

Sunday, February 8, 2015



### Panel of Judges

**Ethna Lay**, Head Judge;  
Associate Professor of Writing Studies and  
Composition and Associate Director of the  
Digital Research Center, Hofstra University

**Jeffrey S. Morosoff**, Pronouncer;  
Assistant Professor of Journalism,  
Media Studies, and Public Relations,  
Hofstra University

**Yvonne Stephens**, Record Keeper;  
Assistant Professor of Writing Studies and  
Composition, Hofstra University

**Lisa M. Dresner**, Ringer;  
Assistant Professor of Writing Studies  
and Composition, Hofstra University

### Event Organizers

**Melissa Connolly**, Vice President for University  
Relations, Hofstra University

**Johanna Farrell**, Marketing Coordinator,  
Hofstra University

**Colin Sullivan**, Associate Director of Public  
Relations, Hofstra University

### Special thanks to:

**Dr. Herman A. Berliner**, Provost and Senior  
Vice President for Academic Affairs;  
Lawrence Herbert Distinguished Professor,  
Hofstra University

The Scripps Company

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Encyclopedia Britannica



Dear participants and families:

Welcome to Hofstra University for the fourth Hofstra Long Island Regional Scripps Spelling Bee. While one of you will earn the right to represent Long Island at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., this May, all of you should be proud of your participation here today.

You have all worked hard, studied long, and through friendly competition with your peers, won your school's spelling bee. Before we spell one word today, you deserve our sincere congratulations on your achievement thus far. Winning a spelling bee requires poise, confidence, and the ability to perform under pressure. Participants learn about public presentation and how to operate in a competitive environment. Great spellers understand the origins of words and of language itself, how to puzzle through a problem word through meaning, inference and root, and through this, develop skills that will provide a great advantage as you prepare for the advanced work of high school and college.

Hofstra University is very proud to host Long Island's regional bee. Through many academic partnerships, we bring Long Island's best middle and high school students to our campus for events such as the Model United Nations, FIRST Robotics Competition, High School Dance Intensive and High School Press Day. We are pleased to have a strong partnership with our local schools.

Benjamin Disraeli said, "A University should be a place of light, of liberty, and of learning." Our mission is to educate as well as engage our students, not only in scholarly pursuits, but also in the world around us, by sharing our great campus and our resources with our neighbors. You bring light and learning to us today, and we are so pleased to welcome you to Hofstra.

While only one of you will go on to represent Long Island in Washington, D.C., you are all winners. I wish you luck in the bee and in your academic and co-curricular work. I am sure you will be successful in all you do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Herman A. Berliner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Dr. Herman A. Berliner**  
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Lawrence Herbert Distinguished Professor



# Regional Scripps Participants



**Academy Street  
Elementary School**  
Keara Schneck



**Accompsett  
Middle School**  
Euryale Cain Jr.



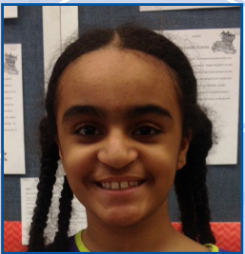
**Archer Street  
Elementary School**  
Kiana Azcona



**Babylon Junior  
Senior High School**  
Kaitlyn Tourin



**Baldwin Middle  
School**  
Annemarie Uellendahl



**Bayview Avenue  
School**  
Jasmine Bostick



**Blue Point  
Elementary School**  
Stephanie Capitano



**Bowling Green  
Elementary School**  
Jordan Soriano



**Brandeis School**  
Leer Sellouk



**Brookside  
Elementary School**  
Kayla Bennett



**Burns Avenue  
Elementary School**  
Kya Anthony



**Burr Intermediate  
School**  
Ryan Dituro



**California Avenue  
Elementary School**  
Keyala Williams



**Carle Place  
Middle Senior  
High School**  
Adam Kwarren



**Caroline G. Atkinson  
Intermediate School**  
Erick Aguilera



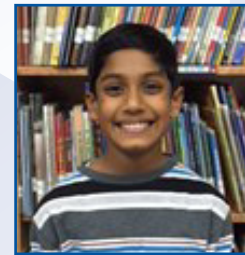
**Charles E. Schwarting  
Elementary School**  
Jenny Colligan



