

**20
26**



the World Scholar's Cup

A Celebration of Learning



70+ Countries

140+
Regional Rounds

140+ Cities

8 Global Rounds

60000+ Scholars

Yale University
Tournament of Champions

Make academy interesting, and cheer for youth! !

A Celebration of Learning



Daniel Berdichevsky is the program's founder and alpaca-in-chief. For Daniel, the opportunity to take part in academic competitions in his high school was life-changing: it introduced him to the joy of teamwork, inspired him to overcome his fear of public speaking, and launched him into college with new confidence. He obtained his undergraduate and first master's degrees from Stanford University, and his second master's degree, in Public Policy, from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. He describes himself as a professional geek. In his varied career, Daniel has led strategic innovation for CASIO, worked (with great non-success) in venture capital, and attempted (with even greater non-success) to write musicals. Daniel founded the World Scholar's Cup in 2006, aiming to create something different than traditional academic competitions and conferences: a celebration of the joy of learning, a tournament as rewarding for the team that came in last as the for the team that came in first, an enrichment opportunity that motivated students not just to demonstrate their existing strengths but to discover new ones.

The artist Austin Kleon once advised his students, "Draw the art you want to see, play the music you want to hear, write the books you want to read, build the products you want to use."

In designing the World Scholar's Cup, my team and I have always kept something similar in mind: to design a program we wish we could have attended when we were students.

That's why the World Scholar's Cup may look like a competition, but isn't one at all. It's a celebration of learning. (Just ask the "ninjas" who raided the Taiwan Round in 2012 to demand more guides to study.) It brings together many subjects, because before we can begin to specialize, we need to see the big picture. It challenges teams to work together, because there's nothing harder or more inspiring than knowing that someone else depends on you. And it deals with serious global issues without taking itself too seriously, because I'm convinced that before we can fall in love with learning, we have to find the fun in learning.

Whether you join us just for just a regional round or continue with us all the way to the Tournament of Champions at Yale University, you're becoming part of a community of scholars and leaders that will last a lifetime.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read "Daniel Berdichevsky".

Daniel Berdichevsky

Founder and Alpaca-in-Chief

ASEEDER-Official Partner and Organizer for the World Scholar's Cup in China

Founded in **September 2011**, ASEEDER committed to cooperating with globally renowned educational organizations, authoritative academic institutions, and world-famous schools to introduce all kinds of international top quality education resources into China, help each partner school to improve the quality education system, and help students to develop core qualities that will benefit them throughout their lives. ASEEDER currently cooperates with 3,500 international schools across **150** cities in **60** countries and regions around the world. During the 2024-2025 academic year, more than **460,000** participants took part in ASEEDER programs. To date, over **8,000** teachers from partner schools worldwide have participated in ASEEDER's teacher training exchange programs.



WSC

Why Choose WSC?

INFLUENCE

An academic competition for young students popular in more than **70 countries**

Supported by **Yale University**, an experience to **boost your university application profiles**

AUTHORITY

SCALE

Held in **over 140 cities**, a chance to compete with more than **60,000 students** around the world

More than **140 regional rounds** and **8 global rounds**,
Tournament of Champions celebrated at Yale University

ADVANCEMENT

ACADEMIC

Interdisciplinary academic challenges, discussing **global issues** from the perspectives of **Science & Technology, Social Studies, History, Art & Music, Literature & Media, and Special Area**

4 academic events featuring **Team Debate, Collaborative Writing, Scholar's Challenge, and Scholar's Bowl**

COMPETITIONS

TEAMS

Each Team consists of **3 students**, with participants divided into **Junior Division** and **Senior Division**

Community events including Schola's Show, Scholar's Ball, Cultural Fair, Scholar's Scavenge, Flag March and Alpaca Adoption

COMMUNITY

AWARDS

Award rates higher than **60%** to **encourage academic exploration**, inspiring future scholars to learn about the world



WSC

WCS | What is it all about?

Every year, the World Scholar's Cup sets a **theme** for this year's academic syllabus, guiding students to learn knowledge across six subjects through independent study and explorative research, with the aim to inspire young people's interests in learning, improve their teamwork, communication and critical thinking skills, and cultivate a community of future scholars and leaders.



Videos

Theme 2026

Are We There Yet?



Science & Technology



Social Studies



History



Art & Music



Literature & Media



Special Area



WSC

WSC | Academic Events



Team Debate

After each debate, help your ex-opponent improve.

