



NORTH SOUTH FOUNDATION



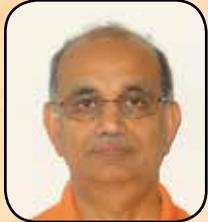
25th National Finals
August 12-13, 2017
University of Houston, Houston, TX



BEE BOOK 2017

SPELLING BEE | VOCABULARY BEE | GEOGRAPHY BEE | PUBLIC SPEAKING | MATH BEE | BRAIN BEE | SCIENCE BEE | ESSAY WRITING

National Finals Committee Chairs



Sai Rachakonda
Convener



Ganesh Dasari
Co-Convener



Neetha Chada
Co-Convener



Vijai Venkata
Technical Coordination



Vinod Krishnan
Bee Book



Pallavi Chilappagari
Grading



Lalita Rachakonda
Grading



Indu Tuppera
Grading



Ravi Guddeti
Fund Raising



Ramesh Desabhotla
Fund Raising



Krishnakumar Balasubramanian
Hospitality and Media



Usha Chava
Communications



Srinivas Karra
Audio and Video



Satya Kota
Awards



Sonali Tayi
Food



Raji Seshan
Stage Management



Rajiv Tarigopula
Alumni Relations



Harsha Jujavarapu
Alumni Relations



Mahati Vavilala
Alumni Relations



Veera Kambala
Registration



Dear parents and children,

Texas size welcome to the Space City!

Congratulations for your outstanding performance at the regional contests and for qualifying for the 2017 NSF National Finals. It is our absolute pleasure to welcome you to the 2017 National Finals to be held in University of Houston.

Good Luck and ***Bee the Best You can Bee!***

NSF Houston Chapter is delighted to host this year's event which has a special significance, it is the Silver Jubilee year of the academic contests. The contests first began in 1993 in a small way in 16 chapters. This year is the 25th successful year of the contests as NSF expanded to over 90 chapters all over the USA. At its core NSF remains a great charitable non-profit organization providing scholarships to talented but economically disadvantaged children in India.

NSF National Finals is an academic Super Bowl to show and celebrate talent, hard work and perseverance of the children. About 1,250 students, more than 2,000 parents and grandparents are expected to come to this festival of academic contests. Our core major objective has been to ensure that the contests are conducted safely, fairly, and on schedule. Our core teams, Fund-raising, Facilities, Technical Coordination, Volunteers, Grading, Food, Hospitality, Awards, Communication, and Registration have worked very hard to plan every detail to ensure smooth running of the contests. The task before us was huge. However, it is because of the sincere belief in the cause NSF stands for, hard work, sacrifice of enormous personal time and meticulous planning of our core team volunteers during the past one year, all arrangements now appear effortless.

August weather in Houston is not the most comfortable! To ensure that everyone who came from far off places feels comfortable, we picked the best place to conduct the event. We have reviewed innumerable options and finally selected University of Houston, a Tier-1 University. We made sure that the building to conduct academic contests (Bauer College of Business), non-contest events and technical administration building (Student Center), award ceremony hall (Cullen Performance Hall) and the parking garages are adjacent to each other and within minimal distance to walk.

We hope you and your children will take advantage of many non-contest events we are organizing. These are educational, inspiring, and are conducted in a friendly environment. Every year, Meet the Pro (MTP) events are extremely popular as young children can meet and understand the secrets of success of the champions. This year also we brought in several champions to make these events inspiring to your children.

The event of this size and scope would not be possible without support from the Houston community. We are happy to inform you that on the occasion of 25th anniversary, Houston Mayor declared 12th of August 2017 as North South Foundation Day. We are thankful to Mayor Sylvester Turner for the Proclamation. We are thankful to Hon. Dr. Anupam Ray, Consul General of India for the encouragement we received.

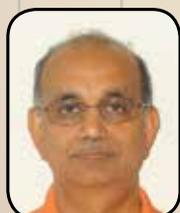
We would like to thank all the volunteers from Houston as well as from all over the country. Invaluable time and sincere efforts of these devoted volunteers made the event a success.

We are thankful to a large number of donors (individuals and organizations) who contributed generously to support the event. We sincerely thank University of Houston for providing the facilities, Department of Biomedical Engineering for their support, to the food suppliers, to Astro Printers, and Graduate Indian Student Organization of University of Houston. Last but not the least, our thanks to the parents and children without whose presence, the event does not make any meaning.

We worked hard to make this year's event as one of the best National Finals and hope you leave this city with 100% satisfaction. We wish you a safe journey back home.

Have fun and enjoy the big hearts of Texans!

On behalf of each and every volunteer who made this event possible,



Sai Rachakonda
Convener



Ganesh Dasari
Co-Convener



Neetha Chada
Co-Convener



Editorial

Tribute to 25 years of NSF bee competitions



Vinod Krishnan



Sathish Sankaran



Srinivas Puppala

Design & Print:
CaliTag

Consulting Support
Anina Liju

25 year anniversaries are significant milestones. The 25th year of bee competitions is one such milestone that needs us to pause, ponder and celebrate the success of these competitions conducted by NSF.

A drop is all that is required to create a wave. Dr. Murali Gavini was responsible for that drop 25 years ago that has now become a waveA wave that has been responsible for creating multiple champions across various national and international competitions over the past 25 years. While this is an achievement that will make any organization proud, it's not the greatest feat that NSF can be credited with. The most note-worthy accomplishment of NSF has been to provide the gift of college education to over 20,000 students in India over this period.

Looking back to what 25 years of the competition means, brings a perspective that will make every individuals connected with NSF proud of their involvement with the organization. With its motto – “Every Child is a Winner” NSF instills a sense of purpose, pride and confidence in every child. It gives them a platform to pursue their academic interests and passion from an early age. Through its competitions at the regional and national levels NSF teaches the children the importance of hard-work and determination and ability to handle success with modesty and disappointments with courage – Life lessons that will help each child grow into a successful, confident and responsible adult.

Consistency and sustainability are important in the success of any organization. NSF has shown both these aspects in the past 25 years that has led to its enormous success. The single most important reason for this is its network of volunteers, an aspect that unfortunately often gets forgotten. This network of individuals, who bring their passion for community work, further the cause and objectives of NSF. It's a network of determined volunteers who are willing to learn and go beyond their comfort zone to ensure success for generations to come.

As we gear up for the 25th NSF National Finals here in Houston we embolden the spirit of the “Space city” and the “Big Heart” - nicknames given to the City. We welcome the competitors and their families here to enhance their knowledge, make new friends and enjoy the experience. We hope that in the process, we would help in developing future champions, and more importantly, confident and modest adults with strong values and high integrity, who will make this world a better place.

Finally, I would like to thank Dr. Chitturi and Dr. Gavini for their vision in starting NSF and these competitions. I would also like to express my gratitude to all the volunteers across NSF for their unyielding passion for the cause. Additionally I would like to personally thank Sathish and Srinivas who have spent countless hours of their personal time in bringing together this edition of the bee book. Finally I would like to express my appreciation to the Houston finals committee chairs and finals volunteers who have left no stone unturned to make the event a success.

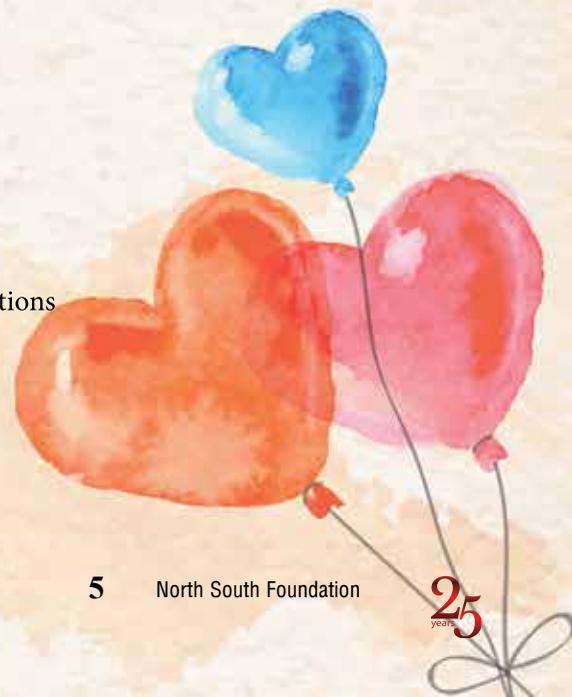
They say – “It takes a village to bring up a child”I hope we are playing our part in a modest way

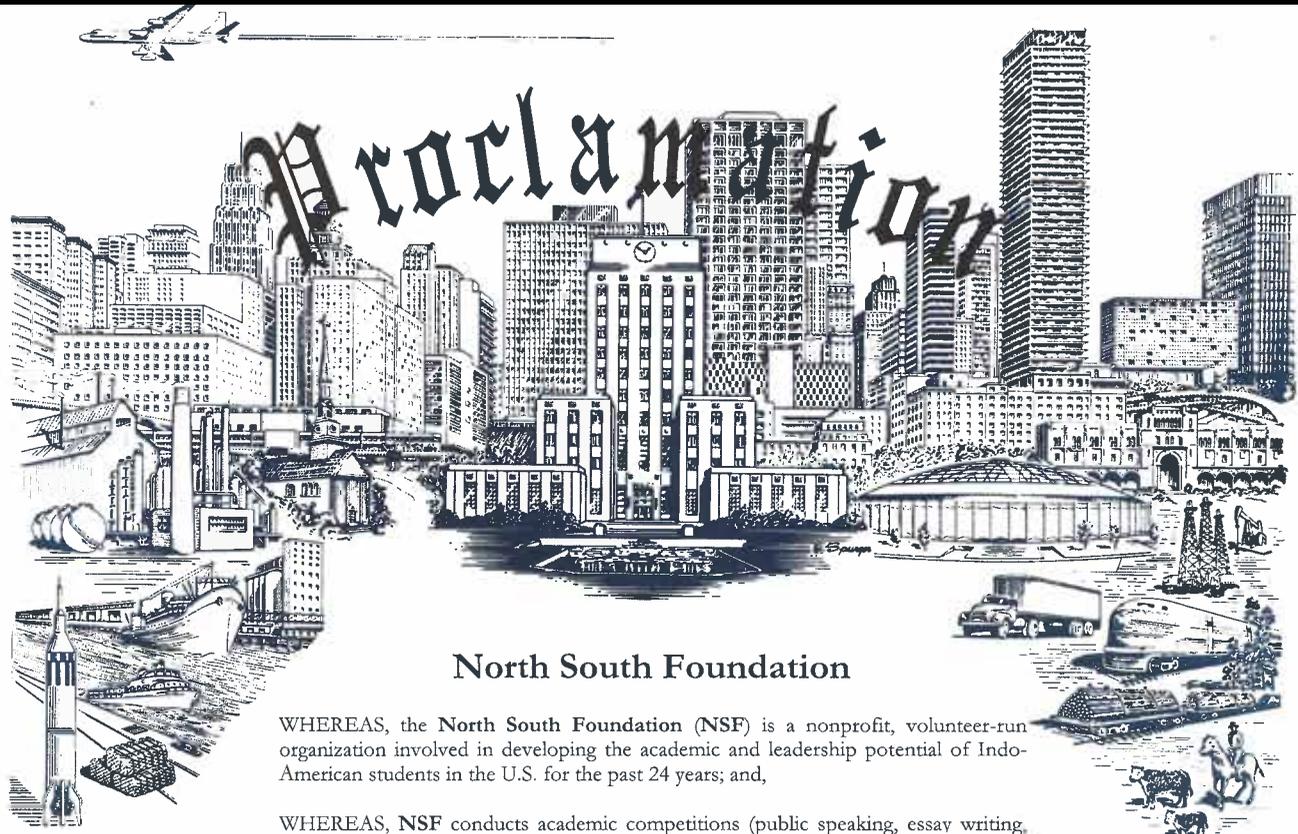
On behalf of the Houston finals team – We wish every child good luck for the competition. Let's not forget - All of them are already winners.

by
Vinod Krishnan

Index

1	Finals convener's note: Sai Rachakonda
2	Bee Book Editorial
4	Proclamation from Mayor Sylvester Turner
5	Message from Hon. Consul General of India, Dr Anupam Ray
6	Message from Congresswoman, Sheila Jackson Lee
7	Message from President of University of Houston, Dr. Renu Khator
8	National Committee Pictures
9	Chairman, Rao Chalasani and Founder, Murali Gavini's Messages
10	Chitturi's message
11	India Scholarship report
12	Chapter Report
13	Spelling Bee winner's Article
14	Parent Article
15	Junior Spelling Bee Photos
24	Geo Jokes
26	A High Schooler's Experience & NSF has helped me
27	My Journey
28	NSF Spelling and Me
29	Spelling Bee Preparation Tips
30	Tribute to Spelling Bee & Word avalanche
32	Senior Spelling Bee Photos
41	An Interview with the Bees
42	Believe In Yourself
43	Brain Teasing Riddles for Kids
44	Confessions of a Volunteer & Cross Word Puzzle For Kids
45	Knock Knock - Jokes
46	NSF APNA Experience
47	NSF - A Poem
48	A way to give back and engage & NSF Is Caring For Everyone
49	Junior Vocabulary Bee Photos
55	The Bee
56	Value Creation With NSF & The Heroes Around Us
57	Intermediate Vocabulary Bee Photos
64	How NSF Helped Me Become A MathCounts National Finalist
66	Math Bee Level 1 Photos
75	My Math Bee Experience
76	Math Bee Level 2 Photos
90	Math Bee Level 3 Photos
98	The making of a champion
99	NSF's role in my success
100	The Greatest Moment Of My Life
101	Junior Geography Bee Photos
105	Geo Jokes
106	Senior Geography Bee Photos
111	Geo Jokes
112	Senior Essay Writing Photos
114	Senior Public Speaking Photos
116	Hard Work Pays Off
118	Junior Science Bee Photos
126	Intermediate Science Bee Photos
135	Senior Science Bee Photos
143	Intermediate Brain Bee Photo
146	Senior Brain Bee Photos
148	NSF Children in National Level Major League Competitions
151	NSF Regional Chapters 2017
153	NSF Champions 2007-2016
158	National Core Teams
159	Rank Scholarships
160	2017 Perfect Scores in Regionals
161	North South Foundation 2017 Finals Donors
163	North South Foundation Distinguished Service Award





North South Foundation

WHEREAS, the **North South Foundation (NSF)** is a nonprofit, volunteer-run organization involved in developing the academic and leadership potential of Indo-American students in the U.S. for the past 24 years; and,

WHEREAS, **NSF** conducts academic competitions (public speaking, essay writing, spelling bee, math bee, brain bee, vocabulary bee, geography bee and science bee) in 90 centers all over the U.S., including Houston. Selected top scorers from the regional centers are invited to the National Finals. **NSF** will celebrate 25 years of dedicated service this year; and,

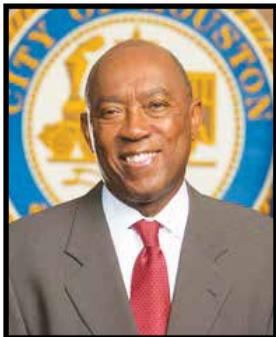
WHEREAS, **NSF** excels in encouraging education, and in the last decade alone, many **NSF** students have won or achieved top ranks in numerous national competitions. For example, for the last nine consecutive years, the Scripps National Spelling Bee was won by a **NSF** student. Similarly, for the last five consecutive years, the National Geography Bee champion has been a **NSF** student. **NSF** children have won top prizes in Math Olympiad, Science Fairs and Science Bowl; and,

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2017, the **North South Foundation** will host the 2017 NSF Finals in Houston. The City of Houston commends all involved in this grand event and extends best wishes to all students participating.

THEREFORE, I, Sylvester Turner, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaim August 12, 2017, as

North South Foundation Day

in Houston, Texas.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Houston to be affixed this 27th day of July, 2017.

Sylvester Turner
Mayor of the City of Houston





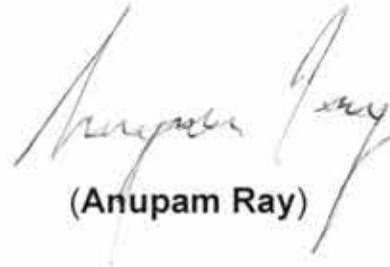
भारत का प्रधान कौंसल
ह्यूस्टन
CONSUL GENERAL OF INDIA
HOUSTON

MESSAGE

I convey my warm greetings and best wishes to all on the occasion of North South Foundation (NSF)'s Silver Anniversary and completing 25 years of service to children by promoting educational excellence in America and India.

I wish the very best to all the children who have made it to the final round of the NSF contest in the field of Language arts, Math, Geography and Logic.

I wish to acknowledge the important role of NSF in addressing cultural and educational needs of the Indo American children and for promoting of Indian heritage in the United States, and across the globe deserve appreciation.


(Anupam Ray)

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Member
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS POLICY AND
STEERING COMMITTEE
Co-Chair
CONGRESSIONAL CHILDREN'S CAUCUS

August 12, 2017

Dear Participants of the 2017 North South Foundation's National Finals at the University of Houston:

On behalf of the North South Foundation and the Constituents of the Eighteenth Congressional District, I am pleased to extend my personal greetings to everyone participating in the 2017 NSF National Finals. This competition is taking place at the University of Houston and I am elated Houston was chosen as the host city.

I am confident that each person participating in this year's National Finals will continue to achieve national acclaim for significant academic accolades and that this competition will tremendously benefit the young participants in the areas of public speaking, essay writing, spelling bees, brain bees, and competitions in math, vocabulary, geography, and science. I would also like to take a moment and thank the parents of the participants for their outstanding support.

Once again, welcome to the 2017 North South Foundation's National Finals and congratulations to all participants of this prestigious event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheila Jackson Lee". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress





UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

RENU KHATOR

Chancellor, UH System
President, University of Houston



May 30, 2017

Greetings, Children!

What a great pleasure it is to welcome you North South Foundation participants to the University of Houston. We are extremely proud to serve as the site of your 2017 National Finals. We hope all of you taking part in these academic contests will appreciate the challenge of such intellectual competition and, perhaps even more rewarding, the friendships that develop at such events. And we trust your parents and supporters who are accompanying you will find our University – indeed, the entire city of Houston – to be an accommodating host.

As a Tier One university with a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, UH clearly holds academic ambition in the highest regard, so we salute the North South Foundation and applaud this organization's mission to encourage excellence in education. We hope you enjoy your visit to our campus and that, at some future date, some of you extraordinary young scholars will be returning to join us as UH Cougars. Good luck to each of you in the contests!

With warm regards,

Renu Khator



NSF National Committee



Rao Chalasani



Dr. Ratnam Chitturi



Gopala Krishna Kodali



Raj Jayachandran



Venkat Gade



G. Jagadeesh



Anita Gavini



Savitha Rajiv



Anitha Rajagopalan



Prasanna Paralkar



Janevi Ramaji



Praveen Katta



Vengat Sidheswaran



Sampath Narayanan



Sai Rachakonda



Jyotshna Gunturu



MS Rao



Srinivas Gudeti



Prasad Lanka



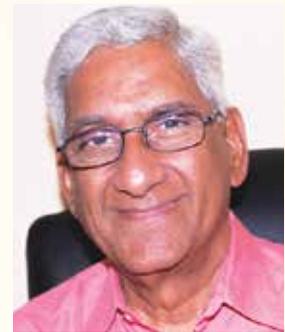
NSF children did the unthinkable once again. The tenth consecutive Scripps Spelling Bee championship with the elegance of taking the top six slots in the finals feels like a dream. Congratulations also go to National Geographic championship for the Sixth year in a row. The talent, perseverance, team spirit, and family involvement go a long way in making this happen. Success begets success, and that has become a norm. Our congratulations and high praise won't go far enough to highlight the statistical impossibility (almost) which is a measure of Edison's quote, "genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration."

The annual finals take a lot to organize, and the logistics are difficult to fulfill – yet it happens every year, thanks to the volunteer work of many. Houston chapter this year had a superb fundraising event way surpassing previous finals fundraising. The finals are now videotaped for live broadcast as well as for a replay, another sign of professionalism and resourcefulness of the organization.

India operations are now moving into a dynamic stage. NSF India this year is expected to have over 60,000 registrations for the contests, a doubling of last year's registrations. NSF is not only meeting the scholarships to thousands of students to go to college but also extending the contests to public schools at no cost considering it a scholarship of a different kind to the same demographic of bright students short of financial resources. NSF contests in private schools for a registration fee is popular and welcomed by schools, students, and parents.

The role of NGOs is becoming more and more important in the US as the local, state, and national resources for education are coming under strain. NSF can play a small but notable role reaching more communities and intensifying its presence in the communities that it is already serving.

Houston finals will have the presence, and motivating messages of dignitaries. I wish the finals at Houston another successful event taking it to the next level of excellence.



Rao Chalasani
Chairman, North South Foundation

Dear participants, parents and volunteers,

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on the 25th anniversary of the North South Foundation Spelling Bee national contest.

You represent a small group of people among more than 3.5 million Indian Americans who recognize the value of celebrating excellence. The Foundation brought the focus of the community to activities that bring parents and children together into collaborative partnership – this was a huge success.

The success is not only on a personal level to the contestants but also on the national level to our community. Today, Indian-American children are well known throughout the USA for their exceptional spelling skills. Every year for the last ten years, Indian-American children have claimed the Scripps Howard Spelling Bee championship and most of the top ten ranks.

Twenty five years ago, in 1993, I founded this program as part of the North South Foundation to serve my community in a way that gives lasting value and makes a difference in others' lives. I believe a person who is self-centric is like a pyramid balancing on its tip; he or she would have no emotional base to stand up to shortcomings in life. Hence I started the Spelling Bee program not only to create a positive competitive spirit but also to foster the spirit of volunteerism and community. This volunteerism and community builds a strong foundation for one's life and for others.

To this end, I am proud to see we have achieved this goal. I continued the program as National Director until 2003, for eleven years, as I saw the positive impact on the community far exceeding my expectations. Over the years, I saw several young men and women, former participants, come back to the Foundation at their own expense and serve as judges and pronouncers. I hope the Foundation's educational contests continue for many generations to come.

I congratulate all the volunteers for your unselfish and tireless efforts. I congratulate the participants for your academic accomplishments and wish you good luck at the National Finals. Lastly, I thank everyone for your commitment to the community.



Murali Gavini, Ph.D.
Founder and National Coordinator, 1993-2003
murali.gavini@gmail.com

NSF Bees: 25th Anniversary

“Collective Goodness for Common Good”

Ratnam Chitturi, Founder

History of the NSF Bees – a Bird’s Eye View

NSF Bee was the brain child of Dr. Murali Gavini in 1993 to improve the English language skills of the Indian-American children as a stepping stone to achieve better SAT scores in English. Starting with spelling bee in 1993, he expanded to include vocabulary in 1994. The idea was to introduce the Bees at a very young age and gradually improve their skills by the time they enter high school. It is no exaggeration to say that Murali gave his life for more than 10 years until 2004 in nurturing the Bees and putting a solid foundation. He did not spare his family either, as his wife and children joined the selfless service spree. His daughter, Anita Gavini, still provides selfless service at NSF today, as the longest serving volunteer in the Bees! She is also a NSF Board member.

Mr. Raghavendra Paturi and Dr. Samit Bhattacharya have tirelessly expanded the number of chapters by going from pillar to post whenever necessary. Through popular demand, NSF introduced Math Bee in 2004 at the prodding of Dr. Krishnaiah Revuluri and others, Essay Writing Bee also in 2004 and Geography Bee in 2005 at the prodding of Dr. Sumana Sur and others, Public Speaking Bee in 2006, Science Bee in 2010 by a group of Science gurus and Brain Bee in 1998 by Murali himself.

Until 2004, Bees were run on a breakeven proposition, but Murali still had to personally raise funds for the rank prizes at the NSF Finals. Dr. Chowdary Tarigopula, a NSF parent and an ardent supporter, floated the idea of raising registration fees and using the surplus to fund India scholarships. Starting in 2005, NSF started raising fees gradually over the next few years. As a result, NSF was able to offer more scholarships to meritorious poor students go to college in India. NSF provided more than 20,000 scholarships since inception and the budget this year alone is 3,000. “Helping a child in the US also helps a poor child go to college in India” has become a new motto. NSF has 25 chapters in India administering the scholarship program and is looking forward to opening more chapters.

NSF Bees are all run by about 3,000 volunteers serving more than 16,000 contestants among nearly 90 chapters spread across the country. Since 1993, more than 150,000 contestants benefited from the Bees. In addition to the Bees, NSF also offers workshops, information sessions and coaching. Further, NSF offers Universal Values program, college admissions planning and life skills like confidence building. NSF believes in holistic education.

The history of the NSF Bees is a success story of the Indian American community with contributions made by thousands and thousands of unsung heroes including volunteers, parents, children, donors and well-wishers. It is a tribute to the collective goodness, the fruits of which are quite visible not only to the community, but to the entire nation with stories of dominance in mainstream competitions like the Scripps Spelling Bee, National Geographic Bee and others. “When a child is motivated and inspired, sky is the limit” has been in evidence. This is achieved through persistence and hard work. Thomas Edison’s quote “Genius is one percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration” has become true in reality. Data mining at NSF shows that if a child starts with KG and stays until 8th grade, the child is assured of attaining one of the top 10 ranks at the NSF Finals, regardless of the subject.

Since 2010, NSF has been experimenting with Bees in India. The results are very promising. NSF hopes to make a quantum leap in India by transferring the knowledge gained in the USA over the last 25 years in conducting contests as a way to encourage academic excellence and creative learning.

Looking Beyond...

Sustenance, growth and relevance are the major key factors for the future. Making NSF a professional organization is a top priority. To achieve this, we need structure, process, technology, and people. There are many great opportunities for people to take up leadership positions and move the organization forward. NSF is a virtual organization with no physical assets, yet it runs 7 x 24 globally and remotely. It is truly a mosaic providing a challenge for all of us to pull together our collective goodness and act with laser focus to effect change through commitment, devotion and selfless service.

Every stakeholder has a say in shaping the Foundation to meet the challenges of the future. This is a shared responsibility. Please join us in the journey.

NSF is a platform for people to act out their dreams. If you have a dream with passion and want to make a difference, please contact nsfcontests@gmail.com



India Scholarship Report 2017

You are already helping!

Every time a child participates in a North South Foundation (NSF) educational Bee, workshop or an online session, another child in India benefits. What started off as one scholarship in 1989 has reached 1902 in 2017 and the number is still growing;

Over the past twenty eight years, NSF has provided more than 20,000 scholarships and helped students receive the higher education that they deserve.

Our scholarship process aligns with NSF mission statement to promote excellence in human endeavor and to help people achieve success by giving hope to those who may have none. NSF provides scholarships to

- Engineering
- Medicine
- 3 year polytechnic (Diploma Engineering)

NSF supports these under graduate and diploma program students, by providing scholarship through their entire course of study based on merit and financial need. NSF provides scholarships in India regardless of religion, gender and geographic origin in order to encourage academic excellence among the poorest of the poor. NSF also conducts English spelling, Vocabulary, Mathematics, Science and Geographic contests in India to promote academic excellence among school children in India.

How Scholarship process works in India?

NSF India has its headquarters (HQ) in Hyderabad and several Indian Chapters in different states. The scholarship process begins at the India chapter level

By India Chapter

- Making the scholarship announcement in each city, through the local media
- Student applies online through NSF India website, after verifying their eligibility criteria.
- Each India chapter coordinator ICC, forms a local selection team, reviews the applications

- Once validated he/she conducts interviews to confirm the selection. ICC validates the applicant has good grades, Seva (Volunteer Service) and so on.
- ICC works closely with their US counterparts - volunteers known as “liaisons”, who live in US and closely work with the ICC.

- ICC forwards the approved application to NSF HQ.

By NSF headquarters (HQ)

- NSF HQ reviews the application again to make sure the scholarship eligibility norms are met
- HQ validates every single application from all ICC chapters and refers to US Scholarship Coordinator.
- HQ asks for more clarification to ICC, if they need additional information for any applicant from any ICC

By US Scholarship Coordinator

- US Scholarship coordinator reviews the application, ask for explanation as needed.
- US team approves the scholarship and communicate back to NSF India HQ and the scholarship is distributed through India chapter in an organized event

Who gets scholarships?

NSF scholarships are the last resort for financial support to a needy student, who is not getting any other scholarships.

This is established through the uniform eligibility criteria to identify meritorious students across India
Eligibility criteria are

- Marks in the top 10 percentile of 10th or 12th and CET/JET in state
- Annual family income must be less than Rs. 90,000
- Preference to students from government schools and colleges.
- Entrance exam ranks as per NSF policy



- Eligibility criteria for renewal for past students
- Eligibility criteria for non-first year students.