**Clara H. Carlson  
Elementary School**  
Tochi Ukegbu



**Clayton Huey  
Elementary School**  
Leah Kilkenny



**Clear Stream  
Avenue Elementary  
School**  
Anthony Nagamootoo

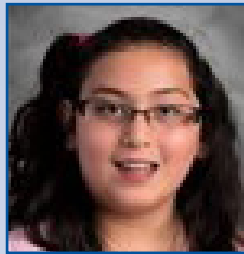


**Connolly  
Elementary School**  
Amedea Cipriano

# Regional Scripps Participants



**Copiague Middle School**  
Carolina Gonzalez



**Dayton Avenue Elementary School**  
Kimberly Cotrel



**Dutch Lane Elementary School**  
Jason Jiang



**East Islip Middle School**  
Victoria Keenan



**East Northport Middle School**  
Daniel Myers



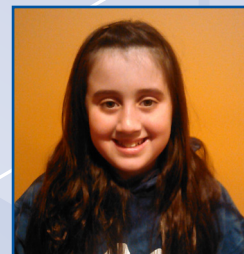
**Eastplain School**  
Joseph Marchione



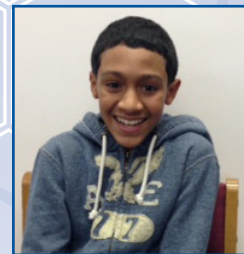
**Eastport Elementary School**  
Alexi Flores



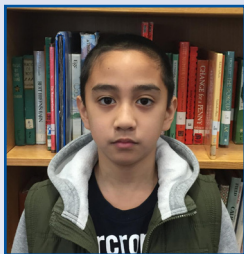
**Edna Louise Spear Elementary School**  
William Wu



**Fairfield Elementary School**  
Olivia Vandenberg



**Floral Park Memorial Junior Senior High School**  
Joshua Nunez



**Forest Road Elementary School**  
Kiefer Villarreiz



**Gotham Avenue Elementary School**  
Nathan Moges



**Grand Avenue Elementary School**  
David Collins



**Grand Avenue Middle School**  
Quentin Johnson



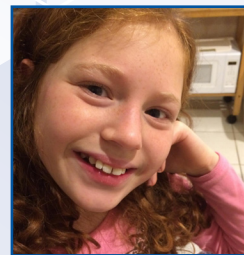
**Great Hollow Middle School**  
Jordynn Bozzo



**Green Vale School**  
Marcus Meshechok



**H. B. Thompson Middle School**  
Michael Wang



**Hanc Plainview Elementary School**  
Rena Max



**Hebrew Academy of Long Beach**  
Adina Roth



**Herricks Middle School**  
Hannah Chu



# Regional Scripps Participants



**Hewlett  
Elementary School**  
Zeki Shi



**Hickville  
Middle School**  
Sejal Gupta



**Howard T. Herber  
Middle School**  
Anthony Valentin



**Howell Road  
Elementary School**  
Leah Narain



**Island Trees  
Memorial  
Middle School**  
Sheryl Lin



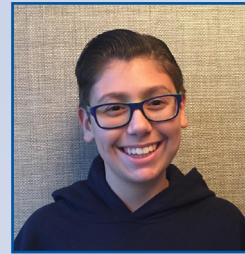
**Ivy League School**  
Zainab Waheed



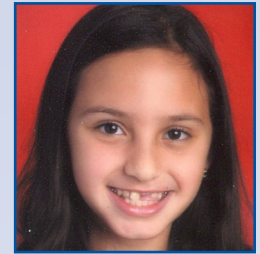
**James A. Dever  
Elementary School**  
Emily Seitz



**James Wilson Young  
Middle School**  
Erin Savino



**Jericho  
Middle School**  
Ethan Reiser



**John H. West  
Elementary School**  
Reem Hamdan



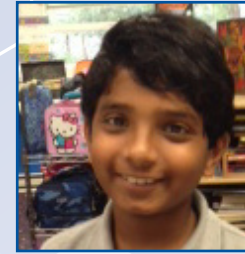
**John P. McKenna  
Elementary School**  
Connor Lepre



**Kellenberg  
Memorial  
High School**  
Christian Morales



**Landing Elementary  
School**  
Miranda Weiser



**Laurel Hill School**  
Navaneeth Rajan



**Lawrence Road  
Middle School**  
Valencia Hopkins



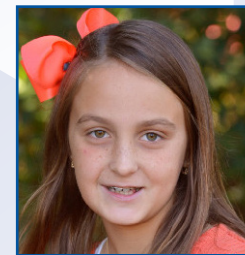
**Lee Avenue  
Elementary School**  
Anika Bokka



