



**MCAEL**  
Coalition for a  
Connected  
Community

**Support essential adult English language learning opportunities by becoming a sponsor of the MCAEL Spelling Bee – a one-of-a-kind evening of food, fun, and entertainment with a live Spelling Bee competition!**



## **MCAEL Grown-Up Spelling Bee**

April 29, 2026, 6:30 – 8:30 PM  
Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center  
Silver Spring

English language learning opportunities are vital for individuals, families, and our community. For the estimated 143,000 adults in Montgomery County who self-identify as being able to speak English less than “very well,” learning English can open doors to education, medical care, community, and jobs – bolstering the strength of our region.

MCAEL is the coordinating entity for adult English language learning in Montgomery County. We maintain and grow a complex system of approximately 60 ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) programs, providing grant funding, professional development, and system-wide advocacy to make English classes accessible and affordable for learners throughout the community.

Your sponsorship of the MCAEL Grown-Up Spelling Bee supports the development and delivery of high-impact English language learning opportunities and helps to make a stronger Montgomery County.

To become a Spelling Bee sponsor, please [complete the sponsorship form](#) or contact Gerard Etienne ([GEtienne@mcael.org](mailto:GEtienne@mcael.org)) or Emma Starr ([ESTarr@mcael.org](mailto:ESTarr@mcael.org)). To find out more about the Spelling Bee, visit [www.mcael.org/spelling-bee](http://www.mcael.org/spelling-bee).

## MCAEL Grown-Up Spelling Bee

The MCAEL Grown-Up Spelling Bee is our annual fundraiser, supporting the development and delivery of high-impact English language learning opportunities across the county.

Catch the buzz and join MCAEL to raise money for, and awareness of, English language learning. Get ready to cheer on event sponsor teams as they take part in an entertaining bee competition!

### Event

This one-of-a-kind event will take place on **April 29, 2026, from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM** at the Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center, Takoma Park Campus, at 7995 Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Cocktails, appetizers, and sweets will be served during the reception, 6:30 – 7:15 pm. The Spelling Bee competition takes place in the auditorium and begins at 7:15.

### What to Expect

Local celebrities, community leaders, businesses, young professionals, ESOL program administrators, and instructors come out to network and have fun. Teams show up in themed, bee-utiful attire, along with their squadron of cheerleaders ready to cheer them onto victory.

Sponsor teams take center stage in a tough, all-in-good-fun competition, and the audience gets a chance to compete during the Audience Spell. Teams get eliminated when they spell a word incorrectly and the competition ends when one team remains on stage.

### B-E-E Involved

Showcase your commitment to the community! Sponsorship opportunities range from \$10,000 to \$500. Please see our Sponsorship Levels for details on how you can be a part of this lively event.

- **\$3,000 and over allows you to enter a team into the competition!**
- Sponsor benefits include team entry, tickets to the event, recognition on our site, social media, and event promotion – and more.

### Your Sponsorship Supports

- Increased funding for more adult ESOL classes in Montgomery County
- Higher learner retention by addressing barriers to learning such as childcare & transportation
- Additional professional development opportunities for ESOL instructors
- Funding to develop ESOL classes in areas struggling to meet need



## Sponsorship Levels

Please complete the sponsorship form at [www.mcael.org/spelling-bee-sponsorship-form](http://www.mcael.org/spelling-bee-sponsorship-form)



Type of Sponsor	Amount	Benefits
Queen Bee	\$10,000	<b>The opportunity to sponsor a multi-week ELL class for a community organization</b> Team entry to competition (3 participants) 20 guest tickets Website placement for 6 months Listing on signage at event and program Multiple mentions in social media, e-mail promotion, and media advisories Additional mutually agreeable recognition
Bumble Bee	\$5,000+	Team entry to competition (3 participants) 15 guest tickets Website placement Listing on signage at event and program Multiple mentions in social media, e-mail promotion, and media advisories Additional mutually agreeable recognition
Honey Bee	\$3,000+	Team entry to competition (3 participants) 10 guest tickets – your cheerleading squad! Website placement Listing on signage at main event and program Multiple mentions in social media, e-mail promotion, and media advisories
Carpenter Bee	\$1,500+	5 guest tickets Listing on website, event program, and event signage Multiple mentions in social media, e-mail promotion, and media advisories
The Hive	\$1,000+	4 guest tickets Listing on website and event program
Event Sponsor	\$500+	2 guest tickets Listing on website and event program
Sponsor a Letter	\$100	Honor someone or promote your small business! (Letter + Ticket = \$150)
Individual Tickets	\$30 - \$75	Buy a single seat (\$30 for adults under 30 years of age and MCAEL program staff)