If you are new to scholarships you can read about our programs at <http://www.northsouth.org/public/india/scholarships.aspx>

What is Designated Donor?

US individuals/families/or corporate sponsor could be designated donor for any students from India chapter. It could be from schools in their native state or city in India where their roots and ties are. Designated donor could sponsor one or many scholarship wherein the donor will have certain information about their beneficiaries.

NSF is working on making sure how this could be accomplished for donor to have information about the students and monitor their progress.

Who is US Liaisons?

US volunteers could work with NSF India Chapter coordinators (ICC) in close relationship to accomplish the following

- Scholarship announcement - draft, press report, local contacts
- Reviewing the applications, verifying eligibility

- Working with US Scholarship coordinator for tracking and monitoring the process
- Making recommendation for improvement in policy or norms
- Participating in scholarship communications

NSF is ready to start the 2017-18 scholarship seasons with a goal of giving 2000 scholarships to the first year students and renewing all current scholarships. If you would like to volunteer in any form of scholarship process please contact the US scholarship team as below

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US Scholarship Team head
2 Marissa Ct
Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (USA)
Phone: 630-323-1966
Email: chitturi9@gmail.com

Vengatesan Sidheswaran
US Scholarship Coordinator
10924 LE JARDIN CIRCLE
APT 102
TEMPLE TERRACE, FL 33617
PH# - (813) 380 3266 - Mobile
sidheswv@yahoo.com



Vengat Sidheswaran
US Scholarship Coordinator

Chapter Report

Vijayawada, India

My name is Venkata Ratnam Surapaneni, I wish to start off by saying that being the Vijayawada Chapter Coordinator has been truly fulfilling. I have found pleasure in interacting with college principals, attending educational fairs, and ranking counseling centers in order to find students eligible for Scholarships.

On behalf of Srilata Meka and Akhil Meka, I strive to spread the mission of the North South Foundation in and around the capital region of Andhra Pradesh. As an active member of Lions club of Diamonds (Vijayawada), I get additional opportunities to carry out the Vijayawada chapter's work for NSF. In the process of locating students for scholarships, we spread the NSF mission through press meets, newspaper announcements, TV broadcasts, social media, and emails. Every year,

we arrange a scholarship award Ceremony, inviting the scholarship recipients and their parents, where local principals, deans, and heads of engineering colleges come forward to present the scholarships. This year, the Dean of V.R.Siddhatha Engineering college presented the Scholarships at our ceremony, which was attended by 160 people. My wife and I would like to thank NSF for giving us this noble opportunity. It truly brings us happiness to help local needy students in this manner at this stage of our lives. Statistics for our scholarships for the 2016-17 year are:

1. Engineering	45
2. Medicine & Dental	08
3. B.Sc (Agriculture)	03
4. Renewal Scholarship	27
TOTAL	83



My NSF Journey or Spizzerinctum



The NSF spelling bee was my training ground for competing in spelling bees. I first competed when I was six at my regional chapter in New Hampshire. The experience was really interesting, although I do not remember

much of it,, I do remember that I did not win that time. That experience was the motivator to make me continue participating in spelling bees. I realized I was good at spelling and wanted to see how far I could go. I really enjoyed competing and decided to try again the next year.

I ended up moving to Fresno that summer, as a second grader. The Fresno regionals was much smaller than the one in New Hampshire. I won first place and ended up qualifying for the national competition for the first time. The competition was too far and I ended up not participating in the nationals. But, I continued to compete in other competitions in California to help improve my word knowledge through year.

By the time I came for my regionals the next year as a third grader, I was getting serious about improving my word knowledge. I was starting to do research using advanced resources. One day, I happened to find the Consolidated Word List and it piqued my curiosity. I immediately started to work on studying that list. That year, I again won my regionals and made it to the national competition in Dallas. Spelling was becoming more of a passion. This time, I went to compete in Dallas. After a lot of studying, I made the finals and placed 7th in the JSB finals after missing “niggardly”. It was a really amazing experience and it spurred me to continue competing.

My passion for spelling was really driven by NSF. I wanted to advance further in the spelling world and to do that I had to get spelling bee introduced in my school. My principal was fine with it as long as we found a teacher to help coordinate the effort. My fourth grade teacher volunteered to help and we officially had a spelling bee at my school. That year, I won my county bee and

advanced to the California State Elementary Spelling Bee and won that as well. At NSF, I again won my regionals and advanced to the national competition at Columbus. That year, I entered the Senior Spelling Bee instead of the Junior Spelling Bee as a 4th grader. At the national competition, I missed a word that I should have known. I did not even know what a schwa was then! I ended up finishing 12th that year after missing “normocytic”. It was a disappointment, but I was determined to pursue my dream.

Finally, sponsors stepped up to start the Regionals for the Scripps National Spelling Bee at Fresno in my 5th grade. I was able to compete for the first time in 2016. I placed 172nd at the Nationals because I over thought on my Round 3 word and panicked as the clock wound down. Still, I was determined to continue and do better next time. Preparing for NSF was my next focus. NSF was my practice for the Scripps competition. I really wanted to do well and get as far as I could. I ended up placing 4th overall after missing “rabbeter”. I also got the highest score in the written test. I was happy with my placing, but I felt I could have done better.

Although I did not win the NSF spelling bee, it taught me a lot about how to handle myself on stage, how to figure out words I did not know, and gave me a practice for the Scripps National Spelling Bee. I am happy that my NSF journey ended with me winning the Scripps National Spelling Bee this year and that my dream came true. NSF was the place where my spelling bee dreams really started. I am very grateful to NSF and credit the experience I gained there for my success.

I would like to thank the Fresno chapter of NSF for holding the regional competitions every year. I have also learned a lot of math and science by competing in NSF. I will try to help promote NSF for Indian children in Fresno and help others pursue their dreams.



Ananya Vinay
2017 Scripps
National Spelling Bee Champion



The serendipitous secrets of success! (or what worked for Ananya!)

See whether your little one has a knack for spelling especially if they are great readers. Reading is the foundation for being a good speller.

NSF contests are great practice for spelling bee. Having been to the last 3 National Finals of NSF, it is a great place to get tips on how to prepare.

At NSF, we could find like-minded parents and friends with whom we developed relationships that last beyond the spelling bee competitions.

Start young! They will learn to be comfortable in front of people. It also teaches them that it is ok to lose, which is the biggest Lesson in life. JSB is a great place to start.

Wait until grade 4 or so to see whether they have a passion for spelling! They have to hunger to do it.

Find the strategy that works for your kid. Ananya liked typing and learning than reading from lists. This multi-sensory approach of seeing, hearing and typing helped her focus for long periods of time.

Make a plan for the year. There are lots of lists and books available. However, learning roots and language patterns and looking through the dictionary is important to be in top 10 at National Spelling Bee.

One year of dedicated study can get you in the top 10. By God's grace Ananya could go from rank 172 to being the champion. She also finished 4th at NSF nationals in 2016 with the highest written test score.

We would always tell her that it was ok to get out on a word that she does not know. Most of the time kids make, what is similar to unforced errors in tennis, on words that they know, due to pressures of being on the stage.

When on stage just focus on your word and the pronouncer and nothing else and no one else! It does not matter if you don't know your competitor's words.

Ananya's secret for success is that she truly believed that she could win this year. She pursued that dream with a lot of hard work, discipline and plan. No preparation can be enough, so stay focused until the finish line. This inner drive and focus helped her stay on track for 7 long hours on the finals night. She wrote her award acceptance speech a month ahead, as she truly believed she could do it!

Of course there are no guarantees in spelling bees just like any other sport. Success may elude one despite dedicated work. Have fun in the journey while aiming for the stars but be prepared for any eventuality.

Even if Ananya hadn't won she would always be thankful for the knowledge she gained, friends she made and resilience she developed.

Without the practice and exposure to great spellers and resources we gained through NSF, her success would not have been possible!

Anu and Vinay
(Ananya's parents)



Junior
spelling
BEE



Aadharshini Rajathilak
Bellevue, WA



Aadhavan Veerendra
Portsmouth, NH



Aarav Harish
Austin, TX



Aarav Lala
Dunlap, IL



Aarav Singhvi
Sandford, FL



Abhilash Patel
Harriman, NY



Abyudh Mukkavilli
Waukee, IA



Achuth Vinay
Fresno, CA



Aditi Sawhney
Brentwood, TN



Aditya Puppala
Sugar Land, TX



Advait Balakrishnan
Hinsdale, IL



Advait Mopuri
Fremont, CA



Aiden George
Irving, TX



Ajay Nayak
Ashburn, VA





Akash Vukoti
San Angelo, TX



Akhil Jois
Carmel, IN



Akira Dasgupta
Ashburn, VA



Akshadha Seshamani
Issaquah, WA



Akshainie Kamma
Round Rock, TX



Akshainie Kamma
Round Rock, TX



Amogh Virkar
Santa Clara, CA



Anagha Vemmelesseril
Omaha, NE



Ananth Nithin
Bothell, WA



Anik Banerji
Houston, TX



Anjali Bodanki
Carmel, IN



Anoushka Rai
Plano, TX



Anushka Gowda
Brookfield, WI



Aparna Prasad
Carmel, IN



Arav Koul
Rocky Hill, CT



Arjun Bharadwaj Nelabhotla
San Jose, CA





Arjun Jayaram
Orlando, FL



Armaan Syed
Acton, MA



Aryan Nindra
Leesburg, VA



Aryana Koul
Naperville, IL



Ashmit Arasada
San Jose, CA



Atreya Majumdar
Westfield, IN



Aum Pahuja
Plano, TX



Avyay Kodali
Palatine, IL



Bhavana Madini
Plainview, NY



Bhavya Dash
San Jose, CA



Bhavya Tikaria
Okemos, MI



Brijnandan Saranu
Austin, TX



Chaitra Thummala
San Ramon, CA



Deetya Vuppala
Bellevue, WA



Dhruv Bhardwaj
Miramar, FL



Dhruv Subramanian
Fremont, CA





Esha Anand
San Diego, CA



Grisham Paimagam
Charlotte, NC



Gyanesh Velu
Sugar Land, TX



Harini Logan
San Antonio, TX



Harini Venkatesh
Plano, TX



Haritha Ramesh
Granby, CT



Harshini Chandilvel
Austin, TX



Harshita Ganga
Mason, OH



Harshitha Yanamandra
Lansdale, PA



Himank Chhaya
Tallahassee, FL



Ishaan Ramesh
Rochester, NY



Ishika Gupta
Bridgewater, NJ



Ishita Cumer
Johns Creek, GA



Jayanth Athipatla
Omaha, NE



John Manavalan
Burbank, CA



Kashvi Shah
Rancho Cordova, CA





Krishna Harish
Sugar Land, TX



Krithi Saravanan
Apex, NC



Lalit Kovvuri
San Jose, CA



Mahima Wuppalapati
Irvine, CA



Manasvi Bhavaraju
Louisville, KY



Manu Sandesh Sripathi
Overland Park, KS



Maya Jadhav
Fitchburg, WI



Minal Gowda
Seattle, WA



Moubon Kurukumbi
Fairfax, VA



Naman Mutalik Desai
Redmond, WA



Navneet Kalatheeswaran
Bridgewater, NJ



Neha Agrawal
Cerritos, CA



Neha Kondeti
Irvine, CA



Nidhi Maddi
Normal, IL



Nihal Kondabrolu
Saint Johns, FL



Nihal Mallipudi
Bloomington, IL





Nihal Sunder
Portland, OR



Nishanth Doppalapudi
Hoover, AL



Nishith Daga
Edison, NJ



Nithya Kannan
Novi, MI



Nitya Attaluri
Prairie Village, KS



Nitya Kathiravan
Edison, NJ



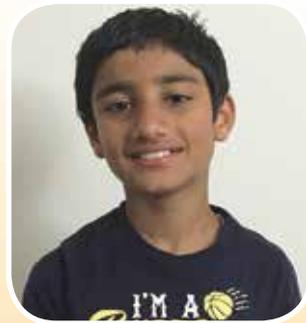
Oviya Srinivasan
San Jose, CA



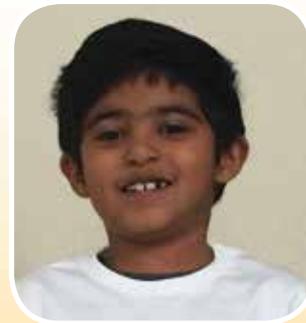
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Conroe, TX



Parthiv Mothipati
Redmond, WA



Pranav Bhatnagar
Cary, NC



Pranav Mahendran
Las Vegas, NV



Pranavkrishna Bharanidharan
Fair Oaks, CA



Prashi Agarwal
Devon, PA



Rahul Verma
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Jacksonville, FL



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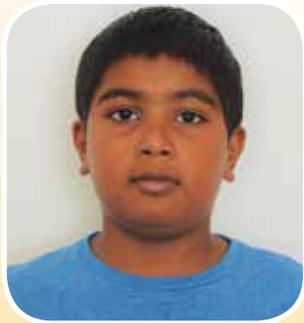
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Rohit Palani
Orlando, FL



Sabhya Bansal
Rochester, MN



Sahas Ravor
Rochester Hills, MI



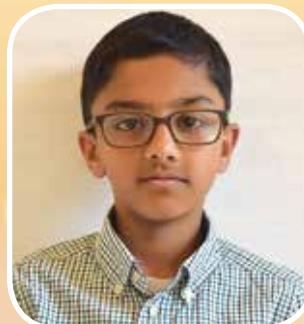
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Merrimack, NH



Sai Tallapally
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Saisurya Lakkimsetti
Bixby, OK



Saketh Madhusudhan
Shrewsbury, MA



Samaikhya Karanam
Jacksonville, FL





Samanyu Ganesh
Atlanta, GA



Samatha Patnaik
Tulsa, OK



Sandhya Shankar
Plano, TX



Sanvi Shankar
Parkland, FL



Sarngini Sudarsan
San Diego, CA



Shanmukh Vallabhajosyula
Waukee, IA



Shashank Pericherla
Little Elm, TX



Shourya Mogulothu
Plainsboro, NJ



Shradha Rachamreddy
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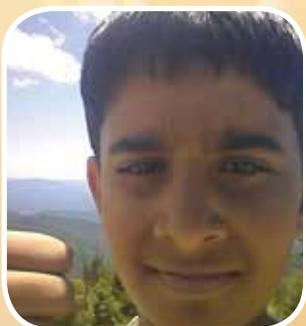
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Leander, TX



Shreyashi Bodaka
Tampa, FL



Shrihun Andhe
Fullerton, CA



Shrisha Prakir
Fremont, CA



Shriya Shah
Overland Park, KS



Siri Mutalik Desai
Naperville, IL



Srijay Bandi
North Brunswick, NJ





Srimedha Kaligotta
Morrisville, NC



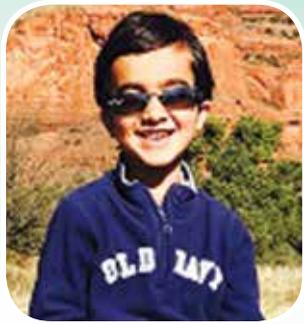
Srinithi Saran
Safety Harbor, FL



Srisamhita Ponnappalli
Katy, TX



Sudarshan Praveen
Apex, NC



Tanay Vasavada
Fresno, CA



Tarun Venkatesh
Lexington, MA



Teja Sridher
Omaha, NE



Thejas Prakash
Coppell, TX



Vaishnavi Kothamasu
Sandy, UT



Varsha Satti
Bettendorf, IA



Varun Harith
Austin, TX



Varun Hittuvalli
Allen, TX



Varun Nagaraj
Naperville, IL



Vedanti Patil
Portland, OR



Vedha Inampudi
Ballwin, MO



Vidur Kothur
Fenton, MO





Vidushi Sinha
Cerritos, CA



Vikram Goudar
Virginia Beach, VA



Vikram Raju
Aurora, CO



Vikrant Chintanaboina
San Jose, CA



Vikrant Rajan
Weston, CT



Vishruth Vignesh
Newark, DE



Yash Bhavsar
Moorestown, NJ



Yuktha Rayani
Wildwood, MO

Not Pictured

Ananya Arulmurugan
Aydin Daniel

Abhinav Medi
Jaansi Patel

Aari Rane
Ishaan Sharma

Eshaan Srintan



- * What state in the US would you go for a bath?
Wash-ington
- * Where does bubble gum come in handy?
Massa-chu-setts
- * Where did tennis get invented?
Tennessee
- * Where do most doctors go to study?
DR CONGO, Africa
- * Where do most people go for thanksgiving?
Turkey

- * What did Mississippi say to Missouri when she got a New Jersey?
Alaska

Vihaan Parikh
2nd Grade Santa Clara, CA





**H-E-B TOURNAMENT
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How NSF Has Helped Me: A High Schooler's Experience

I began participating in NSF competitions when I was in fourth grade. At my first National Finals spelling bee contest in San Jose, CA, I saw the level of competition and the high standard of the NSF spelling bee. Watching the contest inspired me to continue studying and participating in NSF so I could reach that high level. That preparation for the NSF spelling and vocabulary bees helped me reach and succeed at the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

The NSF competitions and online coaching allowed me to gain a solid foundation in not only spelling, but also in vocabulary, science, and math. The NSF curriculum went above and beyond what I learned in school- for example, some of the curriculum I learned through NSF when I was in 7th and 8th grade is in my current school curriculum in high school.

More importantly, I have met many talented NSF students from all over the country, and keep in touch with some of them to this day. All of them have achieved so much at such a young age, and have inspired me to dream bigger and work harder. NSF has also taught me the value of dedication and perseverance through all the successes and failures. Through NSF, I have also learned skills such as speaking in front of an audience without fear. This skill has been especially helpful in

high school, and I am sure it will help me much more in future years. For example, I participate in science fairs, where I present my project in front of judges. I believe that part of the reason I am able to excel in science fairs is because of the speaking skills I acquired through my participation in NSF competitions.

In addition to the knowledge, friendships, and skills I have gained, NSF has also given me the opportunity to give back to the community. Through NSF, I have been able to inspire many kids to focus on excelling in academics, including my own brother, who was champion of the NSF National Junior Spelling Bee in 2012 and the NSF National Senior Spelling Bee in 2015. I also serve as a pronouncer in the NSF regional spelling bees. My favorite NSF activity is the Spelling Bee workshop that I host with two other National Spelling Bee finalists from Houston. This year's workshop was held in February, and we wrote the curriculum for the workshop ourselves. It was a huge success, and it was amazing to see the enthusiasm of the kids and parents. With all that I have gained from NSF, I truly believe that donating and volunteering for NSF is a valuable investment for kids in both America and India.

Shobha Dasari
NSF Alumni

NSF Experience

I started doing North South Foundation competitions when I was a fifth grader. I had no idea what it was for. I didn't even know that by participating, I was helping kids in India. All I knew was that I was getting a chance to compete for what I thought was a huge prize. I wasn't excited about the competition, but rather, about the prize money. I was thinking of all the books and videogames I could buy with the prize money. So when I went to the Nationals, I failed miserably. I began spelling the word "metronome" with an "n". Obviously I was not committed to be a part of the NSF competitions.

But, even through my failure that year, I was quite excited. I had a lot of fun, and made some friends. I just wanted to go again. I wanted to participate and after coming back, I realized that even more than the prize money and all the books and videogames that I wanted to buy, I wanted to compete. That was what got my blood pumping. I had much more fun standing on the stage, than I thought I could by reading books and playing games. So I participated again as It wasn't about

the prize money anymore, It was about competing and winning.

Because of NSF, I was able to make it to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in 7th and 8th grade. It was quite a challenge. I prepared as hard as I could, just to qualify. But preparation means nothing if one cannot go on stage and speak.

NSF provided me an opportunity. The opportunity to learn how to go on stage and not be scared. How to ask questions and put a word together and spell it in front of a huge audience. So when I got on stage I was not scared and was able to ask questions and most importantly spell my words correctly.

After the bees, I realized that NSF provides a crucible. It provides a place for children to grow, to get better. Yes, it is hard. Obviously not everyone can win. But regardless of winning or losing, after NSF, children improve. NSF provides a place for children to learn, which is what they need to succeed. Currently, I am studying linguistics because my participation in NSF showed me that this is what I want to do in my life. I want to study languages and find out how and why they work. NSF helped me get to where I am today.

Aditya Chemudupati
NSF Alumni studying at UT
Austin



MY JOURNEY



The bright lights shone from above. There I sat on the big stage in front of an audience of tens of thousands waiting for my chance to spell. Hundreds of hours of effort were on the line and yet I was completely calm. Whether I won or went home empty handed I would still be happy. There were several reasons for this, but to explain them I must start from the beginning.

The humble beginnings of my spelling bee career began in the summer before first grade when some family friends invited us for the opening ceremony of their new education center. One of the activities they had planned was a spelling bee with a 50-dollar Barnes and Noble gift card as a first-place award. I loved reading books and I had nothing to do so I was more than happy to participate. Driven by the incentive of money I practiced hard for couple of days and won the competition. It was then when my parents and I realized that I had a knack for spelling words. As I was too young to participate in the Scripps circuit, my parents started asking around for more opportunities to compete in the spelling bee and naturally we found NSF.

I participated in my first NSF competition as a first grader. I participated in spelling, math, science, and vocab bees, but I didn't win anything because I was competing against people who were one or two years older than me. A few weeks later I was notified that I was one of the few first graders who qualified to compete at the NSF national competition in New Jersey. My dad and I decided to go mainly because we had some close family friends in New Jersey that we hadn't seen in a while. In hindsight, I am glad I did because that experience changed my life forever. I found myself in a sea of similarly motivated kids and I loved the environment. That year I got 70th place, and I was a bit disappointed. However, that day, something sparked within me. I turned to my dad and told him, "Dad, next year, I'm going to be on that national stage among the top 15 spellers." And with that goal and the rush of determination I felt, I worked hard over the next year. Before I knew it, I was at the national competition yet again. This time I was a lot more prepared and made it into phase three of the competition and won third place. That was when I learned the important lesson that with hard work, anything can be achieved.

Over the next few years, I continued to compete in NSF regional and national level competitions. They gave me something to work for, and helped me develop a work ethic that I will continue to have for the rest of my life. During this time, I started studying math and science though not as much as spelling. When I got to fourth grade I was finally able to participate in the

Scripps circuit. I easily won my school and district level competitions, and placed an unenviable 3rd in the Houston regional competition (which is generally accepted as one of, if not the most difficult regional). The top two kids from my regionals go to Scripps National championship but I was happy with my placing and I was encouraged to continue studying for next year. I worked very hard in my fifth grade, but was eliminated relatively early in my regional competition placing tenth. In my mind this was a loss and I took the defeat hard. Not completely discouraged, I worked harder than ever during my sixth grade year. I started studying higher level spelling bee lists and different etymology patterns. Despite my best efforts, I placed third and was once again denied from qualifying for Scripps national championship.

Aside from spelling, I won first place in my state science competition and was experiencing great success in math competitions such as Mathcounts, and AMC. Together with my parents, due to the lack of success in spelling bees, we decided to shift focus off spelling bee to multitude of math and science competitions that were available to me in middle school. I was still competing in spelling bees, but instead of studying year-round, I was studying, at most, two weeks before each bee. I didn't really regret it though as I was having great success in other competitions such as, National Science Olympiad, AMC 10, Mathcounts, Science Bowl, TMSCA, NSF, etc. Eventually, a year had passed since my decision to pursue math and science and I was in eighth grade. It was my final chance to compete in all the competitions I had grown to love throughout middle school. I got a perfect score in my Mathcounts chapter competition, qualified for the AIME competition, placed second in my regional in science bowl, and more, but for some reason, I was not content. The competition I still loved the most was the spelling bee and I wanted to give it one last shot. I worked hard, though not as hard as I did in my sixth-grade year and after a long battle I managed to place second in my regional competition and qualify for the Scripps national competition.

I was going to be a first timer among many experienced individuals, and my vocabulary was nothing short of dismal, so I was a bit nervous. I also had the Science Olympiad National competition a week before bee week. It was hard to do double duty, but I pulled through and was able to place first in my event, as well as be promoted to the role of team captain the following year. The celebration was short lived, however, as I still had a daunting task ahead of me - the 2017 Scripps National Spelling Bee. Despite this, I was not nervous. I was going to be competing against people who worked



hard, but never gave up as I did. In my mind, this made me inherently weaker than them and I was glad just to participate with them.

Once I finally got to the venue of the bee, I was greeted by the kind bee staff and ushered into a slew of fun bee activities. Suffice to say, it was a blast and an experience I will never forget. The competition started off with a written test, and continued to the semifinal rounds. The semifinals consisted of many brutal rounds in which many people heard the sound of the bell. I was deeply saddened to see my friends walk off the stage, but my confidence was renewed by their encouragement. When the dust had cleared, I along with 14 other participants had made it to the finals of the national competition. However, we didn't have much time to rejoice as we were almost instantly whisked away to ESPN interviews and photo shoots. When it came time

to resume the competition, we made a special backstage entrance and took our seats on the stage. One by one my friends dropped out. My own experiences with the spelling bee competitions taught me to stay calm and focused. Eventually, I misspelled the word oedemerid to place fifth. I knew that I had gotten farther than anybody in my situation deserved to get, so I was completely satisfied by my outcome.

If there is anything that you learn from this article, it is to never give up. No matter how unsuccessful you might be, with hard work and determination, you can achieve any goal you wish to pursue.

Raksheet Kota
8th Grade, Katy TX

NSF Spelling and Me

My name is Siddharth Krishnakumar. I am a freshman at Glenda Dawson High School in Pearland, TX. Since my 3rd grade, my parents encouraged me to participate in NSF competitions. My first experience with NSF at the National Finals event was in San Jose, CA. There, I got an opportunity to see, firsthand, the level of competition among my peers. That was an eye-opener. That experience excited me and inspired me to push myself to work hard and follow a disciplined study pattern for my future competitions. Over the years, I have learnt a lot from my NSF experience.

There is much truth in Louis Pasteur's famous quote "Fortune favors only the prepared mind." I believe that passion coupled with a good work ethic is the only key to successfully achieving one's goals in life. NSF has taught me not just the true meaning of success but also how to handle victory and defeat in equal stride. It has taught me not only to enjoy my victories but also to learn from the times I was unable to make the finish line - to persevere and raise the bar for myself. Because, at the end of the day, this is the only way we can BRING OUT THE BEST in ourselves.

The foundation provided by NSF helped me in other mainstream competitions, including the Scripps National Spelling Bee, where I was fortunate to be placed 4th. Though I did invest a lot of my time with spelling, my NSF experience also helped me in competitions outside of NSF, including Math and Future Problem Solvers competitions. The Future Problem Solvers competition is a unique and exhilarating experience, where we work as a team in solving problems set up in a futuristic world. Our team was fortunate to qualify for these competitions at the State and International levels. These achievements would not have been possible but for the healthy competitive spirit and discipline instilled through my NSF experience.

I guess, one may say that I am now "retired" from spelling bees. However, NSF's core values of discipline, perseverance, and humility will always guide me. These values CANNOT be learnt from a textbook or taught at schools. Indeed, at NSF, "Every Child is a Winner" because what the NSF child takes home are not just certificates and trophies but also, values, culture, and heritage.

I have really enjoyed participating in NSF as a competitor. I plan to continue my involvement with NSF and help children in the Greater Houston area and in India through Spelling Bee workshops and mentoring opportunities. The lessons learnt and values instilled in me will never be lost as I continue my journey in life. I look forward to helping and encouraging other children take the NSF path to success!

Siddharth Krishnakumar
NSF Alumni



Spelling Bee Preparation Tips

In second grade, I participated in my first NSF competition, the Junior Spelling Bee. I did pretty well in the Houston NSF Regionals, and I qualified for the national competition in San Jose. I mastered the word list NSF provided and I also attempted to learn as many additional words as I could. At the competition, I did fairly well on the Phase 1 test and I got all of my Phase 2 words right. I ultimately finished 2nd. After this competition, I was motivated to win the following year, and I studied extra hours, learning more words along the way. All of my hard work paid off as I won the Junior Spelling Bee in Ann Arbor, Michigan. This motivated me to continue participating in spelling bees.

I continued to prepare and I won the NSF Senior Spelling Bee in Columbus, Ohio in 2015. I participated in the Scripps National Spelling Bee the following year, and I placed 11th. In my eighth grade year, I knew it was my last chance, so I prepared harder than ever before, and as a result, I knew about 98-99% of the words in the dictionary. At the 2017 Scripps National Spelling Bee, I came close to winning, placing fourth.

