



Media Release - for immediate release

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**Signature A+ Partnership Event Celebrates Thirteenth Anniversary**  
**67 TOP SPELLERS TO COMPETE IN**  
**HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM SPELLING BEE**  
**Friday, March 17, 7pm, Reservoir High School**

ELLCOTT CITY, MD-- Sixty-seven top spellers in grades 4 through 8 from Howard County schools will vie for the county crown when Howard County Library System (HCLS) hosts the thirteenth annual HCLS Spelling Bee. The event takes place Friday, March 17, 2017 at 7 pm at Reservoir High School, 11550 Scaggsville Road in Fulton, Maryland.

Participating students progress from inter-classroom spelling bees held within their schools to a school-wide bee, and then on to HCLS' countywide bee. The HCLS Spelling Bee champion advances to the National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC in late spring.

The HCLS Spelling Bee provides an instructive and enlightening opportunity for students to participate in a regional bee registered with Scripps National, and have the opportunity to advance to the national level. In conjunction with the annual event, younger students, in first through third grade who competed in BumbleBees at their schools during the winter will be recognized in an on-stage presentation before the competition begins. Both the HCLS Spelling Bee and the BumbleBee Celebration are part of the Library's signature A+ Partners in Education initiative designed to provide Howard County students the best possible chance to achieve overall academic success.

More information about the HCLS Spelling Bee can be found at [hclibrary.org/spellingbee](http://hclibrary.org/spellingbee). The event will be streaming live at [Youtube/User/HowardCountyLibrary](https://www.youtube.com/user/HowardCountyLibrary). Use #HCLSBee to follow the action on social media..

The HCLS Spelling Bee is sponsored by Friends of Howard County Library System, Howard County Public School System (HCPSS), and BB&T Bank. The HCLS BumbleBee is sponsored by Rotary Club of Columbia/Patuxent.

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