

State News for NSPE Members

Osprey Teen Captures 2024 MATHCOUNTS Title



Benjamin Jiang, a 14-year-old eighth grader from Osprey, Florida, became the **2024 RTX MATHCOUNTS National Champion** following an intense, elite competition in Washington, DC. He solved his way to victory over 223 competitors, including the 2023 national champion. As the 2024 National Champion, Ben will receive the \$20,000 Donald G. Weinert College Scholarship.

Ben squared off against his opponents in the final round of the 2024 RTX MATHCOUNTS National Competition by answering the question: “Kat finds the square root of n , and then she divides it by ten. If she gets seven point four, and not a bit more, then what was the value of n ?” during the Countdown Round, in which the top 12 mathletes in the country competed in head-to-head matchups. He calculated the correct answer, 5476, in just 16 seconds. [Read more.](#)

Four Florida Cities Graded for Energy Efficiency Efforts

A report by a nonprofit group graded four Florida cities for their policies on energy efficiency and steps taken to deal with climate change.

The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, a nonprofit organization devoted to advocacy on energy efficiency and decarbonization, said Miami was the second-most improved city in the annual City Clean Energy Scorecard behind New Orleans, [The Center Stage reports](#).

The Gateway to the Americas improved 22 spots from last year's scorecard and was ranked 27th. Orlando was the highest finisher at 17th place, with St. Petersburg (62nd) and Tampa (74th) farther down the rankings.

The City Clean Energy Scorecard tracks clean energy plans, policies and programs implemented in 75 of the largest cities across the US, which, according to the report, provide a road map for local governments aiming to meet climate change mitigation goals.

For cities to qualify, the report focused on the most populous metropolitan statistical areas and the most populated cities in these MSAs with a minimum population of 100,000. In total, four cities in the Sunshine State made the list. Orlando was 17th, Miami 27th, St. Petersburg 62nd and Tampa 74th. [Read more](#).

Women with Engineering Degrees Make Historic Breakthroughs

While men still greatly outnumber women in the engineering field, the rise of female engineers to top leadership positions in Jacksonville shows how the profession is gradually changing, [The Florida Times-Union reports](#).

That kind of career advancement can help convince women who have the skills to be engineers that they can select it as their major in college, said Hemani Kaushal, an assistant professor in electrical engineering at UNF. "When they see women are at higher positions in a leadership role, that sets a role model for future generations," Kaushal said. "They see this field definitely belongs to them."

At UNF, 371 women earned bachelor of science degrees in civil, electrical and mechanical engineering since the school awarded its first engineering degree in the 1992-93 academic year through the 2022-23 academic year, which is about 15% of all engineering degrees awarded over the time frame. In the 2022-23 academic year, 27 women earned bachelor's degrees in engineering, or nearly 20% of graduates. Women earn a higher proportion of master's degrees than bachelor's degrees. UNF awarded 36 master's degrees in civil, electrical, and

mechanical engineering to women since the first graduate degree in the 2009-10 academic year, or about 22% of those degrees. [Read more.](#)

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

Get Involved! NSPE Seeks Volunteers for 2024-25 Committees

NSPE's passionate and dedicated committee volunteers are essential to our mission. **Why serve?** In addition to giving back to the professional engineering community, NSPE volunteers form strong connections with committee colleagues, learn new skills, enjoy networking with leaders or hone their own leadership skills.

[Learn more and apply to NSPE's 2024-25 Committees by June 3.](#) *(You must log-in with your NSPE credentials to submit an application.)*

If you do not see an opportunity that interests you in the link above, check out [Get Involved](#) throughout the year to learn more about other areas of engagement, including short-term projects.

NSPECon24 Keynote Speakers



NSPECon24 (Raleigh, North Carolina, August 7-9), the prime national event for professional engineers, will feature keynote speakers to provide inspiration and guidance to help elevate your career in addition to putting a spotlight on emerging issues within the industry. **Early-bird registration rates are available until June 27.** Access registration information and rates [here](https://www.nspecon.org).



Paul Doherty, chairman and CEO of The Digit Group, will present the session **“Unlocking the Metaverse: AI, Engineering the Future of Our Industry”** to provide insight on emerging technologies and explore real-world solutions and projects that are challenging our industry.



Dan Heath, author and senior fellow, The Center for the Advancement of Social Entrepreneurship (CASE), Duke University, will present the session **“RESET: How to Change What’s Not Working”** to explore a framework for getting unstuck and making the changes that matter.

Access the [preliminary NSPECon24 program](#) for more details on the keynote speakers and session topics.

NSPECon24 also offers a variety of sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities to put your company or organization in front of senior executives and other decision-makers from across the industry. A special exhibitor discount is being offered to Research Triangle-based businesses.

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Inaugural Leadership Institute for Women PEs

NSPE-WLP

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Empowering Professional Engineer Women Leaders

NSPE's Women Leadership Program is sponsoring the Leadership Institute for Women Professional Engineers, a three-day program designed to support mid-career women PEs in confidently navigating their career path and leveraging their leadership skills.

The institute agenda is interwoven into the NSPECon24 program with participants attending pre-conference opening sessions on Wednesday, August 7, and sessions the mornings of Thursday, August 8 and Friday, August 9, in Raleigh, North Carolina. Attendees must register for NSPECon24 to attend the institute.

[Access more information and register.](#)

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