



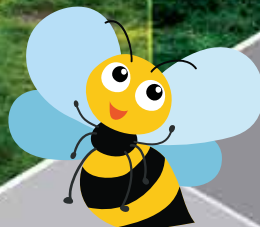
# NORTH SOUTH FOUNDATION

Encouraging Excellence in Education



of Academic  
Bees

**26<sup>th</sup> National Finals**  
**September 1-2, 2018**  
University of Maryland,  
College Park, MD



# BEE BOOK 2018

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

# NATIONAL FINALS COMMITTEE CHAIRS



**Murty Neti**  
Convener



**Madhushalini Bhaskar**  
Co-Convener



**Dr. Rama Seshu Tangirala**  
Technical Coordinator



**Sudhakar Gubba**  
Grading



**Karthikeyan Ramasubbu**  
Bee Book



**Sandeep Pandit**  
Bee Book



**Sandhya Kamath**  
Hospitality



**Mohan Reddy**  
Food



**Sriram Kalyanasundaram**  
Communications



**Shailaja Chari**  
Stage Management



**Venkat Gottipati**  
Awards



**Padmini Thotapally**  
Registrations



**Kumar Thotapally**  
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**Chandra Sangireddi**  
Facilities



**Krishna Samavedam**  
Facilities



**Shanti Swarup Vedula**  
Facilities

**Jaya Lakshmi Neti**  
Co-Convener  
&  
**Srikanth Yaragudipati**  
Communications

# Finals Convener's Note



Dear Children and Parents,

A hearty welcome to the University of Maryland, College Park. Congratulations on qualifying for the 26th edition of the North South Foundation Finals. It is with great pleasure that the NSF 2018 Finals Team welcomes you to this two day event at this flagship university of the state of Maryland.

With each passing year, NSF is gaining more and more recognition. NSF has added significant focus to its core mission of being a great charitable non-profit organization providing scholarships to talented but economically disadvantaged students in India. For the year 2017-2018, NSF has provided scholarships in India worth around \$410,000. NSF now has more than 90 chapters in the country. NSF is adding more and more volunteers and resources to better prepare the children in different academic streams. Hosting the Finals is always a huge challenge as we need to prepare ourselves to meet, if not exceed, the expectations of the children and parents. We want to make sure that we put a smile on the face of each and every child, who has worked diligently in preparing for this event. The Core teams of Facilities, Volunteers, Registration, Technical Coordination, Grading, Food, Hospitality, Communication and Awards have worked very hard to ensure the Finals go as smoothly as possible and meet your expectations.

The ESJ building opened recently and with its latest infrastructure should provide a great venue for the NSF Finals. To cater to the large audience expected at the Spelling Bee Phase 3, we decided to hold this event in the Hoff Theater. The Memorial Chapel should provide a fantastic backdrop to the Awards Ceremony.

In addition to the main event, we will be hosting several Meet-the-Pro sessions and other informational activities that should help prepare the students in their academic journey. To provide icing on the cake, we have three great Keynote and Chief Guest Speakers who will definitely inspire and motivate the students to greater heights.

We are very grateful to University of Maryland, College Park for providing us excellent facilities to host the NSF 2018 Finals. Our sincere thanks to all the sponsors for their generous contributions.

An event of this magnitude would not have been possible without the support of the volunteers. Our sincere thanks to each and every volunteer who made this Finals possible with their tireless effort. Last but not least, we would like to thank each and every participant, their parents and family for coming to the Finals and making it a great success. Hope you all have a great time at the Finals and also visiting all the interesting museums, monuments and historical places in the Washington DC Metro Area.

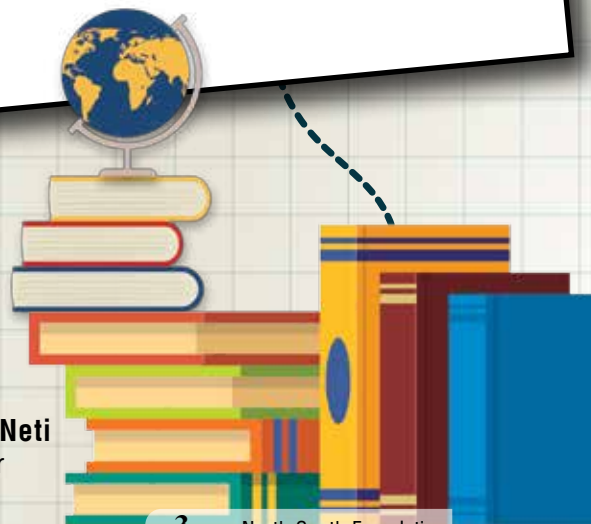


**Murty Neti**  
Convener



**Madhushalini Bhaskar**  
Co-Convener

**Jaya Lakshmi Neti**  
Co-Convener



# Editorial



**Karthikeyan Ramasubbu**



**Sandeep Pandit**

Editorial Committee Members

**Abhinav Karthikeyan**

**Roshni Kainthan**

**Tejas Muthusamy**

Design & Print

**CaliTag**

*On behalf of the North South Foundation, we welcome you all to this year's NSF National Finals being hosted at the University of Maryland, College Park. It gives us great pleasure to know that the NSF Family will gather this year in our home state and celebrate the 26 years of excellence that this Foundation has sustained.*

*NSF's national competitions have inspired kids, year after year, to attain extraordinary achievements. For the past 26 years, NSF has fostered a multitude of champions across various national and international competitions. NSF is changing many children's lives here in the US and is instilling in them many values such as hard work and perseverance. These life lessons that the children gain through NSF will serve them well in the future.*

*Dr. Murali Gavini created this organization to help bright kids in India receive the proper funding they need for their education. His vision, along with Dr. Chitturi's, has allowed NSF to not only achieve that mission in India, but also spread that message throughout the US. The growth of NSF over the past 26 years has been the result of all the volunteers contributing tirelessly for the betterment of the Foundation.*

*While you partake in this year's National Finals, please take the time to experience the variety of fun and unique attractions we have in the Washington, DC Metro Area. The metro area is a treasure trove of monuments and museums that fit the interests of almost everybody and nearby Baltimore is famous for its seafood and has many notable attractions including the National Aquarium.*

*For all student competitors, no matter what your result is, you are all winners. You have made it to the national level of different contests and should be proud of yourself for all the preparation you have put forth for the contests. We wish you the best and hope that you have a great time. The National Finals is an exciting experience and also a unique opportunity to meet folks from all over the country.*

*The Bee Book Team received several responses to requests for articles to be published in the Bee Book, from kids, parents, champions, and past champions. This shows the amount of talent, creativity and enthusiasm present in the NSF Family. We would like to thank everyone who responded for their part in helping us create this. We believe that Bee Book will help you remember your memorable experience this year and also feel inspired by your peers and predecessors.*

*Finally, we would like to thank all the volunteers who have made the hosting of a National Finals in Maryland a dream come true. The Bee Book Team wishes all a very fun and exciting time here in Maryland and good luck in all your future endeavors.*

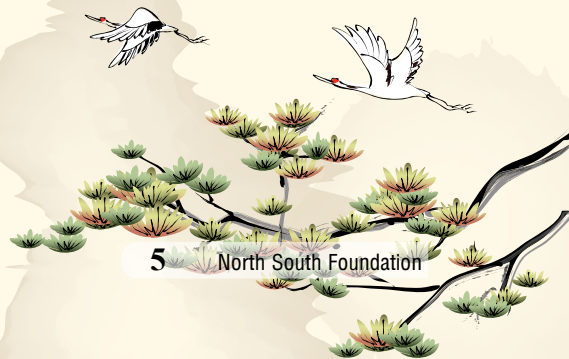
*Best regards,*

*2018 NSF Bee Book Team*



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STATE OF MARYLAND  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



September 1-2, 2018  
2018 North South Foundation National Competitions  
University of Maryland, College Park

**A Message from Governor Larry Hogan**

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the 2018 North South Foundation National Competitions, hosted by University of Maryland, College Park! I am delighted to provide this welcoming message to you on this wonderful occasion.

The North South Foundation (NSF) was founded as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in 1989, in order to help develop the academic and leadership potential of Indian and Indian-American students. Each year, NSF conducts regional and national competitions in spelling, vocabulary, math, essay writing, public speaking, and brain and geography bees for students throughout the United States, and provides scholarships for academic excellence to help deserving students throughout India attend college. On behalf of the State of Maryland, I wish all of the competitors the best of luck, and thank the North South Foundation for making this innovative and impactful event possible.

Best wishes for a memorable weekend and for continued progress in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Larry Hogan  
Governor

STATE HOUSE, ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401  
(410) 974-3901 1-800-811-8336  
TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY





**Chris Van Hollen**  
U.S. Senator

September 1, 2018




Dear Friends:

I am delighted to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 2018 North South Foundation National Competitions. As a United States Senator for Maryland, I am pleased to welcome you to the beautiful State of Maryland for this unique and special event. I am also happy to offer my best wishes to the members of the North South Foundation and to the students, parents, and volunteers attending this national competition.

My congratulations go to every participant in today's competitions. As you participate in the North South Foundation's programs, you are developing academic and leadership skills that will help you succeed in all that you do and are taking advantage of NSF's efforts to promote scholarship, friendship, and excellence across international boundaries. I know that you all will take great pride in upholding these values throughout your lives.

You have my best wishes for successful and enjoyable National Competitions.

Sincerely,



Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator

Not printed at government expense

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September 1, 2018



Dear Friends:


I am pleased to welcome everyone attending the *2018 North South Foundation (NSF) National Competitions* at University of Maryland. Each year, this event provides bright Indian-American students the opportunity to showcase their academic success. Over the next two days, students with passions for spelling, geography, vocabulary, public speaking, science, math, and even neuroscience can demonstrate their knowledge and hard work.

For over 30 years the NSF has worked to provide educational opportunities to young people in the United States and India. In the U.S., the NSF provides skills training and hosts academic competitions to help children gain confidence and feel a sense of community. The North South Foundation consistently sends students to top competitions like the Scripps National Spelling Bee and MATHCOUNTS. In India, the NSF chapters also host competitions and provide talented students with undergraduate scholarships. The NSF aims to make education accessible to children regardless of geographic location, gender, religion, or caste.

Educating our future generations in an environment that values community and equality is essential to a productive society. The life lessons that children learn from their time participating in NSF programs will no doubt serve them in the future. I am proud to welcome the NSF to Maryland for your national event.

My best wishes for a successful competition, and best of luck to all participants.

Sincerely,

  
Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



ARUNA MILLER  
Legislative District 15  
Montgomery County

Appropriations Committee

Subcommittees

Vice-Chair  
Capital Budget

Chair  
Oversight Committee on Personnel

Vice-Chair  
Transportation and the Environment



*The Maryland House of Delegates*  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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Aruna.Miller@house.state.md.us



September 1, 2018

Dear participants of the 2018 North South Foundation National Finals at the University of Maryland:

On behalf of the North South Foundation, the constituents of Maryland's 15<sup>th</sup> Legislative District and the State of Maryland, I am pleased to extend my personal greetings to everyone participating in the 2018 NSF National Finals.

This year's competition is taking place at the beautiful campus at the University of Maryland and I am elated that College Park was chosen as the host city for this event. I am confident that each person participating in this year's National Finals will not only continue to achieve academic excellence but will also continue to grow and excel in any field that they choose to pursue.

In addition, while The National Finals constitute a competition – in my mind you are all winners. The perseverance and dedication that it takes to simply make it to the Finals coupled with your superb public speaking, essay writing, math, vocabulary, geography, science and critical thinking skills will provide the foundation you need to succeed in any endeavor.

I would also like to take a moment and thank the parents and coaches of the participants for their amazing support, your job is not easy! The competition and its ability to cultivate the best in our youth gives me hope that our future will be as bright as you are!

Once again, on behalf of all Marylanders, welcome to the 2018 North South Foundation's National Finals and congratulations to all the participants of this prestigious event.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Aruna".

Delegate Aruna Miller  
District 15, Montgomery County



# CITY OF COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

4500 Knox Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-3390 • 240-487-3501 • Facsimile: 301-699-8029



Office of the  
Mayor

Patrick L. Wojahn  
Mayor

September 1, 2018



North South Foundation  
2018 National Finalists

Greetings from the City of College Park!

We are delighted to learn that The North South Foundation will hold the 2018 National Finals at the University of Maryland College Park on September 1-2, 2018 and extend a warm welcome to all the students, parents and volunteers who have travelled to Maryland for this event.

Of course, we all know that you are winners already, but your participation in these prestigious national finals must make you especially proud of your achievements.

We appreciate that you selected College Park as your destination this year. I hope that you will have some time while you are in our City to explore all that this area has to offer. Children will especially enjoy a visit to the College Park Aviation Museum and Lake Artemesia. You also might find an interesting performance at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center or MilkBoy Arthouse. And of course, many more attractions in our nation's capital are easily accessible via the College Park Metrorail station.

On behalf of the City Council and our residents, I welcome you and your families to the City of College Park and extend our best wishes for the 2018 national competition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Patrick L. Wojahn".

Patrick L. Wojahn  
Mayor

Home of the University of Maryland



# NSF National Committee



**Rao Chalasani**



**Dr. Ratnam Chitturi**



**Dr. Gopala Krishna Kodali**



**Dr. Raj Jayachandran**



**Venkat Gade**



**G. Jagadeesh**



**Anita Gavini**



**Savitha Rajiv**



**Anitha Rajagopalan**



**Prasanna Paralkar**



**Janevi Ramaji**



**Praveen Katta**



**Suri Jetty**



**Sampath Narayanan**



**Sai Rachakonda**



**Jyotshna Gunturu**



**MS Rao**



**Srinivas Gudeti**



**Prasad Pedireddi**



**Dr. Ganesh Dasari**

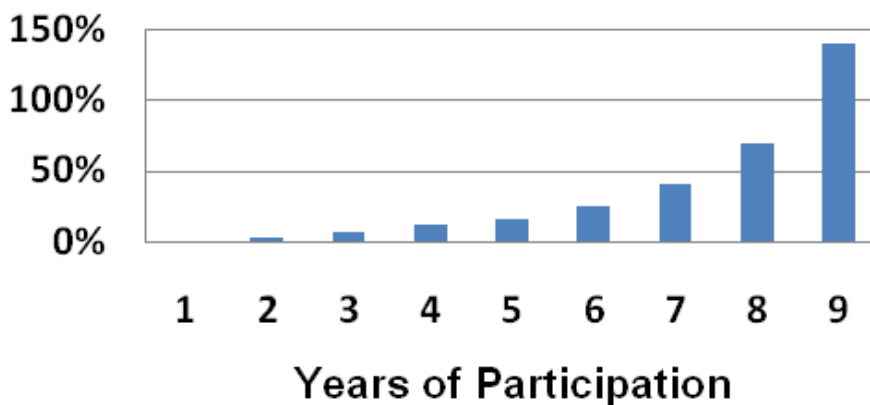
# How Your Child Can Become a High Achiever

Ratnam Chitturi, Founder

All parents want their children to be successful. Having started the academic bees more than 25 years ago, North South Foundation (NSF) has gained considerable experience on what it takes a child to be a high achiever. By digging deeper and doing some data mining, we have been able to discover a few insights. We will share these insights with a few examples in the hope that they might be useful for your children.

## Discovery 1:

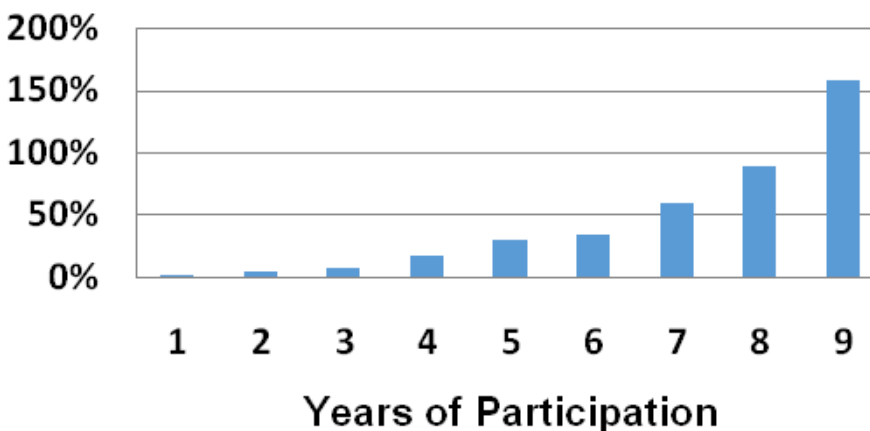
**Math: Chance to be in the Top 10 Ranks**



## Persistence Pays

The longer a child stays with NSF, the higher is the chance that your child will achieve one of the top 10 ranks at the NSF National Finals. As seen in the charts, if a child starts in KG and stays with NSF until 8th grade, the child is 100 percent assured of reaching one of the top 10 ranks. This is true in all subjects

**Spelling: Chance to be in the Top 10 Ranks**



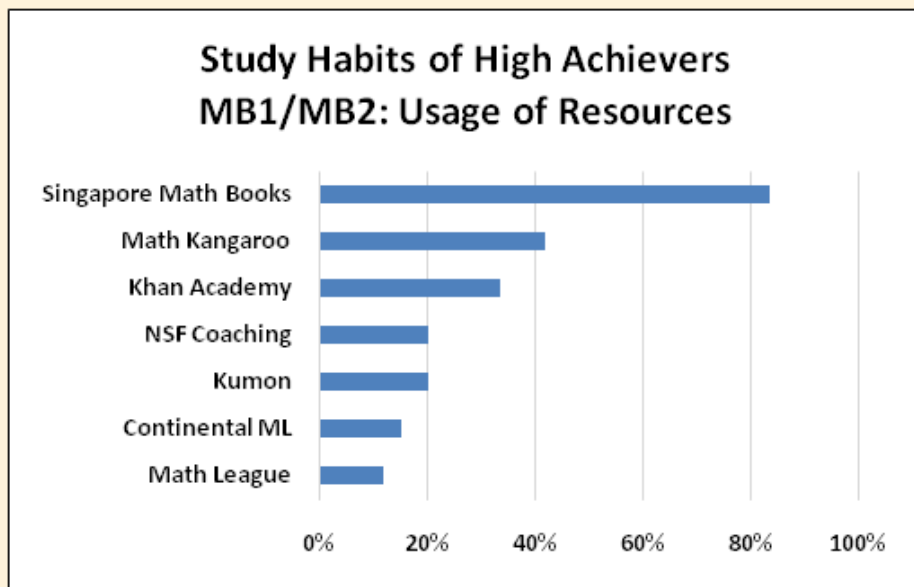
Note: More than 100 percent indicates that the child got top ranks in more than one subject.

We conducted a survey of children who achieved one of the top 10 ranks in a given subject at the NSF National Finals since 2006. Nearly 750 families were contacted. So far, we received 40 percent response rate, which is very good. We wanted to know what resources they used to become high achievers. Here are some results.



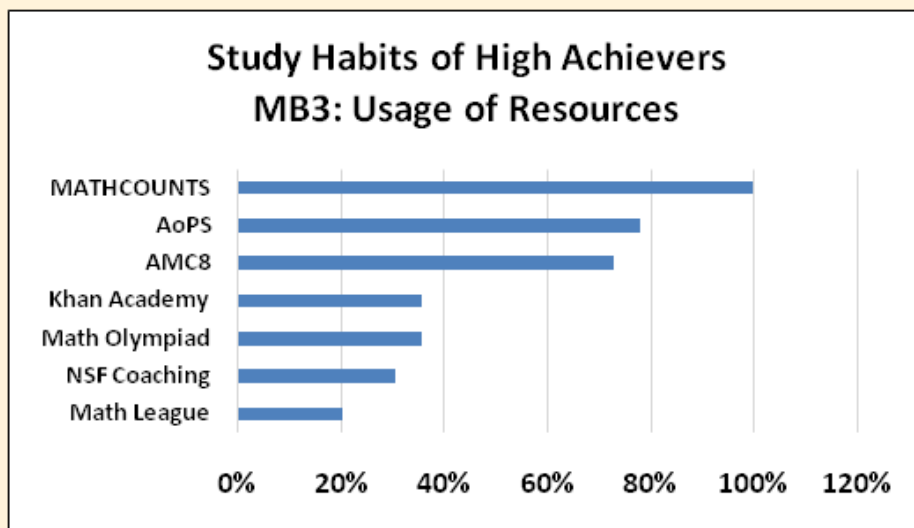
## Discovery 2 :

**Math / Grades 1 thru 5: Singapore Math Books are predominantly the key resource for high achievers.**



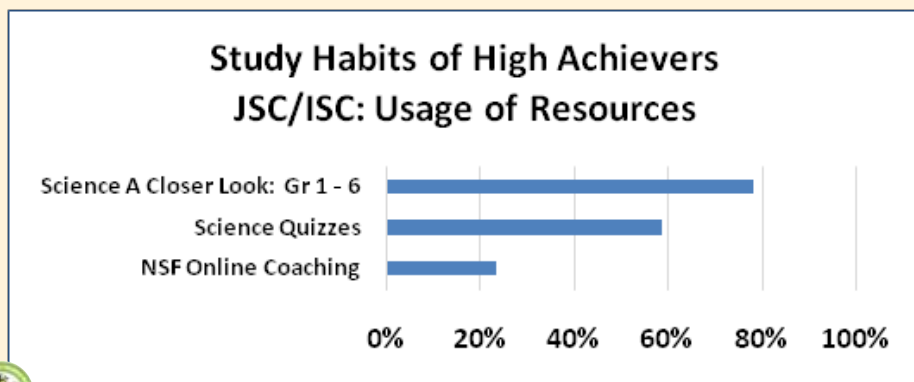
More than 80 percent used Singapore Math Books to practice math problems. Math Kangaroo and Khan Academy were next at 42 and 33 percent, respectively. NSF online coaching was used by 20 percent of the high achievers.

**Math / Grades 6, 7, 8: MATHCOUNTS, AoPS and AMC8 are the key resources for high achievers.**



100 percent of the high achievers used MATHCOUNTS material. AoPS (Art of Problem Solving) was next at 78 percent and AMC8 at 73 percent. More than 30 percent used NSF Coaching.

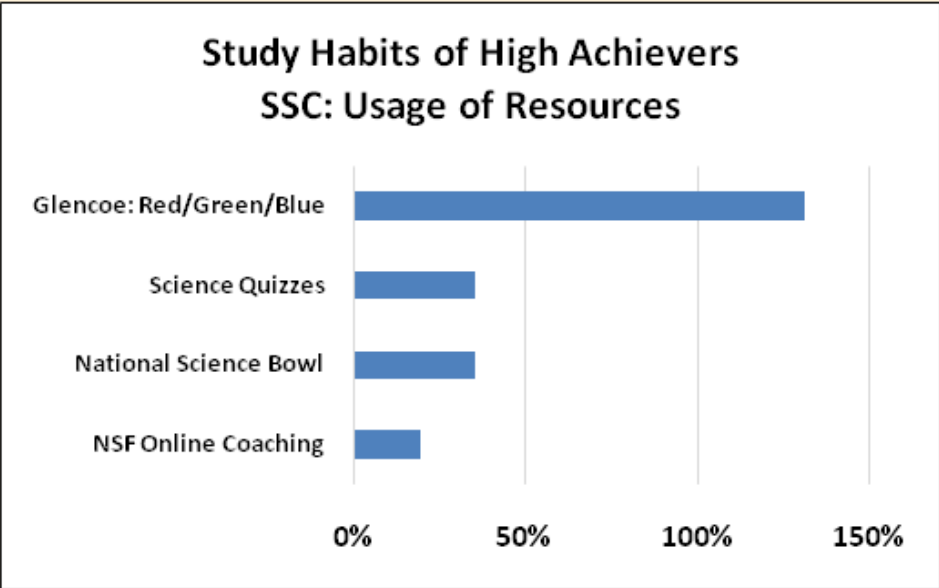
**Science / Grades 1 thru 5: High Achievers used predominantly the Science - A Closer Look (one book for each grade) by Macmillan/McGraw-Hill**



78 percent of the high achievers utilized Science – A Closer Look, while 59 percent used Science Quizzes and 24 percent used NSF Coaching.

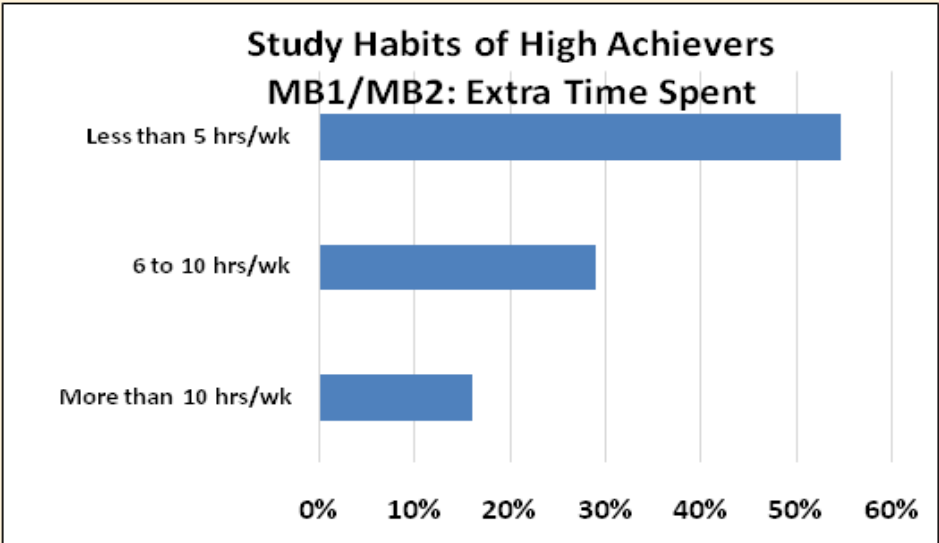


Science / Grades 6, 7, 8: High Achievers used predominantly Glencoe Science Level – Red, Green, Blue.



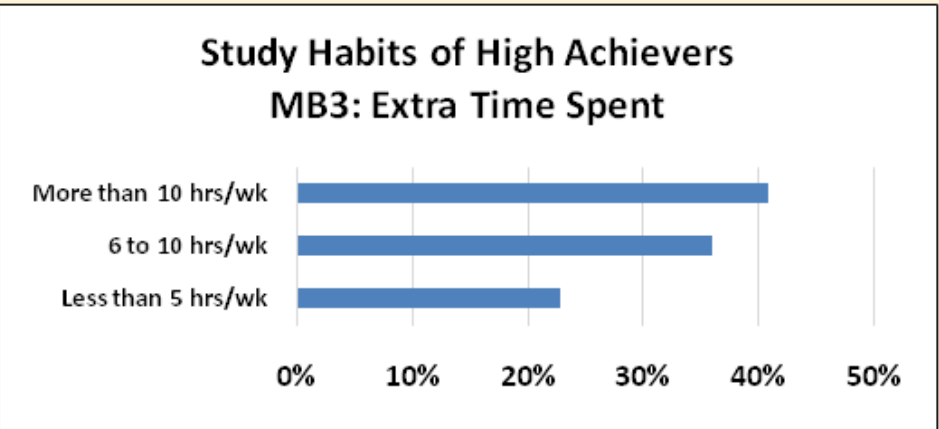
All high achievers used one or more of the Glencoe Science Level Red/ Green/Blue books. 35 percent used Science Quizzes and National Science Bowl material. Nearly 20 percent took NSF coaching.

Discovery 3: High achievers spent extra time in Math preparation / Grades 1 thru 5:



About 16 percent, 1 in 6, spent more than 10 hours a week extra, 29 percent spent between 6 and 10 hours a week and 55 percent spent less than 5 hours per week.

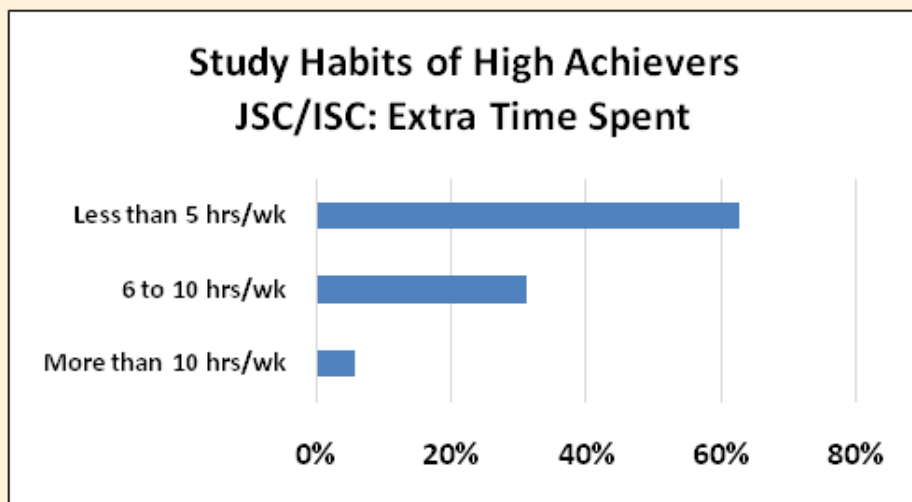
Math / Grades 6, 7, 8:



More than 40 percent of the high achievers spent more than 10 hours a week extra, 36 percent spent between 6 and 10 hours a week and 23 percent spent less than 5 hours a week.

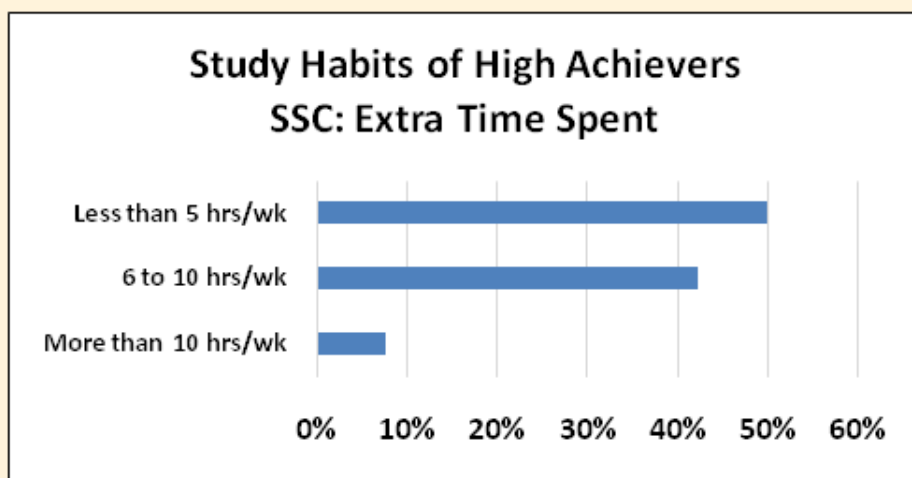


## Science / Grades 1 thru 5:



31 percent of the high achievers spent between 6 and 10 hours a week extra time studying science, while 63 percent spent less than 5 hours per week and 6 percent spent more than 10 hours a week.

## Science / Grades 6, 7, 8:



42 percent of the high achievers spent between 6 and 10 hours a week extra time studying science, while 50 percent spent less than 5 hours per week and 8 percent spent more than 10 hours a week.

All of the resources mentioned above appear on the NSF Website under the Preparation section.

Here are the key resources used by high achievers in other subjects.

### Spelling:

<http://www.myspellit.com/>  
NSF Spelling Game/Workshop  
<https://spellingmantra.com/>

### Vocabulary:

NSF Online Vocabulary Game  
Word Power Made Easy

### Geography:

GB Handbook 1001 Q&A  
NSF Online Coaching  
Handy Geography Answer Book  
NGB Official Study Guide





## A note from North South Foundation Chairman Rao Chalasani

NSF is hitting new milestones in succession both in the US and India. The winning streak at Spelling Bee and Geography hasn't missed a beat in 2018. The knowledge, maturity, and demeanor of the winners were in vivid display. Winning isn't everything. The wholesomeness is what makes the individual, family, and the community. I congratulate and thank the winners, the families behind them, the selfless work of the coaches, and scores of volunteers that make the journey a fun filled experience.

NSF India is now working with all 595 JNV schools making the footprint of NSF throughout India including the Union Territories. Over 200 schools are in the development stage that look like JNV in being residential schools and somewhat similar infrastructure. The contest registrations, when finished, are expected to exceed 100,000 this year. It is a remarkable achievement built on a brand new technology platform that is going through some improvements. A new program called HUMstudy to be unveiled later this year on the same tech platform is expected to be even bigger in scope with far-reaching implications. It is developed to make students creative learners, give teachers a dashboard with the student-specific learning curve to pay individualized attention to students and provide the Management of the school system deep insights to take corrective actions when needed.

We are fortunate to have the participation of Dr. Bill Drayton, the trailblazer of social entrepreneurship and mentoring and Mr. A.N. Ramachandra, the Joint-Commissioner of JNV whose vision made the contribution of NSF to JNV possible.

I wish the participants good luck, parents the opportunity to watch their children shine, volunteers the gift of giving, and honor the sweat of the management for making this event happen. As always, our theme "Every participant is a winner," remains permanently etched in our collective consciousness.

