



Scripps National Spelling Bee®

media guide ²⁰²⁵

celebrating 100 years of the bee 

inside

spellers by the numbers

storylines

bee history

officials, bee team




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media information

Thank you for your interest in covering the 2025 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 2025 Bee Keeper magazine, which will be available in print and online the week of May 26.

If you can't find what you're looking for, we encourage you to go to spellingbee.com, where you can find the rules, information about spellers and about the competition.

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

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

Molly Miossi, molly.miossi@scripps.com, (513) 259-0731

Questions and requests can also be sent to media@spellingbee.com

media availability

(all times Eastern Standard Time)

Wednesday, May 28: Conclusion of semifinals
(Approximately 6:30 p.m.)

Finalists press conference

Featuring: All spellers (approximately 10-12) who advance to the finals on May 29

Where: Maryland Ballroom (onstage)

Thursday, May 29: Conclusion of finals
(Approximately 10:15 p.m.)

Champion press conference

Featuring: The winner of the 2025 Scripps National Spelling Bee

Where: Maryland Ballroom (onstage)

covering the competition

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. Some 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. 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 & Convention Center will be available on site when you pick up your media credentials.

media workroom

Camellia 3 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:

X ([@Scrippsbee](#), [#spellingbee](#))

Instagram ([@Scrippsnationalspellingbee](#), [#spellingbee](#))

Facebook ([Scripps National Spelling Bee](#))

TikTok ([@scripsbee](#))

2025 broadcast platforms: [@IONtv](#)

photos

- Headshots of all 2025 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](#). You can search for photos of a specific speller by using the following search template: #2025spellerX. For example, if you need photos of Speller 23, you would search #2025speller23. Media is free to use any of these with proper attribution:
 - **E.M. Pio Roda/Scripps National Spelling Bee**
 - **Craig Hudson/Scripps National Spelling Bee***
(*specific credit will be listed on photo within Flickr stream)

interview spot

In the long hallway near the Media Desk ([see map](#) on page 9), 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 set up a press conference onstage.

All credentialed media can come on stage to get the champion's comments.

The Bee on Scripps Networks (All times Eastern)

The 2025 broadcast/livestream of onstage competition follows this schedule (all times Eastern and end times approximate):

- The **preliminaries** will be streamed on Bounce XL, Grit Xtra, Laff More and spellingbee.com from 8 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. on Tuesday, May 27.
- The **quarterfinals** will be streamed on Bounce XL, Grit Xtra, Laff More and spellingbee.com from 8 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. on Wednesday, May 28.
- The **semifinals** broadcast will air 8-10 p.m. on ION on Wednesday, May 28. (The live semifinals will be streamed on Bounce XL, Grit Xtra, Laff More and spellingbee.com from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. earlier that day.)
- The **finals** will air live in primetime on ION from 8-10 p.m. on Thursday, May 29.

In addition to ION, the semifinals and finals will also air on Scripps' other popular national entertainment networks, Bounce, Grit, ION Mystery and Laff, as well as its free, ad-supported streaming channels ION Plus, Scripps News, Bounce XL, Grit Xtra Laff More and spellingbee.com. Scripps News will stream an encore of the semifinals on Thursday, May 29, from 1 a.m. to 3 a.m. and the finals on May 29 from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. The Scripps Networks can be found free over-the-air as well as on cable, satellite and streaming platforms.

Visit [spellingbee.com/watch](#) and enter zip code for instructions on how to watch the Bee in a specific area.

ion



2025 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
 - 2025 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
- News-O-Matic
 - One-year subscription for Regional Champions' School

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
- from Scholastic
 - \$1,000 Scholastic Dollars to be donated to the school of the champion's choice in their honor

for the champion's school and regional partner

- from the Scripps National Spelling Bee
 - Engraved commemorative plaque



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).

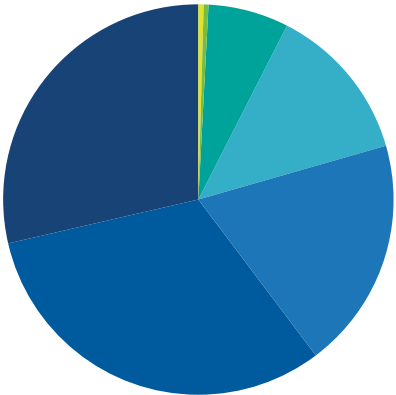
Spellers competing in the Spell-off (if activated) will be ranked according to number of words spelled correctly; any spellers who spell the same number of words correctly will be assigned the same rank (place) except in the case of a tie for first. In that case, the winner will be the speller who achieved 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).

spellers by the numbers

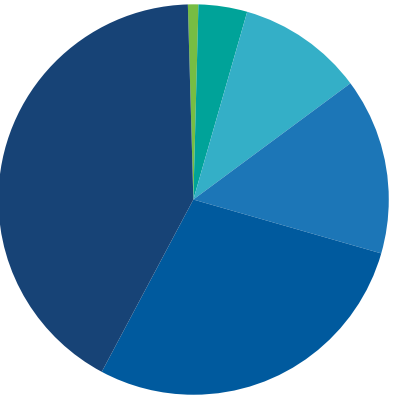
We're usually all about the letters, but here's a little math about the 243 spellers competing in the 2025 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

age (as of May 27)



- 1 8 Year Old
- 1 9 Year Old
- 16 10 Year Olds
- 30 11 Year Olds
- 47 12 Year Olds
- 76 13 Year Olds
- 72 14 Year Olds

grade



- 1 2nd Grader
- 10 4th Graders
- 25 5th Graders
- 35 6th Graders
- 67 7th Graders
- 105 8th Graders

gender



- 112 Female spellers
- 130 Male spellers
- 1 Prefer not to answer



spelling in their blood

19 spellers have relatives who have participated in a combined 34 Scripps National Spelling Bees.



spell-peaters

Coming into this year, 65 spellers have previously competed in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, including 53 last year.

school type



2025 bee week schedule

SUNDAY, MAY 25

speller registration

Hall of Champions –
Maryland Foyer
2 to 5 p.m.

rule the word challenge

Maryland Ballroom
6:30 to 9 p.m.

*A special parent trivia event will take place in the Maryland Ballroom while the spellers take part in the challenge.

MONDAY, MAY 26

memorial day picnic

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Bus transfer from the Gaylord National to Nationals Park and back

This is a ticketed event.

opening ceremony

Maryland Ballroom
6 to 6:30 p.m.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

champion showdown

Maryland Ballroom
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Past national champions will compete in individual and team-based challenges in this special competition event.

TUESDAY, MAY 27

preliminaries (rounds one and two)

Maryland Ballroom

8 a.m. to 4:40 p.m.

Streamed live on Bounce XL and spellingbee.com

Each speller will compete in up to two rounds in one turn during the first part of the preliminaries. See the **Contest Rules of the 2025 Scripps National Spelling Bee** for detailed format information: spellingbee.com.

rounds one and two by speller number:

Spellers 1 through 50
8 to 9:25 a.m.

Spellers 51 through 100
9:35 to 11 a.m.

Spellers 101 through 165
11:10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Spellers 166 through 212
2:10 to 3:30 p.m.

Spellers 213 through 243
3:40 to 4:40 p.m.

preliminaries

(round three test for spellers who advance from rounds one and two)

Maryland Ballroom

5:15 to 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

quarterfinals

Maryland Ballroom

8 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Streamed live on Bounce XL and spellingbee.com

semifinals

Maryland Ballroom

2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Onstage remarks begin at 2:15 p.m.

Streamed live on Bounce XL and spellingbee.com

A special two-hour semifinals broadcast will air from 8 to 10 p.m. on ION.



lexicography presentations

Peter Sokolowski, editor-at-large,
Merriam-Webster

Ben Zimmer, lexicographer

Maryland Ballroom

7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 29

old town trolley tour

Trolley ride from the Gaylord National into Washington, D.C., and back

This is a ticketed event.
Check your ticket for times.

bee-con

Hall of Champions

3:30 to 5 p.m.

40 past national champions have returned to Bee Week, and spellers will get their autographs on a commemorative poster during this special event.

finals

Maryland Ballroom

7 to 10 p.m.

Finals Pre-show begins at 7 p.m.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Competition begins at 8 p.m.

Broadcast live on ION and spellingbee.com.

FRIDAY, MAY 30

old town trolley tour

Trolley ride from the Gaylord National into Washington, D.C., and back

This is a ticketed event.
Check your ticket for times.

bee week bash

Maryland Ballroom

7 to 10 p.m.

This is a ticketed event.



*Loading area for
Memorial Day Picnic and
Old Town Trolley Tour

More Than Words

help desk hours

Providing information and assistance to spellers and Bee Week attendees

Hall of Champions –
Maryland Foyer

Sunday, May 25

2 to 7 p.m.

Monday, May 26

8 to 11 a.m.

4 to 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 27

7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 28

7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 29

9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Friday, May 30

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Questions? Call (513) 814-8245.

media desk hours

Providing information and assistance to media members

Hall of Champions –
Maryland Foyer

Tuesday, May 27

7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, May 28

7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Thursday, May 29

5:30 to 10 p.m.

You can reach the Media Desk for assistance and requests at media@spellingbee.com.

more than words hours

The Bee's centennial museum exhibit

Sunday, May 25

2 to 5 p.m.

Monday, May 26

8 to 11 a.m.

4 to 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 27

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

Wednesday, May 28

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

Thursday, May 29

10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

storylines

Here's a look at some of the competitors in the 2025 Scripps National Spelling Bee.



THE FIELD

→ There are 53 spellers returning from the 2024 field—and 178 spellers are competing in their first Scripps National Spelling Bee (73 percent).

THE VETERANS

→ **Tarini Nandakumar** (speller 204) from Texas is competing in her fifth consecutive Bee. She was a finalist and finished ninth in 2023. **Navtaj Singh** (speller 62) from Idaho, **Micah Sterling** (speller 152) from New York and **Avinav Prem Anand** (speller 167) from Ohio are competing in their fourth straight national competition. **Harini Murali** (speller 136) from New Jersey is in her fourth Bee overall (2021, 2022, 2024), as is **Faizan Zaki** from Texas (2019, 2023, 2024).

U.S. COVERAGE

→ There are spellers from all 50 states. Texas has the largest representation with 22 national competitors, two more than last year. California is next with 20, followed by Ohio (15) and Illinois (13). Florida and New York have 12 each.

RETURNING FINALIST

Only one 2024 finalist advanced to the 2025 national competition: That's **Faizan Zaki** (speller 207), who you may recall finished second last year behind Bruhat Soma following his record-breaking Spell-off. This is Zaki's fourth Scripps National Spelling Bee appearance. He has one remaining year of eligibility after 2025.



THE YOUNGEST

→ **Zachary Teoh** (speller 213), a second grader from Texas, is the youngest speller this year at age 8. **Aadhya Adhikari** (speller 173) from Ohio is the only 9 year old.

THE OLDEST

→ There are 72 spellers who are 14 years old. That's roughly 30 percent of the field. The oldest are **Andrew Ford** (speller 60) from Idaho and **Eli Neibart** (speller 137) from New Jersey, both of whom turn 15 on Aug. 17. **Amanuel Gemechis** (speller 197) from South Dakota turns 15 a day later.

LONG DISTANCE

→ **Alleena Villaluz** (speller 57) from Saipan, a U.S. commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands roughly 133 miles (by air) from Guam, is traveling the farthest for this week's competition (almost 7,800 miles). This is her second consecutive Bee. Other spellers are coming from Canada, the Bahamas, Germany, Ghana, Kuwait, Nigeria, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. There are 13 competitors from outside the 50 United States.

THE TWINS

→ **Faizan Zaki**, the only returning finalist, has a twin, Zara Jabeen. **Connor Norton** (speller 193) from South Carolina has a twin sister, Cassady. **Josephine Frimpong** (speller 84) from Kentucky has a twin sister, Judith. **Alejandro Martinez** (speller 214) from Texas is a triplet with brother Abraham and sister Abigail.

FULL HOUSE

→ **Josslyn Hansen** (speller 121) from Minnesota has eight siblings: four brothers (Asher 16, Sam 15, Hunter 14, Calvin 6) and four sisters (Sophia 15, Ivy 12, Brynlee 11, Mía 3) in a blended family.

NOTABLE LEGACIES

→ **Zwe Spacetime** (speller 39) from Washington, D.C., is the younger brother of 2021 champion Zaila Avant-garde. He is 13 and making his first appearance in the national competition. **Ved Raju** (speller 35) from Colorado is the younger brother of Vikram Raju, the 2022 runner-up. **William Fuller** (speller 179) from Oklahoma is the younger brother of Edith Fuller, who in 2017 became the youngest-ever competitor in the Scripps National Spelling Bee at 6 years, 1 month old. William is 12, one of seven siblings, and making his first Bee appearance. For more on Edith, see page 30.

celebrating 100 years

in the beginning ...

The first National Spelling Bee was June 17, 1925. It was sponsored by the Louisville Courier-Journal, which invited other newspapers around the country to hold spelling bees and send their champions to Washington, D.C. There were nine participants that first year who competed at the National Museum auditorium in Washington, D.C. Frank Neuhauser, 11, from Louisville was the winner. The Courier-Journal sponsored the Bee until 1941 when Scripps-Howard Newspapers – now The E.W. Scripps Company – took it over.



branded

A special logo was designed for the 100th anniversary. Anniversary merchandise can be found at spellingbee.shop.

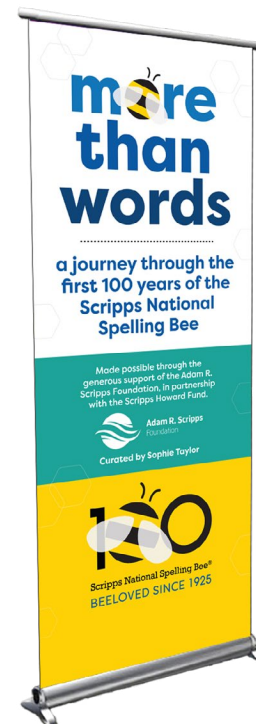
BEELOVED book

A limited-edition coffee-table book is being produced that will capture the 100 years of the Bee's history. It is available at a discounted price for a limited time and is expected to be published in August. It can be ordered at Bee100Book.com.



living online

A historical microsite has been launched, capturing news, names and fun facts of the first 100 years of the Bee. Content will be added to the site, which will remain live after 2025. Go to history.spellingbee.com.



museum exhibit

"More than Words: A Journey through the first 100 years of the Scripps National Spelling Bee" is a museum-quality exhibit that showcases the Bee's wealth of historical memorabilia, highlights key milestones in the competition's history, examines the Bee's place in popular culture and the American experience, and demonstrates the impact of the Bee on children and communities. The exhibit also tells the story of The E.W. Scripps Company's dedication to the program, including reviving the Bee after World War II and the COVID pandemic. The exhibit, underwritten by a grant from the Adam R. Scripps Foundation, will be located in Camellia 4 for the duration of Bee Week.

welcome back

All former Scripps National Spelling Bee champions were invited to attend the 2025 finals, and about 40 are expected to show up. At 3:30 p.m. Thursday in the Maryland A-C foyer, all former champions will be at tables to greet and sign special posters for 2025 spellers.