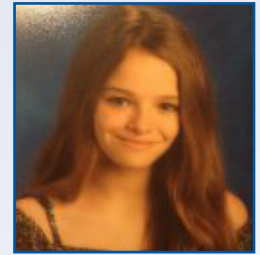
**Lenox School**  
Caileb Chery



**Leo F. Giblyn  
Elementary School**  
Elizabeth Gonzalez  
Portieles



**Lloyd Harbor  
Elementary School**  
Susannah Oster



**Locust Valley  
Middle-Senior  
High School**  
Barbara Ann Raynolds

# Regional Scripps Participants



**Long Island  
Lutheran Middle &  
High School**  
Amber Williams



**Long Island  
School for Gifted**  
Suchir Misra



**Marion G. Vedder  
Elementary School**  
Paul Felske



**McVey  
Elementary School**  
Brandon Wanatick



**Meadow  
Elementary School**  
Samson Mathew



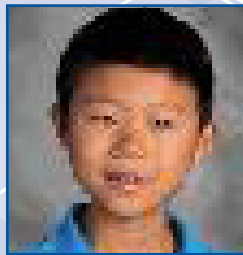
**Meadowbrook  
Elementary School**  
Shreejita Satpathy



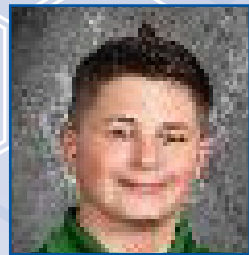
**Merrick Ave  
Middle School**  
Hugh Cheung



**Mt. Pleasant  
Elementary School**  
Madeline Raeihle



**Mt. Sinai  
Elementary School**  
Zekey Huang



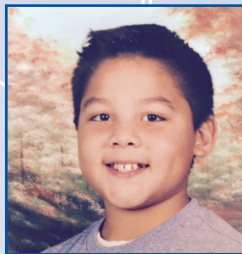
**Mt. Sinai  
Middle School**  
Ryan Smolarsky



**Nesaquake  
Middle School**  
Rileigh Dowling



**New Visions  
Elementary School**  
Travis Manning



**Northern Parkway  
Elementary School**  
Samuel Chinchilla



**Oaks School 3**  
Tyler Schneider



**Ogden Elementary  
School**  
Ethan Abelev



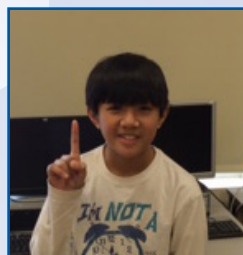
**Old Country Road  
Elementary School**  
Logan Mandra



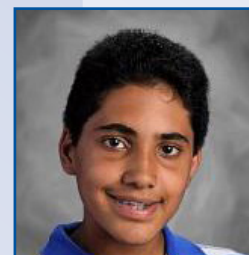
**Oldfield Middle  
School**  
Bella Sember



**Our Lady of The  
Hamptons School**  
Harrison Hanley



**Park Avenue  
Elementary School**  
Godfrey Pons



**Paul J. Gelinas  
Junior High School**  
Sahil Sangwan



# Regional Scripps Participants



**Plainview  
Old Bethpage  
Middle School**  
Daniel Rubin



**Plaza  
Elementary School**  
Ashton Hummler



**RJO Intermediate  
School**  
Meschi Rose



**Robert C. Murphy  
Junior High School**  
Samarah Ahmed



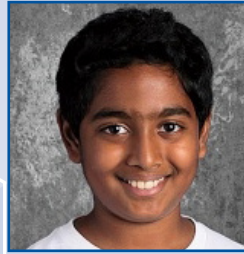
**Robert Frost  
Middle School**  
Rebecca Fox



**Robert M. Finley  
Middle School**  
Axelle LaBaw



**School 2  
Florence A. Smith**  
Angelina Scardino



**School 5 North  
Oceanside Road**  
Roshan Manmadhan



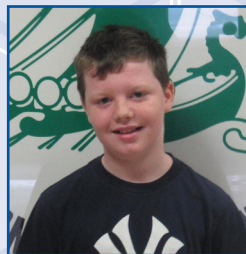
**School 8  
Fulton Avenue**  
Ethan Aloisio



**School 9e  
Walter S. Boardman**  
Mark Satler



**School 9m  
Oceanside  
Middle School**  
Elana Pocress



**Seaford  
Middle School**  
Ryan McClernon



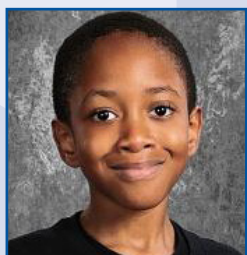
**Selden  
Middle School**  
Tyler Pegg



**Setauket  
Elementary School**  
Ryan Himmelsbach



**Shaw Avenue  
Elementary School**  
Hameed Abdul



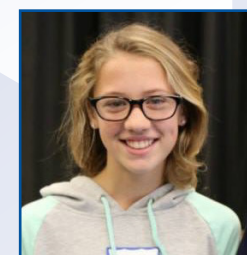
**Smith Street  
Elementary School**  
Tyler Legitime



