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

**9:15 - 9:30 a.m.**
Overview of the rules and procedures for spellers

*Guadalupe González*
President of San Diego County Board of Education (SDCOE)

*Teresa Campbell*
President and CEO
San Diego County Credit Union

**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.*

Recording of the Countywide Spelling Bee will be available on sandiegouniontribune.com, ITV Cable 16 and 10News.com/OTT/App on Wednesday, March 24.
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

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

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

For Spelling Bee results and photos, visit sandiegouniontribune.com
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CONGRATULATIONS SPELLING BEE COMPETITORS!

YOU BEE LONG!
Believe in Yourself

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

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

2019
ELLIO 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

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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