



## Academic WorldQuest

**Academic WorldQuest (AWQ) is our multi-day global education summit, which feeds students' curiosity about the world and broadens their understanding of international affairs.**

Each year, The World Affairs Council of America decides on ten overarching topics based on that year's most relevant global issues. These topics build the focus of the summit and the competition questions.

During the summit, AWQ connects students through programs with international experts. Students from around the world engage with each other in our virtual "Student-to-Student Global Conversation." The summit concludes with a global issues knowledge competition. The winning team then represents Montana in the national competition in Washington, DC. For many, the event is life-changing, giving them a taste of life as a global citizen engrossed in world events.

### Topics for the 2024 AWQ included

1. NATO: Alliance and Collective Defense in a Changing World
2. Demographic Dividends - Population Shift in Africa
3. The Global South
4. Sports and Diplomacy
5. Country in Focus: South Korea
6. Promoting a Green Europe
7. Women's Contributions to Track II Diplomacy
8. Navigating AI: The Global Workforce
9. Great Decisions
10. Current Events



## By The Numbers

- 1,284** Total students participating in AWQ
- 460** Conference participants
- 76** Percent of schools participating that qualify as Title I, Rural, or Reservation
- 19** Number of Montana counties represented
- 16** Number of unique programs for teachers and students

### [Click to See AWQ Fun Facts](#)

#### Top Three Teams

- Gardiner -- Park County
- Bozeman -- Gallatin County
- Sentinel -- Missoula County

### [Click to See AWQ Speaker and Partners](#)



# IMPACT

All Montana World Affairs Council school programs are developed in collaboration with educators. Programs are designed around learning objectives that fulfill State and National Standards.

## Learning Objectives

1. Expose and prepare students to relevant global topics and world affairs.
2. Build relevance to student in-class learning by connecting students and educators to leaders, students, and programs from around the world.
3. Evaluate and think critically about international agreements and contemporary world issues.
4. Expose students and educators to different cultures to develop critical thinking skills to evaluate misinformation and stereotypes.

## Connections to Standards

The following standards are from the *Montana Content Standards for Social Studies For K-12*: SS.CG.9-12.2, SS.CG.9-12.3, SS.CG.9-12.5, SS.H.9-12.11

To see the standards, please follow [CLICK HERE](#).

## Measuring Learning Objectives

AWQ uses three metrics to measure student impact and learning. 1. Anecdotal evidence is gathered from educators and students. 2. Engagement is tracked by monitoring student questions and comments and the relevance to the AWQ study guide and competition topics. 3. Competition completion.

## Outcomes

### Anecdotal Evidence

Please [Click HERE](#) for student evidence of impact.

Please [Click HERE](#) for educator evidence of impact.

Please [Click HERE](#) for a detailed schedule of the conference.

### Engagement

This year, students participated in 12 unique programs, including an international dinner prepared by chefs from United We Eat, Student-to-Student Global Conversations with South Korea, and discussions with Ambassadors on topics such as The Global South, Women's Contributions to Track II Diplomacy, and How Media is Influencing Current Events. Missoula's Djebe Bara, an African dance and drumming group, shared its music while teaching students African dance. After a quick culture and history lesson on the tradition of Islamic Tiles, students worked together to create a friendship Mosaic that incorporated Arabic calligraphy. The finished product was displayed during an art exhibit in Missoula. Every program was designed for deep, critical thinking, allowing students to connect directly and find relevance in their lives.

### AWQ Competition

The AWQ competition consists of 100 questions from 10 globally relevant topic areas. Students receive a practice quiz and a custom study guide that includes articles, links to videos, discussion topics, and resources to help them prepare for the competition. All of the teams finished the competition, with many showing improved study and comprehension from the previous year.