

51ST ANNUAL



The San Diego Union-Tribune
COUNTYWIDE
Spelling Bee

Presented by



VIRTUAL EVENT



Wednesday,
March 17, 2021



ELLIOT HUSSEMAN
2019 Champion Inspire Charter School

51ST ANNUAL



The San Diego Union-Tribune
COUNTYWIDE
Spelling Bee

Presented by
SDCCU[®]



VIRTUAL EVENT

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Welcome to the 51st annual The San Diego Union-Tribune Countywide Spelling Bee. It will be an exciting event as we observe the spelling bee abilities of these talented school spelling bee winners. The hard work and long hours of preparation will be evident as each student vies for the title of Countywide Champion. Good luck to all.

We hope you are ready for this virtual event.

We dare you to spell some of these words!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Zoom Waiting Room



9:00 - 9:15 a.m.

Welcome remarks

Virginia Cha

Morning News Anchor
ABC 10News

Paola Hernández-Jiao

Community Relations Manager
The San Diego Union-Tribune

Guadalupe González

President of San Diego County
Board of Education (SDCOE)

Teresa Campbell

President and CEO
San Diego County Credit Union



9:15 - 9:30 a.m.

Overview of the rules and procedures
for spellers



9:30 - 11:30 a.m.*

Spelling Bee competition & trophy
presentation



*Conclusion time for the Spelling Bee is tentative
and subject to change due to results of completion
within rounds.



NOTABLE BEES



BEE MASTER

Charles Harrington Elster

Writer, Broadcaster, and Logophile – a lover of words

ASSOCIATE BEE MASTER

Walter Ritter

Executive Director of Write Out Loud

JUDGES

Cherissa Kreider-Beck

ELA Coordinator
San Diego County Office of Education

Jennifer Currie Upham

MEGA Coordinator
San Diego County Office of Education

SPELLING BEE COORDINATORS

Nicole Shina

Special Programs Assistant
San Diego County Office of Education

Christine Barbara

Trade & Events Marketing Manager
The San Diego Union-Tribune

ABC 10NEWS

Leon Clark

Vice President and General Manager

Doris Lewis

News Director

Mario Sevilla

Digital Director

Patty Thompson

Community Outreach and PR Manager

ITV CABLE 16

Andrew Baldwin

Technical Center Support Analyst



THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE TEAM

Jeff Light

Publisher and Editor-In-Chief

Luis Cruz

Community & Public Relations Director

Pamela Razo

Events Project Planner

Zsuzsa Montejano

Campaign Coordinator

Veronica Worrells

Graphic Designer



For Spelling Bee results and photos, visit sandiegouniontribune.com



The San Diego Union-Tribune
COUNTYWIDE
Spelling Bee

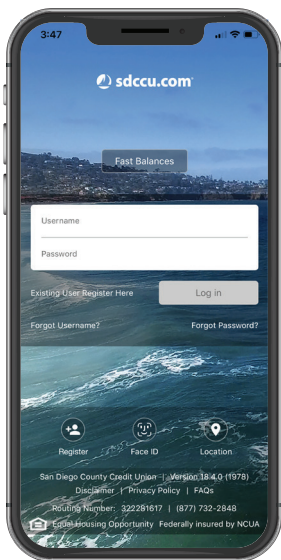
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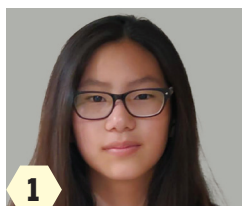


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2021 PARTICIPANTS



1

JOYCE KWAK
Bernardo Heights Middle



2

MACKENZIE O'MARA
Black Mountain Middle



3

SAMUEL BITNER
Calvin Christian



4

PAARAMITA ASURI
Carmel Valley Middle



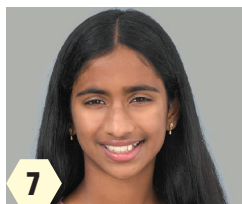
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ALEXIA (LEX) CHORA
Castle Park Middle



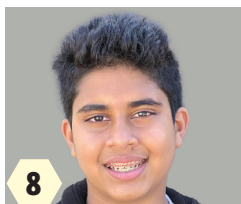
6

ASHLEY HILLIARD
Dimensions Collaborative



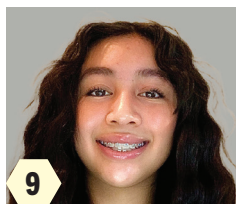
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NIKITA ANAND
Earl Warren Middle