Here is who sent RSVPs saying they are planning to come:

Henry Feldman (1960)
John Capehart (1961)
Nettie Crawford (1962)
William Kerek (1964)
Jennifer Reinke (1967)
Jonathan Knisely (1971)
Barrie Trinkle (1973)
John Paola (1977)
Peg McCarthy (1978)
Jacques Bailly (1980)
Molly Dieveney (1982)
Blake Giddens (1983)
Dan Greenblatt (1984)
Balu Natarajan (1985)
Jon Pennington (1986)

Scott Isaacs (1989)
Joanne Lagatta (1991)
Ned Andrews (1994)
George Thampy (2000)
Sai Gunturi (2003)
David Tidmarsh (2004)
Anurag Kashyap (2005)
Kerry Close Guaragno (2006)
Sameer Mishra (2008)
Kavya Shivashankar (2009)
Anamika Veeramani (2010)
Sukanya Roy (2011)
Snigdha Nandipati (2012)
Sriram Hathwar (2014)
Vanya Shivashankar (2015)

Jairam Hathwar (2016)
Karthik Nemmani (2018)
Shruthika Padhy (2019)
Rishik Gandhasri (2019)
Christopher Serrao (2019)
Saketh Sundar (2019)
Rohan Raja (2019)
Sohum Sukhatankar (2019)
Zaila Avant-garde (2021)
Harini Logan (2022)
Dev Shah (2023)
Bruhat Soma (2024)

bee**loved**
since 1925

executive directors

| | |
|---|---|
| 1925 John Tigert | 1985–1986 Mary L. Mangold |
| 1926 Mary McSkimmon | 1985–1989 Mary Curtin-Brooks |
| 1927 John H. Bartlett | 1987 Susan Miller |
| 1928–1938 Donald McWain | 1988–1991 Sondra J. Austin |
| 1939–1940 Douglas D. Cornette | 1990–1997 Reta Rose |
| 1941–1948 Max B. Cook | 1996–2020 Paige P. Kimble |
| 1949–1956 Charles Schneider | 2021–2022 Dr. J. Michael Durnil |
| 1957–1959 Richard D. Peters | 2023–Present Corrie Loeffler |
| 1960–1984 James H. Wagner | |

pronouncers

| | |
|--|--|
| 1925–1927 Dr. George S. Wills, Western Maryland College | 1961–1980 Dr. Richard R. Baker, University of Dayton |
| 1927 Samuel M. North, Supervisor of Maryland High Schools | 1981–2002 Dr. Alex J. Cameron, University of Dayton |
| 1928–1935 Dr. Charles E. Hill, George Washington University | 2003–present Dr. Jacques Bailly, University of Vermont |
| 1936–1940; 1946–1947 Harold F. Harding, George Washington University | 2019–present Dr. Brian Sietsema, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America |
| 1941–1942 Dr. W. Hayes Yeager, George Washington University | 2024–present Dr. Kevin Moch, Quizlet |
| 1948–1960 Benson S. Alleman, American University | |



| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1992 lyceum Amanda Goad The Richmond News Leader Richmond, Virginia | 1998 chiaroscurist Jody-Anne Maxwell Phillips & Phillips Stationery Supplies Kingston, Jamaica | 2004 autochthonous David Scott Pilarski Tidmarsh South Bend Tribune South Bend, Indiana |
| 1993 kamikaze Geoff Hooper The Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tennessee | 1999 logorrhea Nupur Lala The Tampa Tribune Tampa, Florida | 2005 appoggiatura Anurag Kashyap San Diego Union- Tribune San Diego, California |
| 1994 antediluvian Ned G. Andrews The Knoxville News-Sentinel Knoxville, Tennessee | 2000 demarche George Abraham Thampy St. Louis Post-Dispatch St. Louis, Missouri | 2006 Ursprache Katharine Close Asbury Park Press/Home News Tribune Asbury Park, New Jersey |
| 1995 xanthosis Justin Tyler Carroll The Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tennessee | 2001 succedaneum Sean Conley Aitkin Independent Age Aitkin, Minnesota | 2007 serrefine Evan M. O'Dorney Contra Costa Times Walnut Creek, California |
| 1996 vivisepulture Wendy Guey The Palm Beach Post West Palm Beach, Florida | 2002 prospicience Pratyush Buddiga Rocky Mountain News Denver, Colorado | 2008 guerdon Sameer Mishra Journal and Courier Lafayette, Indiana |
| 1997 euonym Rebecca Sealfon Daily News New York, New York | 2003 pococurante Sai R. Gunturi The Dallas Morning News Dallas, Texas | 2009 Laodicean Kavya Shivashankar The Olathe News Olathe, Kansas |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| 2010 stromuhr Anamika Veeramani The Plain Dealer Cleveland, Ohio | feuilleton Ansun Sujoe Texas Christian University Fort Worth, Texas | 2017 marocain Ananya Vinay The Fresno Bee Fresno, California |
|--|--|---|

second chances

At least eight champions were reinstated en route to victory: Jean Trowbridge (1936), Louis Edward Sissman (1941), Mattie Lou Pollard (1947), Colquitt Dean (1950), Doris Ann Hall (1952), Sandra Owen (1957), Jolitta Schlehuber (1958) and Harini Logan (2022).

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| 2011 cymotrichous Sukanya Roy Times Leader Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania | 2015 scherenschnitte Vanya Shivashankar The Olathe News Olathe, Kansas | 2018 koinonia Karthik Nemmani Scoggins Middle School McKinney, Texas |
| 2012 guetapens Snigdha Nandipati U-T San Diego San Diego, California | nunatak Gokul Venkatachalam St. Louis Post-Dispatch St. Louis, Missouri | 2019 auslaut Rishik Gandhasri Bay Area Regional Spelling Bee San Francisco, California |
| 2013 knaidel Arvind Mahankali Daily News New York, New York | 2016 Feldenkrais Jairam Hathwar Corning Rotary Club Corning, New York | erysipelas Erin Howard Adventure Travel Birmingham, Alabama |
| 2014 stichomythia Sriram Hathwar Corning Rotary Club Corning, New York | gesellschaft Nihar Janga Houston Public Media Houston, Texas | palama Abhijay Kodali Dallas Sports Commission Dallas, Texas |

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

odylic
Rohan Raja
Dallas Sports
Commission
Dallas, Texas

cernuous
Christopher
Serrao
Discover Lehigh
Valley
Allentown,
Pennsylvania

pendeloque
Sohum
Sukhatankar
Dallas Sports
Commission
Dallas, Texas

bougainvillea
Saketh Sundar
Howard County
Library
Columbia,
Maryland

2021
Murraya
Zaila
Avant-garde
New Orleans
Chapter of
The Links
New Orleans,
Louisiana

2022
moorhen
Harini Logan
Brauntex
Performing
Arts Theatre
Association
San Antonio,
Texas

2023
psammophile
Dev Shah
SNSB Region One
Bee
Largo, Florida

2024
abseil
Bruhat Soma
Rays Baseball
Foundation and
Rowdies Soccer
Fund
St. Petersburg,
Florida

stats

109
total champions

53
girls

56
boys

32
14 year olds

54
13 year olds

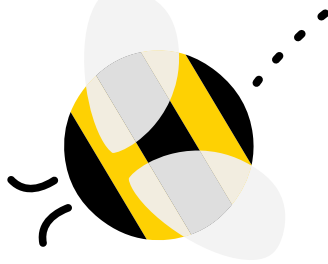
20
12 year olds

3
11 year olds

longest word
scherenschnitte
(2015)

shortest word
luge
(1984)

champions by state



Texas (16) Richard Earnhart, El Paso, 1942; Nettie Crawford, El Paso, 1962; Robert A. Wake, Houston, 1966; Susan Yoachum, Dallas, 1969; Robin Kral, Lubbock, 1972; Barrie Trinkle, Fort Worth, 1973; Paige Pipkin, El Paso, 1981; Blake Giddens, El Paso, 1983; Sai R. Gunturi, Dallas, 2003; Ansun Sujoe, Fort Worth, 2014; Nihar Janga, Houston, 2016; Karthik Nemmani, McKinney, 2018; Abhijay Kodali, Dallas, 2019; Sohumi Sukhatankar, Dallas, 2019; Rohan Raja, Dallas, 2019; Harini Logan, San Antonio, 2022.

Ohio (9) Dean Lucas, Akron, 1927; Alma Roach, Akron, 1933; Clara Mohler, Akron, 1935; Jean Chappelle, Akron, 1948; Kim Calvin, Canton, 1949; Diana Reynard, Cleveland, 1950; Sandra Owen, Canton, 1957; William Kerek, Akron, 1964; Anamika Veeramani, Cleveland, 2010.

Pennsylvania (8) William Cashore, Norristown, 1954; Melody Sachko, Pittsburgh, 1956; Jonathan Knisely, Philadelphia, 1971; John Paola, Pittsburgh, 1977; Jon Pennington, Harrisburg, 1986; Stephanie Petit, Pittsburgh, 1987; Sukanya Roy, Wilkes-Barre, 2011; Christopher Serrao, Allentown, 2019.

Colorado (7) Dana Bennett, Denver, 1957; Joel Montgomery, Denver, 1959; Katie Kerwin, Denver, 1979; Jacques Bailly, Denver, 1980; Molly Dieveney, Denver, 1982; Scott Isaacs, Denver, 1989; Pratyush Buddiga, Denver, 2002.

Tennessee (7) Laura Kuykendall, Knoxville, 1940; Irving Belz, Memphis, 1951; Henry Feldman, Knoxville, 1960; Glen Van Slyke III, Knoxville, 1963; Geoff Hooper, Memphis, 1993; Ned G. Andrews, Knoxville, 1994; Justin Tyler Carroll, Memphis, 1995.

California (6) Rageshree Ramachandran, Sacramento, 1988; Anurag Kashyap, San Diego, 2005; Evan M. O'Dorney, Walnut Creek, 2007; Snigdha Nandipati, San Diego, 2012; Ananya Vinay, Fresno, 2017; Rishik Gandhasri, San Francisco, 2019.

Kansas (5) Jolitta Schlehuber, Topeka, 1958; Robert L. Walters, Topeka, 1968; Peg McCarthy, Topeka, 1978; Kavya Shivashankar, Olathe, 2009; Vanya Shivashankar, Olathe, 2015.

New York (5) Tim Kneale, Syracuse, 1976; Rebecca Sealfon, New York City, 1997; Arvind Mahankali, New York City, 2013; Sriram Hathwar, Corning, 2014; Jairam Hathwar, Corning, 2016.

Florida (4) Wendy Guey, West Palm Beach, 1996; Nupur Lala, Tampa, 1999; Dev Shah, Largo, 2023; Bruhat Soma, St. Petersburg, 2024.

Iowa (4) Helen Jensen, Des Moines, 1930; Dorothy Greenwalk, Des Moines, 1932; Jean Trowbridge, Des Moines, 1936; John McKinney, Des Moines, 1946.

Kentucky (4) Frank Neuhauser, Louisville, 1925; Pauline Bell, Louisville, 1926; Waneeta Beckley, Louisville, 1937; Marian Richardson, Louisville, 1938.

Missouri (4) Sandra Sloss, St. Louis, 1955; Michael Day, St. Louis, 1962; George Abraham Thampy, St. Louis, 2000; Gokul Venkatachalam, St. Louis, 2015.

Indiana (3) Betty Robinson, South Bend, 1928; David Tidmarsh, South Bend, 2004; Sameer Mishra, Lafayette, 2008.

states with 2 champions

Alabama – Julie Anne Junkin, Birmingham, 1974; Erin Howard, Birmingham, 2019. **Georgia** – Mattie Lou Pollard, Atlanta, 1947; Colquitt Dean, Atlanta, 1950. **Illinois** – Ward Randall, White Hall, 1931; Balu Natarajan, Chicago, 1985. **Nebraska** – Virginia Hogan, Omaha, 1929; Jennifer Reinke, Omaha, 1967. **New Jersey** – Katharine Close, Asbury Park, 2006; Shruthika Padhy, Cherry Hill, 2019. **North Carolina** – Doris Ann Hall, Winston-Salem, 1952; Libby Childress, Winston-Salem, 1970. **Oklahoma** – John Capeheart, Tulsa, 1961; Michael Kerpan, Jr., Tulsa, 1965. **Virginia** – Daniel Greenblatt, Leesburg, 1984; Amanda Goad, Richmond, 1992.

states/others with 1 champion

Arizona – Elizabeth Hess, Phoenix, 1953. **Louisiana** – Zaila Avant-garde, New Orleans, 2021. **Maine** – Sarah Wilson, Portland, 1934. **Maryland** – Saketh Sundar, Columbia, 2019. **Massachusetts** – Elizabeth Ann Rice, Worcester, 1939. **Michigan** – Louis Edward Sissman, Detroit, 1941. **Minnesota** – Sean Conley, Aitkin, 2001. **Washington** – Amy Marie Dimak, Seattle, 1990. **Wisconsin** – Joanna Lagatta, Madison, 1991. **Jamaica** – Jody-Anne Maxwell, 1998. **Puerto Rico** – Hugh Tosteson García, 1975.

states waiting for their first champion

Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming

top sponsor cities of champions

Denver, Colorado (7) **El Paso, Texas (4)**
Akron, Ohio (5) **Knoxville, Tennessee (4)**
Dallas, Texas (5) **Louisville, Kentucky (4)**
Des Moines, Iowa (4)

1 first time's the charm

Champions who won in their first Scripps National Spelling Bee appearance:



Frank Neuhauser 1925
Pauline Bell 1926
Virginia Hogan 1929
Helen Jensen 1930
Ward Randall 1931
Alma Roach 1933
Clara Mohler 1935
Jean Trowbridge 1936
Waneeta Beckley 1937
Marian Richardson 1938
Elizabeth Ann Rice 1939
Laurel Kuykendall 1940
Louis Edward Sissman 1941
Richard Earnhart 1942
John McKinney 1946
Jean Chappelle 1948
Colquitt Dean 1950
Irving Belz 1951

Elizabeth Hess 1953
William Cashore 1954
Sandra Sloss 1955
Dana Bennett 1957
Joel Montgomery 1959
John Capehart 1961
Nettie Crawford 1962
Michael Day 1962
Glen Van Slyke III 1963
William Kerek 1964
Michael Kerpan, Jr. 1965
Robert A. Wake 1966
Jennifer Reinke 1967
Robert L. Walters 1968
Susan Yoachum 1969
Libby Childress 1970
Jonathan Knisely 1971
Robin Kral 1972

Julie Ann Junkin 1974
Hugh Tosteson García 1975
Tim Kneale 1976
Peg McCarthy 1978
Katie Kerwin 1979
Jacques Bailly 1980
Molly Dieveney 1982
Blake Giddens 1983
Daniel Greenblatt 1984
Jon Pennington 1986
Stephanie Petit 1987
Amy Marie Dimak 1990
Geoff Hooper 1993
Justin Tyler Carroll 1995
Jody-Anne Maxwell 1998
Pratyush Buddiga 2002
Nihar Janga 2016
Karthik Nemmani 2018

2 champions who won in their second appearance:

Dean Lucas 1927
Betty Robinson 1928
Dorothy Greenwald 1932
Sarah Wilson 1934
Mattie Lou Pollard 1947
Kim Calvin 1949
Diana Reynard 1950
Doris Ann Hall 1952
Melody Sachko 1956
Sandra Owen 1957
Jolitta Schlehuber 1958