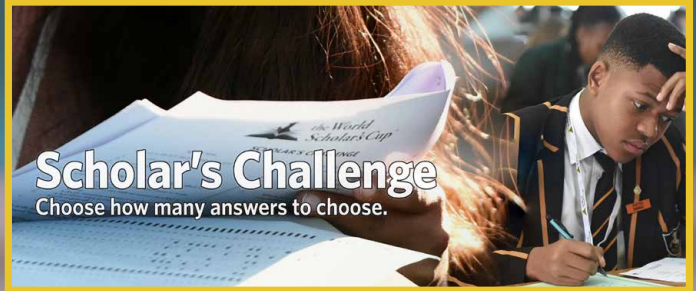
Team Debate

For debate beginners, WSC's Team Debate is friendly enough to give you an introduction to the joy of debate. For experienced debaters, it can also be a unique challenge. Each team debates **three** times. Teams will be randomly paired for the first round. For the second and third rounds, each team will be matched with opponent teams who have a similar skill level. **For all of our rounds taking place after Jan 01, 2026, scholars will no longer be allowed to use devices, access the Internet, or use outside resources in the debates.** You'll first get **15 minutes to plan** your team's arguments. Then, each person will **speak for up to 4 minutes**. The most special feature of WSC's debate is that at the end of each round, teams will offer their opponent **feedback** on how to become better debater. It is the peer review phrase that accounts for our scholars' notable improvement after each round of debate. The motions for debate range from social issues to daily topics.



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(No devices and external materials are allowed.)



Scholar's Challenge

Choose how many answers to choose.

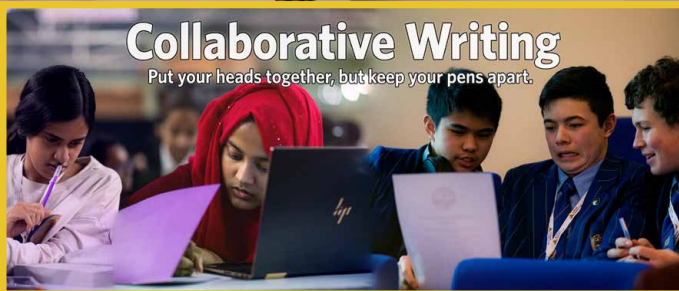
Scholar's Challenge

It's multiple choice, so make multiple choices. All the questions are multiple question about content from **6 subjects**. Each question has five options of which only one is correct. Though it seems like ordinary tests in schools, the main difference lies in its grading scheme. If you are hesitant about which one of two options is correct, you can just mark both of them. **As long as one of the options you mark is correct, you can still get points** (the point you get=1/the number of options you mark). For instance, if you choose three options in total and one of them is correct then you will receive 1/3 point for this question. Unlike school multiple tests which usually cover content in a single subject, the Scholar's Challenge includes questions from 6 different subjects, making the test more challenging and exciting. Wrong answers will not be penalized. This is because the authors of the test want to reward students for what they know, rather than punish them for what they don't.



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Collaborative Writing

Put your heads together, but keep your pens apart.

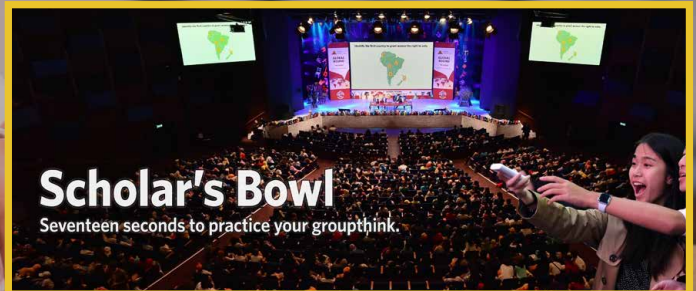
Collaborative Writing

The theme of Collaborative Writing is: "Debate with the power of your pen." Each team will have **3** interdisciplinary topics. There is no correct answer for each topic. Each student needs to choose one topic to express their own views. Team members will have **20** minutes for **discussion** and knowledge exchange, after which each student will have **40** minutes for **individual writing**, followed by **15** minutes for **review** (specific timings may be adjusted based on individual sessions). Each team member must choose a different topic for their writing.



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Scholar's Bowl

Seventeen seconds to practice your groupthink.

Scholar's Bowl

This is a thrilling team event usually held at the auditorium, where all teams sit and compete together! Each team has a clicker to choose the answer. Normally, for each question, teams have **15 seconds** to think and discuss the answer before making choices. The questions in the Scholar's Bowl are often creative and flexible, requiring students to make connections between knowledge and themes from different subjects. Videos and other forms of media are often presented in Scholar's Bowl to provide background information or hint for the questions.



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WSC | Advancement

China Regional Round

Language: English

Eligibility: Only students born on or after January 1, 2012 may participate in the Junior Division. Any team with at least one student born before January 1, 2012 will be considered a Senior Division team.

Locations: Partner schools all over China

Please visit ASEEDER official website (www.seedasdan.com/en/wsc-en/) for information about regional round options.