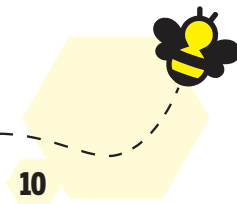
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ZANE PATEL
Encinitas Country Day



9

ISABELLA WU
Francis Parker



10

VICTORIA GONZALEZ
Granger Junior High



11

ERIN WEIR
Grauer



12

EMI HERNANDEZ
Language Academy



13

SAREEL GARABEDIAN
Literacy First Charter



14

ADDISON BAIN
Longfellow K-8



15

GAVIN COLLETTE
Mesa Verde Middle



16

LARRY MAST
Montgomery Middle



17

DARIUS DANDENEAU
Oak Grove Middle



18

JUNNIE NIU
Oak Valley Middle



19

NANETTE MORALES
Options Secondary



20

EVAN LIGHT
Otay Ranch Academy of the Arts



21

ADELAIDE HOMER
Pacific Coast Academy - San Diego



22

KATERINA SMYSHLYAYEVA
Pacific Ridge



23

JAEHEE PARK
Pacific Trails Middle



24

ARON EKUBASELASE
Preuss School



25

VALENTINA ROMERO
San Ysidro Middle



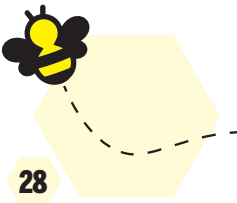
26

CHRISTIAN ANTONIO
Santa Sophia Academy



27

JONATHAN NGUYEN
St. Columba



28

ETHAN CANFIELD
St. Francis Of Assisi Catholic



29

EVELIA SAGASTUME
St. Joseph Academy



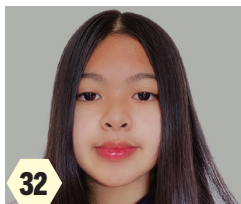
30

EMMA AKKARAKARAN
St. Michael's School



31

JAIDEN DREW DANA
St. Pius X



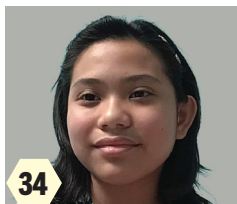
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SARAH PINGOL
St. Rita



33

ROBERTO-EMILIO DATILES
St. Therese Academy



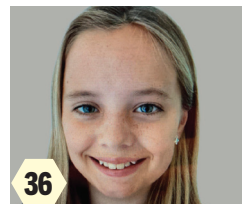
34

CHARLIZE BONTTY
The O'Farrell Charter



35

CLARA CONSTABLE
Twin Peaks Middle



36

KINSEY GENEWICH
Valley Middle



37

JANEE JOHNSON
Vista La Mesa Academy

**CONGRATULATIONS
SPELLING BEE
COMPETITORS!**

**YOU
BEE LONG!**



Beelieve **in Yourself**



WATCH THE FULL BEE
March 24 at 3 p.m. on
iTV Cable 16





CONGRATULATIONS

to these former Champions of
The San Diego Union-Tribune Countywide Spelling Bee

2019

ELLIOT HUSSEMAN

Inspire Charter School

2018

KEVIN LUO

Pacific Trails Middle

2017

YASH HANDE

Pacific Trails Middle

2016

ELLA PETERS

Notre Dame Academy

2015

OONA FLOOD

Earl Warren Middle

2014

ALLISON GRYGAR

St. Michael's School

2013

GIABAO TONTHAT

Heritage K-8 Charter

2012 & 2011

SNIGDHA NANDIPATI

Francis Parker

THE COUNTYWIDE SPELLING BEE CHAMPION WILL RECEIVE:

- An all-expense paid trip to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Orlando, FL
- The Samuel Louis Sugarman Award — a 2021 United States Mint Proof Set
- A one-year subscription to Merriam-Webster Unabridged Online, the official dictionary of the Scripps National Spelling Bee
- *And much more!*

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a book**

**Share
a story**

**Tell
a friend**

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featuring local authors and celebrities

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