John Paola 1977
Paige Pipkin 1981
Rageshree Ramachandran 1988
Joanne Lagatta 1991
Amanda Goad 1992
Rebecca Sealfon 1997
Nupur Lala 1999
David Scott Pilarski 2004
Tidmarsh 2004
Anurag Kashyap 2005

Anamika Veeramani 2010
Snigdha Nandipati 2012
Ansun Sujoe 2014
Jairam Hathwar 2016
Ananya Vinay 2017
Rishik Gandhasri 2019
Rohan Raja 2019
Abhijay Kodali 2019
Zaila Avant-garde 2021
Bruhat Soma 2024

3 third appearance:

Henry Feldman 1960
Barrie Trinkle 1973
Balu Natarajan 1985
Scott Isaacs 1989
Ned G. Andrews 1994
George Abraham Thampy 2000
Sean Conley 2001
Evan M. O'Dorney 2007
Sukanya Roy 2011
Christopher Serrao 2019
Sohumi Sukhatankar 2019
Dev Shah 2023

4 fourth appearance:

Wendy Guey 1996
Sai R. Gunturi 2003
Sameer Mishra 2008
Kavya Shivashankar 2009
Arvind Mahankali 2013
Gokul Venkatachalam 2015
Erin Howard 2019
Saketh Sundar 2019
Shruthika Padhy 2019
Harini Logan 2022

5 fifth appearance:

Kerry Close 2006
Sriram Hathwar 2014
Vanya Shivashankar 2015



worth noting ...

fun facts

- first male champion: **Frank Neuhauser**, Louisville, 1925
- first female champion: **Pauline Bell**, Louisville, 1926
- first Indian-American champion: **Balu Natarajan**, Chicago, 1985
- first non-American champion: **Jody-Anne Maxwell**, Jamaica, 1998
- first Black champion: **Jody-Anne Maxwell**, Jamaica, 1998
- first Black American champion: **Zaila Avant-garde**, New Orleans, 2021
- most national competitions: **Akash Vukoti** (6), 2016, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023
- youngest competitor: **Edith Fuller**, 2017, 6 years, 1 month old
- first champion outside of the 50 states: **Hugh Tosteson García**, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 1975



international spellers

There's a long history of international participation in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Of note:

- First known speller from outside the U.S.: Fred Souk, the Azores, represented Stars and Stripes of Europe, 1957. Note: He was an American who previously lived in North Carolina.
- First non-U.S. citizen: 1959 South Texas Bee champ Gerardo Aguirre who was from Nuevo Laredo in Mexico, right across the border from Laredo, Texas.
- First speller from South America: John Fawcett, Sao Paulo, Brazil 1976, an American living in Sao Paulo, Brazil, whose father was a missionary. The Brazil Herald of Rio de Janeiro-Sao Paulo was the sponsor.
- This year, spellers from Nigeria and Kuwait earned spots in the Bee. It is the first time for those countries.

Over the years, there have been spellers from American Samoa, the Azores, the Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, Ghana, Guam, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Puerto Rico, Saudi Arabia, South Korea and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

"The Scripps National Spelling Bee will continue to evolve and always be looking ahead," Executive Director Corrie Loeffler says. "What won't ever change is our emphasis on providing the best possible experience for spellers when they come to Bee Week. We want it to be a transformative moment in their lives, and allowing spellers from other countries and other cultures adds to that."



longest one-day competition

In 1957, the 30th Scripps National Spelling Bee started at 9 a.m. and lasted until 6:55 p.m. (almost 10 hours). **Dana Bennett**, 13, from Denver, and **Sandra Owen**, 14, from Navarre, Ohio, were declared co-champions after the word list was exhausted. Both failed to spell the final word correctly: schappe.



sibling magic

Sriram Hathwar (2014) and **Jairam Hathwar** (2016) from Corning, New York, are the only brothers to have won the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

The only sisters to have won are **Kavya Shivashankar** (2009) and **Vanya Shivashankar** (2015) from Olathe, Kansas. Kavya is a member of the Word Panel and a judge at the Bee. Vanya has been serving as a Bee Week emcee and this year will become the first female pronouncer at the national level.



home-schooled students

Home-schooled students have won the spelling bee four times. The first was **Rebecca Sealfon** in 1997. She may be remembered for screaming each letter of her last word. The others: **George Thampy**, 2000; **Evan O'Dorney**, 2007; **Zaila Avant-garde**, 2021.



years without a spelling bee

2020: Canceled because of COVID-19 pandemic
1945: Canceled because of World War II
1944: Canceled because of World War II
1943: Canceled because of World War II

Two-time runner-up

There has only been one speller to finish second twice:

Prem Murphy Trivedi, Howell, New Jersey (1997 and 1998).



second ... and then first

There are four champions in Bee history who won after finishing second:

- 1928 champion **Betty Robinson** was runner-up in 1926.
- 1957 co-champion **Sandra Owen** was runner-up in 1956.
- 1981 champion **Paige Pipkin** was runner-up in 1980.
- 2001 champion **Sean Conley** was runner-up in 2000.



the trophy

The Scripps Cup, the Bee's championship trophy, is created by Rookwood Pottery in Cincinnati, Ohio.

spelling bees in film, theater, books

“How Do You Spell Unfair?: MacNolia Cox and the National Spelling Bee” (2023)

Written by Carole Boston Weatherford and illustrated by Frank Morrison, this picture book for children recounts the story of MacNolia Cox – the first African American to win the Akron, Ohio, spelling bee and advance to the 1936 national competition in Maryland, where segregation was the law. It’s the story of her groundbreaking achievement despite prejudice and discrimination.

“It’s Not Bragging If It’s True: How to Be Awesome at Life” (2023)

Book for ages 8–12. Zaila Avant-garde’s nonfiction account of her life, including her response to instant fame she experienced after winning the 2021 Scripps National Spelling Bee and her advice for other kids.

“Spelling the Dream” (2020)

Netflix original documentary about four Indian-American students vying to win the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

“Bad Words” (2013)

R-rated dark comedy about 40-year-old man who advances to the national competition after finding a loophole in the rules at the regional spelling bee.

Note: List does not include skits or inclusion in shows



“Akeelah and the Bee” (2006)

Movie about 11-year-old spelling phenom.

“American Bee: The National Spelling Bee and the Culture of Word Nerds” (2006)

A book by James Maguire that profiles five spellers who made it to the final rounds of the competition and goes behind the scenes of the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (2005)

Musical-comedy play about a fictional spelling bee, launched on Broadway.

“Bee Season” (2005)

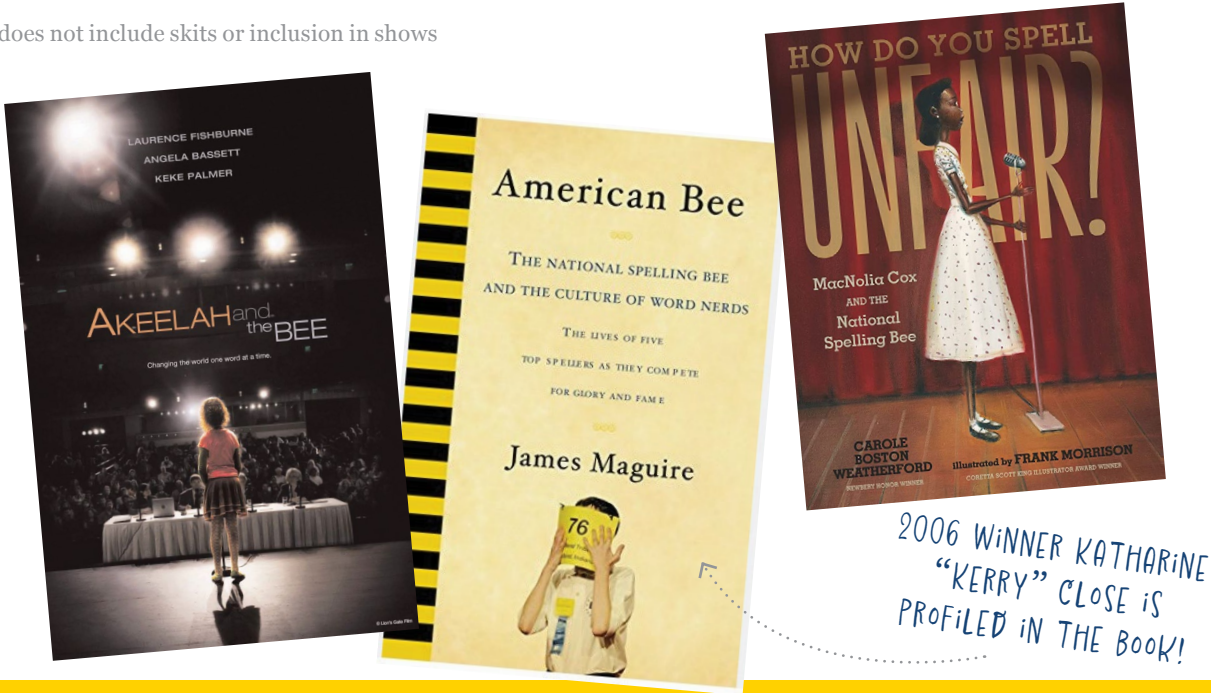
Drama, based on Myla Goldberg’s novel of the same name, that follows a young girl’s journey through various levels of spelling bee competitions to the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

“Spellbound” (2002)

Documentary about eight competitors, including the champion, at the 1999 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

“The Girl Who Spelled Freedom” (1986)

Disney movie about a girl from Cambodia who becomes a spelling bee contender.



meet the officials

Officials and word panelists perform various roles throughout the year, including as judges, record keepers, pronouncers and content creators and reviewers.



Dr. Jacques Bailly
head pronouncer



Mary Brooks
head judge



Dr. Brian Sietsema
pronouncer and head
associate pronouncer



Christian Axelgard
associate pronouncer



Frank Cahill
word panelist



Kristin Hawkins
judge



Sameer Mishra
judge



Dr. Kevin Moch
pronouncer and
associate pronouncer



Georgia Scurletis
word panelist



Dr. Kavya Shivashankar
judge



Mirle Shivashankar
word panelist



Vanya Shivashankar
pronouncer



Peter Sokolowski
judge



Jane Solomon
word panelist



George Thampany
judge



Barrie Trinkle
judge



Ben Zimmer
judge

meet the bee team



Corrie Loeffler
executive director



Cybelle Weeks
senior director, operations



Tammy Riddle
director, sales & marketing



Molly Becker
director, editorial



Tyler Hyde
brand strategy manager



Kim Harp
development manager



Akshay Ahuja
editorial manager



Haley Goetz
program specialist



Julia Fermier
program specialist



Bryan Witt
regional partner specialist



Emily Hare
editorial specialist



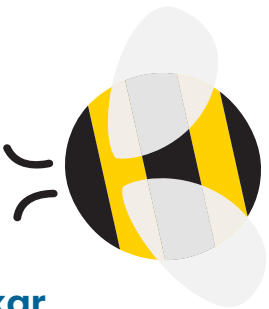
Jacob Niswonger
editorial specialist



Sharisse Santos
administrative assistant

meet the talent

Throughout Bee Week, these are just some of the “spellebrities” who will join the television broadcast and/or livestream.



Dr. Jacques Bailly

Dr. Bailly has been head pronouncer of the Scripps National Spelling Bee since 2003, and he is also the 1980 national champion. He is an associate professor of classics at the University of Vermont and lives in Burlington, Vermont.



jacques

Vanya Shivashankar

From Olathe, Kansas, the 2015 co-champion of the Scripps National Spelling Bee graduated in May 2023 from Yale University with a degree in cognitive science and began medical school last year. In addition to her new role as pronouncer, Shivashankar will serve as Bee Week emcee and host for portions of the prelims and quartersfinals.



vanya



corrie



mary



peter

Corrie Loeffler

The executive director of the Scripps National Spelling Bee is a former participant in the national competition. Loeffler has been on the Bee staff for 18 years. She lives in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mary Brooks

Yes, she rings the dreaded bell. Brooks has been a part of the Bee for more than 50 years, joining the panel of judges in 1979 and becoming head judge in 2005. She lives in Des Moines, Iowa, where she is a member of the West Des Moines Public Library board of trustees.

Peter Sokolowski

The Merriam-Webster editor-at-large and Bee judge will talk to spellers Wednesday night in the Maryland Ballroom.



Paul Loeffler

Loeffler has been a TV analyst for the Scripps National Spelling Bee since 2006. He is also a former Bee national competitor and the older brother of executive director Corrie Loeffler. Loeffler is a radio announcer for Fresno State sports broadcasts.



paul

Dr. Brian Sietsema

Dr. Sietsema has been the associate pronouncer of the Scripps National Spelling Bee since 2003 after serving as pronunciation editor for Merriam-Webster from 1990 to 1998. He is a priest of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.



brian

Zach Sherwin

The Los Angeles-based comedian/ rapper will be warming up the live audience at Thursday night's finals.



zach



bruhat

Bruhat Soma

The 2024 Scripps National Spelling Bee Champion won the competition's second spell-off to date. He correctly spelled 29 out of 30 words attempted. He lives in Tampa and is now in the eighth grade.



adam

Adam Symson

The president and CEO of The E.W. Scripps Company will again hand the Scripps Cup to the champion.

Julie Grant

The Court TV host and award-winning journalist, a former speller herself, will help present the semifinals and finals of the Scripps National Spelling Bee.



julie

how the spelling bee process works

the basics

- Students must not have passed beyond the eighth grade.
- Students can't be older than 15.
- Champions are not eligible to compete again.

timeline

- September-December: Classroom and school spelling bees are held.
- Jan. 31: Deadline for schools to enroll (roughly 23,000 schools enrolled in 2024-25). School fees were \$199 for 2024-25.
- September-January: School spelling bees are held; students qualify for regional spelling bees. The majority take place in January.
- Feb. 1 – March 31: Regional spelling bees are held, and national competitors are determined. Most regional bees advance only one winner, while some do advance other top finishers.

regional partners

Each regional spelling bee has a regional partner which oversees the competition and sponsors students to advance to the national competition. Regional partners can be community organizations, businesses, media outlets, sports teams or other kinds of companies.