Rao Chalasani  
Chairman, North South Foundation



# NSF India Scholarships Report 2018

Two major activities of North South Foundation (NSF) are:

1. To promote excellence in human endeavor by organizing impeccable academic contests in US and India
2. To help poorest of the poor kids in India by providing scholarships to pursue higher studies

NSF has been conducting academic contests for over 29 years and helping several thousands of young students in US improve their academic skills. At the same time, about 17,000 students in India pursued higher education in the last 10 years alone because of NSF India scholarships.

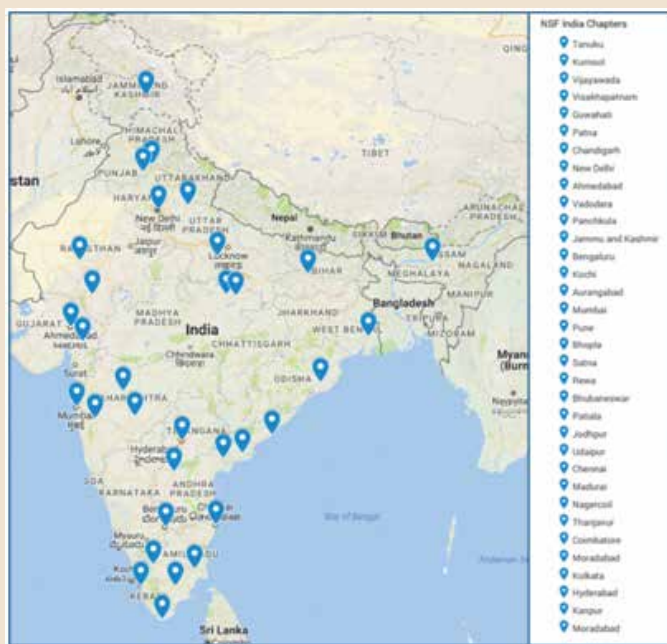
The identification of the most deserving candidates, with top-notch academic record and true financial need, is not an easy task. The eligibility criteria for NSF India scholarships are:

- Student must be in top 10% in 10th, 12th class and in a competitive entrance test (e.g. NEET)

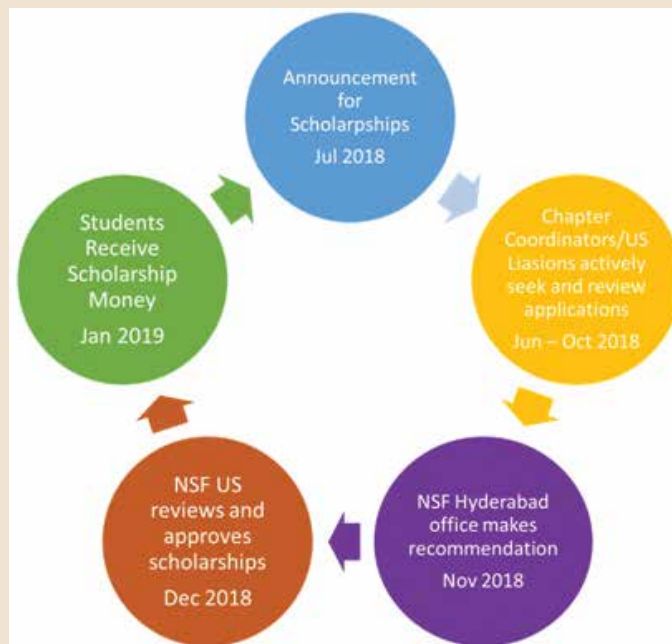
- Secured admission to pursue Engineering, Medicine, or 3 year diploma degree and Family income should be less than Rs 100,000 per year

There are a large number of (30+) chapters distributed all over India, with headquarters in Hyderabad; see the map below. The Chapter Coordinators (CCs) and corresponding Liaisons in US do an excellent job of identifying students who are academically brilliant but in the need of financial support.

The announcement for the scholarships goes out in the month of July and applications are accepted till end of October. The scholarships are announced in major newspapers, online, personal references, as well as by word of mouth. The CCs collect information, review the application and make a recommendation to the NSF main office in Hyderabad. The NSF Hyderabad office sends the final list to the US for approval. A schematic diagram of the process is shown in the Figure below.



Current NSF Chapters (courtesy of Google Maps)



Schematic diagram of NSF India Scholarship Process

Each chapter in India organizes scholarships distribution and recognizes the students. A photo from such an event in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh is shown below. These types of events are held all over India and gets local and national TV coverage, as shown in the Figure below as an example.



2017 NSF Scholarship distribution event in  
Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh



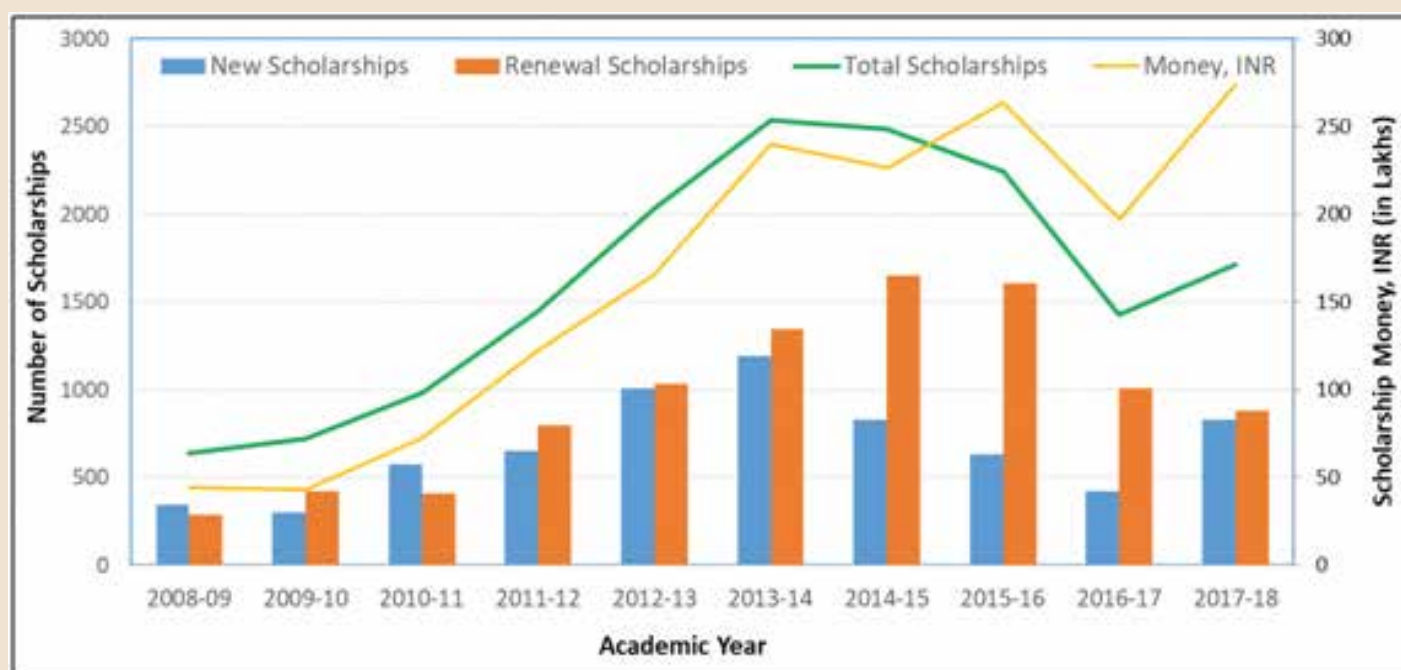
NSF Scholarships make TV news  
(courtesy of ETV Rajasthan)



# How can NSF parents in US help?

First of all, you are already helping. Thank you. Every time your child participates in any NSF competition, workshop or an online coaching, you are helping a poor child in India.

NSF has been distributing scholarships for about 29 years. The number of scholarships awarded in 1989 was one and ever since the number of scholarships have been increasing. The chart below shows the number of scholarship awarded in the last 10 years. The total number of scholarships was about 2500 in years 2013 and 2014. The total money distributed in the academic year 2017-18 was approximately INR 275 lakhs (or about 410,000 USD). There are very few organizations who consistently award scholarships of about 410,000 USD every year in India, and NSF is one of them. We all should be proud to be part of such a wonderful organization.



## NSF India Scholarships from Year 2008 - 2017

NSF is seeking applications for scholarships in India for the academic year 2018-19. If you know someone in India, who can benefit from NSF scholarships, please request them to apply online at: <https://www.northsouth.org/app6/Maintest.aspx>

The announcement below contains the necessary information (the PDF document of the announcement is available at: <https://www.northsouth.org/public/india/Doc/2018scholarshipflier.pdf>)



Please spread the word by forwarding the PDF document to students, college principals, college faculty, high school teachers, and non-profit organizations. Encourage them to spread the word by sharing this announcement with prospective students.

# NORTH SOUTH FOUNDATION



## College Scholarship Announcement

### NSF invites you to apply, if

You are amongst the top 10% in 10th and 12th and CET/JET ranks in your state

**AND**

You have secured admission to professional courses like Engineering, Medical, Dental, Polytechnic, Diploma in Agr, B.Sc Nursing, B.Sc (Agr), B.V.Sc, etc. in a GOVERNMENT COLLEGE (including seats in Government Aided colleges) and do not receive other aid or scholarships.

**AND**

Your annual family income is less than Rs. 1,00,000

**Over 1000 scholarships Rs. 8,000 to 25,000**

### How to apply

- Visit [www.northsouth.org](http://www.northsouth.org) -> India Scholarships
- Use online application
- Last date for application Oct 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018

**DON'T GIVE UP YOUR COLLEGE DREAM**

The North South Foundation (NSF) is a non-profit voluntary organization that awards merit scholarships to exceptionally qualified underprivileged students in India, entering colleges, regardless of religion, gender, caste or geographic origin. In addition, NSF also organizes educational contests for children of Indian origin living in the USA.

<https://www.northsouth.org/public/india/Doc/2018scholarshipflier.pdf>

Please forward this announcement to students, college principals, high school students, non-profit organizations, who could help spread the word.



**Mr. Nageshwar Rao Kondapalli**  
NSF India Scholarships Lead  
Hyderabad, India



**Dr. Ganesh Dasari**  
NSF India Scholarships Coordinator  
Houston, TX





## Scholarship Recipient Mani Sai

# NSF Vijayawada Chapter

I am, Mani Sai Kumar Puvvada a native of Narasaraopet, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh, South India, from a poor agricultural family. During my polytechnic course, I lost both my parents. With the help of my dad's friends and my grandfather, I could complete my diploma and also could get lateral entry into second year B. Tech Electrical & Electronics Engineering in V.R Siddhartha Engineering College, Vijayawada in 2015-16. After reviewing my academic credentials and knowing about my financial status my seniors suggested me to approach Sri Surapaneni Venkataratnamgaru for NSF Vijayawada chapter coordinator. I still remember his kind encouragement and cooperation in resolving all my doubts and clarifications to be one of NSF Scholarship recipient. The timely financial help from North South Foundation increased my self confidence and boosted the courage leading me to aspired academic goal. I thank everyone of the foundation from the bottom of my heart, as I am very happy to inform that I had my placement in Power Mech Projects Limited Company, Hyderabad as an Engineer Trainee with a CTC of Rs 2 lakhs per annum, in campus recruitment conducted in our college.

Instead of simply thanking all those who helped me in my endeavour, I assure that I shall contribute 2% of my life long income on philanthropic activities particularly in extending helping hand to needy children in the society. This act of NSF foundation is a big motivation and inspiration to many people. I wish this foundation will reach many candidates and TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A BETTER WORLD.

Thank you very much  
**Mani Sai Kumar Puvvada**

## NSF Chennai Chapter

### Dr. S. P. Ramarathinam



# My Experience with the NSF Scholarship Program in Vijayawada Chapter

In 2013 upon my grandsons Akhil Meka and Nikhil Meka's request to conduct English workshop (NSF APNA Youth Ambassador Program) in India, I first got involved with NSF. With Mr. Venkat Gade's guidance, Akhil & Nikhil completed the workshop successfully. I accompanied my grandkids every day to school, got to see firsthand what NSF APNA Youth Program was and which inspired me to take up the role of India Chapter Coordinator. This workshop was conducted in Vijayawada & was very well received in the community.

In 2014 NSF Vijayawada chapter was formed. The foremost challenge was to spread the awareness of NSF scholarship program among students. I handed out pamphlets to students & put those on the college bulletin boards.

Accompanied by my wife, went to local education college summits and spoke about scholarships given out by NSF to eligible students entering Engineering, Medicine & Polytechnic. Being a pro active member of Lions club, was able to spread this awareness beyond Vijayawada.

In year 2014, NSF made it mandatory that scholarship applications should be submitted via online. The next challenge was enforcing the students to apply online. Initially myself along with few Lions club members entered these applications in online which were sent via postal. Then I started training students how to submit the application online.

After these issues were resolved, I would then inform the students. Often times I would let students from neighboring villages to stop by home, so that they could fill the application online. The third step is to identify the eligible students after the application deadline passed. I would initially scan all the applications & would inform US liaison Srilata & Akhil would then rescan the eligible applications. If any documents were missing, I would reach out to the students & remind them to send the needed documents.

During 2014 & 2015, interviews were conducted at our residence to meet the local eligible students. Akhil would then prepare final documentation and send

out the list to both India & US National Coordinators. Every year Scholarship award program was arranged at our residence. Apart from this, I had been coordinating APNA Youth Ambassador Program with Mr. Venkat Gade in Vijayawada. I also had the opportunity to telecast each scholarship award program in local TV channel.



Invitations were sent out to the various journalists prior to the award ceremony. These award programs are published in local newspapers.

Below are the statistics of Vijayawada chapter for the fiscal years

**2014-2015** : 10 new scholarships

**2015-2016** : 10 renewals & 21 new scholarships

**2016-2017** : 21 renewals & 56 new scholarships

**2017-2018** : 66 renewals & 217 new scholarships

This year I again had the privilege to meet the founder of NSF Dr. Ratnam Chitturi & he presided over Vijayawada chapter scholarships program. I am very glad that I got involved with NSF. It is very fulfilling & fills me up with satisfaction to see that through NSF I am able to help so many students.



**Ln Surapaneni Venkata Ratnam**





# My NSF Experience

**F**irst and foremost, I would like to thank the North South Foundation for conducting these contests every single year. The dedication of the entire team is the main reason that children around America have the opportunity to compete in these competitions, which are a stepping stone to higher levels. NSF has played a huge role in my spelling bee career, and it also helped many other spellers; in fact, 19 of the 41 finalists, 10 of the 16 prime-time finalists, and the entire top 6 at the 2018 Scripps National Spelling Bee were all NSF children. This just shows how instrumental NSF is to spellers' careers, and all of it is for a good cause.

I first started competing in NSF contests in 2012, and have been doing it ever since. From 2012-14, I competed in the Bloomington, IL chapter, and then in 2015 and 2016, I competed in the Peoria, IL chapter, and I moved to Dallas and competed in the contests in 2017 and 2018. Throughout the time I was in NSF, I picked up valuable lessons, such as being able to work hard, persevere, stay calm under pressure, etc. These will be important in the long run.

To win the Scripps National Spelling Bee, you need talent, interest, determination, hard work, and definitely a little bit of luck. With NSF, I learned that I had a talent for spelling and I had a passion for words. This made me continue competing in spelling bees and broadening my knowledge of words. But I never had a fixed goal until after the 2017 Scripps National Spelling Bee, where I knew that I had to work very hard to achieve my dream of being the champion. I worked hard and was determined to lift the trophy, and thanks to my coach, my parents, and God, I was able to clinch the championship.

Failures were key in my success. Failures were the only way I would learn. No one will ever win nationals if it is their first ever competition. I was never

really successful in the NSF bees and also in the South Asian Spelling Bee. In NSF, I never made it to Phase 3 of the finals, from 2012-2017. The one that was especially agonizing was 2017, for the fact that I missed by 1 point. In SASB, I never made nationals in the 4 years I competed. Even in Scripps, in 2017, which was my first year of competing (I didn't have a sponsor in IL), I got eliminated at the county level. In 2018, also, I got eliminated in county, getting 2nd in a long duel with Naysa Modi, the 2nd place finisher at nationals. She has one more year of eligibility left, so I'm sure she will make the most of it and be very well prepared. Anyway, back to the topic. Earlier, I wouldn't have been able to even go to nationals. But Scripps introduced a new program called RSVBee, which is basically for those without sponsors or for those who don't win their regional. I went through to nationals with that program, and even though I couldn't even win my county bee, I believed I had the capability to do very well in the competition. Although I didn't prepare as well as I had hoped to, I (thankfully) ended up getting words I knew, which, in the end, is all that matters in a spelling bee.

My experiences at NSF and the spelling bee are a big step in life, and I know that these experiences will aid me in my goal of being an AI engineer. There will be obstacles, but I have been in situations like that and if I continue to persevere and work hard, everything will be just fine. NSF will continue to help kids achieve their dreams and helping them to "bee the best they can bee." Thank you, NSF, and may you continue to prosper for many years to come.



**Karthik Nemmani**  
2018 Scripps  
National Spelling Bee Champion





**Aadhav Sriram**  
Buffalo Grove, IL



**Aadhavan Veerendra**  
Portsmouth, NH



**Aaditya Akare**  
Westford, MA



**Aadya Rai**  
Clarksville, MD



**Aarush Chavar**  
Birmingham, AL



**Aayush Rajagopalan**  
Plano, TX



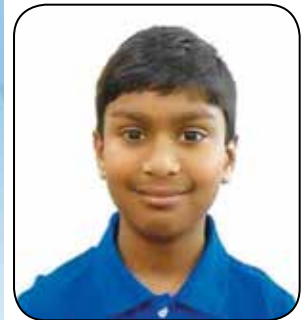
**Abhilash Kalyan**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Abhinav Medi**  
Chalfont, PA



**Achuth Vinay**  
Fresno, CA



**Aditya Talakanti**  
South Lyon, MI



**Aditya Tangella**  
Brighton, MA



**Advait Aras**  
Columbus, IN



**Advait Balakrishnan**  
Hinsdale, IL



**Adya Garg**  
Ashburn, VA





**Ahana Tippanagoudar**  
Coral Springs, FL



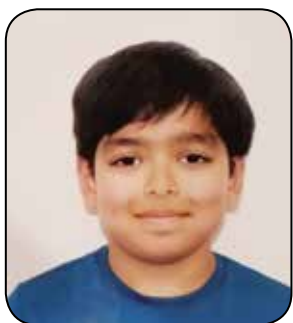
**Akash Vukoti**  
San Angelo, TX



**Akhil Jois**  
Carmel, IN



**Akhila Nalladimma**  
Louisville, KY



**Ananth Nithin**  
Bothell, WA



**Anay Pruthy**  
Phoenix, AZ



**Anika Malyavanatham**  
Hillsboro, OR



**Anish Dubba**  
Nanuet, NY



**Anish Raja**  
Cumming, GA



**Anishka Basu**  
Austin, TX



**Anjali Chauhan**  
Edison, NJ



**Anshul Mantri**  
Portland, OR



**Anvi Kabbli**  
Horseheads, NY



**Armaan Syed**  
Acton, MA



**Arnav Dusad**  
Ashburn, VA



**Arushi Gadde**  
Cedar Rapids, IA





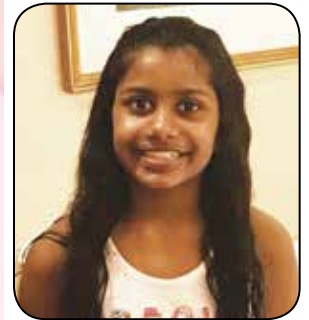
**Arushi Mallick**  
Fremont, CA



**Aryan Khedkar**  
Rochester Hills, MI



**Aryan Mohanty**  
Ashburn, VA



**Avni Rauniyar**  
Burke, VA



**Avyay Kodali**  
Palatine, IL



**Ayush Hegde**  
Fresno, CA



**Chaitra Thummala**  
San Ramon, CA



**Chaitra Yeccherla**  
Cary, NC



**Claire Dsouza**  
Morrisville, NC



**Dev Gavande**  
Robbinsville, NJ



**Devanshi Chowdada**  
Ellisville, MO



**Dhruv Subramanian**  
Fremont, CA



**Dhruva Mandavilli**  
Flower Mound, TX



**Esha Anand**  
San Diego, CA



**Gopikaashri Chidambaranathan**  
Topeka, KS



**Gowri Ramesh**  
Fort Mill, SC





**Grisham Paimagam**  
Charlotte, NC



**Ishanvi Kirtane**  
Okemos, MI



**Jayanth Athipatla**  
Omaha, NE



**Jesse Pulla**  
Columbus, IN



**John Manavalan**  
Naperville, IL



**Karthik Panchangam**  
Montville, NJ



**Karthikeya Bhavana**  
Broadlands, VA



**Kashvi Arunprakash**  
Jacksonville, FL



**Kavinbhaarathi Mohanraj**  
Westwood, NJ



**Kavya Chava**  
Carrollton, TX



**Krithi Saravanan**  
Apex, NC



**Mahathi Chadalavada**  
Midland, TX



**Mahima Ganesan**  
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**Mahima Wuppalapathi**  
Irvine, CA



**Manu Sandesh Sripathi**  
Overland Park, KS



**Melissa Kurian**  
Lancaster, PA

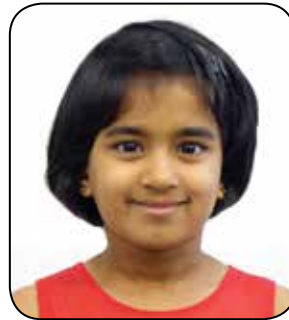




**Nandika Sagadevan**  
Alpharetta, GA



**Neha Bhat**  
Belton, TX



**Neha Dhanasekaran**  
Sandy, UT



**Neil Shandilya**  
Highlands Ranch, CO



**Neil Tallamraju**  
Nashua, NH



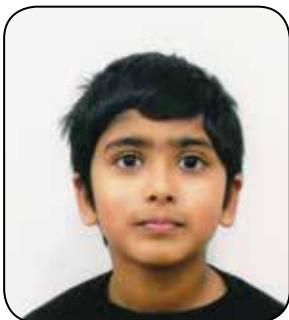
**Nidarshana Natarajan**  
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**Nidhi Maddi**  
Normal, IL



**Nihal Mallipudi**  
Herndon, VA



**Nimal Murugan**  
Cumming, GA



**Niral Poongovan**  
Santa Clara, CA



**Nirdvaita Chandrana**  
Whitestown, IN



**Nishka Reddy**  
San Diego, CA



**Nithika Rangan**  
Elk Grove, CA



**Nivedha Sathish Kumar**  
Portland, OR



**Ojasya Machiraju**  
Belmont, CA

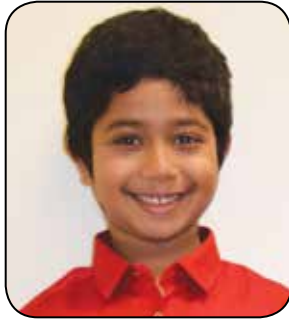


**Prachet Padhy**  
Cherry Hill, NJ





**Praddyun Janardhan**  
Lake Bluff, IL



**Pradyun Gujju**  
Guilford, CT



**Pranav Behal**  
Enola, PA



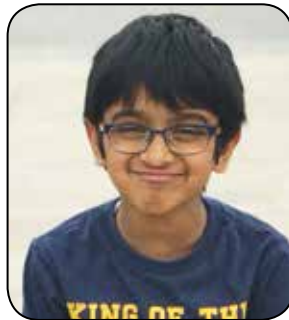
**Pranavi Dadi**  
Toledo, OH



**Praveen Kothapalli**  
Sugar Land, TX



**Raagav Bala**  
Herndon, VA



**Raghav Rao**  
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**Risheth Rajasekaran**  
Franklin, MA



**Rishi Goli**  
Overland Park, KS



**Ritika Vasanth**  
Los Gatos, CA



**Riya Anumakonda**  
Burlington, NC



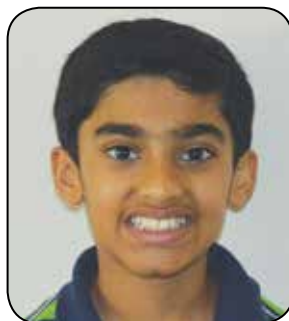
**Riya Kothari**  
Grayson, GA



**Riya Suresh**  
Irving, TX



**Rohan Hebbar**  
Woodbridge, CT



**Rohan Mutupuru**  
Apex, NC



**Rohan Sengupta**  
Ellicott City, MD

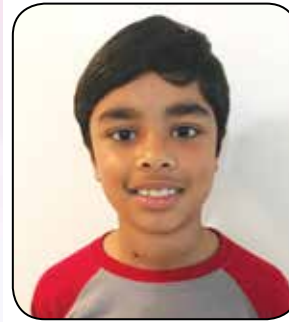




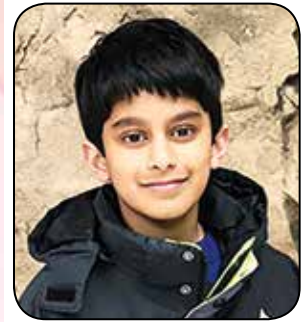
**Rohit Palani**  
Orlando, FL



**Rohith Konduri**  
Norfolk, VA



**Ryan Karim**  
Milford, CT



**Sabhya Bansal**  
Rochester, MN



**Saharsh Bangaru**  
Bridgewater, NJ



**Saisha Sharma**  
San Diego, CA



**Saisurya Lakkimsetti**  
Bixby, OK



**Sanath Krishna**  
Sunnyvale, CA



**Sanjith Saikumar**  
Holland, MI



**Santhosh Arunkumar**  
Fremont, CA



**Sarayu Bhumula**  
Edison, NJ



**Savir Peri**  
Syosset, NY



**Shivaani Sivaraman**  
Lincolnshire, IL



**Shivika Sinha**  
Princeton, NJ

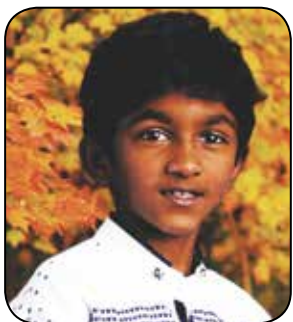


**Shourya Mogulothu**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Shradha Rachamreddy**  
San Jose, CA





**Shreejith Krishnamoorthy**  
Warrington, PA



**Shreenidhi Pattangi**  
Chicago, IL



**Shrethan Botla**  
Leander, TX



**Shrihun Andhe**  
Fullerton, CA



**Shrisha Prakir**  
Fremont, CA



**Shruti Sridhar**  
Aston, PA



**Sibi Shanmugam**  
Mechanicsburg, PA



**Siddharth Krishnan**  
Naperville, IL



**Siddharth Manikandan**  
Morris Plains, NJ



**Sithara Manoharan**  
Royal Palm Beach, FL



**Siyona Kandala**  
San Antonio, TX



**Somya Jain**  
Columbia, SC



**Sonia Kulkarni**  
Town And Country, MO



**Srikar Bandreddy**  
Austin, TX



**Srikruthi Kolanupaka**  
Irvine, CA



**Srinidhi Rao**  
Pensacola, FL





**Sriniket Nuthalapati**  
Buffalo Grove, IL



**Srivatsan Marimuthu**  
Acton, MA



**Sriya Gomatham**  
Irving, TX



**Sudarshan Praveen**  
Apex, NC



**Sumanyu Pinjala**  
Fairfield, CT



**Surabhi Jagdish**  
San Diego, CA



**Surya Kapu**  
South Jordan, UT



**Surya Pochampally**  
Souderton, PA



**Susheer Paladugu**  
Albuquerque, NM



**Sydney Yerra**  
Ashburn, VA



**Tanay Vasavada**  
Fresno, CA



**Tara Rakesh**  
Florence, KY



**Treesa Madakkattu**  
Eden Prairie, MN



**Vaibhav Deshmukh**  
Buffalo Grove, IL



**Vaishnavi Kothamasu**  
Sandy, UT



**Varun Chirravuri**  
Princeton, NJ





**Vedanti Patil**  
Portland, OR



**Vidushi Sinha**  
Cerritos, CA



**Vikram Goudar**  
Virginia Beach, VA



**Vikram Manivannan**  
Rochester, MN



**Vikram Raju**  
Aurora, CO



**Vikrant Chintanaboina**  
San Jose, CA



**Vikrant Rajan**  
Weston, CT



**Viren Kohli**  
Suwanee, GA



**Vivinsha Veduru**  
Keller, TX



**Yash Mittal**  
Peoria, IL



**Yoshitha Kunarapu**  
Phoenixville, PA



**Zoya Saif**  
Morganville, NJ

### Not Pictured

Isha Lakshman  
Avik Dash  
Aarav Harish  
Srmedha Komandur  
Samatha Patnaik  
Karthik Pujari

Varsha Radhakrishnan  
Rashmi Sai Surineni



# The Garden

Once upon a time, there was a garden.

It was immense, dynamic, and bursting with life, filled with flowers and blossoms of all sort. It was overflowing with vivid colors and pigments, the flowers competing for your attention as their rich scarlets and indigos caught your eye.

Ivy cascaded over the occasional flowering tree, tendrils of leaves curling in every direction. The flowers bloomed harmoniously, encompassed by the lush, viridescent grass that carpeted the loamy terrain. There were clumps of vivacious daffodils thrusting their golden heads upward boldly, smatterings of zinnias that pleased the eye with their mesmerizing fuchsia petals.

Most importantly, no two flowers were the same. Each one was stunning in its own, unprecedented way, perpetually evolving. Some were domed, with a rounded apex, delicate, silky petals protruding from the center and forming an imperfect blossom. Others were flat, with sharp, symmetrical, even-hued leaves arranged uniformly around the circular crest, radiating from it like sunbeams or prongs of a wheel. Whether they were irregular or impeccable, radial or tubular, multicolored or monochrome, they all had one thing in common: they were young, budding, and ready to grow.

The flowers all originated from diverse backgrounds, different seeds. The seeds were how the flowers came into being, their starting point. From there, they went in all different directions. Every flower began growing, as a sprout, in different soil, under varying conditions. Some thrived in thick, moist, springy earth, dark and soft to the touch, rich with all the nutrients that are necessary for the plant to grow. Others started out in rocky, rough land, with parched earth and sandy, clay-like terrain, with barely enough support to flourish. Some were provided with bucketfuls of luxurious sunlight and clean, pure water, and others merely had the barest bits of light, and they were forced to reach their roots deep down into the soil to find any trace of rainwater.

Wheresoever it was they began, their paths ultimately converged as they journeyed and progressed, discovering new things, until they all ended up in this garden. This singular garden, where all of them had excellent soil, all of them had nutrients- where all of them had equal chances at growth.

This garden was unique because it had no fence. It was uncontained, unrepressed; the flowers blossomed and spread as they pleased. It was always growing bigger, becoming a more significant garden as more bulbs were planted - the garden was always welcome to newcomers.

Growth was encouraged, and every single flower grew and matured along the twisting and turning path they call life. As time passed, the garden continued to flourish and expand endlessly. As this growth took place, the flowers united, they became closer. They became intertwined, a family. They combined their growth, sharing their milestones and accomplishments as they ripened using the help and encouragement of each other. Though they all existed in the same garden, they were not competing to attain its resources. Contrarily, they worked together and helped each other reach their goals.

All of this was what made the garden elegant and realistic, a place where anything could develop and thrive as long as it desired to. Perhaps the most essential part of the garden, however, was the Gardener.

Without the Gardener, the garden would not exist. He toiled hard every day to water each and every plant, to treat it tenderly and give it the resources it required. The Gardener was the source of life - he supplied the first spark that led to an eruption of improvement, a firework of progress.

It only takes the first drop of water that is given to a flower by a kind soul to create a life-long series of experiences as the flower grows and matures. It only takes that first drop; the drop that is provided by none other than the Gardener.

NSF, thank you for being my Gardener; thank you for providing my Garden. You gave me the initial drop of water, the first trickle that led to a cascade.

The first time I went to an NSF competition, I was in first grade, just a seven-year-old with bright eyes and big dreams - I was merely a sproutling, barely budding. NSF was my first outside-school competition encounter, and I was in awe. I was drawn to it because it was a... community of such incredible, confident people and role models who supported each other, and I found myself wanting to be just like them. Being very inexperienced, I obviously didn't win my first competition. That made me remarkably upset, and I vowed to try harder the next time. And that was how it started.

That one competition was the first trickle, and that trickle turned into a roar: it led me to compete in NSF every single year since then. This is my 7th year running. NSF has helped not just me, but a whole garden of young sprouts turn into experienced blossoms, growing and thriving like they should be.

NSF, you are my gardener, and I am certain that my experiences with you will aid me in getting to high places in life. Your garden is where I began my growth, and it is where I hope hundreds and thousands of others after me will continue to flourish together. Thank you.

**Sanjana Bandi**



# Oh the places you'll go.....!!



**P**reparing for Spelling Bee is and will always be a family affair. Dhruv and I are preparing for our third NSF spelling bee (K, First, Second grade) this year. As an early reader, Dhruv has always been interested in reading non-fiction including encyclopedias and likes watching documentaries. I am always amazed at how much our learnings veer from the actual spellings or words, into a deeper knowledge journey where the roles of the student and teacher are reversed. A few anecdotes from our preparation sessions as we board our Spelling Train.

