



For Immediate Release
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MARS HILL ACADEMY CELEBRATES TOP SPELLERS

MASON, OH – After winning second place overall at the Association of Christian Schools International District Spelling Bee hosted Saturday, January 21, at Cincinnati Christian School in Fairfield, Mars Hill Academy eighth grader Alvin Chaney of Cincinnati will advance to the ACSI Regional Bee at Ohio Christian University in Circleville, Ohio, on Friday, March 23. Alvin was among the top four spellers in fifth through eighth grade who will advance to regional competition. MHA seventh grader Hannah Grubb of Mason placed sixth overall.

At the district competition, the top four spellers in each grade were recognized. Five Mars Hill Academy students placed first in their respective grade. MHA sixth grader Hannah Min of Mason, MHA fourth grader Kyle Chu of Cincinnati, MHA third grader Eileen Park of Maineville, MHA second grader Noelle Min of Mason, and MHA first grader William Kwan of West Chester all placed first in their grade. Other top spellers included MHA third grader Gabriel Galiatsatos of Lebanon who placed second; MHA fourth grader Robert Castaneros of West Chester who placed second; and MHA sixth grader Tom Chumley of Loveland who placed fourth.

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The Association of Christian Schools International annually conducts spelling bees across the nation. Approximately 300,000 fifth through eighth graders begin with class competitions in the fall. The field of spellers narrows to around 15,000 at the District Bees, around 4,500 at the Regional Bees, and then narrows substantially at the national level.

Last year Mars Hill Academy seventh grader Levi Giese of West Chester was the ACSI spelling bee national champion. In 2006 Levi's brother, then eighth grader Matthew Giese, made it to the eighth round of the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee.

Mars Hill Academy, Cincinnati's only K-12 classical Christian school, was founded in 1996 in southeast Cincinnati. Currently, just over 300 students are enrolled in K-12. The school delivers the classical model of education based on the *trivium*: the grammar, logic, and rhetoric stages of education. Mars Hill Academy is a member of the Association of Classical and Christian Schools (www.accsedu.org). MHA is one of approximately 20 ACCS accredited schools out of 200 member schools nationwide. For more information about Mars Hill Academy, please call 513-770-3223 or visit www.marshall.edu.

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