Regional partners manage their spelling bees, and all decisions by local officials are final. The Scripps National Spelling Bee provides a framework and materials for the competitions and may act in an advisory role but does not have decision-making authority over regional spelling bees.

bee by rounds

preliminaries: tuesday, may 27

round 1

spelling word

Source:
2025 Words
of Champions

round 2

vocabulary round

Source:
2025 Words
of Champions

round 3

written test

Source:
Merriam-Webster
Unabridged

quarterfinals: wednesday, may 28

round 4

spelling word

Source:
Merriam-Webster
Unabridged

round 5

vocabulary round

Source:
Merriam-Webster
Unabridged

round 6+

spelling words

Source:
Merriam-Webster
Unabridged

*Note: there is no set number of rounds for quarterfinals

semifinals: wednesday, may 28

spelling round

Source:
Merriam-Webster
Unabridged

vocabulary round

Source:
Merriam-Webster
Unabridged

spelling rounds

Source:
Merriam-Webster
Unabridged

finals: thursday, may 29

spelling round

Source:
Merriam-Webster
Unabridged

vocabulary round

Source:
Merriam-Webster
Unabridged

spelling rounds

Source:
Merriam-Webster
Unabridged

Potential for the competition to end in a Spell-off

details, details ...

spelling rounds

- Time: Spellers have 90 seconds to correctly spell a word once it has been pronounced; spellers cannot ask questions during the final 15 seconds of their turn.
- Questions: Spellers are permitted to ask the pronouncer:
 - Definition
 - Part of speech
 - Use the word in a sentence
 - Language(s) of origin
 - Alternate pronunciations
 - Repeat the word

vocabulary rounds

- Origin:** Introduced as an onstage competition element in 2021. (Vocabulary questions have been a consistent part of the competition since 2012, when they were first introduced as part of a written test that was the first round of the competition until 2019.)
- Intent:** Vocabulary rounds were introduced as an onstage element to challenge a speller's understanding of the words, putting less emphasis on the rote memorization of spelling.
- Rules:** Spellers are given 30 seconds to answer a multiple-choice question about the definition of a word.
- Eliminations on word meaning rounds:

2024:

- Prelims: 15 spellers eliminated
- Quarters: 14 spellers eliminated
- Semis: 5 spellers eliminated
- Finals: no spellers eliminated

2023:

- Preliminaries – 32 spellers eliminated
- Quarterfinals – 17 spellers eliminated
- Semifinals – 2 spellers eliminated
- Finals – 1 speller eliminated

2022:

- Preliminaries – 28 spellers eliminated
- Semifinals – 9 spellers eliminated
- Finals – 4 spellers eliminated

2021:

- Preliminaries – 28 spellers eliminated
- Quarterfinals – 16 spellers eliminated
- Semifinals – 5 spellers eliminated
- Finals – 0 spellers eliminated

round 3 written test

Spellers who advance from rounds 1 and 2 of the preliminaries on Tuesday will advance to take the round 3 written test on Tuesday evening. The test will include both spelling and vocabulary questions. Scores from the round 3 written test will determine the spellers who will advance to round 4 (quarterfinals) on Wednesday morning. Spellers will be notified of their scores Tuesday evening. The source for the round 3 written test is Merriam-Webster Unabridged.

how the spell-off works

- **Origin:** Introduced in 2021
- **How it works:** Officials have the option to activate a Spell-off to conclude the Finals.
- **Rules:** Each speller has 90 seconds to spell as many words as possible while the other speller is sequestered with headphones on, unable to hear the words being read. Each speller gets the same words read in the same order. If there is a tie, the winner is determined by who spells a higher percentage of words attempted correctly. The spellers may not pass and are encouraged to try to spell each word given.
- **History:**
 - 2024: Champion Bruhat Soma spelled 29 words correctly. Runner-up Faizan Zaki spelled 20 words correctly.
 - 2023: Was not used.
 - 2022: Champion Harini Logan spelled 22 words correctly. Runner-up Vikram Raju spelled 15 words correctly. (Note: Judges originally credited Logan with 21 words but added one more after reviewing video of the Spell-off.)
 - 2021: Was not used.

review process

*Taken from official rules of the Scripps National Spelling Bee:
Rule 10: Internal Review and Appeals*

Throughout the competition, officials manage a real-time review process consisting of live and recorded cross-checking of spellers' interactions with officials and of the word list. One official serves exclusively as the spellers' advocate by reviewing audio and video files, escalating any issues through officials, and, where necessary, acting on officials' requests for further review. If a speller, a speller's parent or guardian, or the regional partner of a speller wishes to raise an issue to the attention of officials, they may do so according to the following **Appeal Process and Timeliness Requirement:**

- A written appeal form must be requested from, completed and submitted to the Bee Week Help Desk.
- The deadline to submit an appeal is before the speller would have received their next word had they stayed in the spelling bee. Effort should be made to submit an appeal by the end of the round in which the speller was eliminated.
- When five or fewer spellers remain in the competition, an oral appeal must be made at the Bee Week Help Desk before the speller would have received their next word had they stayed in the spelling bee.
- Only a speller, a speller's parent or guardian, or a speller's regional partner may request, complete, or submit an appeal form or lodge an oral appeal.
- Individuals who have filed appeals or who wish to file an appeal, or representatives of those individuals, may not directly approach officials.

A speller who received a correct pronunciation and definition for a spelling word has no grounds for appeal.

Communicating results:

- If the judges rule to alter a prior determination, whether as the result of an appeal or of internal review, the affected speller and/or the speller's representative will be notified.
- If there is no change to a contested decision, officials are under no obligation to publicly communicate the decision or discuss the details of the ruling. The appellant or their representative may approach the Bee Week Help Desk for information on the status of their appeal.

All decisions of Scripps National Spelling Bee officials are final.



glossary

associate pronouncer:

The associate pronouncer answers the speller's questions about root words and is on-call to serve as pronouncer should the need arise and serves as quality assurance for the pronouncer during the competition. The associate pronouncer has expertise in etymology and in pronouncing words according to diacritical markings.

Bee Week:

Starts when spellers arrive at the location for the national competition.

finalist:

Speller who advances to the final rounds of the national competition.

head judge:

The head judge serves as the administrator of the competition rules during the competition and delivers rulings on spellings and answers provided by spellers. The head judge maintains a thorough knowledge of the competition rules and confidently rules on questions regarding the competition with input from fellow judges.

judges:

Judges maintain focus during the competition and rule on spellings and answers provided by spellers. Judges maintain a thorough knowledge of the competition rules and confidently and swiftly weigh in on internal or external questions regarding the competition.

national competitor:

Speller who advances from regional competition to the Scripps National Spelling Bee, considered the national competition.

pronouncer:

The pronouncer pronounces the words and provides all requested word information to the speller during spelling rounds and reads vocabulary questions and answers during vocabulary rounds using prepared competition materials. The pronouncer has expertise in etymology and in pronouncing words according to diacritical markings.

regional partner:

Host of regional competition that pays for speller(s) to advance to national competition.

sponsor:

Pays for advertising/activation/name alignment with Scripps National Spelling Bee or portions of the broadcast.

meet the 2025 spellers

a guide to all 243 competitors



FUN FACT
been playing chess for four years.

#1 SNIGDHA PATI

10 years old • 4th grade
Deer Valley Elementary School • Alabama
Kiwanis Foundation (Birmingham, Alabama)



FUN FACT
Majo has a great sense of humor and loves to set up sleepovers at her house.

#2 MARIA JOSE HERNANDEZ-ZAMORA

13 years old • 7th grade
Homer Middle School • Anchorage Daily News (Anchorage, Alaska)



FUN FACT
Christopher is a starting pitcher on his baseball team.

#7 CHRISTOPHER JAMES WERITO

13 years old • 8th grade
Tsai Elementary School • Navajo Times Publishing Company (Window Rock, Arizona)



FUN FACT
Sara's robotics team competed in the VEX IQ World Championship and qualified for the Divisional Finals.

#8 SARA HWA SOON CHEN

12 years old • 6th grade
Pinnacle View Middle School • Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas (Little Rock, Arkansas)



FUN FACT
Elden has lived in Minnesota; Oklahoma; Okinawa, Japan; Maryland and Alaska, and he moves to Hawaii this summer.

#3 ELDEN WIER

13 years old • 8th grade
Cyberlynx School • Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (Fairbanks, Alaska)



FUN FACT
Esha writes lyrics and composes her own songs.

#4 ESHA MARUPUDI

13 years old • 7th grade
BASIS School - Chandler • Arizona Educational Foundation (Phoenix, Arizona)



FUN FACT
Aarav plays as a goalkeeper—his favorite position—for his school's soccer team.

#9 AARAV VIRAT BALANI

13 years old • 8th grade
Lyford Cay International School • The Ministry of Education and Technical and Vocational Training (Nassau, The Bahamas)



FUN FACT
Bria was a competitive gymnast for three years and danced for nine years at The Island Dance Academy.

#10 BRIA IONA CURRY

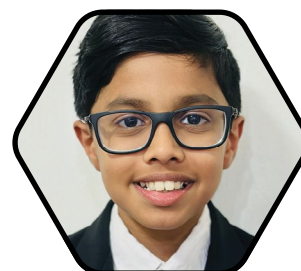
12 years old • 8th grade
Wellington Preparatory School • The Ministry of Education and Technical and Vocational Training (Nassau, The Bahamas)



FUN FACT
Salman is obsessed with car washes and the solar system.

#5 SALMAN RASHID

11 years old • 6th grade
Jack W. Harmon Elementary School • Arizona Educational Foundation (Phoenix, Arizona)



FUN FACT
Sumukh's name is of Sanskrit origin, meaning "handsome," "pleasant-faced" or "auspicious."

#6 SUMUKH TIRUMALASETTY

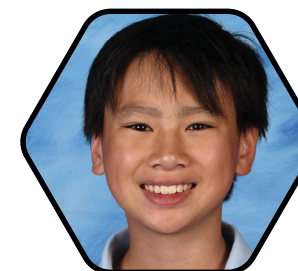
10 years old • 4th grade
New Vistas Academy • Arizona Educational Foundation (Phoenix, Arizona)



FUN FACT
Enzo made it to the Kern County Junior High Honor Band as second-chair flute.

#11 ENZO SINGSON PAYLAGA

14 years old • 8th grade
Norris Middle School • KERO Channel 23 (Bakersfield, California)



FUN FACT
Aren's favorite food from Taiwan is pineapple cake.

#12 AREN JIE LEE

13 years old • 8th grade
King's Academy • San Ramon Valley Rotary Club (Danville, California)



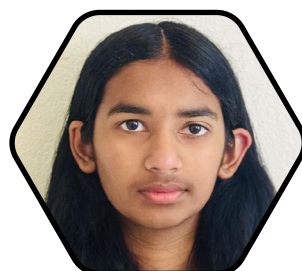
FUN FACT

Aiden has been learning German since last summer, and he has a Duolingo streak of over 200 days.

#13 AIDEN YOUNING MENG

12 years old • 6th grade

Orinda Intermediate School • San Ramon Valley Rotary Club (Danville, California)



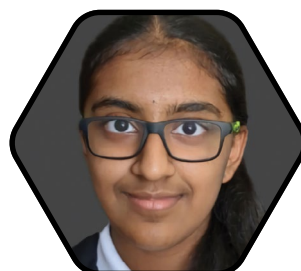
FUN FACT

Rithvi has perfect pitch, the ability to identify a note without an external reference, which occurs in 1 of every 10,000 people.

#14 RITHVI BALAJEE

12 years old • 7th grade

Stratford School - Pleasanton Middle School
• San Ramon Valley Rotary Club (Danville, California)



FUN FACT

Kamya and her sister have published their first novel, "Kingdoms in the Shadows: A Tale of Mystery, War, and Betrayal."

#19 KAMYA BALAJI

12 years old • 6th grade

Notre Dame Academy • Los Angeles County Office of Education (Los Angeles, California)



FUN FACT

Oliver received a National History Day honorable mention for his essay on the rights and responsibilities of citizens.

#20 OLIVER SULLIVAN

McRAE HALKETT

13 years old • 7th grade

Mirman School • Los Angeles County Office of Education (Los Angeles, California)



FUN FACT

Madison rescued and adopted a stray cat.

#15 MADISON VIOLET GRAY

13 years old • 7th grade

Wilson Junior High School • Imperial County Office of Education (El Centro, California)



FUN FACT

If there's music playing, Ike is moving; he's been dancing since he was a baby.

#16 ISAAC SPERLING

10 years old • 4th grade

Jacoby Creek Charter School • Humboldt County Office of Education (Eureka, California)



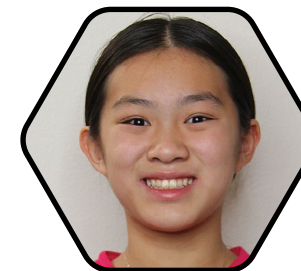
FUN FACT

Lawrence has had perfect pitch since he was in third grade.

#21 LAWRENCE YE

13 years old • 8th grade

Herbert Hoover Middle School • Merced County Office of Education (Merced, California)



FUN FACT

Victoria has named all 200 of her stuffed animals, and she remembers each of them.

#22 VICTORIA YUANYUAN LI

11 years old • 6th grade

Philistine Rondo School of Discovery • Riverside County Office of Education (Riverside, California)



FUN FACT

Caroline is the first-chair bass clarinetist in her school band, and she also plays soprano clarinet and piano.

#17 CAROLINE MAE VAN GARSSE

14 years old • 8th grade

Alta Sierra Intermediate School • The Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (Fresno, California)



FUN FACT

Sydney's favorite drink is black milk tea with boba.

#18 SYDNEY TAMNHU TRAN

13 years old • 7th grade

El Rancho Charter School • The Orange County Register/O.C. Department of Education (Irvine, California)



FUN FACT

Shruthi likes every genre of music and listens to everything from rock to K-pop to classical.

#23 SHRUTHI SRINIVASAN

12 years old • 6th grade

Rocklin Academy • Terrell Christopher Gladney Memorial Academy (Sacramento, California)



FUN FACT

Ryan visited Scandinavia last summer.

#24 RYAN SEKERA

10 years old • 5th grade

Ridgeview Elementary School • Terrell Christopher Gladney Memorial Academy (Sacramento, California)



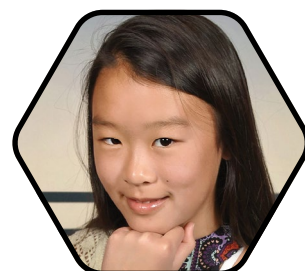
FUN FACT

Seren was once bitten by a pig.

#25 SEREN KIM

11 years old • 6th grade

La Mesa Elementary School • Monterey County Office of Education (Salinas, California)



FUN FACT

Hannah's dream is to be an entrepreneur or interior designer.

#26 HANNAH KUO

12 years old • 7th grade

Granite Mountain Charter School • San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools (San Bernardino, California)



FUN FACT

Angeline's favorite sports are swimming and rock climbing.

#27 ANGELINE WANG

11 years old • 5th grade

Caryn Elementary School • San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools (San Bernardino, California)



FUN FACT

Duaa's father is from Algeria, and her mother is from Trinidad.

#28 DUAA ASIYAH OUZNALI

13 years old • 8th grade

Bright Horizon Academy • ABC 10News (San Diego, California)



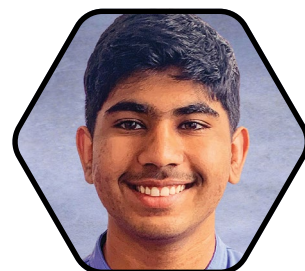
FUN FACT

Charlie is a Pokémon specialist who knows all about different Pokémon, from their types to their evolutions.

#29 CHARLIE HUANG

11 years old • 5th grade

Brookside Elementary School • Sage (Thousand Oaks, California)



FUN FACT

Sarvadnya speaks Marathi, Hindi and English and wants to learn Sanskrit after he retires from spelling.

#30 SARVADNYA JITENDRA KADAM

14 years old • 8th grade

Oak Grove Elementary School • Tulare County Office of Education (Visalia, California)



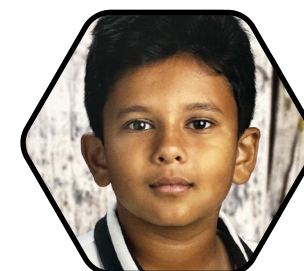
FUN FACT

David won the maritime championship for grades 4-6 in 2024.

