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## **NEW PALTZ, N.Y., TEACHER FRANCOIS BARCOMB WINS 'JEOPARDY!' TEACHERS TOURNAMENT, CLAIMS \$100,000 GRAND PRIZE**

CULVER CITY, CALIF. (May 17, 2019) – Francois Barcomb, a high school physics teacher from New Paltz, N.Y. won the **JEOPARDY!** Teachers Tournament presented by Amazon Alexa today, claiming the \$100,000 grand prize and a spot in the next Tournament of Champions.

Conor Quinn, a high school world history teacher from Albany, N.Y., placed second and earned \$50,000 while Sara DelVillano, a middle school instrumental music teacher from Lanham, Md., came in third and took home \$25,000.

Barcomb, who earned a B.S. in physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a M.S. and Ph.D in physics from SUNY Albany, credits his own education with giving him the tools he needed to best the 14 other educators he faced in the Teachers Tournament.

“My students kept asking me if I was getting nervous,” said Barcomb. “What they don’t realize is that I had done a lot of highly rigorous and nerve-wracking things in my career, especially in the Navy and when I earned my Ph.D. Defending your thesis is very similar to answering random questions on TV.”

The \$100,000 grand prize, which Barcomb described as “unreal,” will go in part to a college fund for his nine-year-old daughter.

“It is a lot of money, and to win it while being treated so well by the show made me feel very fortunate,” Barcomb said. “The Tournament of Champions will require a lot of luck and skill to play with some very experienced players. It will be an honor to represent the teachers at that tournament; I hope I do not let them down.”

This year’s edition of the Teachers Tournament was presented by Amazon Alexa, and Alexa was on-hand to assist Alex Trebek throughout the tournament. Additionally, each of the Teachers Tournament contestants received an Echo device. The [JEOPARDY! Skill for Alexa](#) allows users to play **JEOPARDY!** on any Alexa-enabled device with a single voice command: “Alexa, play **JEOPARDY!**” The Skill continues to grow in popularity since its launch in 2016.

To learn more about the Teachers Tournament, please visit [Jeopardy.com](http://Jeopardy.com).

**JEOPARDY!** and its host Alex Trebek are celebrating their 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary season. With a weekly audience of 23 million viewers, **JEOPARDY!** is the top-rated quiz show on television, and has received numerous awards and honors, including the 2019 Emmy for Outstanding Game Show Host. The show holds the Guinness World Records® title for the most Emmy® Awards won by a TV game show (35 Emmys); it is also the recipient of a 2011 Peabody Award. **JEOPARDY!** is produced by Sony Pictures Television, a Sony Pictures Entertainment Company; it is distributed domestically by CBS Television Distribution and internationally by CBS Television International, both units of CBS Corp. For more information, please visit [Jeopardy.com](http://Jeopardy.com).

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