macon-Piatt  
Regional Office of Education (Decatur, Illinois)



**FUN  
FACT**

Isabella plays travel soccer and travel basketball, and she prefers to play defense on both teams.

**#54 ISABELLA ROSANNA  
PAGLIAROLI COWAN**

11 years old ★ 6th grade  
St. André French Immersion Catholic  
Elementary School ★ WFCU Credit Union  
(Windsor, Ontario, Canada)



**FUN FACT**

Max likes spicy food (especially hot wings!) and made his own hot sauce this year using peppers from the family garden.

**#55 MAXIMILIAN F. FOLEY**

12 years old ★ 6th grade

St. Mary School - DeKalb ★ DeKalb Regional Office of Education 16 (DeKalb, Illinois)



**FUN FACT**

Annie-Lois was the only junior high school candidate to win gold at the Science Olympiad in Singapore.

**#56 ANNIE-LOIS AMA SERWAA ACHEAMPONG**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Ghana Christian International High School ★ Young Educators Foundation (Accra, Ghana)



**FUN FACT**

Family is very important to Ana Guadalupe. She has five siblings and loving and supportive parents.

**#57 ANA GUADALUPE M. VILLAGOMEZ**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Grace Christian Academy ★ Pacific Daily News (Hagåtña, Guam)



**FUN FACT**

Jonathan would like to continue playing soccer all the way to college.

**#58 JONATHAN DEZIR**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Minooka Junior High School ★ Grundy/ Kendall County Regional Office of Education (Morris, Illinois)



**FUN FACT**

Navtaj is passionate about aviation.

**#59 NAVTAJ K. SINGH**

11 years old ★ 5th grade

Sunnyside Elementary School ★ Lewiston Tribune (Lewiston, Idaho)



**FUN FACT**

Jason is a journalist for his school newspaper.

**#60 JASON KHAN**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

McAuliffe Middle School ★ The Orange County Register (Santa Ana, California)



**FUN FACT**

Aisha won her school's poetry award at the age of 8.

**#61 AISHA SHOEB HAQUE**

11 years old ★ 5th grade

Centerville Elementary School ★ Frederick County Public Libraries (Frederick, Maryland)



**FUN FACT**

Levi began karate instruction in 2021 and aims to have his black belt before he graduates from high school.

**#62 LEVI T. GOULD**

12 years old ★ 7th grade

Gould Homeschool ★ Lakes Country Service Cooperative (Fergus Falls, Minnesota)



**FUN FACT**

Zoë has family all over the world, from Australia to Canada to Finland.

**#63 ZOË A. KEITH**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Summit Middle School ★ Boulder Valley School District (Boulder, Colorado)



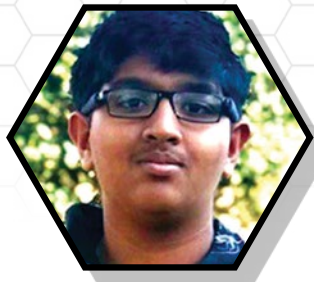
**FUN FACT**

Jeffrey plays three instruments, but his primary instrument is the violin.

**#64 JEFFREY JOBA HSIA**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Bennett Middle School ★ University of Maryland Eastern Shore (Princess Anne, Maryland)



**FUN FACT**

Ekansh was a speller in the 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee and witnessed the Octochamps' win.

**#65 EKANSH RASTOGI**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Markham Woods Middle School ★ Orlando City SC (Orlando, Florida)



**FUN FACT**

Faith loves to read and draw.

**#66 FAITH ZAPATA**

12 years old ★ 6th grade

Palm View Elementary School ★ Riverside County Office of Education (Riverside, California)



**FUN FACT**

Advait plays three musical instruments: piano, cello and recorder, and sings South Indian classical music.

**#67 ADVAITH BALAKRISHNAN**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Hinsdale Middle School ★ ComEd, An Exelon Company (Chicago, Illinois)

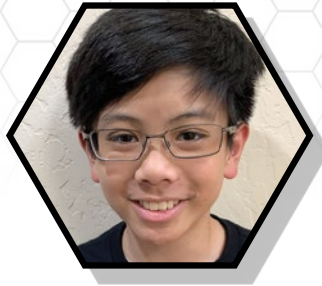


**FUN FACT**

Se'lah has traveled to Mexico, France, London, Georgia, South Carolina, Jamaica, Guyana and Honduras with their family.

**#68 SE'LAH A. SUTTON**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
MacArthur Middle School ★ Anne Arundel County Public Schools (Annapolis, Maryland)



**FUN FACT**

Bryce can learn and play songs by ear, and he plays the cello, piano, guitar and drums.

**#69 BRYCE CEDRIC ALARCON MELGAR**

12 years old ★ 7th grade  
Ridgeview Middle School ★ Visalia Times-Delta/Tulare Advance-Register (Visalia, California)



**FUN FACT**

Jose is a talented basketball player and says he finds true happiness in basketball.

**#70 JOSE D. GARCIA**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Challenger Middle School ★ Lee County Spelling Bee (Fort Myers, Florida)

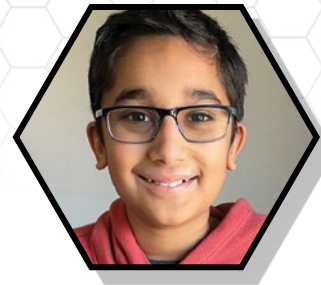


**FUN FACT**

Henry loves heavy machinery, and he collects 1:87 scale diecast models of Caterpillar equipment.

**#71 HENRY JOSEPH OLSEN**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School ★ SNSB Regional Bee for Illinois and Texas (Peoria, Illinois)



**FUN FACT**

Moksh plays midfield on a competitive soccer team and loves all things soccer.

**#72 MOKSH KANUKURTHY**

11 years old ★ 5th grade  
Valley Crossing Elementary School ★ Metropolitan Educational Cooperative Service Unit (Arden Hills, Minnesota)



**FUN FACT**

Riya plays tennis, and her favorite shot is her forehand.