#31 BOHAN WANG

11 years old • 6th grade

Halifax Grammar School • Cape Breton University (Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada)



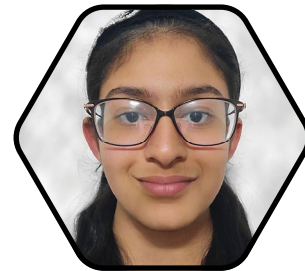
FUN FACT

Arshan can fold his tongue sideways.

#32 ARSHAN SHAHRIAR

11 years old • 5th grade

Selwyn Public School • ECU - A Division of WFCU Credit Union (Windsor, Ontario, Canada)



FUN FACT

Kavya learned how to make rolled ice cream, milkshakes and waffles by volunteering at an ice cream shop.

#33 KAVYA VASUDEVA

13 years old • 7th grade

Christ the King French Immersion Catholic Elementary School • WFCU Credit Union (Kitchener, Ontario, Canada)



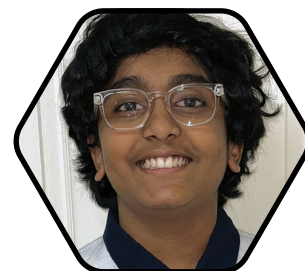
FUN FACT

Blanche is a gourmand who loves trying new and exotic foods from around the world.

#34 BLANCHE YANG LI

14 years old • 8th grade

Summit Middle Charter School • Boulder Valley School District (Boulder, Colorado)



FUN FACT

Ved loves watching basketball, and he is a big fan of the Denver Nuggets.

#35 VEDANTH RAJU

12 years old • 7th grade

Aurora Quest K-8 School • The Denver Post (Denver, Colorado)



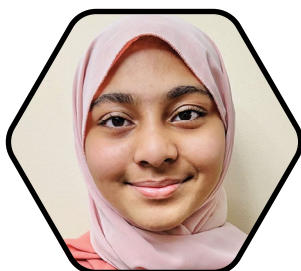
FUN FACT

Nathan is passionate about and motivated by running; he is always working toward a specific running goal.

#36 NATHAN SETTEVENEMIE

13 years old • 8th grade

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



FUN FACT

Siara is a huge fan of the Percy Jackson & the Olympians and The Heroes of Olympus series by Rick Riordan.

#37 SIARA HUSAIN

11 years old • 6th grade
Islamic Academy Of Delaware • First State Educate (Hockessin, Delaware)



FUN FACT

Abigail always loves to tuck in her shirt.

#38 ABIGAIL INIOLUWA ADEGBITE

11 years old • 5th grade
Heather Hills Elementary School • The Washington Informer (Washington, District of Columbia)



FUN FACT

Sree Vidya won Honorable Mention in C-SPAN's National StudentCam competition for her documentary.

#43 SREE VIDYA SILIVERI

14 years old • 8th grade
Alice B. Landrum Middle School • WJXT (Jacksonville, Florida)



FUN FACT

Hadi has been to the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest structure, but it was too foggy to see the tip.

#44 HADI ABBASI

12 years old • 6th grade
Franklin Academy Pembroke Pines • Miami Herald (Miami, Florida)



FUN FACT

Zwe is a big fan of "StarTalk," a podcast hosted by Neil deGrasse Tyson.

#39 ZWE SUNYATA SPACETIME

13 years old • 7th grade
Louis Armstrong Homeschool • The Washington Informer (Washington, District of Columbia)

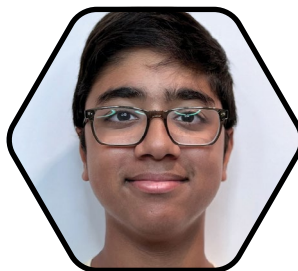


FUN FACT

Ibrahim's YouTube channel, "Kirby and Zelda Studios," has over 1 million total views.

#40 WILLIAM IBRAHIM BECK

14 years old • 8th grade
Kaiserslautern Middle School • European PTSA (Defense and State Department Schools, Europe)



FUN FACT

Nikhil was born in Texas and lived in Washington, Illinois and Kansas before moving to Miami.

#45 NIKHIL SHA

13 years old • 7th grade
Palmetto Middle School • Miami Herald (Miami, Florida)

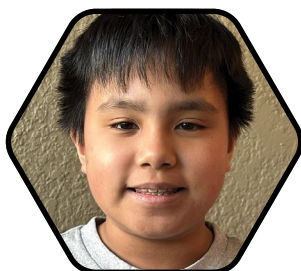


FUN FACT

Sophia speaks English and German, is learning Spanish and French, and knows some words in Czech and Japanese.

#46 SOPHIA JOLIE SCHOENROCK

13 years old • 8th grade
Marco Island Charter Middle School • Collier County Public Schools (Naples, Florida)



FUN FACT

Elias enjoys origami because it gives him time to relax, and he finds it amazing to look at the final product.

#41 ELIAS BENJAMIN JAVELONA

13 years old • 7th grade
Howard Middle School • SNSB Region Two Bee (Bellevue, Florida)



FUN FACT

Nicasio is an altar server and lector at his church.

#42 NICASIO DAVID

14 years old • 8th grade
Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School • Lee County Spelling Bee (Fort Myers, Florida)



FUN FACT

Aiden was born on New Year's Eve, so his birthday is celebrated every year all around the world.

#47 AIDEN WESTOVER

14 years old • 8th grade
Odyssey Middle School • Foundation For Orange County Public Schools (Orlando, Florida)



FUN FACT

With perfect pitch and strong memory, Louis can recognize a song long after hearing it, even in a different key.

#48 LOUIS AVETIS

12 years old • 7th grade
Discovery Middle School • Foundation For Orange County Public Schools (Orlando, Florida)



FUN FACT

Diego has read the Harry Potter series five times and is a devoted Ravenclaw.

#49 DIEGO GALLEGOS

11 years old • 5th grade

Lakemont Elementary School • Foundation For Orange County Public Schools (Orlando, Florida)



FUN FACT

Moksh can name almost any car just by looking at its taillight.

#50 MOKSH MARU

10 years old • 5th grade

Wilson Elementary School • SNSB Region Two Bee (Sanford, Florida)



FUN FACT

The bottom of Giovanni's left ear has a unique shape that looks like a tiny heart.

#55 GIOVANNI MANUEL NIATSE ADJEI

11 years old • 7th grade

Christ The King International School • The National Spelling Bee Ghana (Accra, Ghana)



FUN FACT

Cyleane and her brother were born on the same day in different years.

#56 CYLEANE EWURA AMA QUANSAH

11 years old • 6th grade

Dodi International School • The National Spelling Bee Ghana (Accra, Ghana)



FUN FACT

Vlada has a strong sweet tooth and loves to eat ice cream castles.

#51 VLADA KOZHEVNIKOVA

12 years old • 6th grade

Pinellas Academy of Math & Science • Rays Baseball Foundation and Rowdies Soccer Fund (St. Petersburg, Florida)



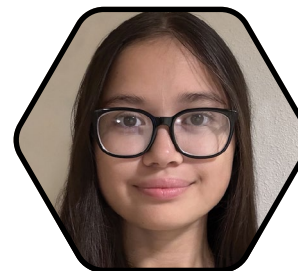
FUN FACT

Cecily loves The Wingfeather Saga series by Andrew Peterson.

#52 CECILY DEAN

13 years old • 7th grade

Leon County Home Schoolers • Envision Credit Union (Tallahassee, Florida)



FUN FACT

Alleena aspires to pursue a career in law and is a nationally recognized Lincoln-Douglas debater.

#57 ALLEENA VILLALUZ

14 years old • 8th grade

Saipan International School • Rotary Club of Guam (Hagåtña, Guam)



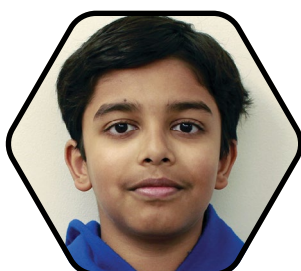
FUN FACT

Kira knows the first 100 digits of pi.

#58 KIRA KEIKO LAU

13 years old • 7th grade

'Iolani School • Hawaii State Spelling Bee (Honolulu, Hawaii)



FUN FACT

Sarv enjoys folding origami and has decided he will fold 1,000 paper cranes.

#53 SARV SHAILESH DHARAVANE

11 years old • 5th grade

Austin Elementary School • Georgia Association of Educators (Tucker, Georgia)



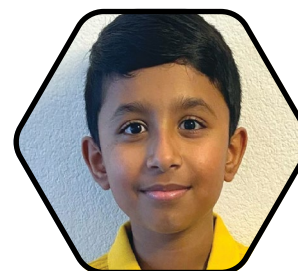
FUN FACT

Sara has been to four different schools in two states.

#54 SARA DAOUD

12 years old • 7th grade

Greenbrier Middle School • Georgia Association of Educators (Tucker, Georgia)



FUN FACT

Sonu loves playing chess with his dad and others.

#59 SONU MURALI MOHAN

11 years old • 6th grade

Eagle Middle School • SNSB Region One Bee (Boise, Idaho)



FUN FACT

Andrew is in the top 5% of swimmers for the 100-meter breaststroke.

#60 ANDREW CHRISTIAN FORD

14 years old • 8th grade

Homeschool • Idaho Character Foundation (Coeur d'Alene, Idaho)



FUN FACT

Gabriel is currently teaching himself to play the piano.

#61 GABRIEL AGUIRRE

11 years old • 5th grade

Homeschool • Idaho Character Foundation (Coeur d'Alene, Idaho)



FUN FACT

Navtaj likes solving Rubik's Cubes and once solved one in 13 seconds.

#62 NAVTAJ SINGH

14 years old • 8th grade

Lincoln Middle School • Lewiston Tribune (Lewiston, Idaho)



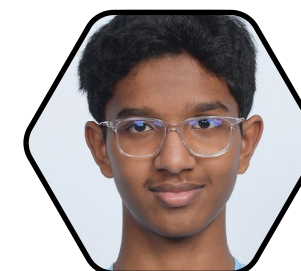
FUN FACT

Brighid was given the nickname "Bee" by her elementary school teachers because they struggled to pronounce her name.

#67 BRIGHID ELIZABETH REID

13 years old • 7th grade

Somonauk Middle School • DeKalb Regional Office of Education 16 (DeKalb, Illinois)



FUN FACT

Kavin earned a black belt in tae kwon do at the age of 8.

#68 KAVIN KUMAR

SURIYA PRAKASH

14 years old • 8th grade

Dunlap Valley Middle School • SNSB Region Three Bee (Edwards, Illinois)



FUN FACT

Beatriz can list the title of every "Doctor Who" episode in order.

#63 BEATRIZ LUCILLE WHITFORD-RODRÍGUEZ

14 years old • 8th grade

Skinner North Classical School • Chicago Public Schools (Chicago, Illinois)



FUN FACT

Shruthi's dream home is a cottage in the English countryside.

#64 SHRUTHI AYYAGARI

13 years old • 7th grade

Francis Granger Middle School • DuPage Regional Office of Education (Chicago, Illinois)



FUN FACT

Mason once made a life-sized guitar replica out of cardboard just because he was bored.

#69 MASON COULTHARD

14 years old • 8th grade

Lena - Winslow Junior High School • Carroll/JoDaviess/Stephenson Regional Office of Education (Freeport, Illinois)



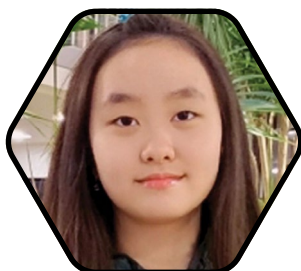
FUN FACT

Yahya completely memorized the Quran in 2023.

#70 YAHYA ALI MOHAMMED

13 years old • 7th grade

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



FUN FACT

Katie was the school volleyball captain this season and also plays for Mindset Volleyball Club.

#65 KATIE YUNJIN PARK

14 years old • 8th grade

Saint Andrews Lutheran School • South Cook Intermediate Service Center (Chicago, Illinois)



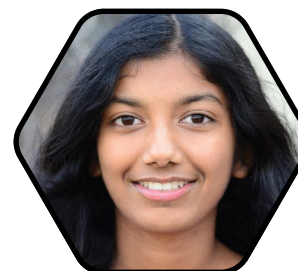
FUN FACT

Alanur was born exactly a century after the Titanic sank.

#66 ALANUR MESCIOĞLU

13 years old • 7th grade

Ira Jones Middle School • Will County Regional Office of Education (Chicago, Illinois)



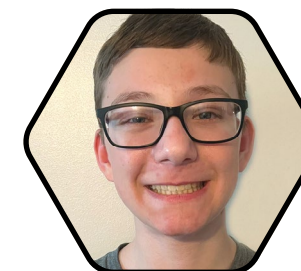
FUN FACT

Julia crochets and knits hats for kids with cancer.

#71 JULIA ANN KURIEN

14 years old • 8th grade

Gifted Academy Marshall Middle School • Boone-Winnebago Regional Office of Education (Loves Park, Illinois)



FUN FACT

Tyler wants to be an astronomical engineer and work for NASA when he grows up.

#72 TYLER ROBERT KOCHANSKI

14 years old • 8th grade

Saints Peter & Paul School • McHenry County Regional Office of Education (McHenry, Illinois)



FUN FACT
Arnav's brain is full of science facts.

#73 ARNAV SHARMA

12 years old • 6th grade
Murphy Junior High School • Grundy/Kendall County Regional Office of Education (Morris, Illinois)



FUN FACT
Visharad can solve a Rubik's Cube in under a minute.

#75 VISHARAD VIDHYA SATHISH

12 years old • 7th grade
Lake Forest Country Day School • Lake County Regional Office of Education (Vernon Hills, Illinois)



FUN FACT
Owen's favorite book is "The Strange Case of Origami Yoda" by Tom Angleberger.

#77 OWEN SHIREY

13 years old • 8th grade
Holy Spirit School • IU School of Education Indianapolis (Indianapolis, Indiana)



FUN FACT
Parker learned how to speak Norwegian and hopes to visit Norway someday.

#74 PARKER STONE ZIMMERLY

14 years old • 8th grade
Amboy Junior High School • Regional Office of Education #47 (Sterling, Illinois)



FUN FACT
Raian loves learning new facts.

#76 RAIAN TIMUR

10 years old • 4th grade
Union Elementary School • SNSB Region Three Bee (Greenwood, Indiana)



FUN FACT
Sharanya is a K-pop and K-drama fan, and she recently went to her first concert to see (G)I-DLE.

#78 SHARANYA KAR

12 years old • 7th grade
West Lafayette Junior Senior High School • LARA Educational Opportunities, Inc. (Lafayette, Indiana)



FUN FACT
Vishva's first word was blue because of his love of blueberries.

#79 VISHVA BHARATH

13 years old • 8th grade
Liberty Middle School • St. John's Lutheran Church (La Porte, Indiana)



FUN FACT
Lindsey enjoys creating balloon animals.

#81 LINDSEY GRACE JESSEN

13 years old • 8th grade
Marion Home School Assistance Program • The Dispatch Argus (Davenport, Iowa)



FUN FACT
Samuel authored his own science and math dictionaries just for fun.

#83 SAMUEL WESLEY RILEY

13 years old • 7th grade
Andover Middle School • Kansas Press Association (Topeka, Kansas)



FUN FACT
Leo has turophobia, the fear of cheese.