The first stop was **Siren** (Etymology: Greek. Definition: temptress and device making a warning sound). Siren is the Greek mythological Mermaid-like temptress that lured sailors to their death in Odysseus. However, my little one opened my mind to some interesting alternative contexts. Apparently, Sirenia is the word that describes the Order (in animal classification) to which manatees and dugongs (sea mammals) belong and that Siren is a genus that includes aquatic salamanders.

The next stop was **Becquerel** (Definition: a unit of measure of radioactivity). Dhruv had mastered the Periodic Table when he was 6 yrs. old, so I was already expecting to hear an interesting fact about this word. And he didn't disappoint. I learnt that it is an eponym named after the inventor of Geiger counter, Henri Becquerel. "Not Henry with a y Amma, but with an i", Dhruv chimes in!

**Jugular**, a word we would all have heard about in the context of the jugular vein. When we reached this word, my little teacher lectured me about the gular sac in Si-mang monkeys and how they use it to call out establish territory. Apparently, Tortoises inflate their gular horn during domination fights as well. Both these are near the throat, which is what the word "gular" means, he explained.

The word **January**, the month, as Merriam Webster defines, is from Latin Januarius (mensis) '(month) of Janus' in the Julian calendar after the Roman god who presided over doors and beginnings. The hidden gem of information that was offered to me, that Janus is a 2-headed God who gets to look back at the past and future, hence the metaphorical derivation for the first month of the calendar year.

Last but not the least, **Humectant** (Origin: Latin). We had not encountered this word during our preparation, but he received this during his NSF spelling bee nationals last year. He spelt it out to us after and explained that he had seen the word previously on a soap wrapper, knew its spelling from that observation. We both learnt a new word that day - Humectant is a chemical substance added to food/cosmetics to retain moisture.

As a proud Parent of an NSF Spelling bee contestant, I constantly remind myself, Spelling Bee is never just about the spellings or the word lists. It's a science, geography, history, literature lesson – all rolled into one.

**Veena Subramanian**  
(Parent of Dhruv Subramanian)

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

Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden ↑ ↓ → ← and ↘ .

ABSOLUTEVALUE	CHROMOSOME	EXPONENT	OPPOSITES
ACCELERATION	CLIMATE	EXPRESSION	RANGE
ADAPTATION	COMET	FACTORS	RATE
ATMOSPHERE	COMPOUND	INTEGERS	RATIO
ATOM	CONDENSATION	MEAN	RECIPROCAL
BACTERIA	CONSERVATION	MEDIAN	VARIABLE
CELL	CONSTANT	MODE	
CHLOROPHYLL	CONSTELLATION	MULTIPLE	



**Pranav Karthikeyan**  
Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Grader, Clarksburg, MD



# The Best Treasure in the World

Friendship is Beautiful,  
But very hard to possess.  
No Matter Young or Old,  
It's precious as gold.  
It brings lot of pleasure,  
To everyone in the world.  
When you feel down,  
It lifts your spirits up.  
Friendship is hard to get,  
But easy to lose.  
True Friendship last forever!  
So, enjoy it while you can!!!

**Brindha Ponvel**  
4th Grader, Pinebrook, NJ

## Steps of Studying

Step One:  
Set a goal  
And remember the motto "Bee The Best You Can Bee,"  
No goal is too small you see.

Step Two:  
Read! Read! Read!  
Remember to write down the important things  
Then you'll be soaring, high on your wings.

Step Three:  
Check to see if you've reached your goal.  
Don't worry if you haven't, you didn't lose the bet  
Because we're not quite done yet.

Step Four:  
Here's a trick that I know  
Teach! What you learn,  
So that way the things in your brain will stand firm.

**Ria Shah**  
Rising 5th Grader, Burlington, NC





**Aarsha Shah**  
Bridgewater, NJ



**Abha Krishnamoorthy**  
Hummelstown, PA



**Abhijay Kodali**  
Flower Mound, TX



**Abhilash Patel**  
Harriman, NY



**Abhiram Kapaganty**  
Suwanee, GA



**Advika Govindaraju**  
Bedford, NH



**Agranya Ketha**  
Montville, NJ



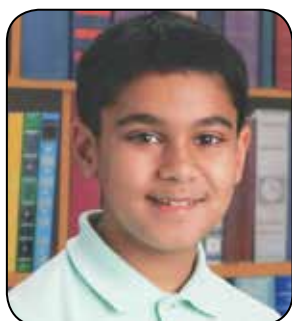
**Akshainie Kamma**  
Round Rock, TX



**Akshar Yeccherla**  
Cary, NC



**Akshita Balaji**  
Herndon, VA



**Anand Shah**  
West Chester, PA



**Ananya Dhanawade**  
Briarcliff Manor, NY

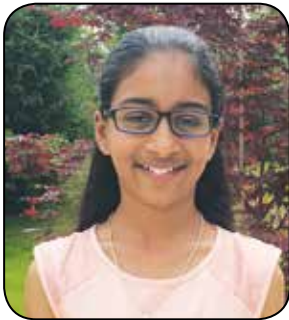


**Ananya Gautam**  
Potomac, MD



**Anish Tejomurtula**  
Palm Harbor, FL





**Anjali Kambhampati**  
Leawood, KS



**Annika Singh**  
West Roxbury, MA



**Arhita Mehta**  
Carmel, IN



**Aritra Banerjee**  
Rocky Hill, CT



**Arjun Ramachandran**  
Silver Spring, MD



**Arnav Tripathy**  
Tampa, FL



**Arushi Cumer**  
Johns Creek, GA



**Aryan Nindra**  
Leesburg, VA



**Aryan Sai**  
Harrisburg, PA



**Aryan Sharma**  
Ellicott City, MD



**Atman Balakrishnan**  
Hinsdale, IL



**Avyakta Kanthesh**  
San Antonio, TX



**Ayan Shekhar**  
West Roxbury, MA



**Bhavana Madini**  
Plainview, NY



**Deetya Vuppala**  
Bellevue, WA



**Dhyana Mishra**  
West Melbourne, FL





**Diya Vishwakarma**  
Moline, IL



**Esha Aras**  
Columbus, IN



**Eshaan Srintan**  
San Jose, CA



**Eshwar Saikumar**  
Holland, MI



**Gautham Sanil**  
Cedar Park, TX



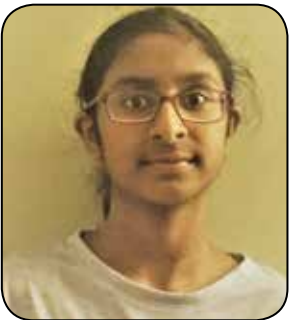
**Gayatri Iyer**  
Shrewsbury, MA



**Harini Logan**  
San Antonio, TX



**Haritha Ramesh**  
Granby, CT



**Harshitha Sunchu**  
Westborough, MA



**Ishaan Ramesh**  
Pittsford, NY



**Ishaan Sharma**  
Naperville, IL



**Ishan Kanaskar**  
San Antonio, TX



**Ishita Cumer**  
Johns Creek, GA



**Ishya Bhavsar**  
Prairie Village, KS



**Janani Gollapalli**  
Chantilly, VA



**Jaya Choudhary**  
Canton, MI





**Jayaditya Rajan**  
Weston, CT



**Jessica Mathew**  
Rochester Hills, MI



**Jibril Moinuddin**  
Milpitas, CA



**Kapil Kakodkar**  
Portland, OR



**Kashvi Shah**  
Rancho Cordova, CA



**Keerthan Kumarappan**  
Flushing, NY



**Keerthana Krishnan**  
Katy, TX



**Keshav Nair**  
Helotes, TX



**Krishnasanth Choppa**  
Powell, OH



**Mahnoor Kazi**  
Lowell, MA



**Maitri Kovuru**  
Fort Worth, TX



**Maya Jadhav**  
Fitchburg, WI



**Megan Lynch**  
Granite Bay, CA



**Mukund Sagi**  
Carmel, IN



**Namitha Vadlamudi**  
Woodbury, MN



**Nandita Bhat**  
Simpsonville, SC





**Navneeth Murali**  
Edison, NJ



**Naysa Modi**  
Frisco, TX



**Neha Chelamkuri**  
Frisco, TX



**Nidhi Achanta**  
Newcastle, WA



**Nihal Josyula**  
Tucson, AZ



**Nithya Krishna**  
Saratoga, CA



**Nitya Attaluri**  
Prairie Village, KS



**Nitya Kathiravan**  
Edison, NJ



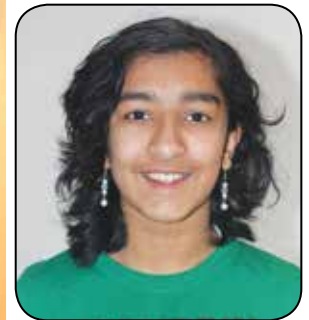
**Nivriti Chandrasekar**  
Portland, OR



**Oviya Srinivasan**  
San Jose, CA



**Pavani Chittamsetty**  
Bentonville, AR



**Pragya Choudhary**  
Canton, MI



**Pranaav Senthilkumar**  
Schaumburg, IL



**Pranathi Jammula**  
Austin, TX



**Pranav Kallavi**  
Pittsburgh, PA



**Pranav Nandakumar**  
Austin, TX





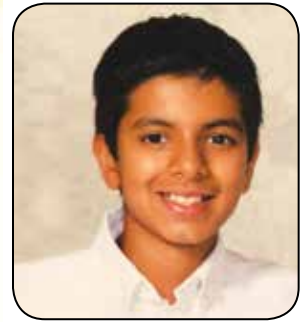
**Preisha Agarwal**  
Monmouth Junction, NJ



**Proma Majumdar**  
Diamond Bar, CA



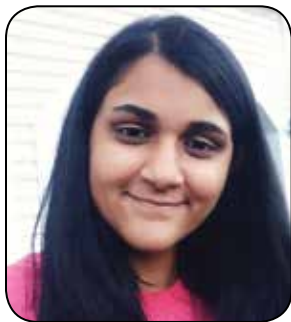
**Rakshit Bisoi**  
East Windsor, CT



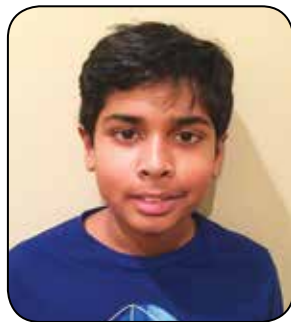
**Rayan Jawa**  
Holmdel, NJ



**Ria Sai**  
Harrisburg, PA



**Richa Juvekar**  
Westford, MA



**Rishi Shetty**  
Overland Park, KS



**Rishi Somani**  
Monroe Township, NJ



**Rohan Dalal**  
Johns Creek, GA



**Rohan Tyagi**  
Cary, NC



**Ronith Patil**  
Mechanicburg, PA



**Sachi Kaisare**  
Bethany, CT



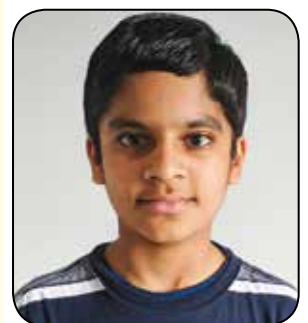
**Saharsh Bejugam**  
Fort Worth, TX



**Saharsh Vuppala**  
Bellevue, WA



**Sahasra Yenumula**  
Merrimack, NH



**Sahasrad Sathish**  
Grayslake, IL





**Sahil Langote**  
New Castle, DE



**Saketh Maddali**  
Mahwah, NJ



**Saketh Madhusudhan**  
Shrewsbury, MA



**Sameer Vechalapu**  
South Plainfield, NJ



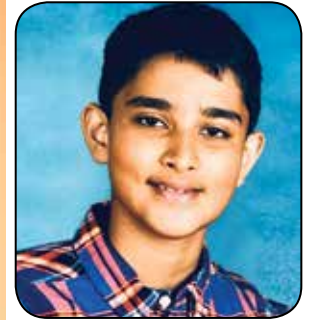
**Sanaa Mulay**  
Novi, MI



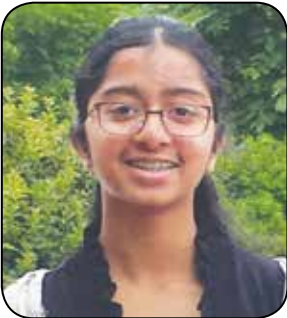
**Sanjana Bandi**  
North Brunswick, NJ



**Sathwika Nadella**  
Shelton, CT



**Sharabh Ojha**  
Morganville, NJ



**Shrujana Kunnam**  
Rockville, MD



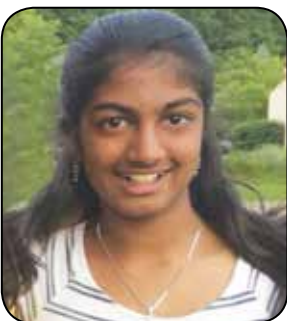
**Siri Doddapaneni**  
Omaha, NE



**Snehal Choudhury**  
Massillon, OH



**Soham Bari**  
Monroe, NJ



**Sreeja Akula**  
New Albany, OH



**Sri Madabhushi**  
Pembroke Pines, FL



**Srikar Chittamsetty**  
Bentonville, AR



**Srinidhaya Vempati**  
Newmilford, NJ





**Srinidhi Valli Valathappan**  
Mason, OH



**Sriram Srinivas**  
Omaha, NE



**Sudhish Darsipudi**  
Johns Creek, GA



**Sujata Choudhury**  
Cherry Hill, NJ



**Surabi Shanmugam**  
Mechanicsburg, PA



**Taj Patel**  
Andalusia, AL



**Tej Patel**  
Nashua, NH



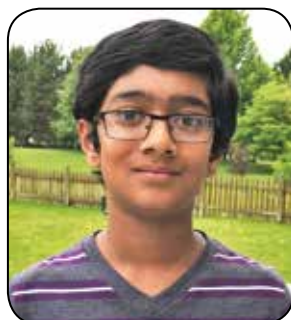
**Triyatha Jammula**  
Austin, TX



**Tushar Bhagawatula**  
Austin, TX



**Varun Cheedalla**  
Chantilly, VA



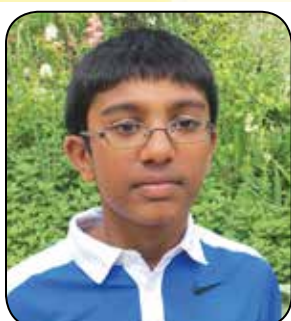
**Varun Nagaraj**  
Naperville, IL



**Vayun Krishna**  
Sunnyvale, CA



**Ved Muthusamy**  
Northville, MI



**Vedant Rathi**  
Lincolnshire, IL



**Vennela Japa**  
Draper, UT



**Vishal Vinjamuri**  
Ashburn, VA





**Yagyasha Roy**  
Morrisville, NC



**Yuktha Rayani**  
Wildwood, MO



**Yuvan Ram**  
Hilliard, OH

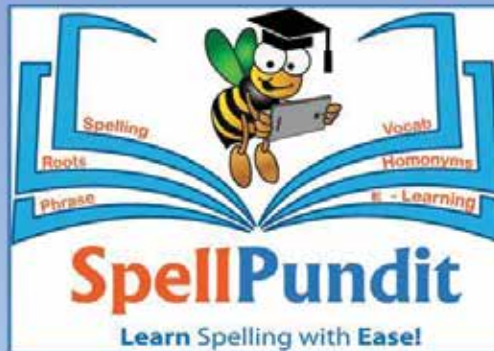


**Srivarun Hathwar**  
Virginia Beach, VA

### Not Pictured

Aahana Palyada  
Advait Patel  
Siddharth Satish  
Srmedha Kaligotla  
Ajay Balaje  
Deepak Balamurugan

Dhruv Bhardwaj  
Dhanya Kodali  
Subadhra Krishnan  
Anushri Seshadri  
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# My Experience in the National Geographic Bee

“Lebanon has a population most similar to which South American country?” This was the final question I answered in the 2018 National Geographic Bee that took place this past May in Washington D.C. The answer? Paraguay. I was wrong. I had written Guyana as the answer to the winning question of this year’s National Geographic Bee. While I did not become the National Champion, I have gained so much life experience from participating in this nationwide competition.

My geography bee journey started in fourth grade when I participated in the National Geographic Bee competition that my elementary school organized. That decision in January of 2014 set me on a journey of many highs and lows over the years and now defines how I approach any competition.

While I did not study very much for this first competition, I happened to win my school’s geography bee and passed a qualifying test for the New Jersey State bee. I had no idea what I needed to know for the higher levels of the competition, so my mother called Coach Kumar Nandur of the geography coaching circle known as the Tampa Geobee group, to help me with my preparation. She had received an email in early 2014 advertising his annual geography bee retreat. I cannot stress how helpful he and his team of coaches and mentors have been to us on my Geography Bee journey ever since.

Later that year, at the 2014 NJ State Bee, I made it to the tiebreakers round but did not place in the Top Ten. Rather than quit, I decided that I would keep trying and later that year I signed up for the Senior Geography Bee through NSF. I had participated in NSF Science since I was seven, after we heard about this organization from a friend. But since it was my first time participating in this high level geography competition, I did not do very well. Despite this, I got a good understanding of how much more I had to learn. I came back to the state bee and NSF Nationals in 2015 and 2016, continuing under Coach Kumar’s mentorship. Although I immensely increased my efforts, the competition at the state level was still quite high and I again only made it to the tie-breaker round and did not make the Top Ten.

All of this changed in the summer of 2016, when I placed eighth at NSF National Finals. This finish greatly improved my confidence in my geography skills. The next April at the state level competition, I finally stood on the stage I had stared up at for three years. After quite a few more rounds, I placed second

in New Jersey.

At this point, I wasn’t sure whether I should give up geography. I was proud of myself for finally making the Top Ten and doing as well as I did. Did I just want to leave it at this high point in the exploration of my interest in geography and focus on other interests? After much discussion and thought, I finally made another important decision- and that was to keep going. If I had decided to quit the National Geographic Bee then, I would not be where I am today.

The following year, I doubled my efforts at learning new facts, and won the 2018 New Jersey State Bee. This afforded me an opportunity to represent my school and state and attend the national level bee in Washington, D.C. this past May. I was unsure of how I would do, coming to this highest level of the competition for the first time. I prepared well, stayed positive, held confidence in myself and made the National Top Ten. I think that was the happiest day of my life. The finals went by in a blur. By the end, I was shaking hands with the National Champion, and I was the Runner-Up. What a run it has been!

As I reflect back on this journey, I owe a deep sense of gratitude to Coach Kumar Nandur & Coach Gayathri Ganesh (of the Tampa Geobee group) for helping me get to the National stage. My family also deserves thanks, for making many sacrifices so that I could pursue my dream. Additionally, I owe great thanks to my student mentors, Akhil Rekulapelli, the 2014 National Geographic Bee Champion, and Karan Menon and Shriya Yarlagadda, the 2015 National Geographic Bee Champion and Runner-Up, who prepared me before the final competition. Finally, I would not be here if it weren’t for the North South Foundation. Throughout this journey, I made friends who shared similar interests with me and this encouraged me to pursue my passion. The NSF competitions in whole have helped bolster my knowledge, experience, and confidence. Most of all, participating in NSF competitions has taught me that in the long run, hard work and perseverance will ALWAYS pay off.



**Anoushka M. Buddhikot**  
Runner-up  
2018 National Geographic Bee

# What It Takes to Parent an NSF Child: Thoughts from a Mom and Psychologist

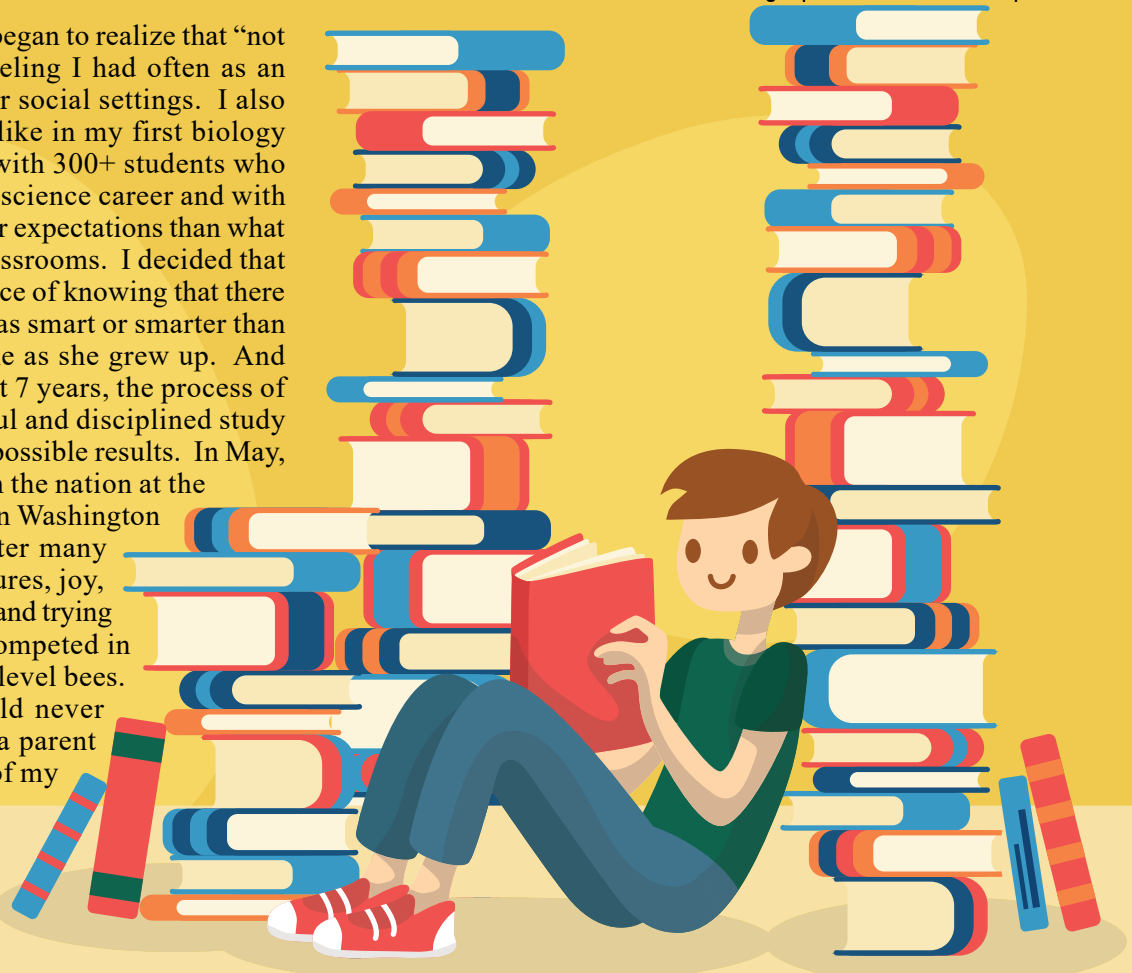
I am a second generation Indian-American having grown up in the United States since age 6. When my children were born, I vowed that I would give them the same opportunities to better their academic, social, physical, and spiritual selves as my parents had done 30 years earlier. When a friend introduced our family to the North South Foundation when my eldest was in 2nd grade, I jumped on the opportunity and registered her right away. With only 4 weeks until the regional contest, we only signed up for 1 subject: science. I did not expect much, but wanted to explore the organization, the kind of exams that were given and to see how my daughter would do under the pressure of studying for a regional exam. The following few years we explored vocabulary, math, and geography exams too. What I found through this process is that while she excelled at all of her subjects in school, she found the exams, especially at the national level, challenging and was often left with the feeling of “not knowing the answer”.

As I reflected on this, I began to realize that “not knowing the answer” was a feeling I had often as an adult whether in professional or social settings. I also had a flashback to what it felt like in my first biology class as a freshman in college with 300+ students who also were just as interested in a science career and with a professor who had much higher expectations than what I experienced in high school classrooms. I decided that giving my daughter the experience of knowing that there are many other people who are as smart or smarter than her would be a very helpful one as she grew up. And as we have learned over the past 7 years, the process of bettering oneself through careful and disciplined study can have one accomplishing impossible results. In May, 2018, Anoushka finished 2nd in the nation at the 30th National Geographic Bee in Washington D.C. This event culminated after many years of both triumphs and failures, joy, tears, falls, brushing oneself off, and trying again and rising again as she competed in NSF, school, state and national level bees. The process is one that I would never change as it challenged me as a parent to check my own expectations of my

child. I learned through this process that holding her only to the outcome that she should come home with a gold medal was not only short-sighted but it also hurt her inner drive to learn and better herself. I have since tried to be helpful with gentle encouragement and always asking her consent before registering her for a contest. I have come away with a much better understanding that as she grows into a young adult, my job is to be her biggest cheerleader, to help her remember her goals and show her how far she has come. I have come to believe that our role as parents is not to push our children to always “be #1” but rather to help them cultivate a positive mindset, seek continuous improvement, explore how much more they can be and encourage them to “be the best they can be”. I have come to understand that this is in fact what is meant by good enough parenting. Nothing more, nothing less.

**Aparna Kalbag, PhD**

Mother of Anoushka Buddhikot,  
2018 National Geographic Bee Runner-up



# Junior Geography BEE



**Aadith Prathinidhi**  
Buffalo Grove, IL



**Aaditya Rane**  
Raleigh, NC



**Aaruni Moudgal**  
Hopkinton, MA



**Abhinav Acharyabhatta**  
Chattanooga, TN



**Abhinav Aggarwal**  
Milpitas, CA



**Abhinav Medi**  
Chalfont, PA



**Abhiraam Girish**  
Fremont, CA



**Adavya Chandrasekaran**  
Canton, MI



**Aishvarya Prahalad**  
Atlanta, GA



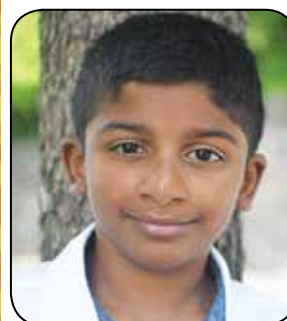
**Akash Vukoti**  
San Angelo, TX



**Akilesh\_Kandasamy**  
Miller Place, NY



**Aniroodhan Rengaa**  
Dunlap, IL



**Anish Raja**  
Cumming, GA



**Anish Thota**  
Ashburn, VA





**Anshul Mantri**  
Portland, OR



**Anwil Bondalapati**  
Herndon, VA



**Arush Sunil**  
Plano, TX



**Atharva Bhargude**  
Chalfont, PA



**Atreya Pillalamarri**  
Vienna, VA



**Dev Shah**  
Largo, FL



**Dhriti Katepalli**  
Boys, MD



**Dhruv Subramanian**  
Fremont, CA



**Divyesh Gaddam**  
Nashua, NH



**Drona Gaddam**  
Gahanna, OH



**Jai Gupta**  
Clarksville, MD



**Jeevan Albert**  
Jamaica, NY



**Jesse Pulla**  
Columbus, IN



**Joshua Albert**  
Apex, NC



**Kavin Puri**  
Mars, PA



**Kesav Kalanidhi**  
Raleigh, NC





**Lakshya Pradhyay Veguru**  
Bellevue, WA



**Mahadev Tipirneni**  
Louisville, KY



**Manthan Mehta**  
Marlton, NJ



**Manu Krishnan**  
Clyde Hill, WA



**Naman Mishra**  
Redmond, WA



**Neil Tallamraju**  
Nashua, NH



**Nikhil Chowdhary**  
Sugar Land, TX



**Nithin Vemula**  
San Antonio, TX



**Nithya Polusani**  
San Antonio, TX



**Omkar Garud**  
Santa Clara, CA



**Pranav Kuchibhotla**  
Morrisville, NC



**Pratisth Agarwal**  
Troy, OH



**Raghav Ratnani**  
Westford, MA



**Rajeeth Ganesan**  
Bloomington, IL



**Reyansh Krovi**  
Duluth, GA



**Rishik Kundu**  
Chelmsford, MA





**Rithvik Varigonda**  
Columbus, IN



**Rohan Bangal**  
Novi, MI



**Rohan Mutupuru**  
Apex, NC



**Rohan Pasham**  
Plano, TX



**Samvik Indrakanti**  
Round Rock, TX



**Sathvik Subramanian**  
Jersey City, NJ



**Shourya Mogulothu**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Shreekar Addula**  
Omaha, NE



**Shriyan Ropireddy**  
Round Rock, TX



**Siddharth Gowthaman**  
Arlington, VA



**Srihith Uppalapati**  
Clarksburg, MD



**Sriram Jothi**  
Somerset, NJ



**Srivarenja Vempati**  
Newmilford, NJ



**Sumedh Malipeddi**  
South Grafton, MA

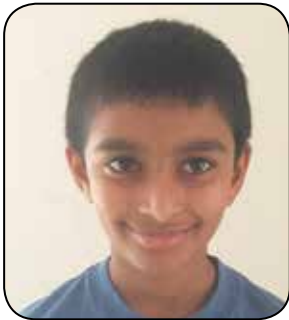


**Tanushri Vijay**  
Saint Johns, FL



**Tejas Bhagawatula**  
Austin, TX





**Vaibhav Pradeep**  
Winter Garden, FL



**Vardhan Ravva**  
Nesconset, NY



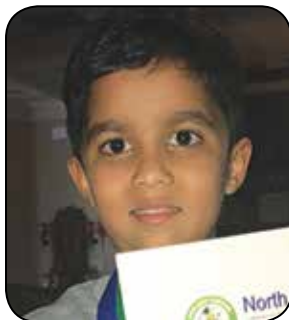
**Varun Harith**  
Austin, TX



**Vikrant Chintanaboina**  
San Jose, CA



**Vinay Yallapragada**  
South Riding, VA



**Vivaan Kohli**  
Suwanee, GA

### Not Pictured

Arjun Badireddy  
Amal Balachundhar  
Anish Bhamidipaty  
Yash Jaju  
Shreyan Joshi  
Ishaan Murty

Vedaant Khare  
Rohit Komarina  
Nirmal Melam  
Siddharth Oltikar  
Gaia Santosh  
Shubhaang Suresh

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## Everything Is

## Within Reach

Within reach is a distant star,  
Just keep soaring.  
Within reach is the nadir of an ocean,  
Just keep swimming.  
Within reach is the apex of a mountain,  
Just keep climbing.  
Within reach is the championship of a game,  
Just keep training.  
Within reach is a clean and green earth,  
Just keep recycling and reusing.  
Within reach is happiness,  
Just keep loving.  
Within reach is everything,  
If you can just keep trying.

**Vivinsha Veduru**  
2nd Grader, Keller, Tx

## Brain Quatrains

Your brain is a supercomputer  
Your brain controls everything you do  
Your brain is hard to tutor  
But it is all inside of you

Our Brain has Cerebrum for talking  
Our Brain has Cerebellum for walking  
Our Brain's 100 billion neurons remain a mystery  
But my 100 billion neurons will one day make history

## Definition of Genius

Albert Einstein  
Smart, intelligent,  
thinking, writing, inventing,  
 $E=mc^2$   
GENIUS

Mohita Chepeni  
(2nd Grader, Bedford, MA)



# Personal Message

**T**he most important quality of a competitor is their resilience. Even after a defeat, they need to keep on studying for their next competition. Many of my geography peers have taken breaks from geography after a setback, which you should not do if you want to succeed. This applies not only to geography but also to any field one wants to pursue. For example, I suffered a crushing defeat at the National Geography State Bee this year. However, I persevered and studied hard enough to secure a 5<sup>th</sup> rank in the International Geography Bee National Championships held in Atlanta a few months later. – Good Luck!