**South Oceanside  
Road School 4**  
Aidan Shapiro



**South Woods  
Middle School**  
Kevin Li



**Southampton  
Intermediate School**  
Caroline Palumbo



**St. Pius V School**  
Grace Jenkins



# Regional Scripps Participants



**Steele  
Elementary School**  
Kira Russell



**Stimson  
Middle School**  
Zachary Slansky



**Thomas J. Lahey  
Elementary School**  
Jack Steel



**Turtle Hook  
Middle School**  
Emily Long



**Unqua  
Elementary School**  
Brendan Deneen



**W. T. Clarke  
Middle School**  
Yuktha Chiguripati



**Walnut Street  
Elementary School**  
Sebastian Vega



**Wantagh  
Middle School**  
Jenna Miller



**Watson  
Elementary School**  
Nicholas Tollefsen



**West Side  
Elementary School**  
Jonathan Rush



**Wheeler Avenue  
Elementary School**  
Michaela Sinclair



**Wilets Road  
Middle School**  
Krittika Prajapati



**William E. Deluca  
Junior Elementary  
School**  
Justine Borgia



**William Floyd  
Middle School**  
Matthew Flaherty



**William Rall  
Elementary School**  
Shanjeda Uddin



**William Sidney  
Mount Elementary  
School**  
George Kuhen



**Willow Road  
Elementary School**  
Hannah Lee



**Woodland  
Middle School**  
Shane Weiner



# Rules for Local Spelling Bees

## Preface

We encourage spellers, parents, teachers, and spelling bee officials to read these rules prior to any spelling bee.

These rules are guidelines designed to assist spelling bee officials and spellers at the local level. Spellers should check with their local spelling bee officials for the rules in effect in their area. Spelling bee officials include the pronouncer, judges, coordinator and sponsor.

While local spelling bee officials have the prerogative to amend Rules 2 through 11, amendments—particularly any amendments to the end-of-bee procedure—should be undertaken only with careful consideration of the various outcomes that may result from the amendments.

The Scripps National Spelling Bee has no authority over the conduct of local spelling bees (namely, spelling bees other than the Scripps National Spelling Bee near Washington, D.C.). Consequently, the national office will not render judgments relating to the conduct of local spelling bees. Individuals bearing complaints about the conduct of local spelling bees should register their concerns with local spelling bee officials. **DECISIONS OF LOCAL SPELLING BEE OFFICIALS ARE FINAL.**

These *Rules for Local Spelling Bees* are not the rules in effect at the Scripps National Spelling Bee near Washington, DC. When a local spelling bee official says, “We use the national rules,” he or she is probably indicating that the *Rules for Local Spelling Bees* are in effect.

The Scripps National Spelling Bee near Washington, D.C. operates under a significantly different set of rules called the *Contest Rules of the 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee*. These rules contain provisions that are specific to unique conditions at the event near Washington, D.C. Their successful implementation at the local level is considered impossible and therefore is not recommended.

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## Rules

**1. Eligibility:** A speller qualifying for the 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee near Washington, D.C. must meet these requirements:

- (1) The speller must not have won a Scripps National Spelling Bee championship near Washington, D.C.
- (2) The speller must attend a school that is officially enrolled with the Scripps National Spelling Bee.
- (3) The speller must not have passed beyond the eighth grade on or before February 1, 2015.
- (4) The speller must not have repeated any grade for the purpose of extending spelling bee eligibility. If the speller has repeated any grade, the speller must notify the Scripps National Spelling Bee of the circumstances of grade repetition by March 31, 2015; and the Scripps National Spelling Bee will, at its sole discretion, determine the speller’s eligibility status on or before April 30, 2015.

(5) The speller—or the speller’s parent, legal guardian, or school official acting on the speller’s behalf—must not have declared to another entity an academic classification higher than eighth grade for any purpose, including high school graduation equivalency or proficiency examinations and/or examinations such as the PSAT, SAT, or ACT.

(6) The speller must not have earned the legal equivalent of a high school diploma.

(7) The speller must not have completed or have been enrolled in more than six high school-level courses or two college-level courses on or before April 30, 2015.

