

Ontario-Montclair

School District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Austin Leong Wins County Spelling Bee, Now Headed to the Scripps National Spelling Bee

Austin Leong, a seventh grade student from Serrano Middle School, is the champion of the San Bernardino County Spelling Bee. The competition, involving 24 spellers from K-12 schools across San Bernardino County, lasted 49 rounds. Austin's winning word was "coalition."

This exceptional accomplishment has earned Austin a trip to Maryland, where he will compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Despite the fact that Austin has won the Ontario-Montclair School District's annual Spelling Bee for four years in a row, competing in the Scripps Spelling Bee in Washington D.C. has been a goal of Austin's for many years.

The 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee will be broadcast on ESPN channels on May 29-31, 2019. In addition to the all-expenses paid trip to the national finals for Austin and parent, he also won a free one-year subscription to Merriam-Webster Unabridged, a one-year membership to Britannica Online Premium, a 2019 U.S. Mint Proof Set, and a six-night stay at the Scripps National Spelling Bee's official hotel.

"We have amazing kids and Austin is certainly no exception. He is bright, talented and persistent. We are so proud of his efforts and I know he will represent OMSD with distinction at the national competition. This is a reminder to us all that our kids can accomplish anything they set their minds to," commented Elvia M. Rivas, OMSD Board of Trustees President.