

Friday, February 28, 2025

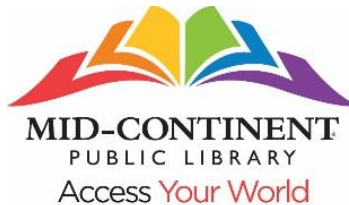
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Mid-Continent Public Library Spelling Bee Returns March 1

Library Hosts Regional Spelling Bee at Midwest Genealogy Center, Area Students Compete

Independence, MO – On **Saturday, March 1**, 36 elementary and middle school students from around the region will come together at Mid-Continent Public Library’s Midwest Genealogy Center (3440 S. Lee’s Summit Road, Independence, Mo.) to compete in the annual **Mid-Continent Public Library Spelling Bee** (formerly the Jackson-Clay County Spelling Bee). Spellers will face off against one another for the title of regional spelling bee champion as well as the chance to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., May 27–29, 2025.

The competition will start at 9:00 a.m. and will be a single-elimination competition, meaning that if a participant misspells one word, they will no longer be in the running. The spellers will be evaluated by a panel of four judges and recorders. Dan Margolies of KCUR, will serve as the Bee’s pronouncer.

“It’s an honor to host the region’s championship bee for the 13th year in a row!” said Mariah Hone, who organizes the MCPL Spelling Bee. “The event is a lot of fun, and our competitors work very hard leading up to the big day. Regardless of who wins, we’re proud of our local students for putting in a great deal of time and effort to expand their vocabularies!”

In addition to hosting the regional bee, which qualifies a speller for the Scripps National Spelling Bee, **MCPL will cover travel expenses for both the student and their parent or guardian**, to attend nationals in Washington, D.C. Other family and community members can tune in to watch the Scripps National Bee on ION, available on streaming platforms. MCPL will announce the regional bee winner and the winning word after the Bee concludes on Saturday, March 1.

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Founded in 1965, [Mid-Continent Public Library](#) is the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, operating 33 locations and two Library-To-Go locations and serving nearly 850,000 people in Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties. MCPL is an award-winning library system that strives to enrich citizens and communities through expanding access to innovation, information, ideas, and inspiration. Connect with the Library on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#).