**Ved Muthusamy**

3<sup>rd</sup> in 2018 International Geography Bee World Championship

5<sup>th</sup> in NSF National Finals 2017 Geography Bee

5<sup>th</sup> in International Geography Bee Nationals 2018



## Jokes



What type of bagels fly?  
A plain/plane bagel

What do you call damage caused by a duck?  
Earth-quack

How do you know when it is raining cats and dogs?  
When you step on a poodle

What's a duck's favorite snack?  
Cheese and quackers

Why did the elementary school kid get a ladder?  
To go to high school

What's brown and sticky?  
A stick

What is the 4th letter of the alphabet?  
h-a-l-p-h

Why did the skeleton not cross the road?  
It had no guts

Which president has the biggest family?  
George Washington-Father of the country

What did the flag say to the other flag?  
Nothing. It just waved

What do you call a scared cow?  
A cow-ard

What does a lawyer get in his drinks?  
Just ice or justice

**Riya Suresh**

3<sup>rd</sup> Grader, Irving, TX



# Senior Geography BEE



**Aadil Mohammed**  
Cary, NC



**Aananth Andey**  
Vancouver, WA



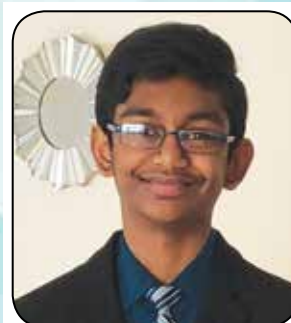
**Aaron Castelino**  
Morrisville, NC



**Aarush Tutiki**  
Tucson, AZ



**Abhilash Patel**  
Harriman, NY



**Abhinav Bapanapalli**  
Andover, MA



**Abhinav Kommana**  
Wauke, IA



**Abhinav Pala**  
San Jose, CA



**Abhiram Kapaganty**  
Suwanee, GA



**Abhishek Vijay**  
Hopkinton, MA



**Achyuth Parthasarathy**  
Scottsdale, AZ



**Adhav Ravikumar**  
Franklin, WI



**Aditya Krishnan**  
Dunedin, FL



**Adrija Kundu**  
Edison, NJ

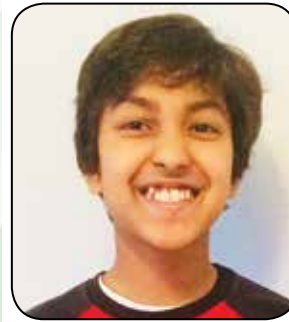




**Ajay Penugonda**  
Ashburn, VA



**Akarsh Kollu**  
Holmdel, NJ



**Akhil Kosanam**  
Bethel, CT



**Akshat Bora**  
San Jose, CA



**Ameya Srinivasan**  
Edison, NJ



**Amogh Virkar**  
Santa Clara, CA



**Amrit Vignesh**  
Sanford, FL



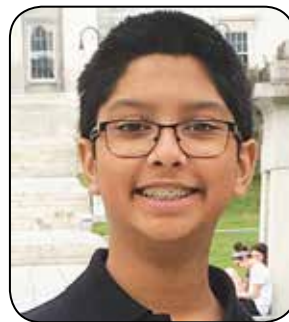
**Anish Susarla**  
Leesburg, VA



**Anuj Singh**  
Elkhorn, NE



**Aritra Ghosh**  
Newtonville, MA



**Arnab Khanna**  
Hillsborough, NJ



**Arth Babbar**  
Clarksburg, MD



**Avnith Kumar**  
Jefferson City, MO



**Bhargav Kuchibhotla**  
Morrisville, NC



**Bhavya Annamreddy**  
Herndon, VA



**Chinmay Talikoti**  
Cary, NC





**Disha Nistala**  
Austin, TX



**Gargee Piplani**  
San Ramon, CA



**Indus Boddu**  
Plainsboro, NJ



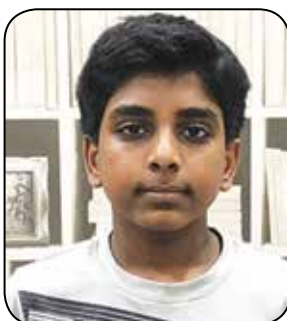
**Ishan Kanaskar**  
San Antonio, TX



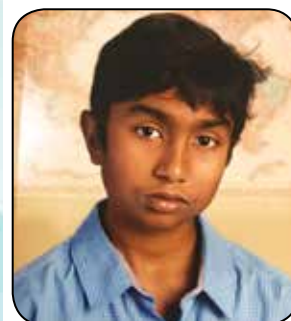
**Ishan Polimetla**  
Bridgeville, PA



**Jai Bhuvanapalli**  
Ashburn, VA



**Jayanth Gorrepati**  
Vancouver, WA



**Jeremiah Rayban**  
Hockessin, DE



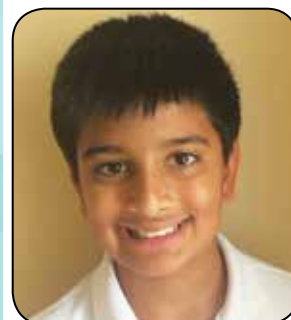
**Johan Gigme**  
Spring Hill, TN



**Karthik Basani**  
Milpitas, CA



**Karthik Varigonda**  
Columbus, IN



**Kaylan Patel**  
Windermere, FL



**Krish Gupta**  
Skillman, NJ



**Krishnan Shankar**  
Arlington, VA

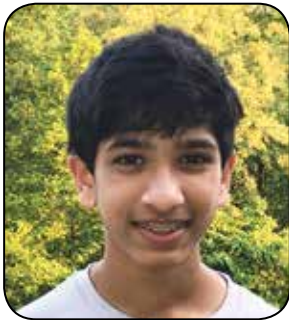


**Maanas Mallela**  
Buffalo Grove, IL



**Mala Gururaja**  
Brooklyn, NY





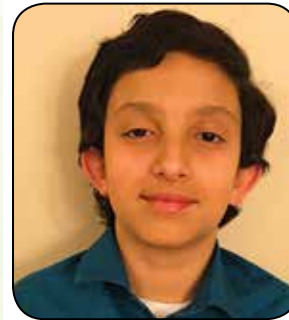
**Mithil Pauskar**  
Massillon, OH



**Navya Ashok**  
Canton, MI



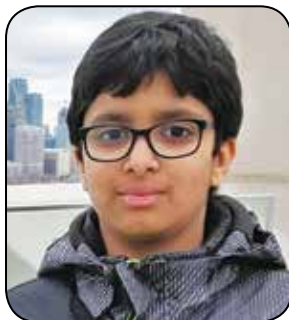
**Omkar Gadewar**  
Naperville, IL



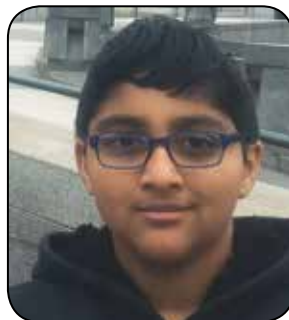
**Paarth Sharma**  
Galesburg, MI



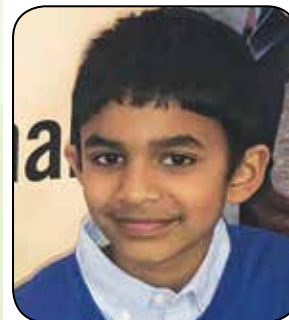
**Parth Ashok**  
Canton, MI



**Pravar Mukkala**  
Westford, MA



**Prithvi Narayanan**  
State College, PA



**Raghav Karur**  
Troy, MI



**Raghav Mantri**  
Virginia Beach, VA



**Rishi Hoskote**  
Portland, OR



**Rohith Madhuker**  
Cary, NC



**Ronith Patil**  
Mechanicsburg, PA



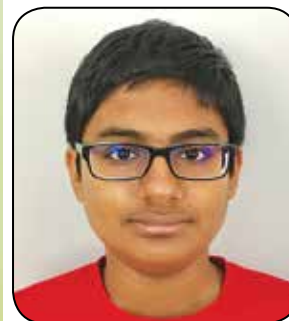
**Sahasra Yenumula**  
Merrimack, NH



**Sahishnu Hanumansetty**  
Ashburn, VA



**Sai Pranav Vaddadi**  
Mechanicsburg, PA



**Samanyu Dixit**  
Matthews, NC





**Samru Preuitt**  
Portland, OR



**Samvrit Rao**  
Ashburn, VA



**Sandhya Ganesh**  
Palm Harbor, FL



**Satvik Pochiraju**  
Lewis Center, OH



**Shail Bhatmuley**  
San Diego, CA



**Shayan Pandit**  
Sandy, UT



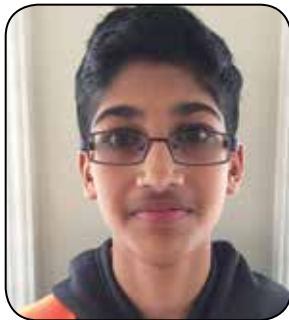
**Shreyan Mitra**  
Santa Clara, CA



**Shreyas Rajagopal**  
Cypress, TX



**Shreyash Goli**  
Riverside, CA



**Shreyes Chekuru**  
Ashburn, VA



**Shyam Sriram**  
Getzville, NY



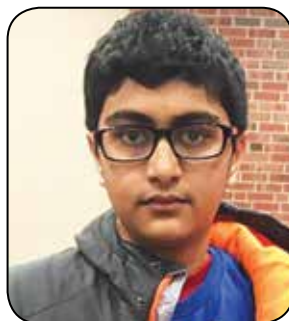
**Soham Dihenia**  
Naples, FL



**Sreehith Baruri**  
West Des Moines, IA



**Srinidhaya Vempati**  
Newmilford, NJ



**Sujay Vadderaju**  
Chesterfield, MO



**Sujith Yeruva**  
Westborough, MA

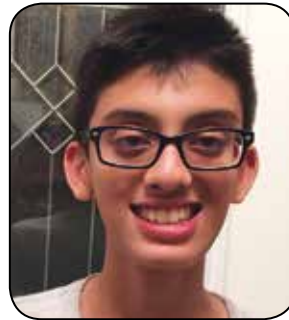




**Sumuk Anand**  
Monmouth Junction, NJ



**Sumukh Venkatesh**  
San Jose, CA



**Sushant Lebaka**  
Somerset, NJ



**Tanmay Naik**  
Denville, NJ



**Tej Patel**  
Nashua, NH



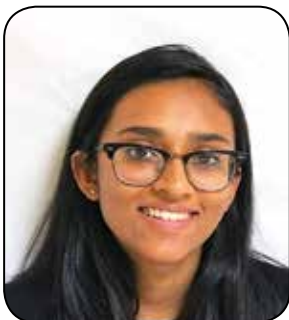
**Vaibhav Hariram**  
Apex, NC



**Vaishali Prahalad**  
Atlanta, GA



**Vansh Chimaladinne**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Varsha Mudaliar**  
Mays Landing, NJ



**Ved Muthusamy**  
Northville, MI



**Vedant Rathi**  
Lincolnshire, IL



**Velan Thanasekar**  
Tallahassee, FL



**Vihaan Choudhary**  
St. Louis, MO

### Not Pictured

Sreehemant Atluri  
Sreesragvee Atluri  
Siddardh Budamagunta  
Jishnu Nayak  
Yash Kothari

Anika Kulkarni  
Smaran Pasupulati  
Ishaan Pusuluri  
Vishnu Rejeesh  
Srivatsav Thirumala



# My Growth In Academics

I did my first NSF geography competition in first grade and I continued to do it for the next six years. Geography had fascinated me ever since I first found a map in my family's dictionary. Now was a chance to put my geography skills to the test. I couldn't help but think of what I could win by doing this competition, but the first time when I was in the Phase 1 room at nationals and took one glance at the test paper, I realized that I had no idea what many of these things were. I left from that first nationals dejected and not wanting to do this competition anymore. But my parents would continue to encourage me and I kept studying.

Next year at nationals, I ended up placing 3rd, far beyond my expectations, and I was immensely proud of myself. From that day on, I was motivated to continue studying, and reading many maps and atlases to learn as much as I could about the world. NSF had led me towards a path by which I could let my passion grow, for geography is a unique subject. It is intrinsically linked to many other disciplines, such as history and politics. Thus, I had discovered my passion for history as well.

NSF enabled me to do well in National History Bee, ultimately culminating in me winning the 8th grade division of the National History Bee in 2016. I continued to do buzzer-based history and geography competitions at the high school level and this year I won the National History Bee and US History Bee national championships in JV division. But more importantly, NSF exposed me to a whole community of other kids who were interested in the same academic fields that I was. I met kids from out-of-state that I otherwise would never have met. We were all united in our passion for learning.

NSF is a truly an inspiring organization. I would not be where I am now if it weren't for the experiences NSF afforded me, to learn history and geography to a deep level and gain vast knowledge about the world we are in. Nowadays, I help out with competitions at the local NSF chapter, and hope to continue to do so. That way, I can give back to the organization that helped me grow.



**Govind Prabhakar**

US History / National History Bee JV Champion

## How NSF Helped My Child

In summer of 2005, my husband's sister and family visited us from Washington DC. They came to Chicago because their kids were participating in NSF National finals at Northwestern University. I went to watch the competition with them. After I saw the competitions, I started dreaming about my son Govind, 3 yr. old at the time, competing in NSF competitions. I started doing research about NSF and what they do. I got fascinated by what the organization stand for – helping talented students in India, who need financial help to attend college; and also, promote educational excellence among Indian American kids in the US.

I had been browsing the US contests page on the NSF website to understand the contests that NSF conduct. When Govind was in kindergarten, I reached out to the local chapter coordinator to see if he can participate in the Spelling Bee. He encouraged me to have Govind participate. So, I signed him up. The chapter coordinator also explained to me that NSF is a completely volunteer run organization and invited me to volunteer and I signed up to volunteer as well. Since then, I had been volunteering at regional contests every year.

Govind liked the Spelling Bee which encouraged me to

give him the opportunity to participate in other contests next year and years to come. We gave him the opportunity to explore all the different contests. He was able to participate in nationals for several years and was able to achieve top awards multiple times. This also led him to success at the National Geobee. After having him participate in National History Bee, we learned that history is really his passion. Since then he had been participating in National History Bee & Bowl every year and had been the national champion of middle school history bee, 8th grade division in 2016 and the national champion of junior varsity history bee in 2018. NSF had been the first step in budding him for these successes. He now understands the world and the culture better. It also helps him in quizbowl which is pretty popular in high school. History Bee is a competition that is there at high school level also. As parents, we can expose our kids to different opportunities; they will find out what they really like. When they really like something, they will put in the effort to become good at it.

NSF provides a unique avenue for kids to explore different contests and discover their passion and area of strength. Another great benefit is, they get to meet kids who have similar interests and they become friends with them. As parents, we get to meet other parents and get to share ideas/tips each other.

**Sindhu Nair**

Govind Prabhakar's Mom

2018 US History/National History Champion JV



# How Can You Become a Change Maker?

**I**n the National Finals of the 2012 National Geographic Bee (NGB), Former President Barack Obama emphasized the value of geography: “The study of geography is about more than just memorizing places on a map. It’s about understanding the complexity of our world (and) using all that knowledge to help bridge divides and bring people together.” All of us who work hard studying geography carry a moral obligation to apply our knowledge to make the world a better place.

Ever since I won the National Geographic Bee in 2010, I have always been thinking about how I can apply my skills most effectively to help as many people as possible. Years passed, and I continued to grow my analytical skills while maintaining my interest in geography. Then, one day in December 2015, I was traveling through rural South India and I observed a funeral procession: a small farmer had committed suicide. Due to the failed monsoon, he did not have enough water for his crops and he was unable to make his ends meet. Running out of other options, he took his own life. It was only then that I came to realize how big of an issue farmer suicides are in India.

I decided I had to apply my knowledge in geography to help these farmers. When drought strikes it is always the farmer who suffers first! Why is this still the case in the 21st Century? This led me to create ConserWater, a tool that can help farmers to grow more healthy plants with less resources. ConserWater uses satellites, weather, topography, and other real-time data along with proprietary AI technology to help farmers accurately determine the inputs they need for their farm in a cost-effective and scalable manner. There is no required ground hardware component, but ConserWater is still able to achieve similar results to having soil sensors. Farmers can reduce their irrigation by 30% or more using ConserWater, and in India, we have seen the potential for farmers to reduce their water use by as much as 50%!

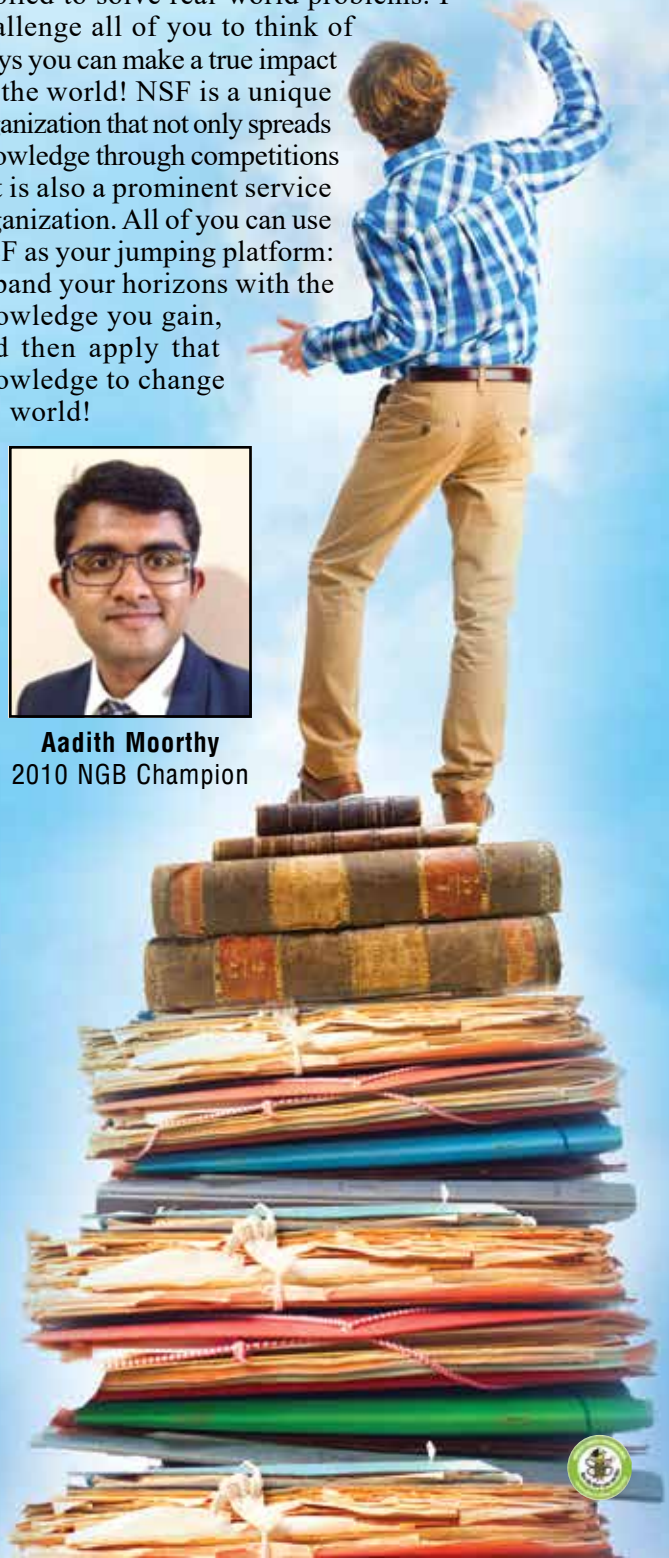
However, it is barely enough to just create a new technology – the real hard work lies in bringing it to the masses and seeing it truly change people’s lives. Over the past few years, I have been applying my geography knowledge to bring ConserWater to farmers worldwide. Today, ConserWater is supported in several countries, and we have active efforts to reach farmers all over the world. My long-term vision for ConserWater is to reach almost every single farmer worldwide. ConserWater has been designed to capitalize on the growth of smartphone users, so that it truly has the potential to reach every

single farmer. The vast majority of farmers lack any access to precision agriculture tools, and ConserWater is positioning itself to expand the wonderful capabilities of these tools to the whole world.

Helping farmers is just one way that geography can be applied to solve real-world problems. I challenge all of you to think of ways you can make a true impact on the world! NSF is a unique organization that not only spreads knowledge through competitions but is also a prominent service organization. All of you can use NSF as your jumping platform: expand your horizons with the knowledge you gain, and then apply that knowledge to change the world!



**Aadith Moorthy**  
2010 NGB Champion



## Art Work



**Deboshri Kanjilal**  
9th Grader, Olathe, Kansas

Public Speaking & Debate/Leadership  
College Admissions Guidance: Starts 8th Grade  
Ivy League Track: 6th-8th Graders



### Speech & Debate/Leadership

Harvard Trained Instructor  
50+ National Qtr. Finalists  
8 Students/Class (3rd-12th Grade)  
Debate Tournament Every 6 Weeks  
**609 705 5018**  
[info@IvyGuruKul.com](mailto:info@IvyGuruKul.com)

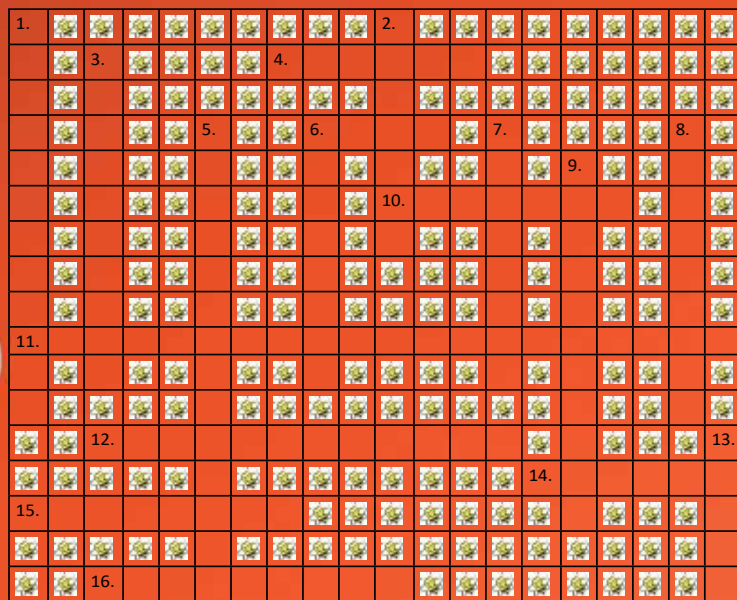
### Ivy League Track

2017 & 2018 Admissions  
Princeton, Yale, Columbia,  
Penn (Wharton), Cornell,  
Brown, UC Berkeley, CMU,  
Georgia Tech & more



# Bee Crossword Puzzle

Nihal Mallipudi, 2nd Grader, Herndon, VA



## Across:

4. One must try hard to make it (6)
6. School subject involving numbers (4)
10. Einstein's field (7)
11. Encouraging Excellence in Education (5,5,10)
12. Art of writing (5,7)
14. Victor to point to target (6)
15. Contribution to cause (8)
16. Study of Earth's feature (9)

## Down:

1. Contestants (12)
2. Competition (7)
3. Thesaurus (10)
5. Art of Speaking (6,8)
6. Fire with Enthusiasm (8)
7. Reading out the charming letters (8)
8. Industries (9)
9. Student awards (12)
13. Personal Computer, Personal support with it. (5)

## Answers:

### Across:

4. Effort, 6. Math, 10. Science, 11. North South Foundation, 12. Essay Writing, 14. Winner, 15. Donation, 16. Geography

### Down:

1. Participants, 2. Contest, 3. Vocabulary, 5. Public speaking, 6. Motivate, 7. Spelling, 8. Workshops, 9. Scholarships, 13. Brain

# FOREST

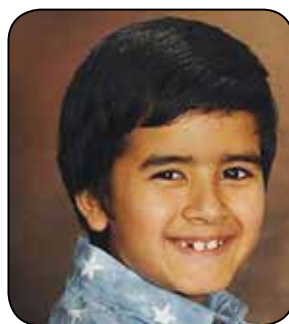
Each day and night  
 Sounds never sleep  
 Screeching, squawking, and roaring  
 In the dense green shrubbery  
 And many magnificent clumps of trees  
 That match the peak of the sky  
 It is a forest  
 Every single creature  
 Sings along  
 To nature's melodious music  
 Like an ensemble  
 With each person singing  
 As loud as can be  
 But, there's a variety  
 Of many different hidden dangers  
 Flapping, crawling, and snapping  
 From small capuchin monkeys  
 To long, black caimans  
 To creeping jaguars  
 Each one  
 More determined than the other  
 To catch their prey  
 But the forest never cares  
 If the creatures  
 Are good  
 Or bad  
 Accepting anyone  
 That comes in its path

Ronak Hunashimarad

5th Grade, Bridgewater, NJ



# Math Bee Level 1



**Aadit Verma**  
South Windsor, CT



**Aarav Ancha**  
Sugar Land, TX



**Aarav Gaudana**  
Hooksett, NH



**Aarna Pandey**  
Breinigsville, PA



**Aarush Kavuda**  
Ashburn, VA



**Aarush Yaksh**  
Austin, TX



**Aayan Parikh**  
Menomonee Falls, WI



**Abhinav Nambi**  
Sugarland, TX



**Abhiram Donepudi**  
Austin, TX



**Aditi Sail**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Aditya Jain**  
Laramie, WY



**Aditya Kalisetty**  
Plano, TX



**Aditya Tangella**  
Brighton, MA



**Advait Namasivayam**  
Omaha, NE





**Akhil Narayanan**  
Naperville, IL



**Akshat Choudhary**  
Iselin, NJ



**Alden Raymond**  
Folsom, CA



**Amrutha Madini**  
Plainview, NY



**Anay Sahu**  
Ellington, CT



**Anika Malyavanatham**  
Hillsboro, OR



**Anirudh Katta**  
Creston, OH



**Anirudh Manikandan**  
Ashburn, VA



**Anirudh Pulugurtha**  
Nashua, NH



**Anish Thota**  
Ashburn, VA



**Anush Gangar**  
Silver Spring, MD



**Arick Khanna**  
Scarsdale, NY



**Arjun Swaminathan**  
Canton, MI



**Arjun Virmani**  
Leesburg, VA



**Arka Rebbapragada**  
Irving, TX



**Armaan Syed**  
Acton, MA





**Arnav Bandhakavi**  
Aurora, IL



**Arnav Chouhan**  
North Brunswick, NJ



**Arush Krisp**  
Lewis Center, OH



**Arush Sunil**  
Plano, TX



**Arushi Mallick**  
Fremont, CA



**Arya Ravikumar**  
Cedar Rapids, IA



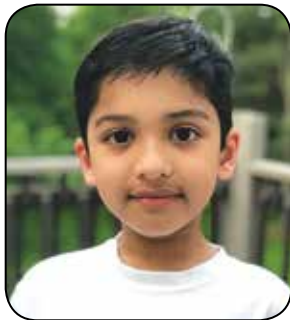
**Arya Tangirala**  
Lewis Center, OH



**Aryan Padarathi**  
Allen, TX



**Ashwath Venugopal**  
Edison, NJ



**Athreya Yegneswaran**  
Belle Mead, NJ



**Ayaan Garg**  
Boxborough, MA



**Ayaan Patel**  
Las Vegas, NV



**Ayush Ranjan**  
Mason, OH



**Ayush Taneja**  
Menomonee Falls, WI



**Chandhana Lingam Muhilan**  
Parsippany, NJ



**Darsh Shetty**  
Glen Allen, VA



**Dhanush Marabathula**  
Wayne, PA



**Dhanvi Sheth**  
Chesapeake, VA



**Dheeraj Garg**  
Wayne, PA



**Dhruv Sharma**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Dhruv Soundarapandian**  
Henderson, NV



**Dhruva Akkineni**  
Lake Zurich, IL



**Dhruva Mandavilli**  
Flower Mound, TX



**Etash Bhattacharya**  
Princeton Junction, NJ



**Gautham Agilan**  
Chantilly, VA



**Gaya Kulatilaka**  
College Station, TX



**Girish Prasad**  
South Windsor, CT



**Haridev Kizhakke Kodyath**  
Cary, NC



**Ishan Agarwal**  
South Windsor, CT



**Ishika Doma**  
Jacksonville, FL



**Jai Gupta**  
Clarksville, MD



**Jaivardhan Uppu**  
Voorhees, NJ





**Jay Jadhav**  
Fitchburg, WI



**Joshua Joseph**  
Overland Park, KS



**Kavya Yallapragada**  
South Riding, VA



**Mahima Ganesan**  
Amherst, MA



**Manu Krishnan**  
Clyde Hill, WA



**Matthew Flowerhill**  
Cerritos, CA



**Meenakshi Nair**  
Menands, NY



**Mireya Verma**  
Wynnewood, PA



**Mohita Chepeni**  
Bedford, MA



**Moksha Bhatla**  
Palatine, IL



**Murari Balla**  
Louisville, KY



**Nalin Durbhakula**  
Jacksonville, FL



**Nandika Sagadevan**  
Alpharetta, GA



**Navaneeth Chandra**  
Lancaster, PA



**Navita Mishra**  
Tampa, FL



**Navyaa Prabu**  
Irving, TX





**Neelesh Soni**  
San Jose, CA



**Neha Dhanasekaran**  
Sandy, UT



**Nidarshana Natarajan**  
Fremont, CA



**Nihal Mallipudi**  
Herndon, VA



**Niket Dharia**  
Morrisville, NC



**Nirdvaita Chandrana**  
Whitestown, IN



**Nitin Seshadri**  
Cary, NC



**Nitin Tummala**  
Olathe, KS



**Ojas Shrivastava**  
North Brunswick, NJ



**Ojasya Machiraju**  
Belmont, CA



**Paravi Jain**  
Morganville, NJ



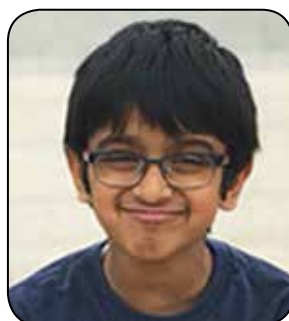
**Pavan Venkatakrishnan**  
Irving, TX



**Pranav Krishnan**  
Sunnyvale, CA



**Pranav Narayan**  
Tustin, CA



**Raghav Rao**  
Manalapan, NJ



**Rajarshi Mandal**  
Lexington, MA





**Rananjay Parmar**  
Rochester, MN



**Reyansh Krovi**  
Duluth, GA



**Richa Rai**  
Plano, TX



**Richelle Daniel**  
Scottsdale, AZ



**Rishikesh Alladi**  
Sammamish, WA



**Rithik Natarajan**  
Glen Allen, VA



**Rithwik Nair**  
Austin, TX



**Riya Badarinarayan**  
Canton, MI



**Riya Poddar**  
St. Augustine, FL



**Rohith Konduri**  
Norfolk, VA



**Rutvik Sriperumbudoor**  
Chesterfield, MO



**Sadhana Karthikeyan**  
West Windsor, NJ



**Santosh Pallapothu**  
Cary, NC



**Sathya Pochampally**  
Souderton, PA



**Satya Kokonda**  
Middletown, DE



**Shanmugam Valliappan**  
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**Shlok Patil**  
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**Siddharth Nimmagadda**  
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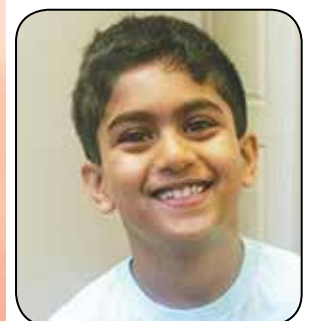
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**Srinandasai Ari**  
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**Suhaas Maddipatla**  
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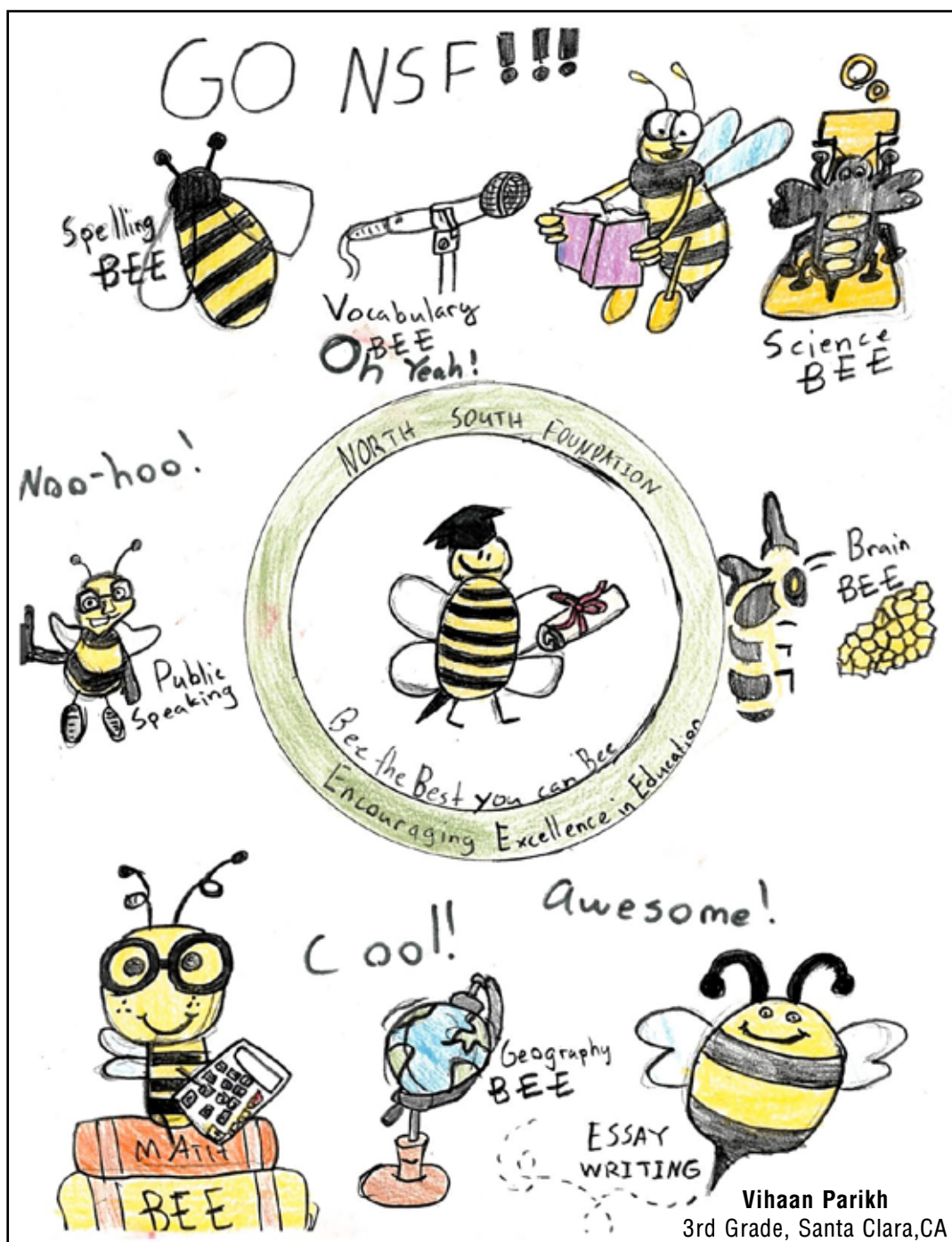


