

2nd Scripps National Spelling Bee

The **2nd National Spelling Bee** was held at the National Museum in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, June 17, 1926, sponsored by the Louisville Courier-Journal. Scripps-Howard would not sponsor the Bee until 1941.

The winner was Pauline Bell, age 13, who attended a one-room schoolhouse in Clarkson, Kentucky. She correctly spelled the word *cerise*.^{[4][5][6]} Second place was taken by Betty Robinson of South Bend, Indiana, who would win the 4th bee in 1928, but spelled "cerise" as "cereaso" this time, and third went to Dorothy Casey of St. Louis.^{[7][8]}

There were 25 spellers this year – 17 girls and 8 boys, a big jump from the nine spellers in the first Bee.^[1] The first prize was \$1000, followed by \$500 for second and \$200 for third.^[7] The record number of Bee contestants was not broken until the 1941 bee.

Bell (married name Dunn) later attended Campbellsville Junior College and worked as a school teacher and social worker. She died in Bowling Green, Kentucky on December 17, 2010 at age 98.^{[9][10]}

References

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- (18 June 1926). Article (paywall) (<https://www.newspapers.com/news/page/107607280/>), *Courier-Journal* "Pronouncers were Dr. George S. Wills, department of English. Western Maryland College Westminster, Md.. and Dr. Samuel M. North, of Baltimore, supervisor of high schools for the Maryland State Department of Education."
- (19 December 2010). Obituary: Pauline Bell Dunn, 98, Campbellsville alum (<http://www.columbiamagazine.com/index.php?sid=41277>), *Columbia Magazine*
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2nd National Spelling Bee



Date	Thursday, June 17, 1926
Location	National Museum, Washington, D.C.
Winner	Pauline Bell
Age	13
Residence	Clarkson, Kentucky
Sponsor	<i>The Courier-Journal</i>
Sponsor location	Louisville, Kentucky
Winning word	cerise
No. of contestants	25 ^[1]
Pronouncer	George S. Wills ^[2] and Samuel M. North ^[3]
Preceded by	1st Scripps National Spelling Bee
Followed by	3rd Scripps National Spelling Bee

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8. (18 June 1926). "Cerise" Wins \$1,000 and a Spelling Bee for Kentucky Miss (<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1928&dat=19260618&id=kbwgAAAIBAJ&sjid=mGkFAAAAIBAJ&pg=6395,6116554&hl=en>), *Lewiston Daily Sun*
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10. Obituary: Pauline Bell Dunn, 98, Campbellsville alum (<http://www.columbiamagazine.com/index.php?sid=41277>), *Columbian Magazine*

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This page was last edited on 8 March 2019, at 07:00 (UTC).

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