**#73 RIYA AYISHA KOYA**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Carmel Middle School ★ Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (Indianapolis, Indiana)

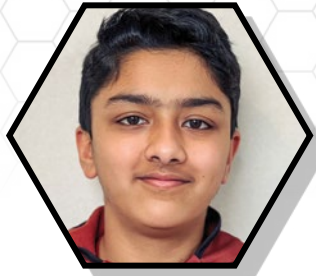


**FUN FACT**

Emily is the seventh and youngest child in her family, and she is the fourth sibling to participate in the Bee.

**#74 EMILY E. DOUDNA**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
IDEA - Fairbanks ★ Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (Fairbanks, Alaska)



**FUN FACT**

Saketh is on the school speech team and has won numerous first place awards in the Massachusetts Speech and Debate League.

**#75 SAKETH MADHUSUDHAN**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Oak Middle School ★ The Daily Item (Lynn, Massachusetts)



**FUN FACT**

Vikram is working on a project exploring major applications of renewable energy.

**#76 VIKRAM RAJU**

12 years old ★ 7th grade  
Aurora Quest K-8 ★ The Denver Post (Denver, Colorado)



**FUN FACT**

Victor is interested in plants and their care, and he recently obtained a three-foot-tall snake plant.

**#77 VICTOR A. ANDREWS**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
East Middle School ★ Oakland Schools Education Foundation (Waterford, Michigan)



**FUN FACT**

John has played the piano since he was 7 years old.

**#78 JOHN K. FOLSOM**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Van Avery Preparatory School ★ Riverside County Office of Education (Riverside, California)



**FUN FACT**

Shrey is the author of "The Corona Warriors" about two young brothers' experiences in the COVID-19 pandemic.

**#79 SHREY PARIKH**

10 years old ★ 4th grade

John L. Golden Elementary School ★ San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools (San Bernardino, California)



**FUN FACT**

Lillian is co-captain of her soccer team, which she has played on since 3rd grade.

**#80 LILLIAN ROSE WALLACE**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Kennedy Middle School ★ Macomb Intermediate School District (Clinton Township, Michigan)



**FUN FACT**

Akira taught herself to read Korean by watching YouTube videos.

**#81 AKIRA S. HARRIS**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Patch Middle School ★ European PTA (Stuttgart, Germany)



**FUN FACT**

Aaron was invited to the county science fair but skipped it for the regional spelling bee.

**#82 AARON FRANCIS KUEBLER**

12 years old ★ 6th grade

St. Luke's Lutheran School ★ Orlando City SC (Orlando, Florida)



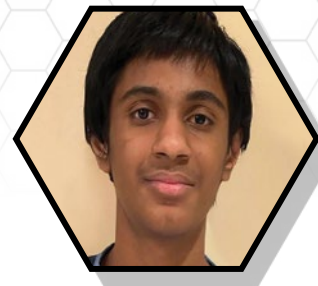
**FUN FACT**

Sulayman is great at Connect 4, Uno and other strategic games.

**#83 SULAYMAN ABDIRAHMAN**

12 years old ★ 7th grade

Brooke Charter School Mattapan ★ Boston Centers for Youth & Families (Boston, Massachusetts)



**FUN FACT**

Avyay holds a Guinness World Record, having participated in the largest online simultaneous group chant.

**#84 AVYAY KODALI**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Plum Grove Junior High School ★ Pepper Construction and Wight & Company (Chicago, Illinois)





**FUN FACT**

Pihu solved her first 500-piece puzzle when she was 6 years old.

**#85 PIHU SAHAI**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Upton Middle School ★ The Herald Palladium (St. Joseph, Michigan)



**FUN FACT**

Luke enjoys swimming in ponds and lakes, as well as taking leisurely bicycle rides in the country.

**#86 LUKE R. LAVALLEY**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Ruth Fox Middle School ★ The County Press (Lapeer, Michigan)



**FUN FACT**

Aliyah and her twin brother Jacob like to earn money by busking: she plays fiddle, and he plays guitar.

**#87 ALIYAH RACHEL ALPERT**

11 years old ★ 6th grade  
Alpert Homeschool ★ Arizona Educational Foundation (Scottsdale, Arizona)



**FUN FACT**

Zain won an Award of Excellence from Young Writers of Canada for his poem.

**#88 ZAIN T. MALIK**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Académie Ste-Cécile International School  
★ WFCU Credit Union (Windsor, Ontario, Canada)



**FUN FACT**

Japleen loves studying history and has a particular fondness for ancient times.

**#89 JAPLEEN KAUR DHILLON**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Rio Vista Middle School ★ The Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (Fresno, California)



**FUN FACT**

Brielle's favorite place to water ski and slalom is on Birch Lake in northern Minnesota.

**#90 BRIELLE ANNEMARIE BROWN**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Maple River Middle School ★ South Central Service Cooperative (North Mankato, Minnesota)



**FUN  
FACT**

Daniel collects music CDs and vinyl records.

**#91 DANIEL SANTIAGO  
LEMUS**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Frank Wright Middle School ★ Imperial County Office of Education (El Centro, California)



**FUN  
FACT**

Aditi is passionate about climate change and environmental impact, and she likes to repurpose objects.

**#92 ADITI SHASHIDHARA**

12 years old ★ 7th grade  
Haas Hall Academy - Bentonville ★ Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas (Jacksonville, Arkansas)



**FUN  
FACT**

Sam's favorite basketball team is the Minnesota Timberwolves.

**#93 SAMUEL JAMES PASSE**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Wabasha-Kellogg Elementary School ★ Southeast Service Cooperative (Rochester, Minnesota)



**FUN  
FACT**

The first fish Nimal ever caught was a flounder in Hilton Head, South Carolina.

**#94 NIMAL MURUGAN**

12 years old ★ 7th grade  
South Forsyth Middle School ★ Georgia Association of Educators (Tucker, Georgia)



**FUN  
FACT**

Kaleb likes to play Nintendo games.

**#95 KALEB OLIVEIRA**

11 years old ★ 5th grade  
Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School ★ The Martha's Vineyard Times (Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts)



**FUN  
FACT**

Mackenzie is obsessed with listening to Olivia Rodrigo songs.