Many people wonder how to prepare for spelling bees. Most people think you have to study the dictionary. However, there are smarter ways to master the dictionary without studying the paper copy, and in fact, the Scripps National Spelling Bee does not use the paper copy-- they now use the online unabridged dictionary.

The most important step to becoming a great speller is to master common spelling rules, roots, and language patterns. For example, the word 'leiomyoma' is made up of three roots: leio- meaning smooth, my- meaning muscle, and -oma meaning tumor. Therefore, the definition of the word is a tumor consisting of smooth muscle fibers. Another example is a German word schalstein, where 'stein' is German for stone and the /sh/ sound in German is typically spelled "sch". Once you learn these rules, you do not need to memorize every word

in the dictionary, and it becomes easier to remember more words.

You need to practice to make sure that you can apply these rules to spell new words that you may not have seen or remember. Though quizzing is an option, it is nearly impossible to get through all the words in the dictionary in a reasonable amount of time. The dictionary has about 470,000 words. These words can be condensed into about 100,000 base words by removing easy words and their derived forms. For example, if you know the base word 'print', you don't need to study words like 'prints', 'printed', and 'printing' etc. This way, you can significantly reduce the number of words you have to study. I have participated in many spelling bees over the last six years, and I've never been asked a word from outside this 100,000 base words list.

In my case, I had a master list with all of the 100,000 words that included information such as the part of speech, language of origin, pronunciation, definition, etc. These 100,000 words were further subdivided into various categories based on the complexity of the word. I prepared the easier words for the school spelling bee and additional words as I worked up to the national spelling bee. I was able to practice words at a much faster rate than the traditional quizzing method. I could study several thousand words per day, and this efficient method gave me a competitive advantage.

An interest in words and a good study strategy have been the secret for my successful spelling bee career, but most importantly, there is no substitute for hard work and practice. Practicing spelling year-round was also a key factor behind my spelling bee successes. Last but definitely not least, having your family's support makes the whole process easier, and thankfully my family was with me all the way.

Shourav Dasari
8th Grade
Spring, Texas



TRIBUTE TO SPELLING BEE

In this age of spell-check, it's easy to forget how to spell. Therefore, it's good to remind kids that spelling is important.

Spelling bees offer a wide variety of information: different languages and their patterns, roots, etc.

Spellers learn the definitions for almost all the words they practice, so it improves their vocabulary skills.

Spelling bee participation provides a valuable experience in developing poise, which is a necessary skill for success in public speaking, performing arts, and athletics.

Spelling bees are a chance to showcase an academic talent in front of a large crowd.

Spelling bees are a unique competition and it is nerve-wracking as the slightest mistake can ruin the chance of winning for the rest of the year. However, losing with grace is part of the experience and is an important life lesson that spellers learn.

Spelling bees are an evidence of talent, hard work, and dedication.

Spelling bees are like a marathon. It is a perfect example of perseverance and resilience.

Spelling bees are a reality TV show. The media captures the speller's expressions and strategies as they spell the

words. It teaches spellers how to excel under pressure during their momentary place in spotlight.

Spelling bees are a luck-of-the-draw game. Some spellers get a word you have heard or read a million times whereas others get some esoteric and uncommon words.

Spelling bees are like Formula One racing. It requires good support from the pit crew (family) to be a successful speller. Just as the pit crew has to know every inch of the car inside and out, the spellers' family should be aware of the nuts and bolts of the spelling bee competition.

Spelling bees are giving back to the community through volunteering workshops and coaching future aspiring spellers.

Spelling bees are about camaraderie among spellers and their parents as they approach the competition as if they are competing with the dictionary and not against each other.

Last but not the least; a critical and supporting platform is essential for spellers to evolve and continue the effort. Our sincere thanks to the NSF for conducting a wonderful spelling bee year after year.

Ganesh and Usha Dasari
Parents of Shobha and Shourav Dasari
Scripps National Spelling bee finalists

Word Avalanche

The first line acts as a title and a clue to describe and explain what the following line, the word avalanche itself, actually means. The next line, the word avalanche, takes the same few syllables and/or words and repeats them multiple times in the same order, often using puns or wordplay, to create a sentence.

- 1) The President of the United States is going to debate the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. Nobody's sure who's going to win.
a) Trump may trump May, May may trump Trump.

- 2) White House Press Corp gave Obama a gift of cologne that set off a chain of re-gifting between Obama and the Ghosts of Christmas Future and Past.
a) Press sends present Pres scents presents. Present Pres sends Present-Presents-Presence press-sent presents. Present-Present-Presence presents Prescient-Present-Presence Pres-sent press-scent presents.

- 3) Insect designates on a map Rocket Power's mystic uncle's place of worship, to which it must pay his prized family heirloom, inherited from his mom: a crucial piece



of Bambi's smelly foot, and he speculates that this heirloom might be used to conceal the Joker's swimwear.

a) Mosquito marks Tito's mosque he'd owe Ma's key doe musky toe, maybe to mask Leto's mad speedo.

4) If you were to write a direct, very short introduction for Microsoft Office's word processor, it might be a...

a) Forward four-word foreword for Word.

5) A man named William Reed's last living testament says that he is going to read his own will.

a) Will Reed's will will read: "Will Reed will read Will Reed's will".

6) A Hollywood actor owns a very old coin that's in remarkably good condition. If he loses it, he can simply steal another from a depressed wise man.

a) Nicholas Cage's nickel is ageless. Nickel loss? K, just nick a low sage's.

7) I'm doing my homework when government agents suddenly appear and demand, "What are you doing?!"

a) An' I say, "An essay, NSA."

8) An offline 4chan user who won't stop eating flatbread

a) A non-on Anon gnawin' on and on on a Naan

9) A WWII prime minister's relaxed, countrywide religious organization will produce sick kids.

a) Churchill's chillin' church'll churn ill chillun.

10) Loretta's truck has been vandalized with an incorrect description of it. I look at it and notify her. She first disbelieves me, then, upon seeing the graffiti, scrubs it off forcefully while verbally correcting it.

a) Read Lorrie's yellow lorry; "RED LORRY". Yell "Oh, Lorrie! "RED LORRY"!" "Yellow lorry-- "RED LORRY"?! YELLOW lorry!" read Lorrie.

11) In order to cross through an Italian coastal city that exports rare gems, two Portuguese fathers use top-notch travel identification.

a) To pass Porte, a topaz port, two pa's sport top as Porto passports.

12) A physically imposing woman loudly conspires to steal another woman's drink.

a) "Let's jack Danielle's Jack Daniels," jacked Anne yells.

13) Jenna confronts her friend, Jen about her plans to assassinate an Islamic dignitary. Jen, however, has a darker and more extensive agenda.

a) Jenna sighed. "Jen, a Syed"?

b) Jen, aside: "...Genocide".

14) A French girl stops being able to recognise the third letter of the alphabet, so she formally withdraws, is angry, gives up, then takes on all but one of the oceans, armed with embryonic trees to make a name for herself.

a) Cece ceases to see cees, so secedes, seethes, cedes,

and seizes the six seas, with cedar seeds to succeed.

15) Vanilla Ice sampled David Bowie and Queen on "Ice Ice Baby". If he sampled them for an entire album, it would be a...

a) Bohemian Rhapsody Bowie mean rap CD

16) My friend William had nothing to do, so he drilled a hole in a highway sign.

a) Bored Bill bored billboard.

17) If you had a list of options for an upcoming sale at your store and the apparel sale would make way more money than the kitchen utensil sale.

a) You'd have to foreclose fork lows for clothes.

18) Choosing between a cookie, a boat paddle executive order, and a city in Brazil.

a) Oreo, oar EO, or Rio?

19) A re-possessor of 80s vinyl comes to a hard of hearing film stars' home to grab a record.

a) Deaf Depp's Def Leppard debt collector's depth perception was definitely adept.

20) A man named after the Algerian city that he resides in is notorious for his rare condition in which he turns 13 again every time he would naturally turn 20, and for his persistent scams on a group of teenagers.

a) Constantine's constant teen, Constantine, cons ten teens constantly.

21) As men are hacking up lungs and lightning fills the heavens, I warn the Holy Roman Emperor to prepare for death.

a) "These guys are coughing, the skies arc often. Thus, Kaiser: coffin."

Shashwat Patel

9th Grade Harriman, NY



Senior spelling BEE




Aarsha Shah
Bridgewater, NJ



Abhiiraam Kadium
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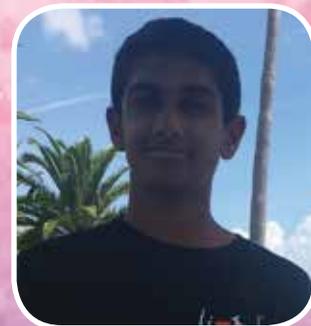
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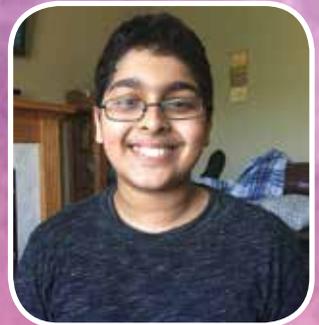
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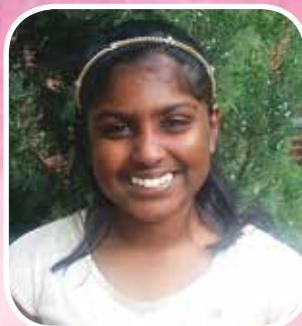
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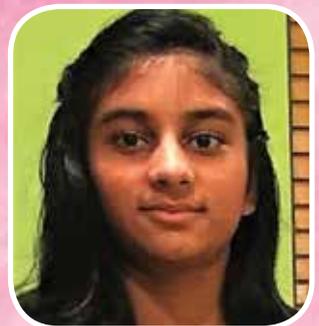
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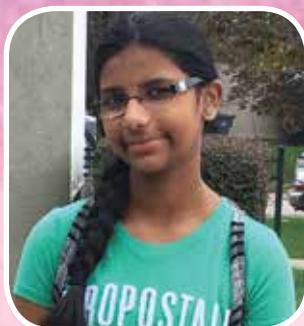
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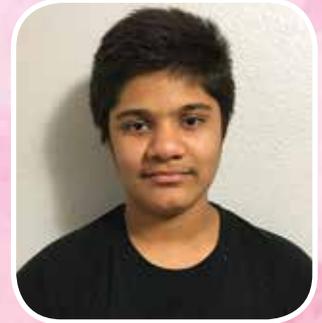
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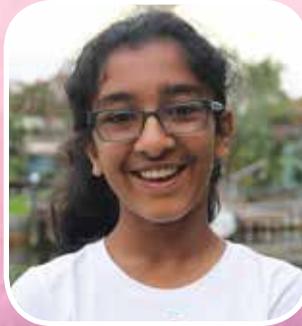
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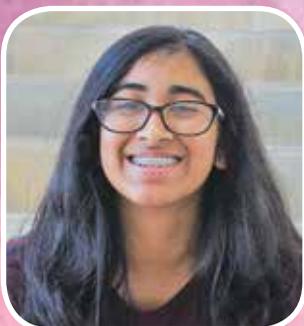
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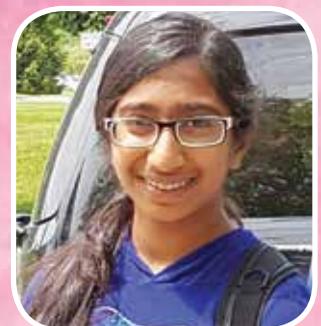
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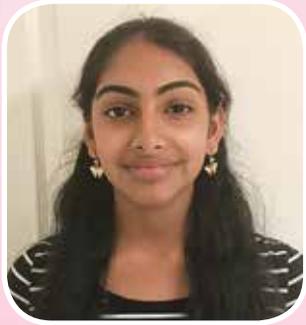


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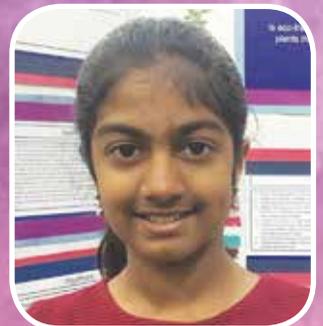
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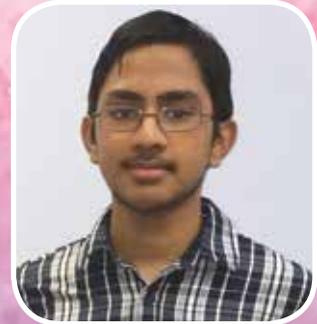
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An Interview with the Bees

I've often had interesting and bizarre dreams. However, one dream I've had recently was one of a kind - so, I decided it deserved to be written on paper. A few weeks ago, after competing in my regional NSF Spelling Bee, I had fallen asleep thinking about my future NSF Bee Competitions, and I woke up to find this dream in the depths of my mind...

I was about to interview our six favorite renowned pollinators: the Bees. I sat down and spoke to Spelling Bee, Vocabulary Bee, Math Bee, Science Bee, Geography Bee, and an addition to the group, Brain Bee. They were all positively delightful, and I enjoyed our discussions immensely.

I started out by asking them how they were. "Oh, wonderful!" Science Bee gushed happily. "It's so great to see all these intelligent kids competing in our contests," she continued, flapping her wings in joy. Her enthusiasm was infectious, and I couldn't help but laugh.

Geography Bee nodded in agreement. "We're very glad that our competitions motivate children of all ages," She said in her silvery voice.

"That's great to hear," I said. "So, tell me a little about yourselves. How did you all meet?"

All of the Bees glanced at each other, smiling. It was clear that they had an intimate relationship.

"Well, it's quite a long story," Spelling Bee started. She spoke loudly and clearly. "Back when I was a young larva, I belonged to a swarm of bees. One day, my swarm had forgotten me, and they left me behind! I was quite distressed, and I didn't know what to do. I searched for help. That was when I met Vocabulary Bee. He had no one with him."

Vocabulary Bee nodded. He smiled wistfully, recollecting his memories. "I was alone because I was ejected from my colony. They were running out of resources, so they evicted me, so as not to drain the few resources they had. When Spelling Bee and I met, we became fast friends. We soon discovered that we both had gifts in the same field: English.

Spelling Bee, of course, was proficient in spelling. I was good at vocabulary. Most of our time was spent playing a game we had invented. In this game, I would ask Spelling Bee a word, and she would spell it. She was very good, and almost never got anything wrong. In turn, she would ask me the definition of the word, and I would tell her."

"Was this game your inspiration for the Spelling and Vocabulary competitions you invented?" I asked, curious.

"As a matter of fact, it was!" Spelling Bee said, smiling



warmly. "I'm glad you made the connection."

"So, what happened next?" I asked, eager to learn more about the Bees' lives.

Math Bee spoke up. "Spelling Bee and Vocabulary Bee met Science Bee, Geography Bee, and I. The three of us were already friends. Geography Bee and Science Bee are sisters, in fact. We came from the same swarm, and we had also discovered that we had similar talents. We had books from which we would ask each other questions about Science, Math, and Geography." "It was our favorite thing to do in our free time." Science Bee added.

Math Bee nodded. "When we met Spelling Bee and Vocabulary Bee, the four of us grew close. We were experts in our fields, and one day, we decided to form what you now know as Bee Competitions."



“So that was how they started, is it?” I said, awed. All five of their backgrounds were intriguing. Geography Bee bobbed her head in assent. “That’s when Brain Bee comes in!” She exclaimed, enthusiastically. Brain Bee, who had kept quiet for most of the interview so far, nodded. “Yup.” He said, a nervous smile on his face. “I lived in an apiary. One day, I escaped without the owner knowing, and I eventually met these five.” He gestured to the rest of the bees. “They benevolently welcomed me into their group. I was inspired by their competitions to create one of my own: The Brain Bee.” “For a while, our competitions weren’t very popular, and only bees would participate them. However, once humans discovered them, they spread like a wildfire. Many organizations took inspiration from them!” Geography Bee told me.

That led me to my next question. “Speaking of organizations, how do you feel about NSF?” I asked. “We’re so glad that NSF is working hard to help children achieve success.” Spelling Bee announced. “Yes, what Spelling Bee said is true. NSF’s mission is

very respectable.” Science Bee remarked. “All the children that have flourished with the positive support of NSF are like flowers that bloom from the help of the sunlight-- we bees are the ones who go from flower to flower, spreading the encouragement and motivation.” Brain Bee concluded. At that, our time together had come to a close. I thanked all the bees, and they left having relieved their memories of coming together and the creation of their world-wide-known competitions.

I woke up from my dream as the interview ended. I didn’t know my brain could imagine something so, well, and unimaginable! The idea that the Bee Competitions were actual BEES was funny, but also intriguing. Best of all, it inspired me to write this story.

Sanjana Bandi
6th grade, NJ

Believe In Yourself

Believe in yourself.

It is great to believe,
That you can do anything
If you believe enough.

Things can actually happen,
If you believe that
You can do things.

The future is an accomplishment for you
Thanks to believing in yourself.

Believing is an accomplishment
You can accomplish anything.

Believing is TRUE!

Harshitha Subramanian
2nd Grade
Meriden, CT



Brain Teasing Riddles for Kids

Questions:

1. Can you find address of Ms. Contest who lives in a small city called BEE city on NSF Island? When you reach on this island, a gentleman will give you a hint as she lives at the center of the first block of 244 building on Donation street where each neighbor has only odd numbers no even number and houses are only on one side.
2. Mitali's mother had four children. She named the first Monday. She named the second Tuesday, and she named the third Wednesday. What is the name of the fourth child?
3. There are three houses. One is Pink, one is Brown, and one is white. If the Pink house is to the left of the house in the middle, and the Brown house is to the right of the house in the middle, where is the white house?
4. Raju is a butcher. He is 6'10" tall. What does he weigh?
5. A farmer has 19 sheep and all but nine die. How many are left?
6. How far can a deer run into the woods?
7. In a year, there are 12 months. Seven months have 31 days. How many months have 28 days?
8. What are the next three letters in the following sequence? J, F, M, A, M, J, J, A, __, __, __.
9. First, I threw away the outside and cooked the inside. Then I ate the outside and threw away the inside. What did I eat?
10. Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?
11. Imagine that you are in a boat, in the middle of the sea. Suddenly, you are surrounded by hungry sharks, just waiting to feed on you. How can you put an end to this?
12. Give me food, and I will live; give me water, and I will die. What am I?
13. Which travels faster? Hot or Cold?
14. When you have me, you immediately feel like sharing me. But, if you do share me, you do not have me.
15. What can you hold without ever touching or using your hands?

Answers:

1. Ms. Contest, 1 Donation St, Apt # 244, Bee city, NSF.
2. Mitali, because Mitali's mother had four children!
3. In Washington, D.C.!
4. Meat
5. Nine
6. Halfway. After that, he is running out of the woods.
7. They all do.
8. S, O, N. The sequence is first letter of the months of the year. September, October, and November are the next in the sequence.
9. Corn on the cob
10. Mt. Everest. It was still the highest in the world. It just had not been discovered yet!
11. Stop imagining!
12. Fire
13. Hot is faster, because you can catch a cold.
14. A Secret
15. Your breath!

Say Om Sharma
6th Grade
Natick, MA



Confessions of a Volunteer

It looked to be yet another hot summer day and it was only 7 AM in the morning. But it won't be an impediment, at least not visibly, to the hundreds of families with young children eager to join the annual gathering for National Finals contests. The sight of enchanting children is vivid as they start to stream towards the registration desk of the campus building. A young girl, barely 6-7 years old, caught my eye. She was waddling along her mother, hand in hand. I hastily walked up to her and asked if she was excited about coming to the finals. "Yes," she comes back with a sure-fire reply. "I am going to compete in the Junior Spelling Bee," she continued. She had the quintessential traits of a young NSF participant - hard work, determination and a focused mind - all manifested in her prompt response.

As the day progressed, it was like the academic Olympics with participants challenging themselves to compete with the best while gaining life's lessons of facing challenges, gaining experience, and winning & losing. As providence would have it, I ran into that young girl after the awards ceremony. I got curious and asked her as to how the day had been and how she did in the contest. I gathered that she had not placed in the top ten. But, I was impressed when she quipped, "I didn't get a big trophy, but we are all winners." That message rings true and resonates with all the volunteers. "Yes! Everyone is a winner. Each participant at the Finals goes through rigorous preparation over many months," I thought to myself. It takes a lot of hard work for the participants at the finals and same goes for those in the regional competitions. Their preparation and hard work makes them winners. While only a select few get to be recognized with top ranks, every participant comes out smarter and gains valuable experience. So, I congratulated her and responded, "Yes! You are a winner."

Many a volunteer at NSF recognize this, but some eager parents understandably are concerned about their children winning the top tanks. While it is not possible for all the participants to accomplish that, the record shows that it is the children who participate consistently every year, that go on to win at the national finals. That simple truth seems to evade the most logical thinkers amongst us, especially during the stress of contests. But the facts bear out this gem of a message. Surely, I felt proud witnessing the confidence and the positive attitude of the young girl. "She will be back next year" was the strong message passing through my head; she will eventually win and see the rewards of success.

As any marathon runner would admit, the preparation starts the day after the previous race. It is not the exhilaration of the race day, but the joy of preparation, running through winding country roads or bustling city streets throughout the year that motivates a champion. With that thought, I turned my attention to the parents and enquired, "do you know about the tools available at NSF for year-round study?" They seemed to be unaware of the many online coaching programs and so the conversation went on. As with any volunteer, it also behooves me to let them know that NSF is grateful for their investment in the visit to finals. I would be remiss if I didn't tell them how the funds raised from the registration fee at the regional contests and workshops go towards the scholarships for bright students from economically backward families in India. While those parents seemed to be vaguely aware of these facts, they expressed surprise and a smug satisfaction that their hard-earned money went towards helping 2500 students per year pursue their dream of a college education in India. I waved good bye but was sure that I will see them again at the next finals.

Venkat Gade

CROSS WORD PUZZLE FOR KIDS

Find these words either vertically, horizontally, diagonally or backwards.

North, South, Foundation, Donation, Indian, Bee, Contest, Youth, Teen, Nation, Act, Find, Effort, Spelling, Math, Science, Tutoring, Coach, Dollar, Apana, Time, Talent, Ohm, Laws, Believe, Rest.

Dipti Sharma
parent of Om Sharma

N	S	M	B	E	E	M	R	E	S	T
O	O	B	E	L	I	E	V	E	P	A
I	U	R	E	F	F	O	R	T	E	L
T	T	W	T	L	A	W	S	E	L	E
A	H	I	C	H	T	A	M	E	L	N
D	O	N	A	T	I	O	N	N	I	T
N	H	D	T	U	T	O	R	I	N	G
U	M	I	C	O	A	C	H	U	G	S
O	A	A	O	Y	D	O	L	L	A	R
F	I	N	D	E	A	P	A	N	A	G
S	C	I	E	N	C	E	T	I	M	E



“Knock Knock” Jokes

What does a painter do when he gets cold ?
Puts on another COAT.

How do you have a party on a planet?
You have to plan-it

Knock knock Knock knock Knock knock Knock knock (8 times)
Who's there?
It's Octopus!

Jill stands behind Ben. Ben stands behind Jill? How?
They stand back to back.

I have 10 eyes, 5 noses and 20 ears. Who am I?
Ugly

What do cooks do with keys?
Make cook-keys (cookies).

What do cows see at night?
The moo-n (moon)

Where do cows go for entertainment?
To the moo-vies

What do you get from a dirty cow?
Spoilt milk

Aamod Apte
2nd Grade



NSF APNA Experience

I am a 10th grade student attending Enloe High School in Raleigh, NC. I have won several NSF and other spelling bees. This past summer, while visiting my grandparents in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, I conducted spelling and vocabulary workshops at Kendriya Vidyalaya Aliganj. My mission, during the course of the workshop, was to motivate students to continue learning new words, increase their English vocabulary, and encourage them to use the English language as much as they can. I wanted the students to become comfortable using English in daily conversation. I wanted to help the students build an interest to find and learn new words.

After discussing with them the plan for the workshop, I shared with the students the word pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis. I told the class the word, the longest word in the English dictionary, and asked them if they could guess what it meant and if they could try to spell it. The point of this activity was how to make longer words seem easier, and how to break apart such words to figure out the spelling and the meaning of the word. After many interested laughs and a few good tries from courageous students, I gave them the spelling, and instead of memorizing the spelling through rote memorization, a method they were used to, or writing the word over and over, we broke the word apart into word “chunks,” and used Greek and Latin word roots. By using the meanings of the language roots, we figured out the overall meaning of the word together, a lung disease caused by silica dust. Throughout the course of the workshop, this lesson remained with them as the “essence” of how to spell and figure out the meanings of words.

My main message to the students was that it does not matter if you cannot memorize all of this information. “All that matters is that you know how much influence prefixes, suffixes, and roots have on the meaning of a word, and that you should always look for new words to

learn.” I picked up on the first day of the workshop that the students were very curious about foreign languages such as Greek, Latin, French, Dutch, etc., so before we went over basic language patterns, I talked with them about all the different foreign languages in the world. I shared with the students different languages that fall under Indo European and Non-Indo European, and the subdivisions of these two main groups.

The next day, we went over language rules. I was very happy to know that most of the students in the workshop were taking German, the school’s only offering of foreign language. It prompted spurs of excitement as we went from language to language, and eventually to German! The day after, we reviewed all of the information that was shared throughout the workshop by reviewing the influence of prefixes, suffixes, roots, languages, and parts of speech on the meaning and spelling of any word. After this, the class took their written test. On the last day of the workshop, we conducted our Oral round! But before that, I talked a little bit with the students about how to break apart a word one has never heard before. All of the students did really well because, as I shared with them, the key is to break the word down, look for prefixes, suffixes, and roots, find the language, remember the language patterns, and slowly spell the word! I encouraged them to keep looking out for new words, keep reading, and use the words they learn in their everyday writing and conversation.

We then had our awards ceremony! Everyone was awarded a certificate of completion for completing the workshops and a small gift! The top 10 were then recognized and given certificates of excellence. Throughout the workshop, I tried as much as I could to kindle an interest in the English language and its words. I think that this is what we should stress more on while conducting such workshops because this worked for me. All of the students had a great time during the workshop; they all



were very interested and curious. They all laughed at funny things or rules they heard. But most of all, they tried their hardest to learn what was being shared with them. That is how I know that I left a mark on all of the students. That is how I know I made a difference.

Sparking an interest of learning new words and using them in daily writing and speaking seemed like a difficult task to do with students. The students knew basic English words and were not that comfortable using English in conversation, but I am very content and overjoyed that I did so and encouraged the students to keep doing so in the future. I would like to thank North South Foundation for such an incredible experience and for opening to me a tremendous opportunity to perform

workshops for students and teachers all over India. I would like to thank the head of NSF APNA program Mr. Venkat Gade for helping me throughout the process. I would also like to thank my local Raleigh, NC chapter head Mr. Chockalingam Ramiah for his support and for providing me with certain materials needed for the workshop. Lastly, but definitely not least, I would like to thank my parents for assisting me in preparing and conducting the workshops and for being alongside me and helping me whenever I needed it.

Kartik Tyagi
10th Grade
Raleigh, NC

NSF - A Poem

Everyone requires a stable start,
Mine was when I started the foundation of smart.

NSF is unlike any other organization,
It makes me a responsible individual of this nation.

It helps far-away children get education,
While giving others skills of communication.

Even though NSF gets tiring,
It helps one find something inspiring.

NSF provides the basic steps,
The child's support for basic prep.

Ayati Lala
(6th Grade)



The NSF Alumni Association

A way to give back and engage

As elementary and middle school students, many of us knew NSF to be a channel to compete against some of the best and brightest kids in the country, in spelling bees, math bees, vocabulary bees, geography bees, and more. As high school students, some of us continued to participate in the essay writing, public speaking and brain bees, and even fewer of us came back to volunteer at regional and national contests.

Though our eligibility for the NSF contests may have ended, we can still keep in touch with the friends we've made and the wonderful organization that has given so much to us. This, coupled with the goal to enable the alumni to be the future of NSF, was the guiding process behind the creation of the NSF Alumni Association.

The NSF Alumni Association started as an idea, and slowly transformed with the creation of a Facebook

group as an avenue for engagement. Most recently, the 25th Anniversary of the North South Foundation educational contests has served as impetus for the launch of the Alumni Association with the first of many alumni networking events at this year's National Finals in Houston. As NSF alumni, our goal is to make this effort empowered by alumni, powered for alumni.

We have thoroughly enjoyed working with Dr. Chitturi, the Nationals Team, and other alumni over the past several months, and we're just getting started. We look forward to seeing the connections and impact that the alumni make at this year's National Finals, and we can't wait to see where the momentum of the North South Foundation Alumni Association takes us.

**Mahati Vavilala and
Rajiv Tarigopula**

NSF IS CARING FOR EVERYONE

Non-profit

On the role

Reviving knowledge and getting it under control

To make kids smart

Helping them when they dart

Soon the kids will be the best

On the day of the test

Unbreakable knowledge

Then you'll be ready for college

Here at NSF, they prepare you for everything

Freaking out won't make you the king

Ok if you don't win

U just try again with a twin

Not just students it helps, NSF cares for kids in poor
nests

Delhi to Dallas across the Globe

Allowing the kids to learn more

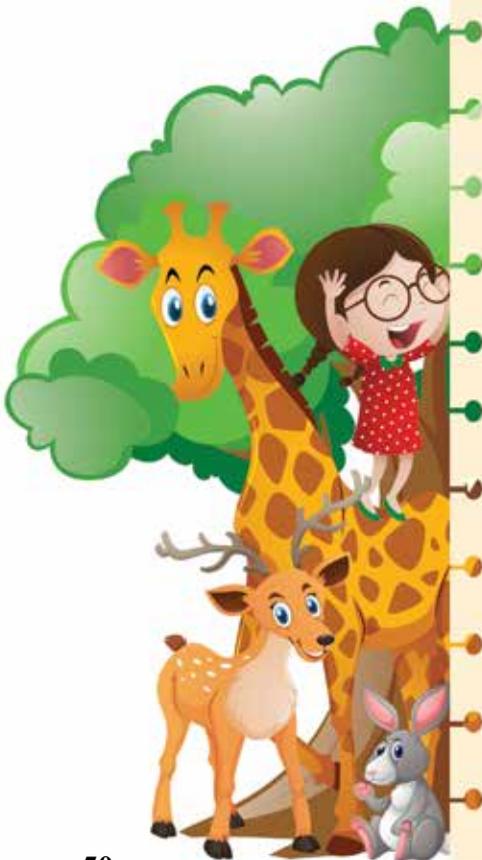
Thinking skills are important

I love NSF because they are informant

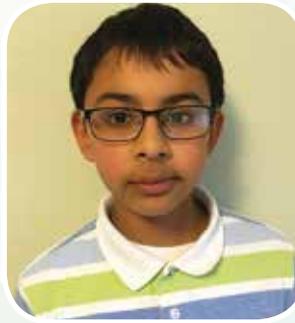
Outstanding job they do

Never get discouraged by BOO

Aarav Lala
3rd Grade



Junior Vocabulary BEE



Aarav Prakash
Bellevue, WA



Abhilash Patel
Harriman, NY



Abhinav Rajaraman
Naperville, IL



Abraham Thomas
Schaumburg, IL



Akash Vukoti
San Angelo, TX



Akhil Jois
Carmel, IN



Akhil Tirumalaseti
Katy, TX



Akshainie Kamma
Round Rock, TX



Akshainie Kamma
Round Rock, TX



Anik Banerji
Houston, TX



Anjali Janardhanan
Hilliard, OH



Anoushka Aisola
Buffalo Grove, IL



Anoushka Rai
Plano, TX



Anoushka Sajja
Omaha, NE





Anvita Vinu
Hoffman Estates, IL



Arith Mantravadi
Okemos, MI



Arjun Bharadwaj Nelabhotla
San Jose, CA



Avani Prabhu
Johns Creek, GA



Bharat Nambisan
Menomonee Falls, WI



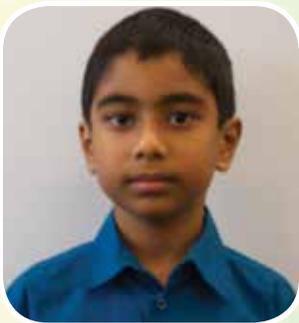
Brijnandan Saranu
Austin, TX



Charan Venkataswamy
Athens, PA



Chavi Lakhotia
Tampa, FL



Dev Shah
Largo, FL



Dhruvad Krishna
Austin, TX



Diya Patel
Coral Springs, FL



Esha Anand
San Diego, CA



Gautham Ashok
Gurnee, IL



Gayatri Iyer
Shrewsbury, MA



Gyanesh Velu
Sugar Land, TX



Harini Logan
San Antonio, TX





Harini Venkatesh
Plano, TX



Ishaan Ramesh
Rochester, NY



Ishita Cumer
Johns Creek, GA



Joseph Kurumkulam
Jacksonville, FL



Joshika Varma Pakalapati
Redmond, WA



Krishna Harish
Sugar Land, TX



Vivaan Kottapalli
Buffalo Grove, IL



Maya Jadhav
Fitchburg, WI



Moubon Kurukumbi
Fairfax, VA



Naman Mutalik Desai
Redmond, WA



Nandana Nishanth
Lynnfield, MA



Nidhi Begur
Boca Raton, FL



Nidhi Mandrekar
Marlton, NJ



Nikhil Katiyar
Tampa, FL



Nishanth Doppalapudi
Hoover, AL



Nithya Kannan
Novi, MI





Nitya Kathiravan
Edison, NJ



Ojas Shrivastava
North Brunswick, NJ



Pranamyia Shrikant
Coppell, TX



Raghini Merneedi
Prairie View, IL



Raya Jogi
Bellaire, TX



Ria Shah
Burlington, NC



Rijul Ashar
South Amboy, NJ



Rishith Arra
Royal Palm Beach, FL



Rishitha Marri
Weston, FL



Rithvik Akasam
Dunlap, IL



Sagar Deshpande
Plainsboro, NJ



Samaara George
Novi, MI



Samanyu Ganesh
Atlanta, GA



Samarth Shastri
Fremont, CA



Satvik Pochiraju
Lewis Center, OH



Shaanvi Mahesh
Santa Clara, CA





Shreya Anand
Plantation, FL



Shreyas Sharma
Plano, TX



Shreyes Suribhotla
Cupertino, CA



Shrisha Prakir
Fremont, CA



Siddharth Pericherla
Frisco, TX



Siddharth Shankar
Farmingdale, NJ



Siri Mutalik Desai
Naperville, IL



Sreehemant Atluri
Mccordsville, IN



Srika Kondareddy
Irving, TX



Srimedha Kaligotla
Morrisville, NC



Sudarshan Praveen
Apex, NC



Vaibhav Pradeep
Winter Garden, FL



Vaidehi Ramachandrula
Brookfield, WI



Vaishnavi_Iyer
Shrewsbury, MA



Varnika Pavirala
Houston, TX



Varun Harith
Austin, TX





Varun Hittuvalli
Allen, TX



Vasundara Rajan
Portland, OR



Vedanti Patil
Portland, OR



Vihaan Parikh
Santa Clara, CA



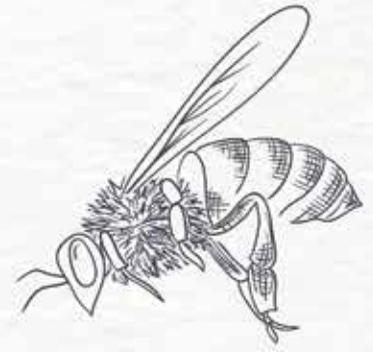
Vikrant Chintanaboina
San Jose, CA

Not Pictured

- Saasthra Bojja
- Aydin Daniel
- Shreyas Kakanuru
- Kannan Nagabandi
- Chinmay Rajesh
- Diya Somnali
- Eshaan Srintan
- Rohan Subramaniam



The Bee



NSF's motto, "Bee the best you can Bee!"
Is really important to me.
I do hope that you'll agree.
We can appreciate the bee(s).

Beaufort, Baltic, Bering Sea...
I was studying for geography.
My mom asked if I'd enter the Bee.
I couldn't disagree.

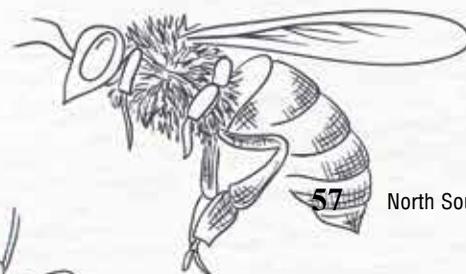
Winning can give you glee.
But participating can do so as well, you see.
It's as easy as taking a cup of tea.
To start: become an enrollee.

Next; study, study, and study.
Paying attention is the key
To studying for the Bee.
While you work, you can have a Brie.

These are days to be spent carefree
It might seem dreary
To study while you're a wee
Little one no older than me.

It will really give you a glee,
Being in the Bee is worth the fee.
Just sit under a tree.
Study and have a cup of tea.
PARTICIPATE IN THE BEE.

Ranjana Ramesh
6th Grade



Value creation with NSF

Integrity, Persistence and Commitment are the three main core values to name a few that North South Foundation has cultivated in my sister and me over the years. However, this does not start in just few months. Hard work demands time and enthusiasm from any child who joins this journey. But we all are winner taking this step.

My friends this story starts three years back when I was in 3rd grade. One pleasant morning, we went to Lord Ganesha temple for a celebration. The night before my sister was sick and we were contemplating the decision to drive 30 miles. We reached there on time. There was food and the environment was festive.

We met one of our best friends who mentioned about North South Foundation. He painted the complete picture and I saw myself as a happy winner. I decided to participate in various bees NSF offers, even though Math and Science being my favorite two subjects.

The first year was not good and I struggled but thanks to the various webinars and online classes that NSF offers, it brought a whole learning environment to my

fingertips.

Qualified twice for Nationals in Math and Science, I feel so proud of our community where we are challenging and helping students to develop the skills above there grade level.

I am very thankful to my parents for making the decision that day and driving to the temple. That one decision has made a remarkable difference and cultivated the core values we have now due to NSF.

I encourage all of you to have a motto in life that everything is “within your reach”. I am glad that we are a part North South foundation family.

Anant & Advika Asthana
(5th and 1st Grade)

The Heroes Around Us

NSF is a great, non-profit organization devoted to helping kids across the world. Kids in America pay money to compete in competitions, and the money raised is sent to India so poor yet capable kids can study there, making it a win-win for students from both countries.

The volunteers are an integral part of NSF. Thousands of parents and young adults who are hosting these competitions across the nation work very hard to make sure that these programs go on smoothly. They go to work or school just like other people and have busy lives, but still allocate their precious time to help other kids. They want the next generation to thrive and reach their maximum potential. Hosting these competitions and workshops surely takes a tremendous amount of time, hard work, dedication, and commitment, so we should truly appreciate their efforts.

Our parents are also very devoted to enlightening our futures. Including the cost of the competition, traveling,

and waking up early, it takes a lot to go to these events, yet our parents still take us there. And even though it may be indirect, our parents are still helping to raise money for the poor kids of India. If our parents didn't take us to competitions and help us prepare, less money would be raised, and it would be challenging for NSF to support the needy children. Our parents sacrifice so much for our education, and they are always thinking about brightening the life ahead of us, so we should also value them for their time and generous actions.

Our parents and the volunteers are very diligent in making us successful. You probably are reading this during the national competitions. So, after you think about all of this, be sure to thank your parents and the volunteers for the sacrifices for your better future, make you successful, and leave a positive mark on the story of your life.

Jaansi Patel
3rd Grade
Edison, NJ



Intermediate Vocabulary BEE



Aditya Karnataki
Cupertino, CA



Aditya Bachina
Sharon, MA



Aditya Chezhiyan
Bristow, VA



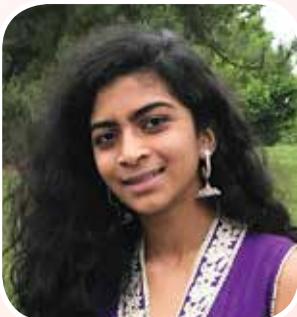
Aditya Mamidi
Middlebury, CT



Adrija Rukmini
Charlotte, NC



Yuvan Chali
Frontenac, MO



Aishani Patnaik
Ashburn, VA



Akhilsai Damera
Marlborough, MA



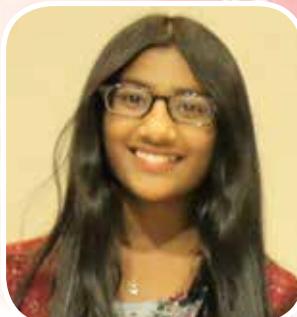
Ananya Dhanawade
Briarcliff Manor, NY



Ananya Vinay
Fresno, CA



Anmol Dash
Buffalo Grove, IL



Ann Mathew
Broadview Hts, OH

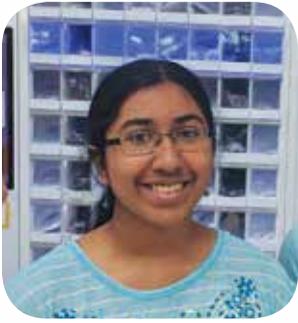


Arghya Roy
Morrisville, NC



Arushi Cumer
Johns Creek, GA





Ashna Chali
Frontenac, MO



Aum Jhaveri
Katy, TX



Balaadithya Muralitharan
Omaha, NE



Chegu Vijay Aashray
Redmond, WA



Deeksha Easwar
Portland, OR



Dheepthi Mohanraj
Charlotte, NC



Dhruv Nair
Cupertino, CA



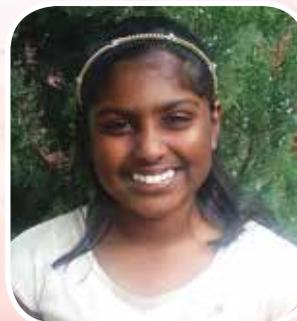
Eshaan Agarwal
Peoria, IL



Gautham Sanil
Cedar Park, TX



Haasa Gaddipati
Waukesha, WI



Hephzibah Sujoe
Fort Worth, TX



Ishaan Akula
Morganville, NJ



Ishya Bhavsar
Pv, KS



Jashun Paluru
West Lafayette, IN



Jaya Choudhary
Canton, MI

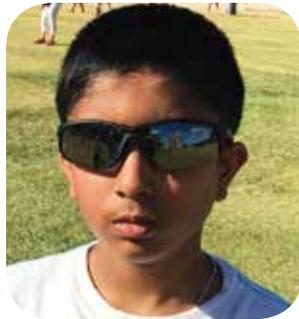


Kaaviya Shenbaharaman
Plano, TX





Kanush Nishant
San Diego, CA



Kartik Ramachandrula
Brookfield, WI



Keerthi Kongani
Orange, CT



Kushi Gowda
Brookfield, WI



Lakshmi Vemula
Dallas, TX



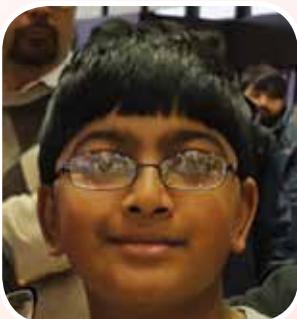
Manu Perinchery
Austin, TX



Mira Dedhia
Western Springs, IL



Miriam Alex
Nashua, NH



Myron Paes
Marlton, NJ



Nairit Sarkar
Plano, TX



Namitha Vadlamudi
Woodbury, MN



Nandana Avasarala
Smyrna, GA



Nandhini Nair
Lincolnshire, IL



Nathaniel Mathew
Schaumburg, IL



Navin Ramesh
N Chelmsford, MA



Navya Manne
Bethlehem, PA





Naysa Modi
Monroe, LA



Neha Chelamkuri
Frisco, TX



Nithin Anand
Dublin, OH



Nithya Krishna
Saratoga, CA



Parth Shastri
Princeton, NJ



Parthiv Javangula
Irving, TX



Pavani Chittemsetty
Bentonville, AR



Piyush Patil
Rochester, NY



Pradnesh Thoppy
Bernardsville, NJ



Pragya Choudhary
Canton, MI



Pranathi Jammula
Austin, TX



Pranav Chemudupaty
Pearland, TX



Raghav Arun
Cary, NC



Raihaan Girish
Spring, TX



Ramyaka Annambhotla
Southbury, CT



Ranjana Ramesh
N Chelmsford, MA





Rashi Lakhota
Tampa, FL



Richa Juvekar
Westford, MA



Rishi Gabbita
Mason, OH



Rishik Gandhasri
San Jose, CA



Rohan Dalal
Johns Creek, GA



Rohan Raja
Irving, TX



Rohith Raghavan
Sharon, MA



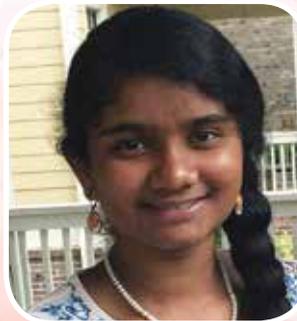
Roshni Kainthan
Morris Plains, NJ



Saathvik Gowda
Brookfield, WI



Saathvik Selvan
Weston, FL



Sahasra Maddu
Decatur, GA



Samhita Kumar
Gold River, CA



Samhitha Yeleti
Suwanee, GA



Samyukta Iyer
Kennesaw, GA



Shail Bhatmuley
San Diego, CA



Shakti Anand
Frisco, TX





Sharvaa Selvan
Weston, FL



Sharvani Vadlamani
South Brunswick, NJ



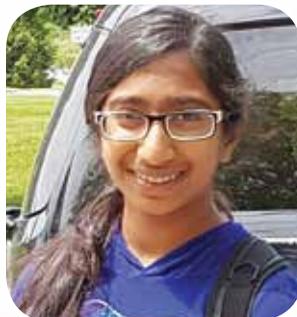
Shikha Surupa
Louisville, KY



Shreeya Kar
San Jose, CA



Shreya Mogulothu
Plainsboro, NJ



Shreya Mogulothu
Plainsboro, NJ



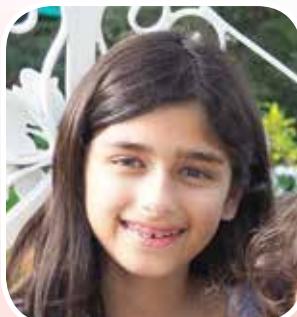
Shreya Shankar
Bridgewater, NJ



Shrinidhi Jeyaram
Chelmsford, MA



Shruthika Padhy
Cherry Hill, NJ



Shyla Jogi
Bellaire, TX



Siddharth Doppalapudi
Hoover, AL



Smruthi Shashidhar
San Antonio, TX



Sravanth Malla
Haverstraw, NY



Sreeniketh Vogoti
Saint Johns, FL

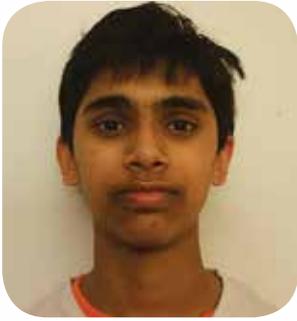


Srikar Chittamsetty
Bentonville, AR



Srikrishna Darbha
College Station, TX





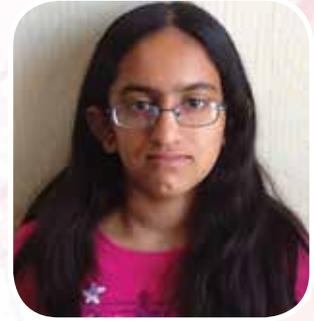
Sudarshan Atmavilas
South Riding, VA



Sumedha Kota
Carmel, IN



Tushar Bhagawatula
Austin, TX



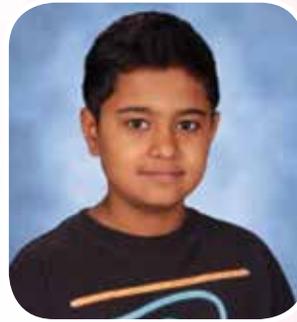
Varenya Chilukuri
Scottsdale, AZ



Varun Gupta
Middleton, WI



Vayun Krishna
Sunnyvale, CA



Vijay Ravi
Troy, MI



Yash Pandit
Germantown, MD



Yash Permalla
Trumbull, CT

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How NSF Helped Me Become A MathCounts National Finalist

I am currently in sixth grade. This year, I was invited to the MathCounts National competition. Throughout my academic journey, NSF supported me in various ways.

I have been competing at NSF since first grade. This gave me a realistic view where I stand, and provided me a platform from which to rise up in academics each year. It helped me set a specific goal in my studies to work towards or reach beyond.

At the NSF competitions, all the volunteers are encouraging, and the environment is supportive as well as inviting. This in itself was very motivating for me.

I come back to NSF year after year because I get to meet others who share an interest with me. I meet many like-minded and very intelligent students from all over the U.S at the national level of the competitions. This is a very humbling experience for me.

I also learn from other people in interesting ways, along with their views. NSF not only showed me the interesting side of academics, but competitions as well.

NSF also helped me prepare for the math that I see in MathCounts in many ways. At first, it gave me a level of math to improve from, and it gave me a challenge as well as an environment that motivated me to work hard on math.

The community that NSF forms is amazing, and the way that other students excel in competitions around the U.S. in all academic subjects because of the organization is very inspiring to me. The organization promotes learning, and I believe that it is the perfect playground for students who are interested and involved in academics. NSF helped pave the path towards my success in MathCounts.

Anshul Rastogi
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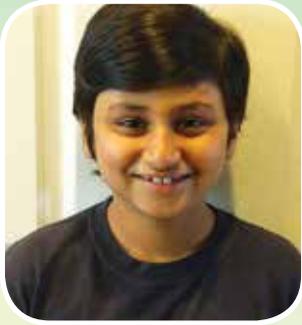


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Yash Mittal
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Rohan Anand
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Aydin Daniel
Arjun Grandhe
Aakaash Jamadagni
Anagha Jayaraman
Deepak Jeevananthan
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My Math Bee Experience

I still remember that evening last year when my mom came home from work and told me with lot of excitement, “Today I heard about a great organization called NSF who conducts competitions here to help kids’ education in India. I think you should participate in their math competition”.

I was like “What? Why? I am doing great in my class, getting good grades. Why do I need to challenge myself through a competition?” I had a long conversation with my parents on this topic but as always I had no choice but listen to them! My parents convinced me that I should prepare myself and try my best in the exam. As expected, my parents started getting books and making me do more and more math, higher than my grade level. I was little frustrated but as I like math, doing more challenging problems was actually interesting.

Anyway, I practiced for few weeks before appearing for the Math Bee level 2 exam. I thought it will be similar to my grade exams and I would do just fine.

The test started with the phase 1 questions. First few were easy but then the problems started becoming little hard. I was working through those slowly and suddenly the lady in the room announced that only 10 minutes were left to complete phase 1. I still remember that moment; I almost got a panic attack. I had so many problems left at that time. I realized that I made a huge mistake by not tracking the time from the beginning. I speeded up and somehow finished all the sums but I knew I didn’t do well. I was quite upset and didn’t even get out of the chair during the break. Then the multiple choice section started. I was faster but still the pressure of ‘timed exam’ was not letting me focus completely. Finally the exam was over. I came out with a sad face. My parents were very supportive saying that it’s ok, experience is more important than winning. But I knew I could do better. That day I learnt what to expect when I will go for competitive exams in future. Only studying doesn’t help. There are other factors that affect the exam as well.

The results came out and, as expected, I was not in top three. This was actually an eye opener for me because I was always known in my class for being best in math. I realized that there are many kids of my age who are much smarter, and they know how to handle the situation under stress. I made some friends while waiting for the results and was so glad to talk to them about their learning experience. I watched the geography bee and spelling bee contests and was amazed to see how

confidently they were answering. I learnt that no matter how good I do in school, I have to keep preparing myself for better. I came home a little sad but with a very positive energy.

I promised myself that I will take this exam seriously and will be better prepared next year. The time came again this year. My parents didn’t have to force me this time; I was preparing myself as per the syllabus. On the exam day, I confidently went in the exam hall and told myself that next one hour I have to just focus on my test. This time I made no mistake with time. I finished both sections within time limit and came out smiling. Finally it was time for the award ceremony. I sat there with other kids and was eagerly waiting for the Math Bee results, which was the last one among all other subjects. When my name was not called for 3rd or 2nd place, I was little upset. I believed that this time I gave my 100% and was thinking whether I made some silly mistakes which made my answers wrong. Right then, my name was announced for the 1st place and I jumped out of my seat. I was so proud to receive the trophy from Dr. Chitturi, the founder of NSF organization who was visiting the chapter that day. It was such an amazing feeling! It felt like a great accomplishment. I was extremely happy!

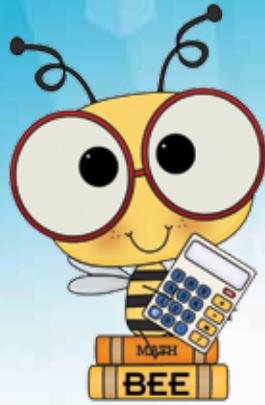
Now I am preparing for the national. Whether I win or not, I want to have the experience how a national competition feels like. I am looking forward to talk to other kids who love math and want to discuss what they want to do in future.

Thank you Math Bee! I will always cherish the learning, experience, fear, stress, making new friends and the process of working hard and trying my best. I truly believe that these tests definitely help us gain confidence and the preparation at a higher level will definitely be helpful when we go to higher grades. I will continue coming back for math bee every year and next year I am planning to prepare for science bee as well. I am so glad that my parents forced me to do this!