**Yookta Pandit**  
San Ramon, CA

### Not Pictured

Maithli Agarwal  
Sarvesh Amatya  
Rishab Anand  
Abantika Nag  
Nihar Challa  
Aryaa Dash  
Avik Dash  
Atharv Gaddam  
Yash Jaju

Avni Kotharkar  
Aishwaria Reddy Reddy  
Sonum Shah  
Krishnapriya Una  
Varenka Kale  
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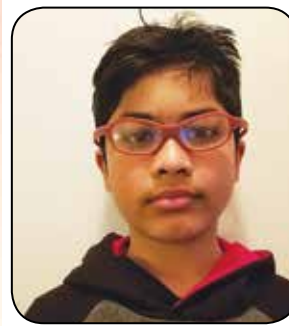
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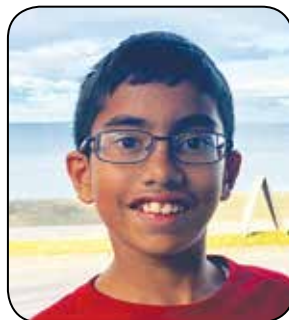
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**Anish Kalva**  
San Antonio, TX



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**Anuhya Das**  
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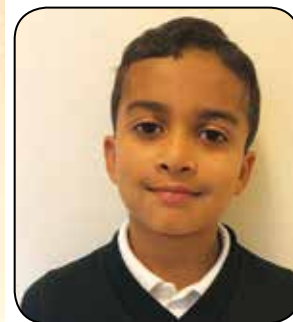
**Arihant Goswami**  
Morrisville, NC



**Arjun Agarwal**  
Portland, OR



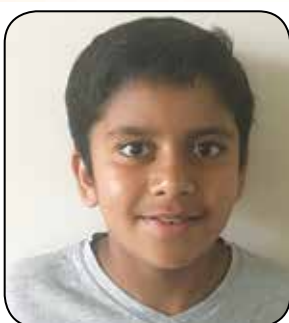
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**Arjun Ulag**  
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**Arnav Adepu**  
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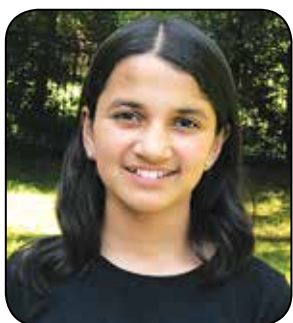
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**Atharva Doke**  
Jericho, NY



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Ashburn, VA



**Avyay Kodali**  
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**Ayaan Panda**  
Henderson, NV



**Aydin Daniel**  
Scottsdale, AZ





**Balaadithya Muralitharan**  
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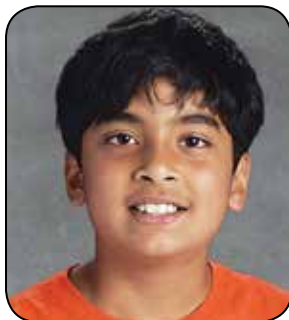
**Charan Bala**  
Clarksville, MD



**Charan Venkataswamy**  
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**Eeshan Anand**  
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**Ishika Gupta**  
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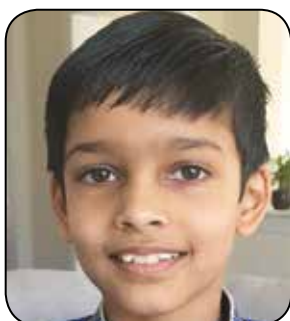
**Kaushik Elavarasu**  
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**Kavish Patel**  
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**Kedar Vernekar**  
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**Kesav Kalanidhi**  
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**Krrish Madduru**  
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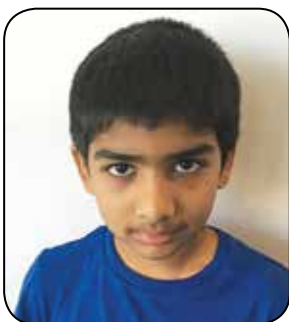
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**Medha Mandumula**  
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**Nishanth Doppalapudi**  
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**Nitya Kathiravan**  
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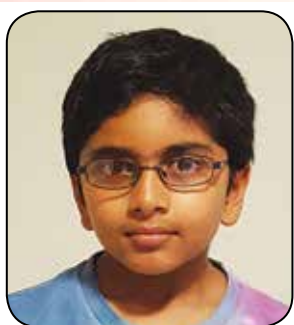
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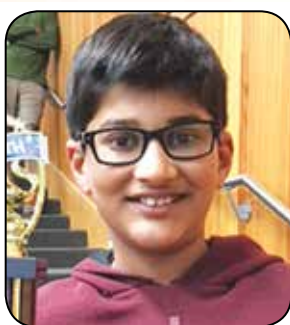
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**Raghav Karur**  
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**Rahul Verma**  
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**Raj Vidhale**  
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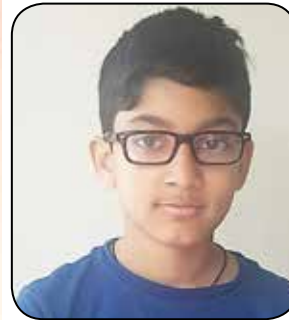




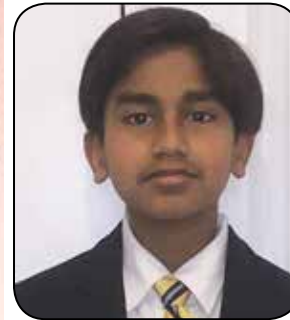
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**Rishabh Shah**  
Lewis Center, OH



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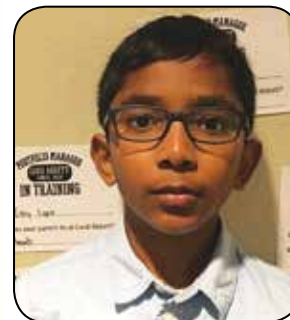
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**Saketh Agava**  
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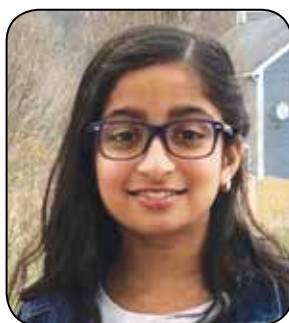
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**Samarth Bhargav**  
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**Sanaa Mulay**  
Novi, MI



**Sanjana Pillai**  
Shrewsbury, MA



**Sanjay Oruganti**  
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San Ramon, CA



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**Saumya Mahajan**  
Richfield, OH



**Savir Talasila**  
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**Shaurya Jeevagan**  
Ashburn, VA



**Shreyaa Sanjay**  
Princeton, NJ



**Shreyan Paliwal**  
Hillsboro, OR



**Shreyes Suribhotla**  
Cupertino, CA



**Shri Desai**  
Allentown, PA



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**Sidharth Subramanian**  
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**Sohil Rathi**  
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**Sriji Abhyuday Sathyanarayanan**  
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**Yash Mittal**  
Peoria, IL

### Not Pictured

Aaroh Tak  
Anshul Kollur  
Arnav Gupta  
Megan Sawant  
Nikhil Kodali  
Rushil Sengupta  
Shaurya Bisht  
Naomika Aithani  
Rohan Anand  
Vidwan Aryan  
Amal Balachundhar  
Ajay Balaje

Anish Bharadwaj  
Nirmit Brahma  
Parameshwar Chamarthi  
Amogh Ganjikutla  
Rishabh Goel  
Shrutodhee Goswami  
Arjun Grandhe  
Dhruv Grandhe  
Tarun Jaikumar  
Praneel Jammalamadaka  
Ajinkya Karnataki  
Advik Kishore  
Nihal Kondabrolu  
Vibhu Konduru  
Rohit Kota

Rohan Matta  
Nikhil Nair  
Rajas Nanda  
Neil Parikh  
Manu Prasad  
Ishaan Pusuluri  
Vishva Rao  
Shajid Shaffi  
Nirav Singhal  
Vibhush Sivakumar  
Arjun Subramanian  
Tanay Thakore  
Karan Verma





# My Amazing Voyage through NSF

**I**t was in 2009, when I was barely six years old and still in kindergarten, that we heard about NSF. My friend had registered for the NSF regional contests, and we decided to try it out, too. It was the deadline date and the only available center in New Jersey was Marlboro. So, I participated in spelling, vocabulary, and math at the Marlboro center. To my pleasant surprise, I won second place in spelling. That was when I realized I was good at spelling and decided to continue participating.

The next year, I participated in the same three contests again, this time placing in the top three in all of them. I won first place in spelling and second place in vocabulary and math. That year marked my first NSF milestone: making it to my first national finals, right in my home state of New Jersey. I made it to Phase 3 in spelling and was just one place away from the top 10! After that, I started focusing more seriously on spelling, determined to make it to the top 10 next time. Never did I know what I would achieve the next year!

The year 2011 marked the most impressive feat in my NSF journey. After winning first place in all four of my regional contests, I would go on to win first place in spelling, second in math, fifth in vocabulary, and tenth place in science at the finals. Even though I did not win so many awards all at once after that, I still had more achievements outside of NSF.

In third grade, I was old enough to participate in my regional spelling bee, but we needed to get my school to participate, which we successfully did. I won my class and school spelling bees and passed the semifinals of my regional spelling bee. I was the youngest finalist in my regional spelling bee. I was one step closer to participating in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, which I achieved the next year. I was one of the youngest spellers at the Scripps that year. I missed the

semifinals by just one point! Unfortunately, I could not go back the next year because I placed second in my regional spelling bee.

In middle school, my county lost sponsorship for the Scripps National Spelling Bee. My parents tried hard to get our county included with the regional spelling bee, but in vain. I really hope interested students should not face this unfortunate situation and all students should be given an equal opportunity to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. The inability to participate in the Scripps caused me to divert my attention from spelling to math, even though I continued to participate in NSF spelling bees. I started taking math classes in seventh grade and participated in Mathcounts and other math contests outside of school. I was on the Honor Roll for the AMC 8 last year.

Even though I am in high school now, I am still a part of NSF by participating, as well as volunteering, in contests. I really enjoyed being a pronouncer for the spelling and vocabulary bees at my regional center. I have always loved NSF and I still do now. NSF gave me a good start to reach the level of success I am at now and I am very happy about it. NSF helped me excel in various subjects and it was how I found out all my strengths. The thought of indirectly helping underprivileged children in India who excel academically, makes me even happier. I take this opportunity to personally and sincerely thank all the volunteers who are or were part of the NSF family for their selfless service. I can never ever think of concluding this article without remembering and paying reverential obeisance to the incredibly lofty services rendered by Dr. Chitturi. He will remain a role model for many of us. I am grateful to NSF for teaching me a lot and helping me achieve many of my goals. I feel really proud to be part of the NSF family.

**Roshni Kainthan**

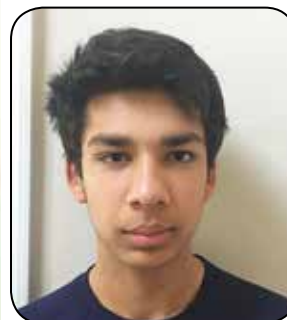


# Math Bee

## Level 3



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**Aarav Bajaj**  
Chantilly, VA



**Aashna Kalyankar**  
Canton, MI



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Long Grove, IL



**Abhiram Pasupula**  
Aurora, IL



**Aditya Chezhiyan**  
Bristow, VA



**Aditya Kabra**  
Niantic, CT



**Aditya Krishnan**  
Dunedin, FL



**Agranya Ketha**  
Montville, NJ



**Akerth Jain**  
Olathe, KS



**Akhilsai Damera**  
Marlborough, MA



**Akshansh Chauhan**  
Vernon Hills, IL



**Akshar Yeccherla**  
Cary, NC



**Akshay Kumar**  
Canton, MA





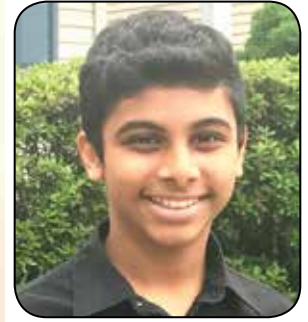
**Alisha Paul**  
Southington, CT



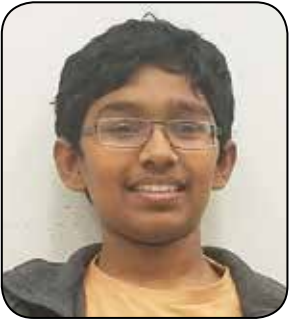
**Amish Patra**  
Redmond, WA



**Amogh Bollapalli**  
Novi, MI



**Aneesh Nagalkar**  
Bridgewater, NJ



**Aniketh Tummala**  
Saratoga, CA



**Anish Goswami**  
Wilsonville, OR



**Ankith Madadi**  
San Jose, CA



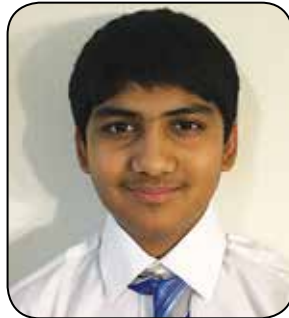
**Anwitha Kollipara**  
Fairfax, VA



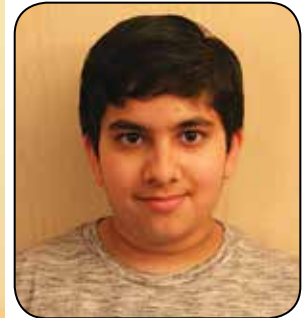
**Anya Yaksh**  
Austin, TX



**Archana Satish**  
Fremont, CA



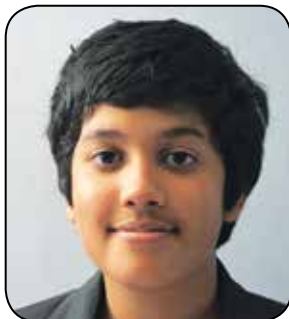
**Arnav Busani**  
Ballwin, MO



**Arnav Goel**  
Chicago, IL



**Arushi Mantri**  
Portland, OR



**Aryaan Jena**  
Morris Plains, NJ



**Athena Devashish**  
Clarksville, MD



**Balaji Balachandran**  
Naperville, IL

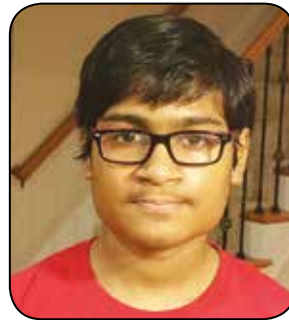




**Bhaumik Mehta**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Chinmay Govind**  
Selinsgrove, PA



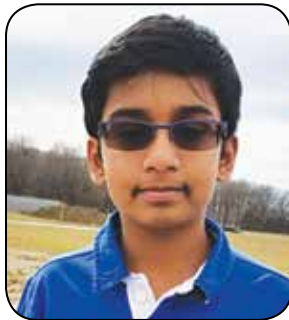
**Chirag Biswas**  
Morrisville, NC



**Chirag Verma**  
Redmond, WA



**Deetya Nagri**  
Nashua, NH



**Dinesh Bojja**  
Dublin, OH



**Divyesh Murugan**  
Parsippany, NJ



**Ekansh Mittal**  
Beaverton, OR



**Eshaan Giri**  
Omaha, NE



**Eshwar Venkataswamy**  
Athens, PA



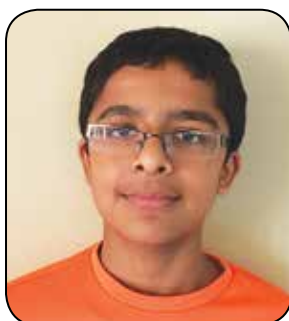
**Ganesh Sankar**  
Sunnyvale, CA



**Ishaan Javali**  
Murphy, TX



**Jaya Choudhary**  
Canton, MI



**Jayant Maheshwari**  
Tampa, FL



**Kathir Meyyappan**  
Tyngsboro, MA



**Keerthan Kumarappan**  
Flushing, NY





**Kishan Bava**  
Livingston, NJ



**Kripa Kini**  
Fremont, CA



**Krishnaveni Parvataneni**  
Santa Clara, CA



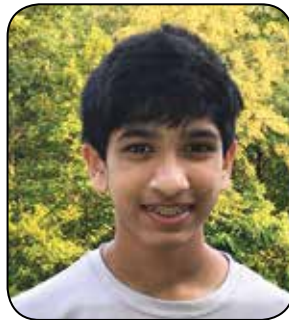
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Grayslake, IL



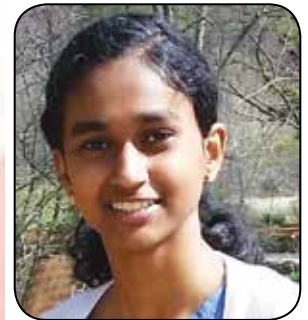
**Meera Sehgal**  
West Chester, PA



**Mihika Dusad**  
Ashburn, VA



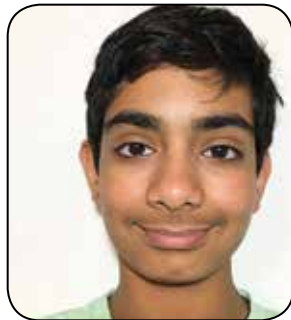
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Massillon, OH



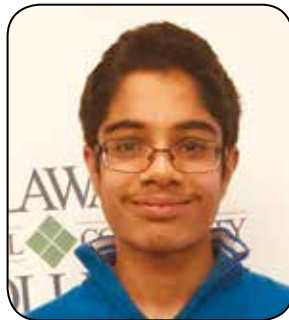
**Nathra Ramrajvel**  
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**Neha Chopade**  
Madison, AL



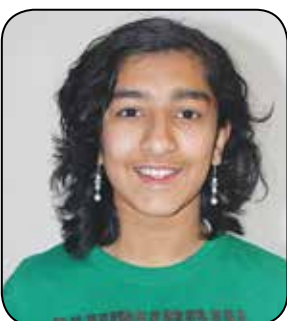
**Nikhil Mudumbi**  
Mahwah, NJ



**Parth Rustagi**  
Newark, DE



**Prachi Kharade**  
Nashua, NH



**Pragya Choudhary**  
Canton, MI



**Pravar Jain**  
Bridgewater, NJ



**Raghav Arun**  
Cary, NC



**Ragull Arumugam**  
Chesterbrook, PA





**Rahul Rajaram**  
Columbus, OH



**Rakshit Bisoi**  
East Windsor, CT



**Ramit Goyal**  
Saratoga, CA



**Rhea Rai**  
Plano, TX



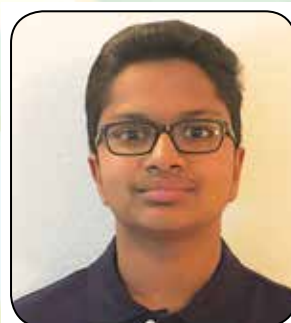
**Rishabh Swamy**  
Ames, IA



**Rithvik Marri**  
Weston, FL



**Rohan Krishnan**  
Manalapan, NJ



**Rohan Kumar**  
San Ramon, CA



**Rohit Dasanoor**  
Copley, OH



**Rohith Madhuker**  
Cary, NC



**Ronak Ramesh**  
Middletown, CT



**Ruhi Chand**  
Overland Park, KS



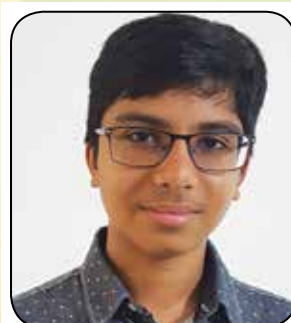
**Rushil Negandhi**  
Enola, PA



**Ruthesh Thavamani**  
Troy, MI



**Saanjali Ganesh**  
Atlanta, GA



**Saathvik Selvan**  
Weston, FL





**Sahana Behera**  
Lexington, MA



**Saihari Kota**  
Trumbull, CT



**Saipranav Kosuri**  
Cary, NC



**Sameer Gabbita**  
Ashburn, VA



**Sameer Komoravolu**  
Aurora, IL



**Samhitha Yeleti**  
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**Sashi Kulatilaka**  
College Station, TX



**Sathvik Appana**  
Lexington, MA



**Sathvik Medapati**  
Parsippany, NJ



**Sejal Rathi**  
San Jose, CA



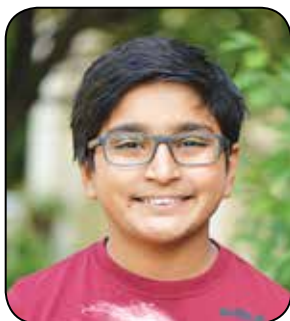
**Sharvaa Selvan**  
Weston, FL



**Sharvani Vadlamani**  
South Brunswick, NJ



**Shaurya Jadhav**  
Henderson, KY



**Shishir Vargheese**  
Overland Park, KS

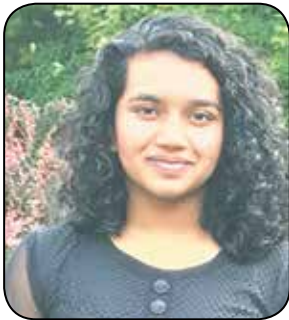


**Shreev Goyal**  
Austin, TX



**Shreya Mogulothu**  
Plainsboro, NJ





**Shreya Sinha**  
Avon, CT



**Shreyas Muthusamy**  
Glen Allen, VA



**Shriya Bhat**  
Richardson, TX



**Shrujana Kunnam**  
Rockville, MD



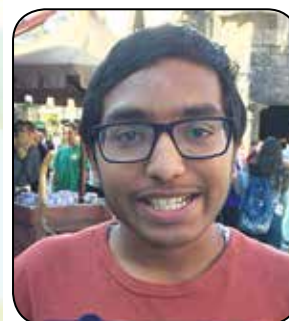
**Shubham Dixit**  
Tallahassee, FL



**Siddanth Pabba**  
Skillman, NJ



**Siddharth Doppalapudi**  
Hoover, AL



**Sohan Madishetty**  
Northville, MI



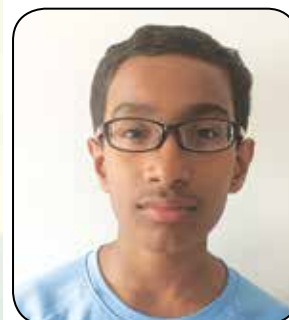
**Sonok Mahapatra**  
Stamford, CT



**Srihan Kotnana**  
Herndon, VA



**Srijan Oduru**  
Cary, NC



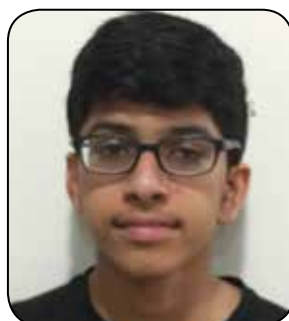
**Srikar Venkatesan**  
Buffalo Grove, IL



**Srilekha Mamidala**  
Garnet Valley, PA



**Srivant Pothuraju**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Sukrith Velmineti**  
Cary, NC



**Suraj Oruganti**  
Plainsboro, NJ





**Suvan Gangar**  
Silver Spring, MD



**Tanishq Pauskar**  
Massillon, OH



**Tanmay Haldiya**  
Tallahassee, FL



**Tanvi Mani Panchumarthi**  
Chadds Ford, PA



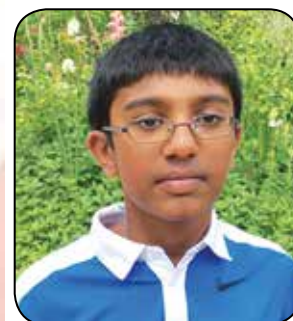
**Tarun Iyer**  
Westborough, MA



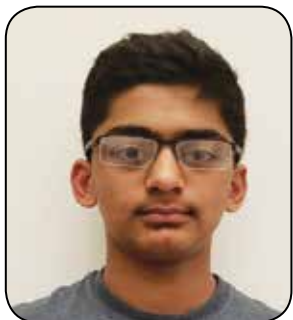
**Thrisha Kalpatthi**  
Mars, PA



**Utkarsh Goyal**  
Ashburn, VA



**Vedant Rathi**  
Lincolnshire, IL



**Vedesh Yadlapalli**  
Mechanicsburg, PA



**Vedh Ramesh**  
Pittsford, NY



**Vedika Narla**  
Canton, MI



**Veer Agarwal**  
Farmington Hills, MI



**Vikas Sarvasya**  
Winston-Salem, NC



**Vikas Thoutam**  
Sugar Land, TX



**Vikram Meyyappan**  
Voorhees, NJ



**Vinay Deep Beeram**  
Rochester, MN

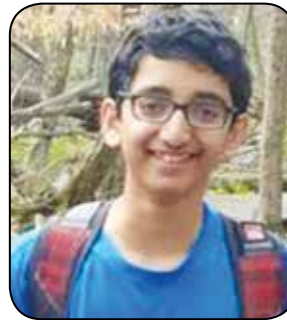




**Vishal Nandakumar**  
Sharon, MA



**Vishal Vinjamuri**  
Ashburn, VA



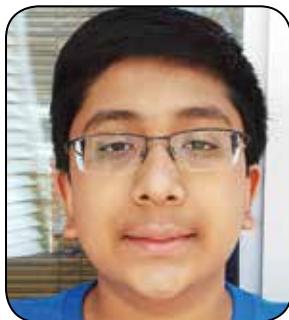
**Vivek Vallurupalli**  
Princeton, NJ



**Yashas Mattur**  
Hoffman Estates, IL



**Yashwanth Bajji**  
Troy, MI



**Yuvan Chali**  
Frontenac, MO



**Yuvan Ram**  
Hilliard, OH



**Zae Shah**  
Foster City, CA

### Not Pictured

Anjali Pillai  
Bhushan Mohanraj  
Dheepthi Mohanraj  
Karthik Dundigalla  
Manasa Nekkanti  
Shreyash Singh  
Shyla Bisht  
Simoni Mishra

Tejas Varma Pakalapati  
Deepti Aggarwal  
Saranya Anantapantula  
Anish Anne  
Vedant Aryan  
Maanas Baraya  
Aniket Biswal  
Satvik Dasariraju

Akshaj Enaganti  
Aatmodhee Goswami  
Riya Gupta  
Pavan Jayaraman  
Abhijith Jenkins  
Akshay Kannan  
Nilay Mishra  
Nilesh Mohapatra

Anvi Padhi  
Nikhil Pesaladinne  
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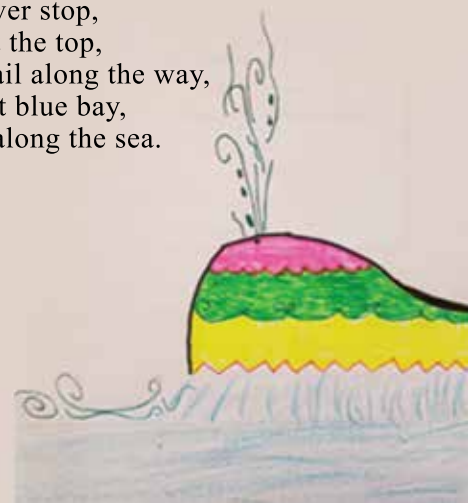
**Ashwath Venugopal**  
2nd Grader, Edison, NJ

## The Ruler of the Sea

She's the ruler of the sea,  
She skips with glee,  
Her thick skin,  
Hard to beat, she'll always win,  
She's big in size,  
Almighty in disguise,  
As she roams along the sea.

Who knows where she'll go,  
High or low,  
She'll never stop,  
Always at the top,  
She splashes her tail along the way,  
Into the vast blue bay,  
As she roams along the sea.

**Arya Janardhanan**  
6th Grader, Hilliard, OH



## What It Means To “Inspire It Forward!”

When I was in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in 2017, I heard about NSF for the first time. I wasn't sure what it meant then. As my parents and I started to find out more from another parent and the NSF website we got interested and I got very excited. Till that point, I had only heard about sports contests, but not about NSF regional academic contests. Learning is fun for me and I enjoy learning. I was very eager to find out more and was excited about the possibility to participate.

We didn't have much time and had to quickly register as the deadlines were approaching. My parents registered me for 4 subjects that were offered in my area and grade level. I liked that I was getting to learn so many new things that otherwise I would not have learnt in spelling, vocabulary, Math and Science. The contests were fun and they kept me busy as I had to go from one test to the next. I also managed to make new friends and was quite surprised when at the end of all the contests they actually called out my name for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> awards in two out of the four contests I participated!

As I was busy with school work, sports, and NSF I did not find time to get a haircut! So the following day my Dad took me to a new Men's Hair Salon that just opened in our neighborhood. The lady who cut my hair

was very nice and she asked me what all I do besides school, so I told her about NSF contests. She was happy for me and said she enjoyed talking to me. I thanked her for the nice haircut and we left.

This year 2018, I participated again in the regional NSF contests in 5 subjects and received 1st, 2nd and 3rd awards in 3 subjects. I was very happy that I received the 1st award in Science and will be going to NSF national contest in University of Maryland. My Dad took me for haircut to the same salon we had gone last time. At first, I did not recognize the lady who was giving me haircut however she recognized me from last year and was very happy and excited to see me! She asked how I was doing and I told her about my 1st place in Science.

I realized she too was excited and wanted to tell me something. She told me last year when I had described how fun it was learning, she decided to go back to school. She enrolled in Community College and works part time at hair salon. She is very happy and feels she made the best decision of her life to go back to school after years to continue in Science & Math her favorite subjects! Now I understand that excitement can be contagious and the true meaning of what it means to inspire it forward!

**Arman Kazi**  
3rd Grader, Hershey, PA



# An Educational Journey

At times, it can be hard to find an educational compass, to figure out what to pursue, which direction to go in. The North South foundation can point you in the right direction: I participated in NSF competitions from 1st grade to 8th grade: spelling bee, science, math, vocabulary. Though I didn't know it at the time, those seven years molded me into the scientist, competitor, thinker, and student that I am today.

Since then, I have qualified for the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF) three times – I earned second place once and first place twice, including winning both the Best in Category award and the famed Intel Foundation Young Scientist Award (a \$50,000 scholarship).

I was one of only 50 US students selected for the legendary Research Science Institute at MIT, the most prestigious summer research program for high school students. At the Regeneron Science Talent Search, “the nation’s oldest and most prestigious science and mathematics competition for high school seniors,” I earned 9th place in the nation and another \$50,000 scholarship.

NSF is a platform that provides opportunities. For me, starting from an early age, it provided the opportunity to expand my educational horizons. It taught me how

to tackle a problem and solve it - both on the small scale, of individual questions in contests, and on the large scale, of learning material and figuring out how to face a competition. It taught me how to set a goal and work towards it, to persevere and continue despite the inevitable failures and the vicissitudes of competition. Through these experiences, I was not only able to expand my vocabulary, improve my mathematical skills, and increase my scientific knowledge, I was also able to cultivate a strong work ethic, discipline, and study habits. As I head off to MIT, I'm confident that these years of academic competition have prepared me well.

To young students and aspiring competitors just starting out on this journey: think of it not as a competition against other students, but a challenge to see how much you know and how much more you can learn. Push yourself and strive not just for excellence but to learn as much as you can. Knowledge, not just of a particular subject, but rather, knowing what you enjoy doing and how you learn best, is something that will help you throughout your years in school. Don't be afraid to face the unknown. Don't be afraid to fail. No matter the immediate outcome, you will be a better student because of it.

And from there, after gaining your bearings, you can embark on your own academic explorations.

**Syamantak Payra**

## Growing Together: A Parent's Perspective

Syamantak participated in his first NSF competition when he was in first grade. He was a precocious child and we quickly realized that Syamantak needed a lot more than the gifted & talented education program offered by our school district. He was like a sponge, soaking up information, asking questions and endlessly curious. His interests were varied and the NSF competitions seemed to offer the perfect platform for Syamantak to challenge himself.

These competitions were in a wide range of subject areas, separated by grade levels and were conducted in a friendly, non-judgmental environment. The spelling, math, science and vocabulary bees introduced Syamantak to new academic challenges. His successes at these competitions kept him excited and motivated and the occasional failures taught him humility and helped him realize that there was always room for improvement. These bees inculcated in Syamantak the habits of goal-setting and working hard. His enthusiasm and diligence made all the difference!

When our kids are young, as parents, we can gently nudge them in the direction of their strengths and provide them with an environment where they can flourish. We can help to figure out how they learn best, what motivates them and teach them to set realistic goals for themselves with progressive increments.

