



International  
Geography Bee

## **2019 Varsity & Junior Varsity National Championships of the United States Geography Olympiad and International Geography Bee Held on April 26, 2019**

### **Press Release**

(Boston – May 11, 2019) The USA's top geography students gathered in Arlington, VA on Friday, April 26 for the seventh annual Varsity and Junior Varsity National Championships of the US Geography Olympiad, as well as the third 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 2019 National Champions were named as follows:

### US Geography Olympiad

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

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

### International Geography Bee

Varsity: Karan Menon, J.P. Stevens High School, Edison, NJ

Junior Varsity: Samvrit Rao, Stone Hill Middle School, Ashburn, VA

Both competitions were held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, VA. A total of 200 students competed in the US Geography Olympiad (100 Varsity, 100 Junior Varsity) and 186 students competed in the International Geography Bee (87 Varsity, 99 Junior Varsity).

In the US Geography Olympiad, Albert Zhang earned his second consecutive national championship, having clinched the 2018 Junior Varsity title as well. With his Varsity title, Zhang has earned the right to represent the United States at the 2019 International Geography Olympiad, to be held in Hong Kong this summer. Joining him on Team USA are Daniel Ma of Hunter College High School in New York City; Elys Anaya of Archimedean Upper Conservatory in Miami, FL; and Kevin Lu of Richard Montgomery High School in Rockville, MD. Daniel, Elys, and Kevin finished respectively in second, third, and fourth place in the Varsity Division of the US Geography Olympiad. For Ma and Lu, it will be their second trip to the International Geography Olympiad; both were part of Team USA at the 2018 International Geography Olympiad in Quebec City where both won silver medals. Travel to Hong Kong for Team USA as well as subsidized entry fees for the top finishers in the 2020 International Geography Bee World Championships are sponsored by USGO and IGB chief sponsor, publisher Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. Also of note: this is the first year in the seven-year history of the US Geography Olympiad in which both the Varsity and Junior Varsity National Champions attend the same school.

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).