Date: Weekdays and Weekends, two days (October, 2025 - July, 2026)

Scale: 100-500 students/round



WSC

WSC

Global Round

Location: Shanghai/Other Global cities

Shanghai Global Round: August 4-11, 2026

(*Other global host cities are listed below)

Language: English

Scale: 1500 students/round

Eligibility: Teams with good performance in the regional rounds will receive qualifications for participating in the global rounds.



Tournament of Champions

Host: Yale University

Location: Yale University

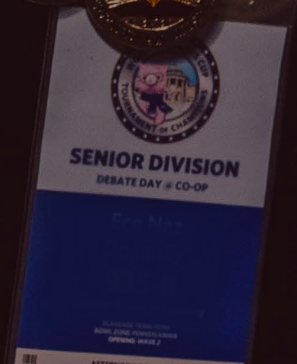
Time: November of each year (2026 WSC Tournament of Champions will be held from November 11-19.)

Eligibility: Top teams in the global rounds will receive invitations for participating in the Tournament of Champions.

Language: English

Scale: 2500 students

WSC





Regional Round

Sample Schedule

The regional rounds are normally held on weekends.

DAY 1		DAY 2	
8:30	Check in	9:30	Scholar's Bowl
9:00	Opening Ceremony	12:45	Lunch
10:45	Team Debate	13:45	Debate Showcase
13:45	Lunch	15:00	Scholar's Show
14:45	Collaborative Writing	16:30	Break
16:30	Scholar's Challenge	16:45	Closing Ceremony
17:45	Departure	18:00	Farewell

Note: the final schedule is subject to change. Scan the QR code on the right to see a sample schedule.



Awards

The number of awards is determined by the number of participants. The overall award rate is around 60%. Scholars with good performance will receive medals and trophies at the closing ceremony.

Team Awards

- Champion Teams
- Team Bowl
- Team Challenge
- Team Writing
- Team Debate

Individual Awards

- Champion Scholars
- Asimov Award*
- Debate Champions
- Writing Champions
- Challenge Subject Awards
- Jac Khor Award*
- School Top Scholars

***Asimov Award** is to reward scholars who are not among the top for single events, but have an overall excellence performance across all events.

***Jac Khor Award** is named after the person who got the 2019 'the Alpaca of the year', she was responsible for the scholar's challenge. It will be awarded to the scholar who got the first place in the 'scholar's challenge' event.

Registration Fee

798 RMB / student (Commuting, lunches, and other miscellaneous are not covered in the cost)

Global Round



Date: Summer of 2026 / 2026 December

Host Cities:

The summer 2026 globals will take place in **Shanghai, Izmir, Kuala Lumpur, Prague, Seoul, Christchurch, Bangkok, and Da Nang.**

The December 2026 Holiday Special will take us to Yokohama—our first-ever global event in Japan!

2026 Shanghai Global Round: August 4-11, 2026

*The dates for the remaining global rounds are to be announced. Stay tuned.

We invite qualifying teams from all of our regional rounds held from September 2025 to July 2026 to their choice of up to eight Global Rounds. Scholars will experience a wonderful event of more than 1,000-person participated. In addition to four intense team events, scholars will also experience unique and interesting social activities, such as Scholar' Scavage, Scholars' Ball, Cultural Fair and more. At global round, teams will have the chance to build friendships with young scholars worldwide.

Tournament of Champions

Date: November of each year (2026 WSC ToC will be held from November 11-19)

Location: Yale University

The values and academic standards of World Scholar's Cup have been highly recognized by Yale University, which will also be the official host for each year's Tournament of Champions of WSC. The committee will invite the most excellent young scholars from all over the world to gather at Yale. Students will have the opportunity to meet Yale's faculty and have conversations with the professors. Meanwhile, students can also learn information about how to support future applications to Yale and other prestigious universities with their WSC experience.

WSC





WSC Guiding Questions

Each year, the WSC committee will publish the theme-oriented **Guiding Questions Syllabus** for six subjects (Science & Technology, History, Literature & Media, Social Studies, Art & Music, and Special Area) for participants to do research and study. After registration, students will receive electronic version with links to suggested readings.



WSC Study Guide

The Study Guide is designed to help scholars and teachers get familiar with WSC, providing systematic and detailed information about everything from event procedure to scoring standards. This brochure is especially useful to scholars who are new to WSC. In order to assist scholars in preparing for WSC academic events, we will provide participants with academic guidance and suggestions, including how to make study plan, what study strategies teams and individuals can use, and how teachers and coaches can help students make preparation, as well as competition tips for each event. Registered scholars can download electronic version of the Study Guide.