Bikrant Bhattacharyya
5th grade



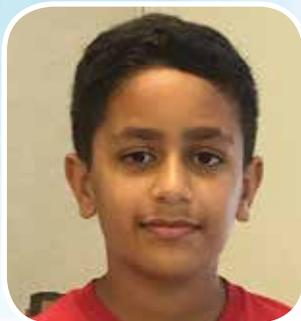
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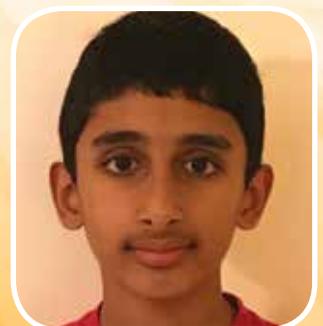
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Ananya Bezbaruah
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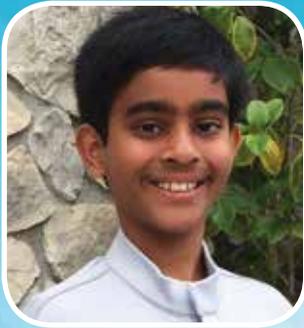


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Andrew Sebastian
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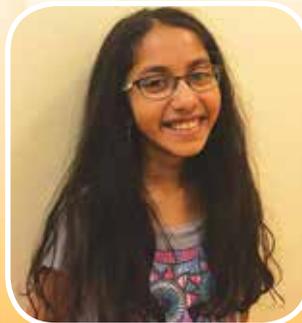
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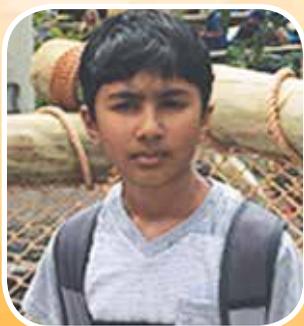
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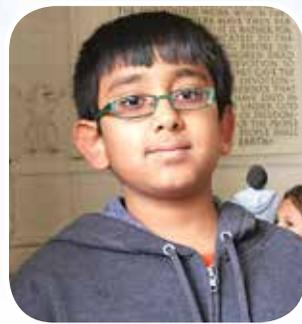
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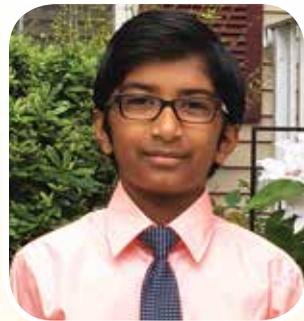
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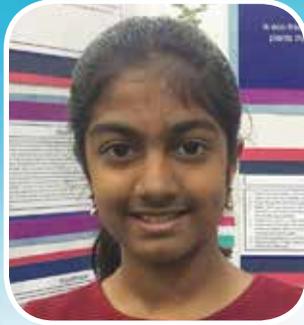


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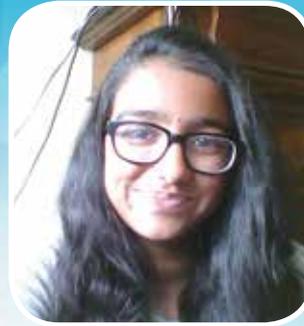




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Kendall Park, NJ



Vineet Saravanan
Rochester Hills, MI



Vinesh Jarajapu
Tampa, FL



Vishal Nandakumar
South Portland, ME





Vishnu Mangipudi
Bellevue, WA



Vishnu Palreddy
Avon, CT



Yash Dewangan
Saint Johns, FL



Not Pictured

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Saranya Anantapan-
tula
Anik Bora
Nirmit Brahma
Parameshwar
Chamarthi
Ayan Chaudhry
Anish Chhabra
Vihaan Choudhary

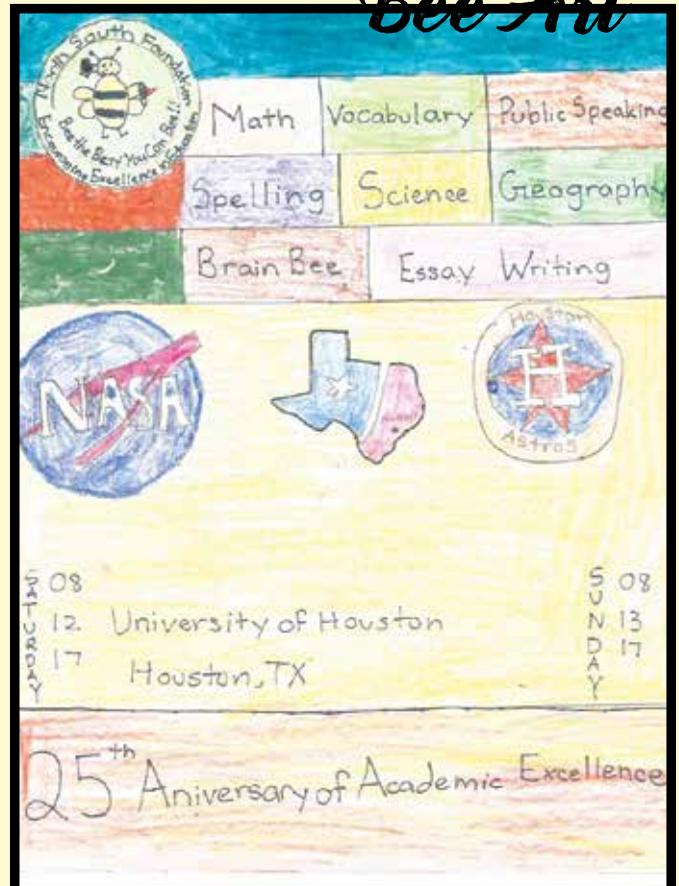
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Suwanee, GA



Aadit Juneja
Buffalo Grove, IL



Aashna Kalyankar
Canton, MI



Aastha Sharma
Overland Park, KS



Aatmodhee Goswami
Austin, TX



Aayan Patel
Reno, NV



Aditi Sengupta
Charlotte, NC



Aditya Akula
New Albany, OH



Aditya Bachina
Sharon, MA



Aditya Chezhiyan
Bristow, VA



Advay Goel
Acton, MA



Aishani Patnaik
Ashburn, VA



Aishani Saxena
Overland Park, KS



Akshay Shyam
Plano, TX





Alan Abraham
Olathe, KS



Aman Tewari
Austin, TX



Amogh Bollapalli
Novi, MI



Aniket Biswal
Carmel, IN



Ankit Bisain
San Diego, CA



Anshul Rastogi
Concord, NH



Anush Beeram
Plano, TX



Anvith Aravati
Brookfield, WI



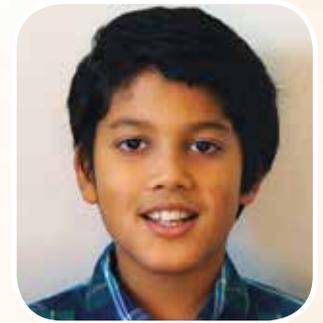
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Fremont, CA



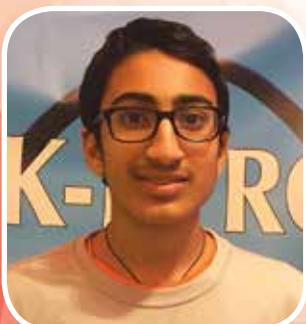
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Farmington, CT



Arushi Mantri
Portland, OR



Aryaan Jena
Morris Plains, NJ



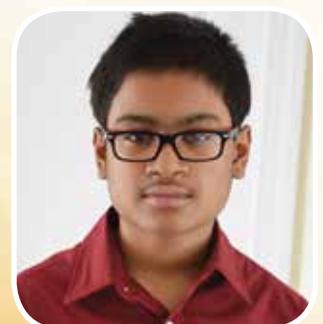
Ashish Dhanalakota
Chesterfield, MO



Ashwath Seshamani
Issaquah, WA



Chinmay Krishna
Overland Park, KS



Chirag Biswas
Morrisville, NC





Chirag Verma
Redmond, WA



Darsh Patel
Reno, NV



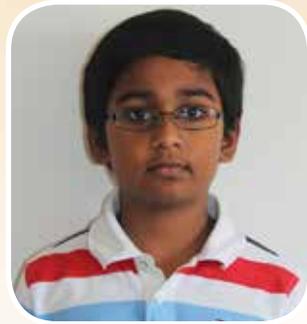
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N.Chelmsford, MA



Desigamoorthy Nainar
Lake Bluff, IL



Dheepthi Mohanraj
Charlotte, NC



Dinesh Bojja
Dublin, OH



Divyesh Murugan
Parsippany, NJ



Eshwar Venkataswamy
Athens, PA



Ganesh Sankar
Sunnyvale, CA



Harikesh Kailad
Kensington, MD



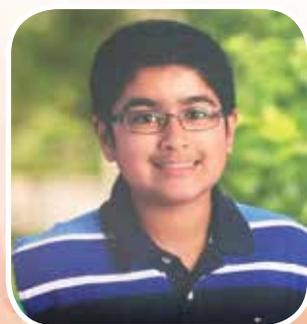
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Waukesha, WI



Harshil Garg
Sunnyvale, CA



Hursh Jha
Bellaire, TX



Ishaan Javali
Murphy, TX

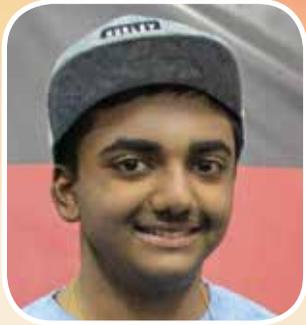


Ishita Goluguri
Westborough, MA

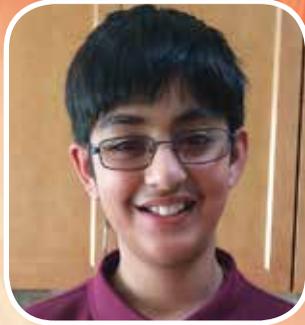


Jashun Paluru
West Lafayette, IN





Jeyamerun Subhas
Bothell, WA



Kanav Mittal
Sunnyvale, CA



Karthik Nemmani
Mckinney, TX



Karthik Vedula
Tallahassee, FL



Kashvi Gaddam
Hoover, AL



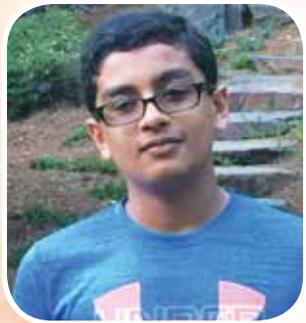
Kathir Meyyappan
Tyngsboro, MA



Khushi Kohli
Overland Park, KS



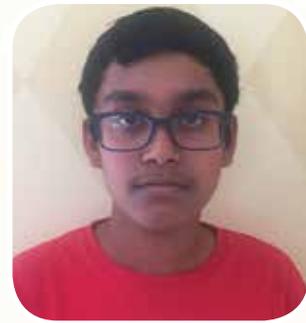
Kishan Bava
Livingston, NJ



Krutin Devesh
Plano, TX



Meghana Paruchuri
Farmington, CT



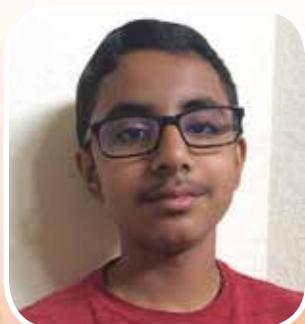
Monish Kumar
Orange, CT



Nairit Sarkar
Plano, TX



Nathra Ramrajvel
Naperville, IL



Naveen Mukkatt
Missouri City, TX



Nishank Kolla
Cupertino, CA



Nithin Anand
Dublin, OH





Nrihya Renganathan
Cary, NC



Parth Shastri
Princeton, NJ



Pranav Bandla
Glen Allen, VA



Pranav Srinivas
Okemos, MI



Prathinav Merneedi
Buffalo Grove, IL



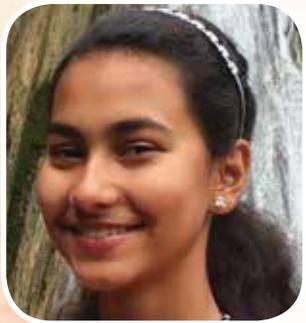
Puneet Bagga
Overland Park, KS



Raghav Arun
Cary, NC



Rima Chavali
Overland Park, KS



Risha Chakraborty
San Ramon, CA



Rishabh Gaur
Leawood, KS



Rohan Cherivirala
Sanford, FL



Rohan Krishnan
Manalapan, NJ



Rohan Kumar
San Ramon, CA



Rohit Chand
Overland Park, KS



Ronit Gupta
Brookfield, WI



Roshni Kainthan
Morris Plains, NJ





Ruthesh Thavamani
Troy, MI



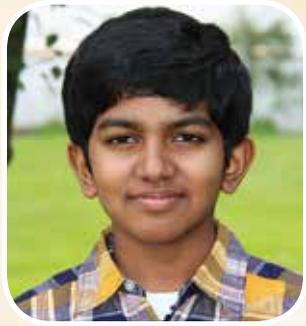
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Weston, FL



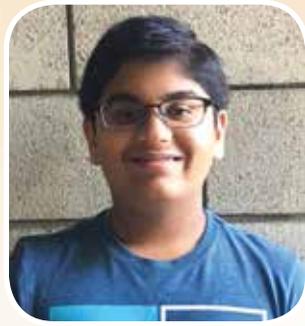
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Cary, NC



Sameer Komoravolu
Aurora, IL



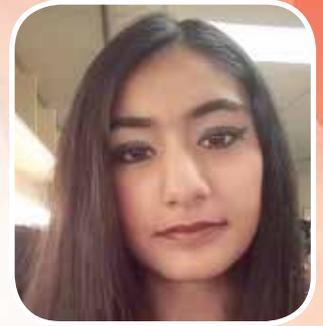
Samyan Nakkella
Collegeville, PA



Sanchit Singhal
San Diego, CA



Sanjay Suresh
Middleton, WI



Sanskruti Kulkarni
Redmond, WA



Sashank Ganapathiraju
Cary, NC



Sasmit Agarwal
San Jose, CA



Sathvik Medapati
Parsippany, NJ



Satvik Dasariraju
Princeton, NJ



Sejal Rathi
San Jose, CA



Sharvaa Selvan
Weston, FL



Shashank Jarmale
Billerica, MA



Sheshank Shankar
Sammamish, WA





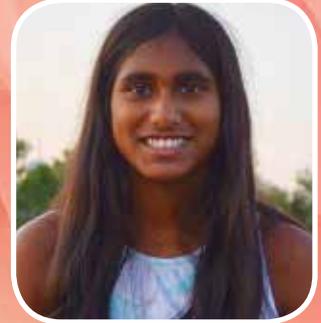
Shishir Vargheese
Overland Park, KS



Shouri Bochetty
Normal, IL



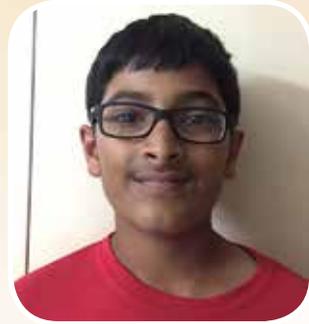
Shreya Mogulothu
Plainsboro, NJ



Shreya Ravikumar
San Ramon, CA



Shreya Sinha
Avon, CT



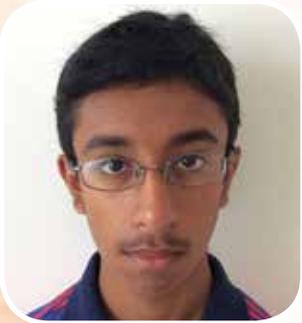
Shreyas Rana
Saratoga, CA



Siddharth Doppalapudi
Hoover, AL



Siddharth Vecham
Princeton, NJ



Soham Konar
Westerville, OH



Sohan Madishetty
Northville, MI



Sonok Mahapatra
Stamford, CT



Souptik De
Lakeway, TX



Sowmya Chundi
Carmel, IN



Sri Jaladi
St Louis, MO



Srijan Oduru
Cary, NC



Srikar Mallajosyula
Wilmington, MA





Srikar Venkatesan
Buffalo Grove, IL



Sujay Vadderaju
Chesterfield, MO



Tanush Mittal
Reading, MA



Tanusri Mandapati
Tallahassee, FL



Tarun Kumar_Martheswaran
Draper, UT



Tom George
Tucson, AZ



Utkarsh Goyal
Ashburn, VA



Vedanta Kompella
Cedar Rapids, IA



Vedesh Yadlapalli
Mechanicsburg, PA



Vikas Thoutam
Sugar Land, TX



Vikram Kakaria
Mechanicsburg, PA



Vivek Vallurupalli
Princeton, NJ



Yash Permalla
Trumbull, CT



Yashwanth Bajji
Troy, MI

Not Pictured

Adwit Aggarwal
Deepti Aggarwal
Rohan Badani
Arjun Bajaj
Maanas Baraya
Anirudh Bharadwaj
Pranay Boreddy
Sivansh Chitti
Adheet Ganesh
Devishi Jha
Greeshma Joseph
Anish Kashyap
Amber Kaul
Sribalaji Marella
Nilay Mishra

Shreyas Muthusamy
Ijay Narang
Aayan Patel
Darsh Patel
Aarush Prasad
Ameya Purao
Pravalika Putalapattu
Srinidhi Raghavendran
Varun Rajesh
Praneet Rathi
Shreyash Singh
Vishnu Surapaneni
Sukrith Velmineti
Akhil Yarlagadda
Himani Yarlagadda





The making of a champion

I have always believed that there is a certain amount of craziness needed to achieve higher things in life. I used to say this to my son, Pranay. A certain level of focus, dedication and planning is crucial to be a champion, and that's what my son demonstrated.

Being a parent, you need to understand your child's interests and act accordingly by guiding and providing your child with what is required for them to reach their ultimate potential. There will always be times people around you try to make you second-guess your choices or the direction you are taking your child in, but it is up to you how much you want to credit other people's judgments over your own assessment of your child. I have heard negative comments about my son's dedication towards the National Geographic Bee. They said the competition is nothing but memorization. Those of you who watched the third round of the National Geographic Bee Finals would have observed the responses to the Geo Challenge questions, and would have been in awe. It was nothing but pure brilliance, considering the time given to them to access the map, come up with an answer, and provide reasoning for the same. With just one round, the top ten proved that they know how the world works, how everything is interconnected and can even explain everything like experts.

That being said, learning or gaining knowledge is never a waste of time. Thinking otherwise will make the child mediocre in anything they pursue. No child will have the drive or cause to put their heart and soul into what they love to do if they keep on hearing the endless criticism.

Equally important, you should never involve kids in more than they can handle. To achieve greatness, one needs ultimate dedication towards a single goal. You must try to find your child's interest, and help them stick to it regardless of how steep the climb is. Furthermore, just one great accomplishment is enough to give your child lifelong confidence in their own ability, and the experience of overcoming hardships encourages them to persevere forever. Their first success will inspire them to pursue other great things throughout their life.

Even though your child may have great work ethic and knows their goals, their peers might pull them in the opposite direction. As a parent, you have to teach your child to understand that short term satisfaction is temporary, whereas when you work towards your goal with patience, it makes a major impact with only a

minor delay in gratification. In the end, the happiness felt through achieving ones goal lasts longer.

Based on your belief in their capability from time to time, you may have to guide them to work harder or remind them of their goals as outside influences or distractions might be stronger than you anticipated. When I heard the jokes my son's classmates made about his constant studying, I told him not to worry, because, one day, he would show his friends and classmates what it takes to be a champion.

Either way, you should always encourage your kids to give their best to anything they do regardless of whether it is a school grade or pursuit of something else. That is a must as it teaches them to value their time, work and sense of purpose.

As parents we should make every moment a teaching moment. After all, when they were babies, we were their first teachers. Parents of infants and toddlers should read them books, show them the world, encourage their curiosity, and do everything without limiting them. God has given you a blank canvas in the form of your child, so make the most of it. Fill it with colors, fill it with your imagination and fill it with whatever brings the best out of you and your child. As the book *Mindset*; the *New Psychology of Success* says, 'The world is made up of learners and non-learners, not defined by smart or dumb.'

A couple of moms at my son's school asked me, "How did you drill your son to be successful? Did you enforce a strict regime, did you sit along with him and force him to work every day?" When I mentioned that he studied on his own, one mom even asked (jokingly), "Can our child rub off him to become that sincere?" The truth is there is no mantra to become a champion. Constant encouragement, honest involvement, friendly guidance and reinforcement of their capability is the key.

If you believe in your child and their potential, if you are amazed by their sincerity and work ethic, make them believe that nothing can stop them from being a champion. Work with them with everything you've got, guide them sincerely, and let their goals be yours, because you care.



My son's victory led his school, which has more than a thousand students, to proudly declare themselves as the 'Home of the National Geographic Bee Champion' on the marquee outside the school for a whole month, led him to receive a personal letter from the Texan senator John Cornyn congratulating and recognizing his hard work and success, led the City of Irving, where we live, to proudly declare a day as Pranay Varada Day and even led us to meet the honorable Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is among the top leaders in the G20. As a parent these recognitions were proud moments and heartfelt accolades for his five years of perseverance and

commitment to become the 29th National Geographic Bee Champion. I wrote the first chapter of his journey, but with God's grace, he finished writing the book beautifully.

Vasuki Kodaganti
Parent of Pranay Varada
National Geographic Bee Champion 2017

NSF's role in my success

My name is Satvik Pochiraju. I am a third grader from Columbus, OH. I recently won the elementary division of the International Geography Bee's national championship in Chicago. My brother - Saket won for the Middle School Division. We worked really hard to accomplish it. But most of the credit to our success goes to NSF. NSF has helped us a lot to grow in education, especially in geography. I started attending NSF classes since I was in 1st grade,

I admire my brother Saket a lot, he is my role model. My brother won NSF National Senior Geography Bee Championship in 2015. He has also won the Ohio State Geography Bee Championship two times in a row. He inspires me to study with passion, dedication and to participate in competitions with enthusiasm.

Kids work very hard to win NSF championships, some will get success and some will not, even though a lot of kids don't make it they learn a lot. I like to compete in NSF, its real fun to see kids of same interest coming together not only to compete but to make new friends. This year I am participating in geography and vocabulary at nationals. I won my Regionals for the third time in a row and am going to NSF National competitions again.

No matter who wins, NSF is helping every kid in doing well in their education and at the same time raising funds to provide scholarship to other kids in India who are good in academics but needs financial help. This is my last year for Junior Geography Bee, so I want to win it. I will work really hard again. My experience with NSF has helped me win many bees. Thank you NSF for giving me a chance to learn and grow.

Satvik Pochiraju
Winner International Bee
US National championship



The Greatest Moment Of My Life

My victory at the 29th National Geographic Bee was not the end of a one-year process, but rather the culmination of a thirteen-year journey. I was not even two years old when I solved my first puzzle of the United States, and while I didn't know what "states" were at the time, I would eventually learn much more than that from the atlas my parents bought me when I was just three years old. My mom, having picked up on this, taught me the capitals of every country in the world, which I memorized unknowingly. By second grade – the year of my participation in the Dallas regional NSF junior geography bee – I was essentially an amateur geographer. I missed a few questions, but I won the regional bee. This motivated me to keep pursuing geography, especially since I had recently found out about the National Geographic Bee from one of my teachers.

In fourth grade, I participated in the bee for the first time. I had no idea what to expect, and I relied on what I had learned from looking at maps for six years to answer questions. I won my class and school bees and, defying my own expectations, passed the state qualification test. To help me prepare for the state bee, my parents bought me a new Oxford atlas and a series of books called Lands and Peoples. I placed second at state, defeating two future state champions. This experience encouraged me to keep trying to win Texas state championship, and then, hopefully, win the nationals. However, I didn't study very hard in fifth grade, and as a result of not spending enough time observing the map, I was eliminated in the top-ten tiebreakers at state championship. I was , but I joined Coach Kumar's coaching circle, which gave me a way to study for the following year.

As a result of the various assignments I had completed and facts I had collected, I felt more confident going into the 2015 state bee. I made it to third place before faltering on a history question, which would be one of the topics I decided to study for next year.

The day I lost was the day I began working on my country profiles, which I created because I needed to have all the information on every country in one place for easier access and memorization. I had finished more than a hundred countries by the time of the 2016 state bee. I knew that this would be the best chance I had ever gotten to win the bee, which I did with a perfect score. I had come a long way from missing three questions in 2013.

At the nationals, I got through preliminary rounds into the top ten by correctly answering three tiebreaker questions. In the top ten, I once again had no idea what to expect, I missed four questions before deciding Round 9, after which the top three would be announced. If I answered all three questions correctly, I would secure my place in the top three. Unfortunately, I missed the last question – the official language of Sierra Leone, and I was left with two options: quit, or try again next year. While I was crushed by the loss, I told myself that all

the work I had done over the past four years would be a waste if I didn't win, and that led to my decision to pursue. I would finish all the country profiles – which I began doing just after the bee – and worked a lot more on United States geography.

By October, I was done with the remaining 85 profiles, and by December, I completed the states. Having a schedule helped me stay on track and keep track of what I was doing. In December, I asked my mom to make electronic quizzes based on each profile, which she did. The quizzes enabled me to retain the information I had collected, and I was able to take every quiz at least twice. This mental preparation ended up being extremely useful, because the 2017 state bee was the toughest I had faced. The top three, which included Tanay Mannikar, Dhruv Nistala, and I, used up all the final round questions and went into tiebreakers.. Eventually, Tanay missed his second question, which led to a repeat final between Dhruv and me. We exhausted all the championship round questions, and, after writing down the last question's correct answer of Xi'an, I was declared state champion once again. I had survived the most difficult test and was ready for the national finals.

Leading up to D.C., I continued to study my material with the absolute goal of winning. Even in the hotel room, I went over my lists to make sure I was able to recall what I had learned. This time, I made it into the top ten without tiebreakers, allowing me to relax.

In the national finals, I was a little nervous, but still focused. By round two, I had more points than all other contestants, which helped increase my confidence. I missed just one question en-route to the top three, and despite not having the best reasoning on the Geo Challenge, I had picked up enough points to set up a championship round with another previous finalist, Thomas Wright. Once again, the contest went to tiebreakers (after a challenge on my part), and Mo Rocca asked both of us the same question: "What 1,200-mile mountain range separates the Taklimakan Desert from the Tibetan Plateau?"

I instantly wrote down "Kunlun Mountains," which, for the second time, I knew from studying China extensively. After Thomas's answer was revealed to be wrong, I was, at long last, declared the 29th National Geographic Bee Champion, the greatest moment of my life.

That moment could not have been possible without the support of my parents and sister, the encouragement of my friends, classmates, and teachers, and the organization of the National Geographic Society's members and staff. They all helped me tremendously on my path to success and a special shout out to my Mom for constant encouragement, unwavering support and wholehearted belief in me and my capability.

As Winston Churchill once said: "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts." Without persistence, victory is impossible. If you learn from your mistakes and come back even stronger than before, you, too, could become a champion!



Pranay Varada
29th National
Geographic Bee Champion



Junior Geography BEE



Aaditya Rane
Raleigh, NC



Aarav Prakash
Bellevue, WA



Aaruni Moudgal
Hopkinton, MA



Aarush Tutiki
Tucson, AZ



Abhilash Patel
Harriman, NY



Abhinav Kommana
Waukee, IA



Abraham Thomas
Schaumburg, IL



Aditya Prayagai
Novi, MI



Advik Rai
Clarksville, MD



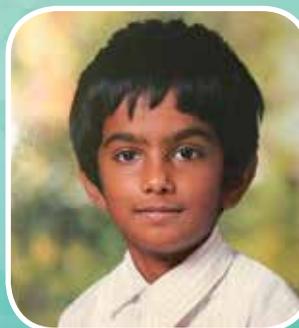
Aishvarya Prahalad
Atlanta, GA



Akarsh Kollu
Holmdel, NJ



Akash Vukoti
San Angelo, TX



Amal Balachundhar
Lexington, MA



Aman Wairkar
League City, TX





Amogh Virkar
Santa Clara, CA



Anish Raja
Cumming, GA



Anjali Prasad
Carmel, IN



Ansh Shah
Royersford, PA



Anshul Mantri
Portland, OR



Anya Dorairaj
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL



Arnav Penmetcha
Folsom, CA



Ashok Nambisan
Menomonee Falls, WI



Ayush Agarwal
Sammamish, WA



Bharat Nambisan
Menomonee Falls, WI



Bhavya Annamreddy
Herndon, VA



Dev Shah
Largo, FL



Harshini Chandilvel
Austin, TX



Ishan Polimetla
Bridgeville, PA



Jai Bhuvanapalli
Ashburn, VA



Karthik Panchangam
Montville, NJ





Kerav Agarwal
Kansas City, MO



Kesav Kalanidhi
Raleigh, NC



Lakshya Pradhyay Veguru
Wheeling, IL



Medha Modekurti
Buffalo Grove, IL



Naman Mutalik Desai
Redmond, WA



Nikhil Chowdhary
Sugar Land, TX



Nikhil Nair
Troy, MI



Nishanth Doppalapudi
Hoover, AL



Pranavkrishna Bharanidharan
Fair Oaks, CA



Priyanshu Jha
Tampa, FL



Raghav Karur
Troy, MI



Raghav Mantri
Chesapeake, VA



Rajarshi Mandal
Lexington, MA



Rajeeth Ganesan
Bloomington, IL



Sahasra Yenumula
Merrimack, NH



Satvik Pochiraju
Lewis Center, OH





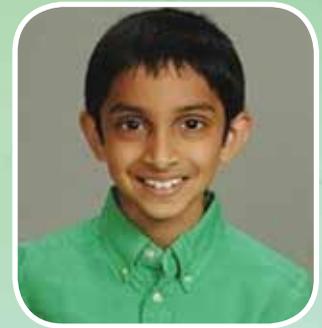
Shouryan Sirsi
Mineola, NY



Shreyan Joshi
Waxhaw, NC



Shriyog Andavan
Suwanee, GA



Sreehemant Atluri
Mccordsville, IN



Srinath Krishnan
Tustin, CA



Srinish Kollipara
Sunnyvale, CA



Vaibhav Pradeep
Winter Garden, FL



Vansh Chimaladinne
Plainsboro, NJ



Varun Hittuvalli
Allen, TX



Vidhyuth Viswanathan
Oakhill, VA



Vidur Kothur
Fenton, MO



Vivaan Kottapalli
Buffalo Grove, IL



Yash Patel
Nashua, NH

Not Pictured

- Parth Ashok
- Vihaan Choudhary
- Viraj Kope
- Abhinav Medi
- Nirmal Melam
- Vainav Mohanram
- Nithin Vemula
- Vikram Yeddula





Q. Where am I going to eat lunch?
A. At the New Delhi!

Q. Why did the geography student become a scuba diver?
A. His grades were below sea level!

Q. How do you get into Florida?
A. By using the Keys.

Q. Which city is the coldest in Europe?
A. Berlin

Q. Why was the map of Finland so elaborate?
A. It was given a lot of Finnish-ing touches!

Q. Where do people trade stocks?
A. Stockholm.

Q. What country is the world's largest manufacturer of ties?
A. Thailand.

Q. What did I do when I got in trouble?
A. Iran

Q. What did the teacher tell the students on Friday?
A. Stop being so Fiji-ty!

Q. Why wasn't anyone outside during the monsoon rains?
A. They were Indore.

Q. Which is the Germans' favorite type of burger?
A. Hamburger

Q. What did the girl say when she won the geography bee?
A. No-rway! I can't Belize this!

Q. Why are you Russian to the water fountain?
A. I ate some really spicy Chile.

Q. What do people use to make their hair sleek?
A. Cologne.

Q. What did the customer say to the waiter?
A. I'm Hungary for some Turkey!

Q. Which country is the most enthusiastic?
A. New Zealand.

Q. Where did you get that Bruges from?
A. I slipped on the Grand Staircase. *

Q. Where are people elected?
A. The Presidential Range.

Q. Where did the dolphin deposit its money?
A. At the river banks.

Q. What does Wisconsin's cheese sell for a lot of?
A. Moo-lah!

Q. Have you Aden anything today?
A. Yes, I had a banana Split earlier. **

Q. What do you call a map guide to Rikers Island? ***
A. A con-tour map!

Q. What are you going to watch on TV?
A. The English Channel.

Q. Where do fish buy their fins?
A. Finland.

Q. What is that smell?
A. Bir-m-ingham!

Q. What city is known for its cranberry production?
A. Canberra.

Q. What is the geologist's favorite toy to play with?
A. Marbles.

Q. What did the boy say when he broke the vase?
A. Oman! My Barents are going to kill me!

Q. Why didn't I ask you the capital of Alaska?
A. Because Juneau already.

Q. What did Delaware?
A. A New Jersey?

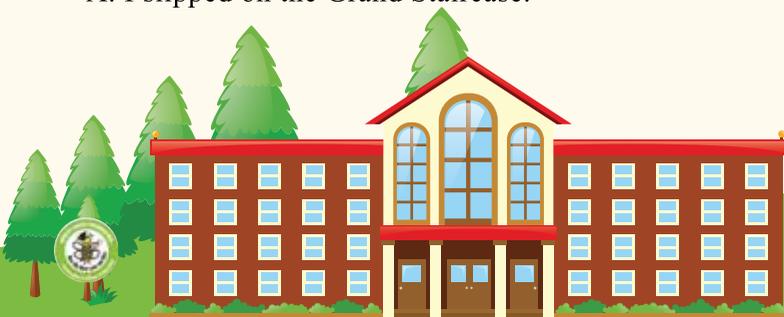
Q. What did the sensible boy say to his impractical younger brother?
A. I'm more Prague-matic than you.

Q. So what happened when you broke the globe?
A. Iran, because I was Ghana get into trouble.

*Grand Staircase is part of a national monument in southern Utah.

**Split is the second largest city in Croatia.

***Rikers Island is a famous prison and one of the world's largest correctional facilities.



Keshav Ramesh
8th Grade Windsor, CT

Senior Geography BEE



Aadi Karthik
Suwanee, GA



Aadit Juneja
Buffalo Grove, IL



Aaron Castelino
Morrisville, NC



Abhiram Jyosyula
Houston, TX



Abhiram Kapaganty
Suwanee, GA



Achyuth Parthasarathy
Scottsdale, AZ



Adhav Ravikumar
Franklin, WI



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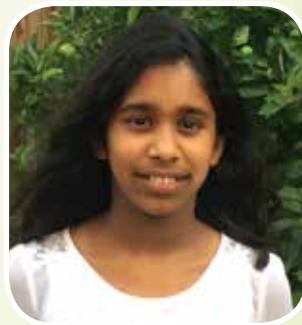
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Akshaj Enaganti
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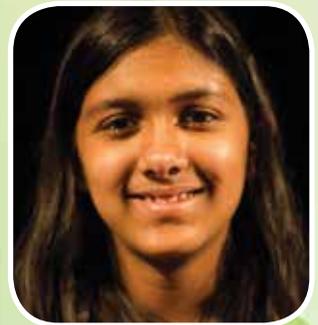
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Hayward, CA



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Anoushka Buddhikot
Bridgewater, NJ





Anuraag Deepak
Sugarland, TX



Anuragh Sriram
Asheboro, NC



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Brookfield, WI



Arman Saxena
Katy, TX



Ashish Jacob
Austin, TX



Ashmith Kumbala
Irving, TX



Atharva Rajanala
Boynton Beach, FL



Atharva Sharma
Franklin, WI



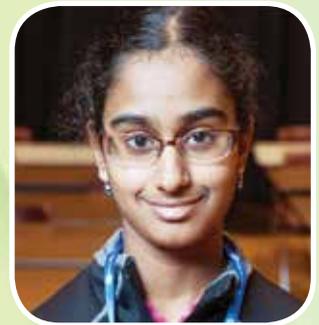
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Cary, NC



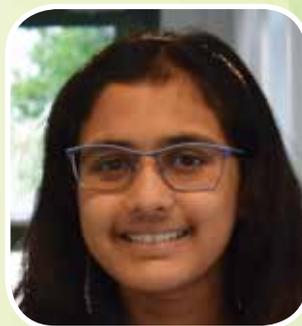
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Dhruv Nistala
Austin, TX



Disha Nistala
Austin, TX



Gargee Piplani
San Ramon, CA





Gayatri Kaimal
Tucson, AZ



Indus Boddu
Plainsboro, NJ



Jayanth Gorrepati
Vancouver, WA



Jeremiah Rayban
Hockessin, DE



Karthik Ainapurapu
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Karthik Varigonda
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Kaylan Patel
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Katy, TX



Keshav Narayanan
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Kishan Kalaria
Forth Worth, TX



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Maanas Mallela
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Mithil Pauskar
Massillon, OH

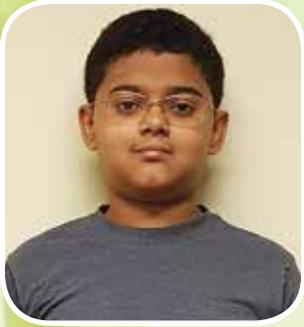


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Frisco, TX



Parwan Machingal
Nashville, TN





Pranav Bokka
Dayton, NJ



Pranav Rohit
Bedford, NH



Pranav Srinivas
Okemos, MI



Pranit Gunjal
Newark, DE



Pratheek Tangirala
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Raihaan Girish
Spring, TX



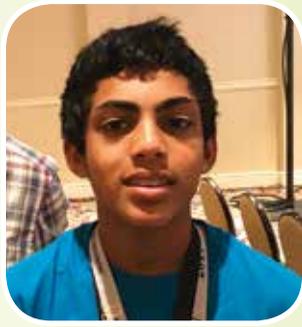
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Ritwik Ganguly
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Rohan Raja
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Rohan Rao
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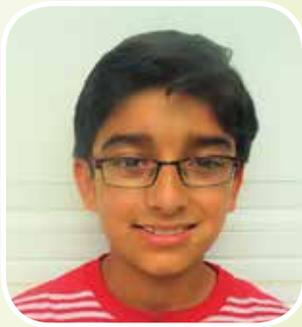
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Cary, NC



Sandhya Ganesh
Palm Harbor, FL



Shail Bhatmuley
San Diego, CA



Shayan Pandit
Sandy, UT



Shreyan Mitra
Santa Clara, CA



Shreyas Rajagopal
Cypress, TX





Shyaam Shanmugam
Pembroke Pines, FL



Siddardh Budamagunta
Cary, NC



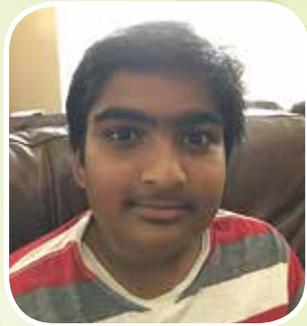
Siddharth Karthikeyan
Troy, MI



Soham Dihenia
Naples, FL



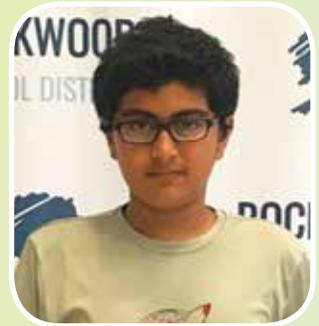
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Srikrishna Darbha
College Station, TX



Srivarun Hathwar
Virginia Beach, VA



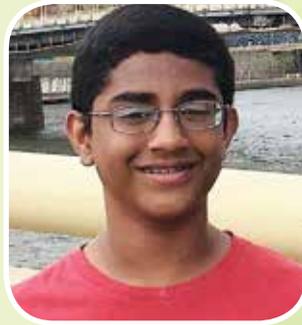
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Chesterfield, MO



Sumuk Anand
Monmouth Junction, NJ



Sumukh Venkatesh
San Jose, CA



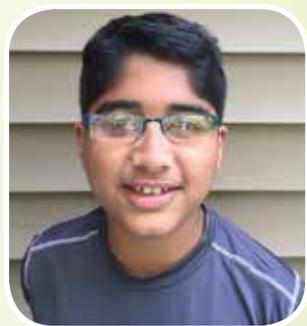
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Westford, MA



Tanishq Pauskar
Massillon, OH



Tej Patel
Nashua, NH



Vaibhav Hariram
Morrisville, NC



Vaishali Prahalad
Atlanta, GA



Varun Prabhu
Orange, CT





Ved Muthusamy
Northville, MI



Vedang Singhal
Cary, NC



Vedul Palavajjhala
Houston, TX



Vishnu Rejeesh
Cumming, GA

Not Pictured

Sumuk Anand
Navya Ashok
Milan Basak-Odisio
Anirudh Bharadwaj
Parameshwar
Chamarthi

Nikhil Cherukupally
Ahilan Eraniyan
Shreyash Goli
Dhiya Kannan
Rohit Maha Balaji
Prithvi Narayanan

Arjun Nathan
Praneet Rathi
Vedant Rathi
Achyuth Vivek
Rishabh Wuppalapati

Geo Jokes

Why is it so easy to get to Florida?
Because there are so many keys!

What is the world's most starving country?
Hungary

What is the scariest place to live?
Boo-livia

What is the best place to learn cooking?
Ja-pan

What place is the best place to enjoy Thanksgiving?
Turkey

What is the world's most mean country?
Haiti

Which are the world's laziest countries?
Slovenia and Slovakia

What country is the world's most luxurious country?
Luxembourg

What place has the most Christmas stockings?
Stockholm

Which rivers never attend any parties?
Miss-ouri and Miss-issippi

Why is Guatemala laughing all the time?
Because it is getting Tikal-ed

What is the world's most stinky river?
The Oder

What is a cat's favorite country?
Meow-ritania (Mauritania)

What did Dela wear?
A New Jersey

Which US State would you ask to fix machinery problems?
Tech-sas

What city in the world has two of everything?
Pair-is (Paris)

What island has the most roads?
Rhode Island

What country has more bungalows?
Bangladesh

Where do you find more sugar in USA?
Sugar Land

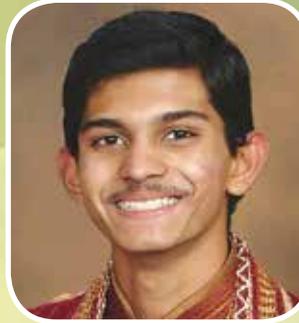
Which country measures only an inch of diameter?
In-dia

What is the spiciest country?
Chili

Satvik Pochiraju
3rd Grade Columbus, OH



Senior ESSAY WRITING



Abhijeet Sambangi
Andover, MA



Aditya Vargheese
Overland Park, KS



Amy Mathew
Broadview Hts, OH



Anirudh Iyer
Shrewsbury, MA



Avyay Surampalli
Aurora, IL



Kunal Sinha
Redmond, WA



Lipika Nariseti
Hilliard, OH



Meghana Annambhotla
Southbury, CT



Neha Thomas
Plano, TX



Riya Choksi
Odessa, FL



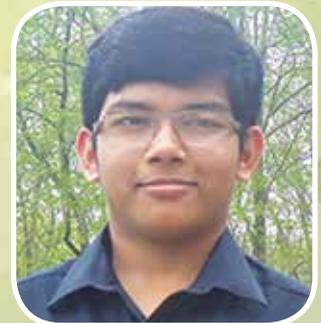
Sahana Narayanan
Kendall Park, NJ



Saivachan Ponnappalli
Katy, TX



Serena Behera
Lexington, MA



Shashwat Patel
Harriman, NY





Shreya Girish
Spring, TX



Shruti Verma
San Diego, CA



Siddhant Puranik
Katy, TX



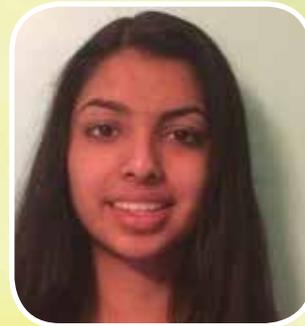
Siri Palreddy
Avon, CT



Sonali Singh
Farmington, CT



Sumana Nukala
Naperville, IL



Vanditha Kottapalli

Not Pictured

- Hemanth Asirvatham
- Varsha Ayyalapu
- Govind Chada
- Anvitha Kowtha
- Anushka Mehta
- Neil Raguthu
- Srinath Rangan
- Abhay Varmaraja
- Adhvaith Vijay



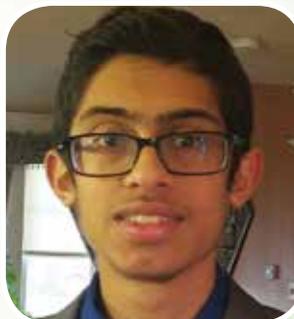
Khao Toh Jaano!

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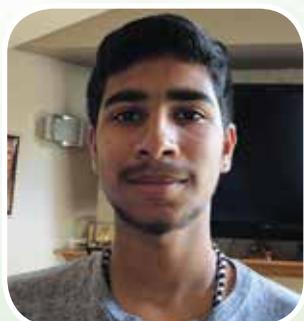
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PUBLIC SPEAKING**



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Shrewsbury, MA



Aparna Reddy
Westbloom Field, MI



Avyay Surampalli
Aurora, IL



Kartik Tyagi
Cary, NC



Kauvya Palle
Plainsboro, NJ



Kunal Sinha
Redmond, WA



Neha Palle
Plainsboro, NJ



Pooja Palle
Plainsboro, NJ



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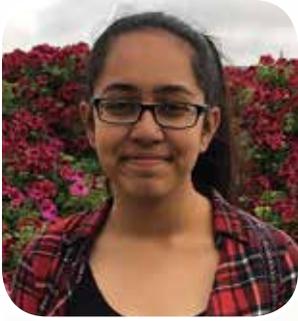


Sheethal Ayalasomayajula
Morrisplains, NJ



Shreya Girish
Spring, TX





Shruti Verma
San Diego, CA



Siddhant Puranik
Katy, TX



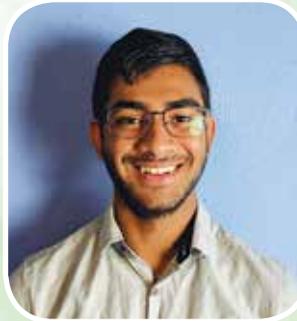
Siri Palreddy
Avon, CT



Sonali Singh
Farmington, CT



Sumana Nukala
Naperville, IL



Srijith Kambala
Grade 11

Not Pictured

Hemanth Asirvatham
Govind Chada
Ajay Jayaraman
Srijith Kambala
Anvith Kowtha
Anushka Mehta

Chetan Raguthu
Neil Raguthu
Srinath Rangan
Abhay Varmaraja
Adhvaith Vijay

Udipi Cafe



Hard Work Pays Off

My eyes frantically wandered here and there. My sweaty palms clamped together. My heart thumped in a split of a second. I was stepping up on stage as I looked out into the crowd. All those eyes piercing through my skin, making me feel uncomfortable. I was getting dizzy, but luckily I gripped the railing on the way up. I clenched my teeth, crunched up my paper speech, took a deep breath and advanced forward. I was standing in a room in front of many parents, kids and judges - about to present my argument for a public speaking competition. It was regarding the different alternatives to unhealthy eating and excess of watching TV. At first, when I saw the topic, I shuddered. I was as clueless as a detective on his first case. I wondered what could be a possible solution? If the leaders of the world couldn't help figure it out, then how could I? I had only 30 minutes to prepare, so I needed to focus, but there wasn't much time to brainstorm.

To begin, I needed to come up with a solution immediately. Great fun! I totally want to jump to conclusions, I thought sarcastically. As I was scrolling through my brain - looking for answers to the prompt - I found nothing for the first 5 minutes. I reread the prompt a few more times and took a deep breath and focused. That's it! I knew what I should talk about. Mindfulness! Mindfulness is essential; being present in the moment and thinking rationally before making decisions in life. This was perfect. I already had so much insight on what mindfulness is, because I am part of a research group that is researching mindfulness and its benefits so I had a basic idea of what I was going to say which made me so delighted!

I reviewed the speech I had so far, and attempted to learn the concept of the delivery. I knew it had to be around 2 to 3 minutes long. However, the speech that I had written so far was only about one minute and 45 seconds long. It was so disappointing because I actually thought I was done. Now I had to go back, brainstorm more, and add-on the speech. So much work! I was ready to lose hope and just keep what I had, but then I remembered how I would only get one shot at this. I knew I had the potential, so why not work a little harder and get whatever reward I deserved. After coming to this conclusion, I decided that it would be best if I related how mindfulness would prevent students from taking the wrong path and lead them to make right choices.

TICK-TOCK-TICK-TOCK TICK-TOCK! I heard the clock's hands moving as my 30 minutes came to an end. I frantically scribbled my ideas down and attempted to

keep it organized. Finally, I read over the speech a few times and it was a good 2 minutes and 55 seconds long. It made me glad that I was finally finished with it, but I still had 1 minute left so I used to it to mentally prepare myself and used mindfulness to help focus on what I would have to say. Little did I know how exhausting it would be to come up with a good solution, how difficult it would be to write a three-minute speech, and how hard it would be to deliver it.

The time had come! The crowd was waiting for me. As I stepped into the room, I took a deep breath. Carefully remembering what the prompt was, I cleared my throat and began to deliver the speech to the best of my ability. At one point, my voice faltered. I looked like such a fool! What happened? The cat got your tongue! My heart continuously pounded as I was speaking. It was completely nerve-wracking. Surprisingly, the vast audience was no issue for me since I was so focused on what I would say. I was shocked how I actually remembered most of the speech and wasn't obligated to look at the paper copy of the speech. The rest of it was alright. Soon the speech came to an end. I went over by 1 second, but luckily I was able to perform well overall. I didn't do as bad as I thought I would. I didn't fail! Soon enough, the time to declare the winners came. I was shaking uncontrollably. Public speaking was the last category which made me even more anxious. They announced third place, and then second place, but my name wasn't called. I lost all hope for me to be chosen. Then the judges called a name for the first place winner. I couldn't hear it, but my family screamed at me! They called my name! What! My name! I walked up and collected the award. A smile gleamed on my face. This was the best day of my life!

A thought-provoking idea popped in my head. You should not expect to succeed without any hard work. Otherwise, there is nothing that you will gain from the experience. Since I worked hard for the time allotted and did my best, I was able to actually pull through. Regardless of how accomplished or discouraged you feel, never fear to try new things and if you put your best foot forward, then it will benefit you in some way. This NSF competition helped me become a better learner and spokesperson. Trying something new is actually a learning experience and it's an experience that everyone should have! After the competition, my eyes stood still, my palm remained damp, my heartbeat was normal, but the amazing experience had changed me as a whole.

Palak Mehta
8th Grade





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Abhilash Patel
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Waukee, IA



Abhinavsai Singamaneni
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Achuth Vinay
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Arush Goswami
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Naperville, IL



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San Ramon, CA



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Fremont, CA



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Schenectady, NY



Harini Venkatesh
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Leawood, KS



Ish Mehta
Sugarland, TX



Ishaan Mahapatra
East Lansing, MI



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Randolph, NJ



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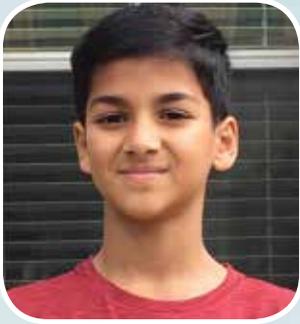
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Kesav Kalanidhi
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Khushi Sundaram
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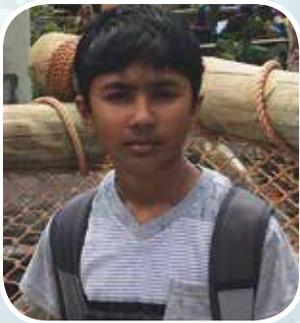
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Kunal Pikle
Houston, TX



Kushan Bonela
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Mahil Mani
Clarksburg, MD



Meghana Satish
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Mridula Murugan
Dayton, NJ



Naina Jeedigunta
Royal Palm Beach, FL



Navneet Kalatheeswaran
Bridgewater, NJ



Neha Kondeti
Irvine, CA



Nihal Sunder
Portland, OR



Nikhil Katiyar
Tampa, FL





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Nived Nandakumar
Naples, FL



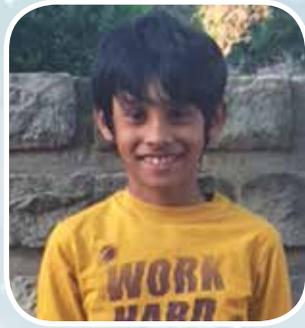
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Conroe, TX



Pranav Dinavahi
Findlay, OH



Pranavkrishna Bharanidharan
Fair Oaks, CA



Pravith Munipalle
Flower Mound, TX



Prithvi Pallati
Vestal, NY



Priyanshu Jha
Tampa, FL



Raghav Arun
Avon, CT



Raghav Ratnani
Westford, MA



Rajarshi Mandal
Lexington, MA



Rehan Pagarkar
Hazlet, NJ



Ridhi Revalli
Souderton, PA



Rijul Ashar
South Amboy, NJ



Rishith Arra
Royal Palm Beach, FL



Rishitha Marri
Weston, FL





Rohan Rajesh
Weddington, NC



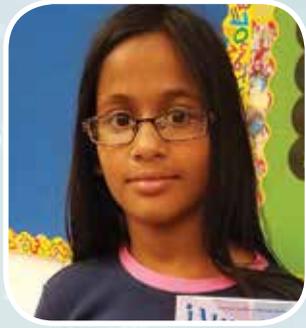
Rohil Gupta
Saratoga, CA



Runeema Arun
Bothell, WA



Rushil Sengupta
Cupertino, CA



Saanvi Nalla
Pewaukee, WI



Saathvik Kamma
Katy, TX



Sahana Potu
Ellicott City, MD



Sahas Ravoor
Rochester Hills, MI



Sahasra Sirimalla
Bedford, NH



Samanyu Ganesh
Atlanta, GA



Samiha Das
San Jose, CA



Sanjana Arudala
Irving, TX



Sanvi Shankar
Parkland, FL



Sarthak Nelakuditi
Columbia, SC



Shashank Pericherla
Little Elm, TX



Shradha Mamilla
Omaha, NE





Shreyashi Bodaka
Tampa, FL



Shreyes Suribhotla
Cupertino, CA



Shrihun Andhe
Fullerton, CA



Shrisha Prakir
Fremont, CA



Shrutodhee Goswami
Austin, TX



Siddharth Kakumanu
Flower Mound, TX



Srinithi Saran
Safety Harbor, FL



Srisamhita Ponnappalli
Katy, TX



Suchir Ryali
Ellisville, MO



Suhaas Goluguri
Westborough, MA



Sushaan Kandukoori
Jacksonville, FL



Suvam Konar
Westerville, OH



Taran Sudagar
Cumming, GA



Thanish Lankella
Madison, WI



Thejas Prakash
Coppell, TX



Vaidehi Ramachandrupa
Brookfield, WI





Vedha Inampudi
Ballwin, MO



Vibhu Konduru
Ashburn, VA



Vibhun Naredla
Nesconset, NY



Vihaan Parikh
Santa Clara, CA



Vihaan Reddi
Saratoga, CA



Vishnu Mangipudi
Bellevue, WA



Vishruth Kadiyala
Bothell, WA



Vyom Sharma
Flower Mound, TX



Yash Mittal
Peoria, IL



Yash Patel
Nashua, NH



Yashas Devulapally
New Albany, OH



Yukta Paduru
Durham, NC

Not Pictured

Avantika Cholleti
Vihaan Choudhary
Aydin Daniel
Aakaash Jamadagni
Shreyas Kakanuru
Akshar Kakkad

Sashank Lingutla
Ekaansh Murthy
Srinivasan Muthu
Jaansi Patel
Anshul Sharma
Diya Somnali

Arjun Subramanian
Karthik Venuturimilli
Shivani Wadawadigi
Sai Wuppalapati



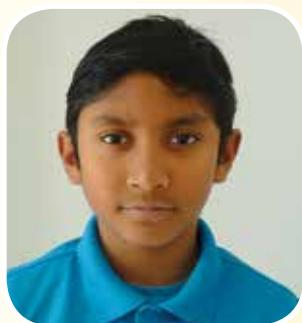
Intermediate Science BEE



Aaditya Karnataki
Cupertino, CA



Aadya Sharma
Trabuco Canyon, CA



Aaryan Sumesh
Chantilly, VA



Abhiram Jyosyula
Houston, TX



Abinaya Kumarappan
Unionville, CT



Achyuth Parthasarathy
Scottsdale, AZ



Aditya Krishnan
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Charlotte, NC



Advika Vuppala
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Ajay Sastri
Lake Mary, FL



Akash Singh
Marietta, GA



Akshansh Chauhan
Arlington Heights, IL



Akul Dixit
Lorton, VA



Aman Andukuri
Omaha, NE





Amith Challa
Tampa, FL



Amrita Shyam
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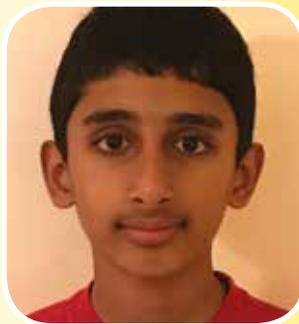
Amrita Vukoti
San Angelo, TX



Anant Asthana
Sugar Land, TX



Ananya Bezbaruah
Redmond, WA



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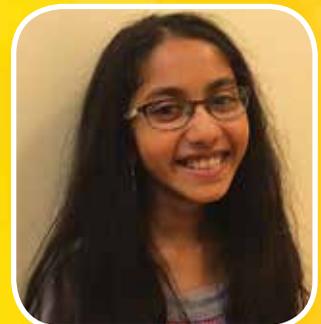
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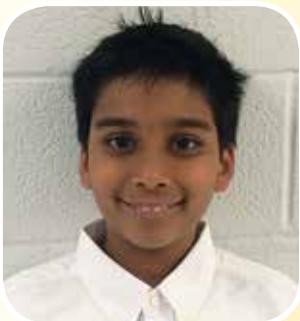
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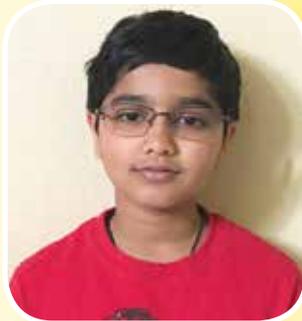
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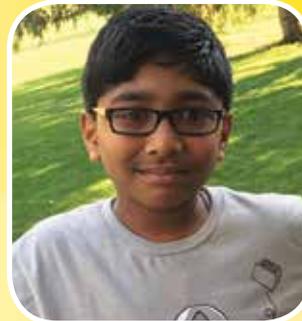
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Anik Bora
Kedar Bulusu
Anish Chhabra
Johan Gigme
Ishan Gonehal