(8) The speller must not eschew normal school activity to study for spelling bees. The Scripps National Spelling Bee defines normal school activity as adherence to at least four courses of study other than language arts, spelling, Latin, Greek, vocabulary, and etymology for at least four hours per weekday for 34 of the 38 weeks between August 25, 2014, and May 16, 2015.

# Rules

## for Local Spelling Bees



(9) The speller must not have reached his/her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday on or before August 31, 2014.

(10) The speller must have been declared a champion of a final local spelling bee taking place on or after February 1, 2015, or be a spelling champion of a school whose application for participation in the Scripps National Spelling Bee's school self-sponsorship program has received final approval by the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

(11) Once having been disqualified at any level of a sponsor's spelling bee program between June 2014 and April 2015, the speller remains disqualified for the 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee and may not seek advancement in the 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee program through another sponsor and/or enrollment in another school.

(12) The speller, upon qualifying for the 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee near Washington, D.C., must submit a completed Champion Bio Form, a Certification of Eligibility Form, a signed Appearance Consent and Release Form and a photo to the Scripps National Spelling Bee. The speller will notify the Bee — at least 24 hours prior to the first day of competition in the 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. — if any of the statements made on the Certification of Eligibility Form are no longer true or require updating. The speller's sponsor will provide access to the necessary forms.

(13) The speller must not have any first-, second- or third-degree relatives (i.e. sibling, parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, half-sibling, first cousin or great grandparent) who are current employees of The E.W. Scripps Company.

The Scripps National Spelling Bee may disqualify prior to or during competition any speller who is not in compliance with any of its eligibility requirements; and it may — at any time between the conclusion of the 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee and April 30, 2016 — require any speller who is found to have not been in compliance with any of the eligibility requirements to forfeit the prizes, rank, and other benefits accorded to the speller as a result of participation in the 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

**2. Format:** The spelling bee is conducted in rounds. Each speller remaining in the spelling bee at the start

of a round spells one word or answers one vocabulary question in each round — except in the case of a written, multiple choice, or online test. The spelling bee may be conducted orally or in writing or in a manner that is a combination of the two; however, if the spelling bee officials specify an oral format, the speller may not demand a written format except under the conditions of Rule 4.

**3. Word list:** Local spelling bee officials are responsible for selecting the word lists for use at each local spelling bee. Many local spelling bee officials use word lists generated by the Scripps National Spelling Bee. These lists include many words that appear in the current edition of *Spell It!* as well as some “end-of-bee” words. All words on Scripps National Spelling Bee word lists are entries in *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* and its addenda section, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster, the official dictionary of the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

**4. Special needs:** Spelling bee officials will strive to provide accommodation for spellers who have physical challenges. All requests for spelling bee officials to accommodate special needs involving sight, hearing, speech, or movement should be directed to spelling bee officials well in advance of the spelling bee date. The judges have discretionary power to amend oral and/or written spelling requirements on a case-by-case basis for spellers with diagnosed medical conditions involving sight, hearing, speech, or movement.

**5. Pronouncer's role:** The pronouncer strives to pronounce words according to the diacritical markings in Scripps National Spelling Bee word lists.

### In Oral Spelling Rounds:

**Homonyms:** If a word has one or more homonyms, the pronouncer indicates which word is to be spelled by defining the word.

**Speller's requests:** The pronouncer responds to the speller's requests for a definition, sentence, part of speech, language(s) of origin, and alternate pronunciation(s). When presented with requests for alternate pronunciations, the pronouncer or an aide to the pronouncer checks for alternate pronunciations in either *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* and its addenda section, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster or *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, eleventh edition. The pronouncer does not entertain root word questions, requests



# Rules for Local Spelling Bees

for alternate definitions, or requests for markedly slower pronunciation.

**Pronouncer's sense of helpfulness:** The pronouncer may offer word information—without the speller having requested the information—if the pronouncer senses that the information is helpful and the information is presented in the entry for the word in a 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee word list.

## In Oral Vocabulary Rounds:

**Procedure:** The pronouncer reads aloud the vocabulary question and both options (A) and (B), but does not indicate which is correct.

**Homonyms:** If a word has one or more homonyms, the pronouncer indicates which word is in question by spelling the word aloud.

**Speller's requests:** The pronouncer responds to the speller's requests for the question and/or answer options to be repeated. The pronouncer may also provide the spelling of the word in question.

**6. Judges' role:** The judges uphold the rules and determine whether or not words are spelled correctly or vocabulary items are answered correctly. They also render final decisions on appeals in accordance with Rule 11. They are in complete control of the competition and their decision is final on all questions.