**#96 MACKENZIE RENE  
HARMON**

11 years old ★ 5th grade  
Ellsworth Community School ★ Traverse City Record-Eagle (Traverse City, Michigan)



**FUN FACT**

Rumaysa has a newly-discovered knack for writing rhyming poems.

**#97 RUMAYSA NADEEM**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Furqaan Academy ★ ComEd, An Exelon Company (Chicago, Illinois)



**FUN FACT**

Wolfie's favorite movie is "Toy Story," and he can imitate almost all of the characters' voices.

**#98 WOLFGANG WINSTON SCHAFF**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Schaff Family Homeschool ★ Boone-Winnebago Regional Office of Education (Loves Park, Illinois)



**FUN FACT**

Vikram enjoys playing sports and video games with his friends and family.

**#99 VIKRAM SUNIL C. REDDY**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Robert Frost Middle School ★ The Meakem Group (Bethesda, Maryland)



**FUN FACT**

Randell loves fishing, and he is top of his class in mathematics.

**#100 RANDELL JOHN TOTANES RHOADS**

11 years old ★ 5th grade

Knik Elementary School ★ Anchorage Daily News (Anchorage, Alaska)



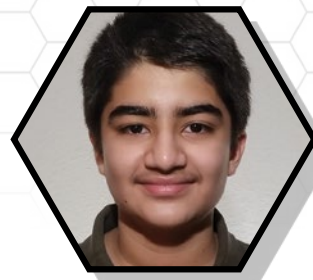
**FUN FACT**

Amelia has traveled all over the world, and names France as her favorite destination so far.

**#101 AMELIA SUSANNA GLASS**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

King's-Edgehill School ★ Cape Breton University (Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada)



**FUN FACT**

Dhroov was awarded the top Robotics and Intelligent Machines Award for an earthquake early warning system.

**#102 DHROOV V. BHARATIA**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Wilson Middle School ★ Dallas Sports Commission (Dallas, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Sophia's favorite stroke in swimming is butterfly, and her favorite track and field event is the 4 x 100-meter relay.

**#103 SOPHIA LOPEZ**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Cedarville Middle School ★ SNSB Michigan and Ohio Regional Bee (Springfield, Ohio)



**FUN FACT**

Abhilash plays violin in his school's chamber orchestra and has performed in his county's orchestra.

**#104 ABHILASH PATEL**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Monroe-Woodbury Middle School ★ Orange-Ulster BOCES (Goshen, New York)



**FUN FACT**

Tarini's favorite pastime is spending time with her dog, Simba.

**#105 TARINI NANDAKUMAR**

11 years old ★ 6th grade  
Walsh Middle School ★ Sweet Success ATX (Austin, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Arnav loves Greek mythology and won't spare the chance to enlighten you about it.

**#106 ARNAV PARAT**

9 years old ★ 4th grade  
Woodlands Elementary School ★ Amarillo College (Amarillo, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Nam loves participating in tennis, soccer, chess and swimming.

**#107 NAM SON NGUYEN**

7 years old ★ 2nd grade  
Jolley Elementary School ★ University of South Dakota (Vermillion, South Dakota)



**FUN FACT**

Aanya is a first-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do.

**#108 AANYA PAVAN SHETTY**

11 years old ★ 6th grade  
John Warner Middle School ★ Columbia Missourian (Columbia, Missouri)



**FUN FACT**

Rayeann was called to lector at her church at age 8 and is still the youngest lector at her church.

**#109 RAYEANN SHARMA**

11 years old ★ 6th grade

Mayfield Middle School ★ SNSB Michigan and Ohio Regional Bee (Mayfield Heights, Ohio)



**FUN FACT**

Ka'Mauri plays the clarinet in his middle school band.

**#110 KA'MAURI T. BEST**

12 years old ★ 7th grade

Sallie B. Howard School ★ The Wilson Times (Wilson, North Carolina)



**FUN FACT**

Tyler is a self-taught coder.

**#111 TYLER A. NUTTALL**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Northfield Community Middle School ★ South Jersey Spelling Bee (Folsom, New Jersey)



**FUN FACT**

Logan's cross-country coach awarded him the "Energizer Bunny" superlative because he just keeps going and going.

**#112 LOGAN AMERICUS EDWARDS**

11 years old ★ 6th grade

Rosebud Schoolhouse ★ Carolina Panthers (Charlotte, North Carolina)



**FUN FACT**

Harini performed Indian Classical Music at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles when she was 6.

**#113 HARINI MURALI**

10 years old ★ 5th grade

Woodbrook Elementary School ★ Press Communications (Neptune, New Jersey)



**FUN FACT**

Addison was the 2021 400-meter tri-county conference track champion.

**#114 ADDISON ARABELLA CHAMPION**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Crest Middle School ★ The Shelby Star (Shelby, North Carolina)



**FUN FACT**

Cyrus plays three instruments and is learning to play a fourth.

**#115 CYRUS CHI DIK LAW**

12 years old ★ 7th grade

The Alternative School for Math & Science ★  
Corning Rotary Club (Corning, New York)



**FUN FACT**

Gustavo is a diver with a love for biology and science.

**#116 GUSTAVO IGNACIO BRIGNONI**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Colegio Marista ★ Eureka Enrichment & Learning Center, Inc. (San Juan, Puerto Rico)



**FUN FACT**

David likes to travel, and his favorite destination is the Dominican Republic.

**#117 DAVID FYFFE**

12 years old ★ 7th grade

Fieldstone Middle School ★ North Rockland Central School District (Garnerville, New York)



**FUN FACT**

Pranav represented the United States in World Robot Olympiad for the 2021-2022 season.

**#118 PRANAV ANANDH**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Garnet Valley Middle School ★ Delaware County Intermediate Unit (Morton, Pennsylvania)



**FUN FACT**

Lindsey is learning to play a few Green Day songs on her off-white Gibson Stratocaster guitar.

**#119 ELLEN LINDSEY ROBERTS**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

W. E. Greiner Exploratory Arts Academy ★  
Dallas Sports Commission (Dallas, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Luc likes to beatbox and is proud of his Filipino-American heritage.

