News Release-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RICHARDSON STUDENT WINS NATIONAL SPANISH SPELLING BEE

El Paso, Texas (June 27, 2024)— Antonietta Perozo Gamero, from Richardson, Texas, wins the 2024 National Spanish Spelling Bee which was hosted in El Paso by Education Service Center Region 19 at the Starlight Event Center on July 27, 2024.

Today, June 27, 30 competitors, from various states such as Wyoming, California, Washington, Colorado, Michigan, New Mexico and Texas, started the national competition at approximately 9:30AM. After 29 rounds, the competition was narrowed down to the final two contestants in which ultimately at approximately 3:30PM, Perozo won the competition by correctly spelling the word 'jovialidad' (which means 'joviality' in English).

2024 NSSB Top Three Winners are:

1st place (\$5,000):

Antonietta Perozo Gamero, 8th grade, from Richardson, Texas International Leadership of Texas

2nd place (\$3,500):

Melody Hinkle, 5th grade, from Fort Worth, Texas White Settlement, Independent School District

3rd place (\$1,500):

Emiliano Ferran Martínez Caloca, 5th grade, from El Paso, Texas El Paso Independent School District

"We consider all of the contestants to be winners since they've made it to this national level," said David Briseño, NSSB Founder and Coordinator.

All of the contestants were recognized during an awards dinner after the competition. The top three winners received monetary prizes totaling \$10,000 and all of the competitors received medals and tablets.

"We are very proud of the diversity of the contestants and the high level of academic rigor these young students excel in," said Briseño who initiated the program 13 years ago. "Our goal is to give students an unforgettable positive experience that will help them not only academically but also with their confidence, public speaking skills and the ability to thrive under pressure," Briseño said.

Winner Pictures:

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