**Interaction with the speller:** Because seeing the speller's lip movements may be critical in detecting misunderstandings or misspellings, the judges encourage spellers to face them when pronouncing and spelling the word.

**Notice of rules:** The judges ensure that all spellers and audience members are given an opportunity to receive a complete copy of the rules prior to the start of the spelling bee.

**Misunderstandings:** The judges participate in the exchange of information between the speller and pronouncer if they feel that clarification is needed. Also, the judges listen carefully to the speller's pronunciation of the word; and, if they sense that the speller has misunderstood the word, the judges work with the speller and pronouncer until they are satisfied that reasonable attempts have been made to assist the speller in understanding the word. While the

judges are responsible for attempting to detect a speller's misunderstanding, it is sometimes impossible to detect a misunderstanding until an error has been made. The judges are not responsible for the speller's misunderstanding.

**Pronouncer errors:** The judges compare the pronouncer's pronunciation with the diacritical markings in the word list. If the judges feel that the pronouncer's pronunciation does not match the pronunciation specified in the diacritical markings, the judges direct the pronouncer to correct the error as soon as it is detected.

**Disqualifications for reasons other than error:** The judges will disqualify a speller (1) who refuses a request to start spelling or to provide an answer to a vocabulary question; (2) who does not approach the microphone when it is time to receive the word or question; (3) who does not comply with the eligibility requirements; (4) who engages in unsportsmanlike conduct; (5) who, in the process of retracing a spelling, alters the letters or sequence of letters from those first uttered; (6) who, in the process of spelling, utters unintelligible or nonsense sounds; or (7) who, in the process of providing an answer in an oral vocabulary round, provides a blend of correct and incorrect information (For example: If in answering the question, "What is porridge made from?

A. fur, or B. grain," the speller provides as an answer either "A. grain" or "B. fur.").

**Speller activities that do not merit disqualification:** The judges may not disqualify a speller (1) for failing to pronounce the word either before or after spelling it, (2) for asking a question, or (3) for noting or failing to note the capitalization of a word, the presence of a diacritical mark, the presence of a hyphen or other form of punctuation, or spacing between words in an open compound.

**7. Speller's role:** In a spelling round, the speller makes an effort to face the judges and pronounce the word for the judges before spelling it and after spelling it. The speller *while facing the judges* makes an effort to utter each letter distinctly and with sufficient volume to be understood by the judges. The speller may ask the pronouncer to say the word again, define it, use it in a sentence, provide the part of speech, provide the language(s) of origin, and/or provide an alternate pronunciation or pronunciations.

# Rules

## for Local Spelling Bees



**Misunderstandings:** The speller is responsible for any misunderstanding of the word unless (1) the pronouncer never provided a correct pronunciation; (2) the pronouncer provided incorrect information regarding the definition, part of speech, or language of origin; or (3) the speller correctly spelled a homonym of the word and the pronouncer failed to either offer a definition or distinguish the homonyms.

In an oral vocabulary round, a speller may answer the question by providing (1) the letter associated with the chosen answer, (2) the chosen answer or (3) both. If the correct answer is identified by (1) associated letter alone *or* (2) by answer alone *or* (3) by both correct letter and correct answer, the speller is correct.

For example: If the speller is offered the question, “What is porridge made from? A. fur, or B. grain,” each of the following methods of answering is correct: “B,” “grain,” or “B. grain.”

**8. Correction of a misspelling:** The pronouncer and judges will not ask the speller to correct another speller’s misspelling, even in end-of-bee circumstances.

**9. Errors:** Upon providing an incorrect spelling of a word or an incorrect answer to a vocabulary question, the speller immediately drops out of the competition, except as provided in Rule 10.

### 10. End-of-bee procedure:

**If all spellers in a round misspell or answer vocabulary questions incorrectly:** If none of the spellers remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round spells a word correctly or answers a vocabulary question correctly during that round, all remain in the competition and a new spelling round begins.

**Ties:** All spellers eliminated in the same round are tied for the same place. After the champion has been determined, spelling bee officials may opt to conduct tiebreakers (of their own design) if tiebreakers are necessary for the awarding of prizes or the determination of qualifying spellers for the next level of competition.

**If only one speller in a round spells correctly or answers a vocabulary question correctly:**

If only one speller spells correctly in a round, a new one-word spelling round begins and the speller is given an opportunity to spell a word on

the list (anticipated championship word). If the speller succeeds in correctly spelling the anticipated championship word in this one-word round, the speller is declared the champion.

