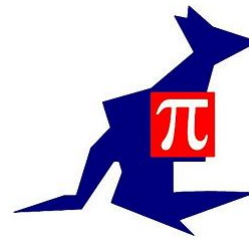


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# Math Kangaroo

## Bulletin



The bulletin of Math Kangaroo in USA, NFP

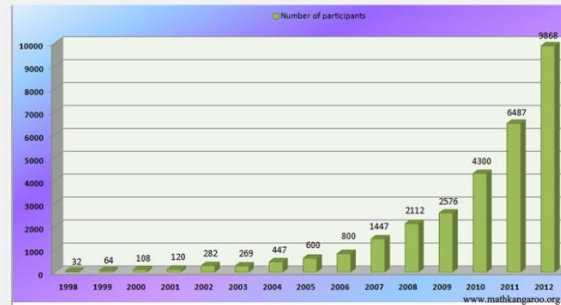
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[www.mathkangaroo.org](http://www.mathkangaroo.org)

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2012 MATH KANGAROO in USA  
Participating Centers in 34 States



2012 MATH KANGAROO  
PARTICIPATION in USA - History

Congratulations to all participants on their learning attitude and mathematical skills. You are the stars!



Maria Omelanczuk,  
CEO

The activities of the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual *Math Kangaroo Competition in USA* were finalized in June. It is my pleasure to report on the success of almost 10,000 American students in grades 1 thru 12 who participated in this international competition in mathematics on March 15, 2012.

75 minutes of solving multiple choice problems were followed by awarding all the participants with diplomas, t-shirts and gifts: a ball or a small kangaroo, depending on the state.

In May, National and State Winners were recognized. The national winners are the students at each level of participation who earned the top ten results on the test at their level. Their names and trophies can be seen on the [NATIONAL WINNERS LIST](#) page. In each state, the students who earned the three top scores at each level were awarded prizes. Their names and awards are listed on the [STATE WINNERS LIST](#) page.

On our [web pages](#) you can see the smiling faces of the students who enjoyed the event and were proud of their courage to meet the challenge. The competition took place in 217 classrooms across 34 US states and territories. International numbers will be known in November and displayed on the [KANGOUROU SANS FRONTIERES](#) page.



The competition day  
in Pennsylvania



The competition day  
in New York



The competition day  
in California



The competition day  
in Virginia

Gold, silver and bronze medals are the highest awards for the National Winners in *Math Kangaroo* in USA.



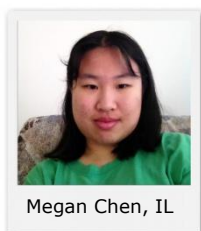
Blue, red and white ribbons go to the State Winners.



The fact that we recognize only students with the three highest scores in each state at each level is caused by low enrollment in some states. The plan is to award more students in each state when number of participants is greater than 10 at each level in each participating state.

Special awards were granted to the high school seniors who demonstrated excellent results this year and in earlier years.

**12 Day *Mathematica* Camp in Milton, MA:**



Megan Chen, IL

1<sup>st</sup> place at level 12,  
and three years in *Math Kangaroo*.



Konrad Wrobel, IL

4<sup>th</sup> place at level 12,  
and eleven years in *Math Kangaroo*.

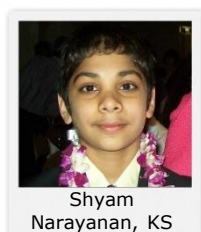
**\$1000 College Grant:**



Krzysztof  
Stankiewicz, MN

2<sup>nd</sup> place at level 12,  
and six years in *Math Kangaroo*.

High School freshmen, sophomores, and a junior were awarded with a **10-day International *Math Kangaroo* Camp in Zakopane, Poland:**



Shyam  
Narayanan, KS

1<sup>st</sup> place at level 9.



Yelena  
Mandelshtam, CA

2<sup>nd</sup> place at level 9.



Wen "Wendy"  
Sun, VA

1<sup>st</sup> place at level 10.