**#120 LUC TEJADA CALAGSING**

11 years old ★ 6th grade

Black Water Middle School ★ Pee Dee Education Center (Florence, South Carolina)

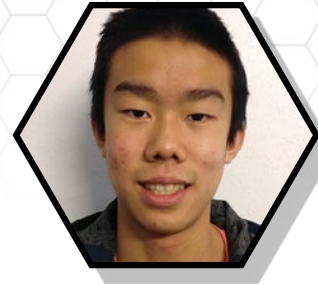


**FUN FACT**

Ellette enjoys writing and won first place in the 2021 Empower Montana MLK Youth Art & Essay Contest.

**#121 ELLETTE KAY WHITCOMB**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Sussex School ★ Montana Television Network (Bozeman, Montana)

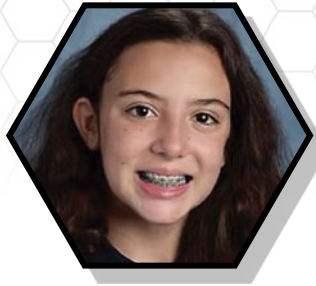


**FUN FACT**

Garrick likes to watch documentaries about nature on TV.

**#122 GARRICK WILLIAM TAM**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Cleveland Middle School ★ The Albuquerque Journal (Albuquerque, New Mexico)



**FUN FACT**

Paula, a competitive Irish dancer, also takes ballet, lyrical, contemporary, jazz and hip-hop classes.

**#123 PAULA DAGLIERI**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Immaculate Conception Catholic Regional School ★ The Valley Breeze (Cumberland, Rhode Island)

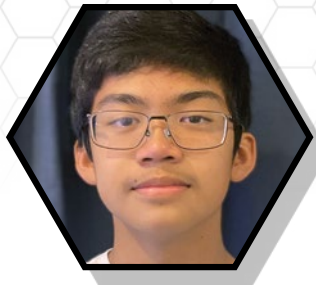


**FUN FACT**

Andrew, a percussionist in the school band, plays snare drum and occasionally xylophone.

**#124 ANDREW YEAGER**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Chippewa Jr/Sr High School ★ Akron Beacon Journal (Akron, Ohio)



**FUN FACT**

Eric has fenced for only 11 months, but he is currently in the top 30 for his age division in the nation.

**#125 ERIC LAYSON GOROZA**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School ★ The Public Education Foundation (Las Vegas, Nevada)



**FUN FACT**

Krishang describes himself as an eminent swimmer and basketball player.

**#126 KRISHANG INDAANA**

10 years old ★ 5th grade  
Saddle River Day School ★ Bergen County Division of Cultural & Historic Affairs (Hackensack, New Jersey)



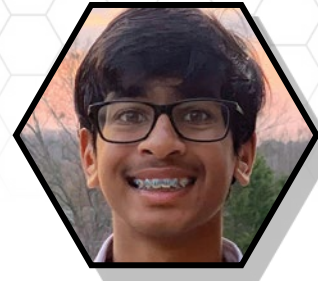
**FUN  
FACT**

Ava loves trying new things and doing origami, which was once a new thing she tried.

**#127 AVA JOANN ANDERSON**

11 years old ★ 6th grade

Nyssa Middle School ★ Nyssa School District 26 (Nyssa, Oregon)



**FUN  
FACT**

Akhil has played the violin since the age of 6 and is currently part of three ensembles.

**#128 AKHIL S. GIDDALURI**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

McCallie School ★ Chattanooga Times Free Press (Chattanooga, Tennessee)



**FUN  
FACT**

Ananya likes to write poems and short stories.

**#129 ANANYA RAO  
PRASSANNA**

11 years old ★ 5th grade

West Bay Elementary School ★ Omaha Sports Commission (Omaha, Nebraska)



**FUN  
FACT**

Jianna loves fashion and design and dreams of being able to sell clothes to the public.

**#130 JIANNA MARINA**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Clinton Township Middle School ★ Diamond City Sports (Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania)



**FUN  
FACT**

Vale can recite over 200 digits of pi.

**#131 VALE ESPOSITO**

12 years old ★ 7th grade

Robert F. Wagner Middle School ★ ScholarSkills for STARS (New Windsor, New York)



**FUN  
FACT**

Tessa has many interests, but her favorite is to travel with her club soccer team.

**#132 TESSA ANN JONES**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Wylie West Junior High School ★ Kiwanis Club of Abilene (Abilene, Texas)





**FUN FACT**

One of Ariel's drawings was mentioned in the Delta Fair, an annual festival in Memphis.

**#133 ARIEL ALHOUWARI**

11 years old ★ 5th grade

White Station Elementary School ★ University of Memphis (Memphis, Tennessee)



**FUN FACT**

Gabriel enjoys playing video games, but he loves programming them even more.

**#134 GABRIEL LUTHER**

**FANG**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Hunter College High School ★ ScholarSkills for STARS (New Windsor, New York)



**FUN FACT**

Yash taught himself origami using YouTube and has gifted his creations to family and friends.

**#135 YASH TUSHAR SHELAR**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Academy of the Sacred Heart ★ St. Louis Post-Dispatch (St. Louis, Missouri)



**FUN FACT**

Alexis played flute in an all-district band clinic and is first chair in her school band.

**#136 ALEXIS A. REEL**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Central Davidson Middle School ★ Carolina Panthers (Charlotte, North Carolina)



**FUN FACT**

While she doesn't understand Arabic, Daanya can read, write and speak it out loud with ease.

**#137 DAANYA Z. BUTT**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Oneonta Middle School ★ The Daily Star (Oneonta, New York)



**FUN FACT**

Luna's favorite trip was to Dubrovnik, Croatia.

**#138 LUNA SARA GASEVIC**

12 years old ★ 6th grade

Ben Franklin Middle School ★ NDACS (Bismarck, North Dakota)



**FUN FACT**

Parker is a bass singer in the choir and a member of the dance troupe in Cleveland's Own Singing Angels.

**#139 PARKER JOSEPH PACIFICO**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
West Geauga Middle School ★ ESC of the Western Reserve (Ashtabula, Ohio)



**FUN FACT**

Joey is a fish aficionado who enjoys learning about all species of freshwater and saltwater fish.