Example: In Round 12 there are four spellers. Spellers 6 and 21 misspell. Speller 30 spells correctly. Speller 42 misspells. So, Speller 30 is the only speller in the round to spell correctly. Speller 30 begins Round 13—a one-word round—and is offered the anticipated championship word. Speller 30 correctly spells the anticipated championship word and is declared champion.

Example: Two spellers spell in Round 10. Speller 14 misspells. Speller 25 spells correctly. Speller 25 begins Round 11—a one-word round—and is offered the anticipated championship word. Speller 25 correctly spells the anticipated championship word and is declared champion.

Example: Two spellers spell in Round 16. Speller 3 spells correctly. Speller 9 misspells. Speller 3 begins Round 17—a one-word round—and is offered the anticipated championship word. Speller 3 correctly spells the anticipated championship word and is declared champion.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** If a speller misspells the anticipated championship word in a one-word round: A *new* spelling round begins with ALL the spellers who participated in the previous round. These spellers spell in their original order.

Example: In Round 8 there are three spellers. Speller 12 spells correctly and Spellers 23 and 37 misspell. Round 9—a one-word round—begins, and Speller 12 is offered the anticipated championship word. Speller 12 misspells the anticipated championship word. Round 10 begins and includes Spellers 12, 23, and 37. The rules prescribe that spellers 12, 23, and 37 spell in their original order; so Speller 12 gets the next word on the list even though Speller 12 misspelled the previous word on the list. Round 10 is not complete until all three spellers have spelled.

**Tip:** Spelling bee officials may find it helpful to designate a record keeper or judge to track the progress of spellers throughout the rounds. The record keeper’s information will be helpful in preventing end-of-bee confusion.

**11. Appeals:** The speller’s parent(s), legal guardian, or teacher may appeal to the judges for the speller’s reinstatement provided that the appeal is in compliance with the appeal protocol. The judges render a final decision on the appeal in accordance with the reinstatement protocol.



# Rules for Local Spelling Bees

## *Appeal protocol*

A written appeal must be hand delivered to the designated official (usually the spelling bee coordinator/director). The deadline for delivering an appeal is before the speller affected would have received his/her next word had he/she stayed in the spelling bee; however, to minimize disruptions to the spelling bee, every effort should be made to deliver an appeal by the end of the round in which the speller was eliminated. When five or fewer spellers remain, the written appeal requirement is suspended, and an oral appeal must be made before the speller would have received his/her next word had he/she stayed in the spelling bee. A written appeal must provide the speller's name, the word in question, and the reason the speller should be reinstated.

While the competition is in session, individuals who have filed appeals may not directly approach the judges unless explicit permission to approach the judges has been given. The judges will contact the speller if they decide to reinstate the speller. To minimize disruption to the pace of the spelling bee and the concentration of the spellers, the judges are under no obligation to stop the spelling bee in order to discuss with the speller's parent(s), legal guardian, or teacher a denied appeal. The judges' decisions are final and are subject neither to review nor to reversal by the Scripps National Spelling Bee's headquarters office.

## *Reinstatement protocol*

**Pronouncer mispronunciation:** An appeal claiming that a speller's elimination from the spelling bee was due to pronunciation error should be denied unless there is agreement that the pronouncer *never* offered a correct pronunciation.

**Alternate pronunciations:** An appeal claiming that the pronouncer did not offer alternate pronunciations should be denied unless it is determined that the speller requested alternate pronunciations *and* the pronouncer did not accommodate the speller's request for alternate pronunciations *and* it appears that the speller's spelling almost matches the correct spelling.

**Speller's misunderstanding:** An appeal claiming that the speller's elimination from the spelling bee was due to the speller's not understanding the word [its pronunciation(s) and/or other information about the word] should be denied. It is the speller's responsibility to understand the word.

**Speller offered correct spelling for a word in this guide:** An appeal claiming that the speller correctly spelled the word should be denied unless an audio recording of the bee's proceedings or bee officials' recollections clearly indicate that the word was indeed spelled correctly.

Exception: If the speller's spelling is listed in *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* and its addenda section, Merriam-Webster, copyright 2002, the speller should be reinstated if all of the following three criteria are met: (1) The pronunciations of the words are identical, (2) the definitions of the words are identical, and (3) the words are clearly identified as being standard variants of each other. Spellings at other locations having temporal labels (such as *archaic*, *obsolete*), stylistic labels (such as *substand*, *nonstand*), or regional labels (such as *North*, *Midland*, *Irish*) which differ from main entry spellings not having these status labels will not be accepted as correct.

