

THE 40th annual SPELLING BEE

Prince William County

Top spellers square off at regional bee March 9

52 young spellers representing Prince William County and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park will compete Friday, March 9, for the right to represent the community at the Scripps National Spelling Bee this spring.

The spellers, pictured on these two pages, all won elementary or middle school spelling bees to advance to the regional bee, sponsored by InsideNoVa/Prince William and the Bel-Air Woman's Club. Among them are three second-graders: Alyssa Wallace, 8, of Bristow Run Elementary; Ahadu Hailu, 7, of Fannie W. Fitzgerald Elementary; and Evan Caudill, 8, of Manassas Christian School. Another four participants are only in third grade.

Other competitors include 2016 regional champion Simran Patibanda, an eighth-grader at Graham Park Middle School, and Ethan Kirsch, representing the Home

Organization of Parent Educators. Patibanda and Kirsch were among three spellers who tied for second place in the 2017 regional bee.

The winner of the Prince William Regional Spelling Bee will advance to the national spelling bee, May 27-June 1 at Gaylord National Harbor.

'Bee' there

What: The 40th annual Prince William Regional Spelling Bee

When: Friday, March 9, 7 p.m.

Where: George Hampton Middle School, 14800 Darbydale Ave., Dale City

Sponsors: InsideNoVa/Prince William and the Bel-Air Woman's Club

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Anthony Olivera
Grade: 7 | Age: 12
City: Bristow
Winning word: alacrity
ALTERNATE Anna Downes



ANTIETAM ELEMENTARY

Simon Yonah
Grade: 5 | Age: 11
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: sparsely
ALTERNATE Annie Talkington



BALDWIN ELEMENTARY

Gabrielle Law
Grade: 4 | Age: 9
City: Manassas
Winning word: matron



BALDWIN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Ada Husband
Grade: 5 | Age: 11
City: Manassas
Winning word: vegetable
ALTERNATE Kendra Morales



BELMONT ELEMENTARY

Zain Pushtoonyar
Grade: 5 | Age: 10
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: handiwork
ALTERNATE Farheen Shuja



STUART M. BEVILLE MIDDLE

Haris Khalid
Grade: 8 | Age: 14
City: Dale City
Winning word: premonition
ALTERNATE Gavin MacDonald



BENNETT ELEMENTARY

Elaina Mullins
Grade: 5 | Age: 10
City: Manassas
Winning word: machete
ALTERNATE Sadaf Hashemi



BRISTOW RUN ELEMENTARY

Alyssa Wallace
Grade: 2 | Age: 8
City: Bristow
Winning word: geometry
ALTERNATE Zoya Khan



BUCKLAND MILLS ELEMENTARY

Nithya Kasiraman
Grade: 4 | Age: 9
City: Gainesville
Winning word: premonition
ALTERNATE Peyton DeMichele



BULL RUN MIDDLE

Aditi Mukul
Grade: 8 | Age: 14
City: Haymarket
Winning word: xylorimba
ALTERNATE Vedanth Subramanian



CHRIST CHAPEL ACADEMY

Mason Perkins
Grade: 8 | Age: 13
City: Dumfries
Winning word: clementine



T. CLAY WOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Sahasra Battinapatla
Grade: 4 | Age: 9
City: Bristow
Winning word: dialect



DUMFRIES ELEMENTARY

Alaina Porter
Grade: 4 | Age: 9
City: Triangle
Winning word: testament
ALTERNATE Jamyrie Johnson



E.H. MARSTELLER MIDDLE

Naman Agarwal
Grade: 7 | Age: 13
City: Bristow
Winning word: abundance
ALTERNATE Jeffrey Asiama



FANNIE W. FITZGERALD ELEMENTARY

Ahadu Hailu
Grade: 2 | Age: 7
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: primers
ALTERNATE Amanuel Mengistu



FEATHERSTONE ELEMENTARY

Abdullah Alotwala
Grade: 3 | Age: 9
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: bling
ALTERNATE Karla Buten



GAINESVILLE MIDDLE

Nikki Nelson
Grade: 7 | Age: 12
City: Bristow
Winning word: resplendence



GEORGE CARR ROUND ELEMENTARY

Victoria Ingram
Grade: 4 | Age: 9
City: Manassas
Winning word: cosmic
ALTERNATE Melanie Valladares



GEORGE G. TYLER ELEMENTARY

Sajid Parvez
Grade: 3 | Age: 9
City: Gainesville
Winning word: rallery
ALTERNATE Isaiah Carlye



GEORGE P. MULLEN ELEMENTARY

Ivadette Haziri
Grade: 5 | Age: 10
City: Manassas
Winning word: segregation
ALTERNATE Blerina Rexhepi



GLENKIRK ELEMENTARY

Matthew Soriente
Grade: 5 | Age: 11
City: Gainesville
Winning word: ichthyosaurus
ALTERNATE Audrey Updegraff



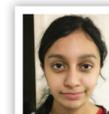
THURGOOD MARSHALL ELEMENTARY

Namirah Ahmad
Grade: 5 | Age: 10
City: Manassas
Winning word: ichthyosaurus
ALTERNATE Ayaan Malik



GRAHAM PARK MIDDLE

Simran Patibanda
Grade: 8 | Age: 14
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: cabaret
ALTERNATE Katelyn John



