

# SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE WINNING WORDS

Year	Competition-ending word ("winning word" unless otherwise noted)	Winner	Sponsor	Sponsor's location
1925	gladiolus	Frank Neuhauser	The Courier-Journal	Louisville, Kentucky
1926	cerise	Pauline Bell	The Courier-Journal	Louisville, Kentucky
1927	luxuriance	Dean Lucas	Akron Beacon Journal	Akron, Ohio
1928	knack	Betty Robinson	South Bend News-Times	South Bend, Indiana
1929	asceticism	Virginia Hogan	Omaha World-Herald	Omaha, Nebraska
1930	fracas	Helen Jensen	The Des Moines Register and Tribune	Des Moines, Iowa
1931	foulard	Ward Randall	White Hall Register-Republican	White Hall, Illinois
1932	invulnerable	Dorothy Greenwald	The Des Moines Register and Tribune	Des Moines, Iowa
1933	torsion	Alma Roach	Akron Beacon Journal	Akron, Ohio
1934	brethren	Sarah Wilson	Portland Evening Express	Portland, Maine
1935	intelligible	Clara Mohler	Akron Beacon Journal	Akron, Ohio

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1936	eczema	Jean Trowbridge	The Des Moines Register and Tribune	Des Moines, Iowa
1937	promiscuous	Waneeta Beckley	The Courier-Journal	Louisville, Kentucky
1938	sanitarium	Marian Richardson	The Louisville Times	Louisville, Kentucky
1939	canonical	Elizabeth Ann Rice	Telegram & Gazette	Worcester, Massachusetts
1940	therapy	Laurel Kuykendall	The Knoxville News-Sentinel	Knoxville, Tennessee
1941	initials	Louis Edward Sissman	The Detroit News	Detroit, Michigan
1942	sacrilegious	Richard Earnhart	El Paso Herald-Post	El Paso, Texas
1946	semaphore	John McKinney	The Des Moines Register and Tribune	Des Moines, Iowa
1947	chlorophyll	Mattie Lou Pollard	Atlanta Journal	Atlanta, Georgia
1948	psychiatry	Jean Chappellear	Akron Beacon Journal	Akron, Ohio
1949	dulcimer	Kim Calvin	Canton Repository	Canton, Ohio

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1950	meticulosity	Diana Reynard *	Cleveland Press	Cleveland, Ohio
		Colquitt Dean *	Atlanta Journal	Atlanta, Georgia
1951	insouciant	Irving Belz	Memphis Press Scimitar	Memphis, Tennessee
1952	vignette	Doris Ann Hall	Winston-Salem Journal	Winston-Salem, North Carolina
1953	soubrette	Elizabeth Hess	Arizona Republic	Phoenix, Arizona
1954	transept	William Cashore	Norristown Times Herald	Norristown, Pennsylvania
1955	crustaceology	Sandra Sloss	St. Louis Globe-Democrat	St. Louis, Missouri
1956	condominium	Melody Sachko	Pittsburgh Press	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
1957	schappe	Dana Bennett +	Rocky Mountain News	Denver, Colorado
		Sandra Owen +	Canton Repository	Canton, Ohio
1958	syllepsis	Jolitta Schlehber	Topeka Daily Capital	Topeka, Kansas

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1959	catamaran	Joel Montgomery	Rocky Mountain News	Denver, Colorado
1960	eudaemonic	Henry Feldman	The Knoxville News-Sentinel	Knoxville, Tennessee
1961	smaragdine	John Capehart	Tulsa Tribune	Tulsa, Oklahoma
1962	esquamulose	Nettie Crawford #	El Paso Herald-Post	El Paso, Texas
		Michael Day #	St. Louis Globe-Democrat	St. Louis, Missouri
1963	equipage	Glen Van Slyke III	The Knoxville News-Sentinel	Knoxville, Tennessee
1964	sycophant	William Kerek	Akron Beacon Journal	Akron, Ohio
1965	eczema	Michael Kerpan Jr.	Tulsa Tribune	Tulsa, Oklahoma
1966	ratoon	Robert A. Wake	Houston Chronicle	Houston, Texas
1967	chihuahua	Jennifer Reinke	The Omaha World-Herald	Omaha, Nebraska
1968	abalone	Robert L. Walters	The Topeka Daily Capital	Topeka, Kansas

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1969	interlocutory	Susan Yoachum	Dallas Morning News	Dallas, Texas
1970	croissant	Libby Childress	Winston-Salem Journal & Sentinel	Winston-Salem, North Carolina
1971	shalloon	Jonathan Knisely	Philadelphia Bulletin	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
1972	macerate	Robin Kral	Lubbock Avalanche-Journal	Lubbock, Texas
1973	vouchsafe	Barrie Trinkle	Fort Worth Press	Fort Worth, Texas
1974	hydrophyte	Julie Ann Junkin	Birmingham Post-Herald	Birmingham, Alabama
1975	incisor	Hugh Tosteson García	San Juan Star	San Juan, PR
1976	narcolepsy	Tim Kneale	Syracuse Herald-Journal	Syracuse, New York
1977	cambist	John Paola	The Pittsburgh Press	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
1978	deification	Peg McCarthy	The Topeka Capital-Journal	Topeka, Kansas