When he started high school, Syamantak sought out more challenging competitions based on his inter-

ests and passions. Years of participating in academic competitions helped him develop the skills needed to excel in the rigors of high school – juggling academics, extracurriculars, community service. Syamantak's preparation for NSF spelling, vocabulary bees and the Scripps National Spelling Bee were partly instrumental in him getting perfect scores on both SAT and ACT! His critical thinking skills and resiliency helped him become an excellent researcher, which has led to him earning numerous international accolades. This May, Syamantak had the distinction of being selected as a 2018 US Presidential Scholar by the US Department of Education. Aside from his stellar accomplishments, we are so proud of the amazing young man Syamantak has grown into - kind, sincere, compassionate, always ready to lend a helping hand in every way.

It was no wonder to his teachers and principals, therefore, that he was accepted to all four colleges that he applied to: MIT, Stanford, Harvard and Caltech. It was a difficult choice, and after much deliberation Syamantak selected MIT, where he will be a freshman this fall.

To all NSF parents who want advice on how to help their children excel we suggest, inspire your students by introducing them to other role models they can look up to. Meeting someone their age (or slightly older) who has done what they aspire to achieve can be a great motivating factor. NSF national competitions are a great place to find such young scholastic stars. Remind them that to become future leaders they must first be good listeners and followers. And that when they work hard with focus and perseverance nothing is impossible.

**Pramatha & Sanjukta Payra**



# Junior Vocabulary BEE



**Aaditya Akare**  
Westford, MA



**Aarush Chavar**  
Birmingham, AL



**Abhilash Kalyan**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Abhinav Muvva**  
Mechanicsburg, PA



**Abhinav Nambi**  
Sugarland, TX



**Abhinav Sattur**  
Sayre, PA



**Achuth Vinay**  
Fresno, CA



**Adithi Takalkar**  
Fort Lee, NJ



**Akash Vukoti**  
San Angelo, TX



**Akilangandhi Chidambaranathan**  
Omaha, NE



**Alex Kuriakose**  
Sharon, MA



**Ameya Kharade**  
Nashua, NH



**Anjali Chauhan**  
Edison, NJ



**Anudeep Sai Daggupati**  
Sanford, FL





**Anushka Deodhar**  
Ashburn, VA



**Anvitha Gaddi**  
West Des Moines, IA



**Anwita Kollu**  
Holmdel, NJ



**Arjun Raj**  
Novi, MI



**Aryan Mohanty**  
Ashburn, VA



**Aryana Koul**  
Naperville, IL



**Aswath Madhan**  
Strongsville, OH



**Avyay Kodali**  
Palatine, IL



**Aydin Daniel**  
Scottsdale, AZ



**Chaitra Thummala**  
San Ramon, CA



**Chinmay Rajesh**  
Sunnyvale, CA



**Dev Shah**  
Largo, FL



**Dhruv Subramanian**  
Fremont, CA



**Dhruva Mandavilli**  
Flower Mound, TX



**Drona Gaddam**  
Gahanna, OH



**Grisham Paimagam**  
Charlotte, NC





**Hemanth Nallagatla**  
Morrisville, NC



**Ishaana Vishwanath**  
Schaumburg, IL



**Jayanth Athipatla**  
Omaha, NE



**Jiya Bhavsar**  
Prairie Village, KS



**Karthik Panchangam**  
Montville, NJ



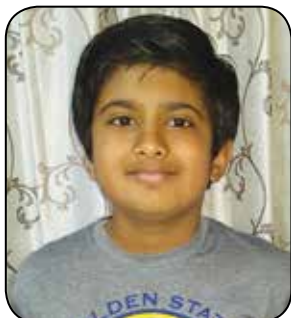
**Kavin Puri**  
Mars, PA



**Kavya Chava**  
Carrollton, TX



**Keshav Manavala**  
Milpitas, CA



**Lalit Kovvuri**  
San Jose, CA



**Mihir Busani**  
Ballwin, MO



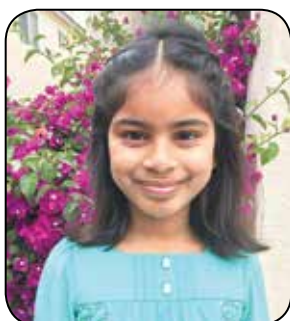
**Navita Mishra**  
Tampa, FL



**Nidhish Inumala**  
Naperville, IL



**Nilawi Venkat**  
Chelmsford, MA



**Nishka Reddy**  
San Diego, CA



**Nivedha Sathish Kumar**  
Portland, OR



**Ovee Dahalkar**  
Prairie View, IL





**Prajnay Chavan**  
Morrisville, NC



**Pranamya Shrikant**  
Coppell, TX



**Rajasi Agarwal**  
Round Rock, TX



**Rehan Pagarkar**  
Morganville, NJ



**Ria Rajasekharan**  
Fort Collins, CO



**Rishi Goli**  
Overland Park, KS



**Rohan Goyal**  
Saratoga, CA



**Sahil Jain**  
Portland, OR



**Samarth Pabba**  
Kendall Park, NJ



**Sanjana Nukala**  
Naperville, IL



**Sanvi Asaigoli**  
Morrisville, NC



**Shivani Vivekanand**  
Sammamish, WA



**Shourya Mogulothu**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Shreejith Krishnamoorthy**  
Warrington, PA



**Shreyaj Dasari**  
Saint Augustine, FL



**Shrisha Prakir**  
Fremont, CA





**Siddharth Umamahesh**  
Dayton, NJ



**Siyona Kandala**  
San Antonio, TX



**Sriniket Nuthalapati**  
Buffalo Grove, IL



**Srivatsan Marimuthu**  
Acton, MA



**Sudarshan Praveen**  
Apex, NC



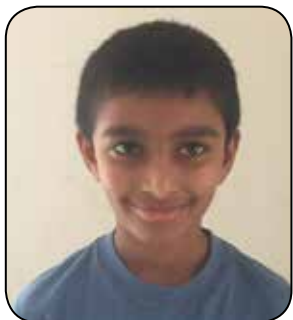
**Surya Kapu**  
South Jordan, UT



**Tarun Vedam**  
Charlotte, NC



**Treesa Madakkattu**  
Eden Prairie, MN



**Vaibhav Pradeep**  
Winter Garden, FL



**Varun Harith**  
Austin, TX



**Vasundara Rajan**  
Portland, OR



**Vedanti Patil**  
Portland, OR



**Vihaan Parikh**  
Santa Clara, CA



**Vivinsha Veduru**  
Keller, TX



**Yash Mittal**  
Peoria, IL

### **Not Pictured**

Gautham Ashok  
Divya Beeram  
Shaan Behara  
Anish Bharadwaj  
Saanvi Indukuri  
Dev Mitra  
Naumika Naresh  
Vihaan Prakash  
Varsha Radhakrishnan  
Neel Rege  
Dhanvantar Saravanan  
Akshadha Seshamani  
Diya Somnali  
Tanvi Valluri



You are like an eagle  
Free and hopeful  
But also like a mouse  
Fearful and trapped

You are like a lion  
Majestic and strong  
But also like a pigeon  
Quiet and peaceful

You are like a river  
Gushing and roaring  
But also like a lake  
Still and breathing

Your heart is like a house  
Only the things inside matter  
Your eyes like a window  
Into that forbidden house

But your mind is a human's  
Conflicted and lost  
Hoping to find meaning in an  
Otherwise empty place  
Called reality

**Khushi Gagrani**  
6<sup>th</sup> Grader, Lewis Center, OH

# YOU



## *A Life of Learning*

NSF Junior Science Bee has really changed the way I look at science. I used to think science was boring and hard but studying for NSF brought out the light in science for me. To be honest with you the main reason I wanted to get accepted into nationals was so that I could go to Maryland and enjoy the scenery. But then I realized how much this competition could help me in the future. Thanks to NSF I now understand how water is formed, why is the sky colorful during dawn and dusk, what is an atom, how is electricity generated, what is life, and much more. Thanks to NSF life and learning are bond for life.

**Mahi Junnare**  
Austin, TX



# The Bee: What It Means To Me

The first time I went to NSF Bees, I had no idea what they were, or how to prepare for them. It was also my first test outside of school. I thought, “Why do my parents want me to do this? I am pretty good at school work and I have a pretty solid foundation in overall general knowledge” But, my parents insisted on me participating; they said it wouldn’t hurt to try. Come to think of it, I am so glad they did. Since I wasn’t prepared, I didn’t too well. But that didn’t crush my hopes. Instead, it opened my eyes to a whole new world. It showed me what competitions are and where I stand. This is how my Bee journey began at NSF.

The next year when I went to compete, I prepared minimally, but I did well. I was ranked in the Top 3 for Science, Geography, and Vocabulary Bees in the Regionals. This made me feel proud, motivated, and confident. It also made me realize what I am capable of. I was invited to the National Finals in Tampa, but I couldn’t go because of a pre-planned India trip. I felt proud to receive certificates and a trophy. So, I got interested in participating again next year.

This time, I studied harder due to my growing interest. My parents helped me find some material on the Internet. The NSF website references were super useful! On the day of the Regionals, I was both excited, and nervous. The day had come! During the tests, the time pressure was a bit overwhelming, but again I scored decently. I secured a place in the top 3. I was invited to the National Finals in Houston, Texas. I was very excited to visit a new place. When I saw the University of Houston, I was amazed. There were so many people, rooms, and buildings. I had tons and tons of fun and enjoyment. I learnt that competing nationally is a step above the regional contests, and it takes even more hard work, preparation, and tenacity. I enjoyed participating in the National Finals by talking to like-minded kids that were very serious about the competition. I met kids from all over America. That was a highlight of going to the Nationals and the best time of my NSF experience so far.

This year I am headed for the National Finals again. They are being held in my home state of Maryland and I am looking forward to participating.

NSF has impacted my life greatly by encouraging me to put forth my best effort. It also taught me to get used to coping with stress and time pressure. I realized that whether you win or not, you should stay focused, have a positive attitude, and you will have an incredible experience! I am proud to be a part of the NSF family!

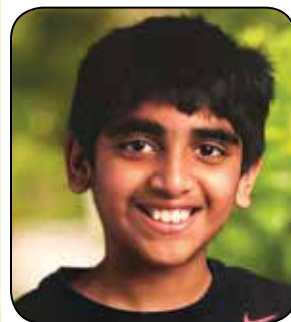
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Rising 6th Grader, Germantown, MD



# Intermediate Vocabulary BEE



**Aaditya Karnataki**  
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**Abhijay Kodali**  
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**Abhiram Tejomurtula**  
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**Abigail Thomas**  
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**Aditya Chezhiyan**  
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**Akhilsai Damera**  
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**Akshainie Kamma**  
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**Aman Andukuri**  
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**Arul Moorthy**  
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**Arushi Cumer**  
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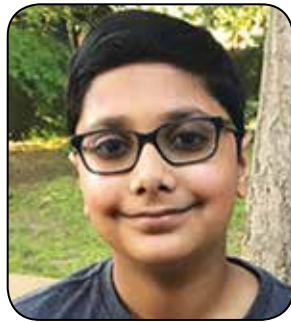
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**Ayan Shekhar**  
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**Balaadithya Muralitharan**  
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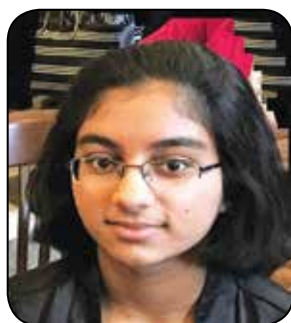
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**Harini Logan**  
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**Harini Venkatesh**  
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**Isha Shrivastava**  
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**Ishita Cumer**  
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**Ishya Bhavsar**  
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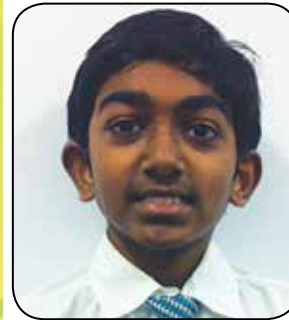




**Jaya Choudhary**  
Canton, MI



**Karthikeya Vattam**  
Mcdonald, PA



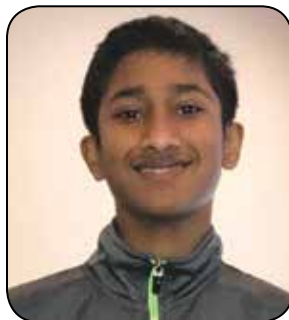
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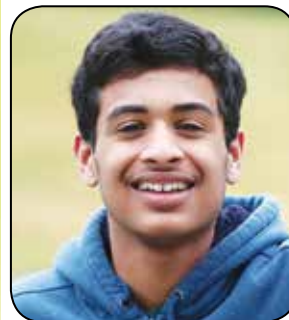
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Mars, PA



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**Maya Jadhav**  
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**Mridula Prabu**  
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**Namitha Vadlamudi**  
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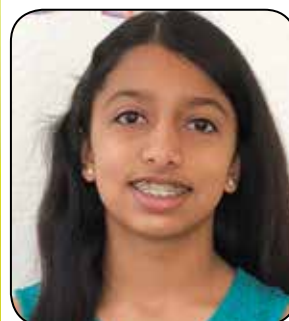
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**Navya Manne**  
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**Nithya Krishna**  
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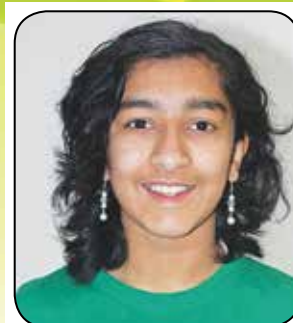
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**Prachi Kharade**  
Nashua, NH



**Pragya Choudhary**  
Canton, MI



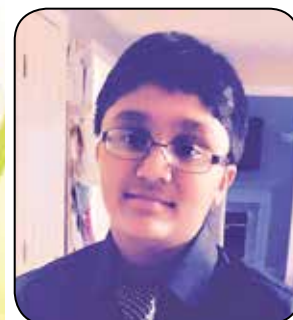
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**Pranav Nandakumar**  
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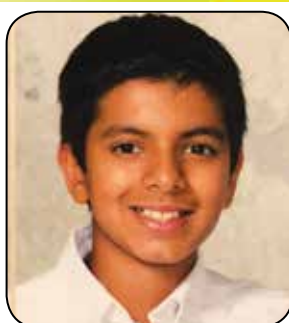
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**Rayan Jawa**  
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**Richa Juvekar**  
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**Rijul Ashar**  
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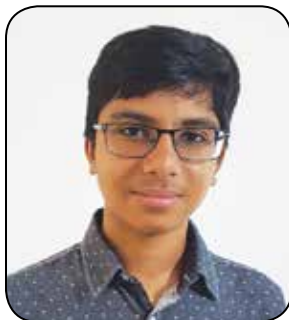
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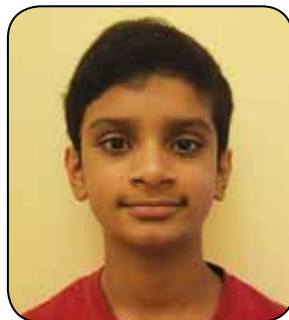
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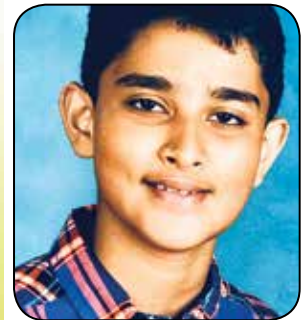
**Samhitha Yeleti**  
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**Sashi Kulatilaka**  
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**Sharvani Vadlamani**  
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**Shwetha Nidyanandh**  
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**Srikar Venkatesan**  
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**Sujata Choudhury**  
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**Svana Shankar**  
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**Tanisha Chetty**  
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**Tara Muthuswamy**  
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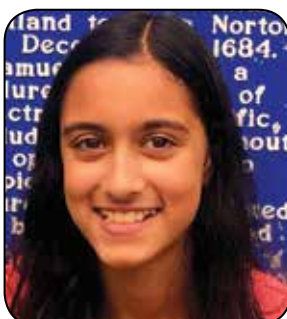
**Tushar Bhagawatula**  
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**Tushar Mundhra**  
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**Vaishnavi Iyer**  
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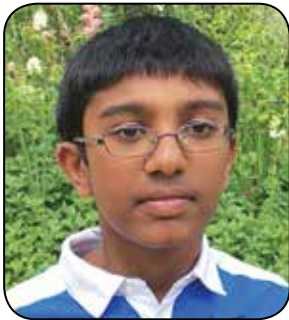


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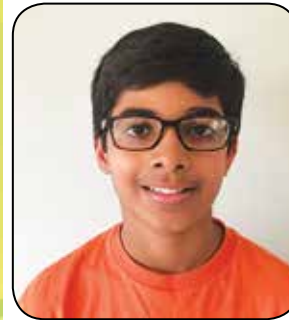




**Vedant Rathi**  
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**Veer Agarwal**  
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**Yash Pandit**  
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**Srivarun Hathwar**  
Virginia Beach, VA

### Not Pictured

Bhushan Mohanraj  
Siddharth Satish  
Mayuka Valluri  
Sahithi Atluri  
Akshat Bhati

Srikar Nelakuditi  
Aditya Shivaswamy  
Karthik Thallam  
Sai Pranav Thambal-  
lapalle



# Senior ESSAY WRITING



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**Adhvaith Vijay**  
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**Adhika Arunkumar**  
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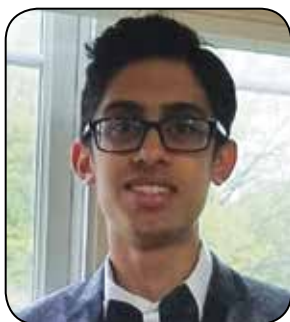
**Aditi Sridhar**  
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**Dwaritha Ramesh**  
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**Gowri Kamma**  
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**Julie Lynch**  
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**Mahek Aggarwal**  
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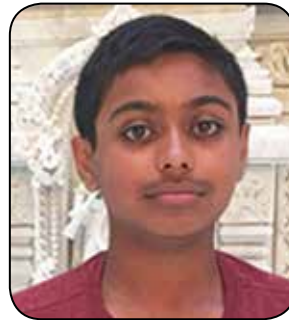




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**Shashwat Patel**  
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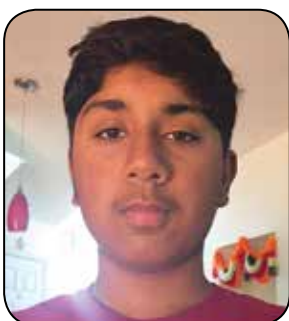
**Shaurya Mehta**  
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**Shefali Prakash**  
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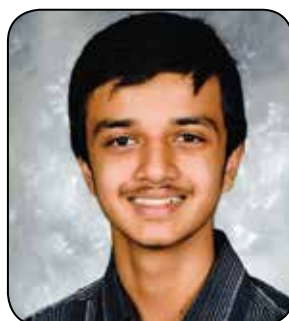
**Shivansh Srivastava**  
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**Tejas Muthusamy**  
Glen Allen, VA



**Trisha Patnaik**  
Bolingbrook, IL



**Vardaan Shah**  
Strongsville, OH

### **Not Pictured**

Vasudha  
Srimat Kilambi  
Sreeniketh Vogoti





# Senior PUBLIC SPEAKING



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**Aditi Chintapalli**  
Cherry Hill, NJ



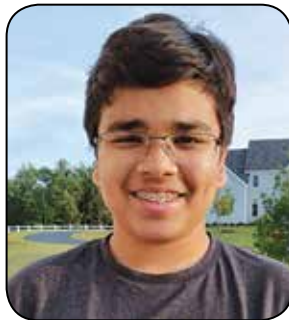
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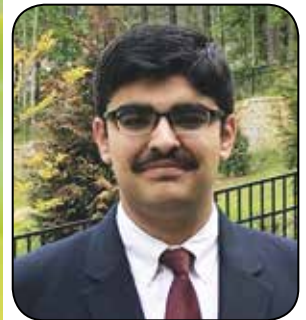
**Ahila Moorthy**  
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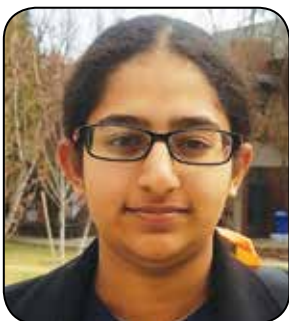
**Arghya Roy**  
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**Mahathi Mangipudi**  
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**Mahek Aggarwal**  
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**Palak Mehta**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Riya Choksi**  
Odessa, FL



**Rohith Ryali**  
Ellisville, MO



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Kendall Park, NJ



**Sanjana Darsipudi**  
Johns Creek, GA



**Shashwat Patel**  
Harriman, NY



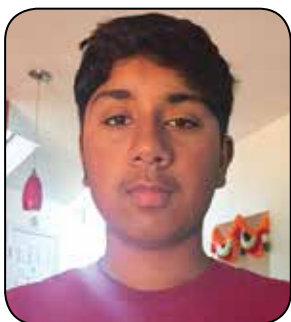
**Shaurya Mehta**  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA



**Shefali Prakash**  
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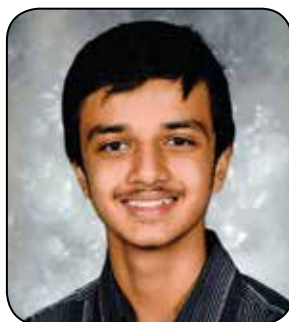
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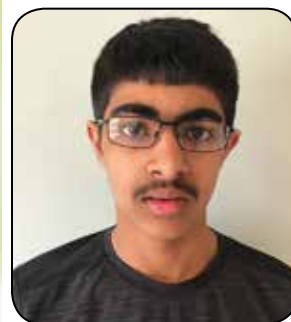
**Tejas Muthusamy**  
Glen Allen, VA



**Trisha Patnaik**  
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**Vardaan Shah**  
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**Vishnu Pendri**  
Pittsford, NY

### Not Pictured

Anish Kothapalli  
Meghna Rao  
Vasudha Srimat Kilambi  
Sreeniketh Vogoti



# A Week at the United Nations: The High Level Political Forum

Sipping my iced coffee through the trademark green straw of Starbucks, I realize that this will soon be a thing of the past, something I could tell my kids in the future (you guys used plastic straws to drink things?). Earlier in July, Starbucks announced that it would eliminate single-use plastic straws by 2020. While this move has been praised internationally as a giant step forward for our planet—think the picture of the sea turtle with a plastic straw stuck up its nostril or the birds with stomachs full of plastic—plastic straws only account for a miniscule portion of all plastic that ends up harming wildlife and the new strawless-lid alternative is rumored to contain more plastic than a normal lid and straw. Though the actions of large multinational corporations do help, the real steps forward come from individuals and communities.

Ban Ki-Moon, a former Secretary-General of the United Nations, remarked that “we don’t have Plan B because there is no Planet B,” which aptly describes the situation we are faced with: the ability for us to support ourselves without disrupting the ecological balance now determines what life will be like for future generations. And thus, the “Sustainable Development Goals” (or SDGs) were adopted by the 193 countries United Nations General Assembly in 2015. The seventeen SDGs each cover a broad area of focus and outline what we must accomplish by 2030 to attain each goal.

Having participated in Model United Nations, I was familiar with the SDGs and understood how important they were for the world, but did it matter that much to me personally? I agree that everyone should have access to clean water, and that we should work towards affordable and clean energy, but how could I as a sixteen year old do anything about these global issues? Yes, the SDGs addressed urgent issues that could very well determine the future of humanity, but, to quote famous economist John Maynard Keynes, “in the long run, we’re all dead” anyways right? Besides, wasn’t all of this what the United Nations and its countries and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and major groups and other stakeholders (MGoS) working on? Why do they need us?

Through an email sent by Dr. Chitturi through North South Foundation, I was informed an opportunity to participate in the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (or HLPF) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City on behalf of FEZANA. Being the social science nerd I am and after speaking to Dr. Chitturi, I was encouraged to pursue it, as it would be a wonderful experience, if anything. I ended up being one of the eight people selected to attend the conference, along with the other participants—Armita Behboodi, Karl Desai, Sohrab Gheibi, Pari Khosraviani, Bijan Kavooosi, and Bitu Kavooosi.

The experience was eye-opening to say the least. Many of

the events took place in an enormous conference room and in that room I was surrounded by individuals from a variety of backgrounds and objectives. Speakers from different branches of the organizations discussed progress emphasized the importance of local participation. Local participation matters so much that implementing the SDGs is often referred to as “localizing the SDGs.” While the United Nations can create the SDGs and hold meetings to discuss them, the only way that progress can be attained is through the individuals who work towards them step by step, from their neighborhoods, communities, and cities eventually to a global platform.

This, for me, was the biggest takeaway from the HLPF. There is no point in creating an agenda for sustainability when we, as citizens of the world, do not care to implement it. All of these time-consuming conferences? Worthless, if nothing is to come from it. What the United Nations has achieved thus far did not come without the engagement of local individuals, who took a stand on the issue and ushered their communities along the difficult path of change. The potential of the individual has the influence that committing that action has on other individuals to follow suit. What may start as a single individual can soon transform into dozens and hundreds and even thousands of individuals.

There are so many things that can be done in this world right now. Look online, find an SDG that appeals to you, and do something about it. Intrigued by the second goal—zero hunger? Volunteer at a local soup kitchen, or donate food to charities. Or the sixth goal—clean water and sanitation? Maybe raise money for a water filter and send it to a community that needs it. Plus, there is plenty of room for innovation in all of the SDGs, so get creative. Maybe you can pioneer a new technology that provides affordable and clean energy—goal number seven.

Coming back to my iced coffee, I realize that we do not (and should not) need to wait for people at the top to make the environmentally-conscious decisions; we as individuals can start making those decisions and inspire change in others. We do not need to wait for Starbucks to phase out using plastic cups to start bringing our own. We do not need to wait for gasoline prices to soar before looking for ways to reduce gas emissions. We do not need to wait to receive monetary incentives to start reducing, reusing, and recycling what we can.

*Maybe, I thought to myself, from now on, I’ll bring my own tumbler to Starbucks. Small steps, right?*

**Vaishnavi Krishnan**

Past NSF Participant and Present NSF Volunteer



# BEE-ing at the BEE

Hello friends! My name is Ahan Das Chowdhury, and I will talk to you about my first NSF Bee experience! For anyone out there, who wants to test their knowledge, I recommend taking the various contests at NSF. I will share with you why I think so.

So, that day when I walked inside the building, I was super nervous. My whole body shook, like I was on Neptune (well, I wasn't really on Neptune, but you get the idea. I was a ticking time bomb!). I got inline for my tag, and I saw that there were so many contestants! I felt like the clock was up and I was going to explode! My dad calmed me down and reassured me that everything would be okay. I felt better, but still nervous. That's an oxymoron, friends. I took a glance and caught a glimpse of someone familiar. Was it... Could it **BEE**...Yes! It was my school friend! Wait, I thought. *My friends are my competitors? This will be tough. But I gotta focus. No friends during the test.* This is some advice for you.

I got my tag and went to the math testing room. There were around 35 bees like me. I thought that we all were bees in a hive, trying to collect honey. Honey as in the test. The proctor handed out the papers. And I heard the 4 words I was dreading. "Your time starts now."

Immediately looked down at the first question and the next and so on. And when I least expected it, I heard "Stop". We had reached the end of the first section of the math test. Then the second test. Same thing....and done. It was over. The next day was the science test. I got home and studied extra hard. My mom asked me questions and I answered them. We did this from 3-6, and then from 7-9 in the evening. I recommend studying **the syllabus over and over again**, which I technically didn't do myself, but you should. Now when I look back, I should've worked harder. **Study in advance kids!**

The next day, after my swimming lesson, we went straight to the testing area. I was less nervous, because I knew what it would be like. As you would expect, it was the same as the math test, all unknown questions, limited time and a truckload of nervousness. When I went home my dad showed me his Facebook page. I took a peek and saw that I had secured a spot in the top ten people. What a narrow escape! If I had got 1 more answer wrong, I would not be there. I wish I had studied harder.

Well that's a wrap folks! This is my **BEE** experience. If you work hard, you can achieve a lot of stuff too. Hopefully you **BEE**-come inspired to take the test! Since I made it, I have no doubt you can as well, friends!

Ahan Das Chowdhury  
4<sup>th</sup> Grader, Bellevue, WA

## My First Time Competing In NSF Nationals!

I have been appearing for NSF exams since last year when I was in second grade. I qualified for Nationals in my first trial for three out of five subjects. I appeared in Tampa Regionals – JGB, JVB and Junior Science. For Nationals at University of Houston, I registered for two – JGB and JVB. For Science Bee, we could not register in time. The entire journey of preparing and appearing for National Finals at University of Houston was quite exhilarating. For preparing in summer vacation, I first read books on my own and then later with my dad. While on my way to Houston from Tampa, I kept on revising words and meanings. I felt both nervous and excited. After a long flight, my dad and I checked in a luxurious hotel in downtown Houston the previous day. Going and checking in the previous day evening was quite exciting. On Saturday morning, we were in an auditorium where the JVB was being held. I was incredibly anxious. The words in the written test were easy at first but got harder gradually. I felt I did reasonably well. During the oral round, I was quite edgy but the experience was important. During especially JGB written round, I thought I did reasonably well. But, I was not selected for final round in both. I was quite disappointed but at the same time it was an honor to be competing with some of the best kids in the nation. While at University of Houston, in between the two competitions, I also attended sessions from past

champions in Spelling Bee and Geography Bee on how to prepare for these national competitions. I enjoyed the awards ceremony as well. I had so much fun and learned many interesting facts. On my way back from Houston, I felt inspired to work harder in everything I do. The week after, I felt real pride in narrating my unforgettable experience of participating in NSF National Finals in my school. I proudly put on the NSF T-shirt to my school. By far, going to Houston and appearing for NSF Finals was my best experience.

