



**CHRISTOPHER
SERRAO**

Christopher Serrao is a 13-year-old eighth-grader from Readington Middle School in Hunterdon County. He is one of the historic co-champions of the 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee. He was a three-time regional winner, besting school champions from ten counties in western Pennsylvania and eastern New Jersey.

Additionally, in the summer of 2019, his team won the International Team Spelling Olympiad in Princeton.

To help kindle a passion for reading in underprivileged children, Christopher assists his sister in teaching spelling patterns and words at a youth center in Plainfield. They have organized and conducted two spelling bees for the children.

In 2018 and 2019, Christopher and his team of inventors placed first at the Smithsonian Museum's SparkLab Invent It Challenge. Their invention, FIG, a portable vertical garden equipped with sensors, is currently on display at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in Washington, DC.

For their Catastrophe Care Kit invention, Christopher and his team placed third at the 2018 STEAM Tank challenge organized by the New Jersey School Boards Association and US Army at Atlantic City.

Christopher has always been passionate about the environment. As one of the leaders of the school's Global Goals Green Team, he acts as a student ambassador focused on making his school more sustainable.

Additionally, Christopher was a state finalist in the You Be The Chemist Challenge in Florham Park last year.

In his spare time, he enjoys listening to classical music. Additionally, he plays the piano and acoustic guitar. He also loves to travel and try new cuisines.