



International  
Geography Bee

## **2018 Varsity & Junior Varsity National Championships of the United States Geography Olympiad and International Geography Bee Held on April 27, 2018**

### **Press Release**

(Ridgewood, NJ – May 4, 2018) The USA's top geography students gathered in Arlington, VA on Friday, April 27 for the sixth annual Varsity and Junior Varsity National Championships of the US Geography Olympiad, as well as the second annual Varsity and Junior Varsity US National Championships of the International Geography Bee. After three separate USGO exams, and five rounds of buzzer quiz competition in the IGB, the 2018 National Champions were named as follows:

#### US Geography Olympiad

Varsity: Kyle Yu, Westlake High School, Westlake, OH

Junior Varsity: Albert Zhang, Buchholz High School, Gainesville, FL

#### International Geography Bee

Varsity: Alex Schmidt, Lehigh Valley Academy, Bethlehem, PA

Junior Varsity: Samanyu Dixit, Metrolina Regional Scholar Academy, Charlotte, NC

Both competitions were held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, VA. A total of 190 students competed in the US Geography Olympiad (97 Varsity, 93 Junior Varsity) and 174 students competed in the International Geography Bee (92 Varsity, 82 Junior Varsity).

In the US Geography Olympiad, Kyle Yu earned his third consecutive championship, having clinched the 2016 Junior Varsity and 2017 Varsity titles. With his Varsity title, Yu has once again earned the right to represent the United States at the 2018 International Geography Olympiad, to be held in Québec City, Canada this summer. Joining him on Team USA are Benjamin Benjadol of Trinity High School in Texas, Daniel Ma of Hunter College High School in New York, and Kevin Lu of Richard Montgomery High School in Maryland. Benjamin, Daniel, and Kevin finished respectively in second, third, and fourth place in the Varsity Division of the US Geography Olympiad.

As the Varsity and Junior Varsity champions of the second US Championships of the International Geography Bee, Schmidt and Dixit each win travel to the inaugural World Championships of the International Geography Bee, to be held this July in Berlin, Germany. The prizes are sponsored by USGO and IGB chief sponsor, publisher Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

For more information on both competitions, please see the respective websites at [www.geographyolympiad.com](http://www.geographyolympiad.com) and [www.internationalgeographybee.com](http://www.internationalgeographybee.com). Full statistics for all competitors are available at [www.nhbbstats.com](http://www.nhbbstats.com) and for further questions about either geography competition, please email [info@geographyolympiad.com](mailto:info@geographyolympiad.com).