Dev Shah  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grader, Largo, FL



# Intermediate Brain BEE



**Aadil Mohammed**  
Cary, NC



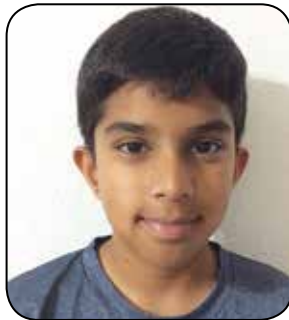
**Aarushi Wadhwa**  
Morganville, NJ



**Abhinav Nadimpalli**  
Mechanicsburg, PA



**Adharsha Ramesh**  
Westford, MA



**Adi Senthil**  
Fair Oaks, CA



**Aditya Kabra**  
Niantic, CT



**Aditya Kondepudi**  
Creve Coeur, MO



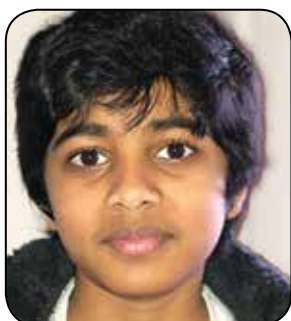
**Aditya Krishnan**  
Dunedin, FL



**Aishani Patnaik**  
Ashburn, VA



**Alisha Paul**  
Southington, CT



**Aman Kumar**  
Issaquah, WA



**Ananya Chilakamarri**  
Ashburn, VA



**Ananya Vinay**  
Fresno, CA



**Anirudh Rao**  
Hershey, PA





**Anmol Sapru**  
Cheshire, CT



**Anurag Gottipati**  
Ashburn, VA



**Arya Patel**  
Linwood, NJ



**Atharva Kulkarni**  
Edison, NJ



**Aum Jhaveri**  
Katy, TX



**Ayati Lala**  
Dunlap, IL



**Bhavya Boddu**  
Centreville, VA



**Deboshri Kanjilal**  
Olathe, KS



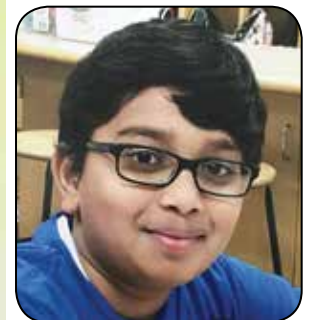
**Deetya Nagri**  
Nashua, NH



**Devika Sunil**  
Plano, TX



**Jayvik Joshi**  
Matthews, NC



**Karthik Pyneni**  
Farmington, CT



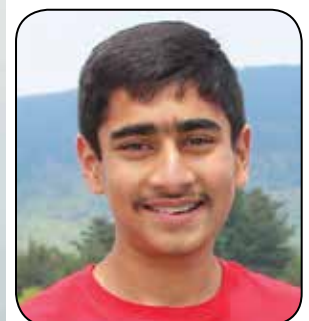
**Kathir Meyyappan**  
Tyngsboro, MA



**Madhalasa Iyer**  
Plano, TX



**Meghna Penumudi**  
Plano, TX



**Mohit Shah**  
Kendall Park, NJ





**Namitha Vadlamudi**  
Woodbury, MN



**Nayan Kondapalli**  
Pflugerville, TX



**Prabhav Pagadala**  
Overland Park, KS



**Prabhavh Pradeep**  
Marietta, GA



**Prachi Kharade**  
Nashua, NH



**Pranavh Pradeep**  
Marietta, GA



**Ramyaka Annambhotla**  
Southbury, CT



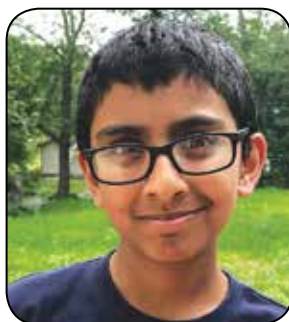
**Ridhay Pasupuleti**  
Chesterfield, NJ



**Rithvik Marri**  
Weston, FL



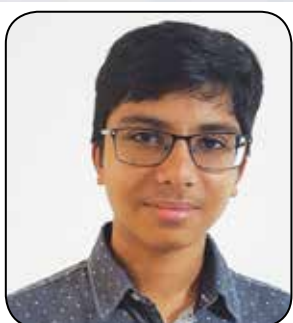
**Riya Dev**  
McLean, VA



**Rohan Venkatesh**  
Lexington, MA



**Rohit Dasanoor**  
Copley, OH



**Saathvik Selvan**  
Weston, FL



**Sachitaa Senthilkumar**  
Weston, FL



**Sagarika Srinivasan**  
Cheshire, CT



**Samhitha Yeleti**  
Suwanee, GA





**Sayomik Sett**  
Chelmsford, MA



**Sharvani Vadlamani**  
South Brunswick, NJ



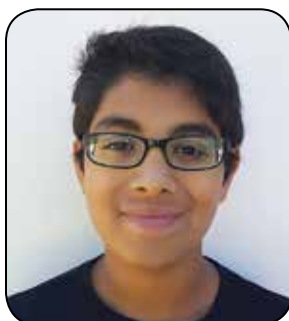
**Shashank Varma Nadimpalli**  
Ashburn, VA



**Shivani Venkatesh**  
Mechanicsburg, PA



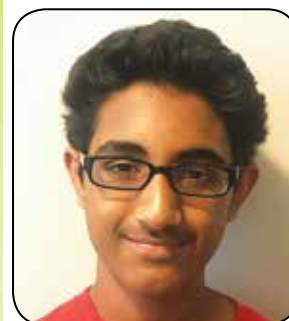
**Shreya Mogulothu**  
Plainsboro, NJ



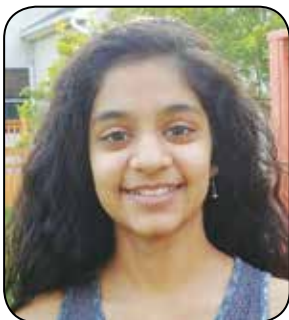
**Shriyans Pendli**  
Peoria, IL



**Shruti Chakrapani**  
Menasha, WI



**Soham Saraf**  
Chesterfield, MO



**Spoorthi Kandalai**  
Hilliard, OH



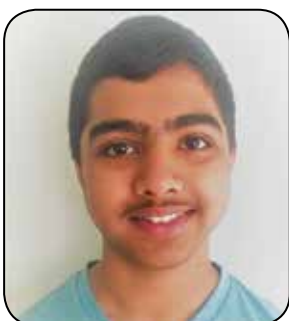
**Sriram Kutty**  
Redmond, WA



**Srivant Pothuraju**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Sujay Champati**  
Pleasanton, CA



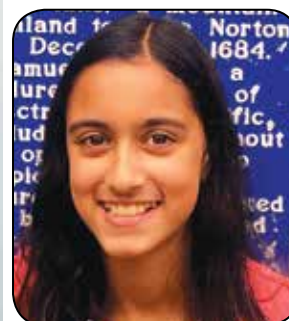
**Udbhav Bodapati**  
Linwood, NJ



**Udgita Pamidigantam**  
North Brunswick, NJ



**Vaibhav Mishra**  
Dublin, GA



**Vangmayee Upadhyay**  
Unionville, CT





**Vignesh Anand**  
Frisco, TX



**Wafiza Julkipli**  
Devon, PA

### Not Pictured

Deepti Aggarwal  
Tiberius Arulkumaran  
Mehak Banga  
Anmol Bhatia  
Purvansh Bhatia  
Srilalitha Jyosyula  
Harvik Kolla  
Smaran Pasupulati  
Preethika Pavirala

Shreyasri Perumalla  
Krithikaa Premnath  
Srisha Raj  
Tejas Varma Pakalapati  
Advika Venkatesh  
Sohum Walavalkar  
Himani Yarlagadda

## Top Colleges Attended by Top Three Ranks at National Finals

California Institute of Technology  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Case Western Reserve University  
Columbia University  
Dartmouth College  
Duke University  
George Washington University  
Georgetown University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Harvard University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
New York University  
Northwestern University  
Penn State University

Princeton University  
Stanford University  
Texas A & M University  
Thomas Jefferson University  
University of California- Berkeley  
University of Chicago  
University of Illinois  
University of Michigan  
University of Pennsylvania  
Yale University





## one Life

Cat looked up at the saffron painted sky. She continued walking through the sand and saw an old man in the distance. He seemed to be reaching down, picking something up and tossing it into the ocean. As Cat got closer, she realized that the man was picking up starfish. There were several of them lying across the sand.

"Whatcha doing?" Cat asked the old man, curiously. He looked up. "These starfish have been carried out by the high tide, and they need water. They are still a little moist, but they won't be able to survive for much longer if they don't reach the water in a little bit."

Cat was puzzled. She stared at the uncountable number of starfish lying across the sand. There were so many!

"How are you going to throw all of them into the ocean? There are way too many starfish, and it's not really making a difference by throwing a couple out every few seconds."

The man looked up and smiled.

"It does make a difference to one starfish. One starfish is one life that I am saving."

**Rayna Parikh**  
6th Grader, Andover, MA

## I Know How The Big Baby Feels Celebrating Maya Angelou

A small baby creeps  
on the floor like a mouse  
and dreamlessly sleeps  
while tranquil is the house  
and later its cries  
wake the tired spouse  
and the big baby sits quietly  
recollecting the memories.

Now comes the small baby bro  
Walking to the place we call home  
Although he was very slow  
Watching the small baby roam  
Wearing clothes full of rainbow  
And the big baby sits quietly  
Recollecting the memories.

The small baby learns how to eat  
First with something smooth

Then with some lovely meat  
but it needs its mother's words to soothe  
Experiencing its first time in a suite  
Enjoying its meaningful youth  
And the big baby sits quietly  
Recollecting the memories.

The small baby learns how to bike  
Imagining it had wings  
Later going on a hike  
Discovering amazing things  
Next, it makes a friend named Mike  
And goes to school learning about kings and knights  
And the big baby sits quietly  
Recollecting the memories.

**Ikshitha Tippa**  
9th Grader, Louisville, KY



# The Girl's Experience

She sat at the table, sweating bullets. The timer droned on inside her ear, as if it was a part of her now. *10 seconds... 9...8...7...*- She slammed the buzzer as hard as she could.

"The capital of the Dominican Republic is Punta Cana!" Her heart rate which had recently doubled started to return back to normal. Her hand remained still as she heaved a sigh of obvious relief. She anxiously waited for the points by her name to multiply. The proctor stood by holding captive her results.

As if to torture her, the proctor takes a long breath and straightens her papers incessantly before proceeding with the results.. "I'm sorry, that is incorrect. The capital of the Dominican Republic is Santo Domingo. Unfortunately, this was the conclusive question.

Therefore, the winner is, Monica! The girl hung her head in shame and sulked back to the lobby where her mother restlessly paced. The mother shoots a hopeful glance accompanied by a supporting smile, as her eyes asks the question her mouth doesn't. *Did you win?* With a sullen glance of her own, the girl strode away with her footsteps echoing into the midst of the room.

Has this ever happened to you? Are you afraid it is? Even if the circumstances are different, a bee is pretty similar to the story above. The girl in the story lost,

and sometimes this happens. The best way to increase your chance of winning is to never go in blind; prepare. The best way to prepare is to understand what it is you are doing. Gauge the situation. If you are participating in an essay bee, then there is a grace period for you to collect your thoughts and properly format them. If you are participating in a brain bee or any other timed bee, speed and accuracy are in play. NSF provides many practice options and speaking with former NSF competitors can give you an idea of what the competition will be like for you.

Participating in a bee is an exhilarating and a strenuous test of academics. And I think I have some ideas that will help fund NSF. NSF should hold domain specific presentations associated with each competition. For example, the brain bee is all about the brain and questions like "what is the purpose of the amygdala?", so there should be a presentation from a neurologist or someone with advanced knowledge on the brain who can provide an interesting presentation. Incentives may include hints to some of the questions on the date of the competition.

I participated in a bee, and I think that I have the first hand experience and the actual feel of participating in a bee. I was in several essay and speech bees, where there is a grace period to collect your thoughts. Even so, while giving the speech and at the last moment, it's really difficult to stay on track.

**Varsha Bharath**

8<sup>th</sup> Grader, Issaquah, WA

# NSF - "The Best you can BEE"

A quiz or an important competition may seem quite scary, But at NSF, there's no need to worry. Their contests are filled with education and knowledge galore, They make you think that hard work is something to be happy for!

Before NSF, I would stare at my worksheets and I would wonder what I would do, Because even though I could do it, I wanted some extra knowledge too! That was when my mother discovered this splendid site, And when she told me, I was filled with delight!

The first step that I took on my NSF journey, Was to choose the right bee for me! My mom knew immediately what it should be, And she chose Science Bee!

Every morning and every night, I would study with all my might. Many sources helped me, To learn more and grow as a learner with purpose, you see.

The day of the Regionals came really fast, And the days of studying had gone by and passed.

This was the moment I had prepared for, This was the day when I hoped to go far.

At the center where the contest was to start, They gave me the question paper and I answered with all my heart. After the timer ended, I turned in my questions for grading and I knew, That I had done the best I could do.

When it was awards time, I found I had won a prize! I had gotten first place! I could not believe my eyes! I was happy, but if you saw my face you could tell, Prize or not, I was excited that I had done well.

I went to the Nationals and I can still remember that experience, That helped me know that healthy competition makes sense. I also know that I will excel at school, Because NSF has given me a feeling that education's cool!

I do hope you agree, Because there is none better practice for competitions than the NSF bee.

**Ishaana Vishwanath**

3rd Grader, Schaumburg, IL





## An Interview with USA Brain Bee Champion

Akhil Kondepudi is a rising senior who won the 2018 National Brain Bee. The following is a Bee Book Team member interview with him, chronicling his experiences with the competition and explaining what the Brain Bee actually is:

Bee Book Team Member: First of all, what is the Brain Bee?

Akhil: The Brain Bee is a competition that tests student on the field of neuroscience. It is commonly held in a written and oral format (similar to the NSF Finals Brain Bee), with most questions coming from Brain Facts or, less commonly, Neuroscience: Science of the Brain. So, kind of like a Spelling Bee, except about the brain and with an additional practical part (and obviously better).

Bee Book Team Member: Cool! How did you first learn about the Brain Bee?

Akhil: Coincidentally, I learned about this competition through NSF and participated in my first Brain Bee at the 2016 NSF Finals. I had to learn about the nervous system for another competition that year, so I thought this would be a great way to start preparing for it.

Bee Book Team Member: How did you prepare for regionals/nationals?

Akhil: Regional brain bees vary on what they cover: almost all the questions from my regionals came from the Brain Facts book, so I made sure I knew this book front and back. As for the national level (and some regional brain bees), I read through the neuroscience part of some biology textbooks and scoured Wikipedia and related links with Google. Remember that practice makes perfect, especially with the identification parts of the

competitions. But most importantly, try to understand the logic behind each answer, identification, diagnosis, et cetera. Pure memorization can only get you so far.

Bee Book Team Member: Wow, sounds hard. Perhaps your experience might motivate me?

Akhil: Definitely! Brain Bee competitors have a passion for neuroscience just like you. I met and befriended a lot of intelligent, motivated students at both regionals and nationals who had common interests with me. Also, the format of the competition encompasses all aspects of neuroscience, so an interested student should be very excited to compete in one (like me, and hopefully you)! Lastly, Baltimore (the site of the National Brain Bee) is a great city, so that's an additional perk.

Bee Book Team Member: Is there an International Brain Bee?

Akhil: Yes; I'm going to participate in the 2018 IBB in Berlin, Germany, this summer.

Bee Book Team Member: Best of Luck.

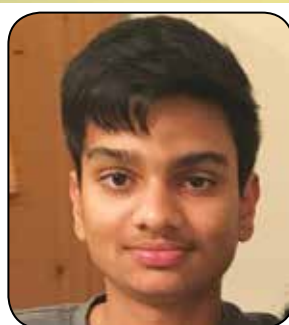
Akhil: Thank you



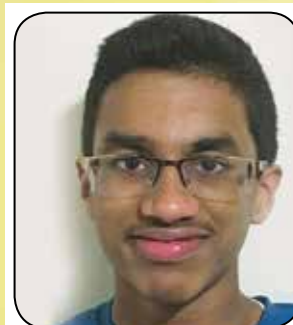
**Akhil Kondepudi**  
US Brain Bee Champion



# Senior Brain BEE



**Abhinav Sattiraju**  
St Johns, FL



**Adarsh Kongani**  
Orange, CT



**Adhvika Arunkumar**  
Londonderry, NH



**Aditi Chintapalli**  
Cherry Hill, NJ



**Akshra Paimagam**  
Charlotte, NC



**Ananya Kodali**  
Flower Mound, TX



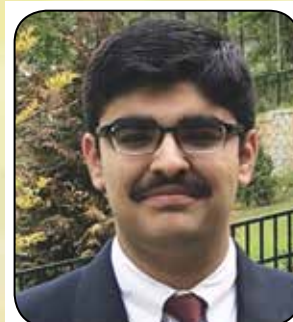
**Anirudh Venkatesh**  
Mechanicsburg, PA



**Dwaritha Ramesh**  
Granby, CT



**Gayathri Mannem**  
Chadds Ford, PA



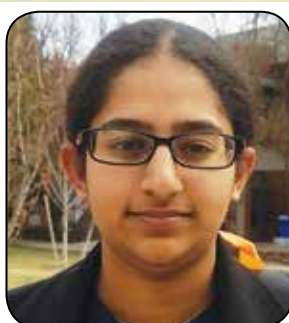
**Kartik Tyagi**  
Cary, NC



**Keerthi Kongani**  
Orange, CT



**Lipika Narisetti**  
Hilliard, OH



**Mahathi Mangipudi**  
Bellevue, WA



**Malavika Kumaran**  
St. Louis, MO





**Nikitha Sridhar**  
Auburn, AL



**Om Patil**  
Mount Laurel, NJ



**Pranav Pagadala**  
Overland Park, KS



**Preethi Devarapalli**  
Edison, NJ



**Rincon Jagarlamudi**  
Chesterfield, MO



**Riya Choksi**  
Odessa, FL



**Rohan Wadhwa**  
Morganville, NJ



**Rohith Ryali**  
Ellisville, MO



**Sahana Narayanan**  
Kendall Park, NJ



**Saloni Garg**  
Mays Landing, NJ



**Trisha Patnaik**  
Bolingbrook, IL



**Ujjayi Pamidigantam**  
North Brunswick, NJ



**Vishruth Nagam**  
Folsom, CA

### Not Pictured

Sraavya Anne  
Sree Prabhav Bandakavi  
Rishi Gabbita  
Akilesh Gaganam  
Anila Narayana  
Roshni Kainthan  
Shriya Koneru

Deeya Pathak  
Navneet Suda  
Neha Palle  
Pranav Somesula  
Shouri Bochetty  
Sreeniketh Vogoti  
Sree Prabhav Bandakavi



# Junior Science BEE



**Aadhavan Veerendra**  
Portsmouth, NH



**Aarush Chavar**  
Birmingham, AL



**Aayush Tadhani**  
Peachtree City, GA



**Abhinav Muvva**  
Mechanicsburg, PA



**Abhinav Nambi**  
Sugarland, TX



**Addhyan Saxena**  
Overland Park, KS



**Adithi Takalkar**  
Fort Lee, NJ



**Aditya Jain**  
Laramie, WY



**Adya Garg**  
Ashburn, VA



**Akhil Jois**  
Carmel, IN



**Akhil Tirumalaseti**  
Austin, TX



**Alden Raymond**  
Folsom, CA



**Ameya Kharade**  
Nashua, NH



**Anika Malyavanatham**  
Hillsboro, OR





**Aniroodhan Rengaa**  
Dunlap, IL



**Anirudh Reddy Guddeti**  
Sugarland, TX



**Anish Kodali**  
White Plains, NY



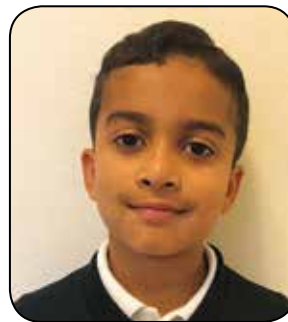
**Anishka Basu**  
Austin, TX



**Anshul Maindan**  
Dublin, CA



**Aria Mitra**  
Austin, TX



**Arjun Ulag**  
Bellevue, WA



**Arman Kazi**  
Hershey, PA



**Arnav Bandhakavi**  
Aurora, IL



**Arnav Choubey**  
Willoughby, OH



**Arnav Pallapotu**  
San Diego, CA



**Arush Sunil**  
Plano, TX



**Aryana Koul**  
Naperville, IL



**Atharv Kapoor**  
Portland, OR



**Aveek Sarkar**  
Naperville, IL



**Aydin Daniel**  
Scottsdale, AZ





**Bhavya Dash**  
San Jose, CA



**Chandhana Lingam Muhilan**  
Parsippany, NJ



**Chinmay Rajesh**  
Sunnyvale, CA



**Claire Dsouza**  
Morrisville, NC



**Deeksha Rajesh**  
Mechanicsburg, PA



**Deepika Sundaram**  
Somerset, NJ



**Dev Gavande**  
Robbinsville, NJ



**Dev Shah**  
Largo, FL



**Deva Keerthana Pandiarajan**  
Wadsworth, OH



**Dhanvi Sheth**  
Chesapeake, VA



**Dhanvik Kumar Pamulapati**  
Cumming, GA



**Dhruv Subramanian**  
Fremont, CA



**Dhruva Mandavilli**  
Flower Mound, TX



**Divya Jayam**  
Roslynheights, NY



**Ehan Hafees**  
Alpharetta, GA



**Gaya Kulatilaka**  
College Station, TX





**Hanish Mamidi**  
Cedar Park, TX



**Harshin Sai Vemula**  
Tampa, FL



**Harshitha Subramanian**  
Meriden, CT



**Ira Sidhani**  
Mundelein, IL



**Ishaana Vishwanath**  
Schaumburg, IL



**Ishidevesh Behera**  
Bayonne, NJ



**Jiya Bhavsar**  
Prairie Village, KS



**Kavin Dinesh**  
Chalfont, PA



**Kavin Puri**  
Mars, PA



**Kenisha Verma**  
Wynnewood, PA



**Kesav Kalanidhi**  
Raleigh, NC



**Kshitij Gupta**  
Plainsboro, NJ



**Kushan Bonela**  
Oswego, IL



**Lahari Nellore**  
Olympia, WA



**Mahi Junnare**  
Austin, TX



**Mahima Ganesan**  
Amherst, MA





**Mahima Wuppalapati**  
Irvine, CA



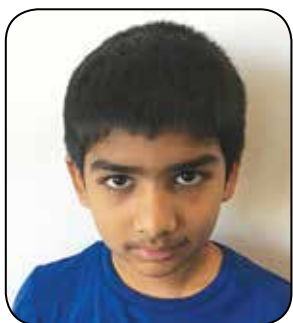
**Matthew Flowerhill**  
Cerritos, CA



**Mayukh Aduru**  
Ashburn, VA



**Mihika Puvvena**  
Boerne, TX



**Mihir Busani**  
Ballwin, MO



**Mireya Verma**  
Wynnewood, PA



**Mohita Chepeni**  
Bedford, MA



**Mukund Chakravarthy**  
Austin, TX



**Nikhilan Rathinakumar**  
Waukegan, IL



**Nimish Khairnar**  
Princeton, NJ



**Niranjn Ghanekar**  
Garnet Valley, PA



**Nyla Rahman**  
Clovis, CA



**Om Shah**  
Burlington, NC



**Prajnay Chavan**  
Morrisville, NC



**Pranav Anandh**  
Glen Mills, PA



**Pranav Gadde**  
Elk Grove Village, IL





**Prithvi Pallati**  
Vestal, NY



**Rajarshi Mandal**  
Lexington, MA



**Rajeeth Ganesan**  
Bloomington, IL



**Rananjay Parmar**  
Rochester, MN



**Rehan Pagarkar**  
Morganville, NJ



**Reyansh Krovi**  
Duluth, GA



**Rishabh Gunda**  
Dix Hills, NY



**Rithik Natarajan**  
Glen Allen, VA



**Rohan Rajesh**  
Weddington, NC



**Rohan Sagar**  
Virginia Beach, VA



**Rohith Konduri**  
Norfolk, VA



**Sahasra Sirimalla**  
Bedford, NH



**Sai Subrahmanya Doranala**  
Edison, NJ



**Saisha Sharma**  
San Diego, CA



**Sandhya Shankar**  
Plano, TX



**Sanvi Shankar**  
Parkland, FL





**Shaivi Moparthy**  
Sugar Land, TX



**Sharmada Rajaram**  
Lexington, MA



**Shaun Iyer**  
Johns Creek, GA



**Shivani Vivekanand**  
Sammamish, WA



**Shlok Patil**  
Portland, OR



**Shriyan Dhannode**  
Ashburn, VA



**Shruthi Baskar**  
Ellicott City, MD



**Sid Sankar**  
Collegeville, PA



**Siddharth Gowthaman**  
Arlington, VA



**Smrithi Guddeti**  
Sugarland, TX



**Snithik Kollipara**  
Westford, MA



**Srikruthi Kolanupaka**  
Irvine, CA



**Srivarennya Vempati**  
Newmilford, NJ



**Suhaas Goluguri**  
Westborough, MA



**Tahan Choudhury**  
Morrisville, NC



**Tanish Das**  
Elkhorn, NE





**Tarun Reddy**  
San Jose, CA



**Tarun Venkatesh**  
Lexington, MA



**Vaibhav Deshmukh**  
Buffalo Grove, IL



**Varun Harith**  
Austin, TX



**Vedanth Subramanian**  
Enola, PA



**Vedanti Patil**  
Portland, OR



**Vihaan Parikh**  
Santa Clara, CA



**Vikrant Chintanaboina**  
San Jose, CA



**Vinay Yallapragada**  
South Riding, VA



**Vishnu Nath**  
San Diego, CA



**Vybhav Velamoor**  
Sharon, MA



**Yash Mittal**  
Peoria, IL



**Yookta Pandit**  
San Ramon, CA

### Not Pictured

Rushil Sengupta  
Syamala Akula  
Krish Behera  
Nandini Gali  
Parvathi Halliyur  
Siddharth Kakumanu  
Sahith Kamuju

Abhijit Kannan  
Medha Kavalakuntla  
Rohit Komarina  
Arun Kompella  
Vibhu Konduru  
Akhil Mahankali  
Mehul Manoharan

Akshadha Seshamani  
Mythili Sudhir  
Vikram Vallurupalli  
Aman Wairkar



# MY FIRST NSF EXPERIENCE

18 years ago, my parents came to America from India. I was born here, in America, and have lived here all my life. Ever since I was in second grade, my parents have been telling me that the academic standards in India were much higher compared to those in the town we live in. Earlier this year, I started to realize how important it was that I started stacking up achievements for college.

A couple months later after this, my mother informed me about something called NSF. Apparently, a new chapter was being started in Columbus, Indiana, where I live. She told me that doing this would be a good experience to have, and a win would be an achievement - which could go into my college transcript. I agreed to participate in the competition.

Since it was the first time this was to be held in Columbus, the only two to be held were Math Bee and Spelling Bee. My parents registered me for both. After this, I was given the list...of 1,000 words! My parents got me printouts of the lists, but it was hard to study. I kept forgetting the words and not knowing the definitions. Sometimes my parents would “test” me by giving the word orally, and this turned out to be a bust too. Let me just say that their Indian accents did not help!

For a long time, I really didn't like even hearing the word NSF. My parents would say, “Esha, instead of wasting time, go study for NSF!” I would grab my list and half-heartedly read the words. Sometimes, I wouldn't even know where the paper was! One day, I was exploring the NSF website, when I had an idea. I took the online list and copied it to iBooks on my iPad. This way, I could study the words online, and using the Notes feature, I could study in a better way. Words that I thought were difficult could be highlighted, I could write little notes to myself, draw pictures to help me remember the words, and break them down into things I could remember.

I liked this way to study, and by the day of the competition, I had read through every word on the list. I wasn't perfect, but it was better than nothing. At the competition, I was really nervous. First came the written spelling test. Then the orals, which went surprisingly well. I got first place in our Regional contest, as did my brother. I didn't expect that my score was good enough to go to Nationals, but I didn't know that then.

My 13th birthday soon came along and I had an amazing day. But later that same evening, my mom told me and my brother that both of us had been accepted into the NSF National competition. My brother started cheering while I started moaning. This news was the best gift of all, but a summer devoted to spelling? At least I wouldn't get bored.

**Esha Aras**

8th Grader, Columbus, IN



## To Be the Best Bee be with NSF

**Dr.S.P.Ramarathinam**  
NSF Chennai Chapter



# Life In Poverty

In December 2016, we went on our annual trip to India. I was lucky to go there in winter, for if we went in summer, I would have melted! As soon I stepped out of the Chennai Airport, our first stop in India, I was welcomed by my aunt and grandfather, which was very exciting, and loud honks, beeps, and 90 degrees Fahrenheit of temperature, which was not so exciting. I was happy to get in the air-conditioned car, where cool gusts of air kissed my face. After some fun-filled days in Chennai, we headed toward our second stop, Bhubaneswar, the capital of Odisha.

Bhubaneswar is known for its handicrafts, and is called the City of Temples. However it is special to me because of the fun I have with my grandparents and cousins.

In Bhubaneswar, I kept grabbing my mom's phone to check on the Amazon shipping status. "So happy that it came. It's so cool!" I said. I was referring to my Christmas present back home in America, a Lego U-Wing from the star wars movie Rogue One. Even when I got a present, and even went to an ice cream parlor and ate ice cream, I still complained about the heat.

"Absolutely no appreciation for what you have, Ilesh,"-said my mother.

"Okay," I said.

Now, it was time to visit Little Twinkle Academy School. It is in a remote village about 200 km from Bhubaneswar. This is a small school my mom had started to educate the poor children. We go every year to meet the children, and see their winter program called the Annual Function.

"Why do we have to go? I want to stay home and watch TV!" I grumbled.

My mom said nothing.

As we came closer to our destination, the roads became bumpier. I was tossed around in my seat, and dust flew in my face.

"I want to go on smooth roads!" I whined. "Why don't they have smooth roads?"

As we entered the school, my mom said "They can't afford it".

"What?" I asked. My body was filling with curiosity

like how water would fill a cup. "They can't?"

"Correct," said my mother. "This is what I was telling you about having no appreciation for what you have".

When we arrived at the school, I noticed the paint peeling. The Structure was nice, like a vintage school, and with a statue of Ganesha. As I looked at the children, I noticed that they had torn clothes, and broken shoes.

My mom told me that 1 billion children live in poverty, and 22,000 children die every day due to poverty.

A tear rolled down my cheek. I finally realized that I truly was lucky and should be grateful for what I have, because these children did not even have food for breakfast, or have clean water to drink.

As we looked around the classrooms, I noticed that there was not a single garbage or recycling can. Being a huge garbage and recycling enthusiast, I told my mom about it.

"There are no garbage cans! Can we go get some so we can save the planet?"

"That is so thoughtful of you, Ilesh! Let's go!" my mom replied.

We went a nearby store, and bought garbage bins for the school. These bins remain there to this day. I gave the class a lecture on recycling.

"They are good for the earth," I said.

After that we went to see the school's Annual Function. I was thrilled to watch the children perform. They sang patriotic songs, danced to music, and even enacted plays! It was then when I realized that it doesn't matter whether you are rich or poor, a kid just wants to dance, enjoy, have fun and just be a kid.

As I sped away in the car on the dirt road, I gazed up at the stars, and realized I never had gratefulness until that day, and I should be grateful for what I have.

**Ilesh Sundar**  
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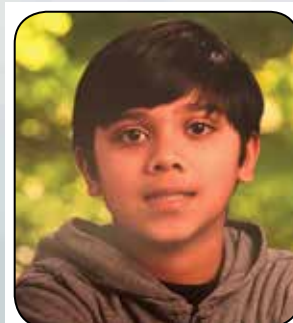
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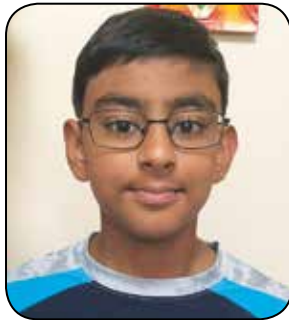


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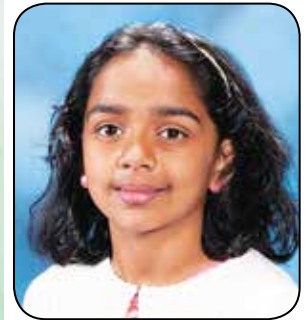
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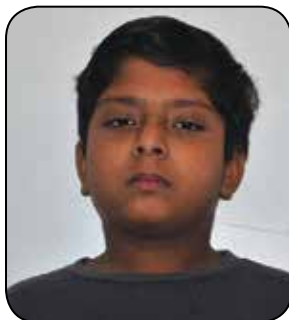
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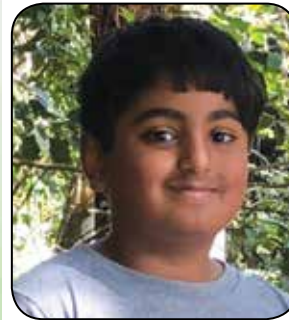




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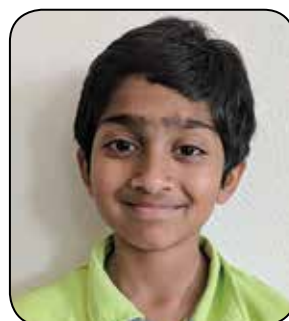
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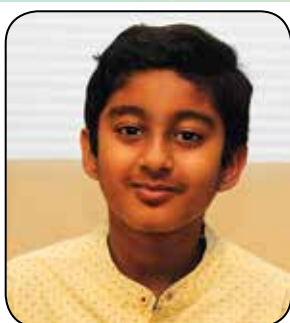
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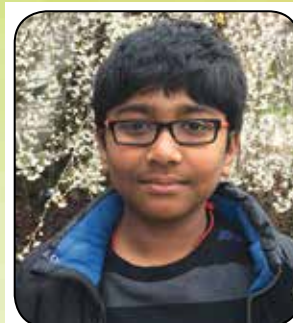
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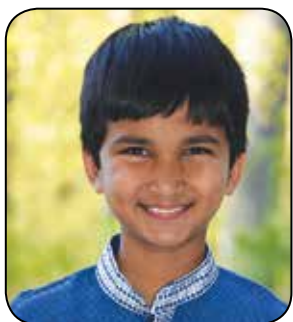
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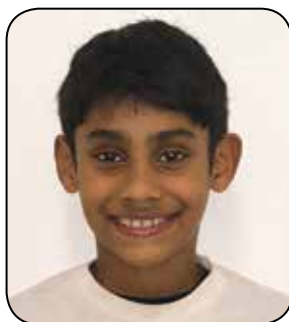
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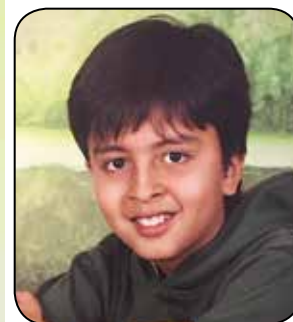
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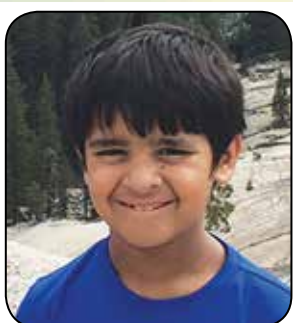
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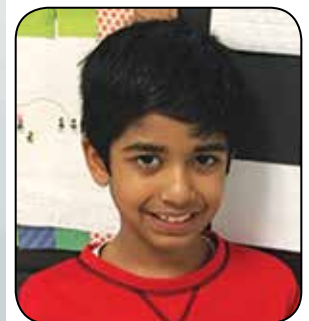
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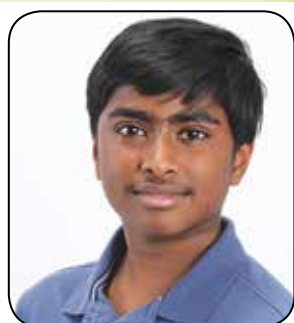
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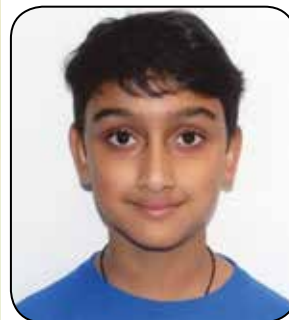
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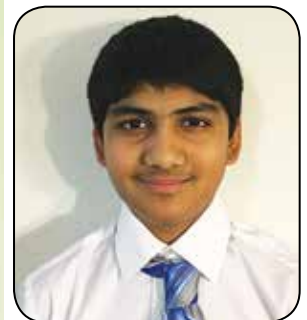
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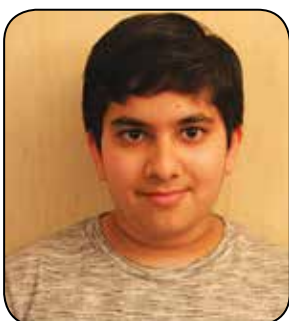
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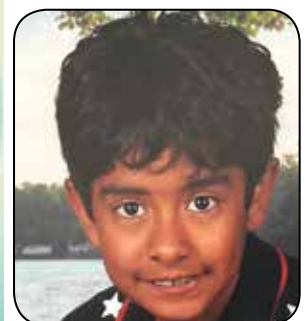
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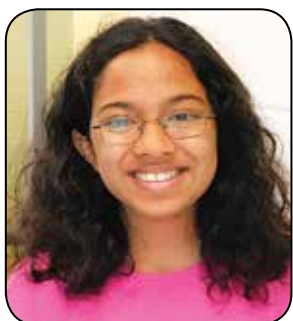
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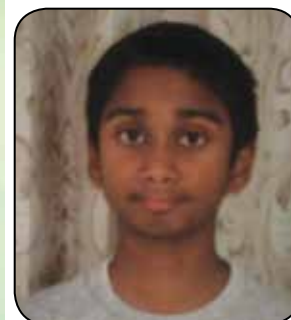
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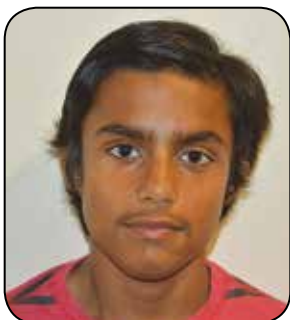