**#140 JOSEPH STANLEY CONSTANTINE**

12 years old ★ 6th grade  
Lakeview Middle School ★ WFMJ Television, Inc. (Youngstown, Ohio)

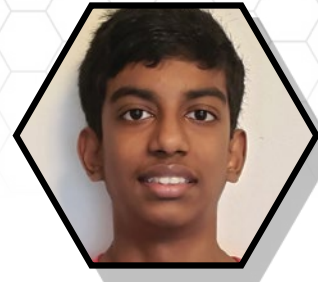


**FUN FACT**

Ananya received the Award of Merit in the state-level Pennsylvania PTA Reflections contest.

**#141 ANANYA S. KANNAN**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Central Dauphin Middle School ★ WITF: Public Media for Central Pennsylvania (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania)



**FUN FACT**

Addy has an interest in dinosaurs and wishes they could come back to life.

**#142 AADHAVAN VEERENDRA**

12 years old ★ 7th grade  
Portsmouth Middle School ★ New Hampshire Union Leader (Manchester, New Hampshire)



**FUN FACT**

Frank likes to draw comic sketches.

**#143 FRANK DUMAS IV**

10 years old ★ 4th grade  
Bethesda Elementary School ★ Duke Office of Durham & Community Affairs (Durham, North Carolina)



**FUN FACT**

Mujtaba writes articles as a member of the award-winning Scholastic Kids Press.

**#144 MUJTABA ALI RAJA**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Academy I Middle School ★ Hudson County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs (Jersey City, New Jersey)



**FUN FACT**

Julianne has danced in many dance recitals and performances, including the much-beloved "Nutcracker."

**#145 JULIANNE ELIZABETH LILIESTEDT**

12 years old ★ 6th grade  
Canton Country Day School ★ The Repository  
(Canton, Ohio)



**FUN FACT**

Eyianna loves to play games on her PlayStation 4.

**#146 EYIANNA Z. DUNN**

12 years old ★ 6th grade  
Samuel Gompers School ★ WHY  
(Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)



**FUN FACT**

Mya has sung the national anthem at two different minor league baseball games with her choir.

**#147 MYA LORINE MAIJALA**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Doniphan Middle School ★ Three Rivers  
College (Poplar Bluff, Missouri)



**FUN FACT**

Kaitlyn has been an all-A student for five years.

**#148 KAITLYN GRACE TOOLE**

11 years old ★ 5th grade  
Byrd Elementary School ★ Carolina Panthers  
(Charlotte, North Carolina)



**FUN FACT**

Echo collects animal bones from the woods and would like to be a taxidermist.

**#149 ECHO FALLON BROCK**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Boiling Springs Middle School ★ USC Upstate  
(Spartanburg, South Carolina)



**FUN FACT**

Leila has won many awards for her art and running skills.

**#150 LEILA SOPHIA HU**

12 years old ★ 7th grade  
Clarence Middle School ★ Batavia Newspaper  
Corporation (Batavia, New York)



**FUN FACT**

Tyler likes parkour and gaming.

**#151 TYLER K. WAGNER**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Red Jacket Middle School ★ Finger Lakes Times (Geneva, New York)



**FUN FACT**

Vivinsha enjoys composing piano music, which has won her an Award of Excellence at the Texas PTA Reflections competition.

**#152 VIVINSHA REDDY VEDURU**

11 years old ★ 6th grade  
Bear Creek Intermediate School ★ Texas Christian University (Fort Worth, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Makayla can play several songs on the piano.

**#153 MAKAYLA M. MCGUIRE**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Savannah Middle School ★ Mosaic Life Care Foundation (St. Joseph, Missouri)



**FUN FACT**

Tallulah performed in the children's chorus of Wilde Tales by Oscar Wilde, staged by Quintessence Theater Group.

**#154 TALLULAH J. GREEN HULL**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Henry H. Houston Elementary School ★ WHYY (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)



**FUN FACT**

Jane has been drawing since she could hold a crayon.

**#155 JANE C. ROSS**

11 years old ★ 5th grade  
Central Elementary School ★ Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)

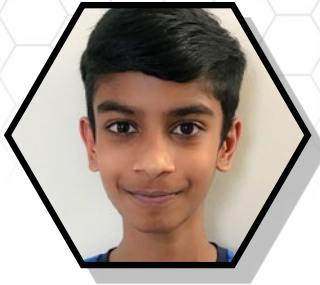


**FUN FACT**

Andrew's favorite college is the University of Notre Dame.

**#156 ANDREW JACOB SMITH**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary School ★ The Republican Herald (Pottsville, Pennsylvania)



**FUN FACT**

Avinav won six gold medals at the 2021 AAU Junior Olympics for Tae Kwon Do.

**#157 AVINAV PREM ANAND**

11 years old ★ 5th grade

Freedom Trail Elementary School ★ Ohio University College of Business (Athens, Ohio)



**FUN FACT**

Natalie got her love of spelling from reading so many books.

**#158 NATALIE E. MOELLER**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Parkway Middle School ★ The Lima News (Lima, Ohio)



**FUN FACT**

As of March 26, Jeremy has a 692-day streak of learning French and Latin on Duolingo.

**#159 JEREMY R. LANDAU**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Julia R. Masterman Laboratory and Demonstration School ★ WHYY (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)



**FUN FACT**

Chris enjoys writing scripts in his free time and dreams of someday writing a television series.

**#160 CHRIS J. DOMINICK**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Struthers Middle School ★ WFMJ Television, Inc. (Youngstown, Ohio)



**FUN FACT**

Marium loves watching cricket and supporting her team, Pakistan, every time it has a game.

**#161 MARIUM ZAHRA**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Young Women's STEAM Research & Preparatory Academy ★ EPISD Education Foundation (El Paso, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Dahlia taught herself to crochet this year, and she completed a candy cane-striped blanket for her bed.

**#162 DAHLIA G. CUNNINGHAM**

10 years old ★ 5th grade

ACCESS Academy ★ Pamplin Media Group (Portland, Oregon)



**FUN FACT**

Shaylynn has played the flute in her middle school band for three years.

