





Meet the AZ Champion and Top Spellers from Today's Arizona Spelling Bee!

Aliyah Alpert, an 8th grader from Alpert Home School, has outspelled 27 other competitors to win the 2024 Arizona Spelling Bee hosted by the Arizona Educational Foundation on Saturday, March 16, 2024. Aliyah correctly spelled the word "volemic" to win the bee.



Top 5 Arizona State Spelling Bee Winners for 2024 are:

- 1st Place Aliyah Alpert, 8th Grade, Age 13, Alpert Home School, Homeschool, Yavapai County
- 2nd Place Isabelle Garcia, 7th Grade, Age 13, Kyrene del Pueblo Middle School, Kyrene Elementary School District, Maricopa Region 1
- 3rd Place Esha Marupudi, 6th Grade, Age 11, BASIS Chandler, Independent Charter School, Maricopa Region 6
- 4th Place Ethan Knudson, 8th Grade, Age 14, Masada Charter School, Independent Charter School, Mohave County
- 5th Place Aneesh Kulkarni, 6th Grade, Age 12, Desert Trails Elementary, Paradise Valley Unified School District, Maricopa Region 2





The 2024 Arizona Spelling Bee event was held at the Madison Performing Arts Center in Phoenix which was the 26th year the event was coordinated by the Arizona Educational Foundation (AEF®). Spellers competed against each other from different school locations across the state. Arizona has one of the largest Spelling Bee participation rates in the nation, with over 500,000 students competing from all schools that are eligible to compete across the state, including public, private, charter, and homeschools.

"It's thrilling and inspiring to see the dedication and determination of these students," stated Dr. Teresa Hill, AEF Deputy Director and coordinator for the 2024 Arizona Spelling Bee. "Being a champion speller takes thousands of hours of hard work, and it's exciting to see all of the students showcasing their talents at the bee."

For the two students who place first and second place in the State Spelling Bee, AEF supports travel for the students and their chaperones to represent Arizona as official champions in the <u>Scripps</u> National Spelling Bee in National Harbor, Maryland. The 2024 Scripps National Spelling Bee Finals will be broadcast live on ION the evening of Thursday, May 30, 2024.

A video recording of the spelling bee highlights will be uploaded to the Arizona Educational Foundation's YouTube channel and website in the coming weeks.

> For more details about the AEF® Spelling Bee program, please visit https://www.azedfoundation.org/spelling-bee.

For more information about the Arizona Spelling Bee and spellers, contact Emily Ramirez-Lara, AEF® Director of Programs at projects@azedfoundation.org or 623-565-0300.

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