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1979	maculature	Katie Kerwin	Rocky Mountain News	Denver, Colorado
1980	elucubrate	Jacques Bailly	Rocky Mountain News	Denver, Colorado
1981	sarcophagus	Paige Pipkin	El Paso Herald-Post	El Paso, Texas
1982	psoriasis	Molly Dieveney	Rocky Mountain News	Denver, Colorado
1983	Purim	Blake Giddens	El Paso Herald-Post	El Paso, Texas
1984	luge	Daniel Greenblatt	Loudoun Times-Mirror	Leesburg, Virginia
1985	milieu	Balu Natarajan	Chicago Tribune	Chicago, Illinois
1986	odontalgia	Jon Pennington	The Patriot News	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
1987	staphylococci	Stephanie Petit	The Pittsburgh Press	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
1988	elegiacal	Rageshree Ramachandran	The Sacramento Bee	Sacramento, California
1989	spoliator	Scott Isaacs	Rocky Mountain News	Denver, Colorado
1990	fibranne	Amy Marie Dimak	The Seattle Times	Seattle, Washington

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1991	antipyretic	Joanne Lagatta	Wisconsin State Journal	Clintonville, Wisconsin
1992	lyceum	Amanda Goad	The Richmond News Leader	Richmond, Virginia
1993	kamikaze	Geoff Hooper	The Commercial Appeal	Memphis, Tennessee
1994	antediluvian	Ned G. Andrews	The Knoxville News-Sentinel	Knoxville, Tennessee
1995	xanthosis	Justin Tyler Carroll	The Commercial Appeal	Memphis, Tennessee
1996	vivisepture	Wendy Guey	The Palm Beach Post	West Palm Beach, Florida
1997	euonym	Rebecca Sealfon	New York Daily News	New York City
1998	chiaroscuroist	Jody-Anne Maxwell	Phillips & Phillips Stationery Suppliers	Kingston, Jamaica
1999	logorrhea	Nupur Lala <sup>f</sup>	The Tampa Tribune	Tampa, Florida
2000	demarche	George Thampy	St. Louis Post-Dispatch	St. Louis, Missouri
2001	succedaneum	Sean Conley	Aitkin Independent Age	Aitkin, Minnesota

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2002	prospicience	Pratyush Buddiga	Rocky Mountain News	Denver, Colorado
2003	pococurante	Sai Gunturi	Dallas Morning News	Dallas, Texas
2004	autochthonous	David Tidmarsh	South Bend Tribune	South Bend, Indiana
2005	appoggiatura	Anurag Kashyap	San Diego Union-Tribune	San Diego, California
2006	Ursprache	Kerry Close	Asbury Park Press/Home News Tribune	Spring Lake, New Jersey
2007	serrefine	Evan O'Dorney	Contra Costa Times	Walnut Creek, California
2008	guerdon	Sameer Mishra	Journal & Courier	West Lafayette, Indiana
2009	Laodicean	Kavya Shivashankar	The Olathe News	Olathe, Kansas
2010	stromuhr	Anamika Veeramani	The Plain Dealer	Cleveland, Ohio
2011	cymotrichous	Sukanya Roy	Times Leader	Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
2012	guetapens	Snigdha Nandipati	U-T San Diego	San Diego, California



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2013	knaidel	Arvind Mahankali	New York Daily News	New York City
2014	stichomythia	Sriram J. Hathwar *	Corning Rotary Club	Corning, New York
	feuilleton	Ansun Sujoe *	Texas Christian University	Fort Worth, Texas
2015	scherenschnitte	Vanya Shivashankar *	The Olathe News	Olathe, Kansas
	nunatak	Gokul Venkatachalam <sup>†</sup> *	St. Louis Post-Dispatch	St. Louis, Missouri
2016	Feldenkrais	Jairam Hathwar *	Corning Rotary Club	Corning, New York
	gesellschaft	Nihar Saireddy Janga *	Houston Public Media	Austin, Texas
2017	marocain	Ananya Vinay	Clovis Unified's Fugman Elementary	Fresno, California
2018	koinonia	Karthik Nemmani	Scoggins Middle School	McKinney, Texas

\* Joint champions announced after the contestants had exhausted the list of words.

+ Joint champions announced after Sandra Owen was knocked out of the competition by spelling "xylophagus" as "xylophagous", with the judges later realizing that it was an acceptable spelling variant (though she still spelled the competition-ending word, "schappe," incorrectly as "schaup").

# Joint champions announced when both remaining contestants misspelled "esquamulose."