#80 LEO FURLONG

12 years old • 6th grade
Burris Laboratory School • Ball State University - WIPB-TV (Muncie, Indiana)



FUN FACT
Adele placed third in the Adel Verpflichtet tournament at the 2024 World Boardgaming Championships.

#82 ADELE GIBBENS

14 years old • 8th grade
Indian Trail Middle School • Olathe Public Schools (Olathe, Kansas)



FUN FACT
Josephine has been playing violin for five years.

#84 JOSEPHINE FRIMPONG

13 years old • 8th grade
Edythe J. Hayes Middle School • University of Kentucky - College of Education (Lexington, Kentucky)



FUN FACT
Zachary coaches his younger sister in academic competitions.

#85 ZACHARY LUKE MILALLOS RARA

14 years old • 8th grade
Meyzeek Middle School • Louisville Free Public Library (Louisville, Kentucky)



FUN FACT
George helped his school's Animal Club by raising over \$1,000 to fund a community event and support a local shelter.

#86 GEORGE WEGHORST

12 years old • 7th grade
Highlands Middle School • WCPO 9 (Newport, Kentucky)



FUN FACT
Leya attends a French immersion school.

#91 LEYA RUHI ISMAIL

10 years old • 4th grade
Ecole Bilingue de la Nouvelle-Orléans • New Orleans Chapter of The Links (New Orleans, Louisiana)



FUN FACT
Chidu likes to play the piano.

#92 CHIDU ANUMELE

14 years old • 8th grade
Saint Frederick High School • Louisiana State University Shreveport (Shreveport, Louisiana)



FUN FACT
Malek finished the entire Harry Potter series in under one month.

#87 MALEK MOHAMMED YOUSSRI

13 years old • 8th grade
Oxford Academy • Gulf University for Science & Technology (Mubarak Al-Abdullah, Kuwait)



FUN FACT
Naqeeb is curious about geography and cultures from different parts of the world.

#88 NAQEEB MOHAMMAD HOSSAIN

12 years old • 6th grade
Glasgow Middle School • LSU - University Laboratory School (Baton Rouge, Louisiana)



FUN FACT
Esme hosts a radio show at her local community station.

#93 ESME FILIPPO

13 years old • 7th grade
The Bay School • Portland Press Herald/ Maine Sunday Telegram (Portland, Maine)



FUN FACT
Quint has played soccer since he was 4 years old, and his dad has been his coach for his entire career.

#94 QUINT MARKUS KARLSSON

13 years old • 7th grade
Crofton Middle School • Anne Arundel County Public Schools (Annapolis, Maryland)



FUN FACT
Caroline placed third in recyclable art at the Louisiana Beta Convention and went to the National Beta Convention.

#89 CAROLINE ROSE ANDRUS

14 years old • 8th grade
Our Lady of Fatima School • Kiwanis Club of Lafayette & Arcadiana (Lafayette, Louisiana)



FUN FACT
James has five brothers.

#90 JAMES MITCHELL GRANGER

12 years old • 6th grade
Pinewood Elementary School • SagamoreHill Broadcasting of Lake Charles (Lake Charles, Louisiana)



FUN FACT
Bindi aspires to be the first woman scientist at NASA who is also a YouTuber.

#95 AMELIA SISIRA RAY

11 years old • 5th grade
Riderwood Elementary School • Maryland Sports (Baltimore, Maryland)



FUN FACT
Lauren read over a hundred novels last year.

#96 LAUREN A. MERILLANA

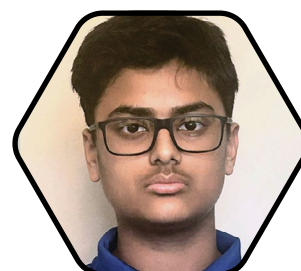
13 years old • 7th grade
Robert Frost Middle School • The Meakem Group (Bethesda, Maryland)



FUN FACT
Luke collects currencies from around the world.

#97 LUKE ALEXANDER NOBLEZADA

13 years old • 7th grade
Burleigh Manor Middle School • Howard County Library (Columbia, Maryland)



FUN FACT
Of all his sports honors, Arya is proudest of his MVP award in cricket.

#98 ARYA MARUTI BHAVANSIKAR

13 years old • 8th grade
Windsor Knolls Middle School • Frederick County Public Libraries (Frederick, Maryland)



FUN FACT
Juliet has a deer blind set up in her backyard to check out local wildlife.

#103 JULIET MERRILL

11 years old • 5th grade
The Edgartown School • The Martha's Vineyard Times (Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts)



FUN FACT
Ainsley loves to wear mismatched socks.

#104 AINSLEY GASTMEIER

14 years old • 8th grade
Trinity Lutheran School • Macomb Intermediate School District (Clinton Township, Michigan)



FUN FACT
Aruuke once cosplayed as Red Fish from the Dr. Seuss book, "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish."

#99 ARUKE RAYEVA

12 years old • 7th grade
Archbishop Neale School • Charles County Public Schools (La Plata, Maryland)



FUN FACT
Megan was born in the Philippines, a beautiful country rich in culture, history and natural wonders.

#100 MEGAN JILIENNE DIAZ BARRIENTOS

13 years old • 7th grade
Wicomico Middle School • University of Maryland Eastern Shore (Princess Anne, Maryland)



FUN FACT
Divya is currently working on a robotics project for the NASA Artemis III mission.

#105 DIVYA CHOUDHARY

11 years old • 6th grade
Canton Charter Academy • WXYZ Channel 7 (Detroit, Michigan)



FUN FACT
Elliott has read "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" by J.K. Rowling 33 times.

#106 ELLIOTT MAE COVELLE

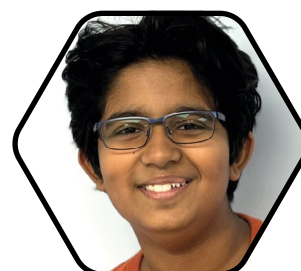
14 years old • 8th grade
Northern Hills Middle School • Kent Intermediate School District (Grand Rapids, Michigan)



FUN FACT
Sapna introduced Congresswoman Ayanna Presley and Governor Maura Healey during a Discovering Justice gala.

#101 SAPNA MALHOTRA

14 years old • 8th grade
John Eliot K-8 Innovation School • Boston Centers for Youth & Families (Boston, Massachusetts)



FUN FACT
Adarsh has read the whole Harry Potter series eight times and "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" by J.K. Rowling 14 times.

#102 ADARSH VENKANNAGARI

11 years old • 6th grade
Gates Elementary School • The Daily Item (Lynn, Massachusetts)



FUN FACT
Josiah's family is a foster family, and last year, they adopted Josiah's brother, Kevon.

#107 JOSIAH BROR LOEHRKE

11 years old • 5th grade
El Sol Dual Language School • Kalamazoo Experiential Learning Center (Kalamazoo, Michigan)



FUN FACT
Zander wants to go to an Ivy League school to become an engineer.

#108 ZANDER RAY MYERS

11 years old • 5th grade
Murphy Elementary School • The County Press (Lapeer, Michigan)



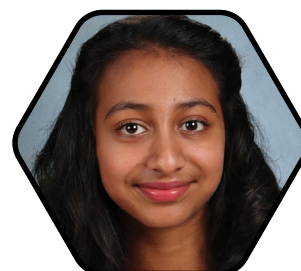
FUN FACT

Last year, Eliza spotted 133 species of birds across several states.

#109 ELIZA SCHWASS

14 years old • 8th grade

Oliver J. Dejonge Middle School • West Shore Educational Service District (Ludington, Michigan)



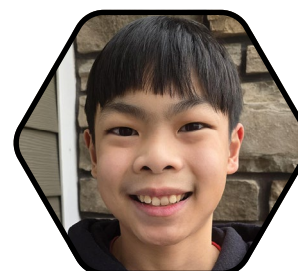
FUN FACT

Ishika likes to utilize her fashion sense and get all dressed up.

#110 ISHIKA DIRISALA

12 years old • 6th grade

Upton Middle School • The Herald-Palladium (St. Joseph, Michigan)



FUN FACT

Jaden has perfect pitch and can name any note when he hears it with up to six notes simultaneously.

#115 JADEN GABRIEL GO

14 years old • 8th grade

Sacred Heart School • The Minnesota Service Cooperatives (East Grand Forks, Minnesota)



FUN FACT

Eli can play three instruments: bass, French horn and piano.

#116 ELI SCHLOSSER

12 years old • 6th grade

Kennedy Secondary School • The Minnesota Service Cooperatives (Fergus Falls, Minnesota)



FUN FACT

Minna is learning Swedish and plans to attend part of high school in Sweden.

#111 MINNA DAY DANZIGER

12 years old • 6th grade

Leland Public School • Traverse City Record-Eagle (Traverse City, Michigan)



FUN FACT

Sanvi has copiloted an airplane.

#112 SANVI VISHAL MANDVEKAR

13 years old • 8th grade

Larson Middle School • Oakland Schools Education Foundation (Waterford, Michigan)



FUN FACT

Charles plays four instruments: trombone, vibraphone, bass drum and marimba.

#117 CHARLES MUELLER-THOMPSON

14 years old • 8th grade

Marshall Middle School • The Minnesota Service Cooperatives (Marshall, Minnesota)



FUN FACT

Wade frequently works on random hobbies like saying words backwards.

#118 WADE ALASDAIR SALVEY

11 years old • 5th grade

Scenic Heights Elementary School • The Minnesota Service Cooperatives (Minneapolis, Minnesota)



FUN FACT

Carter wants to be a welder or a software engineer when he grows up.

#113 CARTER AIDEN PETERSON

14 years old • 8th grade

Ellis Middle School • The Minnesota Service Cooperatives (Austin, Minnesota)



FUN FACT

Gemma enjoys collecting things like Lego bricks, rocks and souvenirs.

#114 GEMMA CHOI KIM

14 years old • 8th grade

Ordean East Middle School • The Minnesota Service Cooperatives (Duluth, Minnesota)



FUN FACT

One of Emmaline's favorite foods is chicken fried rice, and she orders it at every restaurant to find the best!

#119 EMMALINE KENNEDY BUSHMAN

14 years old • 8th grade

Saint John's Preparatory School • The Minnesota Service Cooperatives (St. Cloud, Minnesota)



FUN FACT

Anya started dancing when she was in second grade and now dances as part of the Mankato Ballet Performing Ensemble.

#120 ANYA GRACE STOLL

13 years old • 8th grade

Saint Peter Lutheran School • The Minnesota Service Cooperatives (St. Peter, Minnesota)



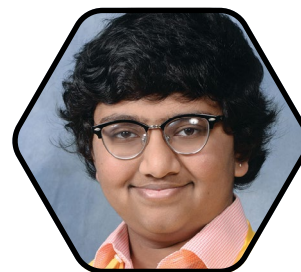
FUN FACT

Josslyn has a zebra passion stemming from the pattern of her favorite blanket, which was preserved into a tie blanket.

#121 JOSSLYN HANSEN

13 years old • 7th grade

Wadena-Deer Creek High School •
The Minnesota Service Cooperatives
(Wadena, Minnesota)



FUN FACT

Sagan plays the violin, keyboard, xylophone, marimba, snare drum, bass drum and accessory percussion.

#122 SAGAN KARTHIKEYAN

13 years old • 8th grade

Oxford Middle School • C Spire
Foundation (Ridgeland, Mississippi)



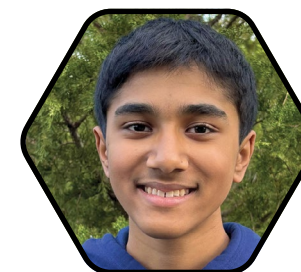
FUN FACT

Scott can tell you all of the nations on a specific continent.

#127 SCOTT TINGLE

14 years old • 8th grade

Senath - Hornersville Middle School •
Three Rivers College (Poplar Bluff, Missouri)



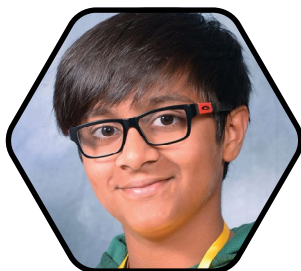
FUN FACT

Kunal likes to play chess.

#128 KUNAL PATEL

12 years old • 7th grade

Branson Junior High School • A.C.E.S.
(Rolla, Missouri)



FUN FACT

Yuva always comes up with a funny way to remember a difficult word by connecting it to his sister, Riddhi.

#123 YUVAKARTHIK PEDDIREDDY

14 years old • 8th grade

Madison Middle School • C Spire
Foundation (Ridgeland, Mississippi)



FUN FACT

Ananya has been doing tae kwon do for six years and is a second-degree black belt.

#124 ANANYA AGGARWAL

12 years old • 7th grade

Columbia Independent Upper School •
Columbia Missourian (Columbia, Missouri)



FUN FACT

Natalie loves to do hair.

#129 NATALIE MAE LINTHICUM

14 years old • 8th grade

North Daviess R-III School • Mosaic Life Care Foundation
(St. Joseph, Missouri)



FUN FACT

Khushi has been on North America's second-tallest water slide, which rises to 135 feet.

#130 KHUSHBU DAHAL

11 years old • 5th grade

Academy Of The Sacred Heart •
Saint Louis University (St. Louis, Missouri)



FUN FACT

Beckett, who believes everyone is unique and beautiful, has won her school's kindness award for three years in a row.

#125 BECKETT CLAIRE GRIFFIN

11 years old • 5th grade

Underwood Elementary School • Mid-Continent Public
Library (Independence, Missouri)



FUN FACT

Will would like to be an astronaut when he grows up.

#126 WILLIAM WALLACE HENLEY

12 years old • 6th grade

Pleasant Hill Intermediate School • Raymore-Peculiar
School District (Peculiar, Missouri)



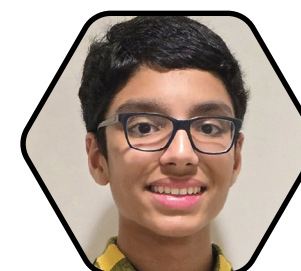
FUN FACT

Ruby loves to experiment with her own cooking ideas.

#131 RUBY RUOHAN WANG

11 years old • 5th grade

Saint Joseph Catholic Elementary School
• Montana Television Network (Bozeman,
Montana)



FUN FACT

When Rian was 4 years old, he could identify car models from far away.

#132 RIAN CAMTY

14 years old • 8th grade

Millard North Middle School • Omaha Sports
Commission (Omaha, Nebraska)



FUN FACT

Priya is a beginner cosplayer and likes cosplaying characters from her favorite shows and books.

#133 PRIYA SHETTY KONDURU

13 years old • 7th grade

Davidson Academy Of Nevada • The Public Education Foundation (Las Vegas, Nevada)



FUN FACT

Audrey's favorite place is Disneyland, and she will talk your ear off about Disney history if you will listen.

#134 AUDREY ROSE WARE

13 years old • 8th grade

Saint Francis De Sales School • The Public Education Foundation (Las Vegas, Nevada)



FUN FACT

Daniel collects maps, calendars and walking sticks.

#139 DANIEL ROTEM

13 years old • 8th grade

Renaissance at Rand Middle School • Care NJ (South Orange, New Jersey)



FUN FACT

Keith has watched over 100 MLB games in the past year.

