

# 82nd Scripps National Spelling Bee

The **82nd Scripps National Spelling Bee** took place between May 26–28, 2009 in Washington, D.C..<sup>[2]</sup>

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## Competition

There were a record 293 spellers this year (the all-time record until the Bee's rules greatly expanded the field in 2018). 41 spellers made it to the final day of competition on Thursday.<sup>[1]</sup>

The winner was Kavya Shivashankar.<sup>[2]</sup> Her winning word was *Laodicean*.<sup>[2]</sup> She was sponsored by The Olathe News.<sup>[2]</sup> She won \$35,000 in cash and more than \$5,000 in prizes. The runners-up were Aishwarya Pastapur, who misspelled *menhir*, and Tim Ruiter, who misspelled *Maecenas*.<sup>[3]</sup> This was Kavya's fourth appearance in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Six of the top ten spellers, including the winner, were Indian-American.

The standings were as follows:<sup>[4]</sup>

- 1. Kavya Shivashankar of Olathe, Kansas.
- 2. (tie) Tim A. Ruiter of Centreville, Virginia.
- 2. (tie) Aishwarya Eshwar Pastapur of Springfield, Illinois.
- 4. Kyle M. Mou of Peoria, Illinois.
- 5. (tie) Anamika Veeramani of North Royalton, Ohio
- 5. (tie) Kenny Kwaku Aouad of Terre Haute, Indiana.
- 5. (tie) Ramya Auroprem of San Jose, California.
- 8. (tie) Neetu Chandak of Seneca Falls, New York.
- 8. (tie) Sidharth Chand of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.
- 8. (tie) Serena Skye Laine-Lobsinger of West Palm Beach, Florida.
- 11. Tussah Heera Adi of Las Vegas, Nevada.

## TV coverage

The Championship Finals aired live on ABC from 8:00 PM to shortly after 10:00 p.m. EDT and were hosted by Tom Bergeron.

## See also

### 82nd Scripps National Spelling Bee



President Barack Obama greets Kavya Shivashankar, left, the 2009 Scripps Spelling Bee winner, and her family in the Oval Office, June 3, 2010.

<b>Date</b>	May 26–29, 2009
<b>Location</b>	Grand Hyatt Washington, Washington, D.C.
<b>Winner</b>	Kavya Shivashankar gowda
<b>Age</b>	13
<b>Residence</b>	Olathe, Kansas
<b>Sponsor</b>	<i>The Olathe News</i>
<b>Sponsor location</b>	Olathe, Kansas
<b>Winning word</b>	Laodicean
<b>No. of contestants</b>	293 <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Pronouncer</b>	Jacques Bailly
<b>Preceded</b>	81st Scripps National

- [List of Scripps National Spelling Bee champions](#)

<b>by</b>	Spelling Bee
<b>Followed</b>	83rd Scripps National
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## References

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3. [Summary of Round 15](http://public.spellingbee.com/public/results/2009/round_results/summary/15) ([http://public.spellingbee.com/public/results/2009/round\\_results/summary/15](http://public.spellingbee.com/public/results/2009/round_results/summary/15))
4. [Final Rankings](http://public.spellingbee.com/public/results/2009/rankings) (<http://public.spellingbee.com/public/results/2009/rankings>)

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