



2026 NATIONALS PRESS RELEASE

Two teams from Massachusetts attended the USAD National Finals in Garden Grove, California, from April 23-25, 2026—and both won team awards! Acton-Boxborough Regional High School represented Massachusetts in Division III as State Champions and won a third-place trophy. Nipmuc Regional High School, in their first year competing, won Division III's Rookie of the Year award. The two teams won a combined total of 23 medals.

The teams were joined in Garden Grove by Ashland High School student Zia Kashwan, who competed as an individual. Wellesley High School and North Quincy High School also participated in the Online Nationals competition for large-sized schools.

The overall national championship was won by Granada Hills Charter High School from California. El Camino Real Charter High School, also from California, placed second, and Whitney M. Young Magnet High School from Illinois placed third.

Speech Showcases

Each year, the highest-scoring prepared speech for each GPA category (Honors, Scholastic, and Varsity) is selected for the Speech Showcase Event.

Incredibly, Hannah Sun and Oscar Li, both of Acton-Boxborough Regional High School, were two of the three students selected this year, meaning their speeches were the highest-scoring amongst the hundreds of other students at the competition!



Acton-Boxborough High School

In Division III, Acton-Boxborough High School, coached by Vidya Sampathkumar and Michael Bartley, placed 3rd overall of 14 teams and won the following 15 medals:

- Hannah Sun: GOLD in Speech, SILVER in Economics and Science, and BRONZE in Music
- Alex Abakah: BRONZE in Speech
- Edward Kim: SILVER in Essay
- Oscar Li: SILVER in Math and Music and BRONZE in Science and Speech
- Shayan Mattoo: SILVER in Art, Literature, and Social Science
- Victor Kabaev: GOLD in Math
- Kishan Umershkumar: GOLD in Math

Other team members were Jacob Healy and Rohil Mukherjee.

As the highest-scoring student on Acton-Boxborough's team, Honors student Hannah Sun received an award and a \$250 scholarship. She placed fifth overall of all Honors students in Division III.



Nipmuc Regional High School

In Division III, Nipmuc Regional High School, coached by J.J. Borja, placed 8th overall out of 14 teams and won the division's Rookie of the Year award. They were awarded the following eight medals:

- Max Labonte: GOLD in Economics
- Parker Tetreault: BRONZE in Science
- Kameron Getman: BRONZE in Art and Music
- Benjamin Rojano: GOLD in Economics and SILVER in Art, Literature, and Science

Other team members were Ryan Poirier, Mason Monty, and Liam Flanagan.

As the highest-scoring student on Nipmuc's team, Scholastic student Kameron Getman received an award and a \$250 scholarship.



Individual Competitor

For the first time since 2015 (the last time Nationals was held in Garden Grove), Massachusetts sent an individual competitor to Nationals!

Zia Kashwan of Ashland High School competed in Division IV and took home three medals:

- SILVER in Interview
- BRONZE in Math
- BRONZE in Science

She also improved her score from States to Nationals—no small feat, given the difficulty level of Nationals!

Wellesley High School

In the Large Schools Online Nationals competition, Wellesley High School, coached by Douglas Johnson, placed 4th overall of 10 teams. They earned the following 14 medals:

- Ryan Prentice: GOLD in Economics, Math, and Social Science, SILVER in Literature, Music, and Science, and BRONZE in Art and Essay
- Ellen Kim: SILVER in Science and BRONZE in Literature
- Lucy Yu: BRONZE in Math
- Anish Acharya: GOLD in Math
- Harrison Oliveira: GOLD in Science and BRONZE in Math

Additionally, two team members placed overall: Ryan Prentice was recognized as the highest-scoring student in the entire competition, and Lucy Yu was recognized as the third-highest-scoring Honors student!

Other team members were Giselle Ferrick and Elizabeth Ding.

North Quincy High School

In the Large Schools Online Nationals competition, North Quincy High School, coached by Ben D'Amore, placed 6th overall of 10 teams. They earned the following medal:

- Philip Wang: BRONZE in Math

Other team members were Marko Mano, Emily Ko, Angel Rathore, Jessica Lin, Dhani Paliwal, Luiza Baiense, Stephen Yu, and Matthew Amador. Honors student Emily Ko was recognized as the highest-scoring team member.