**Speller offered correct spelling, as indicated in a dictionary other than Webster's Third:** An appeal claiming that the speller spelled the word correctly according to a dictionary other than *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* and its addenda section, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster, should be denied.

**Homonym in a spelling round:** An appeal claiming that the speller's elimination was unfair because the speller's word is a homonym should be denied unless the pronouncer failed to define the word *and* the speller correctly spelled a homonym of the word.

**Homonym in an oral vocabulary round:** An appeal claiming that the speller's elimination was unfair because the speller's word is a homonym should be denied unless the pronouncer failed to spell the word *and* the speller identified an answer matching the definition of a homonym of the word.

# Rules for Local Spelling Bees



Incorrect or unsolicited information: An appeal claiming that the speller's elimination was unfair because the pronouncer offered incorrect or unsolicited information about the word should be denied unless it is determined that the pronouncer indeed gave factually incorrect information *and* it appears that the speller's spelling would have been correct if not for the incorrect or unsolicited information provided by the pronouncer.

Bee officials failed to correct a misunderstanding: An appeal claiming that the

speller misspelled or incorrectly answered because the judges and/or pronouncer failed to correct the speller's mispronunciation of the word should be denied. It is sometimes impossible to detect a speller's mispronunciation or misunderstanding, and ultimately it is the responsibility of the speller to understand and correctly pronounce the word.

Disqualification request: An appeal seeking to dislodge another speller from the spelling bee should be denied.

# Fun Facts About Hofstra University

Founded in 1935

Located in Hempstead, Long Island, 25 miles east of NYC

President: Stuart Rabinowitz, JD

Provost: Dr. Herman A. Berliner

Private, nonsectarian, coeducational

115 buildings on 240 acres

22 academic and 25 total accreditations

Member of Phi Beta Kappa

100% program accessibility for persons with disabilities

## Colleges and Schools

- Hofstra College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Hofstra University Honors College
- Frank G. Zarb School of Business
- Lawrence Herbert School of Communication
- School of Education
- School of Health Sciences and Human Services
- School of Engineering and Applied Science
- Maurice A. Deane School of Law
- Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine
- Hofstra University Continuing Education

## Total Fall 2014 Enrollment: 11,032

- 6,922 Undergraduate
- 2,998 Graduate
- 828 Law
- 284 Medicine

## Fall 2014 Entering Freshmen

- 28% were in top 10% of High School Class
- 57% were in top 25% of High School Class
- 48% were from Out-of-State

## Campus Life

35 residence halls housing about 3,500 students, 18 eateries, six theaters, and about 200 student clubs of which there are about 30 local/national fraternities and sororities.

Hofstra has a vibrant campus with hundreds of social, academic and cultural events per year.

The Hofstra University Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The Museum, with a collection of more than 5,000 works of art from the world's diverse cultures, offers 4-6 original exhibitions annually, and also oversees an extensive collection of outdoor sculptures featuring approximately 70 works of art.

The Hofstra libraries contain over 1 million volumes and provide 24/7 online access to more than 75,000 full-text journals and 150,000 electronic books.

17 varsity sports

- 8 for men: baseball, basketball, cross-country, golf, lacrosse, soccer, tennis and wrestling
- 9 for women: basketball, cross-country, field hockey, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis and volleyball
- All sports compete at the NCAA Division I level in the Colonial Athletic Association.

## Other facts:

Hofstra is one of only a few schools in the United States to host two presidential debates: one in 2008 and one in 2012.

Hofstra's strength in presidential studies also includes the Peter S. Kalikow Center for the Study of the American Presidency and a renowned series of academic conferences analyzing the achievements of modern presidents.

With Long Island as its setting and "laboratory," Hofstra is one of the first universities in the nation to study the issues of suburbia through the National Center for Suburban Studies at Hofstra University®.

The Hofstra-North Shore LIJ School of Medicine uses an innovative and heralded approach to medical education. One example is that first-year students become emergency medical technicians and learn about the delivery of health care and the patient from the beginning of their medical education.

Hofstra was one of the first private universities in the country to achieve 100 percent program accessibility for individuals with disabilities.

WRHU 88.7 FM is the No.1 college radio station in the nation according to The Princeton Review and won the Marconi Award. In addition, students at WRHU have the opportunity to work on professional New York Islanders broadcasts.

The Frank G. Zarb School of Business hosts one of the nation's largest simulated financial facilities, the Martin B. Greenberg Trading Room, equipped with 34 dual panel Bloomberg terminals and a vast array of financial and economic media and data.