**#163 SHAYLYNN KAY DENNIS**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Beaver Local Middle School ★ Salem News, East Liverpool Review and The Morning Journal (Salem, Ohio)



**FUN FACT**

Jessica plays two instruments: violin and clarinet, and she enjoys playing the clarinet in her school band.

**#164 JESSICA ANNISA YUNIARTI WIDODO**

12 years old ★ 6th grade

Partnership Middle School ★ The Commercial Dispatch (Columbus, Mississippi)



**FUN FACT**

Harini loves to make crafts like origami and painting.

**#165 HARINI JAYAKUMAR**

9 years old ★ 4th grade

Langtree Charter Academy ★ Carolina Panthers (Charlotte, North Carolina)



**FUN FACT**

Abigail loves playing video games and drawing.

**#166 ABIGAIL LOLLIS**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Highland Middle School ★ Harnett County Schools (Lillington, North Carolina)



**FUN FACT**

Jacob loves vacationing on Hilton Head Island where he enjoys crabbing and riding bikes.

**#167 JACOB MANSELL THEAKER**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Martins Ferry Middle School ★ The Times Leader (Martins Ferry, Ohio)



**FUN FACT**

Michael has been playing the flute for four years.

**#168 MICHAEL ROBERT KOLAGANI**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Pearson Ranch Middle School ★ Sweet Success ATX (Austin, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Rex's favorite word from Words of the Champions is "turophile," meaning "a cheese fancier."

**#169 REX DOVER**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Belmont Middle School ★ The Gaston Gazette (Gastonia, North Carolina)

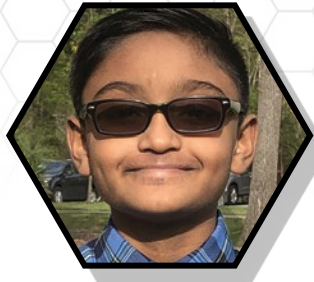


**FUN FACT**

Antonia was a Boy Scout in elementary school and enjoyed many camping excursions.

**#170 ANTONIA D. ANTOV**

12 years old ★ 7th grade  
Pleasant Hill Middle School ★ Raymore-Peculiar School District (Peculiar, Missouri)



**FUN FACT**

Shivam is fond of musical instruments and plays the piano, violin and recorder, piano being his favorite.

**#171 SHIVAM SUSHEEL KOLWALKAR**

11 years old ★ 5th grade  
Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary School ★ The Post and Courier (Charleston, South Carolina)



**FUN FACT**

Ella lived in Europe for eight years and has visited over 30 countries.

**#172 ELLA MAE PETTYJOHN**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Monte Cassino School ★ 2 News Oklahoma (Tulsa, Oklahoma)



**FUN FACT**

Jonathan plays the French horn in his school band.

**#173 JONATHAN DANIEL KELLY**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Brighton Middle School ★ Tennessee Titans (Nashville, Tennessee)



**FUN FACT**

Priana plays two instruments: violin and clarinet.

**#174 PRIANA KHANT**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Pennridge Central Middle School ★ Pennsylvania State Education Association and Council for the Advancement of Public Schools (Montgomeryville, Pennsylvania)

## SPELLER GUIDE ★

Meet The Spellers (Listed by Speller Number)



### **FUN FACT**

Lainey loves spending time with animals, and hopes to operate a small home farm some day.

### **#175 LAINEY G. GARDNER**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Crestview Middle School ★ The Blade (Toledo, Ohio)



### **FUN FACT**

Brook's annual fundraiser, Brooklyn's Backpack Drive, raises money and collects school supplies.

### **#176 BROOKLYN STEWART**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

St. Elizabeth Elementary School ★ Mid-Continent Public Library (Independence, Missouri)



### **FUN FACT**

Tara is co-founder of a nonprofit called The Giving Tree, which helps underprivileged kids.

### **#177 TARA RAKESH**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Ballyshannon Middle School ★ WCPO 9 (Cincinnati, Ohio)



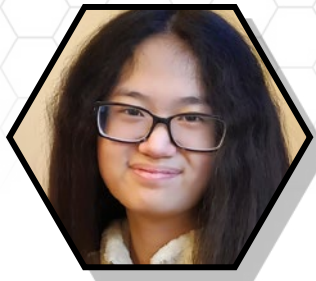
### **FUN FACT**

Sahana has a true love for caffeinated drinks, especially hot coffees and chai.

### **#178 SAHANA SRIKANTH**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Mason Middle School ★ WCPO 9 (Cincinnati, Ohio)



### **FUN FACT**

Sophia likes to draw, specifically animals and humans.

### **#179 SOPHIA KYAWT TUN**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Pine Forest Middle School ★ The Fayetteville Observer (Fayetteville, North Carolina)



### **FUN FACT**

Parker plays defense for his ice hockey team, the Elyria Panthers.

### **#180 PARKER M. DODGE**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Sailorway Middle School ★ Educational Service Center of Lorain County (LaGrange, Ohio)





**FUN  
FACT**

Rachel enjoys watching movies and listening to music.

**#181 RACHEL YANFEI XIANG**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Cheyenne Middle School ★ Oklahoma City Thunder (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)



**FUN  
FACT**

Armaan enjoys writing poems and creating art.

**#182 ARMAAN JYOSH SINGHVI**

11 years old ★ 5th grade

Harding Academy ★ Tennessee Titans (Nashville, Tennessee)



**FUN  
FACT**

Riya enjoys writing short stories and is working on a series involving three women who solve mysteries.

**#183 RIYA L. ANUMAKONDA**

11 years old ★ 6th grade

The Burlington School ★ Carolina Panthers (Charlotte, North Carolina)



**FUN  
FACT**

Max was born in Germany.

**#184 MAXIMILIAN L. HERNANDEZ**

11 years old ★ 5th grade

Club Estates Elementary School ★ KRIS Communications (Corpus Christi, Texas)



**FUN  
FACT**

Nagi can speak fluently in German and Russian, and she can understand Kazakh.

**#185 NAGI AITBAYEVA**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Ed Smith K-8 School ★ The Post-Standard (Syracuse, New York)



**FUN  
FACT**

Chloe became an aunt at age 4 and has two nephews and a niece.