#140 KEITH LEE

13 years old • 8th grade

Albuquerque Academy • The Albuquerque Journal (Albuquerque, New Mexico)



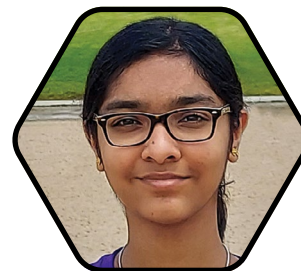
FUN FACT

Arpith's favorite genre of both movies and books is science fiction.

#135 ARPITH GEORGE MISHRA

14 years old • 8th grade

World Academy • New Hampshire Union Leader (Manchester, New Hampshire)



FUN FACT

Harini has been learning Carnatic music, an Indian classical style, since she was 6.

#136 HARINI MURALI

13 years old • 8th grade

Woodrow Wilson Middle School • SNSB Region Three Bee (Edison, New Jersey)



FUN FACT

Krrisha is proficient in tube knitting, which she does in her free time.

#141 KRRISHA AGRAWAL

10 years old • 5th grade

Woodland Hill Montessori School • Albany & Troy Lions Club (Albany, New York)



FUN FACT

Sharon has been dancing in ballet performances since she was 8.

#142 SHARON HWANG

13 years old • 8th grade

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



FUN FACT

Eli has memorized the first 200 words of the Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling.

#137 ELI CONNOR NEIBART

14 years old • 8th grade

David E. Owens Middle School • Bergen County Division of Cultural & Historic Affairs (Hackensack, New Jersey)



FUN FACT

Ishaan was featured by The Week Junior and NJ.com for co-authoring a climate fiction book titled "The Martian Miracle: Ivaan and the Climate Crisis."

#138 ISHAAN GUPTA

11 years old • 6th grade

Frank R. Conwell Middle School #4 • Hudson County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs (Jersey City, New Jersey)



FUN FACT

Cora loves making costumes for and going to renaissance fairs.

#143 CORA ELLE MASSARO

14 years old • 8th grade

C. J. Hooker Middle School • Orange-Ulster BOCES (Goshen, New York)



FUN FACT

Brian's pet chinchillas are named Obsidian and Stormy for their colors and personalities.

#144 BRIAN LIU

13 years old • 8th grade

Great Neck North Middle School • SNSB Region Four Bee (Great Neck, New York)



FUN FACT

Reed runs cross country and plays saxophone and piano.

#145 REED LAURSEN

13 years old • 8th grade

Red Jacket Middle School • Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES (Newark, New York)



FUN FACT

Jay is an avid singer and has performed in professional productions of operas.

#147 JAY NAYAK

10 years old • 5th grade

Hunter College Elementary School • NYC Department of Education (New York, New York)



FUN FACT

Last summer, Leah went on a 26-mile bike ride through the Adirondack Park.

#149 LEAH MARIE RINI

13 years old • 8th grade

Beekmantown Middle School • Champlain Valley Educational Services (Plattsburgh, New York)



FUN FACT

Izzy has seen the movie "Mean Girls" eight times.

#146 ISABELLA SOLEDAD

CANADA

14 years old • 8th grade

The Dalton School • NYC Department of Education (New York, New York)



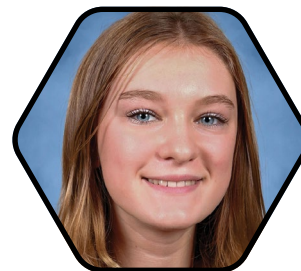
FUN FACT

Until the age of 6, Margot only wore red clothes.

#148 MARGOT FIENI

13 years old • 8th grade

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



FUN FACT

Olivia plays both volleyball and lacrosse and loves being part of a team.

#150 OLIVIA LIPIEC

14 years old • 8th grade

Accompsett Middle School • SNSB Region Four Bee (Smithtown, New York)



FUN FACT

Simran plays AAU and school basketball and runs cross country and track.

#151 SIMRAN SANDERS

14 years old • 8th grade

Jamesville-Dewitt Middle School • The Post-Standard | syracuse.com (Syracuse, New York)



FUN FACT

Amazing-Grace likes making crafts and custom-made cards using locally sourced materials for others.

#153 AMAZING-GRACE AHUOYIZA EBIEBI SALAMI

12 years old • 6th grade

Greenpath Preparatory School • Spellingbee In Nigeria (Lagos, Nigeria)



FUN FACT

Holden learned to scuba dive two summers ago in Grand Cayman and earned his PADI Junior Scuba certification.

#155 HOLDEN CONNOR GOOD

13 years old • 7th grade

Moore Square Magnet Middle School • Carolina Panthers (Charlotte, North Carolina)



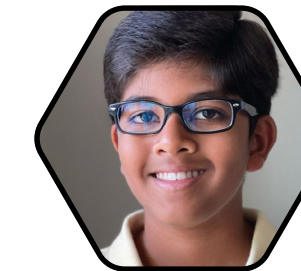
FUN FACT

Micah is a goalkeeper in soccer who plays on club, travel and Olympic development teams.

#152 MICAH STERLING

12 years old • 7th grade

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



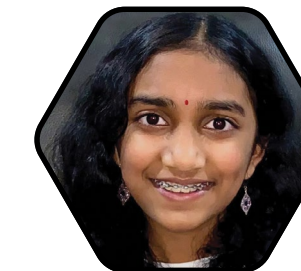
FUN FACT

Sach likes making and reading maps of neighborhoods, cities and counties.

#154 SACH SARVESH AKELLA

12 years old • 6th grade

Mills Park Middle School • Carolina Panthers (Charlotte, North Carolina)



FUN FACT

Aishwarya is really interested in psychology theory, especially the work of Carl Jung.

#156 AISHWARYA KALLAKURI

14 years old • 8th grade

Valor Preparatory Academy • Carolina Panthers (Charlotte, North Carolina)



FUN FACT

Last summer, Kushi got to shadow some microbiologists at work, which inspired her to become one herself someday.

#157 KUSHI GOTTIMUKKALA

12 years old • 6th grade

Carnage G&T Magnet Middle School • Carolina Panthers (Charlotte, North Carolina)



FUN FACT

Johannes' latest innovative recipe is homemade strawberry ice cream with chili crisp shortbread crumbles, white chocolate and freeze-dried strawberries.

#158 JOHANNES KENZO ROXBURGH

14 years old • 8th grade

Voyager Academy Middle School • Duke University Office of Durham & Community Affairs (Durham, North Carolina)



FUN FACT

Zach is going to see a "Weird Al" Yankovic concert later this year.

#163 ZACHARY YEAGER

14 years old • 8th grade

Chippewa Junior/Senior High School • Akron Beacon Journal (Akron, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Joseph's favorite musician is "Weird Al" Yankovic.

#164 JOSEPH ANDREW KEFFER

10 years old • 5th grade

Chesapeake Middle School • Ohio University E.W. Scripps School of Journalism (Athens, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Zachary likes to eat insects, and some of his favorites are giant water bugs and crickets.

#159 ZACHARY JEFFERSON THURNHER

14 years old • 8th grade

Seventy-First Classical Middle School • Cumberland County Schools (Fayetteville, North Carolina)



FUN FACT

Antonella loves redesigning "My Little Pony" characters as well as designing clothing based on the ponies.

#160 ANTONELLA MARIE GUZMAN-VAZQUEZ

13 years old • 7th grade

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



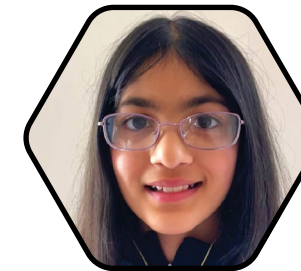
FUN FACT

Blaze was born on the 45th parallel, the circle of latitude 45 degrees north of the equator.

#165 BLAZE BLACKETER

14 years old • 8th grade

Oakwood Middle School • The Repository (Canton, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Rujva plays competitive volleyball, and it is her favorite team sport.

#166 RUJVA PATEL

12 years old • 6th grade

Cherokee Elementary School • WCPO 9 (Cincinnati, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Swayzee doesn't go anywhere without her stuffed mouse and good luck charm, Mouse, who she's had since she was one year old.

#161 SWAYZEE BROWN

13 years old • 8th grade

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



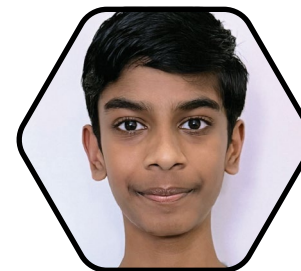
FUN FACT

Chilaka was born in the United States, his siblings were born in Canada and his parents are Nigerian-Canadian.

#162 CHILAKA TIMOTHY UGOBI

13 years old • 7th grade

Our Redeemers Christian School • ND Association of County Superintendents (Bismarck, North Dakota)



FUN FACT

Avinav has performed an electric violin solo with Emmy award-winning composer Mark Wood.

#167 AVINAV PREM ANAND

14 years old • 8th grade

Orange Middle School • Columbus Blue Jackets (Columbus, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Sebastian plays alto saxophone, piano and clarinet.

#168 SEBASTIAN GIL

13 years old • 7th grade

Memorial Middle School • ESC of the Western Reserve (Concord Township, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Aurora has been to Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, three times, and she is signed up for a fourth time this summer.

#169 AURORA OTTILIE SPISAK

14 years old • 8th grade

Hadley E. Watts Middle School • Wright State University (Dayton, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Hiro is fluent in both speaking and reading Icelandic.

#170 HIROMICHI MAGNUS BERNHARDSSON

13 years old • 7th grade

Langston Middle School • Educational Service Center of Lorain County (Elyria, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Kaden has three younger brothers and a pet dog named Bumble, who he rescued from the humane society.

#175 KADEN HADDOX

12 years old • 6th grade

Indian Creek Middle School • The Herald-Star (Steubenville, Ohio)



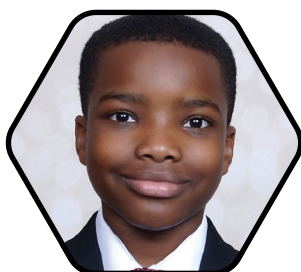
FUN FACT

Kendall is in an honor band at a nearby college, and she plays in pep band for her high school's basketball games.

#176 KENDALL JO MEHL

13 years old • 7th grade

Otsego Junior High School • The Blade (Toledo, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Jason can solve a modified version of the 3x3 Rubik's Cube, known as a windmill cube, in under three minutes.

#171 JASON CHUKWUMA-EZE

10 years old • 5th grade

Shawnee Middle School • The Lima News (Lima, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Maureen is a competitive figure skater.

#172 MAUREEN LEIGH MOSER BONE

12 years old • 7th grade

Beaver Local Middle School • East Liverpool Review, Salem News & The Morning Journal (Lisbon, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Daniela Lucia has been in over 15 theater productions.

#177 DANIELA LUCIA PAPPALARDO

13 years old • 7th grade

Canfield Village Middle School • WFMJ Television (Youngstown, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Annika was born in Indonesia and raised in Malaysia and the United States.

#178 ANNIKA DARLENE HUANG

13 years old • 8th grade

John G. Whittier Middle School • Oklahoma City Community College (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)



FUN FACT

Aadhya is very musical and enjoys singing, dancing and playing violin and piano.

#173 AADHYA ADHIKARI

9 years old • 4th grade

Veritas Classical Academy • The Marietta Times (Marietta, Ohio)



FUN FACT

Brett is left-handed.

#174 BRETT KUPROWICZ

14 years old • 8th grade

Bridgeport Middle School • The Times Leader (Martins Ferry, Ohio)



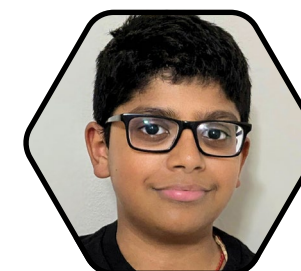
FUN FACT

William helps care for his family's two goats.

#179 WILLIAM WILBERFORCE FULLER

12 years old • 7th grade

Fuller Family Homeschool • 2 News Oklahoma (Tulsa, Oklahoma)



FUN FACT

Vittal is most proud of his cooking and baking prowess.

#180 VITTAL KRISHNAMURTHY

13 years old • 8th grade

Meadow Park Middle School • SagamoreHill Broadcasting of Portland (Portland, Oregon)



FUN FACT

Disha loves working with different materials to build things from scratch, whether decor or practical home projects.

#181 DISHA JAIN

14 years old • 8th grade

Owen J. Roberts Middle School • Chester County Intermediate Unit (Downingtown, Pennsylvania)



FUN FACT

Akshaj has recently started collecting different currencies and has collected money from over 10 countries already.

#182 AKSHAJ SOMISETTY

13 years old • 8th grade

Mountain View Middle School • Pennon Education (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania)



FUN FACT

Jane started crocheting two years ago and has since made hats, scarves, ponchos, headbands and a few blankets.

#187 JANE ROSS

14 years old • 8th grade

Hampton Middle School • Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)



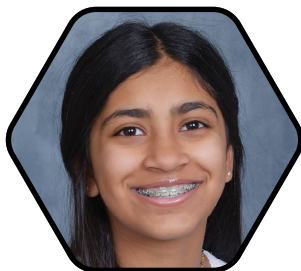
FUN FACT

Rowena completed a 5K run for Girls on the Run.

#188 ROWENA CRESSWELL-BLICKLEY

13 years old • 7th grade

Blue Mountain Middle School • Schuylkill Technology Center (Pottsville, Pennsylvania)



FUN FACT

Maia is ambidextrous.

#183 MARIA ELIZABETH MATHAI

12 years old • 6th grade

Keith Valley Middle School • Pennsylvania State Education Association and Council for the Advancement of Public Schools (Montgomeryville, Pennsylvania)



FUN FACT

Joey loves solving sudoku puzzles as well as Wordle, Quordle, and Octordle.

#184 JYOTHSANA ANANDH

12 years old • 7th grade

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



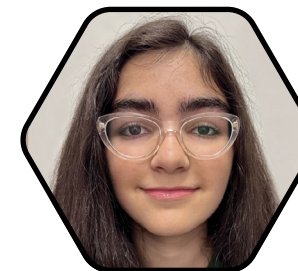
FUN FACT

Anjali is a citizen of both the United States and Canada.

#189 ANJALI AGARWAL

10 years old • 4th grade

Saint Joseph School • Diamond City Sports (Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania)



FUN FACT

Naira collects figurines of Hatsune Miku, her favorite holographic performer.

#190 NAIRA RIVAS

13 years old • 7th grade

Saint John's School • Eureka Enrichment Services, Inc. (San Juan, Puerto Rico)



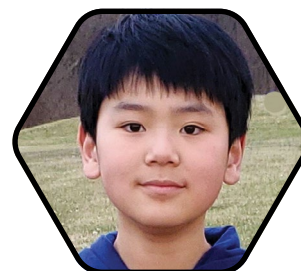
FUN FACT

Isaac loves music and plays the trumpet in his school band.

#185 ISAAC WONDI GEREMEW

13 years old • 7th grade

William Davies Middle School • WHYY (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)



FUN FACT

Jayden can do bird whistles.

#186 JAYDEN JIANG

11 years old • 5th grade

Girard Academic Music Program • WHYY (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)



FUN FACT

Elliana danced down Main Street USA in Disney World with her dance studio, M. Rose Artistry.