HERBERT J. SAUNDERS MIDDLE

Haylie Brimhall
Grade: 6 | Age: 11
City: Montclair
Winning word: partition
ALTERNATE Lexi Boateng



HOME ORGANIZATION OF PARENT EDUCATORS

Ethan Kirsch
Grade: 2 | Age: 7
City: Bristow
Winning word: celiac
ALTERNATE Jonathan Coleman



J.W. ALVEY ELEMENTARY

Lucy Lu
Grade: 4 | Age: 9
City: Haymarket
Winning word: miracle
ALTERNATE Sakshi Gowda



JENNIE DEAN ELEMENTARY

Christopher Bustillo
Grade: 4 | Age: 9
City: Manassas
Winning word: lizard
ALTERNATE Sophia Martinez



LAKE RIDGE MIDDLE

Niveda Mahesh
Grade: 7 | Age: 13
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: guillotine
ALTERNATE Maryam Farooq



LOCH LOMOND ELEMENTARY

Natalie Claderon-Lemus
Grade: 5 | Age: 10
City: Manassas
Winning word: crumpled
ALTERNATE Nathaniel Wilson



LOUISE A. BENTON MIDDLE

Kaylin Beecher
Grade: 7 | Age: 12
City: Manassas
Winning word: bowler
ALTERNATE Brandon Wang



MANASSAS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Evan Caudill
Grade: 2 | Age: 8
City: Manassas
Winning word: infraction
ALTERNATE Wyatt Atwell



WEEMS ELEMENTARY

Rubelsi Najarro
Grade: 4 | Age: 10
City: Manassas
Winning word: sprinkle
ALTERNATE Justin Lovo Campos



MANASSAS PARK MIDDLE

Alexis Wittig
Grade: 6 | Age: 11
City: Manassas
Winning word: shortage
ALTERNATE Anne Marie Cortazzi



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. ELEMENTARY

Ikraan Mohamed
Grade: 3 | Age: 8
City: Manassas
Winning word: sprinkle
ALTERNATE Jestelle Ignacio



MARY WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY

Kwaaba Manu
Grade: 5 | Age: 11
City: Dumfries
Winning word: germinate
ALTERNATE Joaquin Villablanca



MAYFIELD INTERMEDIATE

Wajid Akhtar
Grade: 5 | Age: 11
City: Manassas
Winning word: gregorian
ALTERNATE Emma Lindenfesler



GEORGE HAMPTON MIDDLE

Melissa George
Grade: 6 | Age: 12
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: perseverance
ALTERNATE Areli Sanchez



MINNIEVILLE ELEMENTARY

Emma Ramirez
Grade: 4 | Age: 10
City: Dumfries
Winning word: electioneer
ALTERNATE Naya Watts



MONTCLAIR ELEMENTARY

Sage Miller
Grade: 5 | Age: 8
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: truculently
ALTERNATE Nadiyah Williams



OLD BRIDGE ELEMENTARY

Satin Shariati
Grade: 5 | Age: 10
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: vulpine
ALTERNATE Wahibah Rafiah



PENNINGTON SCHOOL

Evelyn Popescu
Grade: 7 | Age: 12
City: Nokesville
Winning word: chandler
ALTERNATE Isabella Carter



WEST GATE ELEMENTARY

Alana Molina
Grade: 4 | Age: 10
City: Manassas
Winning word: protested
ALTERNATE Marwa Benaissa



RICHARD C. HAYDON ELEMENTARY

Justinn Manalansan
Grade: 4 | Age: 9
City: Manassas
Winning word: practically
ALTERNATE Aaron Newbill



RIPPON MIDDLE

Adnan Murtaza
Grade: 8 | Age: 14
City: Dumfries
Winning word: practitioner
ALTERNATE Muhammad Khurram



GRACE E. METZ MIDDLE

Connor Higby
Grade: 8 | Age: 13
City: Manassas
Winning word: ichthyosaurus
ALTERNATE Kylee Donovan



ROCKLEDGE ELEMENTARY

Aashaz Ahmad
Grade: 4 | Age: 10
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: patriotism
ALTERNATE Brendan Amoah-Daniels



SAMUEL L. GRAVELY JR. ELEMENTARY

Kaitlyn Thai
Grade: 5 | Age: 10
City: Haymarket
Winning word: barrette
ALTERNATE Layla Skinner



SETON SCHOOL

Ashley Knight
Grade: 8 | Age: 13
City: Warrenton
Winning word: conundrum
ALTERNATE Amelie Halisky



SONNIE PENN ELEMENTARY

Ava Glotzer
Grade: 5 | Age: 11
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: Chesapeake
ALTERNATE Raymond Baumann



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS REGIONAL SCHOOL

Bethelle Lanquaye
Grade: 7 | Age: 12
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: hibiscus
ALTERNATE Abey Paul



STONEWALL MIDDLE

Jonathan Umana
Grade: 8 | Age: 13
City: Manassas
Winning word: acacias
ALTERNATE Fahmeed Nabi



WOODBIDGE MIDDLE

Gracie Davis
Grade: 7 | Age: 13
City: Woodbridge
Winning word: truculently
ALTERNATE Natalie Jones



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