



# GOOSE CREEK

## CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Horace Mann Junior eighth-grader wins District spelling bee

Eighteen of Goose Creek CISD's brightest elementary and junior school students vied for the title of District spelling bee champion on Thursday, Feb. 21, in the Cedar Bayou Junior School auditorium.

Each student earned a place on the stage, having won his or her school's spelling bee. Round by round, these top spellers were eliminated.

Goose Creek CISD's top speller was crowned in round 24. The word that gave eighth-grader Utkarsh Sharma of Horace Mann Junior School the championship was "charisma."

The next stop for Utkarsh is the regional Houston PBS Spelling Bee on March 23. The champion of the Houston PBS Spelling Bee wins an all-expenses-paid trip to compete in the 2013 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., held in May.

Rounding out the top finishers, Highlands Junior School eighth-grader Chinmayee Kulkarni finished in second place, and Victoria Walker Elementary School fifth-grader Jatin Kulkarni finished in third place. (Chinmayee was last year's District champion.)

After the spelling bee ended, the first place, second place, and third place winners from each campus spelling bee were presented their trophies by Dr. Cavazos.

Here are the 2013 campus spelling bee winners:

**Alamo Elementary**—Ariel Sanchez, first place; Darius Dollarhide, second place; and Dalila Tominaga, third place.

**Ashbel Smith Elementary**—Ruth Patino, first place; Jazmine Dixon, second place; and Edith Maza, third place.

**Austin Elementary**—Jaida Davis, first place; Allan Cosep, second place; and Marc DeGuzman, third place.

**Baytown Junior**—Hannah Christensen, first place; Andrew Guerra, second place; and Benjamin Boyes, third place.

**Bowie Elementary**—Yaretzi Trejo, first place; Israel Sandoval, second place; and Jennifer Hardin, third place.

**Carver Elementary**—Brianna Robertson, first place; Xavier Vanegas, second place; and Tynia Williams, third place.

**Cedar Bayou Junior School**—Kyle Lindstrom, first place; Adrian Gonzalez, second place; and Everett Crutchfield, third place.

**Crockett Elementary**—Christel Vallagomes, first place; Aubren Payne, second place; and Eric Amezcua, third place.



[Photo Gallery](#)

**De Zavala Elementary**—Bhanu Sharma, first place; Cherilyn Dudley, second place; and Atharv Shinde, third place.

**Gentry Junior**—Abigail De Guzman, first place; Kaitlan Polimis, second place; and Annette Iroanya, third place.

**Harlem Elementary**—Kortney Wright, first place; Emma Tompkins, second place; and Raina Medina, third place.

**Highlands Elementary**—Jace Welch, first place; Carriegan Hill, second place; and Carli Wallace, third place.

**Highlands Junior**—Chinmayee Kulkarni, first place; Uriel Moreno, second place; and Trenton Carr, third place.

**Horace Mann Junior**—Utkarsh Sharma, first place; Ashley Jhagroo, second place; and Hugo Godinez, third place.

**Lamar Elementary**—Monserrat Lopez, first place; Shenyce Benjamin, second place; and Claudia Francis, third place.

**San Jacinto Elementary**—Alinhe Garza, first place; Kristen Spence, second place; and Maribel Ramirez, third place.

**Travis Elementary**—Daisy Pegueros, first place; Daniel Rice, second place; and Ariel Kettle, third place.

**Walker Elementary**—Jatin Kulkarni, first place; Elise Leed, second place; and Tyler Cude, third place.

The Goose Creek CISD spelling bee is open to all students in grades three through eighth, and is organized by Tamara Meigh, Coordinator of Language Arts, and her secretary Rosie Bocardo.

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