Neil Kaul
Yashas Mattur
Ronak Mohanty
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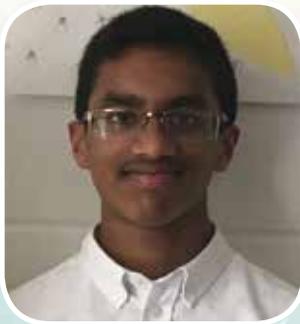
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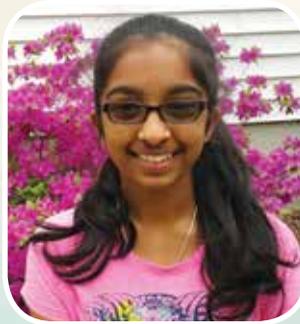
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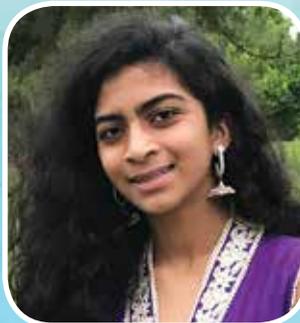
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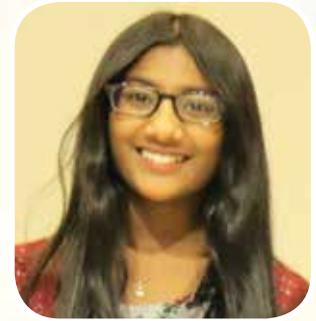
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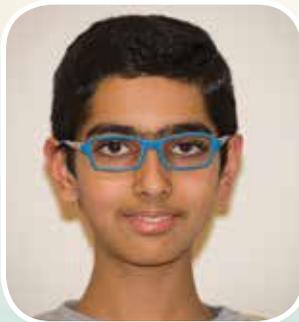
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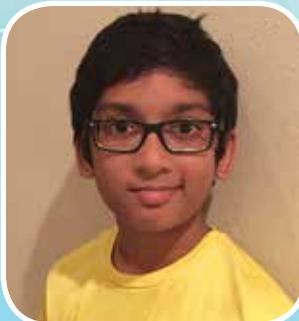
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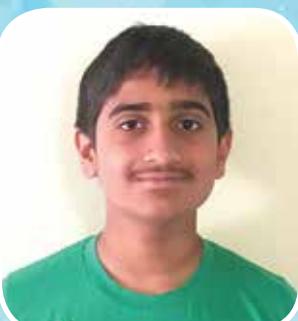
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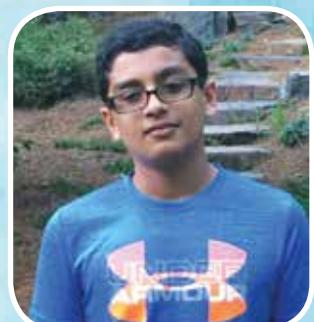
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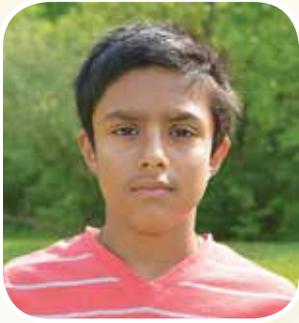


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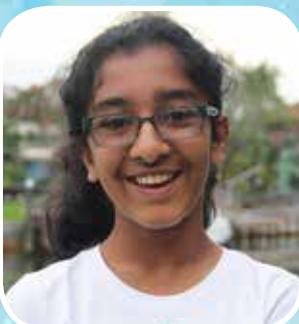
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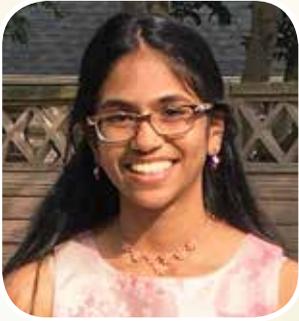


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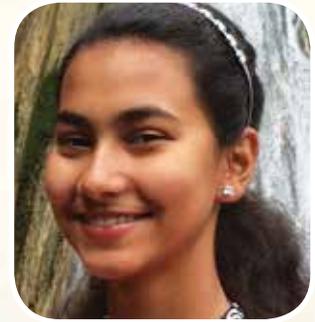
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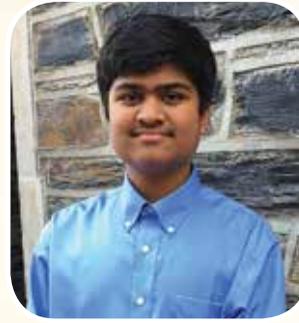




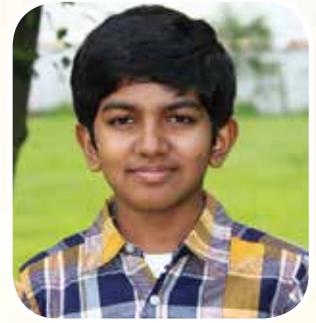
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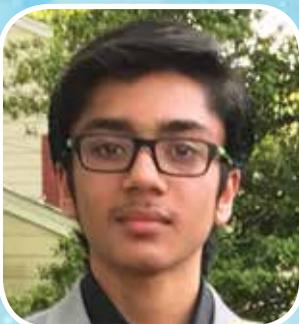
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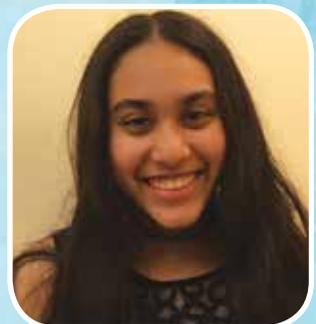
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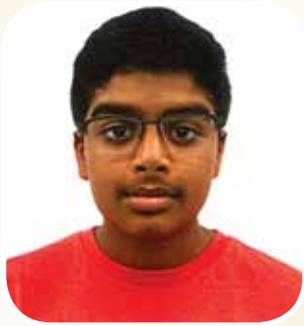


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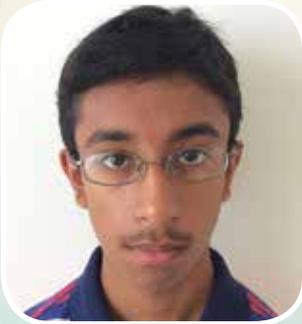
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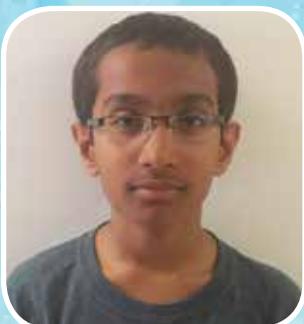
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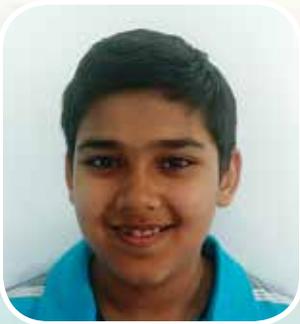
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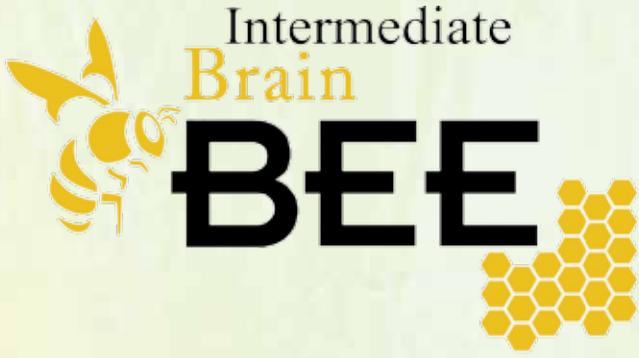
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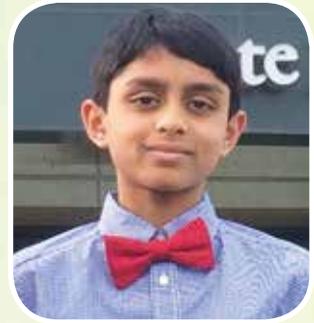




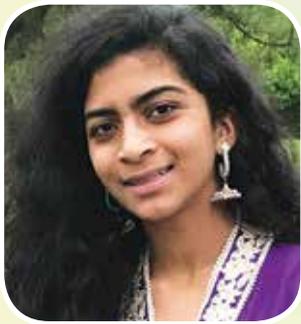
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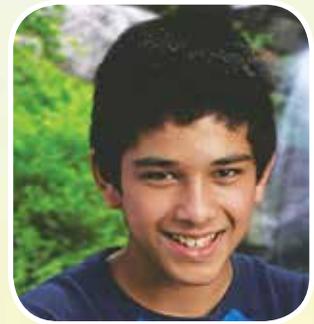
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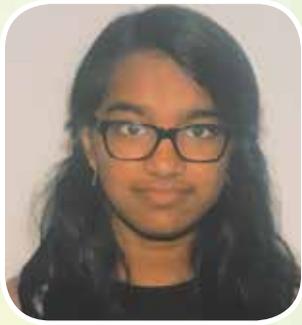


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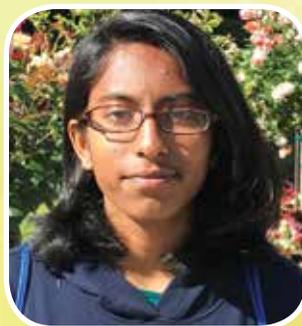
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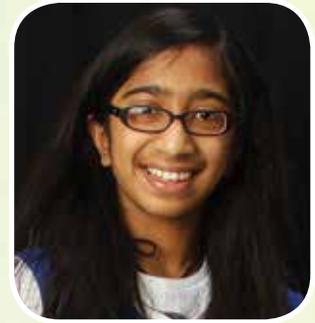
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Acknowledgement

The North-South Foundation – Houston chapter and the bee book committee would like to thank and acknowledge the effort of all the children who sent their entries for the Bee Book cover contest. We further, would like to recognize all parents and children who sent their entries and art for the bee book. We regret that all entries could not be printed due to space constraints but we applaud your spirit in making the effort.





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Brain
BEE



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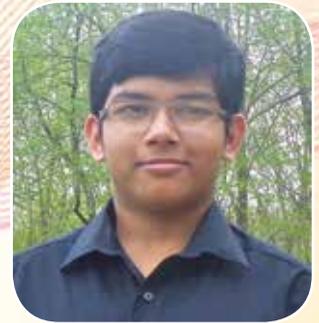
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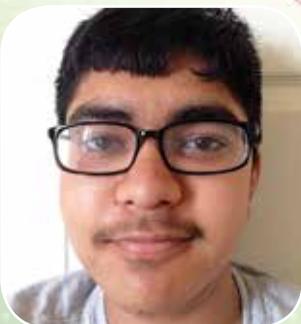
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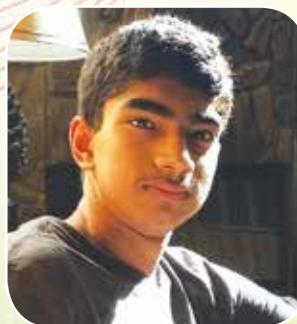
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2017

Champion: Ananya Vinay
2nd Place: Rohan Rajeev
3rd Place: Mira Dedhia
4th Place: Shourav Dasari
5th Place: Tejas Muthusamy
5th Place: Raksheet Kota
6th Place: Shrinidhi Gopal
6th Place: Naysa Modi
6th Place: Shruthika Padhy
7th Place: Rohan Sachdev
7th Place: Sreeniketh Vogoti

2016

Co-Champion: Jairam Hathwar
Co-Champion: Nihar Janga
5th Place: Smrithi Upadhyayula
6th Place: Rutvik Gandhasri
7th Place: Sreeniketh Vogoti
10th Place: Jashun Paluru
10th Place: Asha Jain
11th Place: Divya Aggarwal
11th Place: Shiv Dewan
11th Place: Shourav Dasari
15th Place: Lipika Narisetti

2015

Co-Champion: Vanya Shivashankar
Co-Champion: Gokul Venkatachalam
4th Place: Dev Jaiswal
4th Place: Siddharth Krishnakumar
7th Place: Tejas Muthusamy
9th Place: Siyona Mishra

2014

Champion: Sriram Hathwar
3rd Place: Gokul Venkatachalam
4th Place: Ashwin Veeramani
8th Place: Neha Konakalla
8th Place: Tejas Muthusamy

2013

Champion: Arvind Mahankali
3rd Place: Sriram J. Hathwar
5th Place: Vanya Shivashankar
5th Place: Vismaya J. Kharkar
7th Place: Chetan G. Reddy
7th Place: Syamantak Payra
11th Place: Nikitha Chandran

2012

Champion: Snigdha Nandipati
2nd Place: Stuti Mishra
3rd Place: Arvind Mahankali

2011

Champion: Sukanya Roy
3rd Place: Arvind Mahankali
6th Place: Dhivya Senthil Mugan
6th Place: Sriram Hathwar

2010

Champion: Anamika Veeramani
2nd Place: Shantanu Srivatsa

2009

Champion: Kavya Shivashankar
2nd Place: Aishwarya Pastapur
5th Place: Ramya Auroprem
5th Place: Anamika Veeramani
8th Place: Neetu Chandak

National Geographic Bee

2017

Champion: Pranay Varada
3rd Place: Veda Bhattaram
5th Place: Anish Susarla
7th Place: Ahilan Eraniyan
7th Place: Rohan Kanchana
10th Place: Abhinav Govindaraju

2016

Champion: Rishi Nair
2nd Place: Saketh Jonnalagadda
5th Place: Rishi Kumar
6th Place: Pranay Varada
8th Place: Samanyu Dixit

2015

Champion: Karan Menon
2nd Place: Shriya Yarlagadda
5th Place: Abhinav Karthikeyan
6th Place: Tejas Badgujar

2014

Champion: Akhil Rekulapelli
2nd Place: Ameya Mujumdar
4th Place: Pranit Nanda
9th Place: Krish Patel
10th Place: Asha Jain

2013

Champion: Sathwik Karnik
3rd place: Sanjeev Uppaluri
4th place: Akhil Rekulapelli
Others among top 10:
Pranit Nanda
Neha Middela



Harish Palani
Asha Jain

2012
2nd Place: Vansh Jain
3rd Place: Varun Mahadevan

2011
2nd Place: Nilai Sarda

2009
2nd Place: Arjun Kandaswamy
3rd Place: Shantan Krowidi

MATHCOUNTS National Round

2017
18th Place: Chinmay Krishna
23th Place: Rahul Thomas
33th Place: Vivek Chalasani
41th Place: Gopal Goel
50th Place: Abhinav Mihir Goel
52th Place: Aditya Akula
53th Place: Kishore Rajesh

2016
17th Place: Ishika Shah
23rd Place: Neeyanth Kopparapu

2015
19th Place: Ajit Kadaveru
27th Place: Ashwin Agnihotri

2014
Champion: Swapnil Garg
12th Place: Akshaj Kadaveru

2013
2nd place: Ashwin Sah
11th place: Akshaj Kadaveru
14th place: Swapnil Garg
15th place: Nikhil Reddy

2012
2nd place: Ashwin Sah
14th Place/1st Place Team:
Niket Gowravaram
21st Place/2nd Place Team:
Sarvasva Raghuvanshi

2011
3rd Place: Shyam Narayanan
(1st in Written Round)
9th Place: Dhruv Medarametla
10th Place: Niket Gowravaram

2010
2nd Place: Shyam Narayanan
20th Place: Nihal Gowravaram

International Geographic Bee Middle School (grade 7-8)

2017
Champion: Saket Mohan Pochiraju
2nd Place: Arjun Nathan
4th Place: Rohil Bhinge
6th Place: Praneet Rathi
7th Place: Kishan Kalaria
8th Place: Srikrishna Darbha
9th Place: Sandhya Ganesh

International Geographic Bee Elementary School (grades 1-6)

2017
Champion: Satvik Tejas Pochiraju
2nd Place: Rishabh Wuppalapati
3rd Place: Samik Bhinge
4th Place: Adrija Kundu
5th Place: Kaylan Patel
6th Place: Sushant Lebaka
7th Place: Krishnan Shankar
8th Place: Siddharth Kamannavar

9th Place: Lukas Koutsoukos

Science - You be the Chemist Challenge

2012
Champion: Bhagirath Mehta

Jeopardy Teen Tournament

2013
3rd place: Nilai Sarda

National History Bee Middle School

2017
Champion: Arjun Nageswaran

2016
Champion: Govind Prabhakar

National History Bee Elementary school

2017
Champion: Siddharth Kamannavar
2014
Champion: Siddharth Kamannavar

National Middle School Science Bowl

2014
Champion: Abhijeet Sambangi
Champion: Snigdha Allaparathi
2012
3rd Place Team:
Abhinand Sivaprasad
Aditya Murali
Gokul Gowri
Suvansh Sanjeev
Tejas Bharadwaj



National Science Bee Elementary Division

2017
2nd Place: Yugeshwar Muralidhar

Science Olympiad

2017
Champion: Rakshita Kota
Raksheet Kota

US Geography Olympiad Elementary School

2017
Champion: Siddharth Kamannavar

Bee Art

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Spelling Bee

Vocabulary Contest

Math Bee

Geography Bee

Science Bee

Essay Writing Contest

Public Speaking Competition

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NSF Regional Chapters 2017

ChapterCode	Chapter State	CC FirstName	LastName	Phone No.
Auburn, AL	AL	Jayashree	Sridhar	334-826-5258
Bentonville, AR	AR	Dhana	Varikunta	
Phoenix, AZ	AZ	Saravanan	Subramanian	623-374-4866
Tucson, AZ	AZ	Prasad	Bhamidipati	520-731-1523
Bakersfield, CA	CA	Nagendra	Bellam	703-975-9110
Fremont, CA	CA	Dharminder	Dewan	408-621-6704
Fresno, CA	CA	Puthenveedu	Jayakrishnan	559-593-6333
Los Angeles, CA	CA	Ganesh	Thangarajan	805-578-6481
Orange County, CA	CA	Atima	Sharma	661-360-8712
Palo Alto, CA	CA	Sumana	Sur	408-746-0702
Sacramento, CA	CA	Suri	Jetty	916-353-0549
San Diego, CA	CA	Vijay	Varadarajan	858-487-5767
San Jose, CA	CA	Vandana	Kadam	408-268-1986
San Mateo, CA	CA	Deepa	Lakshminarayanan	650-863-7061
San Ramon, CA	CA	Anand	Gundu	209-832-9539
Denver, CO	CO	Jyotshna	Gunturu	720-220-3411
Ft Collins, CO	CO	Anita	Amin	
Hartford, CT	CT	Prasad	Annambhotla	203-262-1108
Stamford, CT	CT	Sathiskumar	Selvaraju	203-557-4055
Wilmington, DE	DE	Sathya	Yalvigi	610-268-5726
Ft Lauderdale, FL	FL	Anbuselvan	Kuppusamy	954-236-2552
Jacksonville, FL	FL	Rajiv	Gupta	904-349-3179
Orlando, FL	FL	Harinath	Gandhi	650-587-3949
Tampa, FL	FL	Jaishankar	Chandran	813-992-2014
Atlanta, GA	GA	Rambabu	Yeleti	708-762-8487
Augusta, GA	GA	Srinivas	Akella	
Des Moines, IA	IA	Jith	Shamarao	515-259-0707
Barrington, IL	IL	Parthiban	Andi	847-652-7608
Hinsdale, IL	IL	Velu	Subramani	630-375-0422
Libertyville, IL	IL	Prasad	Nuthalapati	224-595-5233
Peoria, IL	IL	Ravi	Errabolu	309-740-0101
Quad Cities, IL	IL	Nitin	Vishwakarma	
Evansville, IN	IN	Kapil	Sheth	270-688-5916
Indianapolis, IN	IN	Sivakumar	Vavilala	317-569-0748
Terre Haute, IN	IN	Shashikumar	Gowda	812-299-3444
Kansas City, KS	KS	Pratibha	Trivedi	913-422-1556
Louisville, KY	KY	Ravishankar	Jayaram	502-240-0731
Cambridge, MA	MA	Lakshmi	Krishnan	508-572-3671
Worcester, MA	MA	Ruma	Neogy	617-981-3353
Baltimore, MD	MD	Srinivas	Gunukula	571-295-5322
Rockville, MD	MD	Murty	Neti	301-972-4939
Ann Arbor, MI	MI	Aruna	Karunakaram	734-944-1075
Detroit, MI	MI	Bhaskar	Varanasi	734-394-1828
Grand Rapids, MI	MI	Sripriya	Krishnan	616-855-4849
Kalamazoo, MI	MI	Tarun	Gupta, Ph.D.	269-276-3361



Lansing, MI	MI	Raj	Nukala	517-455-7575
Minneapolis, MN	MN	Ratnakar	Pasumarty	763-205-1974
Rochester, MN	MN	Usha	Asirvatham	507-281-4480
St. Louis, MO	MO	Raja	Rajasekaran	636-207-9158
Charlotte, NC	NC	Murali	Edula	704-543-3060
Raleigh, NC	NC	Chockalingam	Ramiah	919-342-5451
Omaha, NE	NE	Tirumala	Chengalasetty	402-408-9741
Manchester, NH	NH	Prasad	Dabbi	603-472-8584
Cherry Hill, NJ	NJ	Thirumorthi	Subramanian	856-617-1117
Edison, NJ	NJ	Rajesh	Madabushi	201-484-0116
MahwahRockland, NJ	NJ	Sangeetha	Sivasubramani	513-237-9332
Marlboro, NJ	NJ	Anju	Balachandran	732-817-9127
Parsippany, NJ	NJ	Sukhbir	Singh	408-393-6803
Princeton, NJ	NJ	Sai	Sharma	609-897-1274
Albuquerque, NM	NM	Radhika	Grandhe	
Las Vegas, NV	NV	Bindu	Middela	702-553-1626
Albany, NY	NY	Neelima	Kanakamedala	518-357-3799
Long Island, NY	NY	Surendra	Gupta	516-437-2930
Rochester, NY	NY	Radha	Bahukutumbi	585-241-3474
Cincinnati, OH	OH	Hari	Pisati	513-936-9355
Cleveland, OH	OH	Viji	Vijay	440-716-0771
Columbus, OH	OH	Srivital	Choppara	740-417-3479
Oklahoma City, OK	OK	Boomi	Balasubramaniyan	405-397-1126
Tulsa, OK	OK	Padma	Kunderu	817-372-5224
Portland, OR	OR	Kirti	Devi	503-531-3517
Allentown, PA	PA	Manish	Sharma	610-994-4848
Harrisburg, PA	PA	Priya	Iyer	717-732-0649
Philadelphia, PA	PA	Saroja	Sagaram	215-699-6367
Pittsburgh, PA	PA	Balu	Kallavi	630-300-3888
Columbia, SC	SC	Venugopal	Anchoori	803-419-5003
Memphis, TN	TN	Ravindra	Dasari	901-888-4133
Nashville, TN	TN	Sujana	Sawhney	615-498-2239
Austin, TX	TX	Srinivas	Kolluri	512-947-4133
Dallas, TX	TX	Ananda Murthy	Kuchibhotla	17-656-8386
Houston, TX	TX	Seshatalpasai	Rachakonda	281-240-3336
San Antonio, TX	TX	Jagadeeshwar	Gurralla	210-493-8541
Salt Lake City, UT	UT	Venkatraman	Siddharthan	435-754-6126
Ashburn, VA	VA	Venkat	Gottipati	703-723-7403
Fairfax, VA	VA	Radhakrishna	Atluri	
Virginia Beach, VA	VA	Kavithasrivasanth	Hathwar	757-619-2939
Olympia, WA	WA	Geetha	Sivaprasad	
Seattle, WA	WA	Krishnan	Gowri	425-273-0190
Madison, WI	WI	Badri	Lankella	608-237-1833
Milwaukee, WI	WI	Jayalakshmi	Penugonda	262-510-2836



NSF Champions 2007-2016

Junior Spelling Bee

2016

- 1) Vayun Krishna, Sunnyvale, CA
- 2) Sujata Choudhury, Cherry Hill, NJ
- 3) Srikar Chittamsetty, Bentonville, AR

2015

- 1) Prajwal Vandana, San Jose, CA
- 2) Abhijay Kodali, Highland Village, TX
- 3) Varun Kudva, Murphy, TX

2014

- 1) Nihar Janga, Austin, TX
- 2) Shruthika Padhy, Cherry Hill, NJ
- 3) Harshitha Sunchu, Billerica, MA

2013

- 1) Dhyana Mishra, West Melbourne, FL
- 2) Sharanya Pastapur, Lake Zurich, IL
- 3) Sravanth Malla, Haverstraw, NY

2012

- 1) Shourav Dasari, Spring, TX
- 2) Tejas Muthusamy, Glen Allen, VA
- 3) Raksheet Kota, Katy, TX

2011

- 1) Roshni Kainthan, Morris Plains, NJ
- 2) Shourav Dasari, Spring, TX
- 3) Raksheet Kota, Katy, TX

2010

- 1) Vanya Shivashankar, Olathe, KS
- 2) Aditi Jithendra, Johnston, IA
- 3) Nilesh Rao, Pittsford, NY

2009

- 1) Sriram Hathwar, Painted Post, NY
- 2) Bhavana Muppavarapu, Buffalo Grove, IL
- 3) Prateeksunder Pinchi, Rochester Hills, MI

2008

- 1) Surabhi Iyer, Franklin, MA
- 2) Sabrina Khuntia, Naperville, IL
- 3) Anup Hiremath, Fremont, CA

2007

- 1) Malavika Perinchery, Austin, TX
- 2) Varsha Ramakrishnan, Pleasanton, CA
- 3) Swetha Jasti, Overland Park, KS

Senior Spelling Bee

2016

- 1) Ananya Kodali, Highland Village, TX
- 2) Smrithi Upadhyayula, Coppell, TX
- 3) Rohan Sachdev, Cary, NC

2015

- 1) Shourav Dasari, Spring, TX
- 2) Nihar Janga, Austin, TX
- 3) Arushi Kalpande, Billerica, MA

2014

- 1) Siddharth Krishnakumar, Pearland, TX
- 2) Vaishnavi Suren, Jacksonville, FL
- 3) Lipika Nariseti, Hilliard, OH

2013

- 1) Lokesh Nagineni, Flower Mound, TX
- 2) Kavyapranati Pratapa, Ypsilanti, MI
- 3) Kuvam Shahane, Rochester Hills, MI

2012

- 1) Sriram Hathwar, Painted Post, NY
- 2) Kuvam Shahane, Rochester Hills, MI
- 3) Lokesh Nagineni, Flower Mound, TX

2011

- 1) Stuti Mishra, West Melbourne, FL
- 2) Narahari Bharadwaj, Plano, TX
- 3) Syamantak Payra, Friendswood, TX

2010

- 1) Sukanya Roy, South Abington, PA
- 2) Sanjay Kottapalli, Clarendon Hills, IL
- 3) Sivateja Tangirala, Sugarland, TX

2009

- 1) Anamika Veeramani, North Royalton, OH
- 2) Ramya Auroprem, San Jose, CA
- 3) Sidarth Jayadev, Saratoga, CA

2008

- 1) Avvinash Radakrishnan, Nashua, NH
- 2) Akshayraj Aitha, Dublin, CA
- 3) Aishwarya Pastapur, Lake Zurich, IL

2007

- 1) Smitha Gundavajhala, Cupertino, CA
- 2) Priyanka Nadar, Mechanicsburg, PA
- 3) Anamika Veeramani, North Royalton, OH

Junior Vocabulary Bee

2016

- 1) Abhishek Vijay, North Chelmsford, MA
- 2) Adrija Rukmini, Charlotte, NC
- 3) Emily Nethala, Marvin, NC

2015

- 1) Akhilsai Damera, Marlborough, MA
- 2) Pranav Kallavi, Presto, PA
- 3) Garima Rastogi, Concord, NH

2014

- 1) Nihar Janga, Austin, TX
- 2) Shruthika Padhy, Cherry Hill, NJ
- 3) Rishik Gandhasri, San Jose, CA

2013

- 1) Rahul Sachdev, Cary, NC
- 2) Anshul Rastogi, Concord, NH
- 3) Shruthika Padhy, Cherry Hill, NJ

2012

- 1) Naveen Mukkatt, Missouri City, TX
- 2) Sujana Sridhar, Pleasanton, CA
- 3) Ashna Chali, Frontenac,

2011

- 1) Rohan Roplekar, Peoria, IL
- 2) Mantra Dave, Normal, IL
- 3) Navya Gautam, Potomac, MD

2010

- 1) Shaan Bhandarkar, Potomac Falls, VA
- 2) Saaketh Narayan, Phoenix, AZ
- 3) Shiva Saravanan, College Station, TX

2009

- 1) Bhavana Muppavarapu, Buffalo Grove, IL
- 2) Shiva Saravanan, College Station, TX
- 3) Lokesh Nagineni, Flower Mound, TX

2008

- 1) Surabhi Iyer, Franklin, MA
- 2) Ashwin Veeramani, North Royalton, OH
- 3) Amit Chakrabarti, Terre Haute, IN

2007

- 1) Vamsi Varanasi, Dayton, OH
- 2) Malavika Perinchery, Austin, TX
- 3) Achuth Nair, Solon, OH



Intermediate Vocabulary Bee

2016

- 1) Smrithi Upadhyayula, Coppell, TX
- 2) Sreeniketh Vogoti, Saint Johns, FL
- 3) Ronak Saluja, Roslindale, MA

2015

- 1) Nikhita Jayaprakash, San Jose, CA
- 2) Rohan Sachdev, Cary, NC
- 3) Smrithi Upadhyayula, Coppell, TX

2014

- 1) Rishabh Gaur, Leawood, KS
- 2) Nikhita Jayaprakash, San Jose, CA
- 3) Shiva Balasubramanian, Wayne, NJ