#191 ELLIANA PAGLIARINI

12 years old • 6th grade

Scituate Middle School • The Valley Breeze (Lincoln, Rhode Island)



FUN FACT

John can solve the 2x2 and 3x3 Rubik's Cubes as well as the Skewb, Axis Cube, Mirror Cube, Megaminx and Windmill Cube.

#192 JOHN BARNACHEA DONATO

14 years old • 8th grade

Woodland Middle School • The Post and Courier (Charleston, South Carolina)



FUN FACT

Connor could say the alphabet forwards and backwards at age 3 but can no longer do so.

#193 CONNOR PATRICK NORTON

13 years old • 7th grade

Socastee Middle School • Pee Dee Education Center (Florence, South Carolina)



FUN FACT

Ahaan plays percussion in his middle school band.

#194 AHAAN JAIN

13 years old • 8th grade

Pleasant Knoll Middle School • Carolina Panthers (Fort Mill, South Carolina)



FUN FACT

Swetank has visited more than 20 countries and likes learning about other cultures.

#199 SWETANK VENKATA BANGARU

11 years old • 5th grade

Towne Acres Elementary School • Tennessee Titans (Nashville, Tennessee)



FUN FACT

Vidula has memorized more than 40 digits of pi.

#200 VIDULA KALATHUR

13 years old • 7th grade

Woodland Middle School • Tennessee Titans (Nashville, Tennessee)



FUN FACT

Miles has been a part of many theater productions, including playing his first lead role in "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory."

#195 MILES LITTLE

14 years old • 8th grade

J. G. McCracken Middle School • USC Upstate (Spartanburg, South Carolina)



FUN FACT

Kolin loves to play football and basketball and is a big University of South Carolina Gamecocks fan.

#196 KOLIN SCHULER

11 years old • 6th grade

Horse Creek Academy • Carolina Panthers (Warrenville, South Carolina)



FUN FACT

Sariah is currently learning to speak German.

#201 SARIAH TITUS

12 years old • 7th grade

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



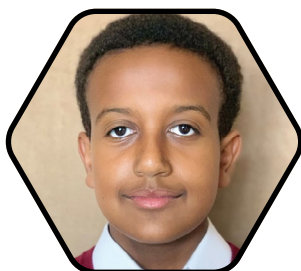
FUN FACT

Arnie loves making new friends.

#202 ARNAV PARAT

12 years old • 7th grade

Ascension Academy • Education Credit Union (Amarillo, Texas)



FUN FACT

Amanuel speaks a little Oromo.

#197 AMANUEL GEMECHIS

14 years old • 8th grade

George S. Mickelson Middle School • South Dakota News Watch (Sioux Falls, South Dakota)



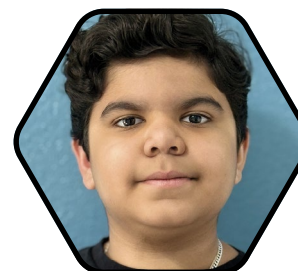
FUN FACT

Josh plans to set up his own space station on Mars by 2040.

#198 JASHIT VERMA

10 years old • 4th grade

Farmington Elementary School • University of Memphis (Memphis, Tennessee)



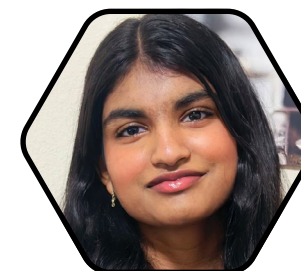
FUN FACT

Passionate about coding, Thevaan recently expanded his skills by learning AI facial recognition.

#203 THEVAAN PICKY BUTANI

11 years old • 5th grade

Rough Hollow Elementary School • Rain Droplets Foundation (Austin, Texas)



FUN FACT

Tarini loves to bake delicious treats, especially cookies.

#204 TARINI NANDAKUMAR

14 years old • 8th grade

James Garland Walsh Middle School • Rain Droplets Foundation (Austin, Texas)



FUN FACT

Isaac can sing like Bruno Mars but dances like a self-described "awkward peacock."

#205 ISAAC GABRIEL CANCIO

14 years old • 8th grade

Marvin P. Baker Middle School • KRIS Communications (Corpus Christi, Texas)



FUN FACT

Avishka is a keyboard enthusiast and likes to play original movie soundtracks on her keyboard.

#206 AVISHKA DUDALA

12 years old • 7th grade

Rogers Middle School • Dallas Sports Commission (Dallas, Texas)



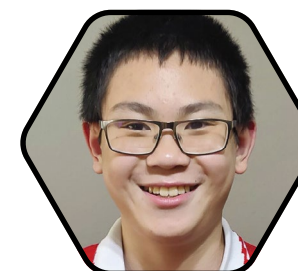
FUN FACT

At 7 years old, Noah went parasailing in Belize and soared over 500 feet in the air.

#211 NOAH CYRUS CHEN WHITE

10 years old • 4th grade

Sherwood Elementary School • Houston Community College (Houston, Texas)



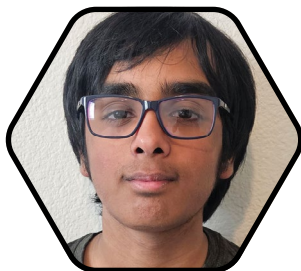
FUN FACT

Luke not only plays with Rubik's Cubes but also reassembles them.

#212 LUKE DANIEL NGUYEN

14 years old • 8th grade

Brookside Intermediate School • Houston Community College (Houston, Texas)



FUN FACT

Faizan can speed-solve a Rubik's Cube in about 30 seconds.

#207 FAIZAN ZAKI

13 years old • 7th grade

C. M. Rice Middle School • Dallas Sports Commission (Dallas, Texas)



FUN FACT

Shreyansh can likely name more species of dinosaurs than most adults.

#208 SHREYANSH ZADOO

14 years old • 8th grade

Van Alstyne Junior High School • Dallas Sports Commission (Dallas, Texas)



FUN FACT

Zachary taught himself how to read diacritics at age 6 and hopes to someday be able to pronounce as well as Dr. Jacques Bailly.

#213 ZACHARY JI-HSIEN TEOH

8 years old • 2nd grade

River Oaks Elementary School • Houston Community College (Houston, Texas)



FUN FACT

Alejandro, his brother and his sister are triplets.

#214 ALEJANDRO MARTINEZ

14 years old • 8th grade

Raul Perales Middle School • Laredo Morning Times (Laredo, Texas)



FUN FACT

Anaya is an artist.

#209 ANAYA MAHESH TONDE

10 years old • 4th grade

Mesita Elementary School • EPISD Education Foundation (El Paso, Texas)



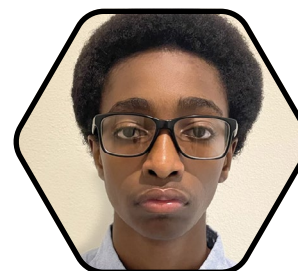
FUN FACT

Brihasa was a semifinalist in the ClimateScience Olympiad 2024.

#210 BRIHASA VEDURU

12 years old • 7th grade

Keller Middle School • Fort Worth Public Library/Fort Worth Sports Commission (Fort Worth, Texas)



FUN FACT

Michael made it to the state science fair two years in a row.

#215 MICHAEL TEFAYE

14 years old • 8th grade

Christ the King Cathedral School • Ramar Communications (Lubbock, Texas)



FUN FACT

Caleb has a 3D printer that he uses to print small toys and puzzles.

#216 CALEB LEVI GIUOCO

14 years old • 8th grade

Edinburg South Middle School • Rio Grande Valley Newspapers - AIM Media Texas (McAllen, Texas)



FUN FACT

Shreeya and her brother, Shijay, both competed at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in 2022.

#217 SHREEYA SIVAKUMAR

14 years old • 8th grade

Young Women's Leadership Academy •
Midland Reporter-Telegram (Midland, Texas)



FUN FACT

Krish can solve a Rubik's Cube in under 45 seconds.

#218 KRISH PATEL

14 years old • 8th grade

Nimitz Middle School • Ector County
Independent School District (Odessa, Texas)



FUN FACT

Evan is interested in anatomy and wants to become a neurosurgeon.

#223 EVAN NIGEL FAHIE

14 years old • 8th grade

Lockhart K - 8 School • The Virgin Islands Daily
News (St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands)



FUN FACT

Sasha has performed in several plays, including an emo version of "Hamlet," in which she played Laertes.

#224 SASHA KENLON

12 years old • 7th grade

Ecker Hill Middle School • The Park Record
(Park City, Utah)



FUN FACT

Jarah has been taking lessons in figure skating, though she is still very much a beginner.

#219 JARAH ABARQUEZ

14 years old • 8th grade

Angelo Catholic School • TCP Software
(San Angelo, Texas)



FUN FACT

Siyona is a stylophile, a collector and lover of pens.

#220 SIYONAMITHRA KANDALA

13 years old • 7th grade

Keystone School • BASIS Ed Texas and BASIS
Texas Charter Schools, Inc. (San Antonio, Texas)



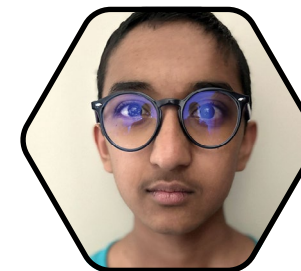
FUN FACT

Ashley's favorite sport is baseball, and her favorite player is Shohei Ohtani.

#225 ASHLEY BRYNER

13 years old • 7th grade

Mont Harmon Middle School • Southeast
Education Service Center (Price, Utah)



FUN FACT

Roshan has been to the National History Bee and is invited to the International History Bee later this year.

#226 ROSHAN KAUSHIK

13 years old • 7th grade

Challenger School - Traverse Mountain •
The City Journals (Salt Lake City, Utah)



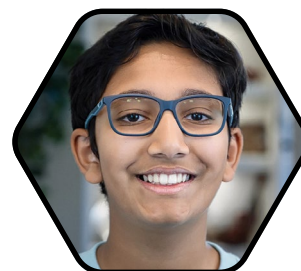
FUN FACT

Chev is now learning how to trade the Forex Market.

#221 CHEV DIONDREI YU BONDOC

12 years old • 6th grade

Howell Middle School • Victoria College
(Victoria, Texas)



FUN FACT

Aarav likes to program and complete obstacles with Lego robots.

#222 AARAV SARGURUNATHAN

13 years old • 8th grade

Wellborn Middle School • Rapoport Holdings,
LLC (Waco, Texas)



FUN FACT

Phoenix can ride a unicycle.

#227 PHOENIX NEWELL

13 years old • 7th grade

Riverside School • Vermont Principals
Association (Rutland, Vermont)



FUN FACT

Layla received the award for Kindness Ambassador of Virginia this year.

#228 LAYLA BARRETT

13 years old • 7th grade

Chatham Middle School • Big Brothers Big
Sisters of Danville Area (Danville, Virginia)



FUN FACT
Draven loves drawing comics.

#229 DRAVEN WILLIAMS

14 years old • 8th grade
Dixon-Smith Middle School •
Central Rappahannock Regional Library
(Fredericksburg, Virginia)



FUN FACT
Nicholas had the opportunity to see the Mona Lisa at the Louvre Museum in Paris, France.

#230 NICHOLAS KOKHAN

13 years old • 7th grade
Montevideo Middle School • Rockingham
District Ruritans (Harrisonburg, Virginia)



FUN FACT
Suhani swam 100+ laps without stopping during a swim-a-thon to raise money for her swim team.

#235 SUHANI JOSHI

13 years old • 7th grade
Hampton Roads Academy • WHRO Public
Media (Norfolk, Virginia)



FUN FACT
Rory is 100% a cat person and visits local libraries to read to shelter cats who need socialization.

#236 RORY MASON GRANT

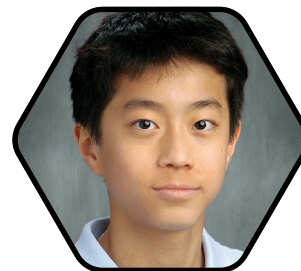
13 years old • 7th grade
William Byrd Middle School • Radford University
(Radford, Virginia)



FUN FACT
Viky is not really into soccer, but he is the best goalkeeper at recess.

#231 VIKYATH TANAMALA

10 years old • 5th grade
Seldens Landing Elementary School • Loudoun
County Public Schools (Leesburg, Virginia)



FUN FACT
Vincent loves designing make-believe cities inspired by real-life megacities.

#232 VINCENT MINGZE CHU

14 years old • 8th grade
George M. Hampton Middle School • InsideNoVa/Prince
William (Manassas, Virginia)



FUN FACT
Harper is co-president of the Robious Middle School French Club.

#237 HARPER GRACE COX

14 years old • 8th grade
Robious Middle School • Richmond Raceway
(Richmond, Virginia)



FUN FACT
Declan's favorite wildflower is the doublet (also known as the dimeresia) because he likes how the flowers grow in twos.

#238 DECLAN MALLADY

12 years old • 6th grade
Snoqualmie Middle School • Town Hall Seattle
(Seattle, Washington)



FUN FACT
Nikita is a respected member of both her school's Model UN team and ambassador group designed to support new students.

#233 NIKITA P. RAMAKRISHNAN

14 years old • 8th grade
Rocky Run Middle School • Fairfax County Council PTA
(Merrifield, Virginia)



FUN FACT
Nargiza was honored as a Top 300 Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovator for her research on neurological drugs.

#234 NARGIZA MUZHAPAER

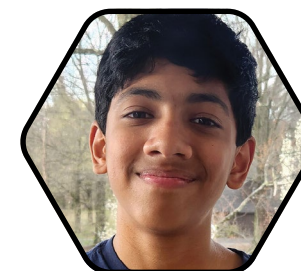
14 years old • 8th grade
Pinnacle Academy • Fairfax County Council PTA
(Merrifield, Virginia)



FUN FACT
Charvitha is a passionate fan of The Hunger Games series by Suzanne Collins.

#239 CHARVITHA SANJAYA

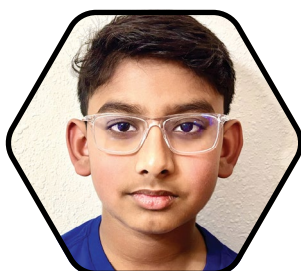
14 years old • 8th grade
John Adams Middle School • Charleston Gazette-Mail
(Charleston, West Virginia)



FUN FACT
Nirav plays in his school band and enjoys the marching band season.

#240 NIRAV NIMBARTE

12 years old • 7th grade
Mountaineer Middle School • The Clarksburg
Exponent-Telegram (Clarksburg, West Virginia)



FUN FACT

Being very interested in geography, Ethan could name all the countries and capitals when he was 3 years old.

#241 ETHAN ROBERT

12 years old • 7th grade

New Berlin Eisenhower Middle/High School • Wisconsin State Journal (Madison, Wisconsin)



FUN FACT

Jacob is the youngest member of the Fox Valley Youth Symphony Orchestra.

#242 JACOB MARTONITO

12 years old • 6th grade

Classical Charter School • Wisconsin State Journal (Madison, Wisconsin)



FUN FACT

Eli has read the entire Percy Jackson & the Olympians series by Rick Riordan five times over!

#243 ELIJAH JAMES JERNIGAN

14 years old • 8th grade

Kemmerer Junior Senior High School • Sweetwater County BOCES (Rock Springs, Wyoming)