Taylor J.  
Herr, IL

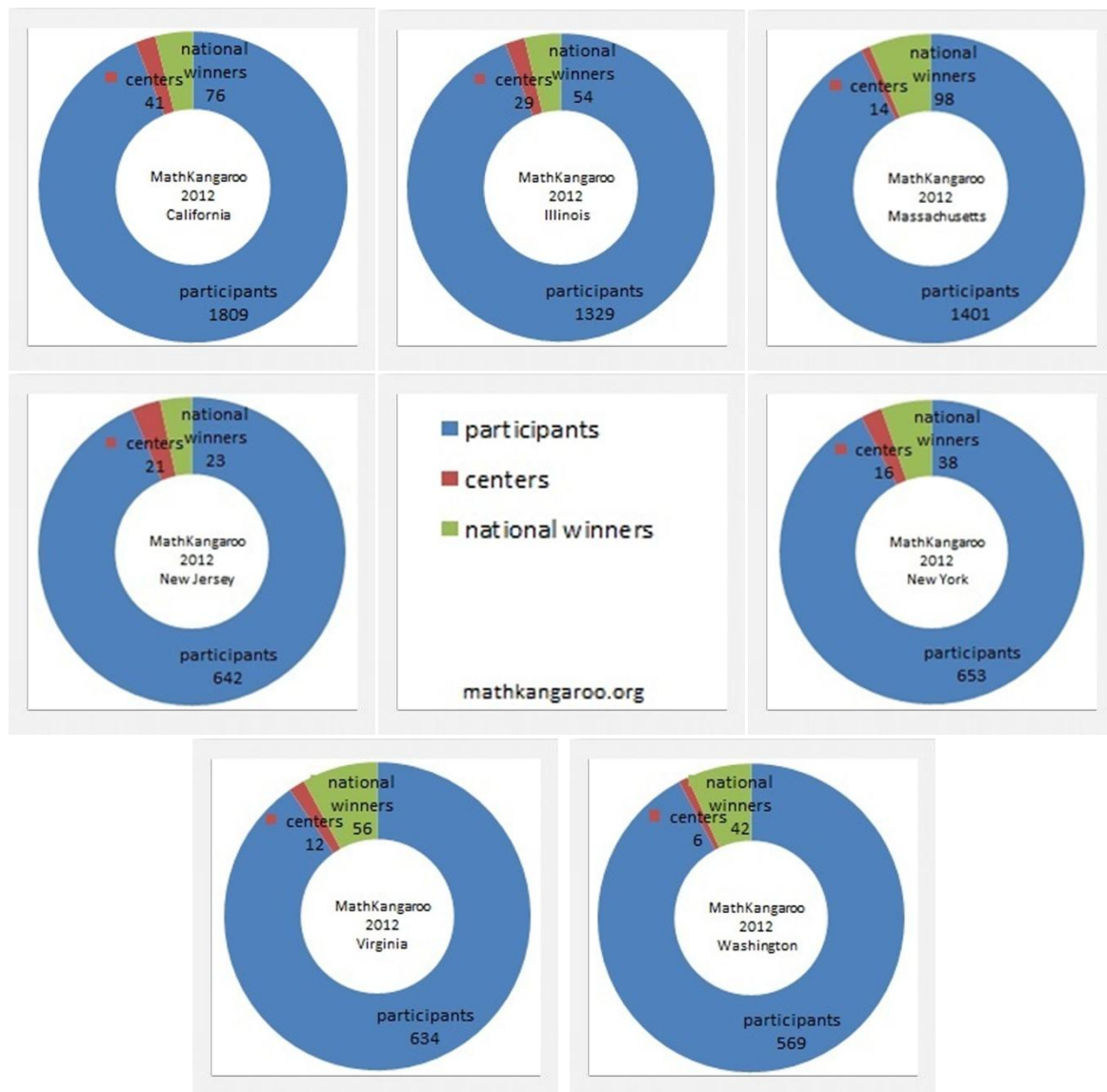
2<sup>nd</sup> place at level 10.



Kasper  
Kubica, UT

3<sup>rd</sup> place at level 11.

Information about the results, the participation at a particular level or in a state can be found on [2012 Statistics Page](#). Below, some data about the states with the greatest enrolment is presented.



Ethnic schools with evening and weekend programs, public schools, libraries, churches, and even corporate premises [are the locations](#) where *Math Kangaroo* takes place. Families are the greatest drivers of the competition in USA. Kids like the questions and the recognition they receive in *Math Kangaroo*. Parents and older participants recognize the benefits from practicing mathematics through solving word problems. When schools are not interested in hosting the event, libraries give space and professionals concerned with the mathematical education of our children step up and manage the events.

More and more public schools get involved. In AZ, Guam, IL, KS, to name a few, teachers get involved in managing the competition; in many places after school math workshops are built. Enrollment is greater each year and the results tend to be better.

There are less competition locations than interested students. In CA, GA, VA competition classrooms get full within the first week of registration, which is planned from the middle of September to the middle of December each year. There is a call for more schools to get involved.

In USA the competition is administered by the charity organization "Math Kangaroo in USA, Inc., NFP," 501 (c) 3. The mission is: helping students love math nationwide.

The organization fulfills its program by several means, the most vivid of which are listed below.

- Accepting any student who wants to participate and is able to read and mark answers on the answer card; accommodation of special needs children is provided.
- Awarding each and every participant.
- Providing practice material to all registered participant and some questions from earlier competitions on the [Tests & More](#) page for public, free of charge.
- Sending the competition questions home with the students after the test.
- Providing suggested solutions for the questions to all participants (this happens for the first time in 2012).
- Attractive awards that include *Kindle*, *Best Buy* and *Target Gift Cards*, games, books, backpack, and puzzles.
- Special prizes for those who excel and are on the winners' list multiple times.