**#186 CHLOE TAYLOR LESHER**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Edison Middle School ★ The Marietta Times (Marietta, Ohio)



**FUN FACT**

Isaac enjoys playing Magic: The Gathering with friends.

**#187 ISAAC IMBODEN**

12 years old ★ 6th grade  
Linden Avenue Middle School ★ Times Union  
(Albany, New York)



**FUN FACT**

Before his regional competition, Andrew won first prize in a contest for dribbling a basketball while doing the limbo.

**#188 ANDREW IAN JAMES  
MACDONALD**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Bishop John King Mussio Junior High School  
★ The Herald-Star (Steubenville, Ohio)



**FUN FACT**

Kirsten won the National Spanish Spelling Bee at age 8 and was featured on "Little Big Shots."

**#189 KIRSTEN TIFFANY  
SANTOS**

11 years old ★ 6th grade  
International Leadership of Texas – Katy Middle  
★ Houston Public Media (Houston, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Ben likes to camp at U.S. National Parks, where you might find him reading and swimming (at separate times).

**#190 BENJAMIN I. ROZEMA**

12 years old ★ 6th grade  
Rolla Middle School ★ A.C.E.S. (Rolla, Missouri)



**FUN FACT**

Kaiwen's extracurricular activities include playing the piano and violin, swimming, figure skating, tai chi and Tae Kwon Do.

**#191 KAI WEN SOO**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Plaza Middle School ★ Park Hill School  
District (Park Hill, Missouri)



**FUN FACT**

Rishi mastered abacus when he was four years old and is currently a red belt in Tae Kwon Do.

**#192 RISHIDHARAN  
JAYAKUMAR**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
The Brawley School ★ Carolina Panthers  
(Charlotte, North Carolina)



**FUN FACT**

Micah reads an hour every night before he goes to sleep, and his favorites are The Hardy Boys books.

**#193 MICAH R. STERLING**

9 years old ★ 4th grade

General Brown Junior-Senior High School ★  
Watertown Daily Times (Watertown, New York)



**FUN FACT**

Katherine has been involved in FIRST Robotics programs since 2nd grade and is now enjoying FIRST Tech Challenge.

**#194 KATHERINE CONNOLLY**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Charles F. Patton Middle School ★ Chester County Intermediate Unit (Downingtown, Pennsylvania)



**FUN FACT**

Kaitlyn loves to draw, and decorating school projects with art is one of her favorite ways to impress people.

**#195 KAITLYN BROOKE LEE**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Southside Christian School ★ Johnston County Public Schools (Smithfield, North Carolina)



**FUN FACT**

Miriam loves to play Dungeons & Dragons and particularly loves the role of Dungeon Master.

**#196 MIRIAM ELIZABETH CAMPFIELD**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Sacred Heart Cathedral School ★ Tennessee Titans (Knoxville, Tennessee)



**FUN FACT**

Nitya gardens in the spring and summer, and each year she harvests vegetables that last until next year's season.

**#197 NITYA KATHIRAVAN**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Rutgers Preparatory School ★ Somerset County Library System (Bridgewater, New Jersey)



**FUN FACT**

Ishika is a trained Indian classical dancer and Hindustani vocal artist.

**#198 ISHIKA VARIPILLI**

11 years old ★ 6th grade

Creekside Park Junior High School ★ Houston Public Media (Houston, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Dhagash has been to two Wonders of the World: the Taj Mahal in India and Chichén Itzá in Mexico.

**#199 DHAGASH DESAI**

11 years old ★ 5th grade  
Washington School ★ Sidelines and Stages  
(Maplewood, New Jersey)



**FUN FACT**

Safi is a member of National Honor Society, and he loves to play soccer and tennis.

**#200 SAFIULLAH SAJID**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Locust Valley Middle School ★ ScholarSkills for STARS (New Windsor, New York)



**FUN FACT**

Manvitha would love to travel to Hawaii to see its beautiful beaches.

**#201 MANVITHA ADAGOOR SANJAYA**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
John Adams Middle School ★ Charleston Gazette-Mail (Charleston, West Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Charlotte has studied ancient Greek since she was 4 because she was interested in Greek mythology.

**#202 CHARLOTTE H. WALSH**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Compass Homeschool Enrichment ★ Fairfax County Council PTA (Merrifield, Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Aroosh is good at calligraphy and henna design.

**#203 AROOSH KALEEM**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Iqra Academy of Utah ★ The City Journals (Salt Lake City, Utah)

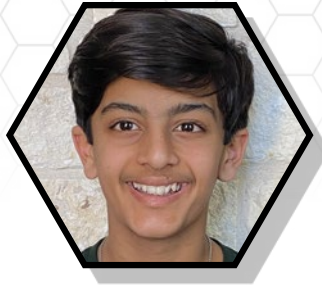


**FUN FACT**

Shreeya enjoys playing piano in her free time.

**#204 SHREEYA SIVAKUMAR**

11 years old ★ 5th grade  
Carver Center ★ Midland Reporter-Telegram (Midland, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Vihaan has been playing tennis since he was 7, and started playing the cello as a 6th grader.

**#205 VIHAAN RAI SIBAL**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Midway Middle School ★ Rapoport Holdings, LLC (Waco, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Saharsh is an avid reader who likes mystery and thriller books.

**#206 SAHARSH KESAV VUPPALA**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Annie Wright Schools ★ Wyoming Systems Group of Businesses (Seattle, Washington)



**FUN FACT**

Prince has taught himself how to organize his family's online bank account.

**#207 PRINCE KAVANT A.J. PARKER BROWN**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Atkins Middle School ★ Ramar Communications (Lubbock, Texas)

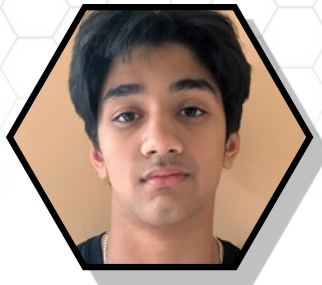


**FUN FACT**

Maya Jean wants to attend Stanford and be a pediatrician.

**#208 MAYA JEAN JADHAV**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Vishva Home School ★ Wisconsin State (Madison, Wisconsin)



**FUN FACT**

Harsha loves planes and aviation in general.