Follow Us

All updates regarding World Scholar's Cup peripheral events, resource sharing, supplementary materials, and related information will be promptly shared on the our **official WeChat account** and official **Xiaohongshu** platforms below. To deepen understanding of the World Scholar's Cup and enhance the overall experience (including increasing chances of receiving limited-edition merchandise like alpaca plushies), participants should actively engage in both the core academic events and the social/cultural activities.



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WeChat Account



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WSC RedNote





Ever since 2016, when I first immersed myself in the World Scholar's Cup, the program has meant something special to me. It helped me discover my writing talents, drove me into public speech, encouraged me to study interesting content, and persuaded me that it's possible to be serious and have fun. This year, I decisively formed a high school club of WSC to "spread the pwaa". In Shanghai Round, two teams I led achieved tremendous success, and one of my teammates told me, "That was my happiest experience in the past few months". I hope everyone who participated last weekend found WSC special, just like I did four years ago.

—Winston Jian

My experience with WSC started 3 years ago, and it was a really fun experience to go from a regional round, to global, and finally to the tournament of champions in Yale University. I learned a lot of critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills that helped me a lot in my school activities, and I forever will love WSC for teaching me those. If you are thinking about to go to WSC or not to go, then I strongly recommend you to try it out.

—Nilabh

The most attractive part of world scholar's cup is you can know lots of people. People from different places come and meet at the same place. World Scholar's Cup provides a place to let me know more people and learn more about different people, places and communicate with them. During the time of the semi-global round in Shanghai, I made friends with 17 scholars who also joined World Scholar's Cup. Until now, we are still communicating and we share things about our cities and schools. I really enjoy sharing my life and study with them!

—Shiran Xu

I think the competition opens a whole new world for me. I am really surprised that all of the scholars have strong thirst for knowledge so they can work as a team in just two days although they are from different schools. Also, I improve myself in WSC. The six variable topics help me learn more about the knowledge instead of focusing on one subject. And I strengthen my speaking, thinking, communicating, writing skills in the process. Through cooperation, our team wins the first place senior finally! It is such a joy to be a scholar in WSC.

—Xinru Li



"Well I would definitely encourage anyone who is interested in learning, regardless of their English level I think everyone can get something out of the WSC. Some scholars have done it two, three, four years and they still enjoy coming back. Because they learn something new each time, at the same time if you've never done it before there's also a chance for you to win something, to learn something. And no matter how difficult it might seem I think it's an experience that you should definitely experience at least once in your life."

—Claude

"I encouraged my students to take part in the WSC because I know events like WSC would help them a lot in some extent when they apply for colleges or universities. However, I gradually realized the advantages are much more than I thought before. I have noticed that students became more active and more willing to communicate with other students during the WSC. I was surprised to see her changes because the way she acted and spoke was very different than she was in the school. I personally think students will gain lots of experience in debate, writing, and critical thinking through the event. Most importantly, students have opportunity to interact with kids/teenagers from different country or culture, which will greatly expand their international vision and obviously more diversity. This is one of the most valuable factors I've found in WSC."

—James

"World Scholars Cup is an exciting, cooperative and memorable experience for all involved that brings students and teachers together. This unique and sociable journey allows students and teachers from a range of environments all over the world to unite through shared experiences with a focus on education and development. The competition creates a significant sense of achievement for each individual student in many academic areas but also has space for showcase of a variety of other talent and exchange of cultures and knowledge. For teachers, it creates a deep sense of pride in watching their students express themselves outside of the school environment. Overall, it is a pleasurable adventure based on hard work, challenge and accomplishment. "

—Phoebe



WSC

Global Secondary School Academic Activities Popular in **70+ Countries**

Proudly and officially supported by **Yale University, Empowering University Applications**

140+ Regional Rounds and **8 Global Rounds**, Competing **Yale University Tournament of Champions**

Interdisciplinary academic challenges on **global themes**

Science & Technology, Social Studies, History, Art & Music, Literature & Media, and Special Area

Four Core Team Events: **Scholar's Bowl, Collaborative Writing, Scholar's Challenge, and Team Debate**

Awards Available with **over 60% award rate**, encouraging academic exploration and fostering a passion for learning

ASEEDER

Beijing: Room 9-6, Tower A, SOHO Phase II, Guanghai Road, Chaoyang District

Shanghai: Room 1702, Building 2, Kaide Guozheng Center, No. 489 Zhengli Road, Yangpu District, Shanghai, China

Shenzhen: 2712-2713, 27F, Baoshan Times Building, Longhua District

Chengdu: Floor 21, Lippo Tower, No. 62 North Kehua Road, Wuhou District

Enquiry Phone Number: 4001-699-686

Website: www.seedasdan.com/en/wsc-en/

Email: wsc@seedasdan.org



Scan to Register

