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Twenty middle-schoolers from across the state have been chosen to participate in the final round of the inaugural [Oregon Civics Bee](#). Presented by [U.S. Bank](#) and organized by [Oregon Business and Industry](#) in partnership with the [U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation](#), the competition has encouraged students to share their ideas for improving their communities and show their enthusiasm for civics. The finalists will gather in Salem next month to compete for an opportunity to represent Oregon at the [U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's National Civics Bee](#) in Washington, D.C.

Beginning in November 2023, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders entered the competition by submitting essays explaining how they would use civics principles to address problems they identified in their communities. A panel of judges chose the 20 best essays, whose writers will participate in a quiz-style competition May 30 in Willamette University's Hudson Hall. Following the quiz, which will be moderated by Oregon Treasurer Tobias Read, the top five scorers will make the case for their essays in front of a panel of judges. The top three participants will win cash prizes, and the winner will receive an invitation to compete in the National Civics Bee, which will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 12.

"The other judges and I were so impressed by the thoughtfulness of the essays and the creativity of the solutions to local problems," said OBI President and CEO Angela Wilhelms. "We can't wait for May 30, when we get to engage with the students in person. I know we'll be impressed all over again."

The finalists in the inaugural Oregon Civics Bee area:

- Boston Bryant, Albany
- Mattie Donahoe, Klamath Falls
- Adam El-Tayib, Tualatin
- Charlie Evers, Oregon City
- Amelynn Goh, Portland
- Dylan Guptill, Keizer
- Nate Johnson, Sherwood
- Callen Kelly, Sherwood
- Grace Kim, Eugene
- Linden Leonhardt-Bithell, Ashland
- Vivien McQuisten, Bridgeport
- Milah Moore, Salem

- Thomas Morgan, Keizer
- Shivani Nirmal-Shankar, Sherwood
- Lily Pham, Happy Valley
- Basel Saleh, Tigard
- Shivani Vivek, Sherwood
- Zackery Wells, Gervais
- Eva Worden, Heppner
- (OBI does not have permission to release the name of the last finalist.)

## Hometowns of Civics Bee Finalists



Presented By:

