



One Letter Missing From IPEI Spelling Bee

Organizers of this year's Ithaca Public Education Initiative (IPEI) Adult Spelling Bee are seeking a missing letter ahead of the 16th annual contest.

Specifically: U.

You are needed to join this exciting, once-a-year event as a member of the audience on Sunday, March 2 at 2:00 p.m. in Ithaca High School's Wellness Center Gym. It is free and open to the public.

The Spelling Bee is run like an official spelling bee, with rules, a pronouncer, an MC, a timekeeper, and three judges. This year will feature 28 teams of three spellers each competing in four preliminary rounds. Four finalists spell again during the final round.

In addition to being fun and intellectually stimulating, the Bee is IPEI's signature fundraising event. Thanks to event sponsors, all proceeds go directly toward funding IPEI grants for teachers. The Blue Ribbon Champion Sponsor is Chemung Canal Trust Company, and the Red Ribbon Finalist Sponsor is Wells Fargo Financial Advisors. Sciarabba Walker and Cayuga Radio Group are Gold Ribbon Runner Up Sponsors.

Spectators will also enjoy light refreshments donated by many generous businesses, and they can bid on silent auction items to benefit grants for teachers, too. A new component this year is a way to pledge a certain amount for every word spelled correctly starting at one cent per word. Follow the scoreboard to see the grand total grow!

For more information including the full list of team names, spellers and sponsors, <u>visit our website</u>.

IPEI is a not-for-profit organization that connects the ICSD and the community through collaboration, engagement, gifts and grants. For more information, see www.ipei.org or contact 256-IPEI (4734) or ipei@ipei.org.