Let me at this point express sincere gratitude to [Wolfram Research, Inc.](#) for their patronage. They gave us a generous discount when we paid for Mathematica Summer Camp for our two winners this year. Since 2008 all Math Kangaroo participants in grades 6 and up are awarded with a free [Mathematica](#) license from Wolfram Research annually.

Thank you words are directed to all who contribute their energy, money, time, and talent to support our efforts of involving students in the wonderful world of mathematics.

We believe there will be more involved teachers and more participants shining with mathematical skills in the years to come.

Enjoy the bulletin and have a great summer!



Iabela Szpiech,  
CFO

Our mission is to help students love mathematics by showing them that mathematical knowledge applies to almost every field of living. The *Math Kangaroo* competition is an open contest, meaning that each student from grades 1 to 12 can take the test. Congratulations to all students who participated!

In addition to prizes for the best achievers, we award each participant with a small gift and a T-shirt at the time of the competition, as encouragement. Our organization is a public charity, 501(c)3, runs on the money from the participation fees and with the volunteer effort. We want to thank AT&T employees who donate thru the *United Way Program*; we appreciate your support. We are very thankful to the *American Express* employees, who are working on adding our organization to the matching program (when employees donate to *Math Kangaroo*, the companies match the contribution). The number of contestants grows every year and so does the number of kids whose families cannot afford the participation fee. Thanks to such philanthropic gestures we are able to invite those students and pay for their participation as well as to fund more and better awards for winners. We cannot forget about all individual donations from parents - thank you very much for your help! We are very grateful for any amount of your donation.

\*

As much as we are happy with such generous supporters, we are concerned about the lack of trust in the scoring system we use on the part of some of the parents. We had several requests to check the answer cards after the results have been released. We don't leave such requests without an answer which means that thousands of cards needed to be browsed through to find the specific one, then to check the answers manually, and eventually to scan the card and send it to the parent. Each time, such laborious process proves the infallibility of the Scantron hardware and software we are using. At the beginning of next year we plan to introduce a service fee for this task as we do not have the time or resources to respond to unnecessary requests. Thank you for your understanding.







Joanna Lasek-Matthiesen,  
CIO

## Math Kangaroo 2013 Poster Contest

Thank you so much to those who took the time to create the *Math Kangaroo 2013* poster. We received many thoughtful pieces of art. It's great to know that our contest was popular among children as well as adults.

The award for Best Poster went to Julia Ong. Julia is a fourth grader from Milpitas, California. She is homeschooled, and her favorite subject is math. She loves to read fiction books and compete in the Math Kangaroo competition. Besides winning the poster contest, she also won 8<sup>th</sup> place at national level at the *Math Kangaroo* competition this year. Last year Julia was also very successful. She won 1<sup>st</sup> place at the state (California) level and 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the national level when she was in third grade. The photo of Julia here was taken at the Math Kangaroo award ceremony. Julia likes the Math Kangaroo Poster contests. Her winning entry did a noteworthy job of detailing the spirit of the Math Kangaroo mission, as well as generating a truly original poster and message! Simplicity and creativity made Julia a winner. She received \$200 Amazon gift card *and Math Kangaroo 2013 Best Poster* diploma.



Julia Ong ,  
4<sup>th</sup> grader, Milpitas, CA

Congratulations to Julia for her winning entry and a big THANK YOU to all participants who submitted poster entries this year. We thank all 32 students and adults: Alex, Styopa, Cassia, Alison, Bharathi, Vasanth, Samantha, Saimanasa, Rubin, Varun, Agata, Pawel, Samantha, Peter, Michal, Malgorzata, Varun, Rafal, Przem, Adit, Nicole, Andy, Colin, Lucas, Akul, BVR, Medha, Jennifer, Susan, Kate, Mimi and Julia. Please look at their creative work on our [Posters](#) page.

Watch for flyers featuring Julia's poster and check our website for Math Kangaroo news.



This year's winning design will be used to promote the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Math Kangaroo Competition on March 21 of 2013. Soon on our webpage we will announce Math Kangaroo 2014 Poster Contest. Stay tuned.



Magdalena Teodorowicz,  
Office Manager

**Next Math Kangaroo Day: Thursday, March 21, 2013  
(Guam: Friday, March 22)**

Registration takes place on [www.mathkangaroo.org](http://www.mathkangaroo.org) **from September 10 to December 15, 2012** – subject to place availability.

**Schools are welcome** to join us until **December 10**. If interested, send e-mail to [info@mathkangaroo.org](mailto:info@mathkangaroo.org)

Plenty of free practice material can be found in [Tests & More](#) section on our web page.

[Join us on Facebook](#)



**We would like to thank our friends and promoters.**



Please contact us at [info@mathkangaroo.org](mailto:info@mathkangaroo.org) if you or your organization are interested in supporting our endeavor.

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[Earlier bulletins](#)