

21st Scripps National Spelling Bee

The **21st Scripps National Spelling Bee** was held in Washington, District of Columbia on May 28, 1948, hosted by the E.W. Scripps Company. The winner was 14-year old Jean Chappellear of Ohio, correctly spelling the word *psychiatry*.

Second place went to 14-year-old Darrell Flavelle of Washington, D.C., who misspelled "oligarchy", followed by Rosemary Schirmer of White Oak, Ohio who took third after missing "ecclesiastical". Both Chappellear and Flavelle missed "poncho" and "termagant" before the end.^[2] Chappellear held a "lucky penny" throughout the contest.^[3]

There were 40 contestants ages 11–14 in the bee this year, and it ran longer than any prior bees, with a total of 593 words used.^[4]

References

1. Edson, Arthur (29 May 1948). Clutches Good Luck Penny; Wins Match (<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1873&dat=19480529&id=qnYoAAAAIIBAJ&sjid=KsgEAAAAIIBAJ&pg=5258,67845&hl=en>), *Daytona Beach Morning Journal* (Associated Press)
2. Edson, Arthur (29 May 1948). Oligarchy! Blond of 14 Spells Psychiatry to Win U.S. Title (<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1368&dat=19480529&id=oUNQAAAAIIBAJ&sjid=Ow0EAAAAIIBAJ&pg=3320,623290&hl=en>), *Milwaukee Sentinel* (Associated Press)
3. Maguire, James. American Bee: The National Spelling Bee and the Culture of Word Nerds (<https://books.google.com/books?id=jc-8AAAQBAJ&pg=PT74&lpg=PT74&dq=r#v=onepage&q=r&f=false>), p. 74 (2006)
4. (29 May 1948). *Black Horse, O., Girl is Nation's Spelling Champ*, *Marion Star* (United Press)

21st Scripps National Spelling Bee



National Press Building

Date	May 28, 1948
Location	Auditorium of the National Press Building, Washington, D.C. ^[1]
Winner	Jean Chappellear
Age	14
Residence	Black Horse, Ohio
Sponsor	<i>Akron Beacon Journal</i>
Sponsor location	Akron, Ohio
Winning word	psychiatry
No. of contestants	40
Pronouncer	Benson S. Alleman
Preceded by	20th Scripps National Spelling Bee
Followed by	22nd Scripps National Spelling Bee

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=21st_Scripps_National_Spelling_Bee&oldid=881861627"

This page was last edited on 5 February 2019, at 08:32 (UTC).

Text is available under the [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License](#); additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the [Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.](#), a non-profit organization.

