



# CALIFORNIA ACADEMIC DECATHLON

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## **FOUR CALIFORNIA ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAMS ADVANCE TO THE NATIONAL FINALS**

SACRAMENTO — Los Angeles Unified School District's (LAUSD) Granada Hills Charter High School won the 2017 California Academic Decathlon. The team scored 55,211.0 points out of 60,000 possible, earning the school the state title this year. Members of the winning team Melissa Santos, Aishah Mahmud, Kevin Ly (Honor Students); Mark Aguila, Christopher Lo, Peter Shin (Scholastic Students); Sebastian Gonzalez, Sabrina Carlos, Jordan Barretto (Varsity Students); and coaches Rachael Phipps, Jonathan Sturtevant and Harsimar Dhanoa.

Granada Hills Charter High School (Los Angeles Unified School District) will represent the state of California and pursue the state's fifteenth consecutive national title at the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual United States Academic Decathlon Championship, scheduled April 17–23, 2017, in Madison, WI.

In addition, to Granada Hill's victory; there are three high schools winning the Large School Title, Medium School Title and Small School Title and will be eligible to compete in the United States Academic Decathlon Online National Competitions taking place in April.

**Large School Title:** El Camino Real Charter High School (Los Angeles Unified School District), 54,017.4 points out of 60,000 points.

**Medium School Title:** Edgewood High school (Los Angeles County), 50,263.8 points out of 60,000 points.

**Small School Title:** St. Helena High School (Napa County), 42,176 points out of 60,000 points.

Rounding out the top 10 scoring teams were El Camino Real Charter/LAUSD (54,017.4), Franklin/LAUSD (52,676.6), John Marshall/LAUSD (52,188.5), South Pasadena/Los Angeles (51,919.7), Edgewood/Los Angeles (50,263.8), Casa Grande/Sonoma (48,329.7), Mark Keppel/Los Angeles (47,825.7), Woodbridge/Orange (47,768.6), and West/Los Angeles (47,297.2).

The state competition is divided into three divisions based on their regional score: Division I (top 10 highest scoring teams), Division II (next top 20 highest scoring teams), and Division III (next top 31 highest scoring



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teams). The format allows teams to compete with other teams of similar scores for individual honor in ten various subjects. Furthermore, it gives emerging counties the opportunity to experience a state championship and a chance for their decathletes to attain medals for their achievement at a level of competition that best fits their team's ability.

In all, 581 students representing 67 high school teams from across the state competed in this year's California Academic Decathlon. Teams are comprised of three Honor Students (3.75 and above GPA), three Scholastic Students (3.00-3.74 GPA), and three Varsity Students (2.99 GPA and below).

California has won the last fourteen national titles. In 35 years of national competition, California has placed first or second every year but one.

After the Super Quiz event was conducted, it was brought to the attention of the state director of the California Academic Decathlon that the test questions had been compromised. The United States Academic Decathlon provides all tests to California for their competitions and requires use of those tests. Unfortunately, the state of Alaska was provided the same version of the Super Quiz test as California. The Alaska competition was held several weeks ago and their Super Quiz event was recorded and posted on YouTube, making these test questions and answers available to the public. In the interest of fairness to all California decathletes, after discussion between the state director, representative board members and county coordinators, it was decided to base competition results on the ten decathlon events only and exclude Super Quiz results.

To learn more about the California Academic Decathlon, visit the CAD website at <http://www.academicdecathlon.org>.

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