**#209 HARSHAVARDHAN DINESH**

13 years old ★ 7th grade  
Eagle Ridge Middle School ★ Loudoun County Public Schools (Leesburg, Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Trey is the first person from the Northern Neck to win the Richmond Times-Dispatch Spelling Bee.

**#210 WILLARD CLAY FELTON III**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Northumberland Middle School ★ Richmond Times-Dispatch (Richmond, Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Hudson loves to play sports and do pretty much anything that is active.

**#211 HUDSON HIMMERICH**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Cokeville Junior High School ★ Sweetwater County BOCES (Rock Springs, Wyoming)



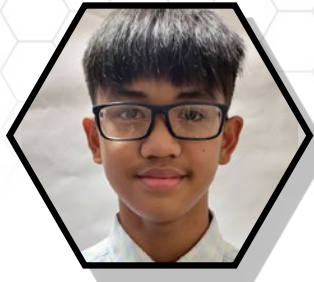
**FUN FACT**

Jie is Student Council President and a member of the National Elementary Honor Society.

**#212 JIE LABORIANTE**

11 years old ★ 5th grade

Reynaldo G. Garza Elementary School ★ Rio Grande Valley AIM Media Texas (McAllen, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Nathaniel has competed in spelling bees for seven years, and this summer he will travel to the Philippines.

**#213 NATHANIEL SANTIAGO RIMOCAL**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Lamar Bruni Vergara Middle School ★ Laredo Morning Times (Laredo, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Elise straddled the borders between France, Switzerland and Italy this past summer.

**#214 ELISE MARIE COURNOYER**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Camels Hump Middle School ★ VT Digger (Rutland, Vermont)



**FUN FACT**

Leanna made necklaces and bracelets when she was younger, which she would sell at craft shows.

**#215 LEANNA PERALTA GONZALES**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Freedom Middle School ★ The Free Lance-Star (Fredericksburg, Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Bryan has played the violin for four years.

**#216 BRYAN DUONG MILSTEAD**

12 years old ★ 7th grade

Skyline Middle School ★ Rockingham District Ruritans (Harrisonburg, Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Shadya is an author.

**#217 SHADYA IMAN COUREUR**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Free Will Baptist Christian School ★ The Virgin Islands Daily News (St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands)



**FUN FACT**

Bryce successfully made an origami round diamond from a square sheet of paper without cutting or gluing.

**#218 BRYCE T. NGUYEN**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Buckhannon-Upshur Middle School ★ The Clarksburg Exponent-Telegram (Clarksburg, West Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Maria Del Carmen speaks two languages and has taught herself to draw.

**#219 MARIA DEL CARMEN ANDREA SANCHEZ**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

St. Andrew's International School ★ The Ministry of Education (Nassau, The Bahamas)



**FUN FACT**

Gavin loves playing music and has learned to play the keyboard, saxophone and trumpet.

**#220 GAVIN LEE MAXEY**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Dan River Middle School ★ Big Brothers and Big Sisters (Danville, Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Deetya is learning an Indian style of dance called "kuchipudi."

**#221 DEETYA SAI VUPPALA**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Seabury Middle School ★ Wyoming Systems Group of Businesses (Seattle, Washington)



**FUN FACT**

Roy is the only speller to win his district and The Bahamas National Spelling Bee for four consecutive years.

**#222 ROY SELIGMAN**

13 years old ★ 8th grade

Lyford Cay International School ★ The Ministry of Education (Nassau, The Bahamas)



**FUN FACT**

Surya has gone to Tae Kwon Do classes for many years and received his black belt at the age of 9.

**#223 SURYA KAPU**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

American Preparatory Academy ★ The City Journals (Salt Lake City, Utah)



**FUN FACT**

Graham memorized all of the state capitals when he was 2 years old.

**#224 GRAHAM RYAN WOODRUFF**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Forest Middle School ★ The Roanoke Times (Roanoke, Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Grant plays keeper on his school's soccer team.

**#225 GRANT Z. WARD**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Graham Middle School ★ Four Seasons YMCA (Tazewell, Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Akash was featured in the Netflix documentary "Spelling the Dream."

**#226 AKASH VUKOTI**

13 years old ★ 7th grade

Concho Valley Homeschoolers ★ San Angelo Area Spelling Bee (San Angelo, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Peyton attended Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, and wants to be a rocket scientist.

**#227 PEYTON GRACE DEMICHELE**

12 years old ★ 7th grade

Ronald Reagan Middle School ★ InsideNoVa/Prince William (Manassas, Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Cole is an avid fan of Mario Kart.

**#228 COLE HOLLIS MOORE**

14 years old ★ 8th grade

Cuero Junior High School ★ Victoria Advocate (Victoria, Texas)





**FUN FACT**

Jocelyne is a pescatarian.

**#229 JOCELYNE J. FRANCOM**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Monticello High School ★ Southeast Education Service Center (Price, Utah)



**FUN FACT**

Henry's first home was once President James Monroe's house at the University of Virginia.

**#230 HENRY GEDDES MATHEWES**

13 years old ★ 8th grade  
Joseph T. Henley Middle School ★ The Daily Progress and News Virginian (Charlottesville, Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Harini enjoys speech and was a chosen delegate at the Montessori Model United Nations in New York.

**#231 HARINI LOGAN**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
The Montessori School of San Antonio ★ The Brauntex Performing Arts Theatre Association (San Antonio, Texas)



**FUN FACT**

Sirjana has three younger siblings and loves to spend time with them.

**#232 SIRJANA KAUR**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Redmond Middle School ★ Town Hall Seattle (Seattle, Washington)



**FUN FACT**

Pahrto has danced for 10 years and has won six awards for dancing.

**#233 SKEYLA PAHRTO ASADI**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Great Neck Middle School ★ WHRO Public Media (Norfolk, Virginia)



**FUN FACT**

Shijay plays the clarinet in his school's honor band and placed 1st chair in the All-Region Band.

**#234 SHIJAY SIVAKUMAR**

14 years old ★ 8th grade  
Bowie Middle School ★ Ector County Independent School District (Odessa, Texas)