2013

- 1) Sriram Hathwar, Painted Post, NY
- 2) Tarang Saluja, Roslindale, MA
- 3) Bhageerathi Ganesan, New Albany, OH

2012

- 1) Kuvam Shahane, Rochester Hills, MI
- 2) Koshik Mahapatra, Stamford, CT
- 3) Rohan Chalasani, Pittsburgh, PA

2011

- 1) Mihir Nene, Fairfield, CT
- 2) Anjali Nambrath, Marlboro, NJ
- 3) Surabhi Iyer, Franklin, MA

2010

- 1) Sukanya Roy, South Abington, PA
- 2) Sreya Atluri, Centreville, VA
- 3) Sooraj Achar, Ashburn, VA

2009

- 1) Sameer Kailasa, Delray Beach, FL
- 2) Smitha Gundavajhala, Cupertino, CA
- 3) Archis Bhandarkar, Potomac Falls, VA

2008

- 1) Anamika Veeramani, North Royalton, OH
- 2) Shilpa Saravanan, College Station, TX
- 3) Anirudh Dasarathy, Highland Heights, OH

2007

- 1) Aamani Paturi, Barrington, IL
- 2) Sakethnath Are, Herndon, VA
- 3) Anamika Veeramani, North Royalton, OH

Math Bee Level 1

2016

- 1) Sohil Rathi, San Jose, CA
- 2) Havisha Kalpatthi, Leawood, KS
- 3) Krivi Partani, Sharon, MA

2015

- 1) Vedanti Joshi, Lincolnshire, IL
- 2) Rohith Raghavan, Sharon, MA
- 3) Saharsh Bejugam, Fort Worth, TX

2014

- 1) Shreev Goyal, Austin, TX
- 2) Satvik Kabbur, Bothell, WA
- 3) Vikas Sarvasya, Winston-Salem, NC

2013

- 1) Rohan Gopalam, Buffalo Grove, IL
- 2) Raghav Arun, Cary, NC
- 3) Siddharth Doppalapudi, Hoover, AL

2012

- 1) Alor Sahoo, Bakersfield, CA
- 2) Atharva Pathak, Gainesville, FL
- 3) Pravalika Putalapattu, Centreville, VA

2011

- 1) Soham Konar, Westerville, OH
- 2) Roshni Kainthan, Morris Plains, NJ
- 3) Neel Basu, Cupertino, CA

2010

- 1) Sruthi Parthasarathi, Mason, OH
- 2) Anirban Sarkar, Okemos, MI
- 3) Arpit Ranasaria, Redmond, WA

2009

- 1) Mythili Korimilli, Fremont, CA
- 2) Sruthi Parthasarathi, Mason, OH
- 3) Rinni Bhansali, Melville, NY

2008

- 1) Bhagirath Mehta, Des Plaines, IL
- 2) Shaantam Chawla, Ramsey, NJ
- 3) Akshaj Kadaveru, Fairfax, VA

2007

- 1) Nilai Sarda, Marietta, GA
- 2) Ankan Bhattacharya, Canton, MI
- 3) Nisha Devasia, Nashua, NH

Math Bee Level 2

2016

- 1) Siddharth Doppalapudi, Hoover, AL
- 2) Apoorva Panidapu, San Jose, CA
- 3) Raghav Arun, Cary, NC

2015

- 1) Chirag Verma, Redmond, WA
- 2) Anuj Sakarda, Acton, MA
- 3) Ram Goel, Portland, OR

2014

- 1) Vivek Chalasani, Chandler, AZ
- 2) Alor Sahoo, Bakersfield, CA
- 3) Chinmay Krishna, Overland Park, KS

2013

- 1) Ajit Kadaveru, Fairfax, VA
- 2) Neeyanth Kopparapu, Oak Hill, VA
- 3) Srihari Ganesh, Novi, MI

2012

- 1) Shaan Bhandarkar, Potomac Falls, VA
- 2) Neeyanth Kopparapu, Oak Hill, VA
- 3) Sruthi Parthasarathi, Mason, OH

2011

- 1) Akshaj Kadaveru, Fairfax, VA
- 2) Stuti Garg, Portland, OR
- 3) Sanjana Ramrajvel, Naperville, IL

2010

- 1) Nisha Devasia, Nashua, NH
- 2) Ishaan Gupta, Edison, NJ
- 3) Bhagirath Mehta, Des Plaines, IL

2009

- 1) Niket Gowravaram, Acton, MA
- 2) Rohit Rajiv, Westford, MA
- 3) Amith Bhat, Woodbury, MN

2008

- 1) Ankan Bhattacharya, Canton, MI
- 2) Vivek Miglani, Coral Springs, FL
- 3) Meghana Vagwala, S. Grafton, MA

2007

- 1) Nihal Gowravaram, Acton, MA
- 2) Keval Yerigeri, Copley, OH
- 3) Apurva Shrivastava, Novi, MI



Math Bee Level 3

2016

- 1) Aditya Sundaram, Apex, NC
- 1) Aditya Vargheese, Overland Park, KS
- 1) Arpit Ranasaria, Redmond, WA
- 1) Bharat Narayanasamy, San Jose, CA
- 1) Ishan Goel, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 1) Rahul Thomas, Centennial, CO
- 1) Ram Potham, Buffalo Grove, IL
- 1) Srihari Ganesh, Novi, MI
- 1) Srinivasan Sathiamurthy, Lexington, MA

2015

- 1) Roshni Padhi, Chicago, IL
- 1) Saaketh Vedantam, Pembroke Pines, FL
- 1) Sivabalan Muthupalaniappan, Northbrook, IL

2014

- 1) Anusha Sahai, Verona, WI
- 2) Akshaj Kadaveru, Fairfax, VA
- 3) Shreyaa Raghavan, Sharon, MA

2013

- 1) Shwetark Patel, Herndon, VA
- 2) Akshaj Kadaveru, Fairfax, VA
- 3) Aaditya Singh, Mclean, VA

2012

- 1) Ankan Bhattacharya, Canton, MI
- 2) Akshaj Kadaveru, Fairfax, VA
- 3) Mayukha Vadari, Sammamish, WA

2011

- 1) Shohini Stout, Lexington, MA
- 2) Saranesh Prembabu, San Ramon, CA
- 3) Abhinand Sivaprasad, Bellevue, WA

2010

- 1) Nihal Gowravaram, Acton, MA
- 2) Vivek Miglani, Coral Springs, FL
- 3) Anshul Ramachandran, Cupertino, CA

2009

- 1) Hirsh Jain, West Bloomfield, MI
- 2) Akhil Nistala, Novi, MI
- 3) Sohil Shah, Madison, WI

2008

- 1) Anirudh Sailesh, Battle Creek, MI
- 2) Chanukya Malla, Northville, MI
- 3) Ajit Unnam, Princeton, NJ

2007

- 1) Anupa Murali Murali, Concord, NH
- 2) Ramya Rangan, San Jose, CA
- 3) Kritarth Mahankali, Sugar Land, TX

Junior Science Bee

2016

- 1) Balaadithya Muralitharan, Omaha, NE
- 2) Anik Bora, Pembroke Pines, FL
- 3) Akshansh Chauhan, Arlington Heights, IL

2015

- 1) Sathvik Redrouthu, Ashburn, VA
- 2) Diya Naik, New Albany, OH
- 3) Siddarth Kasi, Windermere, FL

2014

- 1) Om Duggineni, Herndon, VA
- 2) Suraj Parikh, Granite Bay, CA
- 3) Raghav Arun, Cary, NC

2013

- 1) Atharva Pathak, Gainesville, FL
- 2) Sashank Ganapathiraju, Cary, NC
- 3) Pranav Chemudupaty, Pearland, TX

2012

- 1) Naveen Mukkatt, Missouri City, TX
- 2) Vivek Vijayakumar, San Marcos, CA
- 3) Kanav Mittal, Sunnyvale, CA

2011

- 1) Vaibhav Sharma, Fairfax, VA
- 2) Varun Chheda, Indianapolis, IN
- 3) Pratham Soni, Detroit, MI

Intermediate Science Bee

2016

- 1) Raghav Arun, Cary, NC
- 2) Adhiraiyan Kartheesan, Eden Prairie, MN
- 3) Yuvan Chali, Frontenac, MO

2015

- 1) Om Duggineni, Herndon, VA
- 2) Saipranav Kosuri, Cary, NC
- 3) Pujita Tangirala, Los Gatos, CA

2014

- 1) Shirlin Kingston, Ames, IA
- 2) Soham Konar, Westerville, OH
- 3) Akshay Shyam, Plano, TX

2013

- 1) Pratham Soni, Troy, MI
- 2) Vagul Mahadevan, Centreville, VA
- 3) Shyam Ravishankar, Prospect, KY

2012

- 1) Sanath Govindarajan, Houston, TX
- 2) Advait Pilkhane, Fullerton, CA
- 3) Shivani Nellore, Prospect, KY

2011

- 1) Anna Nixon, Portland, OR
- 2) Achyut Reddy, Philadelphia, PA
- 3) Krithik Vallem, Detroit, MI

Senior Science Bee

2016

- 1) Kanav Mittal, Sunnyvale, CA
- 2) Sidharth Addepalli, Palatine, IL
- 3) Risha Chakraborty, San Ramon, CA

2015

- 1) Praneet Mekala, Shrewsbury, MA
- 2) Tom George, Tucson, AZ
- 3) Vaibhav Sharma, Oak Hill, VA

2014

- 1) Pratham Soni, Troy, MI
- 2) Kavya Kopparapu, Oak Hill, VA
- 3) Abhishek Iyer, Boca Raton, FL

2013

- 1) Aadith Vittala, Chantilly, VA
- 2) Varun Jain, Alamo, CA
- 3) Kaushik Manchikanti, Chester Springs, PA

2012

- 1) Shravan Ravishankar, Prospect, KY
- 2) Chittesh Thavamani, Troy, MI
- 3) Suvansh Sanjeev, Bellevue, WA

2011

- 1) Saranesh Prembabu, San Ramon, CA
- 2) Abhijit Mudigonda, Portland, OR
- 3) Dheeresh Maddu, Dallas, TX

Junior Geography Bee

2016

- 1) Atreya Mallanna, Lexington, MA
- 2) Pranavkrishna Bharanidharan, Fair Oaks, CA
- 3) Samvrit Rao, Ashburn, VA

2015

- 1) Abhiram Kapaganty, Suwanee, GA
- 2) Vaibhav Hariram, Morrisville, NC
- 3) Ashmith Kumbala, Irving, TX

2014

- 1) Pavan Venkatakrisnan, Louisville, KY
- 2) Bharath Ram, Naples, FL
- 3) Ashmith Kumbala, Irving, TX

2013

- 1) Vishal Sareddy, Suwanee, GA
- 2) Sandhya Ganesh, Tampa, FL
- 3) Anirudh Bharadwaj, San Jose, CA

2012

- 1) Siddharth Krishnakumar, Herndon, VA
- 2) Ronak Saluja, Roslindale, MA
- 3) Shriya Yarlagadda, Grand Blanc, MI

2011

- 1) Arjun Nathan, Fremont, CA
- 2) Rohith Paranj, Rochester Hills, MI
- 3) Abhinav Karthikeyan, Clarksburg, MD

2010

- 1) Mantra Dave, Normal, IL
- 2) Karan Menon, Edison, NJ
- 3) Govind Prabhakar, Deerfield, IL

- 1) Neha Middela, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 2) Asha Jain, Minocqua, WI
- 3) Mantra Dave, Normal, IL

- 1) Anup Hiremath, Fremont, CA
- 2) Neha Middela, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 3) Debolina Ghosh, Solon, OH

- 1) Raghav Ranga, Burr Ridge, IL
- 2) Manasa Muppirala, Irving, TX
- 3) Nilai Sarada, Marietta, GA

Senior Geography Bee

2016

- 1) Nabhoneel Sil Upadhyay, Germantown, MD
- 2) Arjun Nathan, Palo Alto, CA
- 3) Smaran Pasupulati, South Riding, VA

- 1) Saket Pochiraju, Lewis Center, OH
- 2) Ashwin Ganesh, Palm Harbor, FL
- 3) Sravya Kuchibhotla, Morrisville, NC

- 1) Abhinav Karthikeyan, Clarksburg, MD
- 2) Sohan Gade, Irving, TX
- 3) Govind Prabhakar, Deerfield, IL

- 1) Kshitij Patel, Summerville, SC
- 2) Mantra Dave, Normal, IL
- 3) Govind Prabhakar, Deerfield, IL

- 1) Asha Jain, Minocqua, WI
- 2) Rohit Rajiv, Westford, MA
- 3) Sathwik Karnik, Plainville, MA

- 1) Karthik Karnik, Plainville, MA
- 2) Asha Jain, Minocqua, WI
- 3) Varun Mahadevan, Hayward, CA

- 1) Anirudh Kumar, Fremont, CA
- 2) Omkar Shende, Troy, MI
- 3) Pradyuta Padmanabhan, Chantilly, VA

- 1) Vansh Jain, Minocqua, WI
- 2) Smitha Gundavajhala, Cupertino, CA
- 3) Omkar Shende, Troy, MI

- 1) Arjun Kandaswamy, Portland, OR
- 2) Nitin Krishna, Corbin, KY
- 3) Abhinav Kurada, Littleton, MA

2007

- 1) Vivek Hansalia, Smyrna, GA
- 2) Nitin Krishna, Corbin, KY
- 3) Zaroug Jaleel, Lexington, MA

Senior Public Speaking

2016

- 1) Sudhan Chitgopkar, Cumming, GA
- 2) Nihal Charmani, Plano, TX
- 3) Anirudh Iyer, Shrewsbury, MA

- 1) Abhilash Samantapudi, Novi, MI
- 2) Keyur Shah, Shelton, CT
- 3) Sravya Tadepalli, Corvallis, OR

- 1) Kodanda Sairam Vinjamuri, North Brunswick, NJ
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- 1) Varun Jambunath, Beachwood, OH
- 2) Karthik Munugala, Novi, MI
- 3) Jayant Wunnava, Swedesboro, NJ

- 1) Venkat Rd Munukutla, Saratoga, CA
- 2) Arunsrinivasan Ponshunmugam, Jacksonville, FL
- 3) Priyanka Menon, Ann Arbor, MI

- 1) Aditya Rengaswamy, Troy, MI
- 2) Shashwat Chugh, Edison, NJ
- 3) Priyanka Menon, Ann Arbor, MI

- 1) Trisha Jain, West Bloomfield, MI
- 2) Aditya Kalluri, North Olmsted, OH
- 3) Malavica Sridhar, Naperville, IL

- 1) Shubhro Saha, Avon, CT
- 2) Ishita Kala, Waterford, CT
- 3) Rishika Chugh, Edison, NJ

- 1) Samita Mohanasundaram, Nashua, NH
- 2) Aditya Rajagopalan, Glastonbury, CT
- 3) Harika Rayala, Powell, OH

Senior Essay Writing

2016

- 1) Kevin Chacko, Valrico, FL
- 2) Alekya Vejendla, Katy, TX
- 3) Sameer Jain, Austin, TX

- 1) Esha Thakkar, Cary, NC
- 2) Prianka Subrahmanyam, Novi, MI A
- 3) Keyur Shah, Shelton, CT

- 1) Nehali Vishwanath, Spring, TX
- 2) Mahati Vavilala, Novi, MI
- 3) Gunjan Gaur, Leawood, KS

- 1) Urvya Iyer, Westborough, MA
- 2) Narahari Bharadwaj, Plano, TX
- 3) Shrinidhi Thirumalai, Fremont, CA

- 1) Sameer Kailasa, Delray Beach, FL
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- 3) Abhishek Rao, Newark, DE

- 1) Smitha Gundavajhala, Cupertino, CA
- 2) Venkat Rd Munukutla, Saratoga, CA
- 3) Ramya Auroprem, San Jose, CA

- 1) Priyanka Menon, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2) Vybhavi Bharadwaj, Plano, TX
- 3) Anurag Gudeti, Novi, MI

- 1) Aditya Kalluri, North Olmsted, OH
- 2) Akash Ganapathi, Cary, NC
- 3) Shrinidhi Dawande, Naperville, IL

- 1) Ishita Kala, Waterford, CT
- 2) Aditya Kalluri, North Olmsted, OH
- 3) Nithya Vijayakumar, Canton, MI

- 1) Sarvesh Rajasekaran, Ballwin, MO
- 2) Sivakumar Sundaram, Rockford, IL
- 3) Aditya Rajagopalan, Glastonbury, CT



Senior Brain Bee

2016

- 1) Navya Janga
- 2) Ashwin Veeramani
- 3) Akhil Kondepudi

2015

- 1) Abhishek Iyer
- 2) Yash Gupta
- 3) Adithya Sanjay

2014

- 1) Varun Jain
- 2) Priya Vijayakumar
- 3) Abhijeet Sambangi

2013

- 1) Kanya Varagur, Edison, NJ

2) Narahari Bharadwaj, Plano, TX

3) Vishal Jain, Alamo, CA

2012

1) Meghana Ganapathiraju, Raleigh, NC

2) Samir Durvasula, Rockville, MD

3) Sameer Kailasa, FT. Lauderdale, FL

2011

1) Ankita Nallani, Troy, MI

2) Sanjana Salwi, Morganville, NJ

3) Abhijit Mudigonda, Portland, OR

2010

1) Vaishnavi Kosuri, Herndon, VA

2) Sritarini Relangi, Huntersville, NC

3) Smitha Milli, St. Charles, MO

2009

1) Pranav Mahadevan, Atlanta, GA

2) Swetha Rao, Fairfax, VA

3) Sanjana Salwi, Marlboro, NJ

2008

1) Nithya Vijayakumar, Detroit, MI

2) Aditya Kalluri, N. Olmsted, OH

3) Shweta Patro, Marlboro, NJ

2007

1) Rajiv Tarigopula, St. Louis, MO

2) Aditya Kalluri, N. Olmsted, OH

3) Ashwin Bharadwaj, Ann Arbor, MI

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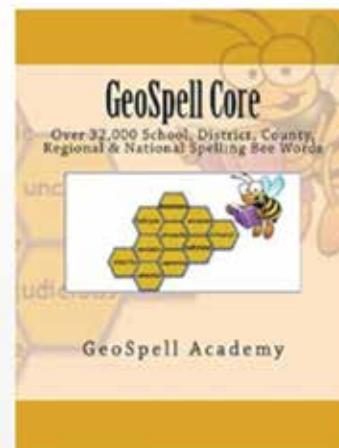
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SPELLING / VOCABULARY

Mirle Shivashankar
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Kesav Tadipatri
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MATH

Krishnia Revuluri
Archna Jagtiani
Anil Sethi
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Velu Subramani
Chenchal Subraveti

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Venkat Venkataraman

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Vasavi Levendel

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1 st Rank	\$1000	Hexco Academic
2 nd Rank	\$500	North South Foundation
3 rd Rank	\$250	North South Foundation

Senior Spelling Bee

1 st Rank	\$1000	GeoSpell Academy
2 nd Rank	\$500	Deals of America
3 rd Rank	\$250	North South Foundation

Junior Vocabulary Bee

1 st Rank	\$1000	YuppTV
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1 st Rank	\$1000	KIT Professional
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1 st Rank	\$1000	Krishnaiah Revuluri ¹
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3 rd Rank	\$250	North South Foundation

Math Bee Level 2

1 st Rank	\$1000	Bansan Foundation ²
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Math Bee Level 3

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Junior Science Bee

1 st Rank	\$1000	Affordable Pet Care Clinic
2 nd Rank	\$500	Deals of America
3 rd Rank	\$250	North South Foundation

Intermediate Science Bee

1 st Rank	\$1000	Dr. Vasanthi & Krishnan Gowri ⁴
2 nd Rank	\$500	Deals of America
3 rd Rank	\$250	North South Foundation

Senior Science Bee

1 st Rank	\$1000	Anandamohan Bhagavatula
2 nd Rank	\$500	Anandamohan Bhagavatula
3 rd Rank	\$250	Anandamohan Bhagavatula

Junior Geography Bee

1 st Rank	\$1000	BiryaniPot
2 nd Rank	\$500	BiryaniPot
3 rd Rank	\$250	BiryaniPot

Senior Geography Bee

1 st Rank	\$1000	North South Foundation-
2 nd Rank	\$500	Deals of America
3 rd Rank	\$250	North South Foundation

Senior Essay Writing Bee

1 st Rank	\$1000	Sangita Vennelakanti
2 nd Rank	\$500	Sangita Vennelakanti
3 rd Rank	\$250	Sangita Vennelakanti

Senior Public Speaking Bee

1 st Rank	\$1000	Dr. Vasanthi & Krishnan Gowri ⁵
2 nd Rank	\$500	Deals of America
3 rd Rank	\$250	India Culture Center, Houston

1 Dr. Syamala Revuluri Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by Dr. Krishnaiah Revuluri

2 Dr. Sanjiv Modi

3 Dr. Sarode Pundaleeka

4 In memory of Prof. RM. Sethunarayanan

5 In memory of Prof. Thiru RM. Krishnan



2017 Perfect Scores in Regionals

We acknowledge all the contestants who got a perfect score in any of the regional contests. This is a fantastic achievement! Congratulations to all the contestants below. If you happen to meet any of them, don't forget to ask them for the secrets behind their success.

Contestant & Contest	Grade	Regional Center	Contestant & Contest	Grade	Regional Center
Junior Spelling Bee			Senior Brain Bee		
Ishaan Sharma	3	Hinsdale, IL	Akhil Kondepudi	10	St. Louis, MO
Senior Spelling Bee			Math Bee Level 2		
Pranav Chemudupaty	7	Houston, TX	Athena Devashish	5	Baltimore, MD
Pavani Chittamsetty	5	Bentonville, AR	Shreev Goyal	5	Austin, TX
Mira Dedhia	8	Hinsdale, IL	Pradyumna Kandi	5	Dallas, TX
Pranathi Jammula	6	Austin, TX	Vishnu Mangipudi	3	Seattle, WA
Abhijay Kodali	4	Dallas, TX	Rishi Vora	4	Seattle, WA
Sravanth Malla	7	MahwahRockland, NJ	Math Bee Level 3		
Dhyana Mishra	6	Orlando, FL	Gopal Goel	8	Portland, OR
Naysa Modi	6	Dallas, TX	Utkarsh Goyal	6	Ashburn, VA
Akshra Paimagam	8	Charlotte, NC	Khushi Kohli	8	Kansas City, KS
Rohan Rajeev	8	Oklahoma City, OK	Chinmay Krishna	8	Kansas City, KS
Tara Singh	7	Louisville, KY	Tarun Kumar		
Hephzibah Sujoe	5	Dallas, TX	Martheswaran	8	Salt Lake City, UT
Nidhi Vadlamudi	5	Palo Alto, CA	Kanav Mittal	8	Palo Alto, CA
Ananya Vinay	6	Fresno, CA	Naveen Mukkatt	8	Houston, TX
Sreeniketh Vogoti	8	Jacksonville, FL	Pravalika Putalapattu	7	Fairfax, VA
Junior Geography Bee			Srivasudha Ramanujam	8	Detroit, MI
Satvik Pochiraju	3	Columbus, OH	Akshay Shyam	8	Dallas, TX
Intermediate Brain Bee			Jeyamerun Subhas	8	Seattle, WA
Vignesh Anand	6	Houston, TX	Abhitha Vegi	8	Fremont, CA
Sai Geetika Yelugoti	8	San Jose, CA			
Natasha Murugan	7	Seattle, WA			
Devika Sunil	7	Dallas, TX			



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Srinivas Karra (United Health Care)

Shilpi Bhatra (Phillips66)
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Arvindkumar Sanklecha (TeamSoft)

North South Foundation Distinguished Service Award

The success of North South Foundation is completely due to the extraordinary efforts of its volunteers. North South Foundation solely relies on volunteers to conduct its educational programs, raising and distribution of funds for the needy students in India. Nothing in life equals the gift of service you can extend to help all the deserving children in reaching their maximum potential.

North South Foundation is very pleased to present the **Distinguished Service Award to the following volunteers in 2017**. The Distinguished Service Award is presented to those volunteers who unselfishly contributed their time for NSF's Educational Contests or for fund raising activities to support the NSF Scholarship program in India. These are volunteers who best exemplify the type of high quality public service that became the hallmark of the Foundation.

North South Foundation truly appreciates the dedication of these volunteers towards the goals of the Foundation.

Distinguished Service Award Recipients for 2017

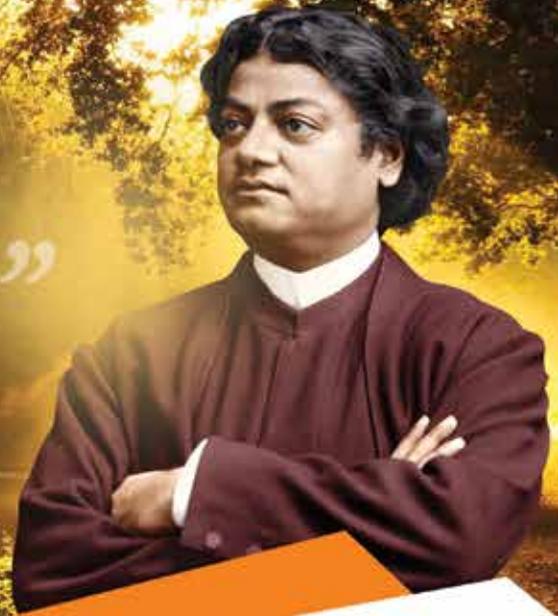
First Name	Last Name	Chapter
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Parthiban	Andi	Barrington, IL
Srinivas	Bandi	Atlanta, GA
Neetha	Chada	Houston, TX
Jaishankar	Chandran	Tampa, FL
Grirish	Chawla	Philadelphia, PA
Lalitha	Coimbatore	Ft Lauderdale, FL
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Ganesh	Dasari	Houston, TX
Kirti	Devi	Portland, OR
Geetha	Govindan	Worcester, MA
Aruna	Karunakaram	Ann Arbor, MI
Vinay	Kashyap	Worcester, MA
Anupama	Lanka	Raleigh, NC
Amudha	Madhan	Hinsdale, IL
Sanjay	Munshi	San Ramon, CA
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Aruna	Sadasivan	Atlanta, GA
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Madhavi	Sekharam	Tampa, FL
Jith	Shamarao	Des Moines, IA

First Name	Last Name	Chapter
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Sravanthi	Vallampati	Cleveland, OH
Bhaskar	Varanasi	Detroit, MI
Gayathri	Vasudevan	Raleigh, NC
Ramesh	Vasudevan	Tampa, FL
Vijai	Venkata	Houston, TX



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Cannot come to Education,
Education must go to Him”

– Swami Vivekananda



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10 Yr

Winning Streak – Spelling Bee

NSF CHILDREN SHINING AT THE MAJOR LEAGUES

Scripps National Spelling Bee Champions



Ananya Vinay
2017



Nihar Janga
2016



Jairam Hathwar
2016



Vanya Shivashankar
2015



Gokul Venkatachalam
2015



Sriram Hathwar
2014



Arvind Mahankali
2013



Snigdha Nandipati
2012



Sukanya Roy
2011



Ananmika Veeramani
2010



Kavya Shivashankar
2009



Sameer Mishra
2008

National Geographic Bee Champions

6 Yr

Winning Streak Geography



Pranay Varada
2017



Rishi Nair
2016



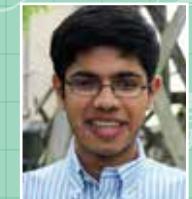
Karan Menon
2015



Akhil Rekulapelli
2014



Satwik Karnik
2013



Rahul Nagvekar
2012

International Math Olympiad Champions

MATHCOUNTS

2 Yr

Winning Streak



Ankan Bhattacharya
2016



Ashwin Sah
2016



Shyam Narayan
2015



Swapnil Garg
2014

Science Bowl Champions

Abhijeet Sambangi
and
Snigdha Allaparthi
(2014)



National History Bee Champion

You Be The Chemist Challenge Champion



Siddarth Kanannavar
2017



Bhagirath Mehta
2012

NSF CHILDREN WON SIX ACADEMIC CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 2017



Ananya Vinay

SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE CHAMPION

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC BEE CHAMPION



Pranay Varada



Raksheet Kota and Rakshita Kota

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD GOLD MEDAL WINNERS

INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHY BEE USA NATIONAL CHAMPIONS



Siddharth Kamannavar



Satvik and Saket Pochiraju

UNITED STATES GEOGRAPHY OLYMPIAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LEVEL CHAMPION AND NATIONAL HISTORY BEE CHAMPION