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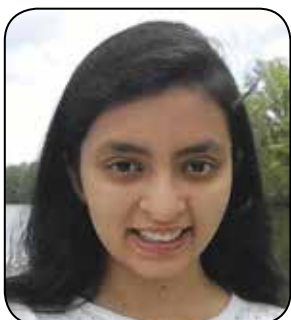
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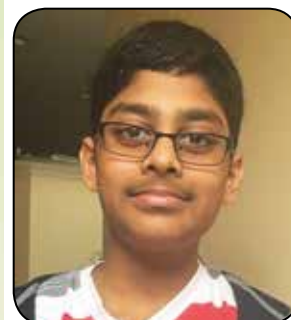
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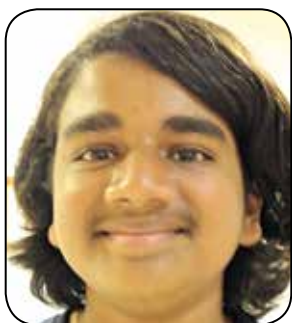
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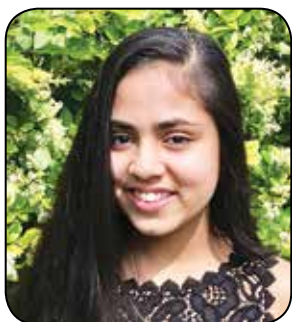
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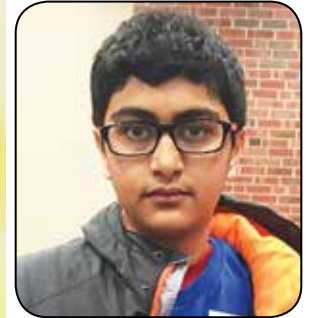
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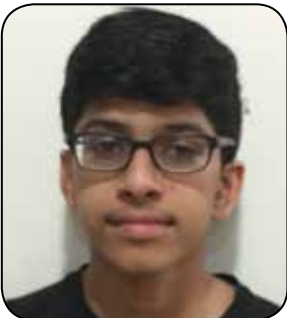
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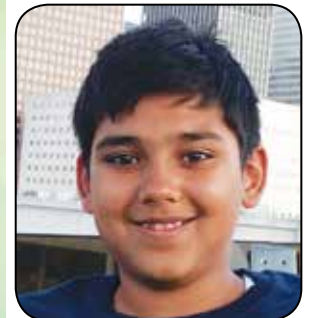
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**Vikas Thoutam**  
Sugar Land, TX

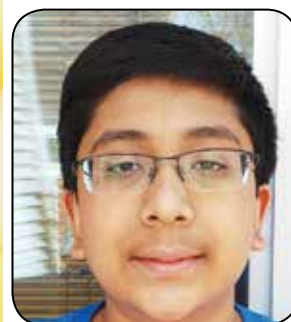




**Vinay Subramanian**  
Enola, PA



**Vishal Suresh**  
Weston, FL



**Yuvan Chali**  
Frontenac, MO

### Not Pictured

Advait Patel  
Sriram Bhimaraju  
Aniket Biswal  
Nithin Chandra  
Anish Chhabra  
Bhushan Mohanraj  
Dheepthi Mohanraj  
Arjun Fadnavis

Aatmodhee Goswami  
Akshay Kannan  
Srihari Kompella  
Shiryan Kulkarni  
Vanya Malik  
Nilay Mishra  
Akshathh Mukkera  
Srikar Nelakuditi

Sachin Srinivasa  
Roshni  
Parulekar-Martins  
Sadhana Ramani  
Abhinav Reddy  
Rohan Sahu  
Shreyas Potnuru  
Purab Shah

Aadya Sharma  
Divya Subramanian  
Tejas Varma Pakalapati  
Richa Vallurupalli

# US Geography Olympiad



My interest in geography began at the age of five when my parents bought me a big wall map. The first geography competition that I participated in was NSF Geography Bee. In 2013, I placed first in the NSF Regional competition, and ranked 17th in the NSF National competition. That encouraged me to start studying and working towards the National Geographic Bee. I was unable to participate in the competitions until 7th grade because I was out of the country. I had heard of the United States Geographic Olympiad in 7th grade, and I decided to try it out. I scored highest in the Middle School Division of USGO in 2018.

Unlike many other geography competitions, the United States Geography Olympiad is a written exam that emphasizes analysis and comprehension of geography facts, not just memorization. It includes written response, multiple choice and map round questions. While memorization of knowledge is required for the competition, it focuses on whether that knowledge was understood and if it can be taken into a real life context. Many

questions focus on real-life problems such as, climate change, weather, and urbanization. By participating in NSF, I met Coach Kumar and my peer group. I learnt a lot of information, made new friends, and participated in the USGO and National Geographic Bee. In my opinion, those who are interested in geography should participate in competitions not just to win, but also to learn and make new friends.



**Srikrishna Darbha**

2<sup>nd</sup> place 2018 International Geography Bee World Championship  
US Geography Olympiad 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Champion



# NSF Children in National Level Major League Competitions

## Scripps National Spelling Bee

2018

Champion: Karthik Nemmani  
2nd Place: Naysa Modi  
3rd Place: Abhijay Kodali  
3rd Place: Jashun Paluru  
5th Place: Navneeth Murali  
6th Place: Sravanth Malla  
10th Place: Anisha Rao  
10th Place: Tara Singh  
10th Place: Shruthika Padhy  
10th Place: Rohan Raja

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

2018

2nd Place: Anoushka Buddhikot  
3rd Place: Vishal Sareddy  
4th Place: Gayatri Kaimal  
4th Place: Ashwin Sivakumar  
7th Place: Atreya Mallanna  
8th Place: Nihar Janga  
8th Place: Saket Pochiraju

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 Yarlalagadda  
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  
 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

2018  
 17th Place: Rithvik Ganesh  
 19th Place: Atharva Pathak  
 33rd Place: Karthik Vedula  
 34th Place: Sanjula Pingali

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  
 25th Place: Rishi Verma

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 Geography Bee Middle School (grade 7 -8 )

2018  
 2nd Place: Samanyu Dixit  
 4th Place: Abhinav Govindaraju  
 5th Place: Ved Muthusamy

6th Place: Siddarth Kamannavar  
 7th Place: Abhinav Bapanapalli  
 8th Place: Srikrishna Darbha  
 10th Place: Sandhya Ganesh

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

## International Geography Bee Elementary School (grade 1-6 )

2018  
 Champion: Rohan Ganeshan  
 2nd Place: Kaylan Patel  
 3rd Place: Omkar Gadewar  
 5th Place: Jishnu Nayak  
 6th Place: Sumukh Venkatesh  
 7th Place: Krishnan Shankar  
 8th Place: Vaibhav Hariram

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

## International Geography Bee World Championship (Middle School Division)

2018  
 Champion: Saket Mohan Pochiraju  
 2nd Place: Srikrishna Darbha  
 3rd Place: Ved Muthusamy



## **International Geographic Bee Junior Varsity Division**

2018  
Champion: Samanyu Dixit

## **US Geography Olympiad Middle School - 8th Grade**

2018  
Champion: Srikrishna Darbha

## **US Geography Olympiad Middle School - 7th Grade**

2018  
Champion: Siddardh Budamagunta

## **US Geography Olympiad Elementary School**

2017  
Champion: Siddharth Kamannavar

## **National History Bee Middle School**

2018  
Champion: Rishabh Wuppalapati

2017  
Champion: Arjun Nageswaran

2016  
Champion: Govind Prabhakar

## **National History Bee Elementary school**

2017  
Champion: Siddharth Kamannavar

2014  
Champion: Siddharth Kamannavar

## **US History/National History Bee JV Division (HS)**

2018  
Champion: Govind Prabhakar

## **International Math Olympiad**

2016  
Champion: Ankan Bhattacharya  
Champion: Ashwin Sah

2015  
Champion: Shyam Narayanan

## **US Math Olympiad**

2016  
Champion: Ankan Bhattacharya  
16th Place: Meghal Gupta  
18th Place: Dhruv Medarametla  
19th Place: Eshaan Nichani

## **Who wants to be a Mathematician**

2016  
Champion: Ankan Bhattacharya  
2nd Place: Karthik Karnik

2012  
Champion: Shyam Narayanan

## **White House Science Fair**

2016  
Sindhu Bala  
Anurudh Ganesan  
Deepika Kurup  
Isha Shah  
Maya Varma

## **National Science Bee Elementary Division**

2017  
2nd Place: Yugeshwar Muralidhar

## **Science Olympiad**

2017  
Champion: Raksheet Kota

## **US Brain Bee**

2018  
Champion: Akhil Kondepudi  
2nd Place: Hemanth Asirvatham  
3rd place: Sehej Bindra

## **National Middle School Science Bowl**

2014  
Champion: Abhijeet Sambangi  
Champion: Snigdha Allaparthi

2012  
3rd Place Team:  
Abhinand Sivaprasad  
Aditya Murali  
Gokul Gowri  
Suvansh Sanjeev  
Tejas Bharadwaj

## **Science - You be the Chemist Challenge**

2012  
Champion: Bhagirath Mehta

## **Jeopardy Teen Tournament**

2013  
3rd place: Nilai Sarda



# North South Foundation Regional Chapters

Chapter	State	Chapter Director First Name	Chapter Director Last Name	Phone No.
Auburn, AL	AL	Jayashree	Sridhar	334-559-0605
Birmingham, AL	AL	Lavanya	Bheemanathini	256-832-9980
Bentonville, AR	AR	Dhana	Varikunta	479-696-7889
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	Anupama	Polyedath	559-478-4310
Los Angeles, CA	CA	Ganesh	Thangarajan	714-349-0015
Orange County, CA	CA	Atima	Sharma	661-360-8712
Palo Alto, CA	CA	Sumana	Sur	000-000-0000
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
Torrance, CA	CA	Jayanthi	Rajasubramanian	805-300-5003
Denver, CO	CO	Jyotshna	Gunturu	720-220-3411
Ft Collins, CO	CO	Anita	Amin	970-266-8252
Hartford, CT	CT	Prasad	Annambhotla	203-262-1108
Stamford, CT	CT	Venkat	Pasnoori	203-345-5995
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	Ram	Yeleti	708-762-8487
Augusta, GA	GA	Srinivas	Akella	803-873-8535
Columbus-GA, GA	GA	Srinivasa	Pathakamuri	707-566-9559
Des Moines, IA	IA	Jith	Shamarao	515-259-0707
Barrington, IL	IL	Parthiban	Andi	847-652-7608
Hinsdale, IL	IL	Velu	Subramani	630-839-9199
Libertyville, IL	IL	Prasad	Nuthalapati	224-595-5233
Peoria, IL	IL	Ravi	Errabolu	309-740-0101
Quad Cities, IA	IL	Nitin	Vishwakarma	309-716-4887
Columbus_Indiana, IN	IN	Suddhatattva	Kar	812-379-1835
Evansville, IN	IN	Kapil	Sheth	812-985-5605
Indianapolis, IN	IN	Sivakumar	Vavilala	317-569-0748
Kansas City, KS	KS	Pratibha	Trivedi	913-422-1556
Louisville, KY	KY	Ravishankar	Jayaram	502-240-0731
Cambridge, MA	MA	Subramanian	Santhanam	508-786-1804
Worcester, MA	MA	Ruma	Neogy	508-740-7848
Baltimore, MD	MD	Srinivas	Gunukula	410-418-5029
Rockville, MD	MD	Murty	Neti	301-972-4939
Ann Arbor, MI	MI	Aruna	Karunakaram	734-944-1075



Detroit, MI	MI	Ashok	Mollin	248-470-0780
Grand Rapids, MI	MI	Sripriya	Krishnan	616-855-4849
Kalamazoo, MI	MI	Tarun	Gupta, Ph.D.	269-276-3361
Lansing, MI	MI	Asha	Manday	517-402-3372
Minneapolis, MN	MN	Ratnakar	Pasumarty	763-843-4993
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	919-412-4007
Triad, NC	NC	Suji	Vasu	336-409-3969
Omaha, NE	NE	Tirumala	Chengalasetty	832-259-5750
Manchester, NH	NH	Prasad	Dabbi	603-472-8584
Cherry Hill, NJ	NJ	Thirumoorthi	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	Subashini	Alagirisamy	973-580-9973
Princeton, NJ	NJ	Sai	Sharma	609-897-1274
Albuquerque, NM	NM	Radhika	Grandhe	216-712-6775
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	585-248-5584
Cincinnati, OH	OH	Hari	Pisati	513-936-9355
Cleveland, OH	OH	Viji	Vijay	440-716-0771
Columbus, OH	OH	Bhavani	Chadaram	614-787-6563
Tulsa, OK	OK	Subhas	Das	918-615-8014
Portland, OR	OR	Kirti	Devi	503-531-3517
Allentown, PA	PA	Manish	Sharma	610-994-4848
Harrisburg, PA	PA	Priya	Iyer	717-421-4145
Philadelphia, PA	PA	Saroja	Sagaram	215-699-6367
Pittsburgh, PA	PA	Prithvi (Pete)	Sehgal	
Wilmington, DE	PA	Sathya	Yalvigi	610-268-5726
Columbia, SC	SC	Venugopal	Anchoori	803-419-5003
Memphis, TN	TN	Ravindra	Dasari	901-258-8592
Nashville, TN	TN	Girish	Rachakonda	615-775-7478
Austin, TX	TX	Narayana	Janga	512-971-9672
Dallas, TX	TX	Ananda Murthy	Kuchibhotla	817-656-8386
Houston, TX	TX	Seshatalpasai	Rachakonda	281-240-3336
San Antonio, TX	TX	Jagadeeshwar	Gurralla	210-568-5700
Salt Lake City, UT	UT	Venkatraman	Siddharthan	435-225-4934
Ashburn, VA	VA	Venkat	Gottipati	703-347-4279
Fairfax, VA	VA	Radhakrishna	Atluri	571-438-7562
Virginia Beach, VA	VA	Kavithasrivasanth	Hathwar	757-619-2939
Seattle, WA	WA	Geetha	Sivaprasad	425-954-3469
Madison, WI	WI	Badri	Lankella	608-237-1833
Milwaukee, WI	WI	Indira	Vadapally	414-425-5902



# North South Champions 2008-2017

## Junior Spelling Bee

2017

- 1) Nitya Kathiravan, Edison, NJ
- 2) Harini Logan, San Antonio, TX
- 3) Akash Vukoti, San Angelo, TX

2016

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

## Senior Spelling Bee

2017

- 1) Sohun Sukhatankar, Allen, TX
- 2) Sreeniketh Vogoti, Saint Johns, FL
- 3) Tara Singh, Louisville, KY

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

## Junior Vocabulary Bee

2017

- 1) Sri Mutalik Desai, Naperville, IL
- 2) Vedanti Patil, Portland, OR
- 3) Aarav Prakash, Bellevue, WA

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 Muckatt, 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



## Intermediate Vocabulary Bee

2017

- 1) Shruthika Padhy, Cherry Hill, NJ
- 2) Shreeya Kar, San Jose, CA
- 3) Jashun Paluru, West Lafayette, IN

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

## Math Bee Level 1

2017

- 1) Vikram Goudar, Virginia Beach, VA
- 2) Parthiv Mothipati, Redmond, WA
- 3) Tarun Venkatesh, Lexington, MA

2016

- 1) Sohil Rath, 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

## Math Bee Level 2

2017

- 1) Bhushan Mohanraj, Charlotte, NC
- 2) Thrisha Kalpatthi, Mars, PA
- 3) Tanishq Pauskar, Massillon, OH

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



## Math Bee Level 3

- 2017
- 1) Prathinav Merneedi, Buffalo Grove, IL
  - 1) Pravalika Putalapattu, Centreville, VA
  - 1) Tarun Kumar Martheswaran, Draper, UT
  - 1) Aditya Akula, New Albany, OH
  - 1) Chinmay Krishna, Overland Park, KS
  - 1) Karthik Vedula, Tallahassee, FL
- 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

## Junior Science Bee

- 2017
- 1) Vishnu Mangipudi, Bellevue, WA
  - 2) Harini Venkatesh, Plano, TX
  - 3) Saathvik Kamma, Katy, TX
- 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

## Intermediate Science Bee

- 2017
- 1) Chegu Vijay Aashray, Redmond, WA
  - 2) Balaadithya Muralitharan, Omaha, NE
  - 3) Tanishq Pauskar, Massillon, OH
- 2016
- 1) Raghav Arun, Cary, NC
  - 2) Adhiraiyan Kartheesan, Eden Prairie, MN
  - 3) Yuwan 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

## Senior Science Bee

- 2017
- 1) Tom George, Tucson, AZ
  - 2) Omkar Arasaiah, Gilbert, AZ
  - 3) Risha Chakraborty, San Ramon, CA
- 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

## Junior Geography Bee

- 2017
- 1) Aarush Tutuki, Tucson, AZ
  - 2) Karthik Panchangam, Montville, NJ
  - 3) Anish Raja, Cumming, GA
- 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 Venkatakrishnan, 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

2009

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

2008

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

## Senior Geography Bee

2017

- 1) Atreya Mallanna, Lexington, MA
- 2) Kaylan Patel, Windermere, FL
- 3) Shreyan Mitra, Santa Clara, CA

2016

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

2015

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

2014

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

2013

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

2012

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

2011

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

2010

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

2009

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

2008

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

## Senior Public Speaking

2017

- 1) Anirudh Iyer, Shrewsbury, MA
- 2) Kartik Tyagi, Cary, NC
- 3) Avyay Surampalli, Aurora, IL

2016

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

2015

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

2014

- 1) Kodanda Sairam Vinjamuri, North Brunswick, NJ
- 2) Renuka Chepuru, Plano, TX
- 3) Rohith Krishna, Saratoga, CA

2013

- 1) Pooja Joshi, Cary, NC
- 2) Sophia Chirayil, Belle Mead, NJ
- 3) Mano Sundaresan, Shrewsbury, MA

2012

- 1) Varun Jambunath, Beachwood, OH
- 2) Karthik Munugala, Novi, MI
- 3) Jayant Wunnava, Swedesboro, NJ

2011

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

2010

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

2009

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

2008

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

## Senior Essay Writing

2017

- 1) Meghana Annambhotla, Southbury, CT
- 2) Anirudh Iyer, Shrewsbury, MA
- 3) Siddhant Puranik, Katy, TX

2016

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

2015

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

2014

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

2013

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

2012

- 1) Sameer Kailasa, Delray Beach, FL
- 2) Sonia Samant, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
- 3) Abhishek Rao, Newark, DE

2011

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

2010

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

2009

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

2008

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



## Senior Brain Bee

2017

- 1) Veenadhari Kollipara, Bellevue, WA
- 2) Hemanth Asirvatham, Rochester, MN
- 3) Kartik Tyagi, Cary, NC

2016

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

2015

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

2014

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

2013

- 1) Kamy 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

## Intermediate Brain Bee

2017

- 1) Aravind Krishnan, Hillsborough, NJ
- 2) Vignesh Anand, Frisco, TX
- 3) Udbhav Bodapati, Linwood, NJ

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### MATHCOUNTS COACHING

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Padu Ramasundaram  
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Anbu Ponnaiah

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Kavya Shivashankar  
Kesav Tadipatri

G. Rao Kodali  
Rajani Peruvemba  
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Archana Jagtiani  
Anil Sethi  
Parthiban Thilagar  
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Lakshmanan Iyer  
Chandra Mohan  
Velu Subramani  
Chenchal Subraveti

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Murty Neti  
Savitha Rajiv  
Kumar Nandur, Advisor

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Vasavi Levendel

### BRAIN BEE CORE TEAM

Dr. Venkat Venkataraman

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Jagadeesh Gullapalli  
Swamy Achanta  
Steve Hollingsworth  
Dinold Jeeva  
Bindhu Raja Lakshmi



Michael Simon

Suriya Kani

Govind Venkat

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Jagadeesh Gullapalli

Gokul Tamarapu

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Venkat Gade

Madavi Oliver

Sampath Narayanan

Sai Rachakonda

#### **E-NEWSLETTER**

Madhav Dhurba

Ramya Auroprem

Malavika Kannan

Varsha Ramakrishnan

Shrinidhi Thirumalai

Meena Venkataramanan

Dinold Jeeva

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Anitha Rajagopalan

#### **FINANCE TEAM**

Ramdev Jagarlamudi

Kalpana Pendurty

Giri Chalasani

G. Rao Kodali

Tilak Chalasani

#### **MATH BOOKS**

Kamakshi Doss

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Anita Gavini

Mary Kavitha Nariseti

Madhavi Rao

#### **2018 FINALS TEAM**

Murty Neti

Madhushalini Bhaskar

Jaya Lakshmi Neti

Dr. Rama Seshu Tangirala

Sudhakar Gubba

Karthikeyan Ramasubbu

Sandeep Pandit

Mohan Reddy

Sriram Kalyanasundaram

Srikanth Yaragudipati

Shailaja Chari

Venkat Gotipati

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Kumar Thotapally

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#### **LIFE SKILLS-CONFIDENCE**

#### **BUILDING**

Vidhi Ghosalkar

Esha Ghosalkar

Chintan Maheshwari

Dhruv Muralidhar

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Harish Koneru

Sridhar Yarlagadda

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Anbu Ponniah

Praveen Goli

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Srinivas Gudeti

Jagadeesh Gullapalli

Jyotshna Gunturu

Suri Jetty

Praveen Katta

Prasanna Paralkar

Prasad Pedireddi

Sai Rachakonda

Savitha Rajiv

Janevi Ramaji

M S Rao

#### **COMPUTER PROGRAMMING**

Prianka Subrahmanyam

Ananya Yammanuru

Bhaskar Gudlavenkatasiva

#### **DAS COORDINATION**

Madavi Oliver

#### **PUBLIC RELEATIONS TEAM**

Venkat Gade

Jatin Mehta

Presannan Pillai

Rao Unnava

Giri Cherukuri

#### **ANNUAL REVIEW FOR THE BEE BOOK**

Vijay Kommi

Shubhada Rao

Srinivas Gudeti

Venkat Gade

#### **CONTEST MANAGEMENT**

Krishnan Gowri

Sanjay Shah

Giridhar Vattikonda

#### **JNV TEAM**

Rao Chalasani

Srirekha Cherukuri

Sairam Gaddam

Padma Kollipara

Govind Venkat

#### **AUDITOR**

Nilesh Topiwala

## False Friends

### **English and German**

- Ankle and Enkel, meaning Grandchild
- Arm and Arm, meaning poor
- Craft and Kraft, meaning strength
- Eagle and Igel, meaning hedgehog
- Guesthouse and Gasthaus, meaning restaurant
- Kitchen and Kittchen, meaning prison
- Rabbit and Rabatt, meaning discount
- Rat and Rat, meaning advice
- Fabric and Fabrik, meaning factory

### **English and Spanish**

- Basement and Basamento, meaning the base of a column
- Billion and Billón, meaning trillion
- Bizarre and Bizarro, meaning brave
- Delight and Delito, meaning crime
- Gang and Ganga, meaning bargain
- Once and Once, meaning eleven
- Rope and Ropa, meaning clothing
- Soap and Sopa, meaning soup
- Tuna and Tuna, meaning cactus

### **English and French**

- Blessed and Blessé, meaning wounded
- Grape and Grappe, meaning a bunch
- Journey and Journée, meaning a day
- Coin and Coin, meaning corner
- Prune and Prune, meaning plum
- Raisin and Raisin, meaning grape.
- Location and Location, meaning a rental

### **English and Italian**

- Bald and Baldo, meaning brave
- Dome and Dumo, meaning cathedral
- Factory and Fattoria, meaning farm
- Gross and Grosso, meaning large
- Gusto and Gusto, meaning taste
- Confront and Confrontare, meaning to compare
- Mansion and Mansione, meaning duty, task
- Addict and Addetto, meaning employee
- Annoy and Annoiare, meaning to bore
- Ostrich and Ostrica, meaning oyster

### **English and Dutch**

- Band and Band, meaning tube
- Belt and Belt, meaning to call
- Brave and Brave, meaning harmless
- Gave and Gave, meaning gift
- Libel and Libel, meaning dragonfly
- Folder and Folder, meaning a high-rise building
- Mop and Mop, meaning joke
- Nap and Nap, meaning small wooden bowl
- Slim and Slim, meaning intelligent
- Waste and Waste, meaning to wash meaning dangerous

### **English and Portuguese**

- Grip and Gripe, meaning the flu
- Pasta and Pasta, meaning folder
- Collar and Colar, meaning necklace or to glue

False friends are words in two languages that look or sound alike but have drastically different meanings. Here are few examples of false friends between English and other languages

**Shashwat Patel**



# 2018 Rank Scholarships

## Junior Spelling Bee

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

## Senior Spelling Bee

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

## Junior Vocabulary Bee

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

## Intermediate Vocabulary Bee

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

## Math Bee Level 1

1st Rank	\$1000	Dr. Krishnaiah Revuluri <sup>1</sup>
2nd Rank	\$500	Mathus Academy
3rd Rank	\$250	North South Foundation

## Math Bee Level 2

1st Rank	\$1000	Bansan Foundation <sup>2</sup>
2nd Rank	\$500	Mathus Academy
3rd Rank	\$250	North South Foundation

## Math Bee Level 3

1st Rank	\$1000	Sarode Foundation <sup>3</sup>
2nd Rank	\$500	Mathus Academy
3rd Rank	\$250	North South Foundation

## Junior Science Bee

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

## Intermediate Science Bee

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

## Senior Science Bee

1st Rank	\$1000	Dr. Vasanthi & Krishnan Gowri <sup>4</sup>
2nd Rank	\$500	North South Foundation
3rd Rank	\$250	North South Foundation

## Junior Geography Bee

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

## Senior Geography Bee

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

## Senior Essay Writing Bee

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

## Senior Public Speaking Bee

1st Rank	\$1000	Dr. Vasanthi & Krishnan Gowri <sup>5</sup>
2nd Rank	\$500	North South Foundation
3rd Rank	\$250	North South Foundation

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



# 2018 Perfect Scores in Regionals

Congratulations to these contestants at the regional competitions who attained perfect scores in their respective competitions. This is a fantastic achievement and one that should be recognized by the whole NSF community!

Contestant & Contest	Grade	Regional Center	Contestant & Contest	Grade	Regional Center
<b>Junior Spelling Bee (JSB)</b>			<b>Junior Geography Bee (JGB)</b>		
Sriniket Nuthalapati	3	Naperville, IL	Anish Raja	3	Atlanta, GA
Achuth Vinay	3	Fresno, CA	Nithin Vemula	3	San Antonio, TX
Srisha Prakir	3	Palo Alto, CA	Anshul Mantri	3	Portland, OR
Saisurya Lakkimsetti	3	Tulsa, OK	Aishvarya Prahalad	3	Atlanta, GA
Krivi Partani	3	Cambridge, MA			
<b>Senior Spelling Bee (SSB)</b>			<b>Senior Geography Bee (SGB)</b>		
Navneeth Murali	6	Edison, NJ	Anish Susarla	7	Ashburn, VA
Pavani Chittemsetty	6	Bentonville, AR	Shreyan Mitra	7	Palo Alto, CA
Nidhi Achanta	6	Seattle, WA	Prithvi Narayanan	6	Harrisburg, PA
Abhiram Kapaganty	6	Atlanta, GA			
Abhijay Kodali	5	Dallas, TX	<b>Junior Science Bee (JSC)</b>		
Naysa Modi	7	Dallas, TX	Ishidevesh Behera	3	Edison, NJ
Hephzibah Sujoe	6	Dallas, TX	Vinay Yallapragada	3	Ashburn, VA
Rohan Raja	6	Dallas, TX	Tarun Venkatesh	3	Manchester, NH
Maitri Kovuru	7	Dallas, TX	Manasvi Devi Reddy	3	Des Moines, IA
Karthik Nemmani	8	Dallas, TX	Shourya Vyas	3	Dallas, TX
Tara Singh	8	Louisville, KY	Siddarth Kakumanu	3	Dallas, TX
Dhyana Mishra	7	Orlando, FL			
Nidhi Vadlamudi	6	Fresno, CA	<b>Intermediate Brain Bee (IBB)</b>		
Snehal Choudhury	8	Cleveland, OH	Ramyaka Annambhotla	7	Hartford, CT
Srikar Chittemsetty	5	Bentonville, AR	Amit Karthikeyan	6	Los Angeles, CA
Atman Balakrishnan	6	Naperville, IL	Arushi Bagchi	7	Los Angeles, CA
Vasundara Govindarajan	8	Fort Lauderdale, FL			
Jashun Paluru	8	Indianapolis, IN			
Namitha Vadlamudi	8	Minneapolis, MN			
<b>Junior Vocabulary Bee (JVB)</b>					
Sriniket Nuthalapati	3	Naperville, IL			



# 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 2018. The Distinguished Service Award is presented to those volunteers who unselfishly con-

tribute their time towards the Foundation's mission in helping children excel in education and values and helping bright children among the poorest of the poor go to college 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 2018

First Name	Last Name	Chapter
Nandhini	Arun	Raleigh, NC
Meena	Arunachalam	Portland, OR
Saravanan	Arunachalam	Raleigh, NC
Prasad	Dabbi	Manchester, NH
Rekha	Damle	Rochester, MN
Sanjeev	Halgiri	Rockville, MD
Chaandini	Jayachandran	Detroit, MI
Shubhangi	Khatu	Princeton, NJ
Lalitha	Madhushalini	Rockville, MD
Jaya	Neti	Rockville, MD
Felix	Raj	Louisville, KY
Krishnakumar	Ramanathan	Raleigh, NC
Karthikeyan	Ramasubbu	Rockville, MD
Padu	Ramasundaram	Cleveland, OH
Smitha	Ramaswamy	Princeton, NJ
Kavitha	Selvan	Atlanta, GA
Sashidhar	Siddhagangaiah	San Antonio, TX
Raghunathan	Srinivasan	Raleigh, NC
Vasu	Subramanian	Raleigh, NC
Ram	Tangirala	Rockville, MD
Mahati	Vavilala	Detroit, MI





**Karthik Nemmani**  
Scripps National Spelling Bee Champion



**Anoushka Buddhikot**  
National Geographic Bee Runner-up



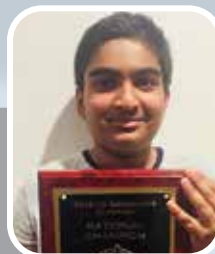
**Akhil Kondepudi**  
US Brain Bee Champion



**Govind Prabhakar**  
US History Bee JV / National  
History Bee JV Champion



**Samanyu Dixit**  
International Geography  
Bee JV Champion



**Srikrishna Darbha**  
US Geography Olympiad,  
8th Grade Champion



**Siddardh Budamagunta**  
US Geography Olympiad, 7th Grade Champion



**Rishabh Wuppalapati**  
National History Bee, 7th Grade Champion

**NSF Children Won  
8 Academic  
Super Bowls in 2018**



# 11 Yr

## Winning Streak – Spelling Bee

### NSF CHILDREN SHINING AT THE MAJOR LEAGUES



#### Scripps National Spelling Bee Champions



**Karthik Nemmani**  
2018



**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

# 7 Yr

Winning  
Streak  
Geography



**Anoushka Buddhikot**  
2018 Runner-up



**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 &  
Snigdha Allaparthi (2014)**



#### You Be The Chemist Challenge Champion

**Bhagirath Mehta 2012**

**National History  
Bee Champion  
Siddharth Kamannavar 2017**



**USA Brain Bee  
Champion  
Akhil Kondepudi  
2018**



**National History  
Bee JV Champion  
Govind Prabhakar  
2018**

